



Portsoken

English Martyrs School

Works to the playground have now been completed and are a vast improvement on the childrens play area. Further work is continuing, ramp renewal and a Gazebo, but these require planning permission, so will take a little longer. A big thanks to the Maersk House Developer Aldgate Developments.



New Portsoken Alderman installed

In February Prem Goyal was installed as the new Alderman for our Ward of Portsoken. Fourteen residents squeezed into the tiny Aldermanic Court for his installation ceremony. Afterwards the Lord Mayor Charles Bowman, Sheriff Tim Hailes and former Lord Mayor Sir David Wootton joined and welcomed the residents to Guildhall. They were struck by Portsoken's diversity and our enthusiasm for the City and the Ward.

Prem is looking forward to working with the four Ward Councilmen to solve issues including estate maintenance, parking, jobs, training and security. He is both proud and humbled to be representing Portsoken and encourages anyone to get in touch to share their vision for the Ward.



Beating the Bounds 2018

In lovely weather we held our annual Beating of the Bounds on Ascension Thursday (10th May). Starting at the Church we paraded round the Ward with kids from year 4 Sir John Cass's Primary School beating our various boundary markers with gusto to the rhythm of the Portsoken Volunteer's drummer. This ancient ceremony brings so many strands of our Ward together; The Church, The School, the Alderman and Councilmen, the Ward Club, the Portsoken Volunteers and now our own Community Cafe, Kahaila. Joy da Costa, the manager, provided us with free, incredibly large and delicious slices of cake at the end of our parade. Thank you to all who helped organise the event. A great team effort showing off the very best of Portsoken.

Aldgate Square is open for business (and pleasure)



By the time this ward newsletter is distributed, the new-look Aldgate Square will be open to the public, ahead of its formal public opening on 4 July.

This project has taken several years and involved major changes to the highway layout and public realm improvements. The main aim was regeneration of the

area for the benefit of business and the local community. And the area has had more greenery introduced alongside a new public space and improved lighting – making the area more inviting – a place for people to linger, socialise and enjoy. Safety for road users has been enhanced including new cycle routes and pedestrian access.

A significant new addition is the Portsoken Pavilion, a steel and glass building housing a social enterprise café operated by Kahaila and providing a new hub promoting events, leisure and play.

While Aldgate Square is the centerpiece of this transformational scheme (sitting between Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and St Botolph without Aldgate Church), it has been joined by an

eastern public space at the junction of Middlesex Street and St Botolph Street.

Changes to the traffic layout were completed early in the project timeline. The finished area provides new pedestrian crossing points and allows easier navigation of bus services.

The project has introduced two-way traffic on Aldgate High Street, St Botolph Street, a section of Middlesex Street and Minories. It has already had a significant impact by helping to bring air pollution at the nearby Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School below the legal annual limit for the first time since monitoring began in 2003.
cityoflondon.gov.uk/aldgatearea

Stop press: An Aldgate Square Festival will be held on 15-17 June celebrating all the area has to offer including music, activities, talks, performances and a children's area.

It's free to enter and open to all.
cityoflondon.gov.uk/aldgatesquarefestival



City small businesses: do you qualify for rate relief?

The City Corporation is encouraging small businesses to check if they are missing out on business rate tax relief.

If you're a City business whose sole or main property has a rateable value of £12,000-£15,000 you could be eligible to get a reduction in your business rates of up to 100%. Properties with a rateable value of £12,000 or less get a 100% reduction in their rates bill.

If you meet the eligibility criteria and aren't currently in receipt of rate relief, please contact the City Corporation business rates section.

Find out if your business qualifies and apply via:
cityoflondon.gov.uk/raterelief



General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Data Protection legislation in the UK has changed, with the introduction of the GDPR on 25 May 2018 and a new Data Protection Act. This new legislation is designed to enhance the rights of individuals regarding the use of their personal data by bringing data protection compliance into the modern digital age.

It also introduces new, rigorous, requirements for all organisations, in relation to the reasons for processing personal data, and the manner in which it is processed.

The City Corporation has been busy over the last few months, reviewing and updating its data protection policies and procedures, and taking all necessary steps to ensure it fully complies with the new legal requirements for processing the personal data of its customers, clients and staff (data subjects).

Updated information, including our new data protection policy and full privacy notice, is available at:

www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/dataprotection
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/privacy
or by emailing information.officer@cityoflondon.gov.uk



High fibre for the City



Until recently broadband speeds in the City have been amongst the slowest in the UK, affecting small business tenants who cannot afford dedicated fibre optic leased lines.

However Openreach is now seeking to roll out "Fibre To The Premises" to every building in the Square Mile **at no cost to the landlord**, offering faster speeds of up to 1 gigabit per second at affordable prices for businesses and residents.

Openreach will use existing ducting to access buildings, avoiding street works to install the new fibre infrastructure into basements. This work will require landlord consent in the form of wayleave and Openreach will need to undertake a quick building survey.

Openreach will undertake a phased roll out across the City shown on the map.

Residents and business tenants interested should visit
cityoflondon.gov.uk/fibrebroadband
or contact cpat@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Car park spaces at Smithfield Rotunda

Did you know? You can hire car parking spaces during weekdays and weekends at a reasonable cost.

Smithfield Rotunda, located in West Smithfield is manned 24 hours per day, with good lighting and within easy walking distance for most of the recipients of this newsletter.

For more information on hiring and pricing details, please contact the Smithfield.Market@cityoflondon.gov.uk





Portsoken

Who We Are



Prem Goyal

E-mail: prem.goyal@cityoflondon.gov.uk
Tel: 020 3668 0388



Deputy Henry Jones

E-mail: Henry.jones@cityoflondon.gov.uk
Tel: 07976 421 966



John Fletcher

E-mail: COL-EB-TC@cityoflondon.gov.uk
Tel: 07717 516853



Jason Pritchard

jason.pritchard@cityoflondon.gov.uk
Tel: 07834 342479



Munsur Ali

munsur.ali@cityoflondon.gov.uk

CONTACT US

To write to any of your Members, to let us know if you wish to receive this newsletter by email in future, or to inform us if you wish to be taken off the distribution list write c/o

Member Services
City of London
Guildhall
London EC2P 2EJ

or email
col-eb-fc@cityoflondon.gov.uk



We are always happy to talk to workers and residents within the Ward about any issues you may wish to raise. Please contact us if you would like to arrange a meeting.

COMMUNICATING WITH THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN THE CITY OF LONDON

3 SCORE / WINGATE GOLDEN OLDIES



Day trip to Herstmonceux Castle and lunch

This is the fifth outing this year for the clubs.

There was a belated Christmas Lunch at the Theydon Oak.

Fish & Chip evening at Happy Days.

Brick Lane Musical and afternoon tea.

Mystery tour to Saffron Walden followed by lunch.

Thanks to Veronica Collins and Ivan Kingsley for there hard work.

4C Hotel Group

Plans have been released regarding the new community centre, which will be located on the ground floor of the Hotel's extension facing in to Little Somerset Street, this is expected to be completed midway through 2020 and will replace the Portsoken Health & Community Centre.

Funds have now been received from the 106 monies with a substantial amount going to Sir John Cass Primary School. These were negotiated with the original Planning Application some years ago, along with double glazing for Mansell Street Estate.

Thanks to Al-karim Nathoo of 4C Hotel Group.

Dorset Hotel Aldgate

The Roof Bar is now open with spectacular views over the City of London and this area will be used for the official opening by the Lord Mayor of the Aldgate Public Square and Portsoken Pavillion in July.