

BE ENRICHED



# Annual Report

**OCT 2020-SEPT 2021**

'Enriching communities through food'



# CHARITY OVERVIEW

Charity name: Be Enriched Elements

Charity No: 1170219

Charity Incorporation date: 16 November 2016

Trustees Annual Report for period 1 October  
2020 to 30 September 2021

Trustees for period: Ngoc Nguyen, Orlando  
Wethered, Sarah Coulson,, Terence Mitchison

CEO: Kemi Akinola

Accountant: P A Consulting

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# CHARITABLE OBJECTS

1. TO PREVENT AND RELIEVE POVERTY, AND TO RELIEVE AND ASSIST PEOPLE FROM SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES WHO ARE IN NEED BY REASON OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, BY DELIVERING FREE COMMUNITY MEALS AND BY ADVANCING HEALTH AND NUTRITION EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT.

2. TO RELIEVE, ASSIST AND PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE IN NEED BY REASON OF DISABILITY OR OTHER DISADVANTAGE BY PROVIDING FREE THERAPEUTIC SESSIONS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT.

3. FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, TO RELIEVE THOSE IN NEED BY REASON OF YOUTH, AGE, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR OTHER DISADVANTAGE, AND TO ADVANCE EDUCATION THROUGH EXPEDITIONS CARRIED OUT IN THE UK AND ABROAD FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPING INDIVIDUAL COMPETENCIES, SKILLS AND UNDERSTANDING

4. FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, TO RELIEVE THOSE IN NEED BY REASON OF YOUTH, AGE, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL OR ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE AND TO ADVANCE EDUCATION THROUGH LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION AND MENTORING PROGRAMMES FOR AND WITH YOUNG PEOPLE, WHICH PROMOTE PARTICIPATION AND INTEGRATION IN SOCIETY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF KEY PERSONAL SKILLS.



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# WHAT WE DO?

Be Enriched is a South London based charity, who enriches communities using food.

We want to bring people together, building relationships, developing skills, improving lives, and learning from others in the community.

We are doing this through these projects:

- Community Canteens
- Food Partnership
- The Food Bus



'Enriching community through food'

# COMMUNITY CANTEENS

Be Enriched operates Community Canteens across Southwark, Lambeth and Wandsworth. These are community meals, cooked by our wonderful volunteers using surplus ingredients. These meals offer a space where the community can come together, enjoy some delicious food and meet their neighbours.



Throughout this year, Be Enriched operated two of our Canteens; Castle canteen, and Graveney canteen. Our Battersea canteen remained closed.

## Tooting/Graveney Canteen

We continued our work from the previous year, distributing meals and food parcels to residents whilst working under COVID guidance. The community continued to support us in our work. We were donated an E-cargo bike which enabled us to deliver food quickly, and more sustainably.

In May 2021, we were able to reopen our canteen for guests to be able to sit inside and enjoy a sit-down lunch once again.

Tooting canteen also celebrated 8 years of being open in and serving the community in 2021.



## Castle Canteen

Castle canteen remained closed until we were able to reopen in August 2021.

We slowly but surely gained back our community of guests who began to attend on a regular basis, building back our numbers to 15-20 guests per session.



# WANDSWORTH FOOD PARTNERSHIP

## London Food Roots Incubator Programme

The Wandsworth Food Partnership began to take part in the Food Roots Incubator Programme. The programme was facilitated by the GLA, Sustain, and Food Matters. The programme aimed to help food partnerships develop and grow after the pandemic, increasing community resilience to emergency responses, making sustainable collaborations, and more partnership growth.

We took part in regular workshops focusing on food insecurity and partnership development, learning from industry experts as well as our peers.

The Food Partnership also began hosting virtual meetings for members of the partnership to attend, to reunite members and to invite new attendees to have their say in how the partnership should be run.

## Worrying About Money Leaflet

We collaborated with IFAN, and several other Wandsworth-based organisations to create a leaflet with a 3-step process to help residents with money issues.

Worrying  
About  
Money?

Financial advice  
and support is available  
if you're struggling  
to make ends meet

Follow these steps to find out  
where to get help in Wandsworth



Supported by





# THE FOOD BUS

## 'The Food Bus is finally on the road!'

After severe delays in the project due to COVID, the Food Bus had its first trip out in June 2021. The team had previously been supporting the COVID response work that both Be Enriched and BPK had been conducting across South London.

Whilst the team had been waiting for the Bus to be ready, they focused on engaging communities who would be using the bus in the future. They began working with local schools, and using the van to bring produce right to peoples doorsteps.

Unfortunately, the Bus was vandalised soon after we had the Bus on the road. The community rallied together to help us out in anyway they could. This lead to us securing our secure parking spot which Hadley Homes provided for us.



# VOLUNTEERING

During October 2020 - September 2021 was a very challenging time for both Be Enriched and the service users as the new COVID guideline were frequently introduced and the charity had to put these into practice to deliver the project. Be Enriched continued the Food Hub in Wandsworth which prepare food parcel and provide our home delivery service to those shielding at home. We had a great team of volunteers who continued to work with us from earlier on in our COVID response. They helped us to continue our work until we were able to reopen our canteens.

Over this period, we had a total of 136 individuals volunteers with Be Enriched across our projects.



**"The sense of purpose I felt while putting my time to good use has been invaluable from the first day, I spent with Be Enriched"**

**"Everyone at be enriched is so lovely. I have had such a nice time volunteering at the kitchen and I think it's truly rewarding at the kitchen and I helpful to the community."**

**"It saved my sanity to help others during lockdown when at my lowest ebb. I only wish I could have done more"**

**"I will volunteer again in the future. It was good to find out about the ways to help people in need in the area"**



**"Volunteering has given me my drive back!"**

**"Everyone I have met has been a joy"**

**"Volunteering is a great way to contribute to your local community and help balance out some of the inequalities that exist within it"**

# COLLABORATION AND CORPORATES

Due to the pandemic, we were unable to safely host Corporate groups at our canteens. Once guidelines enabled us to do so, we welcomed them back swiftly.

The team at Salesforce helped us run one of our first sessions in Castle canteen after our reopening,

We worked with other organisations across South London throughout this period of time including:

- Citizens Advice Wandsworth
- Earlsfield Foodbank
- IFAN
- Wandsworth Foodbank
- South West London Law Centre
- Crosslight Advice Balham
- Age UK Wandsworth
- Henry Fawcett Primary School
- Allen Edwards Primary School
- CARAS
- Care4Calais
- Leonard Leese
- Urban Village Homes
- Feeding Britain

Just to name a few!



# BRIXTON PEOPLES KITCHEN

2020-2021 was a rollercoaster for Brixton People's Kitchen. BPK entered the new year by serving their community throughout the entire festive period, providing over 100 free Christmas dinners from their community shop and Cafe in Kennington - as well as gifts, festive treats and toys.

In the months that followed BPK supported over 600 households and opened their space 6 days a week to the local community. Providing nutritious affordable meals daily, a safe space for people to come together, and free school meals every half term and school holiday. All the while navigating the ripple effects of a year of lock-downs, ever-changing Covid regulations, and supply chain issues due to Brexit.

In April 2021 the rug was swiftly pulled from underneath BPK as they were served notice on their community space and were given just three months to pack away and shut up shop.

Despite being without a home, BPK still delivered every single planned project during the Summer Holiday. Providing over 3000 meals for school children and executing our Summer Holiday Takeover at St Anselm's Church. Which provided five weeks of free workshops, activities, and lunches for young people aged 8-16.

# THE FUTURE

The pandemic has affected our work for longer than we every expected, with more people engaging with our projects than ever before.

Be Enriched will be moving away from our emergency response into a more sustainable method of working, learning from our experiences from COVID.

We have begun working with the GLA and will be for the next year, helping us to become more resilient and use our resources in the most efficient way. We are also continuing our work promoting a Cash First approach.

More energy will be focused on our Food Bus, getting that out on the road and making sure we are reaching those who are most in need.

