



Welcome to Fixfest

We've dreamed about this event for five years, ever since we started our first community repair events in London. We've been inspired by so many of you around the world, from California to Tunisia, from Amsterdam to Milan. Prior to starting The Restart Project we learned how global, virtual communities can form, and be sustained through regular meetings. Nothing beats getting together in person, breaking bread and having a drink together.

The power of "community repair" is in the community, in the human relationships it forms. It's our hope that this is just the beginning of emerging international collaboration, and that this is the first of many future Fixfests.

Thanks to grant funding from the Shuttleworth Foundation and the support of sponsors iFixit and Sugru, as well as support from venue partners, we are able to welcome you to London.

Please make the most of a truly exciting "unconference" where you fill the programme and spark exchange, learning and future change. This guide contains everything you need to know about Fixfest itself but also tips about what to see, do, eat and drink while here.

Janet and Ugo, Co-founders of The Restart Project

What is an unconference?

If you've been to a regular conference before, you'll have at least some idea of what to expect: we've been busy putting together an exciting programme of speakers and panel discussions.

But we want to make sure that Fixfest does justice to the complexity, unpredictability and exciting variation of fixing that our attendees represent. An **unconference** is planned by you, for you.

Over half of our programme will be left empty for workshops, skillshares and lightning talks with anyone who has something to say - or do - about repair. Just turn up on the **Friday evening** with a session idea, and a facilitator will help you find a place and a time for it

What does an unconference session look like?

Fixfest unconference workshops can take any form the organizer wishes, provided they encourage participation (If you'd rather present an idea to an audience, you can sign up to do a lightning talk). To help our guests navigate through the wide variety of events in the Fixfest programme, we'll be sorting our unconference sessions into one of three streams: Curiosity, Fairness, and Earth:

Curiosity is the place for making, fixing, and exploring the intricacies of repair *and* repair activism. Here's where you can share and learn techniques, compare and discuss different tools and methods, talk about a particular recurrent problem that you might be encountering, or explore new ideas to do with making, fixing, or inspiring others.

Fairness will focus on repair as a tool for justice. This stream will focus on how we can make sure that we are reaching the people who need repair to maintain access to the internet and make their lives better, and enabling a wider range of people to engage in our events. These sessions might address topics such as the inequalities that emerge in the electronics, technology and repair sectors or how we can move towards more inclusive, less closed design.

Earth will address the environmental benefit of repair. From looking at the raw materials to go into our products, to the carbon emissions of their production, to the problem of their disposal, this stream will explore the broader environmental context of repair, as well as more specific topics such as the growing problem of e-waste.

How to host a session

Our Fixfest streams are intended to help you come up with an idea of what you want your session to achieve, which will also help you think about who should be participating. It can be difficult to predict how many people will show up, so be prepared to be flexible. You don't have to host a session by yourself; you may want to find a partner to help you.

There's no rule to what makes a good unconference session, but it's important that they're interactive. It can be a tough balance to strike between involving others and making sure the session

stays on track: it helps to be clear at the beginning about what you want to achieve. And the more comfortable people are made to feel, the more willing they'll be to get involved.

It's also good to have a think about how you'll document the ideas that come out of the session. You may want to bring your own materials, especially if you plan on hosting a hands-on skillshare, but we'll have whiteboards and projectors available for you to use. [Let us know on Friday or in advance if you need these.](#)

Finally, we want you to **have fun** and **get creative** with the Fixfest programme. Don't be afraid to put forward ideas that might seem niche, or discussion topics that are tricky. The whole point of an unconference is that it catches all the exciting things that can slip through the cracks of a regular conference programme.. If you've got an idea but you're not sure which stream it fits into, don't worry - our facilitator will help you find a place for it

How to plan your time

Our programme is intended to give you as much room as possible to shape what you want your day or weekend to look like. There will be *a lot* going on - and the hardest part is often choosing what to go to. We'll send out a programme with details of our pre-planned events, and you can check our unconference board on Saturday morning to see what else is going on.

We don't intend you to exhaust yourself with back-to-back sessions - unconferences can be thirsty work. There's plenty to do while taking some down-time and grabbing a coffee. You can visit our "marketplace", where there will be stalls from different repair groups and organisations around the world, you can go see a five-minute lightning talk, or you can just relax and have a chat!

Keep in mind that lots of our sessions will be recorded in one way or another - whether as a full audiovisual recording, or through collaborative notetaking - so even if you have to skip a few interesting sessions, you can always catch up later.

Keep Fixfest fun for everyone

The life-force of Fixfest will be the interactions that happen between a wide range of people from different backgrounds, genders, and with different abilities. We have a zero-tolerance approach to discrimination of any kind. All our participants are expected to make everyone at Fixfest feel safe, welcome, and involved.

Accessibility

Our keynotes will be live captioned and we will endeavour to provide live BSL interpretation where necessary. If you require this service, please contact us in advance of the event.

A quiet room will be available at the LSE and at the Greenlab. Quiet rooms are intended to provide a quiet, calm space where attendees can spend time away from noise, lights, and other stimuli of conference spaces. Please respect other attendees and refrain from conversations, meetings, or other potentially disruptive activities in the room.

Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any special requirements that aren't covered here (fixfest@therestartproject.org).

Venue accessibility

LSE

The LSE New Academic Building has step-free access. Fixfest will be held primarily in the lecture theatre spaces on the lower ground floor, with a lift operating between all floors. Lecture theatres have sufficient room for wheelchairs to manoeuvre around, designated wheelchair spaces, and fixed loop hearing assistance systems. There are accessible toilets throughout the building. See [here](#) for a full accessibility guide

Museum of London

Museum of London has ramp-access to the entrance. Some of the exhibitions have braille signage, and there is a fixed loop hearing assistance system. There is an accessible toilet in the foyer with level access. See [here](#) for a full accessibility guide

Greenlab (3Space)

Greenlab is on the first floor of 3Space and is accessible by stairs or lift. There is an accessible toilet located on the first floor. There is no fixed loop hearing assistance system or braille signage.

Transport and Accommodation

Budget hotels closest to the event

[Travelodge](#) (Covent Garden) - this is where international participants and speakers are staying
Twin or single rooms

10 Drury Lane, High Holborn, London WC2B 5RE

9 minute walk to LSE

+44 8719 846245

[Hub By Premier Inn](#) (Covent Garden)

Twin or single rooms

110 St Martins Lane, London, WC2N 4BA

15 minute walk to LSE

+44 333 321 3104

[Premier Inn \(Holborn\)](#)

Twin or single rooms

27-29 Red Lion Street, Holborn, London WC1R 4PS

11 minute walk to LSE

+44 8715 279496

Getting around

Getting to Fixfest venues:

The **London School of Economics New Academic Building** is located at 54 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3LJ. The nearest tube stations are **Holborn** (on the **Piccadilly** and **Central** lines) and **Temple** (on the **Circle** and **District** lines).

On Saturday evening, we'll be directing guests to the 15 vintage routemaster "Heritage" bus, which goes between the London School of Economics and St Paul's Cathedral, within walking distance of the Museum of London, where we'll be holding our Restart Party (The Routemaster does not have step-free access: Wheelchair users will be given assistance in finding a taxi).

The **Museum of London** is located at 150 London Wall, London EC2Y 5HN. The nearest tube stations are **Barbican** (on the **Circle**, **Hammersmith and City** and **Metropolitan** lines), and Moorgate (on the **Northern**, **Circle**, **Hammersmith and City**, and **Metropolitan** lines).

On Sunday, we'll be in at the **Greenlab** in **3Space**, on the corner of Keeton's Road & Collett Road, Bermondsey SE16 4EE. The nearest tube station is Bermondsey on the **Jubilee** line (as is Westminster, if you fancy a visit), or Rotherhithe on the **Overground**.

Navigating in London:

The [Transport for London \(TFL\)](#) website has a tool for planning journeys, maps, information for first time users and live updates about route closures and delays.

If you have data, **Citymapper** (FREE) gives full instructions with timings from door to door, including options for cycling, walking, bus or tube. If you don't have data, Citymapper also has cached maps (scroll all the way down the mainscreen).

London Transport prices and payment:

To use London buses, underground and overground transport, you can pay with your contactless bank card, or you can buy an Oyster card, which you can purchase from any underground or overground station. After topping up your Oyster with credit, you touch in at the yellow barriers when you get on and off - or if you're using the bus, just once when you get on. There are staff available to help at most stations.

Please note you cannot pay for London transport with cash.

Prices are calculated according to 'Zones', which are shown on the map [here](#). With contactless or Oyster, a single bus journey is £1.50. A single rail or tube journey is £2.90 for Zones 1-2 (£2.40 off-peak), £3.30 for Zone 1-3 (£2.80 off-peak), £3.90 for Zones 1-4 (£2.80 off-peak). Pay-as-you-go 'Caps' means you will never be charged above a certain amount within any one day. See the [TFL website](#) for more information on prices.

What to bring

You don't *have* to bring anything to Fixfest apart from yourself: but we recommend the following items to take full advantage of events.

- If you like to jot stuff down as you listen, bring your own **note taking materials** for keynote speeches, discussions and workshops (Note that some of these will be recorded so that you can listen back later)
- If you belong to a repair group or organisation, our marketplace is a chance to bring **tradeable items** like T-shirts, stickers, badgers, repair kits, or flyers to hand-out and swap with others
- On Saturday evening, our Restart Party will be a chance to teach others how to fix things, or learn from a pro. If you're an experienced fixer, we recommend bringing along your **favourite tools** - *please note that getting tools through airport security can be complicated, you might need to check your bags*. If you're coming to learn, bring a **broken gadget** to work on.
- We want to spread the Fixfest message far and wide. To contribute to our social media discussions and follow live updates, come with your smartphone, laptop, tablet, or favourite **communications gadget**.

Things to do while you're here

There's no shortage of things to do in London, even within walking distance of our venues. Here are some of our picks.

Holborn/Covent Garden/Strand:

Novelty Automation is Tim Hunkin's arcade of satirical home-made machines. Hand in an object from your pocket and let a stern, robotic art critic judge its aesthetic value; dodge phone-obsessed Zombies and discover if you are one too; do on holiday from an armchair, or win a nobel prize with the 'small hadron collider'. This gem stays true the area's history as an entertainment quarter in the best possible way. We even made a [podcast](#) where we spoke to Tim about his machines and the joy he got from making them.

10 minutes walk from LSE - 1 Princeton St, London WC1R 4AX

Open 11-6, Monday-Sunday (12-8 on Thursday)

www.novelty-automation.com

Somerset House used to be home to the Restart Project, and is just a short walk from LSE. The Cortauld Gallery has a permanent art collection, or check the Somerset House website to find temporary exhibitions, such as an upcoming free exhibition of Moroccan artist Hassan Hajjaj.

8 minutes walk from LSE: Strand, London WC2R 1LA

Open 8-11, Monday-Sunday

www.somersethouse.org.uk

London Transport Museum is a perennial favourite, only a couple of minutes' walk from the LSE.

See old Routemaster buses and learn about how Londoners get around.

5 minutes walk from LSE : Covent Garden Piazza, London WC2E 7BB, UK

Open 10-6 every day

<https://www.ltmuseum.co.uk/>

Bermondsey:

Take a walk along the Thames Path from Bermondsey to London Bridge and treat yourself to some spectacular views of London framed by Tower Bridge.

Southwark Park, only minutes from 3Space, is a lovely green oasis if you need some green after Fixfest.

The White Cube Gallery in Bermondsey has an exhibit by Mexican artist Damián Ortega, who is known for his representations of commodity consumption. This exhibit explores the artist's interests in data, systems, cataloguing and collecting.

10 min walk from 3space, 144-152 Bermondsey St, London SE1 3TQ, UK

Open 10am-6pm every day but Monday

<http://whitecube.com/>

Food and Drink

We'll be providing food for lunch and refreshments in the evening. But if you do want to dine out, here are some suggestions.

Vegetarian-friendly fast food abounds in London. Pret a Manger is a standby for inexpensive vegetarian options. Leon is slightly pricier but fun. Pod also has good Asian-influenced vegetarian fare.

Holborn / Covent Garden:

Battersea Pie Station

8 minutes walk from LSE

28 The Market Garden, London WC2E 8RA

Eat Tokyo

9 minutes walk from LSE
50 Red Lion St, London WC1R 4PF

Fleet River Bakery

3 minutes walk from LSE
71 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3JF

Kimchee

5 minutes walk from LSE
71 High Holborn, London WC1V 6EA, UK

Sagar

6 minutes walk from LSE
31 Catherine Street, London, WC2B 5JS

Sushi Hiroba

2 minutes walk from LSE
50-54 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EP

Museum of London / Barbican / Farringdon:**Polpo Smithfield**

9 minutes walk from Museum of London
3 Cowcross St, Clerkenwell, London EC1M 6DR

The Rising Sun (Sam Smith's pub)

7 minutes walk from Museum of London
38 Cloth Fair, London EC1A 7JQ

St John Bar and Restaurant

9 minutes walk from Museum of London
26 St. John Street, London EC1M 4AY

Bermondsey:**40 Maltby Street**

16 minutes walk from 3Space
40 Maltby Street

Bone Daddies Ramen

7 min walk from 3Space
27-28, Old Jamaica Business Estate, 24 Old Jamaica Rd, London SE16 4AW

The Craftsman Cafe

14 minutes walk from 3Space
105 Abbey St, London SE1 3NP

Maltby Street Market

16 minutes walk from 3Space
Maltby Street

The Mayflower (pub)

15 minutes walk from 3Space
117 Rotherhithe St, Rotherhithe, London SE16 4NF

Unanswered questions?

If there's something we haven't covered here that you'd like to know, please feel free to get in touch with a member of our team: fixfest@therestartproject.org

We look forward to seeing you there!

Thanks to our sponsors

