

YOU

L N D O N

NEWS

JUNE 2026

TROOPING THE COLOUR YOUTH ENCLOSURES



TROOPING THE COLOUR YOUTH ENCLOSURES

On Saturday 6th June and Saturday 13th June, young people from around the country had the opportunity to watch Trooping the Colour, the King's Birthday Parade, and the full-scale dress rehearsal the weekend before, the Colonel's Review, from a dedicated uniformed youth enclosure in St James's Park.



Young people from the Scouts, Guides, Boys' and Girls' Brigades, Army, Air, Sea, Police, Fire and St John Ambulance Cadets had a prime spot on the corner of The Mall and Horse Guards Road to watch the military parade and Royal procession as it passed.

The King's Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, who 'Trooped' their Colour, were accompanied by over 1,350 soldiers of the Household Division and King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, including over 300 musicians from the Massed Bands.

THE COLONEL'S REVIEW

Heavy rain didn't dampen spirits at the Colonel's Review...



QUEEN ELIZABETH DIGITAL LEGACY

How do you remember Queen Elizabeth?

People across the UK, the Commonwealth and beyond are invited to map their memories of Britain's longest reigning monarch.

The [Queen Elizabeth Digital Memorial](#) is a new online space for people to share their memories of Queen Elizabeth. The aim is to build a digital legacy to create a public and social history to celebrate the life and reign of the late Queen.



Photo credit: PA image

Did you ever see The Queen in person; at a garden party, walkabout or public event?

What do you remember about a Coronation or Jubilee celebration?

What did Queen Elizabeth mean to you, your family, or your community?

People everywhere are invited to contribute their memories of Queen Elizabeth at www.queenelizabeth.com. You do not need to have met The Queen to share a memory to the digital memorial.

Groups / units with images and archival material of Queen Elizabeth are invited to share them with digital.memorial@queenelizabeth.com.

Other projects to commemorate the life of the late Queen include the redevelopment of an area in St James's Park to create a national memorial and the creation of The Queen Elizabeth Trust - a national charity that will work hand in hand with communities to restore and sustain shared spaces that bring people together across generations from all walks of life.

TRUSTED YOUTH ALLIES TRAINING

Delivered by London Youth, [Trusted Youth Allies](#) is a new programme commissioned by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) as part of MOPAC's statutory responsibility to ensure support is available for victims of crime in London. The initiative is designed to train trusted adults, those who may receive disclosures from young people affected by crime - particularly young people who may choose not to report incidents to the police - helping them gain confidence, knowledge and tools to support young victims of crime (aged 7-25) in a trauma-informed and empathetic way.

The programme offer is free, and includes a 3.5-hour workshop and digital resources aimed at enhancing the way professionals and volunteers engage with young people who may be at risk or have been affected by crime. The aim is to educate, upskill and support a network of trusted adults pan London to support young Londoners who are victims of crime.

Contact the programme manager, Victoria Eburn, directly if your organisation would like to take advantage of this free training. They offer open training that people can sign up to [here](#) or tailored in-house training to deliver a session to your networks at a date and location that works best for you - this can be booked on this [form](#), or directly with TYA at TYA@londonyouth.org.



YOU CROYDON CHALLENGE

On Sunday 31 May, over 80 young people from Girlguiding Croydon, Croydon Fire Cadets, Royal Russell School CCF, 66 (Croydon) and 1924 (Shirley) Squadrons RAFAC, Croydon Scouting, St John Ambulance Cadets and Croydon VPC took part in the annual YOU Croydon Challenge, generously hosted, as always, by Royal Russell School. The young people competed in mixed teams to complete a series of challenges including conducting fire hose drills, scaling a mobile climbing wall, completing a series of puzzles and constructing the tallest tower they could using the STEM kit provided.



"Thank you for inviting me to attend the Croydon YOU Challenge Day. I really enjoyed being there and seeing so many...members of different youth organisations working together in teams. It was very pleasing to see young people from different backgrounds learning new skills, supporting each other and building confidence through teamwork. Events like this are a great way to help young people develop, make friends and contribute positively to the community." Councillor Mohammed Islam, Civic Mayor of Croydon



DL CERTIFICATE PRESENTATIONS

Deputy Lieutenant certificates are awarded to young people to give recognition to their achievements within their organisation and to create an awareness of their contribution within the community. To be eligible for a certificate, a young person must belong to a uniformed youth group situated within a London borough. Deputy Lieutenant Certificates are presented by the Representative Deputy Lieutenant for that borough during the course of the year. Presentation events vary widely from visits to units, to joint presentations with the Mayor. Here are a few images from 2026 presentations so far. The nominations process for next year's recipients will open towards the end of the year.



LSBU PILOT OPEN DAY

We will be running a pilot open day with London South Bank University (LSBU) on Wednesday 28 October for members of uniformed youth groups in London to explore a university and see the wide range of courses / opportunities a university could offer. Local units have been contacted and invited to participate in the event. The intention is to invite 10 young people from each YOU partner organisation, school year 9 and upwards, accompanied by 1-2 adult volunteers.

The day will provide an opportunity for young people to explore the different schools and colleges within the university, to meet current students and ask questions, before choosing GCSE / A Level subjects.

KING'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

On the King's birthday last year, two Sea Cadet units in London were awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service. This award recognises outstanding work by local volunteer groups to support their communities. It is the highest award a community group can receive in the UK and is equivalent to an MBE.

Greenwich, Deptford & Rotherhithe Sea Cadets and Twickenham Sea Cadets were both nominated for their outstanding provision for young people.

Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE, Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, presented their awards on behalf of His Majesty The King at the Tower of London on Friday 10 April, by kind permission of the Constable, General Sir Gordon Messenger, KCB DSO OBE DL. Both groups also held local celebrations at their unit locations so that cadets, adult leaders, families and friends could join in the celebrations.



If you know an outstanding local community group, nominations for the 2027 King's Birthday Honours will open in September, <https://kavs.dcms.gov.uk>.

BROMLEY 60 IN 60

A celebration of adult leaders within Bromley Scouts took place at Bromley Football Club on Saturday 9 May, to mark the huge success of the 60 for 60 campaign. A joint Bromley Council / Bromley Scouts initiative that set out to recruit 60 new volunteers for Bromley Scouts to mark 60 years of the London Borough of Bromley absolutely smashed that target, with 277 new adult volunteers recruited. To mark the campaign's success, the Deputy Mayor of Bromley Council, Councillor Gemma Turrell, awarded cloth and pin badges to adult volunteers.



YOU LONDON LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



This year's YOU London Leadership Development Conference will take place at Kingsford Community School, Kingsford Way, Beckton over the weekend of 10-11 October.

This inspiring weekend of motivational talks and practical challenges is designed to stimulate and develop leadership skills in 15 to 17 year olds. Look out for more details through your chain of command in the coming weeks.

We will host a visitors programme between 2-5pm on Saturday 10 October. If you would like an invitation to be sent to a particular supporter, stakeholder or influencer, please send their details to Debbie at youlondon1@gmail.com.



FUNDRAISE FOR YOU LONDON

Lt Col Norman Fontaine-Thompson, Deputy Commandant, South West London Army Cadet Force will undertake the London T100 Triathlon on Sunday 26 July to fundraise for YOU London.

The London T100 Triathlon starts and finishes at the ExCel Centre in London's Docklands and involves a 2km swim in the Royal Victoria Dock, an 80km bike ride through central London and an 18km run through the Docklands. This diverse course not only challenges athletes with its urban terrain but also offers breathtaking views of the city's historical and cultural landmarks.

Lt Col Fontaine-Thompson only completed his first triathlon two years ago in July 2024 in order to challenge himself and lose some weight. Last year he completed his first Olympic distance triathlon for YOU London - double the distance of anything he had done before - and this year he will be doubling the distance again, aiming to complete the full T100 course. This event is definitely not for the faint-hearted!



If you are in a position to sponsor Lt Col Fontaine-Thompson, please visit [Norman's JustGiving page](#).

If you would like to do your own event to fundraise for YOU London, you can do so at:



It's all about YOU...

The aim of YOU London is to work collaboratively to support young people by maximising the benefits of the existing youth organisations.

Working together takes many forms including inter-group competitions, sharing premises, sharing information, exhibiting together at recruitment events or simply being aware of who's who within each borough.

Working together often produces for the groups much more than the sum of the individual parts.

| Organisation | Contact Name | Email Address |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Army Cadet Force | Debbie Goodall | gl-se-ao2@rfca.org.uk |
| Boys' Brigade | Bethany Goddard | Bethany.Goddard@thebbinlondon.org.uk |
| LFB Fire Cadets | Johnny McDonald Millie Celeste | Jonathan.McDonald@london-fire.gov.uk Millie.Celeste@london-fire.gov.uk |
| Combined Cadet Force | Alistair Grant | Alistair.Grant317@mod.gov.uk |
| Girls' Brigade | GB Support Centre | Gbco@gb-ministries.org |
| Girlguiding LaSER | Kate Graham | KateG@girlguidinglaser.org.uk |
| Jewish Lads' and Girls' Brigade | Anthony Moran | Anthony.Moran@jlgb.org |
| RAF Air Cadets | Wg Comd Taz Bhachoo | Tarandeep.bhachoo100@rafac.mod.gov.uk |
| Scouts | Steve French | you@scoutslondon.org.uk |
| Sea Cadet Corps | SLT (SCC) Daniel Lincoln RNR | dlincoln@ms-sc.org |
| St John Ambulance Cadets | Joe Game | Joe.game@sja.org.uk |
| Volunteer Police Cadets | Carol Young PC Liam Masterson | Carol.Young@met.police.uk Liam.Masterson@cityoflondon.police.uk |
| YOU London Co-ordinator | Debbie Wilkinson | youlondon1@gmail.com |
| YOU London Admin | Donna O'Halloran | gl-offcadets@rfca.mod.uk |

Z-CARDS

Fold out business-card sized 'Z-cards' which advertise all of the YOU London groups are available from Donna at gl-offcadets@rfca.mod.uk.



Upcoming dates:



- 27 Jun - Armed Forces Day
- 13 Aug - A Level results day
- 20 Aug - GCSE results day
- 9 Sep - Emergency Services Day
- 15 Sep - YOU London Development Workers' meeting
- 3 Oct - Elworthy Trophy (MOD Cadets)
- 4 Oct - Lord Mayors' Music Competition
- 5-11 Oct - National (MOD) Cadet Week
- 10-11 Oct - YOU London Leadership Development Weekend
- 28 Oct - LSBU Pilot Open Day
- 8 Nov - Remembrance Sunday
- 11 Nov - Remembrance Day
- 14 Nov - YOU London float in the Lord Mayor's Show
- 8 Dec - YOU London Development Workers' meeting
- 1 Jan - New Year's Day Parade

If you would like to contribute to the next edition of YOU London News, please send articles and images to youlondon1@gmail.com by 30 November 2026. We're particularly after stories of collaboration between 2 or 3 organisations of no more than 200 words with a good digital image of at least 500KB in size.