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THE VOICES

COMMUNITY NEWS

Voices Women's & Children's Community Group

OCTOBER 2026 EDITION | **COMMUNITY NEWS • MASTMAKER, ISLE OF DOGS** | Samuda Community Centre, E14 3ZT

A COMMUNITY THAT SHOWS UP

Partnerships, practical support and big steps towards a safer, stronger neighbourhood

WELCOME TO OUR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

October has been full of connection, generosity and progress. From life-saving bleed-kit training to getting Docklands ABC Boxing Gym ready for its next chapter, local people and partners have continued to show what can happen when a community comes together. Thank you to everyone who has donated time, equipment, skills, ideas and funds. Every contribution matters.

£2,000 SECURED FOR OUR CHRISTMAS COMPANION HAMPERS

A wonderful step forward. Leoca Powell, Communities Keeping Well Locality Project Lead, has helped connect us with Olga from Scraps of Joy CIC. Together, we explored the possibility of Scraps of Joy becoming a supporting partner for Jackie's Companion Hampers Project for residents aged 60+ this December 2026. We are delighted that everyone is open to taking this relationship forward. This collaboration has helped secure £2,000 towards the project — a meaningful boost as we prepare to spread some festive warmth and companionship to older residents.

STITCHING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER: SCRAPS OF JOY CIC

We are excited to highlight our ongoing partnership with Scraps of Joy CIC! Starting this November, a new friendly sewing group is coming to Saltwell Community Centre (E14 0DZ).

• When: First Wednesday of every month (Starting 4 November, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM)

• What to expect: Learn to use a sewing machine, build confidence, make new friends, and enjoy a creative hobby. No prior experience is needed!

• Contact: Instagram @scrapsofJoy | Email: helloatscrapsofjoy@gmail.com | Tel: 07481865321



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STOP THE BLEED: TRAINING, KITS AND COMMUNITY ACTION

Jackie Reid, our dedicated Stop the Bleed campaigner, along with trainer Erica, has been working hard to deliver bleed-kit awareness and training. Five bleed kits were purchased this month, helping us take another step towards a better-prepared community. Lukki has successfully completed her bleed-kit training and would like to give a special thank-you to Jackie and Erica for their support. Erica also supported Lukki in receiving a bleed kit to take out into the community. A further £100 was kindly donated by a local lady. We are grateful for every donation, which helps extend awareness, training and access to life-saving equipment.



THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

A huge thank-you to the Voices women who generously gave their time and shared their arts-and-crafts talents: Wendy, Erica, Maggie and Vee. Special thanks to Vee for kindly purchasing our Stop the Bleed wristbands. Your generosity and creativity help bring people together and keep our work moving.

DOCKLANDS ABC BOXING GYM: BUILDING A SAFE SPACE

Established in 2026, Docklands ABC is rapidly becoming a vital hub for fitness, discipline, and community safety. There has been plenty of hard work behind the scenes as people have helped paint, prepare, and get the gym ready for its open day. Thank you to Danny for donating a boxing bag, and to Lawrence for donating boxing bags, gym equipment, boxing gloves and mats — and for giving his time to come down and demonstrate his skills in the ring. Thank you to Michael and his dad, Bill, for coming in to help with the ABC affiliation. We also want to thank Stutzz for creating a track for Jackie to support awareness around putting knives down. We truly appreciate your talent and support.

We are also grateful to London Development Trust for supporting the development of this safe community space, and to the team who helped design a page on their website to showcase the work taking place. Special thanks to Murani O for updating the website. Visit: https://ldtgroup.org.uk/our-network/docklands-abc-boxing-gym/

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GOOD GYM AND NEW CONNECTIONS

This month we connected with GoodGym, whose work with social prescribing can help people experiencing isolation find connection, activity and support. We have met so many inspiring people and organisations, and we look forward to developing these relationships to benefit our local community.



LOOKING AHEAD: CHRISTMAS HAMPERS AND GYM OPENING

We are now preparing for the Christmas Companion Hampers for residents aged 60+ and continuing preparations for the Docklands ABC Boxing Gym opening. We are fortunate to have a growing team of people backing this work. Thank you to everyone who has stood alongside us — whether through donations, practical help, introductions, creativity or encouragement. We really do have a dream team.

GET INVOLVED

Would you like to support the hamper project, help prepare the gym, donate equipment, volunteer your time or learn more about Stop the Bleed? Please get in touch with the team and help us keep building a safer, more connected community.

TOGETHER FOR A STRONGER, SAFER, MORE CONNECTED COMMUNITY
THE VOICES WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY GROUP • OCTOBER 2026

