



FLEET STREET QUARTER IN BLOOM WITH CULTURE, INNOVATION AND TRANSFORMATION



Lady Lucy French OBE CEO, Fleet Street Quarter BID

Spring is fast approaching, and here in the Fleet Street Quarter green shoots have been in evidence all winter with planning and preparation underway for the year ahead!

Speaking of green shoots, I'm thrilled to announce Plantation by Polish artist Alicja Patanowska, will become a permanent fixture at the Urban Farmer Project, during its meanwhile stay at the future Hill House development

I was delighted to see that Alicja has recently exhibited her work at the

EU headquarters in Brussels. I was fortunate enough to receive a beautiful Plantation vessel to try out my hydroponic growing skills! Over the last weeks I have been determined to see my chosen seed, a potato flower, flourish and I am delighted to share the fruits of my labours thus far! (left).

Nevertheless, growth has not just been confined to hydroponics! We have seen local development grow over the last months. with 6 million sq ft now in the pipeline. To support this transformation, it was wonderful to announce, alongside the City of London, a major public realm project for Fleet Street with £9 million

commitment from the Corporation for this work. Marking a major step in the transformation of the Fleet Street Quarter, the project is exploring the potential to give more space and priority to people walking and wheeling, add seating and increase greening and biodiversity.

Alongside this, we are also partnering with the City to deliver two other public realm projects in the footprint: the Courts and Lanes project and Holborn Viaduct Lighting Scheme. Across these three projects, Fleet Street Quarter has committed £1m to deliver these important enhancements.

We saw 50 local businesses represented at our ESG Summit in February. It was inspiring to hear examples of best practice, the opportunities and challenges our local businesses are facing and how we at FSQ can help. A coalition of the willing emerged from the assembled and a resolution to collectively effect change. Watch this space

Growth is a word on the lips of many at the moment, what is exciting here in FSQ is that economic, social and cultural expansion is well and truly underway. To map this, we are

Continued on next page...

developing a state-of-the-art digital platform to showcase the development pipeline, public realm, cultural and retail ambitions to support the growth we are seeing and drive further inward investment. Culture being an important aspect of place and place making, is a primary focus in these parts, and we are building on what is here already, what has gone on before, and creating an ambitious vision for the future. Watch this space.

On ambition, having short listed our local culinary stars for The Great Fleet Street Quarter Cook Off 2025, seeing the skills from contenders across the area has been seriously impressive, and this year's final is clearly going to be a tough one for the judges! This April, The Big Egg Hunt comes

to the Quarter, some leading lights in the art world have put their creative genius to work with some elliptic creations. Just a hop, skip and a jump later we will see a landmark moment, the launch of our inaugural literary festival, the Fleet Street Quarter Festival of Words. This is the place where stories have always been born, from Shakespeare, to Dickens to Dr Johnson. The festival looks at all forms of word and how words have always had the power to change the world, to challenge, delight, indulge and inform us. We are immensely proud to have a stellar line up, including Ben Okri, Kate Mosse and Tracy Bowman, in addition to stalwarts from across the media, with a keynote lecture from the News Media Association,

and current affairs from The Times and The Telegraph.

So, you may ask where this feast for the literary senses is taking place? We are spoilt for choice and among other venues, Dr Johnson's House, Stationers Hall, St Bride Foundation and our very own Urban Farmer Project will be welcoming thought leaders, disrupters, literary and journalistic giants and adventurers to discuss, debate and entertain. As Samuel Johnson so wisely said – "A writer only begins a book. A reader finishes it" – and so our audience, you all (I hope!) and your friends and family members will be a vital ingredient. I don't want to lean too much into our summer plans.. but I am excited, and I like to share so, perhaps a mini reveal might be ok?

Of course, June will see our second Climate Festival, but this year is the also Polish/UK Season, and as the Polish Cultural Institute sits at the heart of the footprint on Bouverie Street, it seems only fitting to be building on our Polish cultural exchange. So, for the London Festival of Architecture this June, we have invited a groundbreaking Polish artist to create something rather unique! Shhhhhh... it might have something to do with whispers!

I hope to see you at one or many of our events and activities. These green shoots are inspired and informed by you our FSQ community, you are the sunshine that is encouraging and driving positive growth, engagement and transformation.

TRANSFORMATION OF FLEET STREET BACKED BY £9 MILLION FUNDING INJECTION FROM CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION



PROPOSED REGENERATION OF THE FLEET STREET QUARTER TO BE SUPPORTED BY MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS TO ICONIC LONDON THOROUGHFARE

The Fleet Street Quarter BID welcomes the City of London Corporation's £9 million commitment to develop public realm improvements for Fleet Street. Marking a major step in the transformation of the Fleet Street Quarter, the project is exploring the potential to give more space and priority to people walking and wheeling, add seating and increase greening and biodiversity.

This public realm improvement project builds on the momentum and financial contributions from major development sites along this iconic London street. Over the next five years, 33,000 additional workers are expected to be attracted to the Fleet Street Quarter, as the area undergoes a radical renaissance.

Reshaping this vital and historic east-west route connecting the West End and the City, proposals intend to support the area's wider development pipeline. An extensive

development pipeline encompassing 34 new and refurbished schemes will deliver 5.5 million sq ft of Grade A office, retail and leisure space with a GDV of c.£5 billion by 2028.

Major developments on Fleet Street include the City of London Corporation's Salisbury Square Scheme, delivering 18 state-of-the-art courts as part of a new court and tribunal building, and a new City of London Police Headquarters. Other major projects include the redevelopment of the former Daily Express Building at 120 Fleet Street, The Daily Telegraph Building and a deep retrofit of 65 Fleet Street.

This project embodies the Fleet Street Quarter BID's collegiate approach to development. Acting as the glue between the public and private sectors, the BID is prioritising a clean and green future for the area. Embracing cycling improvements and new green spaces aims to elevate the built environment's

contribution towards a thriving destination fit for future generations. Street upgrades will foster a climate resilient district, boosting the physical experience of the area.

Fleet Street Quarter BID has further bolstered the start of this project with an additional £500,000 of funding and brought together the local business community's priorities and ideas into a public realm vision 'Fleet Street Quarter's Era of Change.' The BID's vision identified 34 public realm opportunities that could radically transform the area over the next decade and capitalise on Fleet Street's extraordinary capacity for reinvention. The opportunities identified aim to deliver wider pavements, improve traffic movement and create safer crossings, and increase seating and greening to create a vibrant destination and improved experience for the growing workforce in the area.

For the City of London Corporation, these ambitions align with the proposals set out in its Healthy Streets Plan for the Fleet Street area. Fleet Street is also identified in the City of London Corporation's Local Plan, City Plan 2040 and Transport Strategy as a key east-west route and in a Key Area of Change.

In addition to the Fleet Street public realm improvement project, the Fleet Street Quarter BID and the City of London Corporation are currently partnering to deliver two other public realm projects in the footprint: the Courts and Lanes project and Holborn Viaduct Lighting Scheme. Across these three projects, Fleet Street Quarter has committed £1m to deliver these important enhancements.

Phased implementation of these projects is scheduled for between 2025 and 2029, subject to approvals and further consultation on Fleet Street. For Fleet Street, this year will include work on traffic analysis and modelling and development of concept design options.

Lady Lucy French OBE,
CEO of the Fleet Street Quarter BID:

"Fleet Street is one of London's most historic streets, at the heart of the Fleet Street Quarter. An essential gateway connecting the City and West End, these proposed upgrades aim to deliver vital change to accommodate our growing workforce and attract visitors to this vibrant western part of the City. This funding from the City of London Corporation will ensure Fleet Street remains an iconic London landmark for generations to come."

"Creating a clean and green district is critical to the area's next phase of transformation. The Fleet Street Quarter BID will continue collaborating with local stakeholders to ensure plans reflect the needs of our levy paying businesses and create a climate resilient district."

Shravan Joshi, Chairman of the Planning & Transportation Committee, City of London Corporation: "We are pleased to be working in partnership with the Fleet Street Quarter BID to enhance the potential of the area and improve the experience of using Fleet Street. By rejuvenating these public spaces, the City of London Corporation continues to ensure the Square Mile's appeal as a place to invest and do business, retaining our position as a global economic powerhouse."

THE PERILS OF SURVEYING BUSINESSES – AND THE POWER OF A GOOD INCENTIVE

Ciara Wilczur-Wieja,
Operations Manager,
Fleet Street Quarter BID

Late last year, after joining the FSQ bid, I was tasked with the daunting prospect of completing the BID's official Midterm Survey – and achieving an ambitious 40% response rate, with the average being 20 to 30%. Let's talk about surveys. Little digital forms that pop up in your inbox like an unwelcome relative who stays too long. Created with the best intentions, hours spent writing the perfect questions, perfecting the tone and attempting to make it as painless as possible.

And then? Tumble weed.

I sat, staring at my google response form. The first couple of days were filled with hope, with a strong initial response but after week one, its tapering off and I consider sending out a mass email reading, 'Remember that survey? Yeah, that one. Please. For the love of all things, complete it!' – for my job may depend on it.

It became obsessive, refreshing the response after work, sat in front of the TV or on the train home.

With the deadline looming, how would I get these already-busy-inbox of local bankers and lawyers to fill in my little questions. Beg? Cry? Sell a kidney? Book a free consultation?

The surprising truth, is people love free stuff more than you think.

The promise of a 3-course meal at CORD Restaurant, a local hotel stay and even a gift card can have surprising powers over the average person – even those with a salary high enough to make your eyes water.

Promoting our desirable gifts had the responses rolling in. Although I'm not too proud to say, there was plenty of begging to follow. The survey was everywhere you could look, our social channels, shared office screens, every meeting and event we went to, I even forced it into my colleagues email signatures, to the delight of the marketing team at the beginning of a Christmas campaign.

Whenever anyone stepped out of the office – a survey was shoved under their arm to take to the poor unsuspecting person they were meeting.

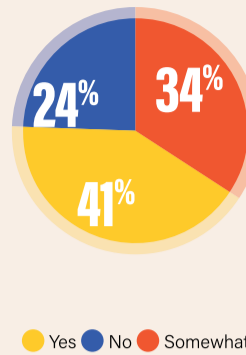
We were of course, delighted to achieve a 43% response rate from our community and a total of 203 responses. Phew – my job is safe, for now...

When you offer something in return people will find time to engage. Businesses will carve out moments between meetings and emails to tell you about their experience, their challenges and their valuable opinions.

No matter how well designed your questions are, no matter how beautifully designed your survey is at the end of the day people will fill out your form if they think there's something in it for them.

So, the next time your survey is met with a chorus of silence don't despair. Just offer a little incentive and have a little hope. You'll be shocked by how many busy-hard-to-reach businesses suddenly find the time. And who knows? You might just find that their opinions were worth a whole lot more than the price of that gift card.

Are you **aware of the BID** and its mandate? (210 responses)



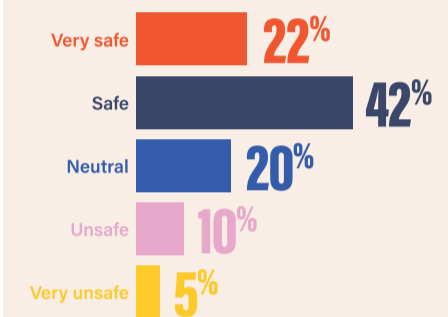
Which of the **BID's community activities** would you like to see more of?



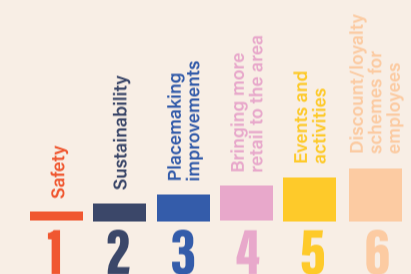
What types of **events or activities** would you like to see more of in Fleet Street?



How safe do you feel in Fleet Street Quarter?



Which of the projects do you think are **most important and valuable** to the improvement of Fleet Street Quarter?



FSQ SUMMIT SETS PATH FOR FUTURE SUSTAINABILITY



Juma Rahman,
Placemaking Strategist,
Fleet Street Quarter BID

The FSQ BID's first ever ESG Summit on Tuesday 11th February was attended by over 50 businesses to share best practise and explore challenges to doing more. The event was divided into three sessions, focusing on each strand of Environmental, Social and Governance, supplemented by presentations from experts in these fields. Guided by brilliant facilitators at each table, individuals shared which ESG actions had the most impact, what areas they would like to further explore and how the FSQ BID could support businesses on their ESG goals.

Across the three themes we discovered innovative actions being taken by our local businesses, some of which I would like to briefly highlight.

On environmental measures, discussions highlighted businesses' efforts to foster circular economy practises through initiatives to remove single use plastics from their workplace. We also noted that companies adopted energy saving behaviours by switching to renewable energy and LED lighting. Additionally, I am delighted to hear that our partnership with Love to Ride has been a huge success, with many businesses utilising this platform and other cycle to work schemes to encourage active travel!

Internally, businesses have embedded social value strategies to support and develop employees through improvements to their wellbeing services and the introduction of employee focus groups. However, businesses all agreed they would like to do more to empower marginalised communities and support local charities, acknowledging the many wonderful local causes that FSQ workers can now volunteer with on Neighbourly.

Overall, I assessed that a key barrier to improving businesses' sustainability is lack of engagement with supply chains. This is a multifaceted issue as it demonstrates not only the difficulty to collect data from local and international suppliers, but the challenge of remaining committed to ESG principles in the face of rising costs, lack of resources, and support to do the right thing. Closer to home, businesses recognised a need to have a comprehensive ESG framework to help them educate and train staff, so ESG is standardised within the company culture.

Taking this forward, I will be presenting the analysis of the findings to our clean and green steering group, which will inform a programme of FSQ's sustainability activity for the incoming year. So, keep a look out for FSQ's future ESG initiatives in the next edition!



DASDAS BOX BRINGS JAZZ, FUNK, AND LAUGHTER TO FLEET STREET QUARTER

For those seeking to brighten their winter evenings, a new live venue has launched in Fleet Street.

DasDas Box, within the Urban Farmer Project, has a varied programme, including live jazz, funk and soul nights, and even a comedy club, underpinned by a focus on community and supporting emerging artists and performers.

A cafe during the day, DasDas Box will host an ongoing programme of weeknight events. The varied calendar promises something for everyone, whether you're a music enthusiast, a comedy lover, or simply in search of a lively spot to unwind after work.

To stay up-to-date with their latest line-ups, ticket availability head over to dasdasbox.co.uk or check out their Instagram.

**DASDAS BOX,
LITTLE NEW ST, EC4A 3JR**



A DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, BY SAMUEL JOHNSON

Celine Lupp McDaid
the Hyde Director of Dr Johnson's House

Samuel Johnson, the literary giant of the 18th century and author of the first authoritative dictionary in the English language (1755), arrived in London aged 28. Born in Staffordshire in 1709, he grew up in his father's bookshop, where he absorbed everything he read, in a variety of languages. After a brief spell in Pembroke College, Oxford, and a few failed attempts at teaching, he turned his attention to writing. Fleet Street acted as a beacon to the young man, calling him down to the heartland of printing to find fame and (he hoped) fortune as an author.

He quickly achieved critical success with his poem, *London* (1738), and began working as a hack writer, producing and editing articles for *The Gentleman's Magazine* in Clerkenwell. Despite the excellent critical reception of his writing, the monetary rewards did not bring any relief to Johnson's extremely constrained finances, and he continued as a struggling writer for some years until finally, in 1746, he was approached by a consortium of publishers in and around Fleet Street. They had identified the need for a much-improved English dictionary and because they knew Johnson personally they were well aware he was just the man for the job.

The contract with William Strahan and associates was signed on 18 June 1746 and Johnson moved into his (rented) home at 17 Gough Square in 1747.

Despite the academic cataloguing of language taking place across much of Europe at this time in various academies, the compilation of a comprehensive English dictionary was not a project channelled through the ivory towers of Oxford or Cambridge, or funded by the

government, here in Great Britain. It was a commercial endeavour, and speaks to the entrepreneurial nature of the City of London – a gap of in the market had been identified, and they saw the value (both intellectually and financially) in filling it.

Johnson, in his enthusiasm for the project, agreed to complete the work within three years. At this time, and well known to Johnson, the Académie Française supposedly had 40 scholars spending 40 years to complete their dictionary, which prompted Johnson to claim, 'This is the proportion. Let me see; forty times forty is sixteen hundred. As three to sixteen hundred, so is the proportion of an Englishman to a Frenchman'. Ultimately it took him nine years to complete, as he encountered various obstacles, not least what we would term today as 'mission-creep' (a word distinctly absent from his own dictionary).

When published 1755, the title page noted that the University of Oxford had awarded Johnson a Master of Arts degree in recognition of the scholarship of the work. From the day it was published Johnson's fame – though certainly not his financial situation – was assured.

Although he went on to excel in other genres (not least Shakespeare studies, less so play-writing), he remains best remembered as 'Dictionary Johnson'. 17 Gough Square stands proud to this day as a museum, celebrating its history as the cradle of the English language.

See www.drjohnsonshouse.org to plan your visit Dr Johnson's House!

**DR JOHNSON'S HOUSE
17 GOUGH SQUARE, EC4A 3DE**



CITY'S NEW HOTSPOT: LEYDI OFFERS A COZY ESCAPE WITH ISTANBUL-INSPIRED DISHES

Daniela Aili,
Head of Sales, Leydi

If you haven't yet visit, you will find Leydi, bustling behind café curtains on Holborn Viaduct. The interior is a combination of artisanal touches, and traditional Turkish archways, and artwork, inspired by the tales of Istanbul, combined with a light and bright contemporary style. The menu, is a product, of Selin Kiazim, from the acclaimed Oklava. Selin's menu is a take on the vibrant all-day food culture of Istanbul, infused with the spirit and influences of London and the city's rich Turkish communities.

Selin's menu serves up generous lokanta-style hospitality, with an array of meze, home-baked borek; a crispy filo layered with sheep's milk feta & leeks, truffle honey, Mangal-grilled meat and fish dishes; transporting city workers and guests from the modernity of London to the Eastern elegance of Istanbul. Tables are adorned with endless meze such as Muhamarra, Hummus and Spicy Atom, paired alongside freshly fired Turkish breads. Traditional Mangal draws in diners alluring scents of Adana kebab, Garlic lamb kofte and Chicken thigh shish with fenugreek marinade. Taking inspiration from the souks and bazaars of Istanbul's old town, the menu also features street-style dishes like an Islak 'wet' burger

with spiced beef and lamb kofte drenched in a garlic tomato sauce and famed Lahmacun, a thin spiced lamb flatbread.

The kitchen is headed up by Head Chef, Halit Deniz, who gained a reputation as Head Chef for the Mayfair opening, Ruya. Halit's approach to cooking blends traditional Turkish flavours with modern techniques. Open daily from dawn to dusk. You can start your day with our breakfast menu, which includes favorites like Turkish Eggs, alongside traditional dishes such as homemade brioche toast, and scrambled eggs with smoked salmon – the best way to kick off a busy day in London. Long lunches, and 'The Afternoon Meze Club' consisting of the 'Meze Sharer' and indulgent desserts such as Kunefe; kadayif pastry stuffed with pistachios & kaymak, orange blossom syrup, takeover the day time. As the evening sets in, Leydi transforms into a cozy, candlelit haven. Pair your dinner with wines from our Turkish wine list, or Istanbul-inspired cocktails such as, the "Ayran to You".

As Grace Dent said, "Leydi London has the magic of a restaurant that feels special yet entirely unpretentious." Whether you're here for breakfast, lunch, or dinner, Leydi is all about great food and a great time."

**LEYDI,
15 OLD BAILEY, EC4M 7EF**

LONDON'S NEWEST LITERARY FESTIVAL: FLEET STREET FESTIVAL OF WORDS

We're excited to announce the Fleet Street Quarter Festival of Words (14-17 May), a major new cultural initiative for this western side of the City of London, with a programme of leading authors spanning multiple genres. Fleet Street Quarter is an area steeped in the heritage of literature and publishing, a place where stories have always been born.

The Fleet Street Quarter Festival of Words will spotlight this storied history whilst exploring the ability of words to shape our world. From the ways that words can shift the balance of power, through the control of words by censorship or through freedom of speech, to the shift in communication and knowledge driven by technology and AI, the themes that the Fleet Street Quarter Festival of Words will explore have never been more relevant or important.

The Festival programme will feature events spanning current affairs and journalism, fiction, screenwriting, poetry and spoken word, and family and children's events. The first events announced as part of the Fleet Street Quarter Festival of Words are:

- Booker Prize-winning author Ben Okri on new novel *Madame Sosostri* and the Festival for the Brokenhearted.
- Kate Mosse OBE on the history of the Women's Prize as it celebrates its 30th year, and the 20th anniversary of the first publication of her groundbreaking novel *Labyrinth*.
- Screenwriter Ed Docx and author Mick

Herron on the process of bringing TV hit *Slow Horses* from book to screen.

- Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, Iain Dale, and Sir Richard Evans discuss history's lessons from the careers of its most notorious Dictators.
- Jeremy Vine presents new crime fiction series, *Murder on Line One*, alongside fellow broadcaster and writer Simon Mayo who discusses gripping thriller *Black Tag*.
- Kate Loveman taps into the history of Fleet Street Quarter with a talk on Samuel Pepys' Diary.
- Nick Wallis (*The Great Post Office Scandal*) and Caroline Wheeler (*Death in the Blood*) appear in an event which spotlights the power of long-form investigative journalism.
- Chief Historian at Historic Royal Palaces, Professor Tracy Borman OBE on the real Wolf Hall and the life of Thomas Cromwell.
- Breakfast events with The Times and the Daily Telegraph to explore the biggest news headlines for the day.

I am thrilled to be headlining this new Fleet Street Quarter literary festival. Taking place in the legendary street of journalism, this promises to be an intriguing festival that brings together two great needs of our times, truth and storytelling. – Ben Okri

Along with established and emerging authors of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry, the



THE PLACE WHERE STORIES ARE BORN

programme will bring together broadcasters, journalists, screenwriters, spoken word artists, and voices from social media, reflecting the many ways that we engage with words and ideas in our day to day lives. The Fleet Street Quarter Festival of Words encompasses both a fresh look at the dynamic history of Fleet Street Quarter, whilst also providing a space for exciting new talent, and discussion of the urgent issues facing us today.

The Wednesday to Friday programme will include breakfast news events; lunchtime panels; and both early and late evening talks. Saturday will see a packed programme for adults and children with a wide variety of topics and event formats.

The full programme will be announced in March 2025, along with information on ticket sales.



FROM WASTE TO WORKSPACE: TRANSFORMING OFFICES WITH SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

Charlie Crocker,
Terracotta Property

In today's dynamic market, sustainability is no longer a buzzword—it's a necessity. As more businesses look to refurbish their office

spaces, the focus has shifted toward creating more environmentally responsible and future-proofed workplaces. At Terracotta Property, we recognize that sustainable refurbishment is not just about cutting-edge design—it's about creating spaces that have a minimal

environmental impact, with a focus on the life cycle of materials and energy efficiency.

The life cycle of materials plays a crucial role in any refurbishment. Choosing materials that have a longer lifespan, are reusable, and can be recycled at the end of their use helps to reduce the carbon footprint of a project. This approach is quickly becoming the direction of travel for many office occupiers who are looking to meet both their business and environmental goals.

Speaking to Joanne Christinakis, an expert in commercial interior design with whom we have collaborated on past projects, this sustainable approach to design can be utilised in many ways:

'Sustainable design doesn't always need to be a refurbishment where everything is ripped out to make way for something completely new. It can materialise itself through a considered approach of enhancing what is already in place. This can be clever lighting to enhance existing features, upcycling high cost items such as a reception desk; re-upholstering furniture and deep cleaning certain finishes.

'Introducing smaller accessories such as floor standing lamps and planting can immediately transform the character of a workplace. Where new partitions need to be installed to

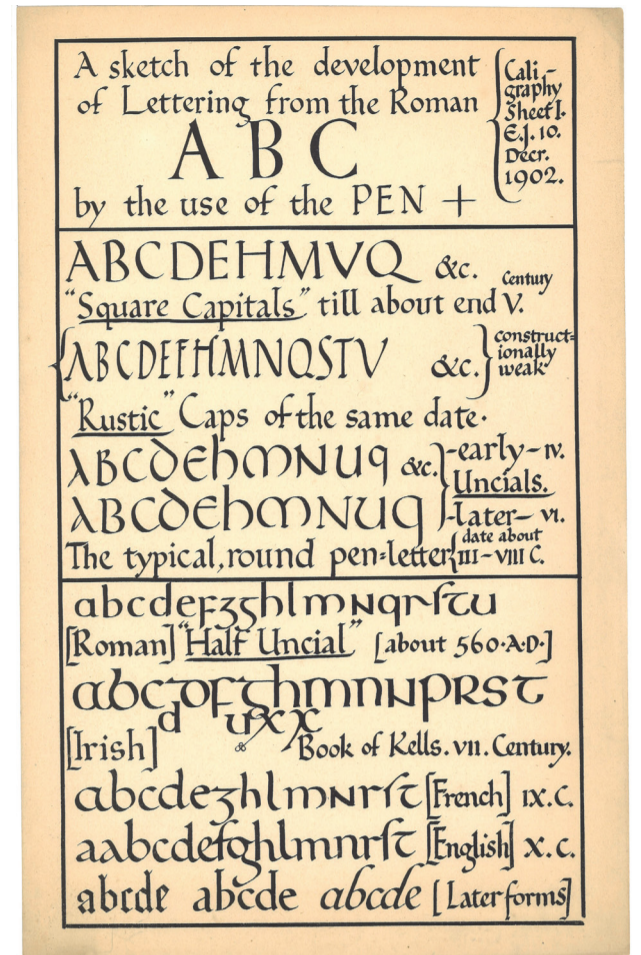
form meeting rooms and quiet areas, these should be de-mountable which means that they can be reconfigured easily without damage to the surrounding finishes. When new materials are introduced, the whole life cycle and longevity of the product should be considered. In my opinion, the design of our future workspaces should always begin with a careful inventory of what can be re-purposed and enhanced, providing a new lease of life, saving on cost and reducing waste sent to landfill. A good designer should be able to blend these changes seamlessly and create the new environment that is sought after.'

At Terracotta Property, we are committed to delivering refurbishment projects that embrace these principles, combining cutting-edge design with sustainable practices. We work with clients to ensure their office spaces not only meet the demands of modern workstyles but also contribute to a healthier, more sustainable future, ideally whilst reducing cost and looking at the whole life-cycle of a space.

As sustainability continues to be a key driver in real estate, we are proud to be at the forefront, helping occupiers make smarter and environmentally conscious choices in their office refurbishments.

TERRACOTTA PROPERTY
TERRACOTTAPROPERTY.COM

ST BRIDE FOUNDATION: INSIDE ST BRIDE LIBRARY



Sophie Hawkey-Edwards, St Bride Foundation

For over 130 years, our historic home at 14 Bride Lane has been more than bricks and mortar—it has been a vibrant hub of creativity, learning, and community engagement and stands as one of the last remaining connections to Fleet Street's rich printing heritage.

Our library houses one of the world's most remarkable and irreplaceable collections encapsulating the history of print, typography and design. Among the treasures regularly showcased on our tours and group visits is a remarkable collection, including proofs of Edward Johnston's iconic London Underground typeface and roundel designs. These proofs are part of a larger archive of Johnston's work, which also includes personal correspondence and examples of his calligraphy.

In the early 1900s, Johnston taught hand lettering at both the Central School of Arts and Crafts and the Royal College of Art. The calligraphy pieces in our collection are a series of lesson sheets created during this period, likely intended as instructional guides for his students to master essential calligraphic scripts.

When viewed alongside the proofs of his Underground typeface, you can trace the influence of his distinctive calligraphy style, particularly in certain alternate characters (such as W, Q, and K) present in early proofs.

You can see the original London Underground proofs during one of our engaging public tours, led by the skilled printers and journeymen from Fleet Street, who worked during the final days of hot metal printing. Just sign up on our website: sbf.org.uk



HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Celebrate the world of letterpress at our annual Wayzgoose on Sunday April 27. Explore a wide variety of stalls featuring original printed items, type and ornaments, second-hand books, and much more! Join us in our print workshop to create keepsakes on our historic presses and meet the printers

who are part of Fleet Street's printing legacy. And don't forget to end your visit with a slice of our famous homemade cakes!

You can find out more about upcoming events on our website or sign up to our mailing list: sbf.org.uk/whats-on/

ST BRIDE FOUNDATION
14 BRIDE LN, EC4Y 8EQ



A BATTLE OF WITS AND WORDS: THE TEMPLE SHAKESPEARE CUP SET TO THRILL

Louise McCullough, Barrister, Deka Chambers

On 14 May 2025 at 7 pm, the magnificent Middle Temple Hall, where the first recorded performance of Twelfth Night took place in 1602, will once again come alive with the words of Shakespeare. In partnership with the Fleet Street Literary Festival, Middle Temple is proud to host the annual Temple Shakespeare Cup competition.

Located just south of Fleet Street, the Inner and Middle Temple—"two houses both alike in dignity"—share a deep theatrical and literary heritage. In the spirit of this tradition, barristers and law students from both Inns will take the

stage in a friendly yet fiercely competitive contest for the coveted cup. The only one rule: all performances must use the language of Shakespeare.

A distinguished panel of actors and academics will judge the competition, determining which Inn will hold the prized trophy for the coming year. Open to all, this unique event promises an evening of dramatic intensity, eloquence, and spirited rivalry.

The event is open to all. Let battle commence

INNER & MIDDLE TEMPLE
CROWN OFFICE ROW, EC4Y 7HL



CAULI: PIONEERING TAKEAWAY WITHOUT THE THROWAWAY

Joseph Smith, Business Development Representative, Cauli

If you work or reside in the Fleet Street Quarter, it's likely that you see food and drink packaging waste on a daily basis. London's vibrant, multicultural culinary scene is globally renowned and is one of the features of the city that makes it so special. However, the resultant array of packaging waste filling bins and lining streets across the capital reflect a wider global waste production and management issue.

One third of all waste produced globally is packaging waste and 86% of food and drink packaging waste ends up in landfills

or leaking into our ecosystems. This includes recyclable or compostable packaging that has positive environmental connotations but is rarely disposed of correctly due to a lack of commercial composting infrastructure and the cross-contamination of recycling streams.

Reusable packaging is becoming more common, however when the packaging is not tracked, it's usually not returned back into circulation. This is detrimental financially as the packaging has to be continuously repurchased but is also not environmentally conscious as reusable packaging has to be reused a minimum number of times to be truly sustainable.

Shocked by these damning statistics, Cauli co-founders Jo and Ming began spending their evenings and weekends designing a solution to London's food waste problem. The pair launched their initial trial in a central London street food market with just 20 lunch boxes and a dream of London's first ever closed-loop reusable food packaging system. An initial 10 person trial grew into a 250 user membership scheme across 10 vendors throughout Westminster with a view from the council to expand to all food markets across the borough.

Over the last 6 years, the Cauli Reuse System has evolved into an award-winning reusable

packaging solution with over 10,000 active users that has been successfully implemented into the catering facilities of the largest financial services institutions, hospitals and universities in the UK. The startup has pioneered QR scanning for tracking reusables in Europe and gives clients access to comprehensive emissions and waste saved statistics that help them navigate an increasingly complex regulatory environment.

Switching to reusables is made simple as Cauli provides catering outlets with all the necessary packaging, hardware and software required to run their own reuse system and track their positive environmental impact across a range of metrics. A return rate of over 98% illustrates the simplicity of the solution.

Since Cauli was founded, they have saved roughly one million pieces of single-use packaging from landfill. This is the equivalent of 1234 tonnes of CO2, the amount emitted by 1234 London to New York return flights. Every CauliBox or CauliCup can be reused up to 400 times and Cauli takes care of all end-of-life recycling once these containers are no longer fit for purpose.

Offices and venues have also reported saving up to 40% on packaging costs when compared to single-use compostables and there is no cost imposed on customers as long as the container is returned. The commercial viability of Cauli's reuse solution combined with its simplicity are what the company envisions will be the catalyst for a behavioural shift away from single-use packaging amongst customers.

While their solution continues to evolve, it is clear that the current Cauli product is paving the way for a new era of reusable food and drink packaging across the foodservice industry

CAULIBOX
WEARECAULI.COM

AYAM PERCIK RECIPE

Ciara Wilczur-Wieja
Operations Manager
Fleet Street Quarter BID

Ayam Percik is a popular Malaysian grilled or baked chicken dish known for its bold and aromatic flavours. The chicken is marinated in a rich blend of spices, herbs and a coconut based paste then grilled or baked to perfection. This dish is a staple in Kelantan cuisine and is also great on a BBQ! The balance of spicy, tangy and savoury notes makes Ayam Percik a delicious dish.

Ingredients

- Chicken (drumsticks and thighs preferable)
- Garlic (5 cloves)
- Ginger (1 small piece)
- Shallots (1 chopped)
- Red chillis (3 or 4 adjust to preferred spice level)
- Tomatoes (2 chopped)
- Tamarind paste (2 tablespoons)
- 2 stalks of lemongrass (bruised and finely chopped)
- Fish sauce (2 tablespoons)
- Dried chillies paste (2 tablespoons)
- Turmeric powder (1 teaspoon)
- Optional: Fresh coriander (a small bunch too garnish)



Instructions

Prepare the chicken:

Cut the chicken into manageable pieces, using drumsticks and thighs for maximum flavour. In my case I cut a whole chicken up as I find it much more economical!

Clean then wash and pat dry the chicken pieces with a paper towel.

Make the marinade:

Peel the garlic, ginger, and shallots.

Slice the red chillis and remove seeds if you prefer less heat.

Add all the ingredients into a blender.

Blend until you get a smooth paste. If the paste is too thick, add a splash of water to loosen it.

Marinate the chicken:

Place the chicken pieces into a large bowl or ziplock bag.

Pour the blended paste over the chicken and make sure each piece is well-coated.

Cover the bowl or seal the bag, then let the chicken marinate overnight in the refrigerator. This allows the flavours to penetrate deeply.



Cooking the chicken:

Preheat your oven to 180°C. Line a baking tray with foil or parchment paper for easy cleanup.

Arrange the marinated chicken pieces on the tray and smother them with any remaining marinade.

Bake for about 40-50 minutes, basting occasionally with the marinade to keep the chicken moist.



Finishing touches:

Once the chicken is cooked through and has a nice charred appearance remove from the oven. For extra smokiness you can grill for a few minutes.

Serve:

Garnish with some fresh coriander leaves. Serve with steamed rice or a side of cucumber and herbs.

Voila! Your Ayam Percik is ready to be enjoyed.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Further information and booking can be found on our website events page fleetstreetquarter.co.uk/events



24TH MAR TO 27TH APRIL THE BIG EGG HUNT ACROSS LONDON

The Big Egg Hunt comes to the Quarter, some leading lights in the art world have put their creative genius to work with some elliptic creations. This is the world's biggest egg hunt that invites you to find giant individually decorated eggs located across London.



THURSDAY 27 MARCH DR JOHNSON'S HOUSE LECTURE SERIES: THE CITY OF LONDON POLICE IN WWII

DR JOHNSON'S HOUSE

Police historian Rebecca Walker joins us for this installment of our lecture series at Dr Johnson's house.

12:30pm - 1:30pm.
Booking Required.

THURSDAY 6 MARCH CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT KERB+ FLEET PLACE FLEET PLACE, EC4

In celebration of International Women's Day 2025, we're excited to announce that in collaboration with street food pioneers KERB, we will be celebrating the incredible contributions of female entrepreneurs in the street food industry at KERB+ Fleet Place on the Thursday before IWD.

14-17 MAY FLEET STREET QUARTER FESTIVAL OF WORDS

Fleet Street Quarter is launching London's newest literary festival this May, the first of its kind for an area steeped in the history of publishing. Check out our website for the full programme.



A WORD FROM THE AMBASSADOR TEAM

Al Fadiga, Ambassador Site Manager,
Fleet Street Quarter BID

For the first edition of the Fleet Street Quarterly this year, we wanted to take a look back at 2024 and look at the highlights of a tremendous year.

We, the FSQ Ambassador team, have progressively settled in this unique and historical part of London. From the border with Westminster in the west to St Paul's in the east, going through alleyways connecting north and south, we have come to make ourselves known across FSQ, and have helped to further introduce the Fleet Street Quarter to local workers, visitors and residents – the BID is establishing itself as a great place maker for the area within the local community.

It is a real pleasure delivering the Ambassador service for the Fleet Street Quarter, we are looking forward to what's to come and seeing the growth of the area next year and beyond!

Saud Ahmad, Ambassador,
Fleet Street Quarter BID

Looking back at 2024, I see a year of immense strides for the Fleet Street Quarter. Business engagement has seen significant growth and local community initiatives have increased exposure and knowledge of the BID to the highest levels we've seen so far.

As BID ambassadors we have successfully played a part as a key supporting pillar in driving this success. Conducting regular business visits has allowed us to strengthen engagement and establish strong ties with our neighbourhood.

The continued patrolling of the footprint has cemented a ground level rapport with our SME community, and the BID related networking events where ideas are exchanged with highly influential people has helped steer my own development. I feel very valued to be a part of an organisation that is bringing forth key changes, new ideas, and delivering a breathtaking public realm strategy for this part of the City of London.

In terms of delivery figures for the year 2024, below are the insights. Please note we are monitoring any reports that have not yet been completed:

12,147

Visitors welcomed

609

Businesses visited

477

Graffiti and flyposting:
477 removed out of 600 reported

137

Roadworks monitored:
137 completed out of 177 logged

135

Roads and pavement repairs:
135 repaired out of 150 reported

29

Abandoned bikes reported:
29 removed out of 30 reported

289

Hire bikes and scooters logged: 289

141

Signs and bollard repairs:
141 fixed out of 170 reported

The Fleet Street Quarter Ambassador team work across the Fleet Street Quarter area Monday to Friday, 9am - 6pm.



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FROM THE BID AND UPCOMING EVENTS**



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fleetstreetquarter.co.uk



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