

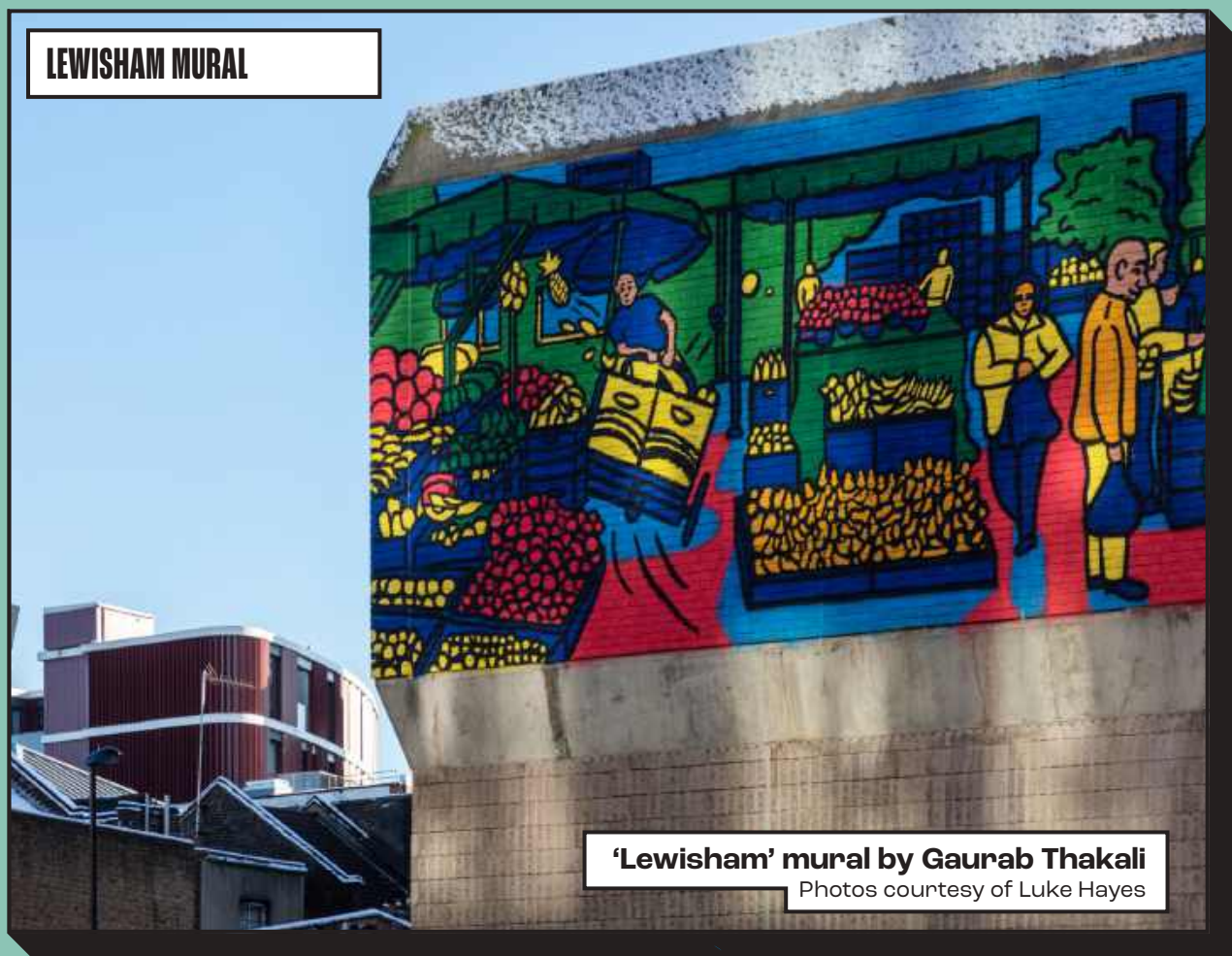
## LEWISHAM SHOPPING CENTRE

# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2023

Landsec is developing plans to shape a new centre for Lewisham. The plans will redefine the town centre – offering everyone better choices and new experiences that are firmly rooted in Lewisham's people and culture.

Later this year, we are hoping to share the latest masterplan. But in the meantime, there's a lot going on at the centre which you can read about in this newsletter, including community activities and events.

### LEWISHAM MURAL



**'Lewisham' mural by Gaurab Thakali**  
Photos courtesy of Luke Hayes



**Gaurab Thakali at Mural Launch Event**  
Photo by Oliver Dixon



**Attendees at Mural Launch Event**  
Photo by Oliver Dixon

## Celebrating Lewisham with its latest mural

Artists, poets, musicians, and community leaders recently came down to the centre to celebrate the official launch of 'Lewisham', an eye-catching new mural.

The mural depicts the mix of cultures and everyday living in the town centre and celebrates the Borough's local music culture and jazz scene.

The launch event was hosted at the Migration Museum and saw Lewisham creatives and community leaders gather for an evening of music, poetry and film.

Attendees were treated to performances from spoken word artist Henry Stone and musician Kevin Bonne-Asirifi, as well as the premiere of a short film documenting Gaurab Thakali's creation of 'Lewisham', created by Gersende Giorgio. Artist, Gaurab Thakali, has a truly inspirational story. He moved to the Borough from Nepal with his family at 15 and

was made to feel at home by Lewisham's strong sense of community, before beginning his career as a successful artist now showcased around the world.

The mural was commissioned by Landsec, in partnership with We Are Lewisham and the London Borough of Culture 2022. Last year, residents voted for their favourite artwork for the commissioned piece, and Gaurab's mural came out on top. The mural vividly portrays the Borough's community spirit and the way it celebrates diversity, particularly through its music and culture.

It is a fitting outcome of Lewisham's year as the Mayor's London Borough of Culture 2022 and encapsulates much of what makes the Borough so special. Why not come down and take a look? You can also follow Gaurab on Instagram [@gaurabthakali](https://www.instagram.com/gaurabthakali)



# MORE ON MURALS...

Lewisham has a long and rich history of murals and public art that celebrate our people, culture and community, both past and present. The below map lists out just a few of these for you and your friends or family to visit.



Glass Mill Leisure Centre Mural, 2013, was created by local artist Phil Coy.



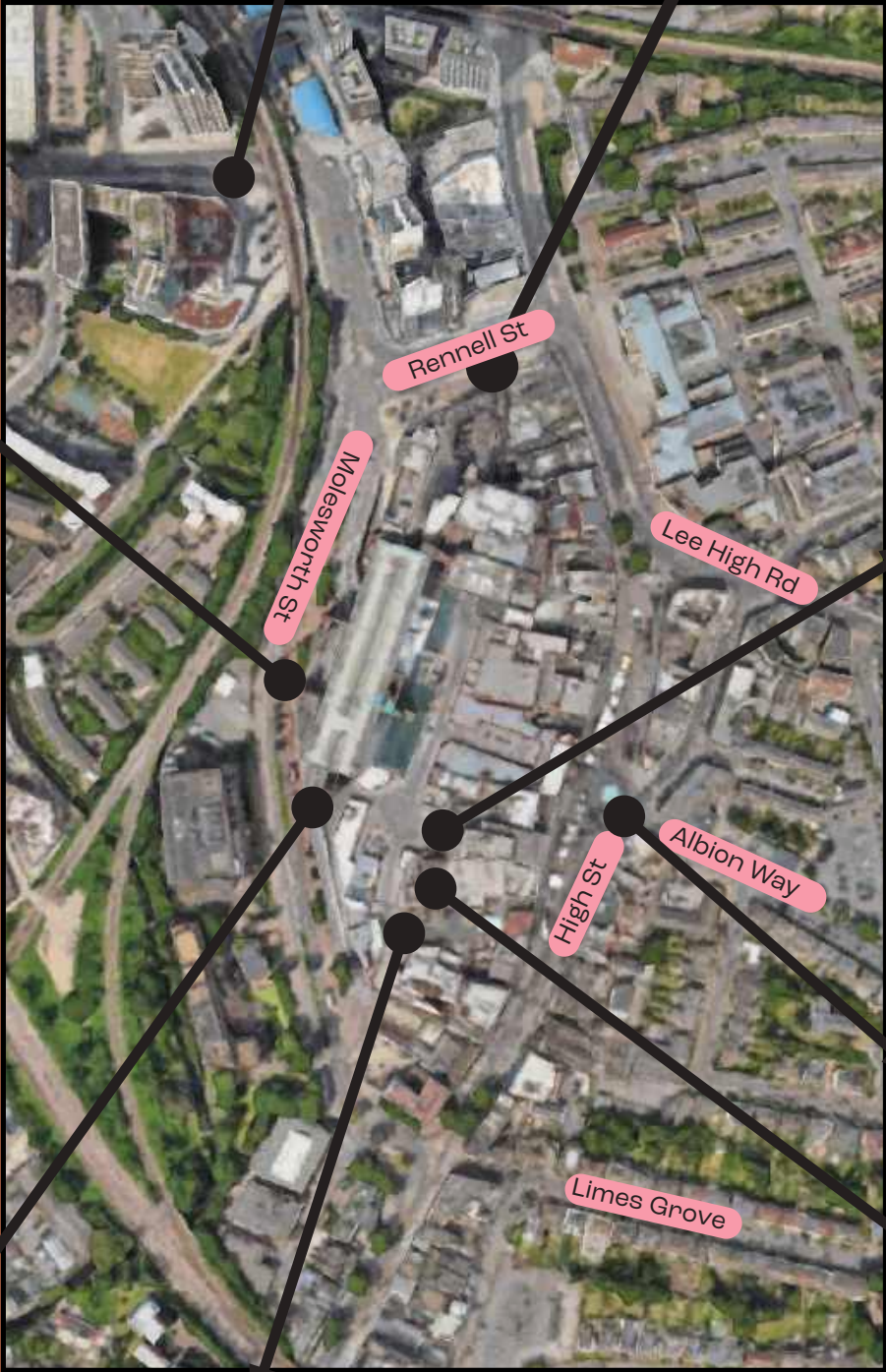
Gaurab Thakali's Lewisham is the latest installation which celebrates the borough, London Borough of Culture, 2022.



Migration Museum Student Mural at LSC, by the School of Muralism.



Celebrating Lewisham Educators by Shauna Blanchfield, 2022.



The Wall, features the work of famous muralist, Thierry Noir and Stik, Migration Museum, Lewisham Shopping Centre.



Water Drop, Lewisham Market Public Art.



Lewisham History Mural on Molesworth Street, 1998, celebrates key moments and characters of the borough's past, Lewisham Shopping Centre.



Molly Hankinson's mural, South Mall, paid tribute to Ono Dafedjaiye for making creative arts more inclusive for people with learning disabilities, 2022.



Volunteers Across the Borough by Emma Barnie, 2022.



# WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO...

## Lewisham Living Rooms

At the end of last year, we held a series of pop-ups called the Lewisham Living Room at the shopping centre to speak to residents and shoppers about their aspirations for the local area.

It was fascinating to hear from over 100 local people, who shared memories about the centre. For instance, did you know the centre used to be home to an ice rink?

We also heard lots of ideas on how to improve the centre, and we've collected these to help us understand what a changing town centre means for the community, as we shape a new centre for Lewisham.



LAUNCH OF THE LIVING ROOMS IN NOVEMBER WITH CLLR ALIYA SHEIKH

## Design Champions update

Our group of local Design Champions has been meeting since October to help develop our ideas on key design elements for the future redevelopment of the shopping centre site.

The workshop sessions have been exploring issues such as the use and design of public spaces, how different members of the community move around the area and the heritage and character of the town centre.

In the coming months, we will be sharing more details about how the group has helped shape our thinking and the future proposals, and we will be asking you to feedback on this through public exhibitions, workshops and other engagement activities linked to the masterplan.



THE DESIGN CHAMPIONS REVIEWING EXAMPLES OF GOOD PUBLIC REALM

## In Living Memory

As a part of the Living Memory research project, Goldsmiths University has held a series of stalls at the shopping centre to collect oral histories. The project has focused on prominent events from the town centre's past such as the floods of '68, the Battle of Lewisham, and The Beatles playing the Odeon.

The stalls were themed around a 1970s, 80s and 90s video and record store to help shoppers reminisce about times gone by. The Goldsmith's team has documented the written contributions on the new digital museum of Lewisham life, but more work is still being done behind the scenes to catalogue your contributions. Goldsmiths will be reporting back as the project continues so watch this space!

More information can be found at [www.sites.gold.ac.uk/inlivingmemory](http://www.sites.gold.ac.uk/inlivingmemory)



LIVING MEMORY PROJECT TEAM COLLECTING PERSONAL STORIES FROM SHOPPERS

# WHAT'S COMMING UP...

## commUNITY Space launches

Data shows that 61,000 Lewisham families are now struggling to pay their bills.

To help tackle this, Landsec has teamed up with Enable, London Sport and The Felix Project to launch Lewisham commUNITY Space, a warm, welcoming space in the centre, opposite H&M.

commUNITY will provide support and advice to local people who need it, as well as hot meals provided by The Felix Project for people to take away. Free sessions will also take place, including physical activities like Zumba, Winter Walks through the centre, pop-ups and guest speakers and much more.

commUNITY will be open from 10am-4pm for drop-ins, with dedicated sessions for women and girls from 4-6pm.

There's no need to book a place, simply drop-in and say hello! You can visit our website at [lewishamshopping.co.uk](http://lewishamshopping.co.uk) for more details.



## Women in public spaces exhibition

Head down to the shopping centre to see an exciting new exhibition with grassroots arts organisation Procreate Project which will display works by contemporary women and non-binary artists who are mothers.

The poster exhibition will explore the role of women in public spaces and question the isolation and invisibility of unpaid care work throughout February and it is free.

More information on Procreate Project and the artists involved can be found at [www.procreateproject.com](http://www.procreateproject.com)



## Your chance to win!

We have launched a new survey to understand how we can improve people's experience of the shopping centre.

The survey only takes a few minutes to fill out and participants will have the opportunity to enter a prize draw to win **£500** to spend at Lewisham Shopping Centre. More details can be found at [lewishamshopping.co.uk/feedback](http://lewishamshopping.co.uk/feedback)

## Lewisham through the ages

The shopping centre team recently discovered a trove of over 1000 photos and negatives of the shopping centre, charting the development the site from the 1970s up until the 1990s.

We have shared the photos with Goldsmiths University's Living Memory project to be digitalised and archived for future generations. You can see a selection of these images at

[www.sites.gold.ac.uk/inlivingmemory](http://www.sites.gold.ac.uk/inlivingmemory)

# GETTING IN TOUCH WITH THE TEAM

**If you have any questions or queries, do not hesitate to contact us.** We will be holding a number of exciting engagement events to share our plans for the future of Lewisham Shopping Centre, so if you would like to get involved, please get in touch using the contact details on the right.

Scan the QR code to visit our website



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