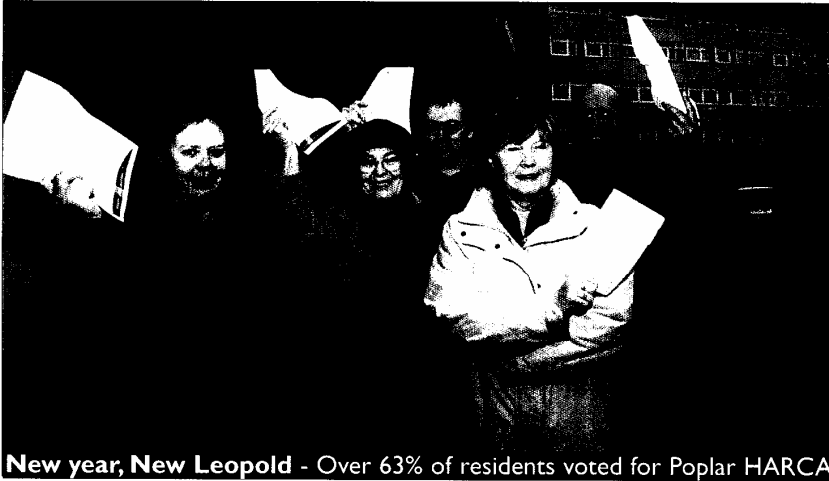


the Partner

Leopold and Poplar HARCA



Issue 3, January 05



New year, New Leopold - Over 63% of residents voted for Poplar HARCA

THE NEW LEOPOLD STARTS HERE!

At the end of December 2004, work done in partnership by residents, Poplar HARCA and our Master Planners to create plans for a better, safer, more attractive Leopold Estate received a resounding 'Yes' vote from Leopold tenants and leaseholders.

By voting 'Yes', residents have given the green light for the proposals to improve Leopold's buildings, services and community provision to proceed.

We'd like to thank you all for this!

What Happens Next?

Our partnership, which began when Leopold residents selected Poplar HARCA as their preferred partner in November 2002, is now sealed. The work to transform the Leopold Estate can begin for real!

This newsletter gives an outline of the next steps towards transferring your homes from Tower Hamlets Council to Poplar HARCA.

We are working towards the transfer happening in the early summer. Meanwhile, there's lots to be done. Find out more about how you can get involved in preparing for the New Leopold.

GET INVOLVED and help shape the future of your estate!

Residents are encouraged to get involved in the changes now being made to the Leopold Estate. For more information, contact the Steering Group, Poplar HARCA, 100 Poplar Road, Poplar, London E14 3DF. For further contact details, visit our website: www.leopoldarea.org.uk

Now is a good time to get involved!

A MESSAGE FROM LART

The ballot result is a victory for residents living in the Leopold area. Finally after decades of under-investment and neglect we now have the money and professional expertise ready to regenerate our homes and environment.

To every tenant and leaseholder who voted yes I'd like to say thank you. Your vote will have a lasting impact on the Leopold and Closes for years to come. You've voted for a better quality of life that will benefit our whole community and future generations of Leopold residents.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank our partners Poplar HARCA. Their officers have worked tirelessly to raise the £30 million needed to make our ambitious plan a reality. They've been led by our aspirations for the Leopold. We have not gone for the easiest options, but the one's residents wanted. And in my opinion that's why the majority of us voted in favour of the plans and transfer to Poplar HARCA.

However, our views and ideas are needed now more than ever before. We need to take every opportunity to get involved with the regeneration of our area.

How can you do this? Why not join one of the many consultation events soon to be planned for your area. Alternatively you could join the Steering Group and have a direct say in the planning of our new area.

For the regeneration of the Leopold to truly be a success, residents need to take ownership. It's our chance to make a difference.

ANDREW MAHONEY

CHAIR OF THE LEOPOLD STEERING GROUP
Leopold Area Regeneration Team (LART)

Dates for your Diary WHAT'S ON IN

February – March 2005

There's plenty of things going on at Café Reconnect why not pop down and take a look.

Family Favourites Movie Club

- ♦ 28 January **"SHREK II"**. See the return of Shrek, Princess Fiona and Donkey in this very amusing sequel.
- ♦ 25 February **"Garfield The Movie"**. Family favourites Garfield and friends make their debut on the large screen.
- ♦ 25 March **"The Incredibles"**. See the superhero family at work in saving the planet

Healthy Walking Group

- ♦ 18 February **"Early Spring Life Walk"** through Mudchutte City Farm Walk
- ♦ 11 March **"Spring Bulb Walk"** through Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park

Silver Screen Movie Club

- ♦ 8 February 8th **"The King & I"**. Yul Brynner's Academy Award winning performance in this musical masterpiece.
- ♦ 8 March **"Seven Brides for Seven Brothers"**. Musical packed with humour as the Pontipee brothers get their brides

Mondays

- 10.00 – 12.00 SureStart Breastfeeding Support Group
- 11.00 – 2.00 Internet Café – free web and email access
- 6.00 – 9.00 Youth Café (13+)

Tuesdays

- 11.00 – 1.30 Internet Café – free web and email access
- 12.30 – 2.30 Silver Screen Movie Club (2nd Tues of the month)
- 1.30 – 2.30 Silver Surfers – support Internet access (over 50s)
- 3.30 – 6.00 Youth Café – young women only (13+)
- 6.00 – 9.00 Youth Café (13+)

Wednesdays

- 9.30-12.30 Leopold Surgery (from 2nd of February)
- 9.30-12.00 Shopping – supported minibus trips (over 50s)
- 11.00-2.00 Internet Café – free web and email access
- 12.00-2.00 Lunch club – lunch for £1 (over 50s)
- 1.00-3.00 Board/Table Top Games (over 50s)
- 6.00-9.00 Youth Café (13+)

Thursdays

- 11.00 – 2.00 Internet Café – free web and email access
- 6.00 – 9.00 Youth Café (13+)

Fridays

- 11.00 – 2.00 Internet Café – free web and email access
- 12.30 – 2.30 Family Favourites Movie Club (4th Friday of the month)
- 12.00 – 2.00 Healthy Walking Group (3rd Friday of the month)
- 6.00 – 9.00 Youth Café (13+)

THE NEXT STEPS

The official transfer is planned to take place in June. Poplar HARCA will be using the next six months to carry out extensive consultation on the plans for your estate.

February 2005 to Spring 2005 – Consultation begins Leopold Surgery starts 9.00am every Wednesday at Café Reconnect.

Poplar HARCA will be conducting a 'Housing Needs' survey in preparation for the demolition work – ensuring all housing needs are provided for during this period.

The Leopold Residents' Steering Group works towards becoming the Leopold Estate Board.

Poplar HARCA works with the steering group and the Master Planners (PRP) to work up more detailed designs for the works for further consultation with residents

Practical preparations for transfer of the estate from Tower Hamlets to Poplar HARCA are started.

Community services are run from Café Reconnect and The Burdett Centre - all residents are welcome.

Early Summer 2005 - Leopold Estate transfers from Tower Hamlets Council to Poplar HARCA. Poplar HARCA becomes the new Landlord for all Leopold residents. New services begin, including efficient repairs and cleaning services and the 'First 100 Days' programme of improvements set out in the formal offer.

Please remember day- to-day services are still provided by Tower Hamlets Council until the transfer takes place in the summer.

THE TEAM

The Leopold Estate has a dedicated team to ensure your transfer is as smooth running as possible.

Suzanne Wolfe, Neighbourhood Director for Mile End; 020 7538 2551 or email: suzanne.wolfe@poplarharca.co.uk

Rob Hannabus, Regeneration Manager; 020 7510 0573 or email: rob.hannabus@poplarharca.co.uk

Geoff Cade, Resident Empowerment Support Officer - Geoff holds weekly surgeries at Café Reconnect every Wednesday. He can also be reached via email or phone. geoff.cade@poplarharca.co.uk or 020 7510 9900.

If you have any questions or concerns about the transfer do not hesitate to contact Geoff.

PRP Architects - Clive Smith and Hitesh Patel

www.poplarharca.co.uk
www.leopold.org.uk