CREATE

The Company: Movements, Deals and Drinks project announces a free summer programme for all ages in Barking & Dagenham

Until 60 years ago thousands of east Londoners travelled to farms in Kent each summer for a working holiday picking hops. What would happen if Londoners today grew and harvested crops, produced drinks and set-up their own company? This is what the *Company* project has been set up to do.

Developed by international artist group Myvillages and led by artist Kathrin Böhm, the project will establish a community drinks co-operative in Barking and Dagenham, owned and run by local residents.

This summer the project will be running a wide range of activities from hop-picking reminiscence sessions to fruit harvest trips, cola and lemonade making workshops and farm visits. Please find up to date event details below.

The full range of drinks will be launched later in the year and the profit from the sales will set the foundation for a new community enterprise.

The project is open to everyone in Barking and Dagenham including those who remember hop picking, who like to garden, and young people with business ambition or an interest in making drinks and catering.

Company: Movements, Deals and Drinks is a project by international artist group Myvillages. The project has been commissioned by Create and is supported by Bank of America Merrill Lynch and London Borough of Barking and Dagenham.

Image: Shirley Smith family at Tipples Farm

Bank of America Merrill Lynch

London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Create
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS
Tel: 020 7382 7284
Email: info@createlondon.org

Registered Office: Create London, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS
Company Registered in England and Wales No. 7586759 Registered Charity No. 1146063

Events Listings

Monthly Harvest Trips

July
The July Harvest trip takes us to a blackcurrant fruit farm near Colchester. The farm grows blackcurrant on for Ribena and we are gleaning the 80 acres to make a delicious blackcurrant soft drink.

All children need to be accompanied by a parent or carer. Places are limited so please book early.

It's an outdoor activity; please bring appropriate clothing for the day.

Date: July 24th, 10am – 4pm.
Meeting point: 9.45am at Dagenham Library
Coach departs: 10am
Return to Dagenham Library: 4pm

August
Blackberry and Elderberry fruit picking across local parks in Dagenham.

All children need to be accompanied by a parent or carer. Places are limited so please book early.

It's an outdoor activity; please bring appropriate clothing for the day.

Date: August 14th, 2 – 4pm.
Meeting Point: Millennium Centre

September
A trip to a hop farm in Kent is planned for mid September where we will be picking hop and making a large batch of beer. We will also be picking wild hop in the local pars and running a workshop on home brewing.

Date: TBC

October
Rosehip picking in local parks in Dagenham.

Date: TBC

To attend any of the trips listed above please email:
contact@c-o-m-p-a-n-y.info.

Hopping Afternoons

The Company project is inviting residents of Barking and Dagenham to join us for monthly 'Hopping Afternoons' at Valence House to share stories and discuss everything about hop-picking in Kent; from the journey down to Kent, to the accommodation huts, and the special songs, games and food. Events will also include special speakers, films and activities.

Guests are invited to bring along photos and any other objects that remind them of their hop-picking experience.

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Upcoming Hopping Afternoon dates:
Saturday 19th July
Saturday 23rd August
Saturday 27th September
Saturday 18th October

Time: 2 - 4pm
Location: Archives and Local Studies Centre, Valence House, Becontree Avenue, Dagenham, Essex, RM8 3HT

Open call for Garden fruit

The Company project will be accepting fruit from anyone who grows their own, has too much, and would like to donate their harvest to the project! We will be accepting fruit on the dates listed below:

Valence House Garden Party, Green Drinks Bar
Time: Saturday, 19th July (6.30 – 8.30pm)
Location: Valance House, Beacontree Avenue, London, RM8 3HT

Starter Farm Open Day
Time: Sunday, 20th July (11 - 4pm)
Location: Starter Farm

Harvest Trips
This month the Company project will be running a Blackcurrant harvesting trip to an Essex Fruit Farm.

Date: July 24th, 10am – 4pm.

A trip to a hop farm in Kent is planned for mid September where we will be picking hop and making a large batch of beer. We will also be picking wild hop in the local pars and running a workshop on homebrewing.

Date: TBC

To attend either of the trips listed above please email: contact@c-o-m-p-a-n-y.info. Please note that spaces are limited.

Summer Drinks Craze

Join the Company project this summer for workshops at Dagenham Library and a special weekly drinks lab at the Millennium Centre, at Eastbrookend Country Park. Bring your friends and family to juice fruit, blend new flavours and juggle mocktails.

Taster Sessions at Dagenham Library take place on:

Wednesday 23 July
Wednesday 30 July
Wednesday 6 August
Wednesday 13 August

Time: 4 - 5.30pm
Location: Dagenham Library, 1 Church Elm Lane, Dagenham RM10 9QS

The Drinks Lab at the Millennium Centre will be open every Friday and Saturday from 3-5pm between 25 July and 16 August.

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Location: The Millennium Centre, The Chase, Dagenham Road, Rush Green, Romford, Essex, RM7 0SS

Information Stalls

The Company project will be setting up a project information stall at a number of local events over the summer to spread the word on the project and offer some tasty samples of drinks we have been made so far.

Dagenham Library

Wednesday 9th, 16th & 23rd July (12-4pm)
Saturday 12th July (2 - 5.30pm)

Starter Farm

Sunday, 20th July (11 - 4pm)

Millennium Centre

Saturday, 26th July & 2nd, 9th, 16th August (12 - 2pm),
Saturday, 30th August (11am - 4pm)

Valance House

Saturday 19th July (6.30 - 8.30pm),
Saturday, 20th September (10 - 4pm)

For full events listings and further information please visit www.c-o-m-p-a-n-y.info or contact Kathrin at kathrin@myvillages.org or on 07941 696515.

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Note to Editors

For all PRESS enquiries please contact Joanne Jolley, Communications Manager, Create on joanne@createlondon.org or 020 7254 2402.

For details about the programme and how to get involved, contact Kathrin; kathrin@myvillages.org, 07941 696515.

For full events listings, general project enquires and to find out how to get involved please visit www.c-o-m-p-a-n-y.info or get in touch via email contact@c-o-m-p-a-n-y.info

Follow the project on Twitter: @goingpicking

About Myvillages
Myvillages is a pan-national artist group founded in 2003 by Kathrin Böhm, Wapke Feenstra, and Antje Schiffers. Its work addresses the evolving relationship between the rural and the urban, looking at different forms of production, pre-conceptions and power relationships. Current and recent projects include *International Village Show* (2014 – 16) for the Museum of Contemporary Art Leipzig, Germany, *Umeå Pantry* for Bildmuseet Umeå, Sweden and *Farmers and Ranchers* with M12, Colorado, USA and Fries Museum, the Netherlands.

About Kathrin Böhm
Kathrin Böhm is a founding member of Myvillages and the London-based art and architecture group Public Works, whose participatory and collaborative public realm and design works include *Park Products* for Serpentine Galleries, London and *1000 bags here and now* for Whitechapel Gallery, London. Böhm has recently curated 'Trade Show', together with Gavin Wade, for Eastside Projects in Birmingham and R-Urban in Paris and her exhibition 'Money Making Machine and Other Useful Contraptions' will open at Peckham Platform on 20 May 2014. Kathrin is also running 'Haystacks', a series of monthly informal talks, in various London locations, about rural realities and links

About Create London
Create London commissions and produces multi-disciplinary art projects that extend the possibilities of socially engaged practice. It exists to spread the benefits of being home to Europe's largest cultural quarter to people living in east London. Despite having the highest concentration of artists and creative businesses in the UK, the area has low levels of cultural engagement and remains one of the most deprived parts of the country. Create London's work aims to bridge the traditional barriers of class, culture and education between artists and people from all social backgrounds.

Create London has a vital role to play in the continued economic regeneration of east London and its work is underpinned by Create Jobs, which provides mentoring, support and paid employment opportunities for local young people. Their conviction is in the power of art to make a positive contribution to our daily lives, encouraging debate, constructive change and social progress. By working outside of traditional cultural spaces and building virtuous circles between artists, creative organisations and local people, they strive to nurture and grow the ambitions of our communities.

For more information go to www.createlondon.org or follow @Create_London

About Bank of America Merrill Lynch Corporate Social Responsibility
Developing solutions for social and economic challenges is at the core of Bank of America Merrill Lynch's responsibility platform. In more than 90 countries around the world, we partner with employees, clients and stakeholders to help make financial lives better. The firm focuses on responsible business practices, environmental sustainability, advancing opportunity in local communities through education and employability programmes and investing in global leadership development. We realise the power of our people and value our differences, recognising that our diversity makes us a stronger firm and allows us to better service our stakeholders. By harnessing our intellectual resources, sharing knowledge and connecting capital with need, we are providing opportunities that effect positive change.

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About the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

The 2012 Olympics shifted the world's attention to east London. Since then the Host Boroughs have been renamed Growth Boroughs highlighting the scale of the opportunities available in an area of rapid and dynamic change where economic development goes hand in hand with population growth.

Barking and Dagenham has more untapped potential than any other part of the capital so now is the time to see what Barking and Dagenham has to offer with plans for over 17,000 new homes and 10,000 new jobs over the next twenty years.

The borough has some of the best value land for development and the most affordable premises for businesses large and small.

With a proud history of manufacturing, industrial and sporting excellence thanks to the talent of its people, strategic transport links and location close to major markets in the South East and onto Europe, Barking and Dagenham really is London's Newest Opportunity.

Learn more at http://www.lbbd.gov.uk/Pages/Home.aspx and follow us on Twitter at @lbbdcouncil

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