

BRIDGELINK CENTRE NEWS | JUNE 2025

SKY UP DROP-IN IT CAFE

1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month

Pop into our friendly café, grab a free drink, and ask a Sky employee any questions you have about your phone, laptop or the internet.

Supported by Sky our **IT Café** is open every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 9.30-11.30am – a drop in coffee morning where you can:

- Access a laptop or printer
- Help with form filling such as oyster cards, key fobs, blue badge, passports, and more
- Help with your smartphone & apps
- Help with emails, online banking and shopping
- Help with GP and NHS websites



Upcoming IT Café Dates 2025:

4th & 18th June, 2nd & 16th July, 6th & 20th August, 3rd & 17th September, 1st & 15th October, 5th & 19th November, 3rd & 17th December

MONTHLY FREE REPAIRS AT BRIDGELINK CENTRE



The pop up Repair Café comes to The BridgeLink Centre every month for free of charge repairs. If you have an electrical item or a bike that doesn't work or need to repair some clothes why don't you bring them along to get them fixed.

The wonderful team from the highly successful Repair Café Twickenham will be on hand; bring along your broken items and a volunteer from the Repair Café will not only repair them but show you how it's done to give you the confidence to do your own repairs in the future. A free service but a donation is always welcomed.

Upcoming Repair Café Dates in 2025 are: **19th June, 17th July, 18th September, 16th October, 20th November**

BRIDGELINK CENTRE BECOMES A HOUNSLOW COMMUNITY HUB CAMPUS

Thursdays 9.30am – 12pm

We are excited to share that our charity IvybridgeLink have been invited to join Hounslow Council's team of borough-wide Community Hubs.

BridgeLink Centre will sit alongside other partners within Isleworth Community Hubs providing access to services in your local area, including money management advice, information on keeping healthy, skills and employment, and mental health support.

Weekly: Hounslow Council Community Hub Advisors

1st Thursday of month: Crosslight debt advice

2nd Thursday of month: Citizens Advice

3rd Thursday of month: Housing Income Officer

As part of this new joint offer a **Free Money Management Course** will take place at The BridgeLink Centre on: **Wednesday 18th, 25th June & 2nd July.**

(please see flyer for further details and to register)



The flyer is for 'The Money Course' organized by Crosslight Advice in partnership with the London Borough of Hounslow. It features a yellow and orange color scheme. At the top, it says 'Learn practical money skills to manage your finances, save for your goals, and stay on top of bills with ease'. A quote from a participant reads: 'I loved the course and have learned so much and I'm so grateful to everyone.' Below this, it states 'In just 3 sessions, you'll:' followed by three bullet points: 'Build a plan that works: create a personal spending plan with our easy-to-use Budget Builder tool', 'Stay on top of your bills: use our simple 'piggy banking' method to organise your expenditure', and 'Get personalised support: our friendly coaches will guide you every step of the way as you put your plan into action'. A photo shows two women, one holding a notebook. The course dates are 'Wednesday 18, 25 June & 2 July 2025, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM'. The location is 'BridgeLink Community Centre, 373 Summerwood Road, Isleworth, TW7 7QR'. Booking information includes 'Book your place now: Call or message us on WhatsApp 020 3540 5608' and 'or sign up online themoneycourse.org/hounslow'. At the bottom, it lists supporters: 'London Borough of Hounslow' and 'IvybridgeLink', and a note that 'Crosslight Advice is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (1163306) and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (715066)'.

London Borough of Hounslow

crosslight advice

The Money Course

Learn practical money skills to manage your finances, save for your goals, and stay on top of bills with ease

"I loved the course and have learned so much and I'm so grateful to everyone."

★★★★★

In just 3 sessions, you'll:

- **Build a plan that works:** create a personal spending plan with our easy-to-use Budget Builder tool
- **Stay on top of your bills:** use our simple 'piggy banking' method to organise your expenditure
- **Get personalised support:** our friendly coaches will guide you every step of the way as you put your plan into action

Wednesday 18, 25 June & 2 July 2025, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

BridgeLink Community Centre
373 Summerwood Road
Isleworth, TW7 7QR

Book your place now:
Call or message us on
WhatsApp
 **020 3540 5608**
or sign up online
themoneycourse.org/hounslow

Supported by

London Borough of Hounslow

IvybridgeLink

Crosslight Advice is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (1163306) and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (715066).

VOLUNTEERING AT BRIDGELINK CENTRE



BridgeLink Community Pantry - A big thank you to all our wonderful pantry volunteers who support the Community Pantry in many ways from stock taking, receiving deliveries, pantry set-up, arranging fresh produce, meeting and greeting pantry users and ensuring our pantry service runs smoothly.


Thanks also go to all the external agencies who attend our pantry and help support local residents and pantry users including Social Prescribers, Community Hub Advisors, Citizens Advice, Cross Light Debt Services and Housing.

DO YOU HAVE SOME SPARE TIME ON YOUR HANDS?

Come and join us as a volunteer and help us to help others, this is a great way to gain new skills and work experience too. We are looking for volunteers to support the pantry's day to day operations, or help with teas and coffees and be a warm welcoming face for shoppers.

We are also looking for volunteers who can bring some expertise to our charity as trustees if you have a background in community action, finance or accounts, business management, events, marketing or support services and would like to help support our community. Contact us for more information.

Here's what some of our current volunteers have to say about being part of our IvybridgeLink Team:



I have been volunteering at BL for almost a year, and it has been such a rewarding experience. Being part of the team that helps our community always uplifts me. The people we assist have been so lovely and friendly and I've especially fallen in love with their little children. Whenever they see me, whether during volunteering hours or outside, they smile and say hi, which brings me so much joy. I'm proud to be part of a team that's making a difference, and I hope our efforts help make this one of the best communities in London one day.



I have been working with this organisation for a year now, attending weekly meetings. The work we do as a team is very valuable to me. I am in a new country, and I didn't know anyone when I arrived. This group has been a huge support during my adjustment period, and I have made some wonderful friends. But the most important thing was the New Year's Eve we spent together at the end of the year. If you're in a foreign country and don't know anyone, you don't want to be alone on New Year's. I am grateful to my team members who helped me forget my loneliness.

BRIDGELINK YOUTH x ORANGE TREE THEATRE, RICHMOND

The Easter Holidays saw the BridgeLink Youth Group team-up with experts from the Orange Tree Theatre in Richmond for a week-long collaborative project.

The young people worked with the OT Team to create their own story and props. Rehearsals took place throughout the week followed by a rousing performance of 'Alexandra and the Ever Growing Glamour Fish' on Saturday morning.

Family and friends were invited to watch the performance at the Orange Tree Theatre where they enjoyed refreshments post-performance.

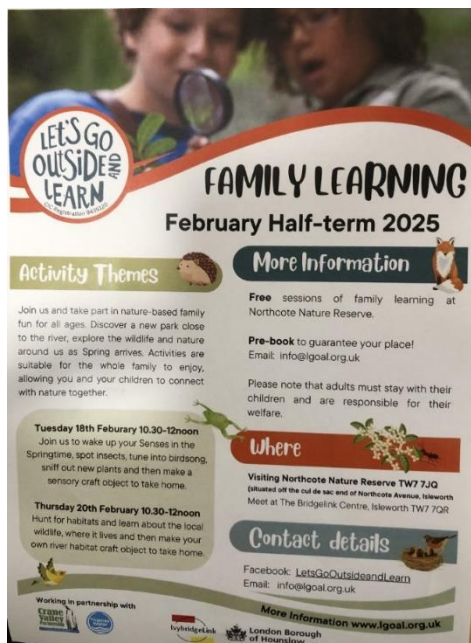


The children put on an amazing performance, and many expressed a desire to stay involved with Drama in some form in the future.

Our special thanks go to **Madi Mahoney** and **Jess Haygarth** for their time and passion in helping make this collaborative process such a pleasure for all involved.



LGOAL February Half Term Activities at Northcote Nature Reserve



We were also delighted to partner with local nature-based charity **Let's Go Outside and Learn (LGOAL)** who provided fun Family Learning Workshops for our centre users.

Sarah Austin,
Schools & Families Project Officer led Hedgehog making and other workshops based at Northcote Nature Reserve.

Many thanks to Sarah for the fun filled interactions with local nature, and we look forward to many more workshops.

ESOL SKILLS CAFÉ

Due to growing demand, we are now running free non-qualification English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) on the following days:

- **Monday 10.30am-12.30am (mixed session)**
- **Tuesday 9am-11am (women only)**

Come and improve your English in a fun and friendly environment.
Contact Narinder on 07719 344873 for more information.



These classes give members of the community who may feel isolated because of language barriers the chance to share their experiences and make friendships.

The Tuesday ESOL group celebrate every end of term with a shared breakfast.

Come and improve your reading, writing, listening and speaking skills in an informal fun environment.

SOCIAL PRESCRIBING AT BRIDGELINK



Our partnership with the Social Prescribing Team at **Brentworth Primary Care Network** continues.

Debbie Benefield, Social Prescribing Link Worker from Brentworth PCN will be attending The BridgeLink Centre on the first and third Thursday of each month where she will be on hand to support on various issues on a one-to-one basis.

Debbie will be able to support with any non-clinical issues such as mental wellbeing, housing, employment, debt advice amongst other concerns so pop in every **1st or 3rd Thursday of the month, 11am-1pm.**

JAMIE OLIVER'S MINISTRY OF FOOD COMES TO BRIDGELINK



Both Narinder and Kuldeep attended a 3 day Ministry of Food Train the Trainer course at Hounslow House. Jamie's Ministry of Food is the largest community cooking programme in the UK working with councils, charities and other partners. This course aims to train people in a fun and engaging way, to pass on these skills and knowledge to their community.

This training was funded by the council's Public Health Team,

recognising that passing on nutritional knowledge and healthy cooking skills to families in Hounslow is a key part of a sustainable approach to healthy weight as part of a healthy lifestyle.

We are now looking for partners to train up so that they can deliver cooking or nutrition sessions at The BridgeLink Centre. Watch this space for exciting upcoming cooking programmes.

BRIDGELINK COMMUNITY PANTRY - THANK YOU!

We continue to be supported by our community partners below and wish to extend our gratitude to them:

 <p>Hannah Sullivan and Sarah Hughes of Kier construction -for their volunteers who painted some of our rooms</p>	 <p>ISLEWORTH & SYON SCHOOL FINIS CORONAT OPUS</p> <p>For their food donations to the Community Pantry and their students' who volunteered with us.</p>
 <p>For their continued support with our twice monthly Digital Drop-In sessions, and their volunteers who choose to use their community volunteering hours at The BridgeLink Centre.</p>	 <p>South Street Café</p> <p>For their continued Pantry donations and support for our charity.</p>
 <p>All Souls Church – for their monthly donations that support the Community Pantry.</p>	 <p>Twickenham hygiene bank for their donations of hygiene products throughout the year. A special thank you to Julia for making it happen.</p>
 <p>Ruth Cadbury MP Brentford & Isleworth Constituency</p> <p>Ruth Cadbury for donating to the Community Pantry.</p>	<p>Our Lady of Sorrows & St Bridgets Church</p>  <p>For their weekly contributions to our Community Pantry.</p>
<p>Isleworth Congregational Church</p> <p>For their food donations to our Community Pantry.</p> 	 <p>Old Isleworth Market</p> <p>For their donation to our Pantry.</p>

BRIDGELINK CONTACTS

For more information on our services, or an informal chat please contact either:

Kuldip on 07927 988362 or kuldip.sandhu@bridgelink.org.uk

Narinder on 07719 344873 or narinder.dosanjh@bridgelink.org.uk

For more information on room and hall hire contact:

Valerie Moore on 07561 773471 or admin2@bridgelink.org.uk



Hall & kitchenette



Meeting Room



Café Spaces



IT Suite

Social Media:



[bridgelink_ivybridge](https://www.instagram.com/bridgelink_ivybridge)



[Bridgelink Centre](https://www.facebook.com/BridgelinkCentre)



www.bridgelink.org.uk