

# CHALKBOARD

The Old Schoolhouse Community Project, St. John's Road , Huyton, L36 0UX

Issue 5 - Winter 2018

## A helping hand from the COOP

Last year we applied to the COOP's Local Community Fund in the hope of further developing our Garden Project (GOSH) and we were delighted when we learnt that our bid had been successful. This meant that, between April and October, a percentage of profits from the purchases of COOP members, as well as from the sale of shopping bags was saved for our cause. Christmas came a few days early for us when, in December, we received just over £3000 – a good deal more than we had expected.



The new fence is a tough steel mesh like this – we can even use it like a trellis!

A priority for us was to address the side fence near our raised beds and compost area. This had been an old wooden structure that required repair whenever the weather turned windy.

We now have a much more robust and secure metal fence that will also allow the gardeners considerably better access.

Our volunteers have highlighted a range of tools and equipment that are needed and have also come up with some interesting landscaping ideas. Above all, we hope to spend a large portion of the remaining money on plants and shrubs - building on the work of our gardeners who have toiled this last year to clear and prepare beds (often donating plants themselves whenever possible.)

We are confident that the garden project will continue to go from strength to strength and are now looking forward to the spring time when work will once again begin in earnest.

If our community garden is something you'd like to get involved in, just drop us a line and we'll be sure to keep you informed of developments and opportunities.

## A Learning Space at the Old Schoolhouse Community Project

One of our hopes for 2018 is to develop the range of learning opportunities that are on offer here at the Old Schoolhouse. We start with courses from the WEA who are offering An Introduction to Philosophy and a Beginners' Italian course, while the Kadampa Meditation Centre, Liverpool are offering an Introduction to Buddhist Meditation Techniques in our Quiet Room on Thursday nights.





Other ideas we are looking at include: a short course in Chair Yoga, Beginners' Spanish and French, Internet and computer skills, starting guitar and arts and crafts. Please keep an eye on our social media pages for more information. Likewise, if you have any suggestions for classes, or if you are a teacher or know someone who could deliver classes for us, please get in touch. We'd like to offer the widest possible range of learning sessions over the course of the year.

Never  
STOP  
learning

### Have you found us online yet?

Social media is a great (and free!) way for us to spread the word about the Old Schoolhouse so we're very happy to see that we've picked up several new followers recently across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. If you're not following us then please do! All our details are shown here on the right.

Finally, if you haven't browsed our updated website yet, do take a look. It can be found at [www.oscp.co.uk](http://www.oscp.co.uk)

 Facebook: [oscommunityproject](https://www.facebook.com/oscommunityproject)  
 Instagram: [theoldschoolhousecp](https://www.instagram.com/theoldschoolhousecp)  
 Twitter: [SchoolhouseCP](https://twitter.com/SchoolhouseCP)  
 Website: [www.oscp.co.uk](http://www.oscp.co.uk)



## OSCP Volunteer Opportunities

Do you occasionally find yourself with a few hours to spare?

Would you like to volunteer at the Old Schoolhouse?

This year we are planning to host some larger lunches and functions for different groups within our community. However, in order to ensure a smooth-running success, we could do with some volunteers to help us with serving and hospitality duties.

If you have a couple of hours to spare and would be interested in volunteering with us then please get in touch and pass in your details.

You can call us on: 0151 480 9177 or email: [reception@oscp.co.uk](mailto:reception@oscp.co.uk).

Better still, if you're passing, feel free to pop in and speak to us in person. We hope to see you soon!

## Supporters Helping Older People

KPAIS is also currently recruiting a small team of committed volunteers for an exciting new project, which will provide essential services to older people in Knowsley.

The *S.H.O.P. For You* project will offer older people support with a range of daily activities to enable them to maintain their independence, their health and their wellbeing.

KPAIS is looking for dedicated volunteers who want to make a difference in older people's lives by assisting them with their shopping, light cleaning, attending medical appointments and befriending services. As a volunteer, you choose which areas you would like to help with.

If you have time to spare and you would like to commit to supporting an older person in your community, this may be the role for you. For more information please contact Pat McCarthy:

(0151) 449 3706

[pat.mccarthy@kpais.co.uk](mailto:pat.mccarthy@kpais.co.uk)



## Men's Group

At various points along life's path we may expect or hope for different things from our social lives. Job changes, retirement or relocation are just some of the factors that can have both positive and negative effects on our social circles.

We are looking to establish a men's group in the coming months and perhaps you, or someone you know, is at a point where this might provide a welcome opportunity.

Whether you're looking to meet new people or find new activities to do with already long-established friends, please let us know if you would like to be part of the group and we'll arrange a time and date that best suits.

We're not sure yet exactly what the format of the meetings would be but we have space, plenty of tea and coffee and a desire to develop projects and activities that meet the interests of our local community. So, let us know if you're interested. It might just be the start of something great!

# Men's Group

at The Old Schoolhouse  
St. John's Road, Huyton, L36 0UX

**Come and be a part of our  
men's group and enjoy:**

Social interaction

New Friendships

Conversation

Sharing & Support

New Activities & Possibilities



**Coming  
Soon!**



For more information call us or send us an email:

(0151) 480 9177

[reception@oscp.co.uk](mailto:reception@oscp.co.uk)

## New Developments in the Snack Shack

The Snack Shack is our self-service coffee shop and is open from Monday to Friday 9-5pm. Hot drinks and homemade biscuits are always available and now we have a range of games, quizzes, puzzles and conversation activities available for you to enjoy.