

NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2025

Welcome to the Spring/Summer 2025 roundup of events, news and information from Sidcup Partners. We rounded off last year with a whole host of seasonal Christmas fun around Sidcup, and before you know it we're in the middle of 2025, the sun is shining and it's time to show off our London in Bloom entry – where does the time go! We love working with members of the community here in Sidcup to continue providing a vibrant, supportive and inclusive place for all to enjoy. Take a moment to have a read about what we do, and if there's anything you'd like to get involved with we'd love to hear from you.

Our Executive Director, Sue Petty has recently been made joint chair of the Safer Neighbourhood Board of Bexley, alongside Trevor Jones. Congratulations to Sue – your dedication to the communities of Sidcup and Bexley is unrivalled and we wish you luck in your new role!

A word from Sue...

It's been a challenging start to 2025 for me personally after being quite badly injured in a car accident in February, which put me out of action for a few weeks and my recovery is still ongoing. However, my passion for Sidcup and the people and places that make our town thrive is stronger than ever, and I am glad to be able to continue my role as Sidcup Partners' Executive Director. I'm very excited for the London in Bloom judging to begin in a few weeks, as this is a project that brings joy and beautiful floral displays to everyone. If you haven't already, take a look around Sidcup and see all the lovely flowers.



BUSINESS NEWS



- A warm welcome to Bagzies, a new addition to our eateries in Sidcup serving gourmet bagels, fresh sandwiches and delicious salad boxes

made to order. Walk-in or pre-order – you can find them at 2 Sidcup Hill or take a look at their Instagram @bagzies_sidcup

BUSINESS NETWORKING EVENT

- Starbucks kindly opened their doors for our business networking event in February which was well attended and allowed for open discussion between our local business owners and representatives.
- We organised a 'Shoplifting Awareness & Information' event at the United Service Club which was attended by Louie French MP, and Sergeant Watson and PC Austin from the Met Police. Valuable advice was shared about reporting crimes online to

ensure more accurate tracking and monitoring. Since the event, reporting has increased which will lead to a better understanding of the issue and how to deal with shoplifting locally.



Since the disappointment of bank closures in Sidcup, we were very happy to assist with setting up a temporary banking hub with an organisation called 'Cash Access'. An area was utilised at St John's Church for people to come and carry out their face-to-face banking transactions.



- The Storyteller will host a First Aid Course for local businesses in May to ensure a high level of workplace safety in our town.



MEETING

- In April a meeting took place with Louie French MP where local businesses could voice concerns regarding business rates.

COMMUNITY NEWS

● In January, we helped promote a self-defence course run by Conquest Martial Arts who are experts in this field. The course aimed to improve knowledge of situational awareness and laws around self-defence as well as teaching practical, self-protection techniques. Thanks to Holy Trinity Primary School for hosting the event.

● Our cleanliness initiative continues and all the bins new and old have been given a clean and freshened up, keeping Sidcup's streets spic and span and inviting for everyone.



After cleaning:



● Our wonderful Colin continues his quest to keep Sidcup clean, tidy and beautiful. Whether weeding the curb side or litter picking (we have lots of bins, please use them!)



We are so grateful for Colin's never-ending dedication. Thank you, Colin!



● In March, Sidcup Partners proudly supported the Young Musician of the Year event at Rose Bruford College, celebrating our wonderful local talent.

● During May, together with Cleeve Park School, we will be delivering posters to shops encouraging them to report both good and bad behaviour, fostering a safe and respectful environment.

London in Bloom 2025

Lavendar has been planted in the raised flower beds along Station Road, bringing a fresh burst of colour and fragrance to the area.



The hanging baskets are in position. Thanks to local nursery Thompson's and to some green fingered adults with autism who added an extra layer of community spirit in putting these together.



Barrier planters in Sidcup will be refreshed over the coming weeks with some fresh florals. Each planter will eventually represent a charity, showcasing their colours and fostering awareness.

Judging is in July and we are all looking forward to seeing everyone's hard work come to fruition.



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Thefts of expensive tools from our garden sheds, and vehicles belonging to hard working tradespeople are unfortunately on the rise. Due to this, Sidcup Partners and Bexley Safer Neighbourhood Board supported the Met Police with their Safer Neighbourhood 'tool marking kit' giveaway events around the area, where state of the art DNA marking equipment was handed out.

Throughout April, Sidcup Starbucks hosted a series of 'Coffee With a Cop' events for anyone to drop in, have a chat about any issues or concerns directly with our local law enforcement, and get to know the officers that represent them better to strengthen community safety.



EVENTS ROUNDUP

● Christmas Celebrations

Sidcup Partners organised, supported and promoted a multitude of fantastic festive events throughout December last year. Despite the rain that sent the Christmas Extravaganza indoors at Rose Bruford College, it was a great event.



So many families enjoyed finding the elves in the Elf on a Shelf event, and the Santa Dash was great fun! The Works' 'Giving Tree' gave away over 200 gifts to disadvantaged children, and the St John's Church Singers held a 'Singing for the Brain' carol concert to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society.



If you took part in any of our Christmas events, thank you for getting involved in the community and we hope you had a wonderful time!



● For **Mother's Day**, we teamed up with M&S and gave away not one, but 10 'Family Dine-Ins'.

● Valentine's Day

Sidcup shared the love with our Valentine's Heart Giveaway, with local businesses giving away an array of lovely treats to the winners.



● International Women's Day

celebrations were held outside M&S in March, with a huge raffle featuring a great selection of prizes, live music and some great give-aways. Donations for Sidcup Pantry were requested in exchange for raffle tickets, and the response and generosity of our community was truly inspiring!



● Ninety Seven Bar hosted a fantastic **Open Mic Night**, welcoming all to perform. Sidcup Partners was happy to help support and promote the event and get young people involved with local entertainment within the community.

● **VE Day:** This year marks 80 years since the end of WWII. To mark VE Day in Sidcup, the Royal British Legion held a ceremony at Sidcup War Memorial. Sarto Lounge also hosted rock painting in tribute, with the decorated rocks displayed as a heartfelt memorial.



● Easter

We put on a selection of Easter activities for the community this April, with Easter crafting at Sarto Lounge with help from our friends from The Works to raise money for Autism Support in a creative and inclusive event.



An Easter Egg Hunt was devised all around the High-Street as well as inside shops and businesses, and we organised another bright, fun Easter Trail with 12 egg posters to find and win an Easter themed prize.



● Saturday 17 May was **Dino Day** in Sidcup! Another jam-packed roarrrr-some event with over 200 children getting up-close and personal with our monstrous attractions. The day featured exciting give-aways, a fun Photo Booth and delicious ice-cream treats for all to enjoy. Thank you to everyone who came along for a brilliant day out.



CHARITY NEWS

● Sarto Lounge kindly hosted a **Dementia Coffee Morning** on 7 May to raise money for this important cause. Having dementia or living with a loved one suffering from this cruel illness requires a massive amount of support. Thank you to all who came along and helped raise funds.

● In January, Sue reached out to local businesses for cake donations to support **Singing for the Brain**. Thanks to their incredible generosity, enough cakes were donated to last an entire year! A big thank you to everyone who contributed.

● **Little Recyclers** continues partnering with local primary schools to turn household waste into funds for essential equipment, school trips and education enhancement. On 30 April, the latest event raised over £400! Merton Court School will use the money to enhance its outdoor space with a new Quiet Area for reading and relaxation.

● Good Gym Bexley has provided support for our **Sidcup Community Larder** by helping organise food donations into cupboards, ensuring that our local vulnerable people have what they need.



● Sidcup Partners works closely with M&S, Waitrose and Tesco to minimise their food waste and direct it towards the **Sidcup Community Larder**. A big thank you to those businesses for their increasing support as demand for help from the larder grows every week.



UPCOMING EVENTS

FREE SUMMER FAMILY EVENT!

SIDCUP Dino Trail

2 July - 31 August

The Sidcup Dino Trail will be launched on 2nd July to coincide with the release of the new Jurassic Park movie

FIND ME
Hiding in the Sidcup businesses windows!

School Fundraising

Thursday 3rd July
Morning Only

We are fundraising for our school with clothing donations.

Declutter and transform Unwanted Clothes To Funds for your School. By recycling clothes we are protecting the environment and minimising textile waste.

We Accept:

- Good quality clean clothing (adult's, children's, baby)
- Shoes (paired)
- Fashion accessories
- Hats & scarves
- Bags
- Belts
- Swimwear
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Perfumes

45p a kilo

The School receives 45p a kilo from The Little Recyclers

Thank you for your continued support.

Sidcup

FREE EVENT

SIDCUP FRINGE FESTIVAL

SAVE the DATE

5th July 2025, 10am-6pm
Rose Bruford College, Burnt Oak Lane, Sidcup

BOUNCY CASTLES, MINI GOLF, TRAMPOLINES, MUSIC, STALLS, FOOD, DRINK & MORE...

Sidcup

www.sidcuppartners.co.uk

FEEDBACK REQUEST!

We'd Love Your Feedback!

Have you enjoyed any of our recent events? We'd love to hear what you thought!

We're always working on fun and inclusive events for the community, so if you have suggestions, ideas, or want to get involved—please contact us at info@sidcuppartners.co.uk.

Thank you for your continued support in making Sidcup a wonderful place to live and work!



sidcuppartners.co.uk
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Sidcup
Partners