

**ANNOUNCEMENT:
The Cambrian Community Centre is OPEN.
Please come to the Annual General Meeting.**

From: Cambrian Community Centre [mailto:secretary@cambriancentre.org]

Sent: 05 July 2012 14:00

To: Distribution

Dear Supporter,

We are delighted to announce that the Cambrian Centre has re-opened.

The RPLC has signed a new one year lease with a group of Gym Users who have been very active and indeed successful in negotiating for the Centre to continue at least for one further year, albeit under a reduced grant.

The support that you and many others have given us has been vital to achieving this and we would like to thank you for that support.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. 23rd July.

We would like to invite all our users and supporters to attend the AGM at the centre at 7:30pm on Monday July 23rd and to participate in planning the future. We should stress that this is a one year reprieve and we will need to do much more in order to keep the Centre operating for the long term. Therefore we would like to encourage as many of you as possible to attend this AGM.

PRESS RELEASE: A press release has been issued by the RPLC and the Centre. We attach a copy of this below.

Thanks again for your support,

From the Cambrian Community Centre.

More information about the Centre can be found at the Cambrian Centre Website at <http://CambrianCentre.org>

Note: You are receiving this newsletter as a result of providing your email when signing our petition or contacting us as a supporter. If you don't want to receive occasional updates, please reply to this newsletter and say so. We apologise for not replying individually to every email or letter received.

PRESS RELEASE

Richmond Parish Lands Charity (RPLC) and the Cambrian Community Centre in Grove Road, Richmond are delighted to announce that a way forward has been found to enable the Cambrian Community Centre and Gym to remain open for the time being.

The RPLC has granted a new Lease to a group of individuals interested in keeping the Centre open, effective from 1st July 2012. The RPLC is supporting the Centre by offering the premises on a rent free basis to the new leaseholders, subject to regular reporting showing that the Centre has local support and continues to make the facilities available to voluntary organisations and charities working in the area.

Led by the very capable CCC Manager, Mary McDonald, users of the Centre should notice little or no difference, but there will be a drive to solicit more active volunteers to help support a wider range of community activities, especially within the immediate locale of the Queen's Road. Some existing activities will be reviewed over the summer, with a view to ensuring that they more closely identify with and meet the needs of the local community.

The CCC Gym is an important part of the GP's referral scheme and provides qualified cardio-rehabilitation support. It is enjoyed by many older people within the Borough of Richmond, who feel very comfortable exercising under the watchful eyes of Janet Alissi and Andy Naylor-Vane.

CCC would like to thank those members of the community who have actively campaigned to keep the Centre open. There will be an AGM on 23rd July and an election of some new trustees and officers; in addition, the Cambrian Community Centre is expected to incorporate in-line with Charity Commission guidance.

Michael Peel, spokesman for the new lease holders, said: "This is the result of the efforts of many people, not least the executive management of the Centre and Gym and countless volunteers. We all look forward to working closely with members of the local community to enhance existing utilisation of the Centre and to develop new activities that meet local needs."

Jonathan Monckton, Director of RPLC, commented: "The RPLC Trustees are happy to give the new Leaseholders an opportunity to see if there is sufficient local interest and support in the Cambrian Centre to secure its future. It will be a challenge for all concerned to ensure that the Centre keeps in touch with the needs of local residents and charities and becomes financially self-sufficient. With grant giving exceeding £1m, for the first time, in the year to 30 June 2012, the RPLC Trustees will continue to allocate funding to a wide range of projects which they consider deliver effective services to people living in the Benefit Area."

The RPLC was endowed by a gift of land from King George III and Queen Charlotte in 1786 and reconstituted in its present form in 1968. Its principal objectives are the making of grants for charitable purposes to voluntary organisations in Richmond and a charitable housing operation comprising nearly 100 properties. The contribution of the charity to Richmond, both in grant making and in the housing field is substantial. The organisation is well established and highly regarded for its support of the local voluntary sector. (Charity Number 200069)

For further information, please contact Jonathan Monckton, Director at Tel: 020 8948 5701 or e-mail: jonathan.Monckton@rplc.org.uk

The Cambrian Community Centre was built by RPLC and opened in 1989. It became an independent charity under the auspices of the Charity Commission in 1999 (Charity Number 1077016). The Centre aims to provide facilities to benefit local people, including acting as a focus for community activity and as a venue for local groups and services, with opportunities for education, recreation, leisure, well-being and constructive activity for children and adults of all ages.

For further information, please contact Michael Peel, Tel: 07900 438 483 or e-mail: mjrpeel@gmail.com or Mary McDonald at the Centre – Tel: 020 8948 3351 or e-mail: manager@cambriancentre.org