



CHAPTER BY CHAPTER: A COMMUNITY WRITING ITS FUTURE

Lady Lucy French OBE
CEO, Fleet Street Quarter BID

What a year 2025 has been so far!

Echoes of the area's rich literary history resounded through the streets in May as we hosted the inaugural Fleet Street Quarter Festival of Words.

It was wonderful to bring a literary festival to the place where stories have always been born. From Wynkyn de Worde, printer and publisher here in the late 1500s, to Samuel Pepys, Shakespeare, Dr Johnson,

Oscar Wilde, Virginia Woolf, and beyond – the press, remarkable journalism, literature, words, and ideas have all emanated from this place.

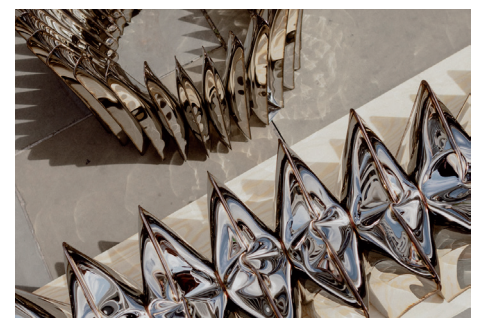
Our former local resident, the great Dr Johnson, always had wise words. He once said: "A writer only begins a book. A reader finishes it."

Over four days and 40 events, nearly 2,000 people visited the festival – from the local business and residential community to visitors from further afield, our longest travellers came all the way from New Orleans!

A SEASON OF FESTIVALS

It's been quite the season. Glastonbury, eat your heart out! We may not have the music, but we did have literature, architecture, and climate!

Hot on the heels of the Festival of Words, we were proud to launch our London Festival of Architecture installation – our third year participating in the festival. This year, we co-commissioned a brand-new installation titled Whispers, in partnership with the Polish Cultural Institute (based in the Fleet Street Quarter on Bouverie Street) and the government of the Republic of Poland.



Renowned Polish artist-engineer Oskar Zieta designed the work, aligned with the festival's wider theme of "Voices." We were also thrilled

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to collaborate with the Science Museum London on the project, and to have Scott McDonald, Chief Executive of the British Council, and Deputy Ambassador to the UK, Jerzy Boczkowski, from the Polish Embassy unveil the piece.

If you haven't yet had the chance, we encourage you to visit this remarkable installation opposite City Thameslink Station on Ludgate Hill. The sculpture is made of steel fused together and inflated with air – yes, air! During its launch, members of the public joined in the public inflation using bicycle pumps. It was certainly a sight to behold!

We hope the installation will remain in place for some time before moving to its very special long-term home – it's top-secret at the moment, but we will keep you very closely informed as and when we can.

If two festivals weren't enough already, we then launched our second annual Climate Festival this June.

It was exciting to build on last year's success and momentum from our ESG Summit held in February. The festival was designed not simply to talk, but to act. To bring leaders from business, law, public policy, and culture together during London Climate Action Week 2025, and to create momentum that lives beyond the festival driving the next chapter of transformation. This area has long been a home to law, commerce, publishing, and ideas, but what makes it truly powerful is its

people. The diversity of our neighbourhood – its businesses, institutions, cultures, and communities are its greatest asset.

We heard from many inspiring voices, including Mary Creagh MP, Minister for Nature, with responsibility for the circular economy at DEFRA. There is still much to do, but our FSQ Climate Roadmap is well underway.



SUMMER FUN AND WHAT'S AHEAD

As spring turned into summer, we welcomed back summer sports, with Wallball making its return to New Street Square, our ever popular pop-up art workshops with Bella Gomez and architecture and design walks with our fabulous tour guides The London Spy a.k.a. and Sarah Williams Robbins, along with a host of other exciting arts and culture programming throughout the summer.

Planning is already underway for autumn and winter activities. Many have asked if we'll have another winter trail this year. The answer is a resounding YES! Last year's Penguin Trail welcomed over 11,000 visitors to the Quarter, and we can't wait to build on that momentum. Now you may wonder what the theme of this year's trail might be... I would love to be able to share the news but I think that would spoil the surprise! All I can say is this year's trail is going to be the best one yet! Something really very, very special that has not been seen before anywhere, ever! The trail will of course coincide with even more festive lights, activities, and opportunities for seasonal fun!

But let's not get ahead of ourselves – there's still much to enjoy before the festive season begins.

HIGHLIGHTS TO COME

Our highly successful Discover Fleet Street Quarter programme also returns this autumn – perfect if you've just started working locally and want to get to know new people, network and explore the area. Expect workshops, walking tours, and of course, the prerequisite pub crawl.

In September, our brilliant Fleet Street Quarter Christmas choir makes its return. If you're looking to boost your joy, increase your lung capacity, and spread some festive cheer, join us on Thursday lunchtimes!

There are several exciting performance



opportunities during the festive season, including our BIG Festive FSQ Light Switch-On!

And Still, There's More...

There's even more happening behind the scenes. Several local development sites are nearing completion, new businesses are moving in, and footfall continues to rise month on month. It's a joy to see this area thriving.

I feel immensely lucky to work here, to witness its evolution, and to help write its next chapter.

To return to Dr Johnson's words:

It is all of us – this FSQ community – who are the readers, writing the next chapter.

And what a page-turner it is. One that promises a happy, prosperous, and future-proofed finale... before the next story begins.



PLANS EMERGING FOR KEY FLEET STREET WALKING ROUTES

Mike Fairmaner
Head of Placemaking
Fleet Street Quarter BID

In setting up Fleet Street Quarter BID, a key message from businesses was to make the Fleet Street district a more walkable and accessible location. Having published our Public Realm Strategy in 2023, we are supporting the City of London Corporation as they lead on the development of proposals to improve the public realm in the area.

The City of London Corporation will be inviting local Fleet Street-based businesses

to a series of sessions in September where you can learn more about the proposals. The purpose of these sessions is to get your views on the improvements as they are being developed.

We have committed £500,000 alongside £9M from the City of London Corporation to transform Fleet Street from Ludgate Circus to Chancery Lane, identifying opportunities for wider pavements, seating and planting. We will be calling into businesses along Fleet Street with details of the upcoming consultations. As the construction sites along Fleet Street finally finish and the new

buildings revealed as their hoardings are taken down and occupiers move in, it is vital that the pavement and Fleet Street as a whole is improved and matches the quality of the new buildings. Fleet Street is an important local shopping centre and we want people to feel that it is an attractive place to visit and stay, rather than move through as quickly as possible. It is also part of the ceremonial processional route that connects St Paul's Cathedral to Westminster and Buckingham Palace, and the location for Temple Bar where the Monarch was formally met by the Lord Mayor who promised his safe passage in the City.

As well as Fleet Street, we are supporting the City of London Corporation on plans to improve the courts and alleys that connect Fleet Street to Gough Square and the shops and services in New Street Square. We have committed £250,000 to improve these routes and want to encourage more people to use them with better seating and greening and to improve their feeling of safety, especially in winter. The City of London Corporation will be inviting everyone who lives or works in these spaces to an evening reception to see how the plans are developing and get your views on the priorities for these historic spaces.

A QUARTER IN CONVERSATION: WHISPERS AND THE VOICE OF PUBLIC ART

Daniel Dalmau
Business & Communications Manager
Fleet Street Quarter BID

This summer, Fleet Street Quarter becomes the stage for Whispers, a sculptural installation by celebrated Polish designer Oskar Zięta. Unveiled on 29th May 2025 at a public inflation ceremony outside One New Ludgate (60 Ludgate Hill), the work launched the Fleet Street Quarter's participation in the London Festival of Architecture (LFA) 2025 and part of the UK/Poland Season 2025, a celebration of connection through the arts between the two countries.

Crafted using Zięta's proprietary FiDU (Freie Innendruck Umformung) technology, Whispers transforms laser cut flat steel profiles into lightweight, organic forms via internal air pressure. The public was invited to inflate and shape their own sculpture alongside the artist in real time, a collective creative act symbolising barrier breaking and shared voice, echoing the theme of the London Festival of Architecture 2025.

Among the standout moments of the Whispers launch was a conversation between artist Oskar Zięta and Ben Russell, Curator of Mechanical Engineering at the Science Museum. Hosted in partnership with Dentons, titled "A Quiet Place in a Noisy City", explored how Zięta and his team push beyond conventional boundaries, drawing inspiration from bionics, sustainability, and even the role of magic and personality in design. Together, they reflected on how these elements shaped an installation that responds to the energy and character of the city around it.

In situ in the Quarter from 29th May to 28th September 2025, the installation is designed to spark reflection and conversation in the heart of the City, aligning with LFA's theme of "Voices". As Oskar notes, "Designing public and private spaces...would be meaningless without the voices that shape them...Let architecture empower people to speak—whether in a firm voice or a whisper."

The installation is co-produced with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, the Polish Cultural Institute in London, Let's Art Foundation, and On & On Designs, as part of the UK/Poland Season 2025, organised in collaboration with the British Council.

The launch of Whispers sits at the centre of a broader summer arts and culture programme which formed part of LFA 2025. Over June, the area hosted architectural walking tours, workshops, talks and exhibitions, each amplifying the theme of "Voices":

- Workshops such as PLANTATION by Alicja Patanowska explored sustainability through the creation of porcelain hydroponic plant installations. Alicja's exhibition created using these pieces is viewable daily throughout 2025 at the Urban Farmer Project, located just off Shoe Lane
- Pop up stencil workshops with Bella Gomez (11 & 25 June) invited locals to create bold postcards inspired by the City's architecture and London Underground Patterns
- Talks and panel discussions—including The Circular Kitchen (12th June), Voices of Recovery (17th June), and a book



talk by art entrepreneur Marine Tanguy (19th June) offered accessible insight into the intersections of design, community, food and urban futures.

Together, these elements formed a dynamic, month long dialogue about the role of architecture and art in shaping public space, positioning Fleet Street Quarter as both the host of a groundbreaking sculptural installation, and an emerging locus for cultural exchange, creativity and civic engagement within the City of London.





GAME ON: WALLBALL RETURNS TO NEW STREET SQUARE THIS SUMMER

Daniel Dalmau
Business & Communications
Manager, Fleet Street Quarter BID

This summer, Fleet Street Quarter is once again transformed into a hive of sporting activity as Wallball returns to New Street Square for a second exhilarating year. Hosted by Landsec and Fleet Street Quarter, in partnership with 1WALL, the activation brings fast-paced sport, striking street art and community energy to the heart of the district.

Set against a bold mural by acclaimed artist Donough O'Malley, the City of London's first ever community Wallball court offers a unique sporting spectacle. A lively fusion of squash and handball, Wallball is played by hitting a ball against a wall using just your hands. It's simple to pick up, free to play, and addictive to master.

Already a global phenomenon with a growing World Tour and Olympic ambitions, Wallball is making its mark—and everyone is invited to get involved.

From Tuesday 29 July to early September, the court will host free lunchtime coaching

sessions, casual play, and weekly Wallball challenges. Players can expect a rotating programme of activities, from the high-speed Time Challenge and Speed Week, to trick shot contests and the popular Corporate Clash Mini League. Whether you're a beginner or a regular player, there's something for all.

Coaching takes place every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 12pm to 2pm, led by expert coaches and Team GB players. Balls are available to borrow from the reception at 6 New Street Square from Thursday 31 July.

Weekly prizes include £20 vouchers, while those who return regularly can earn a loyalty reward. The standout competitor will take home the title of MVP – Office or Player of the Summer, along with a £100 grand prize.

So, whether you're on your lunch break or heading into town for the day, grab your colleagues, friends or family and head over to New Street Square and dive into the fast-paced fun of Wallball this summer.

NEW STREET SQUARE, EC4A 3BN

PRINCE HENRY'S ROOM

The London Spy a.k.a. David Harry,
City of London Guide

As you walk along Fleet Street near Temple Bar Monument there is a beautiful half timbered house with the flag of Catalonia flying above it – what is this strange building?

It actually dates back to the early 17th century, and is one of the few houses in the street to survive the Great Fire of London.

In 1610-11 a large Inn with a gatehouse leading to the Temple area was constructed here, this is the building that still stands. It was known as the Prince's Arms, the Fountain and the Hand over the years. In the 18th century it was known as Nando's Coffee House.

In 1795 it became the home of the celebrated Mrs Salmon's waxworks, predating MadameTussaud's by several decades. It was full of the most bizarre scenes, including Margaret of Holland who gave birth to 365 children (all called John or Elizabeth), after mocking a beggar woman with twins who cursed her.

There were also clockwork animated models including Mother Shipton the fortune teller, who would kick visitors on the way out.

In the 19th century the original Stuart structure was covered over with a fake frontage which was removed after London County Council purchased it in 1900, revealing the beautiful original half timbers and which can still be seen today.

One of the treasures inside is the remarkable plaster ceiling on the first floor, including a Fleur De Lis and the letters PH, which probably refer to Prince Henry the older son of James the first, he died tragically young and whose ill fated brother Charles 1 became king instead. It is now rented by the offices of the Delegation of the Catalanian Regional Government to the UK, and in 2017 hundreds of London based people queued to vote here for the referendum on independence that the Spanish Government declared illegal.

Unfortunately the building has not been open to the public for several years, apart from Open House 2023 – let's hope it opens again soon, it is a miraculous survivor.



No.17 Fleet Street before restoration



No.17 Fleet Street after restoration



FLEET STREET QUARTER FESTIVAL OF WORDS 2025: FOUR DAYS OF STORYTELLING, DEBATE AND DISCOVERY

Lesli Flinn
Head of Marketing & Communications
Fleet Street Quarter BID

Fleet Street Quarter has always stood at the heart of London's literary and journalistic tradition, a place where stories are born, voices raised, and ideas debated. This May, the Quarter welcomed its first-ever Festival of Words, and over four days it brought that heritage vividly to life.

More than 1,700 people joined us this May for a packed programme of events spanning current affairs, journalism, fiction, screenwriting, poetry and spoken word, as well as family and children's sessions. That's enough attendees to fill over 330 black cabs, lining up longer than Regent Street!

Held in iconic local venues such as Stationers' Hall, Dr Johnson's House, Middle Temple Hall, and more, the festival featured breakfast briefings from The Guardian, The Times and The Daily Telegraph, alongside lunchtime panels and evening talks that explored words in all their forms, print, podcast, screen, performance.

Emerging voices and literary stars alike brightened the line-up: Booker Prize-winner Ben Okri discussed his novella *Madame Sosostris* and the Festival for the Broken-Hearted, Jojo Moyes and Mike Gayle shared insights on their writing journeys, Jeremy Vine spoke about storytelling through the lens of broadcast and fiction, and actor Larry Lamb brought reflections on his writing journey, alongside Camilla Barnes. Creative innovators like Mick Herron and Ed Docx reflected on adapting *Slow Horses* for the screen, and Caroline Wheeler and Nick Wallis offered a powerful reminder of journalism's role in exposing systemic injustice—Wheeler for her work on the infected blood scandal,

and Wallis for his tireless reporting on the Post Office Horizon case, which helped bring one of the UK's biggest miscarriages of justice to light.

Reflecting Fleet Street's legacy, the festival showcased how words can shift power, shape public debate, and respond to technology and AI—themes that are especially relevant in today's media landscape. For families, Saturday offered spirited sessions from Olaf Falafel and Guinness World Records, including a successful Guinness World Record attempt by Brad Malone, who created the Longest Chain of Conkers, 21,755 of them, and displayed them to break the record right here in the Quarter at St Bride Foundation. The chain measured an astonishing 447.78 metres, a joyful moment that brought people of all ages together.

This inaugural Festival of Words united local residents, workers and visitors in celebration of storytelling and journalism. It demonstrated how Fleet Street Quarter remains not just a historic centre of publishing, but a living, breathing cultural venue—where words still matter, ideas still proliferate, and community still gathers. The Festival of Words embodied the Quarter's tradition and its future potential to inspire, challenge and transform through the power of storytelling.

We look forward to seeing that energy return to the streets and rooms of the Quarter next May—and continuing to put Fleet Street back at the centre of London's literary life.

A big thank you to our principle sponsors MYO Landsec, as well as all of our partners; Stationers' Hall, St Bride Foundation, St Bride's Church, HYDE London City, Hyatt Regency London Blackfriars, Leonardo Royal Hotel St Paul's, and of course the News Media Association.



DESK TO DIGGIN

Ciara Wilczur-Wieja
Operations Manager
Fleet Street Quarter BID

If the pandemic taught us anything, it's that access to green spaces and the opportunity to nurture something beyond ourselves, whether it's a child, a pet or even a stubborn house plant, grants us a sense of purpose, calm and place.

After six years on the waiting list for a London allotment I had nearly given up hope. In the meantime I'd channelled my energy into houseplants, only to be met with inexplicable deaths despite a rigid care routine. So when I was offered a plot in November 2024, I was equally excited and a little apprehensive. My journey as a London based fruit and veg grower had finally begun.

Since then, evenings have been spent joyfully rage weeding, setting slug traps with beer, planting and harvesting. It's peaceful - and unexpectedly social. My 71 year old neighbour Charles (an allotmenteer of 27 years) shares his tips and mirabelle plums, which I turned into jam to pair with sourdough - fully leaning into my 'tradwife' era.

The sheer variety of produce has been a delightful surprise: onions, garlic, tomatoes, potatoes, spring onions, strawberries, courgettes, grapes, rhubarb and most colourfully—rainbow chard. There's something undeniably satisfying about those technicolour stalks peeking through the soil, brightening up a stirfry or omelette with zero food miles.

With each harvest comes a deeper appreciation of where our food comes from. When you've mulched, watered, waited and impatiently watched something grow from seed, waste becomes a sin. Meals have become simpler, seasonal and more satisfying. Which brings me to a popular summer recipe I love, a viral Chicken Schnitzel Caesar Salad made extra special with homegrown herbs and salad leaves.

VIRAL CHICKEN SCHNITZEL CAESAR SALAD

Ingredients for two portions

For the Dressing

- 200g good-quality yogurt
- 25g grated Parmesan
- 2 cloves garlic
- Juice and zest of 1 lemon
- 2 tsp Dijon mustard
- 1 jalapeno (optional)
- 5 anchovy fillets
- Big handful of fresh herbs (parsley, chives, basil)

For the Schnitzel

- 2 chicken breasts, pounded flat
- 100g cup flour mixed with garlic powder, onion powder, paprika and cayenne pepper
- 1 egg beaten
- 100g breadcrumbs or panko
- Olive oil

For the Salad

- Chopped lettuce or homegrown rainbow chard leaves
- Grated Parmesan
- Anchovies (optional)
- Optional: sliced avocado, cherry tomatoes or any other salad ingredients you enjoy

Method

Blend the dressing until smooth, adjust seasoning and consistency to taste.

Prep the chicken by seasoning, dredge in flour, egg, and then breadcrumbs. Shallow fry 3–4 minutes per side until golden.

Toss the salad in dressing, plate over schnitzel, and top with Parmesan, anchovies, and a lemon squeeze.



INSPIRED TO GET DIGGING?

FSQ's Gardening Club runs weekly over the summer, offering lunchtime sessions to help green the local area. All experience levels welcome. Details on the right.



TACKLING HOMELESSNESS TOGETHER WITH THAMES REACH

Benjy Saint,
Fundraising Manager, Thames Reach

We recently joined Fleet Street Quarter's Business Breakfast Club to speak with local businesses about tackling homelessness – and how they can help.

With rising living costs and a chronic lack of social housing, rough sleeping in London is worsening. Over 13,000 people were recorded sleeping rough last year, and the numbers are climbing in the City. More than 80% of people sleeping rough experience mental health issues, and one in three have faced violence on the streets.

Behind every number is a person. Ivo worked at the Savoy Hotel for 20 years before a mental health crisis left him homeless. Ricky,

an English teacher, lost his home after the sudden death of his brother.

At Thames Reach, we work to end rough sleeping in the capital – and with the right support, it's possible. We intervene early, helping people keep their tenancies. Our outreach teams are on the streets daily, supporting people in crisis. And we offer recovery services that help people rebuild their lives; a quarter of our staff have lived experience of homelessness.

Our presence is city-wide, from Hackney to Hounslow – including right here in the Square Mile, where we run an outreach team and assessment centre.

Ivo is now in supported housing, volunteering as a peer mentor. Ricky has his own flat through our Housing First programme, is a year sober, and looking for work. But demand is rising – and we need your help. From corporate partnerships and fundraising to small everyday gestures, your support matters.

To find out more or get involved as an individual or as a business, contact me at benjy.saint@thamesreach.org.uk. Thanks again to everyone who joined us.





MULCH AND MUNCH: JOIN THE FLEET STREET QUARTER'S LUNCHTIME GARDENING CLUB!

Mike Fairmaner
Head of Placemaking
Fleet Street Quarter BID

We are delighted to announce the creation of the Fleet Street Gardening Club.

Our 'Mulch and Munch' club, a group made up of local volunteers who live or work in the area, epitomises FSQ's approach: having fun, socialising and making a difference all at the same time.

We learnt during the pandemic the importance of nature and connecting with the natural environment. Here in Fleet Street, nature can be hard to find, so what better way to help increase the amount of planting than by greening your own fingers and lending a hand in weeding and planting some of the beds in the area?

We have already made a start in Crane Court (just off Fleet Street) and have our sights set on bigger possibilities.

Our ambitions are limited only by the number of gardening volunteers.

Horticultural supervision is provided. No previous gardening experience is necessary, and we supply the tools and aprons so that you can return to work in time for the next meeting without the need to change. And lunch is on us, as a way of saying thank you, while we get ourselves up and running!

You can sign up to the Fleet Street Quarter Gardening Club and find out about the next sessions by scanning the QR code.



FLEET STREET QUARTER CLIMATE FESTIVAL 2025: DRIVING LOCAL ACTION, INSPIRING GLOBAL THINKING

Mike Fairmaner,
Head of Placemaking
Fleet Street Quarter BID

Fleet Street Quarter has long stood at the intersection of commerce, law, and publishing. This summer, we continued to build on this legacy by bringing climate conversations directly into the heart of the community through our second annual Climate Festival.

Designed to support local businesses and workers in understanding how climate change impacts the places we live and work, the festival created space for honest discussion, practical insight, and collective ambition. It was a chance not just to talk about the global climate crisis, but to connect it meaningfully and provide a learning opportunity on the everyday realities and future of doing business in central London.

Held as part of London Climate Action Week 2025, the festival brought an extraordinary range of speakers, partners and participants into the Quarter—uniting business leaders, legal experts, campaigners, policymakers, architects, and creatives. From thought-provoking legal briefings to dynamic panels on green business growth, circular economy, and climate justice, the festival brought together local business leaders, public sector partners, and sustainability experts to unite, inspire, and drive innovative and demonstrable change.

At the Frances Taylor Building Chambers, a morning briefing explored how climate change is increasingly intersecting with human rights law. One speaker, Charles Streeten, observed, “The door is left open... to future claims under the Human Rights Act, but it’s a crack, not a wide-open one.” Meanwhile, at The Rights of Nature Symposium, environmental law expert



Monica Feria-Tinta challenged attendees to rethink the legal standing of rivers, forests, and ecosystems, reminding us that “Our system of law is not yet aligned with nature.”

The built environment was another major theme. At The London Mine, developers, architects and sustainability consultants explored the potential of circular construction, asking how cities like London can rethink

value through the reuse of materials. Architect Lorraine Chan summed it up: “If we can build a building, we should be able to deconstruct it too.”

Economic perspectives were just as urgent. In the Going for Growth panel, Mary Creagh MP, the government’s Minister for Nature, told the audience: “If everyone lived as we [the UK] do, we’d need two and a half times the Earth’s raw materials. I’m going to banish the word ‘rubbish’ because what is rubbish and waste? It’s only resources in the wrong place.”

Georgia Elliot-Smith from Fighting Dirty highlighted that the reuse of materials globally fell by 21% while consumption surged—evidence that current systems are still heading in the wrong direction. Heather Buchanan of Bankers for Net Zero offered a shift in narrative:

“Sustainability isn’t about sacrifice—it’s about better homes, better jobs, better lives.”

One message echoed through every event: collaboration is essential. Whether it was legal minds addressing systemic gaps, SMEs finding new routes to green growth, or public sector partners supporting innovation, the takeaway was the same—climate solutions must be built together, across sectors and across scales.

The themes discussed at the festival matter now more than ever, and the momentum doesn’t stop here. Keep an eye on the Fleet Street Quarter website for upcoming climate events and initiatives, including the soon-to-be-published Climate Festival White Paper, which will capture the ideas and solutions generated during the events.



SUCCESSFUL SUMMER OF MOBILE THEFT PREVENTION IN FLEET STREET QUARTER

Beth Nash
Safe and Secure Manager
Fleet Street Quarter BID

Fleet Street Quarter wrapped up a highly successful summer of proactive mobile-theft prevention, built around its partnership with City of London Police and neighbouring City of London Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). Under the umbrella initiative known as 'Operation Swipe', pop-up phone-marking sessions were held across the City throughout May, June and early July 2025.

Fleet Street Quarter launched the campaign with a series of events including a major inaugural session in New Street Square in March, where more than 420 phones were security-marked in just one busy morning period. Over subsequent sessions – supported by our sisters BIDs Aldgate Connect, Culture Mile BID, Cheapside Business Alliance, Eastern City BID, and Fleet Street Quarter itself – teams have now marked thousands of phones across the City and have been able to deliver a consistently high volume of crime prevention awareness sessions while doing so.



It was important to us that the phone marking process was convenient and swift, marking typically takes around 3-5 minutes per device, and many visitors took advantage during lunchtime drop-ins at locations that are hotspots for phone snatches. City of London Police emphasised the dual benefit of the scheme – discouraging criminals with visible deterrents and strengthening evidence if thefts do occur.

These events proved not only popular, but effective. The City of London Police now

report that mobile phone thefts in the Square Mile have dropped by approximately 30% so far this year, with the hope that return rates for recovered phones can improve thanks to consistent markings that make identification of owners easier.

Beyond raw numbers, the events have brought much needed, clear community reassurance; visible patrols, ambassadors on hand for advice, and facilities like drop-in sessions with the local police strengthened trust among visitors and workers in the area.

As we head towards the end of summer and into the autumn, Fleet Street Quarter is evaluating how to sustain momentum, with thousands of marked devices already registered and theft figures trending downward, the programme stands as a model of BID-police collaboration, and a success story in urban crime prevention.

If you would like to host a phone marking pop in within your business or building, get it touch beth.nash@fleetstreetquarter.co.uk

NOTICE



A NOTE ON SAFER CYCLING

We are sorry to report two severe cycle collisions on Farringdon Road over the weekend of 12/13 July. The Police are calling for witnesses in case you were in the area and saw what happened. These collisions appear to have been caused by cyclists ignoring red traffic lights.

The Fleet Street Quarter BID very much supports and encourages safe cycling. We will be running a cycling event in the autumn with the City of London Police to promote safer cycling, through

advise and visibility, getting your bike marked against theft, as well as inviting Dr Bike to offer a free repairs service to resolve any minor mechanical problems you may have with your bike. In the meantime, please do observe the Highway Code, stop at red lights and ride safely, the Transport for London website can also be consulted for tips on safer cycling and following the Highway Code.

If you ride the Lime or Forest hire bikes, then they must be parked in suitable locations marked out in the app. Look out for the painted, designated bike parking bays that



are for both hire bikes and e-scooters. If you fail to park appropriately you could face additional costs, be fined or banned.

For ideas on where in London to cycle, do visit tfl.gov.uk/modes/cycling/cycle-sundays

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CELEBRATION OF MAKERS

28 - 31 August 2025

FREE ADMISSION, no booking required

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Staircase at Two Temple Place. Photography by Weldon Flooring

CELEBRATION OF MAKERS AT TWO TEMPLE PLACE

Join us over four days to celebrate the incredible craftsmanship behind the elaborate decoration at Two Temple Place.

Thursday 28th - Saturday 30th : 11 - 6pm;
Sunday 31st: 11 - 4.30pm.

We will have live demonstrations in collaboration with City and Guilds of London Art School, of the crafts used to create

the building - including stone carving, wood carving, gilding, and stained glass - workshops for all ages; talks about the building, the people who made it, and its wider history; and a Sample & Seconds makers market on Saturday 30th August (11-5pm) with Crafty Fox Market.

FREE Admission all weekend, no booking required (apart from evening talks - see our website to book tickets)

TWOTEMPLEPLACE.ORG/CULTURAL-PROGRAMME

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Founder & CEO,
The Creative Dimension

At The Creative Dimension Trust, we believe that talent should never be limited by circumstance. That's why we offer free, high-quality workshops and work experience to gifted young Londoners from disadvantaged backgrounds. Our programmes are intensive by design - they're not art classes, they're career-shaping experiences. We focus on developing vital hand skills: manual dexterity, craftsmanship, and spatial awareness. These are transferable skills that open doors in design, architecture, fashion, and even surgery.

More than 80% of our students come from schools in areas facing social or economic deprivation. Many arrive with ability, but little confidence. They leave with both. That transformation is at the heart of our work.

Each year we receive over 1,000 applications. We're able to offer places to more than 500

students annually, and since launching, we've worked with young people from 675 schools and introduced them to 110 unique skills.

None of this would be possible without collaboration. Every programme we run is the result of partnerships - with artists, schools, museums, architecture firms, livery companies, and major heritage institutions. Our students have helped restore banquettes at Buckingham Palace, re-gilded the storefront at Fortnum & Mason, blended perfume at Floris, embroidered with Royal Warrant holders Hand & Lock, made jewellery at The Goldsmiths' Centre, crafted furniture at Windsor Castle, worked leather tassels with Bill Amberg Studio, and created costumes with the National Theatre.

These experiences change lives. They reveal futures that many of our students didn't know were open to them. And that is what we are here to do - unlock talent, raise aspirations, and shape careers through the power of making.



THE POWER OF LOCAL VOLUNTEERING



Flora Cooper Maddocks,
Sponsorships & Marketing
Manager, Fleet Street Quarter BID

In a bustling, humming city where days are filled with busyness, it can be tricky to cut through the noise and find a fresh opportunity to switch up your week.

This... is where local volunteering comes in.

Volunteering with good causes holds a host of opportunities for all parties; regardless of experience there is truly something for any type of contributing team or individual. Whether it's gardening, assembling furniture, writing a letter, advising on new technology, cooking, calling, carrying, guiding, fundraising,

reading (and so on!) your skills and presence will encapsulate what is possible when people come together.

Here in the Fleet Street Quarter, we have made accessing these local opportunities as easy as possible.

The online Neighbourly platform links

individuals and teams alike with local organisations in a matter of minutes. From there, you can explore where you want to put your energy to suit your availability and ambitions. Volunteering hours can be tracked easily and new partnerships unlocked, consequentially benefitting both charity and business as well as our shared wider ecosystem.

Engaging in local change - helping vulnerable groups, environmental causes and cultural initiatives - can come in many forms across all types of championing methods. It is a chance to find new inspiration, meet new people and learn from others. There's a whole world out there, right on your doorstep.

Scan the QR code to explore your options, using code FSQ2025 to sign up. For bespoke team volunteering days email flora.coopermaddocks@fleetstreetquarter.co.uk



GRESHAM COLLEGE ANNOUNCES THREE NEW PROFESSORS

Phil Creighton
PR Coordinator, Gresham College

Gresham College, London's oldest higher education institution, has announced the appointment of three new professors who will deliver public lectures as part of the 2025–26 academic year. These lectures are free to attend both in person and online, continuing Gresham's long-standing mission to make world-class education accessible to all.

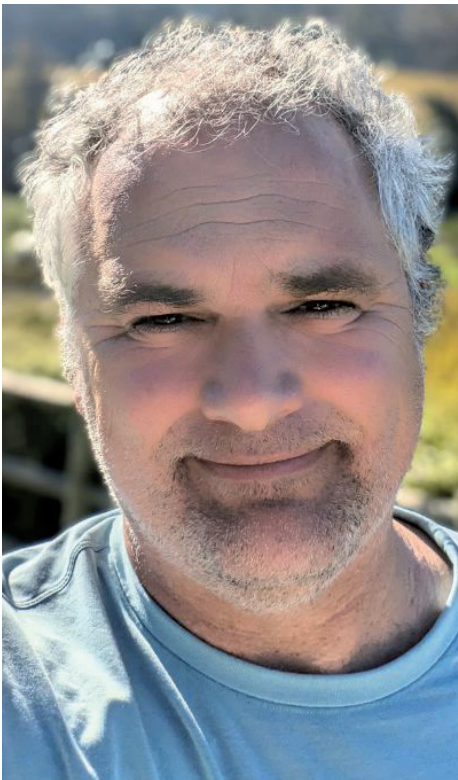
The new appointees are Professor Helen Czerski as the Frank Jackson Foundation Professor of the Environment, Professor Matt Jones as the IT Livery Company Professor of Information Technology, and Professor Daniel Susskind as the Mercers' School Memorial Professor of Business.

Each professor will deliver a series of six lectures throughout the academic year. Last year, Gresham College lectures were viewed more than seven million times, with in-person attendance reaching record levels.



Professor Czerski, a physicist and oceanographer at UCL, will present **Notes from a Large Planet: A Citizen's Guide to the Earth**, covering everything from ocean waves to polar landscapes. She hopes her talks will encourage people to see the natural world with new perspective and to consider their place in it.

Professor Jones will explore the disruptive rise of AI in his series **AI As Your Overlord:**



Assimilation, Acceptance or Resistance?, mixing computer science with psychology, sociology and history to provoke debate.

Professor Susskind will focus on the future of work and education in an AI-driven world. A leading thinker on technology's impact on society, his talks will examine what roles humans will continue to play as machines become more capable.



Founded in 1597, Gresham College is based just off Holborn on Fleet Street Quarter's northern boundary and has a remarkable history, with past professors including Sir Christopher Wren, Sir Chris Whitty, and Sir Roger Penrose. With these new appointments, the College continues to champion accessible, thought-provoking education for the public. For details and lecture schedules, visit www.gresham.ac.uk.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

20 AUG, 18 SEPT, 12-2PM
POP-UP ART WORKSHOPS WITH BELLA GOMEZ
WHISPERS LUDGATE HILL

3 - 6 SEPTEMBER
THE GENESIS PREVIEW WITH THE COPENHAGEN COLLECTIVE
PEACOCK THEATRE

SEPTEMBER
FSQ GARDENING CLUB IN THE COURTS AND ALLEYS OFF FLEET STREET

4 SEPTEMBER
CYCLING ROADSHOW CORNER OF FARRINGDON ROAD AND STONECUTTER STREET

UNTIL 5 SEPTEMBER
WALLBALL NEW STREET SQUARE

13-21 SEPTEMBER
LONDON DESIGN FESTIVAL

16 SEPTEMBER,
ARCHITECTURE TOUR OF FSQ WITH SARAH WILLIAMS ROBBINS

18 SEPTEMBER
FSQ CHRISTMAS CHOIR FIRST REHEARSAL
DASDAS BOX

EARLY OCTOBER
DISCOVER FLEET STREET QUARTER ACROSS FSQ

8TH OCTOBER
GREEN SPACES TOUR OF FSQ WITH SARAH WILLIAMS ROBBINS

OCTOBER
LONDON RESTAURANT FESTIVAL



CHRISTMAS CHOIR RETURNS THIS SEPTEMBER!

Daniel Dalmau
Business & Communications Manager
Fleet Street Quarter BID

Christmas may still be months away, but preparations are already underway as the Fleet Street Quarter Choir returns for its second year. Following a fantastic debut at last year's Christmas light switch-on at Ludgate Circus, the choir will once again bring festive cheer to the heart of the City.

Run in partnership with Music in Offices, the choir offers a unique opportunity for anyone living or working in the Fleet Street Quarter to get involved in a fun, creative community initiative. Rehearsals will be held at Das Das

Box, right in the centre of the Quarter, making it easy for workers from across the area to attend.

Sessions are designed to fit into a lunch hour, lasting just 45 minutes, giving participants time to get to and from the office. No previous experience is needed—just enthusiasm and a willingness to try something new.

The first session takes place on 18 September, and the Fleet Street Quarter BID is currently inviting registrations of interest. Whether you're looking to meet new people, take a break from your desk, or simply enjoy the magic of singing in a group, the FSQ Choir is a great way to get involved in your local community. Scan the QR code to get involved.



FLEET STREET SUCCESS STORIES: CELAL BARBER

We are pleased to share a note we recently received from a local Fleet Street Quarter business, Celal Barber, at 24 Tudor Street.

"Moving to this part of London to conduct business was a step in the right direction. The initial start was slow and steady however with hard work and continuous promotion of the shop I now have a good customer base.

I am really grateful to the Fleet Street Quarter BID as they helped me resolve a few street infrastructure issues directly outside my entrance. The bollard repair, re-painting of streetlights, and removal of unwanted items made the immediate vicinity around my shop look more beautiful.

I AM REALLY GRATEFUL TO THE FLEET STREET QUARTER BID AS THEY HELPED ME RESOLVE A FEW STREET INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES DIRECTLY OUTSIDE MY ENTRANCE.

I have very good neighbours here, and highly appreciate the visits by my local councillor Martha Grekos, as well as the Fleet Street Quarter Ambassador team, Al and Saud.

The cohesiveness in FSQ really makes me feel part of this growing community!"



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR UPDATES FROM THE BID AND UPCOMING EVENTS



@fleetstquarter
fleetstreetquarter.co.uk



Scan to subscribe to our newsletter