

ACTIVATING STRATFORD

This month, we're celebrating Mental Health Awareness Week with the Working Well Trust, a local charity based at Stratford Arcade Centre on The Grove, whose mission is to support individuals experiencing mental health challenges and/or those who are neurodiverse on their employment journey.

Join us for a breakfast session with Ali Moran, an Employment Specialist, on the 14th of May at Us & Co on Burford Road. We will focus on employee wellbeing, offering practical tips for managers and employers that can be easily implemented in your business. We invite you to secure your place by registering online via our website.

Another exciting event to look forward to this May is our Monster Trail!

Cheeky monsters have escaped the Monster Funfair and popped up across Stratford town centre this half term. In partnership with Discover Children's Story Centre, the trail will run for 7 days (from the 26th May to the 1st of June), encouraging local families to explore the area.

Our activation series will continue in September

with our second Creative Community Day, part of the University of East London's Creative Industries Festival. This celebration of Stratford's creative businesses - featuring free workshops, tours, and activities - will take place on Saturday, 6th September. Keep an eye out for updates! If you would like to get involved, please contact the team at info@stratfordoriginal.com.

Bringing our business community together is at the heart of what we do. Throughout the year, we provide opportunities for our members to meet, learn, and collaborate.

Last month, we had a fantastic morning learning about the role of experiential offerings across hospitality, cultural, and hotel businesses. Presentations were shared by Stratford-based businesses and organisations, including Zip World (ArcelorMittal Orbit), MOXY Hotels, Discover Children's Story Centre, Stratford Escape Bar, and The Orange Room. The event concluded with an engaging panel chaired by Therese Reinheimer-Jones from the Mary Ward Centre. It's clear that visitors are increasingly seeking experiences when enjoying leisure activities.

TRAINING PROGRAMME LAUNCH

We're excited to announce our new training provider Mary Ward Centre. Based on Stratford High Street, Mary Ward Centre offers award winning facilities and an array of adult courses. From this month we will be offering our free training programme for members including Conflict Management, Fire Safety, Food Hygiene, First Aid and more. Upcoming dates for the year will be share on our website. If you would like to book your team onto our training please email info@stratfordoriginal.com.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

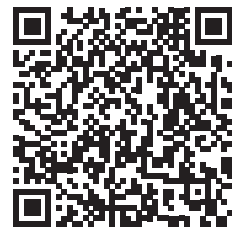
The Parkside Gardening Project uses gardening and food growing to help improve the well-being of adults with mental health needs in the Newham area. Their supported volunteers care for the Sensory Garden in Stratford Park.

Recently, Parkside relocated the project base from the Park Keepers' Lodge in Stratford Park to Newham Poetry House. This move has created a perfect opportunity for individuals to volunteer and give back to the community. If you would like to get involved, visit www.farmgarden.org.uk.

MENTAL HEALTH AT WORK SEMINAR

Employees are widely recognised as a business's most valuable asset, and the direct link between employee well-being and business performance is well documented. To celebrate Mental Health Awareness Week which is taking place between 12th and 18th of May, we will run a short session. Our speaker, Ali Moran — an Employment Specialist with the Working Well Trust — will share her experience as both a human resources specialist and small business owner.

She'll offer practical tips and resources to help you promote the well-being of your employee team. Join us for this networking session on 14th May at US & Co. Visit our website to book, or scan the QR code to register.



14TH MAY

**MENTAL HEALTH
AT WORK**

Stratford Workshop
10am-12am

15TH MAY

**BI-WEEKLY
INTEL BRIEFING**

Stratford Centre
11.30am - 11.40am

25ST MAY

DR BIKE

The Broadway
4pm -7pm

COMMUNITY ENERGY NEWHAM SHARE OFFER

Looking for simple way to meet your CSR goals and make a positive impact in your community? An investment in Community Energy Newham's new community share offer could be the answer.

CEN, with the help of Repowering London, is raising £120,000 to bring the solar panels installed on three Newham libraries into community ownership. By investing in CEN's share offer, you or your business can support the UK's net-zero targets; help the local community take back control of their energy supply and be part of bringing the profits generated by energy sales back into community initiatives.

Your investment (up to £12,000) will make a major contribution to CEN's mission to bring a greener brighter, future to Newham.

Learn more about the share offer and how to invest at www.repowering.org.uk/invest-cen.



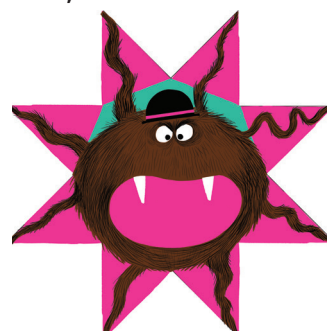
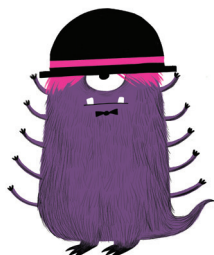
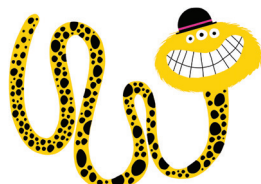
STRATFORD FUTURE: EXPERIENCE TURN



Last month we enjoyed a fantastic lineup of presentations and discussions about Stratford's places. From DIY culture and entertainment to gaming, personalised hospitality, story-filled streets, DJ jams, and local radio, Stratford boasts a wealth of amazing venues that foster a strong sense of community. A massive thank you to Discover Children's Story Centre, The Orbit, Moxxy Hotel, Stratford Escape Bar (Freaks & Geeks), The Orange Room, and the Mary Ward Centre for their inspiring talks.

MONSTERS FUNFAIR

Discover Children's Story Centre's new immersive family adventure, built entirely by monsters, features all sorts of weird and wonderful fairground attractions – a dinosaur laser maze, a beastly fun house, mini bumble-bear bumper cars, a rollercoaster slide, and lots, lots more. Visit www.discover.org.uk/event/monster-funfair and find out more.



SAFER STRATFORD UPDATES

Across April we have hosted two bi-weekly intelligence briefings delivered by our partners Safer Business Network in Stratford Centre. These briefings are open to all BID members and are a key intelligence sharing opportunity to learn about prolific offenders in the area.

Our monthly Joint RS Partnership Patrol took place, tackling hotspots for rough sleeping and fly-tipping in Stratford town centre.

Last month we also conducted a walkabout with MOPAC, Stratford Met Police team, Westfield Security, and Newham Council, showcasing Stratford to the Canadian Police Ministers and explaining the work Stratford Safety Partnership undertakes to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in our town centre.

SPRING PLANTER REFRESH

We would like to inform you that our Greening Contractors will be in Stratford between Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th May to refresh our BID planters across the town centre ready for Spring and Summer. Businesses who have planters outside please be aware that the team will need clear access to the planters and will make sure to minimise disruption to you on the day.



OUR AMBASSADOR STATS

52

MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC ENGAGED

126

MILES COVERED

92

ISSUES REPORTED
THROUGH THE LOVE
NEWHAM APP

**STRATFORD
ORIGINAL**
YOUR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT



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