‘New lessons from an old experiment: what can we learn from the Principles of the Peckham Experiment?

13.00 – 17.00, Thursday 22\textsuperscript{nd} April 2010

The Bussey Building, 133 Rye Lane, Peckham, London SE15 4ST

The Peckham Experiment was a pioneering exploration into the nature of health, which ran in Peckham, south London from 1926 until 1950. Families came together in a purpose-built centre, the Pioneer Health Centre, where they had opportunities to take up new interests and learn about health. The Experiment’s founders, Dr George Scott Williamson and Dr Innes Pears, believed that health was much more than the mere absence of disease. Instead, they saw health as something that is co-created by people through their relationships with each other and with their environment.

The purpose of this afternoon seminar is to bring together local community groups, local public agencies and others interested in the Pioneer Health Centre, to discuss the relevance of the Peckham Experiment to local environment and wellbeing projects. It will provide participants with an opportunity to share ideas and to consider what principles might define a new Peckham Experiment in the twenty first century.
Seminar aims:

- To bring together local groups and public agencies active in Peckham, to discuss the relevance of the Peckham Experiment principles to present-day community projects
- To explore a new set of ‘Peckham Principles’, which could be adopted by community groups and public agencies in Peckham and elsewhere, and by future Pioneer Health Foundation (PHF) projects
- To share ideas and plans with local networks, activists and PHF contacts in Peckham in order to generate proposals for future co-operation and to examine the feasibility of a continuing PE presence in Peckham

A sandwich lunch will be provided on arrival from 12.30pm and the seminar will also show video material from last year’s exciting Peckham Experiment art exhibition, as well as original archive material.

For enquiries on the day of the seminar, please call Kate McGeevor on 07779 081287.
Agenda:

12.30 Lunch and registration

13.00 Welcome and introduction
   Chair: Jack Czauderna, Pioneer Health Foundation

13.15 Introduction to Peckham
   • Eileen Conn, Peckham Residents’ Network

13.25 What were the Peckham Experiment principles?
   • Christopher Trotter, Chair of the Pioneer Health Foundation

13.35 60 years on: community activity in south London
   • Anna Plodowski, Peckham Power
   • Daniel Dickens, Southwark Circle
   • Kate Start, local nutritionist
   • Rachael House and Jo David, Space Station 65

14.30 Break and refreshments

14.50 Exploring the Peckham Experiment principles
   Small group activity: reflections on present activity and the lessons that can be learnt for future community projects.
   Facilitated by Kate McGeevor.

16.00 Looking forward: a New Peckham Experiment?
   • Ruth Potts and Corrina Cordon, new economics foundation (nef)

16.30 Seminar conclusions

17.00 Close
Finding the seminar venue: The entrance to the Bussey Building is opposite Blenheim Grove. Walk through the passageway to the ornate front door in the small courtyard at the end of the passage, and follow the signs to the first floor.

By train: The nearest train station to the Bussey Building is Peckham Rye, which is roughly one minute’s walk away. Turn right out of the station on to Rye Lane and the entrance is across the road, under the bridge opposite Blenheim Grove. For up-to-date travel information please visit www.tfl.gov.uk or call the Transport for London travel line on 020 7222 1234.

By car: We would prefer seminar attendees to travel by public transport to the seminar. However, if you are travelling by car, parking near the Bussey Building is good. There is a multi-storey car park two minutes from venue and car parking at a £1 an hour on site, at the rear of the venue. This can be accessed via 133 Copeland Road, with the car park giving access to the venue via the rear fire exit doors.