

FLEET STREET QUARTERLY

FLEET STREET QUARTER

Spring 2024

Shaping This Historic Location Into a Thriving Quarter

fleetstreetquarter.co.uk



A RESOLUTE FLEET STREET QUARTER: DRIVING SUSTAINABILITY, SPORT & SOCIAL INTERACTION

Lady Lucy French OBE
CEO, Fleet Street Quarter BID

New year, new you – how are the resolutions going a month or so on? For Fleet Street Quarter we wanted to make 2024 a year of sustainability, caring for our community and nurturing the future of this historic area.

So far, so good! At the heart of change are people, together we can embrace and drive change and at the same time feel pretty good about what we are achieving. We don't all need to run a marathon to do something amazing, just small steps to action can do wonders for our wellbeing.

That said, running is going to be a big part of our Summer of Sport, in celebration of the Paris Olympics, the Paralympics, the Euros and of course the tennis! Look out for cycling schemes too, and a maybe even a spot of crazy golf, anyone?

WE DON'T ALL NEED TO RUN A MARATHON TO DO SOMETHING AMAZING, JUST SMALL STEPS TO ACTION CAN DO WONDERS FOR OUR WELLBEING.

The year will also see FSQ embarking on a series of projects to support our community's journey to net zero, providing skills training for residents, workers, and visitors, as well as reskilling those who might be returning to the workplace. Our focus is very much on a future proofed Quarter, the manifestations for this

vision will be seen soon, in the form of a Green Skills Construction Hub, an Art and Artists Hub, an Urban Farmer project, and of course, more hydroponic farms! These are resources and opportunities for our community to enjoy and to help them thrive.

To celebrate this work and engagement with you, we are planning our first FSQ Climate Festival this summer – watch this space. We are also talent spotting in 2024 and will soon be crowning our first champion of the inaugural Great Fleet Street Quarter Cook Off, working with the esteemed master chefs at CORD by Le Cordon Bleu.

Last year saw the 400th anniversary of the printing of Shakespeare's first folio, to mark this landmark we hosted a series of lunchtime Shakespeare performances delivered by the fabulous Troubadour Stageworks. It was wonderful to see a real cross section

of our community enjoying these bitesize performances. Inspired by this, and our history of oracy, we are delighted to be working with Urban Radicals, Millimetre, and AKT II to create an amphitheater for the Fleet Street Quarter, initially for the London Festival of Architecture 2024 during the month of June, but hopefully far beyond. This will be a place to debate, perform and dance – celebrating our rich cultural history and future!

On that note, I thought perhaps we might have a poetry corner in our Quarterly (see page 6), a platform to reflect on things that impact us, touch us, inspire us. I am definitely no poet but thought I would bashfully throw my hat in the ring to start us off – do send yours in to us for the next issue!

Let's make 2024 count – sustainably, creatively and personally.



HOW PUBLIC REALM IS KEY TO THE SUCCESS OF COMMERCIAL CENTRES

Mike Fairmaner
Head of Placemaking
Fleet Street Quarter BID

Commercial centres worldwide are grappling with the long-term impacts of the pandemic, reconfiguring their functions and readdressing the ancillary retail and hospitality industry that supports office-based businesses. While hybrid workers haven't abandoned the central business district, there's a need to drive a wider range of people into our commercial centres.

The out-of-the-office experience requires rebalancing to evolve CBDs into destinations of choice. Aspects of home-working, including green spaces and places of reflection, need integrating into the built environment, while the commute needs to become more of an attractive proposition. Public realm will be pivotal to this evolution.

Face-to-face contact is the *raison d'être* for cities. Mercantile centres have been built on generations of intelligence sharing, gossiping and interactions only done effectively in-person. To reignite these encounters, public realm can carve out open and green spaces that drive discovery. Also key to creating resilient CBDs will be expanding their functionality. By embracing art, culture and history, centres can bring out unique stories that draw visitors through sense of place.



TIME FOR A RESET

Traditionally, green spaces, open areas and cultural assets have been taken for granted. Under pressure to spark a retail revival and meet changing business needs, commercial centres need to reset and enliven their built environment. The pandemic underlined the importance of connecting with nature and it's no news that lunchtime fresh air boosts afternoon productivity.

So how do we provide these opportunities in our commercial centres?

At the Fleet Street Quarter BID, we are spearheading a major public realm transition across more than 106 acres of the City of London. Backed by a £5bn development pipeline that is already well underway, the Fleet Street Quarter is undergoing a radical renaissance. Set to deliver 3m sq ft of commercial space across 34 schemes, developers and investors have placed extraordinary faith in the area. But it's not just offices. Hotels and student accommodation are also in the pipeline, diversifying the area's economic base.

At the heart of this transformation is the role of green space, daylight, nature and room for physical activity – we're working closely with the City of London Corporation, who are in the process of delivering their Healthy Streets Plan to create an accessible, vibrant, resilient, successful city where people can live active, healthy lives. Our hyperlocal strategy is intrinsically aligned with their vision and shows how our proposed investment in trees, plants and green spaces could help to deliver this vision across the area.

WE ARE SPEARHEADING A MAJOR PUBLIC REALM TRANSITION ACROSS MORE THAN 106 ACRES OF THE CITY OF LONDON. BACKED BY A £5BN DEVELOPMENT PIPELINE THAT IS ALREADY WELL UNDERWAY, THE FLEET STREET QUARTER IS UNDERGOING A RADICAL RENAISSANCE.

To truly capitalise, the Fleet Street Quarter BID needs to connect the dots between these developments to create a comprehensive change. As a BID that is our role. With multiple ownerships and developments, we step in and provide leadership. So in collaboration with Gensler, NRP and UP Projects, we revealed in November a 10-year public realm strategy for our area.

Earmarking 34 potential opportunities for investment, the vision outlines a compelling future for the area, where public realm builds an inclusive, diverse and sustainable district. It maps out an inviting area, where exploration is encouraged through seating, greenery and play facilities – for adults and children.

Curating an exceptional out-of-the-office environment is central to our public realm proposals. To enrich connections in the Fleet Street Quarter, the strategy targets a circa 33,000 sq ft increase in pedestrian space, a doubling of safe cycling routes and 15 new art, play and cultural installations. These targets would reposition pedestrians as primary movers in the area, enhancing journeys from station to office for commuting workers.

Ludgate Circus is an area where the strategy proposes significant change to achieve this. Currently, Ludgate Circus is a crowded junction where vehicular traffic dominates. Under the new proposals, the crossroads would be transformed with safer crossings and public greening. Our ambition is to make Ludgate Circus a destination, like Piccadilly Circus or Oxford Circus. A place to meet and linger, not to dodge traffic and move through quickly.

Widened pavements on Fleet Street and an urban forest at Holborn Circus are also examples that place emphasis on open space. Together, these proposals seek to bolster sociability by galvanising new spaces to sit, talk and reflect.

CAPITALISING ON CULTURAL ASSETS

The Fleet Street Quarter area is blessed with cultural assets, including Sir Christopher Wren's St Bride's Church, Bridewell Theatre, Dr Johnson's House and a legacy as British media's spiritual home.



Celebrating these hidden gems and creating distinctive landmarks can be achieved through placemaking, by reimagining pockets of our past for all ages.

Softening the urban landscape, adding spaces to dwell and spotlighting hidden gems, is a way of repurposing commercial centres. By softening our urban fabric, CBDs can build resilient weekend economies. Our Snowman Trail, celebrating 40 years since the famous Raymond Briggs film hit our screens, attracted multi-generational groups of visitors to Fleet Street in the run-up to Christmas.

Transitioning into multi-faceted CBDs that provide beyond task-based nine-to-five

functions will help commercial centres offset hybrid working and drive a retail recovery.

The Fleet Street Quarter BID has laid out what the reinvention of commercial centres could look like. Our strategy provides a framework where public realm delivers a more sustainable and inclusive district for a wider mix of users. The next phase of change lies in creating a hub that blends work and leisure, supports the needs of a broad mix of users and emphasises the importance of open space.

There will be challenges ahead, but to quote Dr Johnson "what is easy is seldom excellent!"

LOOKING AHEAD FOR WOMEN'S SAFETY



Beth Nash
Security & Operations Manager
Fleet Street Quarter BID

Safety and security remain one of our top priorities for Fleet Street Quarter BID when looking ahead to a successful 2024. Since July last year, we have introduced seven new initiatives to enhance the safety of those living, visiting, working, and socialising in the

Quarter. From the introduction of the 'Coffee with a Cop' programme, allowing discussions on concerns relating to local level crime, to implementing 'Welfare and Vulnerability Training' (WAVE) sessions for local bars and pubs – we are helping to make the Fleet Street Quarter a safer City destination.

Held bi-monthly, 'Coffee with a Cop,' is a fantastic opportunity to bring together the

local City of London Policing team with Fleet Street Quarter business owners, workers, and residents, in an informal setting to discuss local crime concerns. By facilitating this meeting, the BID works in partnership with City of London Police to provide actionable improvements to the area. Most recently, issues have been resolved on rough sleeping and repeat distraction-based crimes, involving individuals stealing from people in pubs and bars.

In a collective effort to help eliminate 'Violence Against Women and Girls' (VAWG), we have held multiple free 'WAVE/Ask for Angela' training sessions for hospitality and security staff. The training, which draws focus on a proactive approach to interventions involving instances of vulnerability, empowers staff to know the warning signs and safeguard those most vulnerable in our communities.

As part of Women's History Month in Fleet Street Quarter this March, the BID is offering 100 free e-learning licenses for 'WAVE/Ask for Angela' training to local businesses, providing those with an opportunity to upskill their teams and increase awareness around women's safety and security.

Women's safety in the Quarter remains top of our agenda, which is why we are also encouraging the rollout of 'Safe Havens,' in partnership with Safer Business Network. Defined as a place of temporary refuge for a person to facilitate their onward journey, businesses can become 'Safe Havens' by meeting a small number of criteria, completing training to ensure the safety of staff and public alike.

The scheme, backed by City of London Corporation and their buildings, demonstrates the partnership effort to offer points of safety for those who find themselves vulnerable when out in the City. Research has shown that women would feel safer travelling around London if they knew there were points of reference where they could seek help if needed, which is why we're supporting Fleet Street Quarter businesses to sign up to this scheme, with rollout beginning in the coming months.

RIOT IN FLEET STREET AT THE 1920 REMEMBRANCE DAY



152 Fleet Street today

meals would that lump sum buy, Henry? Were you in the Great War? You came out safe, maybe. Do the dead know what the Bosses made out of them? Do they know what they are making out of them now? Look at the pomp displayed on the Eleventh! Two minutes of Silence, when every capitalist stopped profiteering (I don't think)! Starvation doles for the workless living—God s'truth! Living!!! Ceremonial silence for the dead. Dope! Dope! Dope!

Extract from a copy of the *The Workers' Dreadnought*

David Harry
a.k.a The London Spy

One of the most radical, revolutionary and strident papers ever to be published in Fleet Street – *The Workers' Dreadnought* – was founded by Sylvia Pankhurst, of the famous suffragette family.

Starting as a suffragette paper *The Women's Dreadnought* in 1914, renamed as *The Workers' Dreadnought* in 1917, the paper was billed as the "Organ of the Communist Party" and was full of fiery blasts at Imperialism, Capitalism and War. It became the centre of an enormous outrage on Remembrance Day in 1920.

Although Remembrance Day was meant to be about peaceful memory of those whose lives had been lost, it's clear that in 1920 the *Workers' Dreadnought* all female staff viewed it as militaristic imperialism.

This was only the second year that Remembrance Day was commemorated, following the Armistice in 1918, and it was almost universally respected and observed.

As the thundering sounds of the presses fell silent and all along the street people bowed their heads in silence, a terrible banging, shouting and smashing sound filled the air.

Contemporary reports of the events state:

"Eye witness said two or three girls the office created a disgraceful scene. They were singing, shouting, dancing, and banging tin cans.. The noise made by the girls gave a shock to everybody in the vicinity, and it completely spoiled the whole spirit of the ceremony in this locality. A party of angry men and women raided the premises and inflicted rapid revenge on the persons stated to be responsible. The crowd remained perfectly still and quiet until the two minutes' silence was over, and there was rush for the premises"

The women's reported defence was rather inventive – albeit a little unbelievable:

"One of the girls concerned, interviewed, said we were dusting the office: we certainly made some noise, and we did not dream of people outside hearing it. Went on dusting the place, because we were not interested, we don't believe it. Workman must have told the people we were the Workers Dreadnought," and a lot of people rushed upstairs. A workman said "are there no women in the crowd," and then some girls knocked about. They kept on hitting us until the police came."

Although she was absent from the protest on bail for sedition, Sylvia Pankhurst supported their actions, not particularly convincingly...

"I myself would greatly deprecate anything which might seem disrespectful to the dead" However, she picked up the women's defence that they were just cleaning: 'I have been told that it was the inadvertent shaking of a duster out of the window by a girl of 17 that was the cause of the trouble."

Even if they didn't own up to it, it's clear they had a very strong belief in the perceived injustices of the system represented by Remembrance Day.

To the left is an extract from a copy of the *The Workers' Dreadnought* near that time making their contempt clear.

Nowadays 152 Fleet Street is boarded up, and was recently a branch of McDonalds, it is hard to imagine it being stormed by an angry mob of print workers!

THELONDONSPY.COM

ARE YOUR COLD HANDS CAUSED BY RAYNAUD'S?

Sue Farrington, CEO
Scleroderma and Raynaud's UK

Scleroderma and Raynaud's UK (SRUK) are part of the Fleet Street neighbourhood – we are the only UK charity dedicating to improving the lives of people with Raynaud's and Scleroderma.

As February is Raynaud's awareness month, we thought you would like to know more about the condition. As it

affects 1 in 6 people in the UK, you may be living with it and need our support.

Raynaud's, also referred to as Raynaud's disease or Raynaud's Phenomenon, is a common condition where the small blood vessels in the extremities such as the fingers and toes become restricted when they're exposed to the cold. This can trigger a Raynaud's attack, where there's a noticeable colour change in the affected areas as the skin turns white, then blue and then red as the circulation returns.

"If I'm just going shopping, walking around the supermarket, which has chilled areas, I can get a Raynaud's attack. I'll be in quite a lot of pain and then I've got to get my cards out to pay, but I can't feel anything because there's no blood in my fingertips."

There are two types of Raynaud's, primary and secondary. Secondary is more severe and affects a small percentage of people, it is likely to be caused by an underlying autoimmune condition such as scleroderma.

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, take our quick online test at: sruk.co.uk/testme

Common symptoms of Raynaud's may include:

- Cold fingers and toes
- Colour changes in your skin in response to changes in temperature or stress
- Colour changes in the affected area from white to blue and then red
- Numbness, tingling or pain in the affected area
- Stinging or throbbing pain upon warming or stress relief

Find out more about Raynaud's, scleroderma and SRUK at: sruk.co.uk

SCLERODERMA AND RAYNAUD'S UK

DR JOHNSON'S HOUSE AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS OXFORD UNIVERSITY KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP

Celine Lupp McDaid
The Hyde Director

Dr Johnson's House is excited to announce that a new exhibition will be opening this year, thanks in part to being awarded the prestigious Oxford University Knowledge Exchange Fellowship.

This spring will see a new permanent exhibition open in Dr Johnson's House in the very room where Samuel Johnson compiled the first comprehensive dictionary in the English language. The Knowledge Exchange Fellowship is designed to bring leading academic research beyond university walls and into the public realm via pivotal cultural sites of national significance to the benefit of the public and visiting students. Drawing on new academic research into the field to explain how on earth one goes about writing a dictionary in the 18th century - and why - the House will also exhibit, for the first time, the very desk on which Johnson wrote it.

This is collaborative project between myself, representing Dr Johnson's House, and Prof. Lynda Mugglestone of Pembroke College, Oxford University. The project entitled 'Rethinking Johnson's House of Words', will redirect attention to the room in which Johnson completed his English dictionary in 1755 as a writerly and collaborative space, and the birthplace of a book of international cultural significance.

This close collaboration, will reunite physical space and lexicographical practice, drawing on my own expertise in historic house interpretation and Lynda's expertise in the history of the English language. This funding facilitates a public benefit from our shared interest in rethinking where, why and how Johnson's dictionary was compiled.

The remarkable survival from the time in which Johnson was living and writing in 17 Gough Square - his 'dictionary desk', on which he wrote - is currently at Pembroke College. This precious piece will be returned to the garret for the first time in 260 years



as part of this project. By summer 2024, the 'dictionary garret' will be reopened with the new exhibition to offer insights to visitors and students alike about the intricacies - and people - involved in the gargantuan task of compiling a dictionary.

The project includes the delivery of a regular blog, a programme of in-person and online public events and workshops, and outreach events to enhance established links with local communities and schools. Preliminary research for the project is already revealing some exciting and unexpected directions. The history of the desk itself is fascinating - where it has been in the intervening years -

and involves Charles Dickens, John Ruskin, Thomas Carlyle, Lord Tennyson, and Lord Palmerston, among others, and highlights how Fleet Street has been the centre of the literary hub of London for centuries.

As a distinguished scholar of language Prof. Mugglestone has a unique insight into this incredible space. We look forward to working together to tell the stories of how Dr Johnson and his amanuenses grappled with this monumental undertaking.

**DR JOHNSON'S HOUSE
17 GOUGH SQUARE, EC4A 3DE**

CROSSWORD

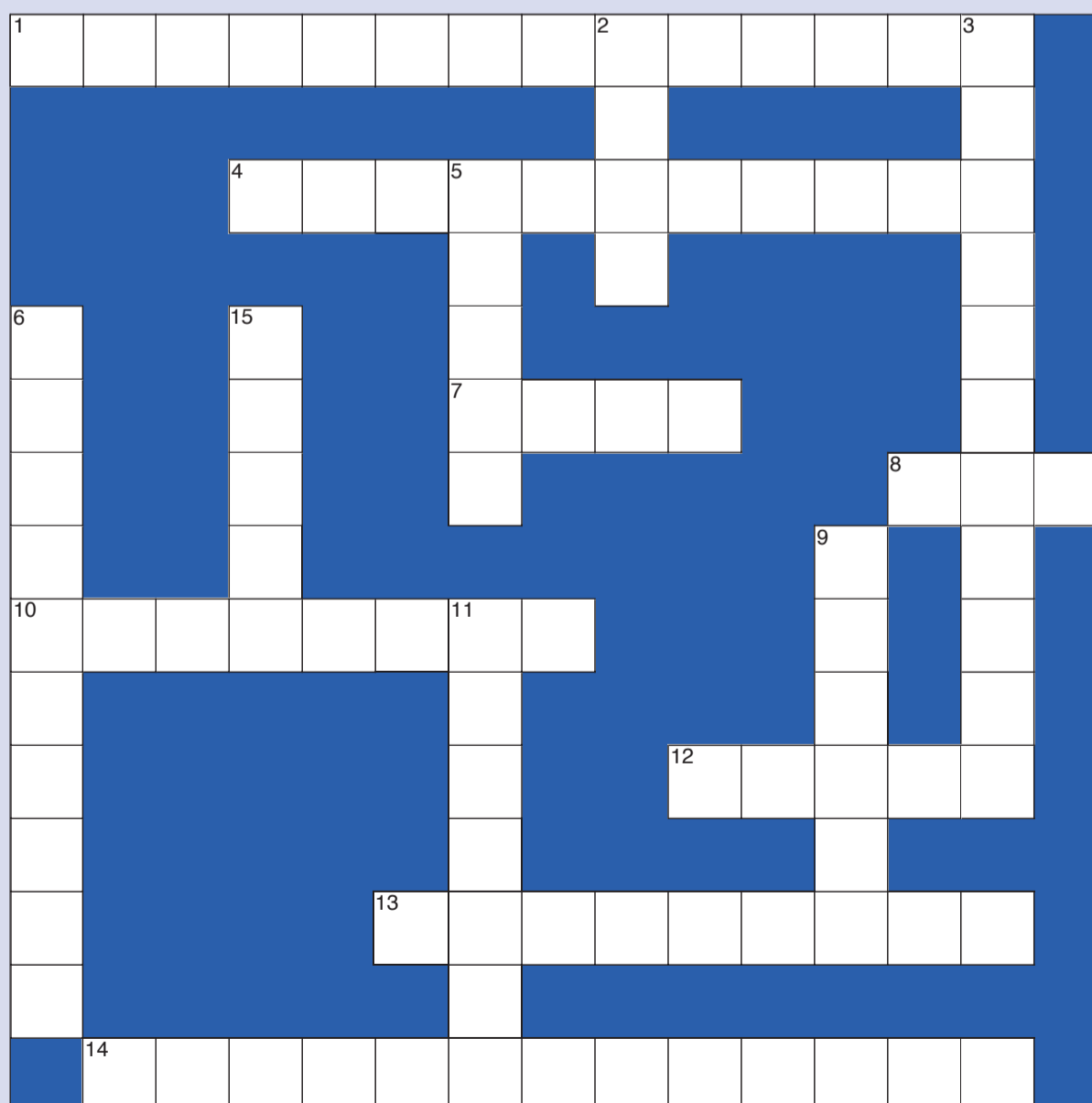
Try your hand at our area themed crossword. Clues are scattered throughout this paper, with answers available on back page.

ACROSS

- 1 Converted into a car-free zone (12)
- 4 Distinguished scholar of language (11)
- 7 Horned beast atop The Worshipful Company of Cordwainers (4)
- 8 Informal American term for a police officer (3)
- 10 Upcoming sporting event at one end of the Eurostar (8)
- 12 Largest of London's subterranean rivers, today runs underneath Farringdon Street (5)
- 13 Official representing the ancient heart of London (4,5)
- 14 Monthly event at Mott MacDonald; also teen film featuring detention-bound students (9,4)

DOWN

- 2 Hotel in the Fleet Street Quarter; also highest point or peak (4)
- 3 Suffragette Paper founded in 1914 "The Women's _____" (12)
- 5 Square where Dr Johnson lived; also homonym of darkly inclined subculture follower (5)
- 6 Technique of growing plants used in the Fleet Street Quarter Community Urban Farm (10)
- 9 City of London guild with distinct dress and trade affiliations (6)
- 11 Culinary competition taking place in the Fleet Street Quarter this Spring (4,3)
- 15 Shared urban space accessible to everyone "Public _____" (5)



POETRY CORNER

A TRIBUTE TO A TRIBUTARY

Lady Lucy French OBE

Oh, Roman river, river of ours,
Ever present, cascading unknown,
unseen now.

The source, a font of history, a
mighty flow,
A testament to what has gone
before,
And what the future holds.

A heroic tributary, silently inviting
us to strive,
To build, to shape, to innovate.
Holding the past in our palms,
Moulding a new history, a
renaissance to create.

Oh Roman river, connector to
divinity,
A force coursing to the mighty
Thames.

Water flowing, with the smell of life,
A part putrid, part perfect perfume
of humanity.

Truth and trust echo beneath us,
Dowsing above, seeking out
eternity.
A haven for tomorrow, new roots
exploding,
Oh Roman river of ours, as we
grow, guide us.



THE GREAT FLEET STREET QUARTER COOK OFF 2024

Daniel Dalmau
Business and Communications Manager
Fleet Street Quarter BID

Fleet Street Quarter's first major event of 2024 will see members of our local community go head-to-head in The Great Fleet Street Quarter Cook Off, presented in partnership with CORD, Le Cordon Bleu's first fine dining restaurant in London, located on Fleet Street.

In this City of London first, participants will compete in a two-stage competition hosted in the Culinary Institute below the CORD restaurant. Participants will be in with a chance of having their businesses' name etched in Fleet Street history, as well as learning from world class master chefs in the exquisite kitchens of CORD's Culinary Institute at 85 Fleet Street.

There are also a host of great prizes on offer from local partners in the Fleet Street Quarter area, such as the Apex Hotel on Fleet Street, Sainsbury's and KERB who deliver a weekly street food market for the Quarter located in Fleet Place. Amongst the prizes for the podium places are a one-night stay with dinner, bed and breakfast at the Apex, two places at CORD's April Tattinger Wine Club, and a weekly shop worth up to £75 at Sainsbury's, so much to cook for!

The final takes place on 22 March and will be judged by a panel of four individuals bringing years of culinary experience to the competition. We've got Lulu Grimes, the Managing Editor of Good Food Magazine coming in, alongside Taz Khan MBE who is the Founder and CEO of London's Community Kitchen amongst other award-winning projects. Closer to home, Chef Jamal Bendghoughi, Cuisine Teaching Chef at Le Cordon Bleu, Chef Lorenzo Stella, Head Chef at Apex Hotels Temple Court bring a wealth of experience working in top kitchens to the judging panel.

Entries have closed for this year's competition, but whether you're a seasoned chef or just starting out, make sure to keep an eye out for the next opportunity to showcase your culinary skills, learn from master chefs, and represent your business!



LAUNCHING THE BUSINESS BREAKFAST CLUB WITH MOTT MACDONALD

Daniel Dalmau
Business and Communications Manager
Fleet Street Quarter BID

In January Fleet Street Quarter BID launched a series of Business Breakfast Clubs in partnership and hosted by Mott MacDonald.

This series allows individuals working within the Quarter and beyond to access information and stimulate ideas on emerging priorities for businesses, as well as being a platform for networking opportunities.

January's talk explored what social value and social outcomes means at Mott MacDonald, why it's important for FSQ BID and the businesses within it, and touched on how delivery of this fosters benefits for the wider community.

In February, attendees joined a dynamic panel discussion on circular economy and how an urgent re-think is needed in how we address and adapt to our current environment. Each of these sessions are led by industry experts, giving attendees an exclusive opportunity to learn from the best and really enhance their knowledge. Previous speakers have

had experience working on projects such as the ABBA Voyage Arena, pioneering digital solutions for offsite construction, and developing sustainable development frameworks for major organisations such as Transport for London.

The Business Breakfast Club is an on-going monthly series delivered by Fleet Street Quarter BID, in partnership and hosted by Mott MacDonald at their 10 Fleet Place office. Keep an eye on the Fleet Street Quarter newsletter and social media pages for updates on sessions.



THE LORD MAYOR'S APPEAL CITY GIVING DAY 2024 LAUNCH BREAKFAST

Jan Foster
City Giving Day Programme Manager

Hosted by The Lord Mayor's Appeal, City businesses and the Rt Hon The Lord Mayor Aldermen Professor Michael Mainelli on the annual City Giving Day 2024 Launch Breakfast took place on Wednesday 13th March.

Taking place at Mansion House, the first warm up event for City Giving Day 2024 provided perfect opportunity for businesses and their employees to start thinking about and celebrating all they do for charities and their local communities throughout the year.

During the breakfast event, guests will hear from The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor Aldermen Professor Michael Mainelli and The Lord Mayor's Appeal about their plans to make City Giving Day 2024 even bigger and better. Businesses will also get a chance to hear from their City peers and previous City Giving Day participants about how the yearly initiative supports their own CSR activities and how new organisations can get involved.

Launched in 2015, City Giving Day is an annual event hosted by The Lord Mayor's Appeal uniting the City to celebrate and promote the positive impact of philanthropy.

Taking place on Tuesday 24 September 2024, it gives companies the chance to showcase their charitable and community work – collectively sharing their outreach via the City Giving Day webpage and social media.

Whether City businesses support The Lord Mayor's Appeal, or their own chosen charities – it gives companies a platform to tell their fundraising and volunteering stories and to collaborate with other businesses within the City community.

In 2023, 571 companies took part in City Giving Day with 97% of those saying they would recommend it to others. The Lord Mayor's Appeal are looking to build on the success this year, by championing even more organisations to get involved and share their stories to demonstrate the transformational impact of bringing together businesses, employees, communities and charities.

**CITY GIVING DAY,
24 SEPTEMBER 2024**



FLEET STREET'S PAST AND FUTURE EXPLORED IN LATEST EPISODE OF LONDON EXPLAINED

Rob Fiehn
London Explained Podcast

The London Society has released the second episode of its London Explained series, which explores different places within the capital and uncovers their past, present and future. The focus this time is on the Fleet Street Quarter – a Business Improvement District (BID) in the historic heart of London that encompasses Chancery Lane, Holborn, Ludgate Hill and New Street Square.

Society trustee Dave Hill has researched and presented the programme, revealing Fleet Street's former role as the home of the newspaper industry and examining the impact the pandemic has had on local businesses. He interviews some of the

people who are working hard to ensure the area adapts to the ever-changing needs of occupants and visitors, which includes rethinking parts of the City as a place for both work and leisure. Listeners will find out about the strategies to bring some "magic" back to the area, including protecting local heritage and making London more accessible through a considered public realm strategy.

London Explained can be found on all the usual podcast platforms, including Spotify.

This series of podcasts by the London Society was set-up to help explain what gives particular areas their identity and what is likely to happen to them in the future, as the capital inevitably changes. The preceding episode in the series looked at Earls Court and the upcoming regeneration plans for the 40-acre site.

The Fleet Street episode is written and presented by Dave Hill. The producer is Andrew McGibbon. It's a Curtains For Radio Production for The London Society. It was supported financially by the Fleet Street Quarter with The London Society retaining full editorial control.



THE SIGN OF THE FALCON

Judith Millidge
Master of the Worshipful Company of Cordwainers

Next time you are walking east down Fleet Street, look up at the facade across the road above 31-32 Fleet Street almost opposite St Dunstan's in the West. Towards the top of the handsome 19th century building, you will spot decorative goats heads propping up the dormer windows. Just visible behind them on the gable ends are two more goats.

Goats are an unusual choice for architectural stonework, but these horned beasts are a tribute to the owners of the building, the Worshipful Company of Cordwainers, who have held the site since 1547. Goats feature on the company coat of arms, a tribute to the fact that Cordwainers originally used the finest goat leather to make their shoes. The company arms are mounted on the iron gate leading into Falcon Court.

John Fisher, a chorister at the Chapel Royal in the reign of Henry VIII, bequeathed the building at 'The Sign of the Falcon' to the Cordwainers, apparently out of gratitude for their wonderful hospitality. His will stipulated that he be remembered with a sermon preached every year in July, which continues to this day.

Over the centuries, the building at the 'The Sign of the Falcon' has housed printers and publishers, toymakers and even cordwainers. Today, it is home to lawyers and jewellers – with space for more tenants.

The Worshipful Company of Cordwainers is a 750-year-old City livery company that today supports the footwear industry, particularly footwear education. The word 'cordwainer' is derived from Cordoba, the Spanish city that supplied goats' leather in the Middle Ages.

**THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF
CORDWAINERS
CORDWAINERS.ORG**

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR UPDATES FROM THE BID AND UPCOMING EVENTS



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MONDAY 18 MARCH, 5:30PM THE PERIMENOPAUSE, THE MENOPAUSE AND THE WORKPLACE

FRAMESTORE

Explore this all-too-often taboo and misunderstood subject, which can affect everyone in different ways. Join Dr Theodora Kelentzi for an engaging and informative masterclass.



THURSDAY 28 MARCH, 12:45PM DR JOHNSON'S HOUSE LECTURE 'JANE DALZIEL ALMEIDA' WITH KATIE DABIN

DR JOHNSON'S HOUSE

Come along to this lecture to discover the life and work of a remarkable woman in the field of science. Discover the extraordinary life - and talent - of scientist June Dalziel Almeida, a pioneer in virus imaging and identification.



TUESDAY 19 MARCH, FROM 12:30PM WALK & TALK WITH THE CITY OF LONDON POLICE

NEW STREET SQUARE

Women working or living in Fleet Street Quarter can 'Walk and Talk' with a City of London Police officer to share their own experiences and views on women's safety in the area, allowing officers to listen and respond to concerns, and understand how to bring about a positive, impactful change.

THURSDAY 28 MARCH, 5:30PM WOMEN'S PERSONAL SAFETY CLASS

ST BRIDE FOUNDATION

Providing empowering strategies to stay safe at home, on foot, on public transport or in the car. Covering both physical and non-physical self-defence techniques, as well as an opportunity to ask questions about any concerns, covering a wide range of subjects from the fear of robbery to burglary.



FRIDAY 22 MARCH, 2PM THE GREAT FLEET STREET QUARTER COOK OFF 2024 FINAL

CORD BY LE CORDON BLEU

The grand finale of our inaugural cooking competition between representatives from the local business community.



WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL, 5:30PM AFTER WORK YOGA CLASS

ST BRIDE FOUNDATION

Fun and accessible yoga class incorporates movement, breathwork and guided relaxation. You can expect playful sequences and lots of feel-good stretches to ease tension and create space in the shoulders, spine and hips.



ALL WOMEN-OWNED LINE UP AT KERB+ FLEET PLACE

Continuing the Women's History Month celebrations happening across the Quarter this March, KERB+ Fleet Place, a weekly street food market for the Fleet Street Quarter area, featured an all women-owned line up of traders on Thursday 14 March. Read the KERB Member stories below:

Emerald Eats: Bringing the heart of Irish cuisine to London streets, Emma's Emerald Eats is a tribute to the legendary Hot Chicken Fillet Roll. For founder Emma, it's more than a business; Emerald Eats has taken her from the corporate world, straight to the KERB where she's paving the way for Irish cuisine. Having taken part in the first-ever women-owned inKERBator programme she is new to the KERB.

Latin Soul: Angela's journey from looking after her brother's street food business to opening her own spots at Exmouth and Broadway Markets is nothing short of inspirational. Latin Soul offers a delightful menu of South American home-style cooking and she's bringing pack-a-punch spice to the markets. Having taken part in the first-ever women-owned inKERBator programme she is new to the KERB.

Homeland: Carly, the founder of Homeland, brings Chinese comfort to the KERB. Carly's food is inspired by her hometown, Hunan, a place known for fiery chillies, zingy pickles and smoked meats. Homeland is an explosion of flavours, inspired by family recipes.

Ayal: KERB+ first met the founder of Ayal, Maral, through their Impact Partner TERN and quickly signed her a Coaching for business programme (Streets Ahead) through which she won investment to set up her business. Maral then joined the inKERBator programme and is now accelerating her business at KERB+ markets across the city. Maral's hero are the steaming Manti Dumplings filled full of flavour.

Jollof Mama: Jollof Mama began life when founder Teyan started selling her special sauces on the markets. She and her partner, Sam then started experimenting with slinging their sauces on their favourite food, jollof, one thing led to another and it became a fully blown KERB favourite. They started trading at KERB King's Cross way back in 2017, joined the InKERBator in 2019 and have become regulars on the line-up ever since. Get the chicken suya burrito with extra pepper sauce.

Utopia: A fresh new street food concept by refugee entrepreneur Hind. Utopia's journey started with the Streets Ahead programme before joining and graduating from their inKERBator programme. Savour authentic Syrian wraps with home-style flavours - all served up with a friendly smile.

**KERB+
EVERY THURSDAY
FLEET PLACE, EC4M**

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

2. Apex, 4. Dreadnought, 5. Gough,
6. Hydroponic, 9. Livery,
11. Cook off, 15. Realm

Down:

1. Pedestrianised, 4. Muggleston,
7. Goat, 8. Cop, 10. Olympics, 12. Fleet,
13. Lord Mayor, 14. Breakfast Club

Across:

