

**The Bridge
at Waterloo**

Getting young people into work

£3 million appeal

A PROJECT OF ST JOHN'S CHURCH, WATERLOO. REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1132457





The Bridge at Waterloo – a bridge to a better future, improving young people’s chances of finding employment or creating their own. An initiative, built extensively around the arts, to reduce local youth unemployment, unlock the potential of local people, strengthen local communities and create a remarkable performance space for London

St John’s Church at Waterloo - the large, active and inclusive church situated at the south end of Waterloo Bridge next to the South Bank, Europe’s largest cultural centre - is working in partnership with local businesses, other providers and its partners resident in the church:

- SE1 United, the very successful youth-led charity which supports 10-21 year olds on a variety of programmes designed to give them skills which lead to employment
- Southbank Sinfonia, Britain’s leading orchestral academy, which provides 33 outstanding graduate musicians each year with a much-needed springboard into the profession
- Futures Theatre Company which develops inspiring touring theatre productions and pioneering education programmes exploring issues of social justice, especially as they affect young people
- Southbank Mosaics which creates mosaic art for public spaces, working with a variety of people including unemployed and homeless people and those with mental health issue

to expand their successful programmes, extensively built around the arts, focused on transforming life chances for young people.

The initiative is named The Bridge at Waterloo (TBAW) because it acts as an inspiring and facilitating bridge between its resident partners, arts organisations, businesses, local charities and community groups and young unemployed people in Lambeth and Southwark,

apprentice classical musicians, former prisoners and others, enabling the transfer of practical experience and life-skills, as well as helping to fire ambition and raise aspirations.

The stated desire of the beneficiaries is for bespoke courses that treat them as individuals with particular needs and skills. TBAW will expand such tailored development programmes including, for example, confidence building, interview skills, timekeeping support and in-work mentoring – extensively based around the arts.

These opportunities for young people to learn from experience of others or to upgrade their skills, are recognised as vital ingredients in the of building self-esteem and the broadening of horizons which, by leading to successful employment, transform lives and communities.

Vision & Mission

Our vision is for thriving and cohesive Waterloo neighbourhoods and communities more widely and confidently fulfilling their full potential - building on a proud legacy of successful integration forged out of self-help, tolerance and mutual respect.

The mission will be to provide a place of inspiration, transformation and hope which addresses disadvantage and opens opportunity through the arts, community and heritage for all parts of society in Waterloo and London more widely.





Making it Happen

Key to the sustainable success of TBAW is a sensitive renewal of the main church so that it offers an excellent, acoustically-sound performance and concert space. Not only will this be used to support young and emergent artists and performers as well as providing opportunity for events management training, the revenues generated by commercial lettings of the improved building underpin the business plan for TBAW.

The church is already extensively used for community activities as well as by its resident partners but its full potential is limited by lack of accessibility and fit-for-purpose catering and toilet facilities, as well by damp and other structural inadequacies. The project will bring semi-derelict areas of the crypt back into use.

Why Waterloo?

It is easy to overlook the social disadvantage that scars an area that covers the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark. Communities in South London face major challenges.

What opportunity there is for jobs is largely reserved for those with higher level qualifications as traditional low skill roles are replaced by office jobs in large corporations and the knowledge and culture-based industries of the South Bank. Low educational attainment is an immediate barrier to progression for local youth. Declining opportunity for employment in turn feeds crime resulting in social dislocation and isolation for many.

The Bridge at Waterloo will transform the life chances of disadvantaged young people mainly from Lambeth and Southwark by providing opportunities for employment through education, training and peer support, delivered in the newly refurbished church building.

Unemployment among young black and minority ethnic people has risen by 49% since 2010.

A significant proportion of these young people are in Lambeth and Southwark. In 2012, 25% of economically active young adults in London were unemployed, compared to 20% in the rest of England. The young adult unemployment rate in the rest of England did not change last year, whilst in London it increased.

Making a lasting difference

The project will reach 1,500 young people each year by year five. They will become more self-confident, have more life skills, be able to study better and understand how they can improve their lives, by getting a job, start their own business or further their education.

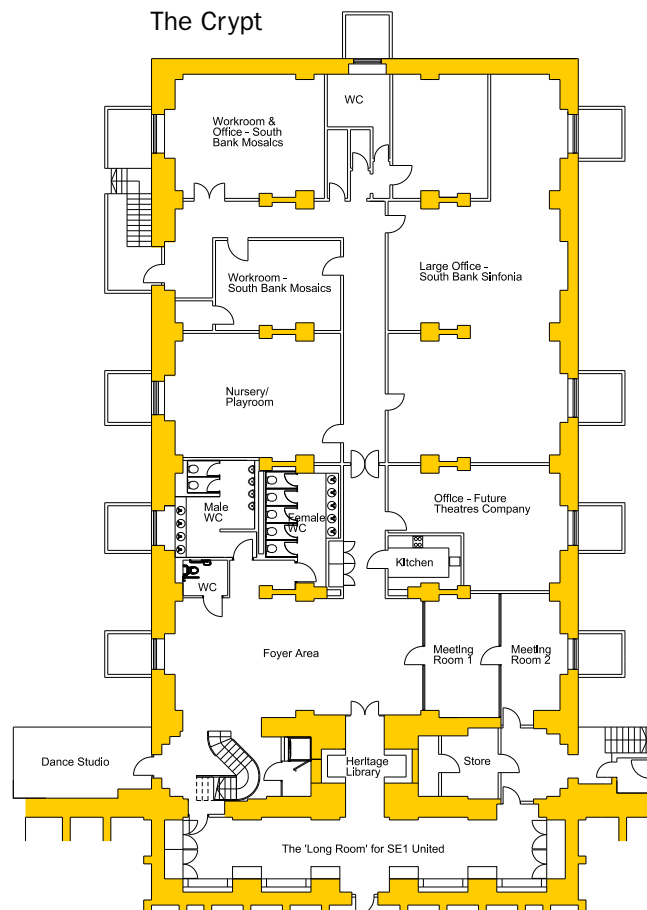
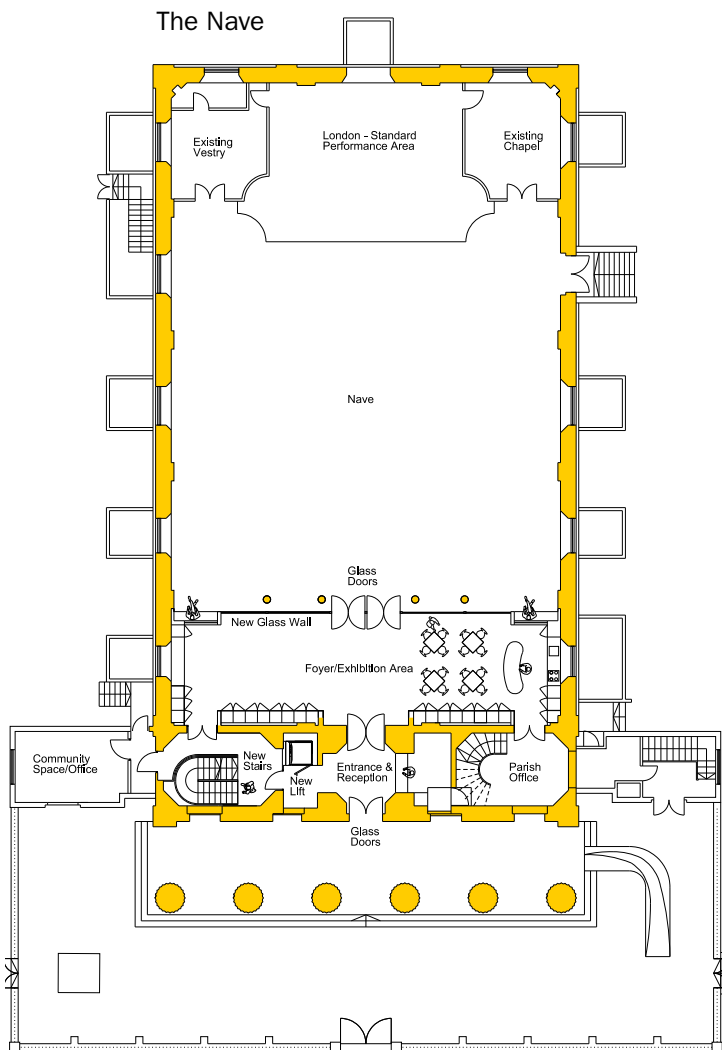
They will learn the skills of managing projects and organisations by organising and running events. This will increase educational attainment and youth employment, and increase the opportunities available to young people. These people will then become role models for their peers and younger children and will in time give greater support to their peers and their own families than they have had themselves.

Local people will be attracted into St John's and benefit from our activities, including coming to performances in the 'mini-theatre'. This, in turn, will give the young people customers for their entrepreneurship and experience of business and event management. Local businesses, including arts organisations, will be engaged in the project through offering mentoring, supported internships and work experience.

Project Costings

CAPITAL		
Church		£854,500
Entrance, access & crypt		£1,365,500
Fees and associated costs		£377,400
VAT		£259,740
TOTAL CAPITAL		£2,857,140
Revenue	Year 1	£100,000
	Year 2	£100,000
	Year 3	£100,000
TOTAL REQUIRED		£3,157,140
Funding identified to date		
Certain		£250,000
Likely		£1,200,000
FUNDING TO RAISE		£1,707,140

Proposed development



People

Appeal Patrons

Baroness Andrews
The Rt Rev Bishop Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark
Ms Pat Thomas OBE
Michael Berman CBE
Kate Hoey MP
Iain Tuckett MBE, Coin Street Community Builders
Baroness Wheeler

Staff

Rev Canon Giles Goddard
Priest in Charge, St John's Church

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Partner organisations

