

# LYDE GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

AGM UPDATE NOV 2018



### INTRODUCTION



- The keys to the Lyde Green Community Centre were handed to the Community Association at the end of June 2018.
- We held an open doors event for the community to take a look around a month later in July 2018 and our first booking took place in mid-August.
- A formal opening event which will include taster sessions from hirers is currently being planned for early 2019.
- Since the beginning of September bookings have ramped up and we're on our way to achieving our vision of becoming the hub for the Community!

### STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERING



- In November 2017, LGCA appointed a Community Development and Centre Manager (at 21 hours per week, on a two year fixed term contract) to oversee the day to day running of the Centre and enable the community to thrive.
- Due to the success of the Centre a further recruitment exercise for a Centre Assistant was carried out and two successful candidates were appointed (both at 15 hours per week, one for one year and the other for 6 months). The Centre Assistants will be taking up their posts in October/November 2018.
- In addition to staff, a number of volunteers and Trustees work at the Centre in a number of different capacities.
- In October 2018, we offered a volunteering opportunity to an individual looking to gain further administrative experience with the aim of finding permanent employment in this area. We hope to promote the use of volunteers/apprentices in future and expand this area of the Centre's work.

# OCCUPANCY

The original business plan for the Community Centre envisaged an average occupancy rate of 15% in year I (approximately 19.5 hours per week per room, or 78 hours for the Centre as a whole).

This was based on opening hours of 8am - 9pm 6 days a week.

- At present, based only on weekly regular current bookings and those due to start before January 2019, our occupancy rates are as follows:
- 100% occupancy would be 78 hours per week per room, or 312 per week for the centre as a whole based on being open 6 days per week. Many of the bookings referred to are term-time only.
- In addition to these bookings, we rent spaces out on a one-off, monthly or semi-regular basis.

Hours Occupied	Main Hall	Meeting Room I	Meeting Room 2	Therapy Room	Centre Total	Percentage Occupancy
Monday	4	0	2	5	11	21.15%
Tuesday	8.5	3.75	4.25	2.5	19	36.54%
Wednesday	3.5	4.5	4	3.5	15.5	29.81%
Thursday	6	6	4.5	2.5	19	36.54%
Friday	3	5	I	2.5	11.5	22.12%
Saturday	2	0	0	0	2	3.85%
Sunday	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	27	19.25	15.75	16	78	
Percentage Occupancy	34.62%	24.68%	20.19%	20.51%	25.00%	



# RANGE OF ACTIVITIES



Regular activities at the Centre include a fairly large variety of fitness/sporting activities with something to suit most ages and abilities.

The classes on offer include:

- Pilates
- Zumba
- Martial Arts
- Walking Netball (SportsPound)
- Children's Football
- PiYo
- Insanity
- Boogie Bounce
- JumpFit
- Interest from Badminton Clubs





MITH PILAL

### **PILATES**

### **Mixed Ability Classes**

NEW CLASSES! Starting from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

LYDE GREEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

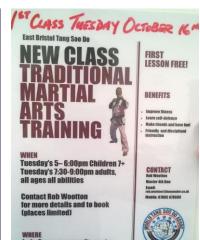
Monday 9:15am

Wednesday 7pm

FIRST CLASS ONLY £3!

3rd & 5th Sept only
(Normally £7 per class or 6 classes for £35)

**Contact Miriam for more details** 



### WHAT'S ON...



More information: www.stjameschurch.co.uk or contact Sally: 07733 256372

Join our facebook group for updates @ facebook.com/stjamesmangotsfield





We have a number of parent and baby/toddler classes and groups on a regular basis.

### These sessions include:

- mother and baby yoga
- baby sensory
- music with mummy
- little pumpkins playtime
- several drop-in toddler groups
- baby hubs

### Other activities include:

- Guitar lessons
- Weight Watchers
- Meditation
- Women's empowerment
- Wheelchair dancers
- Conferences
- Green Square Drop-in
- EGTC Twin Wave music workshops
- Half term craft activities



### COFFEE AT LYDE





- In late 2017 the LGCA put out an "invitation to tender", seeking potential operators for the kitchen/cafe space within the Community Centre. Following a thorough selection process the successful candidates were announced in early 2018. Coffee at Lyde were chosen because of their professional approach and commitment to the community in Lyde Green. Their ideas around the style and feel of the cafe area complemented those of the LGCA and we felt their ethos would sit well with that of the Charity and, by extension, the Centre.
- Coffee at Lyde opened to the public on reduced hours in September 2018 and received a **hygiene rating of 5** on day two! Since October 2018, they are now open 6 days a week serving hot and cold drinks, cakes and snacks. Over the coming months they hope to begin to offer some hot and cold savoury food options. The cafe area of the Centre will also be improved with some additional furniture and some finishing touches to create a cosier ambiance and more space to sit and relax.

# ASSET BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



- The LGCA are firm believers in the ABCD approach and, in fact, the Charity probably wouldn't exist without it! ABCD is a methodology for the development of communities based on their strengths and potential. This method uses the community's own assets and resources as the basis for development; it empowers the people of the community by encouraging them to utilise what they already possess.
- The Centre is a fundamental asset for the community in Lyde Green and has become a meeting place. Groups such as the Neighbourhood Watch, The Open Spaces Group, the LGCA events team and the "Many Hands" group (a group put together to assist the most vulnerable members of the community) use the centre for their own meetings as well as to undertake outreach work and put on events for the wider community.
- The LGCA are keen to support local residents in setting up their own classes/businesses and will offer assistance, guidance and discounted rates to allow this to happen.
- The Centre will be used as a "stop" on the upcoming Halloween Trail and will host this years Christmas Event and Winter Wonderland. We are also hosting a volunteer thank you evening an evening of celebration and a chance for networking for all of those who have worked so hard for their community.

### FEEDBACK



Both the Centre and Coffee at Lyde have made clear that we are not yet perfect and have actively encouraged feedback from those we are here to engage with. There has been some more critical feedback which we have, and will continue to, do our best to address where we possibly can (whilst recognising that some things are out of our control).

A selection of positive comments are below:

- "We want to say a big thank you to you and your team. Everyone was so helpful on the day, and the food was lovely. We were pleased to bring so many people to the centre for their first visit. People were really impressed and I hope it will lead to more bookings for you. We will definitely be talking with you about organising future events."
- "We just wanted to say thank you for allowing us to use the Lyde Green Community Centre... Everyone, especially yourself, were so helpful. We were pleased with the numbers that came and people seemed to enjoy themselves."
- "Very modern yet welcoming building. Lovely bright and clean. Staff are friendly and already there is a lot on offer."
- "I had my first coffee at lyde green coffee today! what a lovely morning I have had, happy friendly and welcoming staff, amazing cakes and not to mention the best coffee ever!! Will be returning all the time!! I would thoroughly recommend!"
- "Fantastic coffee and service. Amazing choice of cakes, cookies, brownies and coffees! Highly recommend such a lovely atmosphere"