

# OUR TRIANGLE TIME

Dec 8th - 15th 2024

Creative engagement for the Tooting Triangle  
commissioned by Wandsworth Borough Council



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## Background

Hilary Jennings and Lucy Neal have worked in the Tooting community since 2008 as creative change makers, producers, facilitators, and artists. They are known for initiatives such as Transition Town Tooting, Forever Fishponds and Tooting Bec and Broadway Neighbourhood Forum.

## The Brief

They were approached in summer 2024 by Jo Shearer and Cllr Judi Gasser to run a publicly accessible engagement exercise at the Tooting Triangle which would take a 'different' approach to former consultations in the area, to build trust with local people and to help WBC understand what mattered to them about future proposals.

'The Triangle' is comprised of the indoor Balham Boxing Club and former One O'Clock Club and outdoor large Natural Playground and adjacent Redgra football Pitch.

## Our Proposal

To develop and run engagement sessions with the community in relation to possible future proposals to improve the public facilities and services at Tooting 'Triangle'. From which we would produce a brief report summarising experiences, perspectives and what matters to people about the place and space to help guide future consultation.

We would design activities that asked, in a range of ways: 'What is the Triangle to You?' and 'what role does it play in your life?' 'What does the Triangle have that you love? What does the Triangle already have that you would want to keep? And what could you see or imagine it having in the future?'

Activities would use everyday materials both simple and familiar to use: card, coloured paper, thread, scissors, pens, jam jars, cloth and pushpins. Clay would be the most 'unusual' material to be used. We would act as 'guides' present throughout to welcome people in and explain how they could engage with the activities, leading them into how they could leave 'traces' of their stories, memories, views. In witnessing others' responses in addition to their own, people would see engagement with activities building over time - creating interactions between participants attending at different times and on different days. A certain curiosity in the process itself would encourage connection and an openness to participation.



Our approach was to engage a broad diversity of the local community and current users of the space in an ongoing conversation over 8 days in ways that were creative, welcoming and grounded in people's existing experiences of the Triangle. We aimed to move beyond issues arising from previous approaches; seeking to build trust through the engagement that WBC were sincere in seeking people's experiences of the Triangle and what mattered to them about future proposals. It would be called *Our Triangle Time* (OTT) and we'd design a simple visual to link all activities to communicate 'welcome' and 'shared connection'.



## Practicalities /operations

A series of open invitation drop-in sessions of 2-3 hours between Sunday Dec 8th and Sunday Dec 15th were planned and agreed. Despite being winter time, it was clear the area is used on a daily basis by walkers, boxers, runners and families who frequent the playground. Timings were selected in order to connect with different users including those passing and exercising in the early morning, those using the playground during the day and those attending the Boxing Club for evening sessions.

<b>Sunday Dec 8th:</b>	1pm-4pm 1.30 'Opening'
<b>Monday Dec 9th:</b>	11am-1pm
<b>Tuesday Dec 10th:</b>	7am-10am
<b>Wednesday Dec 11th:</b>	3pm-6pm
<b>Thursday Dec 12th:</b>	4pm-7pm
<b>Friday Dec 13th:</b>	10am-1pm
<b>Saturday Dec 14th:</b>	8am-10am & 2pm-4pm
<b>Sunday Dec 15th:</b>	11am - 1pm. 'Closing' 1.30pm with tour, cake, thanks to all.

The former One O'Clock Club was confirmed as the main 'base' for *Our Triangle Time*, including toilets and use of kitchen to offer simple refreshments. The space would be cleared and 'dressed' to be publicly accessible, warm, creative and welcoming.

Participants would be invited to respond to questions and prompts posted around the space and to respond to posts from others. The process would enable responses to build and 'speak' to each other, gathering input over the duration and creating a form of installation or exhibition over time. At the heart of the engagement would be open questions about the importance and role the Triangle plays in people's lives irrespective of age or manner of 'use'.





Refreshments would be offered: tea/coffee/water/biscuits/cake/fruit - a great way of welcoming people in and encouraging them to spend time engaging in activities and conversation.



Hilary and Lucy would work with Tooting community artist, Jeni Walker; ceramicist Xanthe Maggs, graphic designer Sue Rentoul and liaise directly with Jo Shearer, Simon Cooper-Grundy, WBC Councillors, Enable and Council staff.

**Our Triangle Time**

**What is the Triangle to you?**  
You are invited to an 8-day open invitation to communities local to the Tooting Triangle. Our Triangle Time is a collaborative engagement exercise.  
Event launch at 1.30pm on Sunday 8 December, closing 1pm on Sunday 15 December.

When:	Where:
Sunday 8 December: 1pm - 4pm	<b>The former Triangle One O'Clock Centre, Tooting Bec Common</b> off Emmanuel Road, next to Balham Boxing Club, Cavendish Road, SW12 0PP
Monday 9 December: 11am - 1pm	
Tuesday 10 December: 7am - 10am	
Wednesday 11 December: 3pm - 6pm	
Thursday 12 December: 4pm - 7pm	
Friday 13 December: 10am - 1pm	
Saturday 14 December: 8am - 10am and 2pm - 4pm	
Sunday 15 December: 11am - 1pm	

Find out more scan the QR or visit:  
[wandsworth.gov.uk/tooting-triangle-sports-facilities](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/tooting-triangle-sports-facilities)

Wandsworth

*Big Tree Area*

A communication plan would be delivered by WBC to promote to local residents via Council communication channels, networks and Friends' groups in the area. Signage and posters would be put up in the surrounding area in the days/weeks leading up to Dec 8th.

WBC confirmed the following 'red lines' for the engagement: it was established that the Boxing Club would remain, as would the existing open access Playground area and that there were financial constraints limiting onward investments.

## Key facts/figures

8 days of consultation

9 sessions - to include informal 'Opening' and 'Closing' events.

200+ people visited - many staying for over 30 minutes and some for over an hour. Several returned to engage with the ongoing conversation

400 pieces of input were received from people attending the sessions

There was a spread of visitors from across the local area with a fairly even split between Wandsworth and Lambeth residents. Some travelled long distances to attend the Boxing Club. By far the majority of participants travelled to the triangle on foot or cycle/scooter with a small number arriving by car. Those travelling longer distances on foot had often started their journey on public transport

5 in OTT team + 2 Volunteers

4 Enable/Council staff - Simon Cooper-Grundy, Jo Shearer, Mick Green and Callum Brodie

2 Wandsworth Cllrs visited - Cllr Gasser and Cllr Fraser

Several Sports Clubs visited (Fulham Irish, Balham Foxes, Tribal FC)

Approx 25 users of Boxing Club (all ages)

## Engagement process

At its core the engagement sought to understand.

- What do people care or hold as important about the Triangle?
- What are their concerns or worries. What did they want kept?
- What did they want to see there in the future (i.e. what really mattered to them)?
- What might people themselves have to offer to the Triangle going forwards?
- Lastly, what did people feel about the engagement/consultation process - past, Our Triangle Time and in future

Building on this intention we created exercises which would enable participants to respond to questions and prompts posted around the space and to respond to posts from others. The process would enable responses to build and 'speak' to each other, gathering input over the duration and creating a form of installation or exhibition over time.



Please see [Appendix 1](#) for full details of the 12 activities offered, their purpose and operation and images from the week: they range from a 'Memory Map' to 'Your Triangle Journey' to claymaking and 'What Could The Triangle Be?'

Over the week, and through these 12 activities, we collected people's memories, experiences and hopes for the future use of the Triangle. We typed up the (c 400) collected responses and put them into a spreadsheet (see [Appendix 2](#)) for analysis. We used this, along with our personal observations and reflections, to create the following summary of the themes arising from the engagement,



## Findings/Emerging themes

### Geographical location of Triangle on Tooting Common

#### Flooding issues

Flooding is a key challenge for any future use of the Triangle. It is a major concern for residents and visitors to the area. There's a strong desire for solutions that address the issue effectively and sustainably, while also enhancing the natural beauty and community value of the common.

Flooding disrupts a wide range of activities, including:

- Sport: Teams often have to cancel games due to waterlogged pitches.
- Playground use: Flooding can make the playground inaccessible and unsafe.
- The Boxing Club and One O'Clock club: these buildings have been regularly flooded with all the issues that involves. There was a significant flood in the building only days before the start of *Our Triangle Time*.
- Access: Muddy conditions make it unpleasant or impossible for those travelling to or past the Triangle site for walking, dog-walking and other activities.

There were a range of proposed solutions including new drainage systems, better maintenance of existing ones, and even raised walkways in flood-prone areas. Some proposed natural solutions like creating wetlands and ponds to absorb excess water and improve drainage. This approach also aims to enhance biodiversity and create a more natural environment. There was a suggestion for the Triangle to become a "demonstration space for flood management," showcasing innovative and sustainable solutions.

*"Balham Foxes play football here every Saturday morning. We're a free volunteer-led community group and when it rains we often have to cancel - the 'all-weather' pitch (Redgra) is usually flooded too. Please fix the drainage!"*

*"Drainage so paths passable with pram all year round."*

*"A community garden with a wetland outlook would be ideal and this place could thrive. There is often flooding here and if it is not looked after from an ecological point of view I think it will continue to flood."*

People value nature, green space, peace and quiet.

The location of the Triangle on Tooting Common combines precious access, for people of all ages, to open green space in the city with opportunities for social engagement, play and sport away from roads.

The value of this as a contributing factor to people's health, happiness and well being was stated time and again. Without question it's a space people wish to see preserved and maintained. The Triangle's sense 'of safety' was also a key factor especially for activities with children.

People love the natural beauty of the common, the wildlife and trees through the seasons; the expanse of sky and hearing bird song as well as 'children's laughter and playing'. Appreciation of the Triangle's peace and quiet was voiced equally by users of the Boxing Club, the Redgra space and the play area, as much as those who regularly went running or took walks, had picnics on the common or simply enjoyed 'being in nature'.

Many suggestions were made for planting fruit trees, permaculture education, horticultural learning, foraging, survival skills, future nature trails, ponds, wildlife projects and a community garden as well as offers of help to initiate such ventures.

*"It's quiet, peaceful and feels like a little bit of the countryside."*

*"I value the peace and quiet - and sky space and trees. SO PRECIOUS"*

*"Little oasis for small children away from cars but still with the excitement of passing trains!"*

*"I've made many friends walking around and would love to be able to carry on doing this"*

*"I love standing....to watch the skies looking towards the Triangle Area to see sunsets and sunrises"*

*"What I love and appreciate about the common is the peace and quiet. Long may it remain so"*

## Anchor organisations and spaces

### The Boxing Club

We heard many powerful testimonies demonstrating the deep affection and respect the community has for the Boxing Club. The club is repeatedly described as a "second home," a "family," and a "lifeline." It is seen as more than just a place to learn boxing but a place that holds a strong sense of belonging for people.

The input we received highlights the club's unique role in the community as a safe, supportive, and transformative environment for people of all ages. This included:

- **Physical and Mental Well-being:** the club promotes physical fitness, discipline, and mental well-being, helping individuals overcome personal challenges.
- **Life Skills:** members learn valuable life skills such as discipline, respect, and teamwork.
- **Safe Haven:** the club provides a safe and supportive environment, especially for young people, offering them a positive alternative to potentially negative influences.
- **Strong Role Models:** the coaches, particularly Winston and his team, are highly regarded as positive role models who genuinely care about the well-being of the club members.
- **A sense of Community:** the club is key to the local community in ways beyond boxing, with activities like cooking together and community events fostering a strong sense of community.

Particular challenges facing the club were raised including ongoing neglect of the physical space, lack of funding and support to maintain the facilities and the need to accommodate a growing membership and wider range of activities - all of which impact on the short term operation and long-term sustainability of the club.

While facing challenges, the club also has huge potential to thrive and serve as a vital community hub for years to come. There were many calls for support and recognition of the club's value and the need for more resources and support. Opportunities identified included:

- **Community Collaboration:** the club has the potential to further collaborate with other community organizations, such as local schools, youth groups, and other sports clubs.
- **Expanded Services:** the club could explore expanding its services to include activities for different age groups, potentially incorporating a cafe or community centre.
- **Improved Facilities:** with increased funding and support, the club could improve its facilities, including better equipment, updated training areas, and improved accessibility.
- **Increased Visibility and Recognition:** the club could benefit from increased visibility and recognition within the local community and from the council.

*“Balham Boxing Club is the heartbeat and life blood of this area.”*

*“The Boxing Club is centre of my son's life and keeps him fit and sane.”*

*“The Club is precious and an invaluable community asset which looks after the fitness and wellbeing of people from all ages and backgrounds and costs people nothing. It needs and deserves improved facilities and space.”*

*“Not only did the club improve me physically, it helped me improve mentally emotionally and gave me a sense of belonging.”*

## The Playground

Responses evidenced a wide and deep affection for the playground and the role it plays in the community. People value its ability to foster social connections, provide opportunities for children's development, and offer a place for families to relax and enjoy the outdoors. There were some suggestions for improvements (see below) but overall the strong sense was that the current layout and facilities - if well-maintained - has huge value.

- **Fond Memories:** we heard many cherished childhood memories of playing in the playground, recalling specific features like the old swings, the sandpit, and the climbing frame. Many had a strong emotional connection to the space.
- **Family Time:** the playground is valued as a place for families to spend quality time together, with parents enjoying watching their children play.
- **Socialising together in community:** The playground is seen as a place to meet friends, both for children and adults – beyond and building existing social circles.
- **Learning & Development:** many parents and grandparents emphasised the learning that takes place in the playground, from developing social skills and confidence to exploring

creativity through imaginative play.

- Appreciation of the space: there's a general appreciation for the open green space and the playground itself, with many expressing gratitude for having such a resource in the area.

Possible improvements:

- Toddler-Friendly Equipment: Several people expressed a desire for more toddler-friendly equipment, such as slides and smaller climbing frames.
- Shade & Shelter: There's a need for more shade and shelter from the sun and rain, particularly for adults.
- Maintenance & Upgrades: Some mention the need for improvements to the current playground equipment and the surrounding area.
- Additional Amenities: Suggestions include a cafe, toilets and baby changing facilities, a skate park, and even a "mud club" for children.

*"I love the current climbing equipment. It's unique for a play-ground. Its great for gaining strength, coordination and confidence."*

*"I made a swing, as swings are children (and parents) favourite play item."*

*"More shading in the playground for hot summer days."*

*"Lots of fun playing in the sandpit - we always bring visiting family and friends because we can talk while the kids play."*

*"Sandpit - imaginative, interactive, all ages, communicative between strangers and family"*

*"We would love a mud club/splash club//playground with imaginative play (wendy houses etc.)"*

## The former One O'Clock Club

The former One O'Clock Club was sorely missed as a safe, free, friendly, accessible, welcoming space for pre-school children to play indoors and out. A dedicated place for painting, singing, socialising and making friends it had fostered a real sense of community with many happy memories. The garden outside was considered extremely special. It had been a 'lifeline' for many either new to the area or new to parenting or grandparenting.

Its closure in 2018 was a source of sadness and frustration for many and there were fears that such an indoor place for very young children would not be replaced. The dominant desire was for it to reopen as a safe space for children to provide the same valuable services and sense of community.

It is now being used as an 'overflow' space for the Balham Boxing Club, storing equipment and as a 'green room' and changing area for the Club. A recent visit there (January'25) showed how busy a place it has become for the Club and its users.



The main door into the garden is locked from the inside and one of the window shutters is broken, so light sources are limited. There are however working toilets (including for children) and a serviceable kitchen area.

The space is often flooded from the internal corridor to the main Boxing Club area - as happened days before the opening of *Our Triangle Time*, jeopardising a timely, safe opening.

Looking to the future, people wanted improved facilities and imagined the space with many potential uses: combining elements of what had been lost with new ideas: café, a mud club, a splash group but also a community garden or a youth hub.

*'A little oasis for small children away from cars but still with the excitement of passing trains!'*

*'This space must remain part of the community and primarily as a centre for children. The One O'Clock Club should never have closed.'*

*'..my son started socialising here'*

## Redgra pitch

The Redgra pitch is well used as it provides a valuable, decent-sized, hard surface particularly when the wider field adjacent to it is water-logged. The primary use is for football - both formal and informal with clubs including Balham Foxes, Fulham Irish and Tribal FC adding input about the value of the pitch to their groups.

People reference a range of other uses including ball games, informal play, learning to ride a bike or scooter and some - like the Nordic walking group - use it for walking and jogging.

A number of issues mean that the pitch is currently under utilised - several people referenced the poor surface and the fact it is prone to flooding. People expressed a strong desire to maintain the pitch for community use, including free access for local clubs, schools, and the public - improvements suggested included an improved surface (3G) and floodlights to allow evening use.

## Intergenerational use

Who is using the Triangle? An intergenerational story of children, friends, families, grandparents.

One of the clearest signals we picked up was the intergenerational nature of the Triangle, both in terms of current users - from babies in prams through to the older grandparents, and everyone else in between - but also as an evolving resource for so many *over their own lifetimes*. Those who'd brought toddlers were now, as grandparents bringing their children's children to play in the sandpit; build sandcastles; go on climbing frames and swings; play hide and seek or learn to ride bikes. Youths who'd attended the Youth Club were now grown into adults leading youth boxing training sessions at the Boxing Club or bringing their children to the playground.

In the context of families and friends, people had happy memories of spending time together, of picnics or attending events at the Balham Boxing Club, going for walks and observing the wildlife. The presence of passing trains so close to the playground was a great source of excitement.

A surprisingly high number of participants at *Our Triangle Time* proved to be grateful grandparents, expressing appreciation of the Triangle as either a familiar place being reinvented with grandchildren or - if they lived out of town - a nearby, safe, walkable place they knew they could bring children to.

*"I have lived next to the commons for 20 years. My son grew up on it, I visit at least twice a day for a dog walk. I go for walks regularly with my family and friends here."*

## Outdoor Activities

### Walking/Running

Walking is a central activity tied into the Common and Triangle area. People take daily, regular walks, on their own or with friends and family, and often with dogs, as part of their routine or incorporated into specific activities such as Nordic walking. They do this to enjoy nature, the changing seasons, get fit and for their overall mental and physical wellbeing (or as in Covid 'to keep sane'.) The Triangle's often part of a longer walk round the common and seen as a place of pause or rest. Flooding was an issue, making the path past and through the Triangle inaccessible, especially for anyone with mobility issues.

The Triangle is also a through route for many runners - but again is tricky in wet weather with mud and rain, when the path is impassable. The Redgra surface is sometimes used for jogging.

### Cycling/wheeling

People were keen to mention the Triangle's accessibility by bike and cycling was often cited as a part of people's daily commutes or regular recreation.

Many local children learnt to ride their bike here - or toddlers their scooter. Many parents expressed positive memories of teaching their children to ride their bicycles here for the first time - usually on the Redgra pitch. The safe, traffic-free nature of the area was good for this.

*Quote (from clay making) "I made a bicycle wheel - to represent 'learning to cycle' courses on the Redgra pitch - may they continue!"*

### Football

Football as a popular local team sport had many mentions - despite there being no adequate football pitch provision currently at or even near the Triangle. The Redgra pitch, due to its poor condition, is used but only for 'kick abouts' and occasional training (e.g. Balham Foxes and

Fulham Irish). It is frequently described as "wet," "flooded," and not "fit for purpose." Drainage is a very major concern and this seriously limits the pitch's usability, especially in wet weather.

There is, therefore, a real need for an improved, all-weather football pitch which could be used by many local clubs. Several local football clubs (Balham FC, Fulham Irish, Tribal FC, Balham Foxes) were mentioned as actively using the space and wanting to be involved practically and in some cases offering financial support for its development.

Whilst there's a strong desire within the local community to improve the facilities and create a more usable and versatile sports area, there is an equally strong feeling against commercialising football pitch space, and an expressed need for it to remain for local public use.

Storage for football equipment was cited and gratitude expressed to the Balham Boxing Club for the friendly offers of storing football equipment and recognition of the sports importance to many, including non-binary women playing with the Tribal FC.

There was also reference to use of the wider grass area beyond the Triangle – when not waterlogged - for activities such as Tag Rugby.

## Dogs

Dogs and their owners were recognised as a frequent and integral part of the community on Tooting Common with the space to walk dogs being enjoyed and highly valued. There was a suggestion for a dog-friendly cafe, recognising the significant number of dog owners in the area – and also recognition (including among dog-walkers) that places with small children - such as the playground - were valued as dog-free zones.

## Structural needs/requests

### Toilets/baby changing facilities

A number of people expressed the need for clean and accessible toilets and baby changing facilities in the area, particularly for those using the playground and sports facilities.

### Café/Refreshments

There were multiple requests for a 'fairly priced' café or refreshment facilities to complement other improvements to the area, in addition to toilets and baby changing facilities. A café was seen as a valuable community space where people could socialise whilst visiting the playground or after sports: a hub where parents and carers could meet up 'to share a hot drink'. It was suggested the existing kitchen (former One O'clock Club) could be turned into a café and that, possibly, dogs might be allowed (unlike the existing common café)

## Equipment

A desire for equipment for people of all ages was expressed for both sports equipment (e.g. 'calisthenics park' with bodyweight equipment, 'pull up bars'; outdoor gym and 'exercise stations', ping pong tables and basketball court) as well as additional play equipment in the playground to meet the needs of older children e.g. a slide.

## Access

A number of people referenced the uninviting and off-putting nature of access routes to the site under dark railway bridges. Suggestions for improvements included signposting to the facilities on the site, improved lighting and perhaps a mural representing activities at the Triangle to welcome and encourage visitors.

## Public Access and Ownership

Input evidenced a strong emphasis on the importance of public access, community ownership, and the preservation of the Triangle as a free and open space for everyone to enjoy. There's a clear desire to protect the space from commercialisation and development, ensuring it remains a valuable asset for the community for generations to come.

Specific concerns included concern about the possibility of fencing off parts of the Triangle, particularly the Redgra pitch, which might limit public access. There was a strong desire to prevent the sale of any part of the Triangle.

*"Whatever happens please make sure the space stays open, inclusive, supporting nature and biodiversity, enabling fun, laughter and a place to meet, supporting fitness, mental health and well being"*

*"Being common land all facilities must be open to all and free."*

*"Keep pitch open and free to public"*

## Community input

We asked people what they could bring to the Triangle: time, friendship, energy, skills, gifts, teaching, specific interests, knowledge etc.

The responses showed a strong sense of community and a diverse range of potential contributions to the space – not only volunteering through existing channels like the Boxing Club and other sports clubs – but in a range of existing and proposed activities. There was a focus on green space and gardening included providing seeds, community gardening, tree planting and nature and wildlife recording. There were offers around children and young people including hosting creative activities and home education gatherings. There were offers around community building, advocacy and publicity– and general offers of voluntary support to initiatives on the



## Triangle

*"I can help plant trees and help restore nature"*

*"I can help with creative activities for children, young people (and adults!)"*

*"We are both happy to volunteer in variety of ways"*

## Engagement Process

A number of responses covered the process of this engagement and previous consultations - including expressions of anger and stress experienced by some community members due to previous development plans. There was appreciation for the inclusive and engaging nature of this current consultation process and desire for continued community involvement and transparency throughout any future development process.

*"You have managed this brilliantly! It was a real surprise to come to a consultation that made me think hard about what I valued and what I might suggest - a real 'bottom up' experience which is so rare but so inclusive and attractive.. Good luck for the next stages. Hopefully the consensus will come through. It is a wonderful space, possibilities are endless."*

*"What an amazing consultation - fully inclusive engaging the community and all ages - thankyou! A treat to be able to have the opportunity and space to consider memories and use of the triangle space and share ideas with others about what this could be. Would be good to see the timeline too for what next. Hopefully the same people will be involved with continuing consultation and engagement of the community on any plans that are proposed for moving forward."*

*"Thank you for hearing our stories about the Boxing Club. It's been nice to remember about something so important to me. I hope that this leads to improvements in the future."*

*'The whole space was relaxed and inviting. People were immediately welcomed and informal conversation struck up.'*

*'The memory map surprised many onlookers and participants with the volume of responses'*

For our own part, we were moved by the depth of feeling and care people had for The Triangle. This stemmed often from an intergenerational connection to and love of the place, with experiences spanning decades of people's lives: those who'd brought toddlers found themselves now bringing their own grandchildren to play in the sandpit or learn to ride bikes. Youths who'd attended the Youth Club were now adults leading youth boxing training sessions. *Our Triangle Time* revealed the extent to which people associated their happiness and sometimes recovery from very difficult life challenges with activities undertaken there.

## CONCLUSIONS:

It is our view that:

- The Triangle is a really important place in Wandsworth - both where it is geographically located and socially, as a community resource in ways one might not appreciate on first view. People have long-standing connections to the space in ways that bring meaning, belonging and a depth and quality of life at personal and collective levels.
- The distinct mix of resources at the Triangle is unusual and special: outdoor play, boxing, nature and physical activities and sport.
- Wandsworth Council must take seriously infrastructure problems of the Triangle: its propensity to flood (and the health risks of that danger) and the lack of public toilets in a location so frequently used by so many. Investing in any aspect of the area without attending to these matters would be shortsighted and impractical.
- The Triangle is a wasted resource that is not maximising its overall potential: nothing there currently makes explicit the (hidden) community life there in terms of physical resource, outdoor pitch and also socially given how much people care about it and would offer something to help it flourish
- The trust engendered amongst participants by *Our Triangle Time* should be built on and not wasted. A desire was expressed for transparency and involvement in onward stages.

Finally, we have both been personally impacted spending time at the Triangle and hearing from the many individuals and groups who use and value this space so highly in all its facets. We conclude *Our Triangle Time* finding ourselves engaged and committed to what comes next.

Hilary Jennings and Lucy Neal  
Jan 31st 2025



# Appendices

## Appendix 1 – Record of engagement activities

We designed activities that asked, in a range of ways: ‘What is the Triangle to You?’ and ‘what role does it play in your life?’ What does the Triangle have that you love? What does the Triangle already have that you would want to keep? And what could you see or imagine it having in the future?

Activities used everyday materials both simple and familiar to use and we acted as ‘guides’ present throughout to welcome people in and explain how they could engage with the activities, leading them into how they could leave ‘traces’ of their stories, memories, views. In witnessing others’ responses in addition to their own, people would see engagement with activities building over time - creating interactions between participants attending at different times and on different days. A certain curiosity in the process itself encouraged connection and an openness to participation. Here are reflections from our contributing artists.

*I thought the combination of clay and writing gave people a useful way to communicate ideas and memories. I noticed that people were often initially drawn to the clay and then looked to the wall for further explanation. Having the clay representations inhabiting the same space on the table grounded and visualised all the fantastic ideas.*



*The whole space was relaxed and inviting. People were immediately welcomed and informal conversation struck up. I found it easy to engage children, drawing their attention to the map, buttons, beads or clay and getting them using their hands quite quickly. I met a few children who were keen to see what the next activity was once they had figured out that there was lots to do in*

*the room. One parent thanked me for giving her son the means to express a meaningful memory through clay. He had made a train and put it on the track. She had written to explain that he enjoyed watching the trains whilst playing on the swings.*

### **Xanthe Maggs, Ceramicist**

*At the clay table, I often saw family members advising each other and jogging each other's shared memories for a fuller, richer response to the invitations.*

*Children came eagerly to physically mould and shape their ideas, and parents and carers stewarded children's execution of their ideas so that they would be included fully and valued on a level playing field with everyone's contributions, before adding their personal responses. Often encouragement from the team was needed for grown-ups to consider their response valuable enough to contribute.*



*The memory map surprised many onlookers and participants with the volume of responses. I remember the fabulous noise of people dropping beads into jars, it was loud and satisfying. Reading people's notes aloud at the end was personally touching.*

*Being part of a group that came together to create this experience built my sense of community resilience and of being valued by other people. Tilda said she liked spinning on the chair, clay-making, eating cake and ...everything.*

### **Jeni Walker, Artist Maker**



Here is a summary of the activities

1. **Blackboard - affixed to wall by door with a different question every day:** *What keeps you well? What or whom do you wish to thank? What is the Spirit of the Triangle area? What is your favourite view? What keeps you going? Designed to*
2. **Pangolin** - a fine, large creature made from papier-mâché by artist Jeni Walker had been inspired by a 'triangle' design concept and a high-profile visual to draw attention to the One-o'clock entrance in the playground. Unveiled as part of the Opening Ceremony on Sun Dec 8th, rainy weather prevented more substantial display until the last 3 days



3. **'Do you come here often?'** Large, blue sofa close to the entrance up to 3 people could sit on at once to chat about what brings them to Triangle? Very useful for welcoming people in and explaining what they would find in the space and how to engage and leave their ideas and stories. An accompanying book on the coffee table nearby allowed people to write down what they had heard or said, and for us to do that too.



**4. Memory Map:**

*'Find a place on the map that has special significance or meaning for you. Write a memory or story about that place on the paper, add your name and age, attach the story to the map using the pins and thread'* Stories and memories fill up showing how people engage with space and spend time. Why is it special to them? Each 'memory' has equal space & value, irrespective of age/experience.

**5. 'Your Triangle Journey I- where did you travel from?'** We divided a map into 5 broad areas and asked people to look at the map and drop a coloured bead into the jar to show which area you travelled from: red/orange/blue/green/yellow. Designed to find out (roughly) the area and location from which people were visiting the Triangle.



The results were Blue (42) Green (37), Orange (19), Red (18), Yellow (16). This is only a small and statistically unrepresentative sample but does show a fairly even spread of local use with factors affecting this including distance, ease of access, proximity to alternative open spaces/play areas and a split between residents from Wandsworth (72) and Lambeth (60). We also heard that people travelled from long distances across London (Canada Water, Walthamstow) to attend the Boxing Club.

**6. 'Your Triangle Journey II 'How did you get here?'** Asked people to add a button to the jar (on foot, on self powered wheels (cycle/scooter/pram), in a car, other - with space to give detail ) which best represented how they had travelled to the Triangle.



Unsurprisingly the majority 125 travelled on foot, followed by 28 on self powered wheels and 13 by car. Those travelling longer distances on foot had often started their journey on public transport.

7. **‘What could the Triangle be?’** a visualisation in clay. *‘Make something to show what you love or want to keep at the Triangle and what you imagine the Triangle could be’*. Once something had been made, people were invited to write on coloured paper explaining what they had made and why. These were stuck onto the brick wall nearby to create a growing display of people’s ideas, makings, wishes and what they ‘saw’ at the Triangle.











8. **Skills Offered:** a box collecting people's offers of what they could bring to the Triangle: time, friendship, energy, skills, gifts, teaching, specific interests, knowledge etc.



9. **Visitors' Book:** people recording their visit and experience and anything else they wanted to add about Triangle, past, present, future. Emails recorded here of those wishing to be 'kept' in touch with next Triangle steps

**Also:**

10. **'I heard a story about':** sofa to sit on and have a cup of tea and a biscuit or fruit. In pairs, telling stories chosen from card by sofa partner: home, nature, belonging, resilience etc. This was a 'last thing' people could do and in event, only handful of people got 'round' to it but several families played with stories and the extra sofa was used well.





**11. Bunting to Celebrate the Triangle Habitat:** made from fabric and pens of wildlife found in the Triangle area. Activities on offer filled up people's time so just a handful of people took this making offer up



**12. 'Take Me On a Journey'** - small wildlife animals placed around playground, nearby on path to be 'found' and returned for reward to The Triangle. Intended to engage curiosity and bring people to **Our Triangle Time**, rainy weather prevented us doing this on most days. The activity became dynamic on the last day only when a small group of children became excited about finding the animals (which they did)



## Appendix 2 – Table of Input

This table is a summary of input from all above activities (sorted alphabetically)

One O’Clock Club when my children were babies and playing in the garden which felt very safe and welcoming. Playground all of their childhood was LOVED. As young teens they still hang out there in the evening. Now the Boxing Club is centre of my son's life and keeps him fit and sane. It is a real community space.
30 years, fresh air, peace and quiet, nature. A lifeline during covid. No to sale or commercialisation of football pitch space - that was clear from the planning appeal. Keep the Boxing Club - adults and kids need it. The playground is great. I love the fruit trees and bushes.
A beehive: I would love a community ran beehive. To help wildlife on the common. WE LOVE BEES
A bench, a ball and my 3 boys. We love coming here as it’s the only playground locally where Mummy gets to sit and observe. [REDACTED] 40
A big muddy un-passable puddle! Coming here with my kids to climb on the playground and play sandcastles.
A calisthenics park with pull up bars, etc. Bodyweight equipment. The outdoor gym company tgo.gc.com supplies for young and elderly. Also a meadow for holistic calming meditation and trees.
A circle to show the inclusivity of the Triangle space - open to all to enjoy, meet and share! I hope this continues
A community garden with a wildlife pond. The excess water causing flooding could be used to top up the pond and water the garden
A community sport and group hub. Where girls, boys, young people can feel safe. Playing in the playground, sport on pitches* and parents can meet. A place for future generations beyond just a pitch and old buildings *and Boxing Club...Balham FC
A friend watching from a distance
A large semi-circle Bus Shelter type seat and low table where adults/anyone can shelter from rain/hot sun and chat together/meet
A large semi-circle seat under a shelter from rain/hot sun - help to get people talking/meeting with Low table in middle
A little garden to sit and see the seasons change (and learn to garden/community garden)
A memory of the area is the bridge. It isn’t inviting, you could do so much more to make people want to walk under the bridge. 20 years plus memory and it still felt the same today. [REDACTED] 62
A new football pitch that is fit for purpose (3G) and flood lit. It is not currently used and there is a pitch shortage
A new sign either under the bridge or before the bridge. Balham Boxing Club.
A new swing for me and my Rabbit Toy - [REDACTED] 4 (and a see saw!)
A place to meet family and friends and my child to meet others and play (good for wellbeing and mental health and fun and exercise).
A place we came to during the lockdown - we live in a flat and this became the heart of our community. The One O’Clock Club - before it shut - really helped me when I was a new parent.
A pond for gathering the water with wild life in it
A raise walkway (to protect nature) and nature walk with signs
A skateboard for a skate park - free and informal. For young people.
A sort of managed Youth Club

A space for nature. Trees and birds. Sports can be played freely, Plant more trees use the building to bring the community together
A space where people can rent and do... yoga, parties, music?...
A toilet and cafe in the playground
A tree - for wildlife sanctuary/garden and no dogs (even though I have a dog!)
A walled garden-stone/ ivy to sit in/ feel grounded in.
Am a long-term local resident and have always really valued the open green space - always used the One O'Clock Club for my 2 children (now 37 and 34) and now with the grandchildren come to the playground and sandpit. Playground could be more toddler friendly! Love the space. [REDACTED] age 70
An external gym - inclusive to people of all ages in an open and inclusive way in a fantastic idea. Would support the community and health, fitness, wellbeing and mental health. Thankyou for promoting and enabling discussion. Thankyou!!!
An indoor play area for kids would be invaluable in the winter.
An up-to-date football pitch to service all local clubs; which could also be hired out. A cafe with toilet facilities would also be wonderful.
Ariana - my children made a beautiful rainbow thank you
As a local family with 3 young children we use the public playground very regularly. The climbing and sandpit are the reasons for us enjoying the area so much and to keep us in London versus moving out. We wouldn't want any changes, other than in expansion, to the playground.
As a member of Balham Boxing Club and the owner of the local pharmacy I believe Balham Boxing Club has an integral role in this community. I refer many patients here to improve on health and wellbeing. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 40
Assist people in their physical wellbeing
Attending numerous boxing shows at the gym with my children and their friends. Always an entertaining night with great food, socialising and affordable.
Attract more birds with bushes. Trees and nest boxes
Balham Boxing Club charity events and fundraisers. The new market @notjustthings [REDACTED] 37
Balham Boxing Club is the heartbeat and life blood of this area. I have been training here for over a decade. It has been neglected by the council and left to fend for itself with zero resource and maintenance despite Winston Fuller and his team of coaches and role models charging almost nothing to keep young people - girls and boys, women and men - off the streets and instead learning fitness and discipline. The club requires more space and more resource and respect from the council. It serves people from all backgrounds and it is precious.
Balham Football Club have capital funding and access to grants to create a new football pitch
Balham Foxes 20+ years about 200 members training only. No matches v other clubs. In better weather up to 100 primary school children on grass if too wet the Redgra up to 11am tag rugby club come (no bookings before 11)
Balham Foxes play football here every Saturday morning. We're a free volunteer-led community group and when it rains we often have to cancel - the 'all-weather' pitch (Redgra)is usually flooded too. Please fix the drainage! [REDACTED] 43
Better lighting around the whole area. Can be quite scary walking around when its dark, especially as a woman with young children.
Bicycling along this path on our way to see our (now) flat on [REDACTED] Road and there being an almost unsurpassable flood! The estate agent looking askance at us. [REDACTED] 77
Bike learning
Bringing my daughter, some 15 or so years ago, to the playground and in doing so discovering the drop-in centre One O'Clock Club. I have some happy memories in the playground and the club. It was especially valued as a parent who had recently moved into the area.
Bringing my kids to the sandpit playground
Bringing my young children to the One O'Clock Club and meeting other parents (from 1988). Holding children's parties on the common in the vicinity of the triangle. Taking children to informal football classes. Walking around the area, spotting birds, trees, bats etc. Playing football with the kids on

the free pitch. Walking down to the triangle across the common on a summer evening and enjoying the sight (and sounds) as the sun went down. [REDACTED] 76 [REDACTED] 75
Can help recording nature
Centres like this really important for the community. Great role models. Keep kids off streets. People here really care about and help community. ([REDACTED])
Chatting with friends while the kids play together in a safe environment. Love the sand pit.
Club is the second home like a family. Getting fit is good for your mind but the guy's safeguard people. Went through a bad period mentally - people have noticed, talked to me, took me for fish and chips. Helped me more. I've done my bit for club - brought samples of sports kit from work. Mon and Weds for boxers Winston would cook and we would eat together - didn't do that with my family. A sense of belonging.
Coffee cup - we would love a hub for parents and carers to come together to share a hot drink
Combine Balham Boxing Club and Fulham Irish to advance the youth of the area together.
Community connection coordinator facilitation
Community Garden
Community nature friendly garden
Cycle past x 2 a day with son. I live locally. I participate in the Boxing Club. I also run a women and non-binary club Tribal FC. Train next to Club. Winter play at Ravenstone School. Hard to find pitch place. We store our kit at BBC. Found through social media.
Do I come here often? YES! I love coming for a jog to clear my mind in the peaceful Triangle area. Healthy for mind and body. I do not want to see it developed as this is our oasis.
Dog friendly cafe. Lots of dog owners on the common and the existing cafe does not allow dogs.
Drainage so paths passable with pram all year round. The end field gets sand to keep usable. Would be nice for all of us i.e. all the common
Drop in centre for the more mature citizen
Either access to the young kids/toddlers playground or more for them here e.g. little slide/young kids climbing frame
Essential to keep the Boxing Club as it not only offers a place for the community to train but they also put on several community and fundraising events throughout the year.
[REDACTED] age 7. Also made some football goals and ball
Excellent area for bringing grandchildren. Playing in the sandpit we build tunnels and cities - younger siblings helping without building castles but often knocking things down. Rope climbing great fun. Hammock rope used for 'bluey' imaginative play - ship in storms - pirate treasure - play developing bravery and confidence. [REDACTED] 71
First memory of the triangle is playing football with the kids. We think it would make a great place to offer sport to all. We would like to support the Balham Boxing Club to continue to offer great sport to all. [REDACTED] Fulham Irish
Fit for the purpose football pitch (34) for schools and local football clubs
Flooding, would be great to build some wetlands!
Footpath scary at Night (winter) Lighting needed too much flooding [REDACTED]
Free sport Fulham Irish
Friday 13th December [REDACTED] age 70. My thing is looking back on the things done in the Boxing Club for the children, young people and all who were able to participate. As a volunteer in the Boxing Club I know this space needs love and attention, support and to make good use of the space. We really need the triangle space. I came here years ago to do some exercise and also play games in the club such as dominos, cook, eat, lots of fun. Now it's the grandkids that need the space. Triangle is needed by the Boxing Club. I hope this will be considered of great importance now grandkids 17 - 26 in all ages.
Friends would travel from all over London to meet up for a picnic in the summer. We'd hang out for the whole day enjoying the space and each other's company. [REDACTED] 43
FURY I am furious at the closure of the One O'Clock Club and the lack of funding for the sports pitch. SCARY when it went up for sale - NO! [REDACTED]

Granny and granddaughter loving visiting the natural playground - spider web climbing ropes. Enjoy quiet space with a mix of users.
Growing up going to triangle youth club from 5 years old. Now I am a qualified boxing coach, judge and referee at Balham Boxing Club in the former youth club building. I am now a part of something that can help others in the community that helped me.
██████ I first came to the Balham Boxing Club 10 yrs ago having trained at a number of different clubs. This club is one of a kind. Anyone who comes here will tell you the same thing. It's so much more than just a Boxing Club. Winston and Tasha are parental figures to all the kids that come here, they cook and look after them, and have a hugely positive influence on their lives. If anything were to happen to the club it would have a hugely negative impact on the community.
Have used this One O'Clock Club years ago and more recently the playground with grandchildren. Especially the sandpit - always a problem if you forget to bring something to collect sand in there ████████ 77
Help Volunteer
Home Ed Gathering - I know some other home edders
Hope Love Faith
I always saw this local quiet place on the train and thought what a welcoming facilities and fun it looked. There is opportunity to 'advertise' it or attract more of those who look down from afar.
I am a grandparent and have been bringing my grandchildren since 2019. Particularly the swings and the sand. Happy times with children and chatting with others. I live in Scotland.
I am a professional dog walker and the triangle is a wonderful safe space for dogs of all sizes and shapes. I was involved in saving the redgra pitch from being commercialised and most importantly from being enclosed by fencing. We won the public enquiry and I look forward to a positive use of the area in future. FREE TO USE! ████████
I am absolutely thrilled to see this initiative and have an open discussion on how our area can be improved. I would particularly want to see the triangle dept open to all without any privatization - the biggest issue and concern would be to rectify the flooding and stagnant water as local residents complain to me on a constant basis regarding this!
I bought my 2 children here from babies to age 5 when it was the One O'Clock Club. Literally saved my life and it's gone! ████████ 50
I bring my son who is now 5 years old to the playground since he was 2 years old, playing in the sandpit and wings. He loved bringing his toys here to bury. It was a great escape for toddlers. ████████
I ca persuade the council to maintain the facilities
I came here with my mother and brother back in the early 1960s. It as a magical space for exploring and playing. I will always remember the rocking horse! ████████ 67
I came here with my very young daughter (now 15 yrs) both my children enjoyed this park (even when under water) learnt to ride bikes on the hard itch (now practice football and tennis there after school) . I never thought I would but I miss pushing the swings.
I can bring seeds and volunteer in the new garden
I can coach at Boxing Club and volunteer time
I can help look after nature and keep it clean
I can help plant trees and help restore nature
I can help with a community garden
I can help with creative activities for children, young people (and adults!)
I can leave space for people to enjoy
I can remember that the large climbing ropes helped me start to get over my fear of heights. ████████ age 10
I can volunteer time
I can volunteer with anything. Also work on nature activities
I come to the playground with my grandson every Monday ████████ 60 years

I do not have any specific memories but what makes this gym unique is the family values it offers to the people who attend. At the end of most of the sessions they will offer food (dinner) to some of the guys who have attended sessions and can even be called outside of gym session time if needed.
I have been coming to the triangle for over 30 years. It's a lovely wild peaceful place at times. I've used the playground and One O'Clock Club for my children and grandchildren. I've made many friends walking around and would love to be able to carry on doing this. [REDACTED] 68
I have been travelling 9 miles from my home to the triangle since 2021. I came here for Balham Boxing Club which is quickly becoming an important part of my life. I have gained a sense of belonging and confidence from joining Balham. This along with the people (coaches and fellow boxers) makes it important to me. [REDACTED]
I have been visiting and utilising the triangle for 15 years since my first son was born. We were regular members of the One O'Clock Club and have spent many hours in the sandpit and on the climbing frame. Now with teenage boys they attend the Balham Boxing Club. This has been an extremely positive experience for our son - has made him fit, has given him confidence. [REDACTED] 52
I have been walking around tooting common for years since I moved to [REDACTED] Road. What I love and appreciate about the common is the peace and quiet. Long may it remain so.
I have brought my daughter to the triangle playground every week - sometimes every day! For years. We love the climbing frames and swings - more equipment would be amazing! [REDACTED]
I have fond memories of using the One O'Clock Club with my toddler who is now 25!
I have fond memories of walking the triangle with my wife during covid. It is a fantastic amenity, open to the public that could do with a permanent presence at a youth club to expose the triangle to more families. [REDACTED] Fulham Irish
I have lived in 10 different locations around London. It is very difficult to find a good Boxing Club near you. This is by far the best one I've visited. I bring two of my kids here twice a week. [REDACTED] 37
I have lived in Balham for 10 years and the boxing gym has been crucial to my health and wellbeing. Its a great community group and has to stay!! [REDACTED] 30
I have lived in [REDACTED], Streatham Hill for 30 years. I walk on tooting common everyday. I used to bring children to play in the playground and my dog used to sit outside. They have changed the playground twice now. I miss the old swings with long chairs. I love this triangle. Today is the first time I have been in the building. It has become a place I walk past. It looks to me like the One O'Clock Club is finished. Today I enjoyed the market in the Boxing Club. Sometimes I look for mugwort which grows next to the gravel football pitch. I find great comfort in this as well as the bats that fly around on the footbath behind the Boxing Club. This space I am sitting in now, I have not been in before. I see great potential here. With the kitchen and toilets and extra space outside the entrance here. I run community groups and this space is ideal for groups. As well as this area gets very wet because of the clay in the soil. A community garden with a wetland outlook would be ideal and this place could thrive. There is often flooding here and if it is not looked after from an ecological point of view I think it will continue to flood.
I have lived next to the commons for 20 years. My son grew up on it, I visit at least twice a day for a dog walk. I go for walks regularly with my family and friends here. It was this space that kept me sane during covid. The whole family use it for sports, cycling, running, ballgames. Nature is everything to me and I love following the changing of the seasons. We are members of the FOTC and Woodfield. I love TBC [REDACTED] 54
I have so many happy memories of bringing my children to the playground and One O'Clock Club. Wonderful to have all that for free close by. So sad it's gone.
I heard about [REDACTED]
I heard about a grandmother who thought sandpits were the best way of allowing children of all ages to play together
I heard about Fulham Irish Club 170 children play/train/ 4 members came on Thursday. They left a proposal but also took part in activities (and enjoyed it!) They left a trace of their stories.
I heard about how important the Boxing Club is for teenagers and how it would be great have facilities for young people - including for girls
I heard about how it would be beneficial to work with Woodfield Pavilion and it would be good to have facilities for small children (which Woodfield has less of..)
I heard about how the Boxing Club changed someone's life and how the club needs to be kept as a key resource

I heard about how the Boxing Club has changed someone's life and helped them manage their behaviour. they love the physical activity and also the camaraderie and support from their team mates and Winston and the Club. They love the tranquility of the space but would be glad to see the one o'clock club open again and maybe a cafe or other things for the community to enjoy together. The main thing for them was the vital place the Boxing Club plays in their life - a home away from home

I heard about someone who comes here (Winston) 6 or 7 times a week....

Life - to me I'm comfortable at the Triangle. I'm making a lot of difference to a lot of people's lives. I started the Club from the back of Cavendish cars office.

Leigh Park Tavern was a base for training.

He never do 3 rounds I rang his mother. He came straight from school. Then I went to Jamaica some young people were worried they'd starve.

My role is - we're a Boxing Club 1st but also a community. I didn't want to make champions but good citizens. People think boxing is rigid. It's not. People change at the Club. Any friend you make in Boxing you make for life. I don't speak down to young people.

Think positive. Get fit.

Treated like equals, like you are at home. Not 'my' club it's 'your' club.

Here for people, for the community. Would love an OAP drop in centre a lot of older people haven't got a place to go. Tea/soup/chat and exercise.

Purpose of club is not champions but Citizens/people/wellbeing

What I would like is - soft play area for kids, a cafe, football pitch (unfenced) changing room, public toilet.

Involving the community as recorders, judges etc. for matches.

1989/90 I moved the Club to Balham Market (Hildreth Mews) tho I couldn't buy it - too expensive, so we closed. Kept going with bits and pieces. Closed for 3 years

2006/7

2008: Moved in with lease after Youth Club closed. It was a struggle at the time with as short lease. £25, 000 invested (by WF) to put in a ring, showers etc.

2012 Notice to leave (someone offered £90K)

Jan 2013 we were supposed to leave but....(?) 3 National Champions Boxing for England

60 year experience in Boxing. My experience: young people need nourishing, so we have a kitchen to cook. Pasta and mayonnaise was people's favourite so I cooked.....e.g. for a champion who came at 14 and is now 30.

I heard about someone who likes to come here to train in Boxing for fitness and also to compete in championships. they live in Purley where they first took up boxing but then heard about Balham and started to come here and still do. They like the people there and the sense of community.

I heard about someone who lives nearby in Lambeth and comes to play in the playground particularly likes the sandpit climbing the trees and the green space

I heard about someone who played here as a child over 30 years ago and who later came to the Youth club - playing pool, football, going on trips and then played football on the Redgra pitch and still has the scars to show for it! They also remember a lot of music people/makers coming to the Youth Club Big Nasty etc. Suspects even Stormzy might have come here...

I heard about someone who runs past the Triangle regularly - but finds it very muddy and wet when it's been raining

I heard about someone who trains 3 times a week at the Boxing Club for 3 years. Travel from Walthamstow/London Bridge (work)

I heard about someone who would like a cafe to buy refreshments and a face lift for the playground

I heard about the 1 o'clock club closing because of the plans for a new football pitch (denied but someone else!!)

I heard about the need to DO SOMETHING. It's a terrible wasted resource to leave it as it is

<p>I heard about the playground so that's what brought me here. Also the 1 o'clock play mornings (circa 2016-2019)                  What about an ART CLUB and Crafts - open to all ages. Something especially for teenagers.                  Woodcraft.                  HORTICULTURE teach gardening skills                  SURVIVAL SKILLS - RAY MEARS Bear Grylls                  FORAGING                  teach children/teenagers SURVIVAL SKILLS                  SOIL - PERMACULTURE Education                  PLANT - FRUIT TREES, Edible Buts and Berries                  LEARN TO PRESERVE food - pickling - fermenting STORING food over Winter without fridges/freezer                  I love the wide sky - watching sunsets from the benches, peace and quiet. Birds looking at the trees change in the seasons.</p>
<p>I heard about the value of the playground sandpit because children of different ages can play together with little supervision</p>
<p>I heard from someone with many memories of the Triangle from playing in the playground, playing football at night on the Redgra, attending the youth club, including day trips, crafts, playing play station, (pre internet), table tennis. I heard about murals on the outside and in side of the club. I heard about musicians playing at the club including Big nasty. Music like grime, jungle, garage</p>
<p>I heard from two women who are very involved as volunteers and have helped support the Club over decades especially with cooking and food</p>
<p>I heard someone has used the common since 1985 Nordic Walking group every Weds. Use the Redgra to go up and down. Also member of the Woodfield, Comes with grandchildren</p>
<p>I heard someone who walks past frequently walking dog. A friend of Tooting Common and on the MAC</p>
<p>I heard that it is sometimes inaccessible. I come via Culverden Road. Sometimes flooded. Used to walk my dog but he is a bit elderly now.</p>
<p>I heard that many grandparents come here with their children</p>
<p>I heard that many people have experienced PTSD from issues arising from the previous presentation of Triangle Plans</p>
<p>I heard that someone wanted the Council to keep and maintain what is here -nature, open space and facilities for all to enjoy</p>
<p>I heard that the Boxing Club is the lifeblood of the Triangle</p>
<p>I heard the Triangle used to be a watercress field.                  YES IT DID!!                  Woodcraft.org.uk using the restored building                  The Scouts Association                  headquarters of Scouts Gilwell Park, Chingford, London E4 7 QW                  What about mensheds, (good for mental health and older men role models for younger men and apprentices.</p>
<p>I like Boxing Club because I like using skipping ropes. [REDACTED] 6</p>
<p>I like come to the triangle to see boxing matches and think it is nice for the community.</p>
<p>I like swings because they go high. I would like a slide too. [REDACTED] 5</p>
<p>I like the playground because it has a nice smooth path for my scooter [REDACTED] 5</p>
<p>I like the triangle (Child writing)</p>
<p>I lived local to the triangle as a child and have fond memories of playing in the playground with my friends and siblings. Years later I have been able to return with my grandchildren and nieces and nephews to show them where we used to play. The area has developed from when I used to play but could be developed further. I have since been able to attend the boxing gym which has been instrumental to my health and wellbeing, together with my work colleagues. It's a great way to let off steam. The trainers are 2nd to none - understanding, supporting and push you to the limit, especially if you feel that you are unable to push through. Goals are achieved and I feel better coming. I've enjoyed watching football matches and all the excitement on young people's faces and the joy that comes from them. [REDACTED] 59</p>



I love all the ideas about the natural space but also please extend the Boxing Club and include 5 a side football pitches- more space for activities for local young people.
I love the current climbing equipment. Its unique for a play-ground. Its great for gaining strength, coordination and confidence.
I love the idea of a community garden and parks space
I made a 'wetland habitat' (a work in progress..) it are the nicer if the rainfall in and on the area and create wildlife habitats- rather than 'dealing' with floodgate and drainage. Water can help life flourish.
I made a ball for children to play with in the garden of the Triangle - a safe space for children
I made a bicycle wheel - to represent 'learning to cycle' courses on the Redgra pitch - may they continue!
I made a biscuit. The kitchen here could be a cafe and the people who make the biscuits could set up biscuit treasure hunts. ■■■ 5 years
I made a book to represent indoor weekend activities for children. It would be brilliant to have a place for children to come and socialise on rainy days. A community space for younger kids
I made a cave and a boulder. The boulder could roll down and make somebody run away. ■■■ age 4
I made a cookie, snail and snowman ■■■
I made a dragon swing because I'd like it to be added
I made a flute because I like instruments and dancing. ■■■ 5
I made a forest because I think there could be more trees in this place ■■■ 5
I made a Gatwick Express (Child)
I made a learning tree, It represents learning from nature in general, also maybe a forest school type deal... ■■■
I made a nature trail for children through the trees. Would have sign posts and information boards all the way round
I made a nest with eggs. Its a bird's nest and I made it because I've always dreamed of being able to fly. ■■■ 5
I made a one o'clock club
I made a pair of boxing gloves to represent the boxing gym I am training at.
I made a seesaw because I like using it and I would like one for the playground
I made a seesaw because I really enjoy going on them and I think there should be one at the playground
I made a slide for the playground. Toddlers love slides as well as sandpits and it would be good to make the playground more toddler friendly.
I made a snowman because why not ■■■
I made a squirrel because I like them. ■■■ 8
I made a swing - I love a swing and I'm 68. Swings For All
I made a swing, as swings are children (and parents) favourite play item
I made a tree, a bird and a dog as they are what I love about the common
I made a vegetable patch and spade. Could there be a small community garden at the triangle? I would love to learn and meet other whilst growing!
I made a very bad model of a pond to represent numbers ponds. The TT is an area prone to flooding. Ponds would help offset this issue and at the same time create a much needed habitat on the common.
I made a wildlife pond - with tadpoles - in the area where water gathers to encourage aquatic wildlife
I made snow man and a house for it and some trees, a train. ■■■
I made x2 trees and a hedgehog because I like nature and climbing trees,
I moved to the neighbourhood in May and started joining the boxing gym shortly after. I am doing boxing for multiple years and was always looking for an authentic club here in London (I moved here from Germany 3 years ago) and with BBG I finally found what I was looking for. The people coming here are so friendly and you really feel like part of a community. I love working out here on Tuesdays

and Thursdays and really appreciate the work and effort the coaches are putting into making this a special place. [REDACTED]
I often come to the triangle it is like home one good club.
I remember when I learnt to ride a bike - 6 years - my name is [REDACTED]
I remember bringing my daughter here in the summer of 2020 and watching the trains go by. She also learnt to ride a bike on the gravel pitch - including the odd fall! [REDACTED] 38
I remember coming here as a child with someone who is still one of my best friends. We called the playground 'train swings' fondly. [REDACTED] 24
I remember sitting in the cafe, letting my then one year old eat a big pile of baked beans while her daddy ran the park run. [REDACTED] 41
I remember the public engagement sessions that led, in time, to the formation of the Woodfields Group
I remember when I made snowmen on the football pitch in Jan 2020. [REDACTED] 10
I remember when my daughter couldn't do most of the climbing structure. But slowly over time she gradually gained strength and confidence and can now get all the way across without touching the ground.
I remember working with the project team for the Woodfield Pavillion.
I saw it on Balham Newsie on the Posters on the common, on a flyer at Woodfield Pavilion on Wandsworth website. I needed to check the times so I felt it reached the grass roots interest.
I see people every day enjoying this part of the common.
I think Balham (Boxing Club??) has helped me to boost my confidence and strength by meeting new people and going into different environments. [REDACTED] 15
I used to bring my son to the park and one day noticed the door open to the gym and discovered it was a Boxing Club. I signed my son up and 14 years later I am still interacting with the boxing gym as they welcomed us like we were family. I attend all the shows and their community based events and my son still regularly visits.
I used to come here often with the one o'clock club
I usually walk through the triangle area on my walk around the common.
I value the peace and quiet - and sky space and trees. SO PRECIOUS
I walk every day with my dogs. I will walk every day with my future grandson. [REDACTED] 72 local resident for 26 years
I walk my dogs and run around the park. I remember my dog who passed away. She loved this space.
I was born in Balham in 1964 at Weir road hospital and have fond memories of playing in the sand pit and roundabout and swings on the play area. I became a member of the Balham Boxing Club at the age of 12 years old, had many bouts and was semi professional and moving on to becoming a coach and mentor to a lot of the young members. It would be nice to see the buildings updated, maybe have a cafe facility. The council sort out flooding issues and possibly a place for elderly folk to get together and in all remain a community hub. [REDACTED] 60
I went to forest school and I saw a woodpecker on the common - [REDACTED] age 7
I will come only when my Mum tells me
I woke up one Sunday morning and went for a walk around my garden as I usually do. I was shocked to see about 30 police men and women poking around in the undergrowth on the common with white sticks and thought some awful crime had been committed. After a few minutes I heard someone shout 'cut!' and they all stopped doing what they were doing and started chatting casually. I found out later that they were filming for The Bill.
I worked as a private nanny for many years and spent many days playing at the 'sand pit park'. I'm now a mother and bring my own daughter here. Where she learnt to take her first steps and is now a toddler and loves playing on the swings whilst train spotting.
I would bring all my friends
I would bring my engine to the playground
I would bring toys

I would like more space and greater investment for Balham Boxing Club. The Club is precious and an invaluable community asset which looks after the fitness and wellbeing of people from all ages and backgrounds and costs people nothing. It needs and deserves improved facilities and space.
I would like to see availability for Youth Clubs, scouts, Rite for Girls. It would be good to see TOILETS here. Hard Surface Area Maintain the hard surface area for LOCAL use by Saturday/Sunday volunteer football clubs - not just local school use Also to be used by families, local and public people for football kick about, playing cricket, learning to ride bikes The area is SO wet that local people do not have an area to play with balls - football, wicket, bikes, volleyball, netball etc. I love the "Peace" and "Quiet" of our common - children playing and laughter. I love standing, sitting by the Railway Cottages to watch the skies looking towards the Triangle Area to see sunsets and sunrises. The wide skies with no fences IMPORTANT: Renew Cinder surface for LOCAL public use. Free flow expression - groups of FRIENDS!
I would like to see the bridge you walk under to the play area better lit with a mural of people's life stories. This would make me feel safer at night walking toward the Boxing Club from the bridge
I would like: Better signage for the gym The flooding issues sorted out The gym space expanded and improved Better advertising of the gym within the borough/ local community
I would make some toilets for the kids to use
I'd like the Redgra pitch to be improved and maintained - but not for formal football matches. I'd like it to be more of a playground and relaxation area (enjoying the views of the common) perhaps with some exercising equipment. There should be space for lots of outdoor activities such as teaching children how to cycle safely. Please no fencing!
I'm too old (65) to climb on the frames and use the ropes but sometimes after dark I do, hanging upside down like I'm a 10 year old! Then during the day it's nice to see children enjoying their area.
I've been coming here since I was 5. I'm 50. I've got children and grandchildren. As a child I came to the youth centre/ Such a privilege. Now I bring my grandson here. Next generation.
I've been coming to Balham Boxing gym 5 years now and it is somewhere where I can park external life pressures and do something that bring joy and discipline to my life. [REDACTED] 29
I've lived in Tooting Bec for my whole life (53 years) and have fond memories of playing football on the pitch in the triangle.
I've made a carer and child because I'd love to see the reinstatement of a 'stay and play' for carers and babies and young children to have fun and make new friends. Let's keep the common free for all
I've made a heart because my grandsons love to play here. [REDACTED]
I've made a kitten because I would love to see animals in the playground ([REDACTED] - 5 years)
I've made an easel because my grandson always chose to spend his time painting, or at least covering paper with colour!
Ice-cream x 2
If this became a community garden space I would volunteer groups for nature movement and speech
Important to keep a Boxing Club for teenagers. Play is so important for young minds development.
It's quiet, peaceful and feels like a little bit of the countryside.
Keep asking for funding to deal with the flooding. Make the ephemeral ponds
Keep Pitch open and free to public
Keep the playground SAFE. No adults without kids. No dogs. We need dry walkways
Keeping a safe place to learn to ride a bike
Learning to lift weights and box at an outdoor exercise class - so great close to home and in a green space outdoors. [REDACTED] Boxing Club - the big field area)

Learning to skip on the hardstanding (Redgra) on the triangle and watching my children play at the One O'Clock Club and making tea.
Leave it as it is a place for informal play and recreation
Little oasis for small children away from cars but still with the excitement of passing trains! Came every week with our first grandson and enjoyed the One O'Clock Club with painting, singing and conversation. Plenty of safe outdoor and indoor space for young ones. Really miss the One O'Clock Club when it closed for reasons no-one could understand. [REDACTED] 68
Lived in the community since 1990. Used to attend the youth club which is now the boxing gym. Used to play football on the cinders pitch. So many memories made here !! [REDACTED]
Lots of fun playing in the sandpit - we always bring visiting family and friends because we can talk while the kids play.
[REDACTED] Boxer: had some questions for OTT Whose interests are met as a result of this exercise? Called it 'Information mood gathering' Redevelopment schemes are full of people trying to do what they do better (all over world) and they are not always allowed to... Need to be aware of trust and regard Winston is held in and how that has been communicated to all those giving their ideas and opening up to this process. we must be aware of that...
Made a hedgehog just starting my artistic skills. [REDACTED], 60 + 2 years
Make the triangle a no-drive area.
Make the Triangle an area with protected status. Not for sale. No more build.
Many happy memories playing tag rugby here and dog walks. Hearing the birds in the morning here has always been special. I would love to see the retention of the sports facilities especially those who promote community inclusion like tag rugby, padel (?) and tennis. [REDACTED]
Memories of bringing my children to the children's sessions here as a stay and play, pre-covid. It was great for children. My ongoing memory is of the frustration of the waste and underutilization of the pitch and buildings. How Much better if it could be for the FUTURE GENERATIONS. How incredible it could be for young people. Sport, community groups, Boxing Club, youth development. ALL TOGETHER [REDACTED] 42
Men's sheds - to help guide young men/boys space to help mental health and learn skills.
More shading in the playground for hot summer days.
Mud club and gardening + 1 for this idea!
My 5 year old son made a train because he loves watching the trains while on the swings. My 9 year old made a seesaw. [REDACTED]
My children learnt to ride their bikes here. And loved climbing in the playground. [REDACTED] 51
My children loved the One O'Clock Club and the playground. They made good friends and so did we - the parents.
My first memories of the triangle are as a young child going for walks with my dad, so the area already holds a special place in my heart. I left London as a child, and moved back to the area as a 29 year old man in 2021. I joined Balham Boxing Club almost straight away to get fit and improve my skills. Within a matter of months I felt like this was my second home, as well as my second family. Not only did the club improve me physically, it helped me improve mentally emotionally and gave me a sense of belonging. The coaches have gone out of their way multiple times to make sure I'm okay on a personal level and have helped me through some really difficult times in my life. A lot of credit goes to Balham Boxing Club for the man I am today, I genuinely don't know where I'd be without it. PS can't ever forget Winston's curried goat! [REDACTED] 32
My husband was raised in [REDACTED] Road, and we have raised our family here. Sooo many lovely memories. We have grandchildren now who also enjoy it when they visit.
My soft Toy 'Daddy Bunny'
My son [REDACTED] joined the Balham Boxing Club in 2019 as a 10 year old. He loved training and being part of the Balham Boxing Club family. They supported him with online sessions through lockdown and Winston, Tasha and the team are amazing people. Love the Balham Boxing Club!
My son went to the Waldorf school in the Woodfield Pavillion from 1993 - 2000 and worked in the kindergarten here longer.
My son's first ballet exam at the Woodfield Pavillion.

My time in Balham starts when I lived in North London. I used to travel 1 hour 30 mins 4 days in a week to train and live a part of my dream to be part of the boxing world as a means of testing my physical capabilities. Long story short, I never left. I now live in S London and being that I grew up in N London I didn't have no friends in the area outside the Boxing Club that has given me a community of friends and family in and outside the club that I can turn to. I share many great times with the club, not just boxing but spending time with those that support us, charity events and giving new inspiration to others and being inspired myself. My kids love the club, running around the ring and spending time with the coaches and their ages range from 2 to 15. I love the club.
My walk around the common takes a lovely hour from my house - the triangle is exactly half way and I love to pause and breathe (and if no-one is watching have a swing!?) - my journey out becoming my journey home. [REDACTED] 68
New to the area since September. The playground is lovely and a great asset to bring a 10 month old to - often people here and chatty.
No Boxing Club like this anymore £7 (£20 at other clubs) all welcome
Not many community 'old school' Boxing Clubs left. Must protect it for the community.
Numerous football teams who would love a local place to play and train
Often in the playground with my 3 young boys and another on the way. Would love a toilet/changing area and indoor space to come with them. We see it as a safe place for me to come with multiple kids on my own. Would love to meet other mums too. [REDACTED] - 40
Open one O'clock club again
Our daughter learnt to use her scooter and bike here (Redgra)
Our kids learning to ride their bikes on the gravel pitch (Redgra) - a safe space away from traffic.
Our Nordic walking group use this space every week to try out our skills ... and speed! [REDACTED] 77 (Redgra area)
Padel Racquet I would love to see another community sport facility like the Boxing Club
Peaceful - It's been a joy to take some time to reflect, slow down, what a luxury.
Picture of a monster truck [REDACTED] 4
Played here as a kid - no restrictions, no fences Age 74
Playing 'stomp' rocket and picnics here during the pandemic.
Playing hide and seek with my daughter in the trees by the paths [REDACTED] 42
Playing in the playground with friends, stuck in the mud (with no mud) and of course the made up game of it/had where you couldn't go on the concrete just the rubber (our version of floor is lava)
Playing kubb with friends in the park until it gets dark - then knowing the route home as it's so close. [REDACTED] 26
Playing sports on the green area outside of the Boxing Club with the kids and doing boxing classes in the Boxing Club. We'd love to offer free access to sports and the green area and help with the repairs of the Boxing Club or children to enjoy for years to come. [REDACTED] (Fulham Irish Youth GAA club)
Playing tag rugby (on the field)
Please can the Boxing Club building and this old 1 o'clock building be restored, renewed and brought up to date so they can continue to be used to ENHANCE people's lives. Plus the hard surface was restored for 'play'. Thank you for listening and asking. I'm sure more feedback and ideas will come forth if given a chance. A weekend in the spring?
Please can we fix the drainage on the common.
Please improve drainage so paths passable (maybe a raised board walk) also ban electric bikes/scooters as they are so fast and dangerous to kids walking. Ideally separate lanes for people walking and bikes to prevent accidents.
Please keep both Boxing Club, One O'Clock Club and gym activity area as they are now, physically. Being common land all facilities must be open to all and free. Redgra surface needs improving and Boxing Club and One O'Clock Club need funding.
Please let people know the political makeup of Wandsworth Council - a lot of people may still think it is a conservative council.

Please use cinder/hard surface for free expression of people teams to play cricket football netball bikes etc. Restore and maintain it for public use THANKS
PLEASE!!! Upgrade/ fix the football pitch for community usage- schools and clubs are desperate!
Publicise and promote and use a volunteer and enjoy
Redgra space > eco garden separate areas with pond/ wetland, examples of native trees native shrubs/ wild roses/ grasses/ wild flowers insect attracting areas, Thinking space.
Re-open the One O'Clock Club - keep the triangle open and free. NO money making ventures.
Restore/maintain a hard surface area - for football -netball - ball games - cricket
Rewilding the pitch and surrounds to help wild life and drainage issues and drive more adventures for kids
Running the tree lines path behind it
Sandpit - imaginative, interactive, all ages, communicative between strangers and family
Separate (eg lines on path) cycle and walking path. Is dangerous at present. Ban electric bikes and scooters - they go very fast and are quiet
Some locked storage cupboards/area for games equipment — balls, bats etc. badminton, netball, football etc.
Someone for whom this is a significant part of their regular walk around the common
Someone who taught their son to ride their bike on the Triangle pitch
Sort out the flooding as a priority/ Keep the Boxing Club. Maybe a cafe?
Space for adults to play - swings? outdoor chess? Badminton - a creative space for adults
Special place because it's accessible by foot or bike. Great relief to be away from cars.
Sports coaching
Storage for football gear and netball posts etc./
Teaching my children to ride a bike on the Redgra pitch
Thank you for hearing our stories about the Boxing Club. It's been nice to remember about something so important to me. I hope that this leads to improvements in the future.
Thank you so much for taking the time and effort to talk to people and gather memories and ideas. This is such a great area and has a lot of potential for better water systems that welcome nature. Would love to hear how the council responds to the information and community. Great work!
Thank you very much for taking the time and giving people the opportunity to share their experiences within the area and why it is so so important to them,. Really appreciate it and I hope the community will grow and there will be more interesting opportunities for everyone.
The One O'Clock Club is where my son started socialising and has enjoyed the sandpit, swings and climbing equipment as he's grown.
The One O'Clock Club was a great favourite place for my grandchildren to come to - they were disappointed to find it shut. It is also a lovely garden for small children - plenty of birds and bugs.
The Boxing Club has been an amazing part of my life where I've met loads of interesting people. Without it I'd have never known this place existed. It would be great to make it more accessible with public toilets. I've lived here all my life and have many memories. [REDACTED] 16
The Boxing Club has changed my life and helped me manage my general attitude. I love the physical activity and support from friends and team mates. I like the quiet. I'd be glad to see the One O'Clock Club open again and maybe a cafe for people to enjoy together [REDACTED]
The Boxing Club is very significant for me - I've been coming here for a year from Surrey Quays. I value the friendships and support as much as my own fitness and training. [REDACTED] 30
The children's centre was a lifeline when my eldest was younger - for something to do, meeting new people and learning parenting skills. Now we visit the playground regularly - its amazing to have a huge sandpit in the middle of London! It would be great to have a bit more equipment for older children and an indoor space with toilets and baby change.
The magical hollow tree (that was struck by lightning) Visited countless times as a teenager with friends and now with my nephews. Feeling part of nature! [REDACTED] (27)
The most important is the boxing gym because of the competitions and training.



The playground is great but could be improved. Fantastic memories with my son growing up. Also enjoy playing sport on the nearby grass. Lovely in the summer, beautiful sunsets. [REDACTED] 36
The Sandpit is great but it would be good to have more toddler friendly playground - slide/toddler climbing etc.
The staff at the Boxing Club have been so kind to my son - always let him watch the boxing and have even let him (age 4!) have a go in the ring - so special and we are very grateful. [REDACTED] (now 5)
The SUN to remember the sunshine (real and metaphorical) that I have enjoyed with my family so many times here
The thing I like about this Boxing Club is that it is very close to my house. Also it is hard training and keeps you fit. [REDACTED] 12
The Tooting triangle means family, friends, laughter, kids, walks and in general the go to place in Balham to get out of the city slog! In terms of the Boxing Club and Winston, there is no better example of what Balham and the local people and character of the area is meant to be. The area and Winston need more help and local support to bring back the whole spirit to the Triangle for years to come Regards [REDACTED] Fulham Club
The Triangle area is an amazing space that everyone can enjoy. Having a large green space is a privilege to live close to. I can't imagine the last 8 years living here without this space.
The triangle has been a wonderful part of my life for a decade. Both my kids loved the 'Balham Beach' as toddlers. Now they love the ropes. I have fond memories of the old One O'Clock Club too. [REDACTED] 48.
The triangle means a place to enjoy outside time with my daughter. She loves the swing and the sandpit and it's a lovely space for her to run around. I have not used the Boxing Club but have looked at the classes in the past. Would love to see the space more developed with more activities.
The triangle will forever remind me of Balham Boxing Club and youth engagement unit (?) where I have witnessed young people from all over the country visit and demonstrate what they have learnt. As well as witnessed conversations from young people that find a way to cope with the challenges they face. Triangle means to me community, people, back to basics, courage, commitment, safe space, encouragement. Age 61
The triangle. My main reason of writing this is to show the amazing community Balham ABC has created, along with opportunity and support for the youth of Balham and adults. This place has helped my son reinvent his self into a confident, kind and resilient little gentleman full of perseverance. Just what the world needs. [REDACTED] 35
The way it was publicised was brilliant as it targeted the grass roots and those who use and pass the space - it was not just generic.
Things for older kids and teenagers. Some suggestions...basketball court, ping pong tables, exercise equipment
This area really needs a PUBLIC LOO!
This bit of the common is used by local people. It's a through route for cyclists and runners and dog walkers. There was a lot of strong opposition to the precious scheme from people who do not use the area regularly
This centre could be used for birthday parties etc.
This communal open area is play for everyone - nice to seek kick abouts, bicycles lessons for toddlers going on - quiet area of the common for walking.
This is a wonderful spot for families to gather to include indoor and outdoor facility/ Not forgetting the importance of the Boxing Club a long standing activity.
This is our home. TRIBAL FC
This is where I pick mugwort for tea and the gravel pitch is a safe dry place to walk on when it is wet.
This place is special to me because I have been doing boxing for 3 years and I used to go to the playground [REDACTED] 12
This space has been important to me since 2011, before the current play area was built. The old play equipment that I used to bring the kids to, the One O'Clock Club and then the children's play centre on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. More recently my 6 and 8 year old sons have been using the Boxing Club. My boys love the space and they are learning so much. Please re-open the children's centre I really loved that. [REDACTED] 40

This space must remain part of the community and primarily as a centre for children. The One O'Clock Club should never have closed.
Toilets/Baby change facility/new drainage/warm shelter/fairly priced refreshments/good lighting for autumn winer afternoons. From [REDACTED] x 5
Trees maybe some fruiting ones and provide a permitter for any football pitches (smiley face)
Under the railway bridge we could make a mural of triangle memories- the Boxing Club, the one o'clock club, the playground. It would make the railway bridge more inviting and welcoming entrance to the triangle.
Using the One O'Clock Club and playground with my daughter, family and friends on a daily basis for many years.
Very precious area - somewhere to have a picnic would be nice. Social life is in the parks on hot days
Volunteer some time
Volunteer Time
Volunteers place for youth clubs
Walked my dog on Tooting Triangle. Always somewhat put off by the flooding which has got worse over the past few years.
Walking backwards and forwards for 30 minutes every day on the all weather 'football pitch' at the triangle during lockdown when we could only go out for 60 mins a day!
Watching Trains (child writing)
Watching trains at the playground when I was younger.
We are a local women's and non binary football club (Tribal FC). We train weekly on the common next to the triangle (if only it was an astro!) We collaborate regularly with the Boxing Club who are a huge part of the local community. A place for pitch access (much needed!) would be amazing. [REDACTED] 36
We are a young family and love coming down to the playground and playing in the sandpit, on the swings and playing on the hill and in the trees. There is a great community in the playground and meeting new people. And lots of things have been learnt here from building sandcastles to playing on the swings and climbing trees.
We are both happy to volunteer in variety of ways
We enjoy the large space of the field which is away from all roads and has an expansive sky free of buildings. We also appreciate the gravel football pitch 0 our kids learnt to ride there and like to play ball games, drive their buses (toy) through it etc.
We have to fight. We have to save space for people, the young, the elderly, all groups and be vigilant to protect nature in the city.
We love the playground and gravel pitch. It's lovely to have somewhere close and free for my kids to play. It was particularly invaluable during covid. The area does need work to make the most of it but I hope it remains somewhere that people can use. [REDACTED] 39
We love the playground, especially the swings, sandpit and hill. We live 5 minutes away and it structures so much of our days as my son loves playing outside. We us it as a place to meet and make friends. We would love it if there was a slide.
We made a community centre for residents to enjoy in winter months or community activities. Minimum staff could be financed by having vending machines ad coffee machines, or a cafe like Cavendish School did. Balham Boxing Club should continue to use when not used by community
We moved here when I was 6 months pregnant. Walked here every day (including to try to induce labour!) Now I walk here every day with my baby. It is her first place for walking [REDACTED] 29.8.24
We moved to the area summer 2024 and fell in love with the common and the triangle. Its where we spend our Saturday mornings. Our daughter (2 yo) plays on the swings and we walk the dog. We also love the sandpit in the summer. [REDACTED] 39
We used the triangle 30 years ago, when our children were toddlers; fond, fun, happy days! [REDACTED] 62
We used to walk through the space every day to take our daughter to nursery. So beautiful to have nature to walk through.
We would love a mud club!

We would love a mud club/splash club//playground with imaginative play (wendy houses etc.)
We would love to bring life back to the football pitch Fulham Irish Youth Football Club
We would love to bring life back to the football pitch. Fulham Irish GAA youth football club.
We'd like to keep the common communal and accessible to all. We'd like to maintain as much natural light as possible. We'd like the flooding to be in managed in as natural way as possible
What about Outdoor Gym - for everyone to access?
What an amazing consultation - fully inclusive engaging the community and all ages - thankyou! A treat to be able to have the opportunity and space to consider memories and use of the triangle space and share ideas with others about what this could be. Would be good to see the timeline too for what next. Hopefully the same people will be involved with continuing consultation and engagement of the community on any plans that are proposed for moving forward.
What if the Triangle..... Became a wellbeing hub for all Morning tai chi, schools play, evening football, summer yoga outdoors Evening community meeting space A multi generational space A multi cultural meeting point A place to nurture community voce, a place to invent the future A demonstration space for flood management and an all weather football pitch
Whatever happens please make sure the space stays open, inclusive, supporting nature and biodiversity, enabling fun, laughter and a place to meet, supporting fitness, mental health and well being. Fantastic local consultation! Thankyou!
Would be great to see the 'back# playground reopened and open for smaller kids (up to 4 yrs) and somewhere to tie up dogs that is in sight but safe from/for kids.
Would be lovely to have a wildflower meadow and orchard so we see more butterflies
Would come to a community garden
Would like to see Boxing Club building updated and renovated. Flooding issues sorted out, a cafe, meeting place or hub for elderly people. Signage to emphasise where the club is/ A public toilet out side of the building, an exercise station in the park. Better lighting. [REDACTED]
Would love to stay in touch and be part of the discussions and lend time and ideas if they are needed. [REDACTED] Thankyou! [REDACTED]
Yes please and outdoor gym is a fantastic idea - enabling all people to keep fit in the open air. Fully inclusive including people of all ages who may be disadvantaged and don't have access to other facilities. Good for fitness and wellbeing and mental health.
You have managed this brilliantly! It was a real surprise to come to a consultation that made me think hard about what I valued and what I might suggest - a real 'bottom up' experience which is so rare but so inclusive and attracting (?) Good luck for the next stages. Hopefully the consensus will come through. it is a wonderful space, possibilities are endless.