



## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

October is Black History Month, a time to celebrate the rich history, heritage, culture and achievements of Black communities, while creating space to learn, reflect and share stories. It is an opportunity to recognise the many contributions of Black African and Caribbean communities, celebrate creativity and encourage conversations about the histories and experiences that continue to shape our communities today. This Black History Month, Stratford Library is bringing people together through a programme of inspiring events that explore Black culture, creativity, knowledge and heritage in different and engaging ways.

On Saturday 17 October, from 2–4pm, Stratford Library will host “Roots & Culture, Rhythms & Rhymes: Black History Month Showcase”, an afternoon of live poetry, music and community celebration. Open to everyone and suitable for all ages, the event will showcase the richness of Black African and Caribbean heritage and present-day culture through the voices and talents of local artists. Audiences can look forward to performances from “Rochelle LoRo, PJ Greaves, Essie B Music and Michael A Campbell”, alongside a special appearance from the “RAFFA

International Development Agency” and other special guests. The event promises an afternoon of creativity, reflection and celebration, bringing together local talent and the wider community in the welcoming setting of Stratford Library.

The programme continues on Saturday 24 October, from 6–7.30pm, with “How Civilisations Remember: Twelve Technologies of African Knowledge, Memory and Transmission”. This thought-provoking talk explores the many ways African societies have preserved and passed knowledge between generations.

Together, these two events offer very different but complementary ways to experience Black History Month. Roots & Culture, Rhythms & Rhymes celebrates Black culture through the energy of live performance, poetry and music, while How Civilisations Remember invites audiences to explore the depth and resilience of African knowledge and heritage. Both events highlight the importance of creating spaces where Black voices, histories and creativity can be shared, celebrated and passed on to future generations.

# EXPERIENCE TURN EVENT: SOUND, PERFORMANCE, ARCHIVE



When: Wednesday 7 October 2026  
Where: Theatre Royal Stratford East  
Time: 10am-12pm

Register by scanning the QR code:



This Stratford Futures event will explore the intersections of sound, performance and archive through the stories, histories and cultural identity of Stratford and the wider East London and Newham groups and venues.

The presentations will feature Mark Kass from Newham Jazz Archives, followed by Sonia Quintero from Newham Poetry Group. Katherine Green from Rendezvous Projects will present *\*Sound Waves: Music in Newham\**, followed by Bethany Edgoose and Nathan Su from Inferstudio.

The presentations will lead into a panel discussion and Q&A, giving attendees the opportunity to engage with the speakers and explore the topics discussed. The session will conclude with a theatre tour and networking, providing an opportunity to connect with fellow attendees and continue the conversation.

## CLEANING WORKS

More cleaning sessions are taking place across some weekends of October and November in different locations in Stratford. The sessions will focus on removing dirt and grime from the affected pavement areas on The Grove, Romford Road and Stratford Broadway.

Businesses in the vicinity of the works will receive further information in advance. Our Ambassador Michael will be on site throughout the works to help ensure the safety of everyone and that business operations continue to run smoothly.

**1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER**

**BI-WEEKLY  
INTEL BRIEFING**

Stratford Centre  
11.30am - 11.40am

**7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**EXPERIENCE TURN**

Stratford East  
10am - 12pm

**15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**BI-WEEKLY  
INTEL BRIEFING**

Stratford Centre  
11.30am - 11.40am

# £10 MILLION HOSPITALITY GRANT

Village pubs, family-run restaurants, and cafés receive a boost as a new £10 million three-year Hospitality Grant Scheme has launched for applications.

Guidance is available now, with applications open from 2 September to 13 October 2026.

Find out more: [www.stratfordoriginal.com/news/](http://www.stratfordoriginal.com/news/)

## WINTER WONDERLAND 2026

Following the success of previous years, we are delighted to announce that Stratford Original BID's much-loved annual Winter Wonderland will be returning once again this year!

Our Winter Wonderland has become a popular community tradition, bringing local businesses, families, and the wider Stratford Original community together to celebrate the winter season and enjoy an afternoon of festive fun, entertainment, and seasonal cheer.

This year's Winter Wonderland will take place on Wednesday, 25 November 2026, from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM at Stratford St John's Churchyard, Stratford.

We would also love to hear from businesses who would like to get involved in this year's Winter Wonderland. If your business would like to take part, have a stand, support the event, or donate presents for the celebrations, please contact us via email at [agne.teisseire@stratfordoriginal.com](mailto:agne.teisseire@stratfordoriginal.com).

If you would like to join us and take part in the celebrations, please scan the QR code to register. We encourage members and families who would like to attend to register in advance.



## THE SOURCE FILM NIGHTS

The Source runs regular movie nights here in Stratford. Here is the upcoming exciting film line-up for October:

- Tuesday 6 October at 7pm – 28 Years Later: The Bone Temple at The Source.
- Tuesday 13 October at 7pm – Backrooms at The Source.
- Tuesday 20 October at 7pm – Don't Look Now at The Source.
- Tuesday 27 October at 7pm – Exit 8 at The Source.



## STRATFORD ORIGINAL BID AGM 2026

We're pleased to invite local businesses and stakeholders to the Stratford Original BID Annual General Meeting, taking place on Wednesday 11 November 2026, from 5.30pm to 7pm at Cafe XIX. The AGM is an opportunity to come together, hear about the work and achievements of Stratford Original BID over the past year, and look ahead to the priorities and plans for the year ahead. More info to follow soon.

# SAFER STRATFORD BCRP AMBASSADOR INSIGHTS

Safer Stratford Nights continue to receive strong support, with two 2026 sessions attended by 56 businesses and partners including BTP, Met Police, Licensing, Community Safety, SBN and the BID. Specialist input from the Met Police Digital Asset Team and LCRC provided businesses with practical crime prevention advice and offender intelligence.

Increased reporting has already contributed to positive enforcement outcomes, including a CBO offender being recalled to prison for breach. The latest event also generated more than 15 new Alert sign-ups, helping strengthen business engagement, reporting and intelligence sharing across Stratford. Positive feedback has also generated interest from neighbouring BCRPs looking to replicate the model.

Fortnightly Intelligence Briefings continue every other Thursday to discuss offenders, emerging crime trends and local concerns.



Recent briefings have identified individuals linked to ongoing ASB around St John's Church and continue to support local policing activity, including Operation Poros.

Weekly engagement visits across Stratford also continue, providing a visible presence for businesses while supporting intelligence gathering, crime prevention and reporting. Planning is underway for the Rough Sleeping Partnership Patrol, SABA Week and LCRC Week, alongside continued work with Licensing partners on issues affecting Stratford's night-time economy.

## OUR AMBASSADOR STATS

34

MEMBERS OF THE  
PUBLIC ENGAGED

96

MILES COVERED

49

ISSUES REPORTED  
THROUGH THE LOVE  
NEWHAM APP

**STRATFORD  
ORIGINAL**  
YOUR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT



020 8555 7065



[stratfordoriginal.com](https://stratfordoriginal.com)



c/o. Us&Co, 11 Burford Rd Centre, Stratford, London E15 2ST



[info@stratfordoriginal.com](mailto:info@stratfordoriginal.com)



[StratfordOrig](https://www.instagram.com/StratfordOrig)

