



Community
Southwark



Community Action Networks

Community Southwark and Community Action Networks

What is Community Southwark?

Community Southwark is an independent charity that supports voluntary and community sector activity across the borough. It's work ranges from helping groups to develop the skills and abilities they need to be successful; hosting the borough's Healthwatch Team; developing volunteer management skills in groups across the sector; through to establishing and developing the new Southwark Giving initiative.

You can find out more out at the website ... <http://www.communitysouthwark.org/> .

One of Community Southwark's teams focuses on the engagement and involvement of residents and their communities in taking Social Action. This involves working to help people who want to do things to improve their communities and areas; guiding them and supporting them to find the best way forward to achieve their goals through whatever approach is most appropriate. This might be through volunteering; joining up with local networks; becoming members of existing organisations; setting up new groups or forums; developing campaigning & influencing decision-makers; etc. etc.

What are Community Action Networks?

One of the ways we help people do this is through Community Action Networks (CANs), which have now expanded to every area across the whole borough following initial development of collaborative working in Peckham during 2012/15.

Meetings of these take place 3 or 4 times a year, and are very informal opportunities for local people who are active in their community to

- meet with each other and other local people;
- find out what activities, campaigns or initiatives are going on near them; and
- share ideas and make connections to develop community activities together to better address local issues/concerns.

The Peckham and Nunhead CAN in its current form has been meeting since the summer of 2015. As ever, the problem has been that with so many important local issues affecting Peckham and its Town Centre, the concerns of Nunhead so often get overshadowed. Fortunately, some Nunhead residents who regularly attended these meetings have championed the need for a meeting dedicated to Nunhead specific issues; and to give local people the opportunity to come together to discuss issues that concern them, consider what causes lie behind them, and collaborate on identifying (and deliver) solutions.

So, 27th July will be the first Nunhead-focused meeting, but almost certainly not the last. We are working closely partnership with The Green Community Centre on this: they are going to be increasingly important to local communities as they better establish and develop their activities and our joint-thinking is that there is a need for an on-going Nunhead-specific CAN to help provide a focus for people to come together to "get things done". So watch out further events.

For more about CANs follow this link <http://www.southwarkcan.org/> .



(CANs are a project of Community Southwark)



Peckham & Nunhead Community Action Network

**A Nunhead-focused meeting on:
Thursday 27th July 2017
5.00 to 7.30pm (refreshments from 4.30)
At: The Green Community Centre,
Nunhead Green, SE15 3QQ**

You are invited to come along and join informal discussions focusing on the two themes local residents identified as the most immediately important to their local communities:

- **Inter-generational Issues and Relations (from 5.00pm)**
- **Nunhead Green Sunday Market (from approx. 6.00pm)**

Book your place at:

http://www.southwarkcan.org/peckham_and_nunhead_can_meeting_july

Background

Inter-generational Issues & Relations: The limited local provision for our young people, getting support and guidance at the most vulnerable stages of their lives, concerns a great many of us. Where do they go to find real opportunities, to get involved in positive activities that challenge them and value them, rather than risking a drift into anti-social behaviour or worse?

Our older people fare a little better, but with all Health and Care budgets heavily squeezed, how can communities support our older neighbours to live more active lives, and maintain their independence and sense of well-being?

Sunday Market: A temporary licence has been granted by the Council for a small market to take place on a Sunday morning (10.00am to 2.00pm) on Nunhead Green. This would be for a trial period of 12 weeks commencing in September 2017, during which the progress of the Market will be closely monitored and reviewed.

The local resident herself who applied for the license, (and who will be at the meeting) was anticipating the market would be about encouraging local traders, business start-ups, etc. to be involved; and possibly developing links with local growing projects, and cooking projects partnering local groups and schools (though that's not an easy thing to do with just a 12-week trial period). It could be good if those kinds of links could be developed, but that will depend on the response of local people and the ideas they might bring to enable that to happen.

Representatives from the Council's Parks Department who manage Nunhead Green, and a from the Market/Street Trading Team are also expected to join the meeting to ensure they understand local concerns that are being expressed and ensure these form an important part of that review process; and to assess the positive and/or negative effects the Market has on the local economy.

Nunhead's Voice is a registered charity representing local residents and groups, advocating on their behalf and running the Green Community Centre.