



NEWS

The newsletter from
Angel Business
Improvement District

ShopWhatsApp coming to a phone near you!

We're launching our secret weapon against shoplifters and bag and phone thieves. ShopWhatsApp is where all angel.london retailers can instantly warn neighbouring businesses about crimes as they happen.

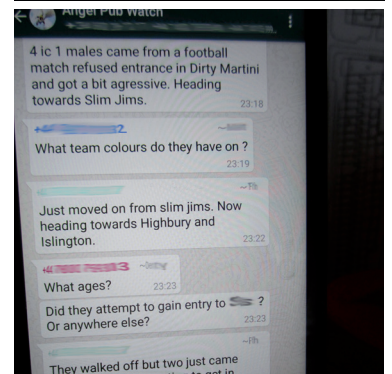
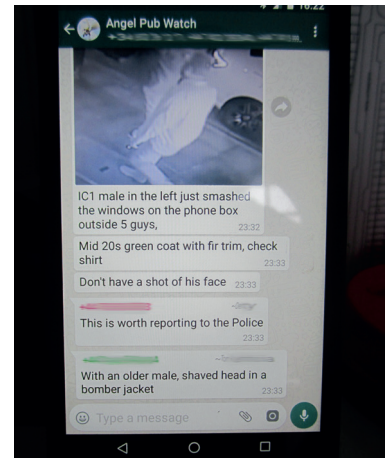
It follows the huge success of our PubWatch WhatsApp (pictured) where phones constantly buzz as our 38 licensed premises share details about incidents in real time.

And it works. Most recently a venue ejected a group of troublemakers, then WhatsApped a warning which meant they were refused entry everywhere else. Also a lost bag was quickly reunited with its relieved owner after being stolen in one bar and found in the toilet of another.

Says Chair of PubWatch and owner of Ladybird Bar Habib El Debs: "The great thing about WhatsApp is that it helps us prevent a lot of incidents. Once a troublemaker is spotted by one of the pubs, their photo goes around immediately and other venues simply refuse them entry.

The new ShopWhatsApp is for telling people about shoplifters heading their way, describing someone who's just stolen a bag or phone, or warning about an aggressive beggar doing the rounds. It must report what's happening now where a warning will benefit other businesses.

Contact us to join the group. We need mobile numbers of phones that are checked regularly. ShopWhatsApp won't be monitored by the police. Use our Angel Police Team hotline as usual for reporting crimes and calling the team.



Welcome to all new businesses!

So, we're now into the third five-year term of the business improvement district at Angel and we are delighted to represent 564 businesses across 45 streets. Check out our website at www.angel.london to see which of our services suits your business. Sign up for free recycling NOW!



Pictured (left to right) are chair of Islington gardeners Jennifer Chamberlin, Islington Councillor Claudia Webbe, TV gardener Joe Swift, Anita Gracie of Octopus Communities Network, and angel.london CEO Christine Lovett.

Angel's blooming!

The BBC's Gardeners World star Joe Swift helped launch the 2017 London in Bloom competition at the Business Design Centre recently and we're hoping the Angel can rake in some awards this year.

But we need your help. In order for the Angel to be the first winners of the new business improvement district category, we need flowers, plants, green stuff around and outside every business (not causing obstruction, of course) – particularly cheery flowers on outside tables.

We'll be hanging our beautiful flower baskets as usual but we really need this to be a community effort (we gain extra points for community involvement). The judges are coming on June 30 so get beautifying your businesses before then....(contact us for ideas)

Counter-terror training for the entertainment industry

As part of our Community Security Zone we're working with Met Police counter-terror experts, and are inviting you to an awareness event to

keep you up-to-date with the latest intelligence and developments, feat. The Run Hide Tell film.

It's free, it's at 9am on June 16 and King's Place, 90 York Way, London N1 9AG and is specifically for

Better air

Imagine the number of deliveries at Angel every day. That's not only business deliveries but employees having personal items delivered to the office. It all worsens the smog, not only in the air but on the roads. angel.london is joining Cross River Partnership to rationalise the number of daily deliveries locally - in the first instance we're asking everyone to just be aware of how smart thinking about your deliveries could ease pollution and congestion.

Knife crime

Knife crime is on the increase. We're determined to make our streets safer. If you see, know or think something, please call 999 immediately. You could save someone's life.

management and front line staff in licensed premises, restaurants, hotels, cinemas and theatres, security and health & safety teams.

Contact marc.smith@met.police.uk to book your places.



Bellanger brasserie on Islington Green are delighted to again be serving free morning coffee and cakes to war vets and their families at this year's Armed Forces Day. Manager Claire O'Sullivan is pictured at last year's with local pearly kings and queens.

So how IS the Angel doing?

We've commissioned a survey of businesses at Angel to identify how the area is performing, find out what's important to you and what you think of us (don't worry – it's confidential). We've asked The Retail Group to come and visit as many 'open door customer facing' businesses as they can from early June.

Your views and responses are very important, the findings are reported collectively, and will be used to help direct our future initiatives so we can continue to improve the Angel and business performance. We look forward to sharing the results with everyone in due course. Thank you in advance for your support.

If The Retail Group miss you, and you'd like a survey, please email emailchristine@angel.london and we'll send you one.

What can you bring to Armed Forces Day in June?

Our Armed Forces do us proud so we're pleased to support their annual community celebration on Islington Green every summer. This year it's on June 24 and we're asking for your help to make it a really fun day.

Raffle prizes? A meal from your restaurant? Tea for two? A free haircut? Soft drinks and snacks for the day? A barrel of beer? A face-painting expert? Music? What can your business give?

Our Liverpool Road branch of Waitrose are generously bringing flowers for the ceremony of remembrance, Meat People in Essex Road are donating a meal for two for the raffle prize, and Bellanger will be serving tea and coffee.

Armed Forces Day is all about war veterans and their families getting together to commemorate those they've lost and the heroic efforts of those retired or still serving. There will be a ceremony at 10.30-11am, followed by military music and displays, refreshments and entertainment. The whole community is welcome.

Contact us on 020 7288 4377 to make your donation...

Book your police security training session NOW

The recent Angel Police Team training at the Vue cinema was so popular that we're offering bespoke sessions at your premises tailored to suit your business.

Can you easily spot shoplifters? What do you do if you see one stealing your stock, or someone's bag in your café, or a phone from the table in your bar? Confront them, eject them forcibly from the premises? How do you do that effectively without getting hurt? What does the law say - and how does it protect you? How should you handle beggars?

Our training provides the answers to all these important questions, and more. Sessions can be tailored for retailers, restaurants or licensed premises. And there's some personal safety advice that we should all know.

You need ten people and a largish space. Or hook up with businesses similar to yours. All training is FREE and exclusive to angel.london businesses. Call us to book one.

Says Lynne Glover, manager of Angel Central: "This training is 100% something ALL store managers should do. It was well-presented, informal and opened up the floor so people felt in a comfortable enough environment to ask awkward questions you might not normally ask the police.

"We all learned something and came away feeling more confident about handling difficult situations and knowing what we can and can't do."

Get CCTV'd up

Angel Police Team have caught and charged a persistent bag thief who will only be sent to prison because they have tracked down each offence on CCTV. He's been stealing from pubs around our area but these days even a couple of offences are not enough to put thieves or shoplifters behind bars. The team needs a string of offences, plus the evidence to prove them all.

Please make sure your CCTV is the best quality you can afford and your staff are able to access and send images, if needed. It's the only way we can get regular criminals off our streets.

Shops Katsute Japanese tearoom and In Residence have installed their own CCTV at reasonable costs





Pictured are (above) the new BDC Works co-working space and (right) RocketSpace Ecosystem GM Priya Guha



We're a creative AND a techie centre

We can't tell you the excitement to discover two new coworking spaces are opening here imminently which will be attracting to our streets THE most exciting people and their growing businesses.

Not only is the Business Design Centre one of London's most popular events spaces, it houses over 100 small businesses and is now opening a coworking space for creatives. BDCWorks offers floating and fixed desks, standing desks and even a day bed, from £250 per month.

Says Sales & Marketing Manager Katie Purchase: "The BDC is much more than a place to work. We aim to be a hub of creation where entrepreneurs, small businesses and start-ups collaborate, make connections and enhance their business performance."

"BDC Works has an industrial, yet homely feel. We want our businesses to feel part of a very special community yet also have access to the vibrant and lively atmosphere generated by the events held here." www.bdcworks.london

And across the road, top global tech coworking accelerator RocketSpace has chosen the Angel as the best place to open their first state-of-the-art UK technology campus. Flourishing in San Francisco where Uber and Spotify got going, their ecosystem provides startups with working spaces, innovators with technology, talks, investors, mentors and advisers plus networks of bigger companies to learn from and partner with.

Says RocketSpace Ecosystem General Manager Priya Guha: "We are delighted that RocketSpace is expanding its global footprint to a city and an area that offers such a strong pool of talent, allowing for continued growth of the finance and technology industries. Our company will not only provide space for a shared social, interactive networking hub, but also a direct route linking London's tech sector to Silicon Valley."

Says angel.london CEO Christine Lovett: "The presence of established company headquarters at Angel is very reassuring because it proves what the Angel offers businesses, but we love the creativity that comes with startups and small indie companies. That really gives the area its buzz..."

RocketSpace is at 104 Islington High Street right next to Angel tube <http://www.rocketpace.com>



Everyone and everything is cleaning up their act round here - notice anything?

Continuing our campaign against business rate rises

We continue to be concerned about the impact of the 2017 business rates re-valuation that has placed a disproportionate burden on many of our small businesses, pubs and live venues. We feel the Chancellor's March budget will have little effect and are continuing to work with Islington Council to find ways of lessening the impact on everyone, particularly those businesses with the steepest increases. We'll keep fighting for you.

Have you got a defibrillator?

In trying to make the Angel safe we need to know where we can direct people in an emergency. It would be good if we could list all defibs in the area and hopefully save a life. Let us know at christine@angel.london

Watch out for cyber-banking fraud

Unbelievably two people in our office were the victims of bank fraud in one week in unconnected incidents. We have no idea how it happened but were amazed at the ease with which it did, and horrified to watch amounts of money being transferred out of our accounts.

This is an ever-increasing crime. Click here to find out how to make sure it doesn't happen to your business <http://www.cyberaware.gov.uk/cyberessentials/>

Feeling cramped? Need local storage? Metro Storage just off Essex Road is offering a cool deal for angel.london members on their brand new units – the first two weeks free then 50% off the next six weeks. Insurance, VAT and even the padlock are included in the price, and units are 10-350 sq ft. Call 0800 999 5881 or visit www.metro-storage.co.uk/self-storage-n1/ quoting ANGEL BID 2017.



Christine is pictured with members of Islington Council's Street Environment Service (left to right) Islington Council's Street Environment Manager David Rawlings, Roy Jenner, Philius Joseph, Andy Camilis, Julien Lefevre, John Guiham, Carl Christy, angel.london CEO Christine Lovett, Kestutis Metlouas, Edward Stoakley, Rhys Wenzell, Ash Nijat, Fuad Karama, Sami Sarper, Danny Jones.

Upper Street roadworks

No one can have failed to see them. Just when everyone was thinking Angel's getting back to normal....

The good news is that the infamous broken pipe has been replaced and the surrounding pipes relined. Balfour Beatty are on schedule with the work which will last until early September, in different phases. Lane closures and bus diversions will change as the work moves down Upper Street towards the tube. Keep checking our website at angel.london for the latest.

A number of businesses have already reported that footfall and trade figures are down since the work started. If this is affecting you, we have agreed a process with Thames so you can make a claim. Contact us for details and the form.

Toasting these good eggs

We were so impressed by the way Islington Council's street teams and our recycling boys rolled up their sleeves and helped clear up after the Angel flood that we wanted to say a BIG formal thank you.

It was heart-warming the way they went beyond the call of duty and swept, shovelled, jet-washed and carried anything they could to be of service. So we teated them to breakfast at Bill's cafe in White Lion Street.

"Everyone was so helpful to those distressed shopkeepers and antiques traders whose businesses were washed away. It created a real sense of community. It's not always what you do but the spirit in which you do it that's impressive," says angel.london CEO Christine Lovett.

Towards the future...

The best news is that **Finbar MacDonnell**, Camden Passage's oldest trader, will be re-opening his antique maps and prints shop at 10 Pierrepont Arcade on June 5. Finbar, 82, who has been selling precious documents in Camden Passage for 55 years had his shop devastated by floods and has been unable to trade since then.

We are still working hard to help all other businesses get back on their feet. Three businesses have closed permanently, but eight more are refurbishing and will be re-opening this summer.

Thames have agreed to invest in our celebrations when the last shop has opened again. We have also been pressing for a substantial investment in the long-term future of the Passage – which we hope to be able to report on soon.

More news on who's re-opening and when on our website www.angel.london

NEWS

We're publicising and marketing the Angel as a destination, and are delighted that new stores and businesses are keen to be part of it...



Le Pluto – sister of the famous 30-year-old Le Mercury, this budget-conscious French brasserie is just as good for lunchtime business meetings or romantic candlelit suppers, with wine starting at £17 a bottle. 154-155 Upper Street www.lepluto.com



Le Creuset offer Don't you just covet these? They've got some excellent offers at Le Creuset on pans, creuset sets and wine glasses until June 23. And they'll be happy to discuss further offers for businesses interested in a certain amount of items for their kitchens.

Small things - removed graffiti from outside **Le Pluto restaurant** and **Fig and Olive cafe**, taken wooden boxes and an A-board from **Eye Level opticians**, recycled tables from the **Almeida Theatre**, redistributed props and film boxes from Into Film, recycled shelving from **GH Media**, removed chairs, tables, wood and IT equipment from **Angel Recording Studios**, recycled a huge pile of cardboard from **The Lexington pub**, and taken table bases from **Oldroyd restaurant**

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