

Miracle on Lower Stable Street

Introducing London's design destination for Christmas 2019

London's traditional Christmas-shopping hubs have some competition to contend with. In the heart of Thomas Heatherwick's Coal Drops Yard in King's Cross, Lower Stable Street's design-led festive programme promises Londoners an imaginative and sustainable alternative to the likes of Carnaby Street and Oxford Street.



Selection of plates by Granby Workshop.

Officially opened in October last year, Lower Stable Street is a sunken thoroughfare between Coal Drops Yard and Stable Street. Curated by Kiosk N1C – the independent magazine turned design store and event programmer, which occupies a space on the street – Lower Stable Street comprises 11 retail units fringing a market-style open-space. Here, an evolving collective of established and emerging brands come together to collaborate and create innovative and immersive experiences and events.

Sandwiched between the artistic energy of Central Saint Martins and the retail innovation of Coal Drops Yard, the street captures the best of both worlds, blending indie artisanal innovation and a sophisticated shopping environment.

Running from now throughout December, and into the New Year, the Christmas programme is curated to answer the question of what a sustainable Christmas might look like. It features pop-ups from the likes of Granby Workshop and Country of Origin, hands-on making workshops with Tottenham Textiles and Hato Press, a Christmas-tree recycling initiative with the Bloomsbury Distillery, and a makers' mini market organised by STORE Projects.

With credentials like these, Lower Stable Street is set to be the definitive destination for the design-conscious this Christmas.

STORE Store mini market

Run by artist, architect and designer collective **STORE Projects**, STORE STORE is a design store with an educational mission. Its After School Club was founded to help get young people from diverse backgrounds into the creative disciplines, giving local schoolchildren the chance to access new ideas, materials and processes – and take their designs to production.

On 6 December, STORE STORE will transform Lower Stable Street's outdoor space into a celebration of sustainable design, with a curated collection of market stalls selling progressive and experimental products made by After School Club students and local designers and makers.

After School Club participants will be selling baubles made in workshops with Attua Aparicio, co-founder of **Silo Studio** (who will also be selling her own hand-made pendants); candles created with **Wax Atelier** (who will also be selling their own natural dyed waxed cloth, beeswax dipped candles and candlesticks); and soap and soap dishes made with **Studio Furthermore**. All proceeds from sales will go to a cause of the students' choice.

Other stallholders include designer-maker **Tessa Silva**, interdisciplinary designer and ceramic artist **Francesca Anfossi**, ceramic designer-maker **Sevak Zargarian**, ceramics studio **Frizbee Ceramics** and science-inspired design brand **Unit Lab**.

Christmas tree project

Lower Stable Street will be filled with 100 Kent-grown Christmas trees, available to buy in three sizes (four, six and eight feet). But this is not your ordinary Christmas tree shop...

Thanks to a partnership with **Bloomsbury Distillery**, the trees will not be consigned to landfill once Christmas is over, but repurposed to make pine-needle infused gin. Simply return your tree to **Kiosk N1C** on Lower Stable Street anytime after 4 January, and receive a gift voucher for a bottle of Christmas tree gin – possibly made from the very tree that adorned your home through the festive season.

Pop-ups

Liverpool's revolutionary ceramic makers Granby Workshop takes over Kiosk N1C for the weekend of 6–8 December with a colourful Christmas pop-up showcasing a selection of playful ceramic tableware. Multi coloured cups, bowls, bottles and platters made by randomly combining different coloured clay and pressing it into shape using a 60 tonne hydraulic press (meaning every piece is totally unique) will be available exclusively from the shop on Lower Stable Street.

Until 11 January, modern men's knitwear brand Country of Origin's knitting machine will be installed in Lower Stable Street, offering shoppers a while-you-wait custom-knitting service. Select the colour of the wool and watch while a bespoke scarf takes shape before your eyes.



Knitwear by Country of Origin.

Workshops

For all event bookings and details, please follow the link below:

eventbrite.co.uk/o/kiosk-n1c-27653358917

Riso printing with Hato Press

28 November & 5 December

Printer and publishing house **Hato** is moving its risograph printer to Kiosk N1C for a series of workshops allowing the public to produce their own festive wrapping paper (all recycled or from FOS-certified sources).

Hato's riso printer will remain in store throughout December to produce bespoke wrapping papers designed by **IYA Studio** – the paper will be printed on demand, avoiding the inevitable waste associated with buying ready-made rolls.



Printing with Hato Press.

Embroidery with Pico

2 December

Known for their fair-trade, organic cotton underwear and towels, Phoebe Hunter-McIlveen and Isobel Williams-Ellis, from ethical essentials brand **Pico** visit Lower

Stable Street to offer a one-off embroidery class. Participants will learn to embroider initials and words onto face cloths or hand towels using naturally dyed organic cotton thread – the perfect personalised Christmas gift for a loved one. All materials – including an embroidery hoop and needle to take home – are included.

T-shirt printing with Tottex

26 & 27 November

Tottenham Textiles' in-house brand and collaboration platform **Tottex** (also behind the banner installation hanging overhead down Lower Stable Street) will host a series of workshops at Kiosk N1C in November. Guided by expert craftsman Luis, participants will create one-off t-shirts using materials from the Tottenham Textiles archive – saving leftover fabric from ending up in a landfill.

Notes to editors

For more information about Lower Stable Street, Kiosk N1C, the Christmas programme or sustainable gift ideas, contact Grace Ridley-Smith at grace@zetteler.co.uk or on +44 (0)7380 316637.

About Kiosk N1C

Founded by James Bowthorpe, Kiosk N1C has evolved from its beginnings as an independent magazine about the people and brands behind the King's Cross renaissance to become one of the forces driving it. In 2018, the magazine was commissioned to create a design-led cultural hub on Lower Stable Street, curating a collaborative family of forward-thinking brands and hosting a year-round calendar of events – including exhibitions, installations and markets. As well as continuing to publish the magazine, Kiosk N1C now operates a design store and event space at the centre of Lower Stable Street.

kioskn1c.com

[instagram.com/kiosk_n1c](https://www.instagram.com/kiosk_n1c)

About Coal Drops Yard

Coal Drops Yard is a new shopping and restaurant district in London's King's Cross. The site was originally established in 1850 to handle the eight million tonnes of coal delivered to the capital each year, and was latterly the location of nightclubs Bagley's and the Cross. The area reopened in October 2018, reinvented by the acclaimed Heatherwick Studio, which has interwoven a contemporary design with the surviving structures and rich ironwork of the original Victorian coal drops. Located within a reimagined set of historic buildings and arches directly adjacent to Granary Square and Regent's Canal, Coal Drops Yard houses more than 50 stores

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from a unique mix of established and emerging brands, along with cafés, bars, top independent restaurants and new public spaces.

coaldropsyard.com

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