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September 2021
N° 50, Free

Local news that matters to you

Prestige Patisserie's George and Geanina Ursache Credit Luchia Robinson



Baked to perfection

By Luchia Robinson

Fresh from their time spent staring on Channel 4's hit tv programme: *Bake Off: The Professionals*, artisan bakers Geanina and George Ursache are busy implementing the combinations they developed on the show, at their Tottenham based patisserie.

With plans to now write a book, provide baking lessons, and offer future dining experiences with Romanian and British cuisines,

all in the pipeline, the duo share what led them to take part in the national baking competition.

"We wanted to see how we work together under pressure," explained George.

"We learned a lot about ourselves; we learned about our value as well – how good we are and what we could do."

Geanina added: "Sometimes, you know you're doing great things, but it's not about you knowing, but when other people tell you that you are doing great.

"So many of our customers would come to our place telling us that we should go on *Bake Off*. We thought we were never going to have time for that."

Going on the show required a lot of time, many hours of which the pair spent pushing themselves out of their comfort zone.

"We trained ourselves a lot, especially with the showpieces we made out of chocolate or sugar," said Geanina.

"Of course, we had the knowledge about the process, but we

trained a lot to be good, and to perform at our best.

"We've always thought that we worked well under pressure because we work a lot, and we are used to there only being two of us in our business. But accomplishing what you have to do in those challenges, under that timing, is a different story."

Geanina has always been passionate about baking, starting from a young age, when she would make huge batches of panettone and cozonac with her grandmother during the holiday seasons, in Romania.

She said: "We'd bake little *petit fours* for Christmas – back then, it was the communist period, you couldn't find anything in the patisserie shop, so everything was made at home by parents and grandparents.

"I used to bake for all my relatives because I was so passionate about it. I'd spent nights with friends making roses out of sugar and chocolate, and big cakes for celebrations – and when I was 23, I met George."

Along with partner George, an engineer chemist turned baker, the pair decided to leave Romania, choosing to explore opportunities in England twelve years ago.

Although always having been passionate about cooking, George discovered his love for baking upon coming to England and gaining experience of mixing and making breads.

"George came first, one month before me," said Geanina.

"The first job that he found was in a bakery based in Tottenham. Since then, we've been locals – we live here, and we have our business here."

The pair started their business, Prestige Patisserie five years ago, after initially baking their sweet and savoury treats from home. First located in Holcombe Market, Bruce Grove, the couple settled into their unit in Rangemoor Road, three years ago.

Continued on Page 4

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WELCOME

Steadfast In Difficulties
September 2021
N° 50

At Tottenham Community Press we believe that Tottenham deserves a newspaper that is written by and for local people, and which celebrates community in all its diversity. We believe that local news brings people together around the issues that matter most to them and ensures everyone can have a voice in local decision-making. Now more than ever we believe that the media should be responsive and accountable to the community it serves.

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Tottenham Marshes Sunset by Stephen Furner

TCP turns five



No.1 Nov/Dec 2016

Hello, welcome to issue 50. The 50th edition of TCP is a significant milestone in our journey. Over the last five years, we have worked hard to reflect the vibrancy and diversity of Tottenham, to celebrate its rich traditions and cultural heritage, and to enable people to tell their own stories.

Our approach to reporting and circulating news in the local area has prioritised sharing varied content supplied by the community; drawing attention to the campaigns, projects and ini-



No.8 Jan/Feb 2018

tiatives that are happening, and ensuring that you are both the consumer and producer of TCP. We are currently in the process of making a short celebratory video to mark TCP's fifth anniversary, which will document the paper's journey to date.

The video will also mark a change here at Social Spider CIC, which will see TCP become a boroughwide publication called Haringey Community Press (HCP) – focusing on news from Tottenham as well as the wider borough.

This change will allow us to capture even more local stories,



No.28 Nov 2019

whilst also ensuring increased financial stability to cover the paper's production and distribution costs as we head into the next five years and beyond.

Issue 51 will be the last edition entitled TCP, and the new HCP name will be in place from November onward.

We value your commitment to TCP and we will let you know when the video is complete, so that you can join us in celebrating those who have contributed to its success.

In this 50th edition, our front page features an interview with bakers George and Geanina



No.35 June 2020

Ursache, who, having reached the semi-final of the hit TV show, Bake Off: The Professionals, share their experience of showcasing their baking skills to the nation.

A controversial plan to redevelop Wards Corner, Seven Sisters has been scrapped by developer Grainger – reporter Simon Allin looks into the reasons why (p.5). On page four, Haringey Council is urging residents in the Love Lane Estate to take part in a 'yes' or 'no' ballot which will decide both the future of the estate and that of the people living on it. The council is also seeking local



No.46 May 2021

engagement regarding the launch of two low-traffic neighbourhoods in Tottenham (p.7). Head to page 17 to find out about Tottenham's oldest netball team, and read Karin Lock's review of the award winning novel There There by Tommy Orange (p.18).

As always, we welcome your story ideas, photographs, poems, letters, and illustrations. Email: tcp@socialspider.com to send them in for consideration, or to ask any questions about the coming changes.

Luchia Robinson
Editor



NEWS



Love Lane Estate Credit Luchia Robinson

High Road West ballot underway

Council urges Love Lane Estate residents to vote in long-awaited rehousing ballot

By Luchia Robinson

Haringey Council is encouraging residents on a Tottenham estate to vote on its rehousing plans in a mandatory ballot.

Residents on the Love Lane Estate, which is earmarked for demolition, are being urged to vote 'yes' or 'no' to proposals that will see 500 new council-rent homes built as part of the High Road West (HRW) development, if a 'yes' vote goes through.

The 2,600-home scheme was agreed by Haringey Council and developer Lendlease in 2017. It aims to redevelop the estate, delivering 40% affordable homes to the area.

Around 1.3 hectares of open spaces and the delivery of a learning centre, a new library, and a refurbished community hub, are part of the improvements.

The 'landlord offer' includes the council's guarantee that eligible secure tenants and those in temporary accommodation will be offered a new council home, at council rents with a secure tenancy.

The council says it will offer resident leaseholders support to buy an affordable home – either on the redeveloped estate or elsewhere.

The offer of the council's commitment to existing residents is dependent on eligible residents voting 'yes' in the ballot.

“Good redevelopment depends on understanding the priorities of the community”

If a 'yes' vote goes through, it's estimated that more than 3,500 jobs, and 1,500 training opportunities will be created. 250 families on the borough's waiting list will also be housed on the scheme.

The ballot, which was originally planned to take place in May (but was rescheduled because of the change in council leadership), is now underway.

Haringey Council leader, Peray Ahmet said: “We've been clear that redevelopment will only go ahead if residents vote in favour. It's vital that every resident who is eligible uses their vote, and voice, to tell us if they want us to move forward. Whatever the outcome of the ballot, we will continue to work closely with the community on shaping the future of the estate.

“Good redevelopment depends on understanding the priorities of the community. That's why we are adopting a collaborative approach, giving local people the opportunity to tell us their aspirations and ensuring we focus on their needs – from the layout of new council homes to improvements in community facilities.”

TAG (Temporary Accommodation Group) Love Lane, a community campaign based on the estate, is urging residents to request that the council commits to a legally binding guarantee of new secure council homes on the scheme before casting their vote.

Votes can be cast online, by post or by telephone before the closing date on Monday 6th September

Continued from Page-1

Known for making moist cakes inspired by the ones they grew up with, Geanina and George found that the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic last year, gave them a good reason to seek a new challenge.

That challenge came in the form of *Bake Off: The Professionals*, which aired on Channel 4 this summer.

The couple achieved their first goal of not being eliminated on their first episode – everything on top of that was a “bonus,” they say.

With each challenge being very different, they found their skills were stretched to the maximum.

Geanina said: “At first, it was unusual to have so many cameras around you, at every single step someone interviewed you to ask you things, and in the meantime, you had to work.

“We didn't know exactly how to manage, so on the second day we were so stressed and so nervous because we wanted to do our best. Then step by step we planned everything, and we took advantage of applying what we learned each day, to each new challenge.

Geanina added: “The Dracula castle was a beautiful challenge.

“It was George's idea to make that showpiece – I think we loved the castle because it represents memories of ourselves back in Romania.

“With George being a chemist, it's very easy for him to do all the little details with passion and patience, whereas myself, I create a lot of things, but sometimes I lose the finesse and the speed, so he balances us in that way, especially with chocolate and sugar art. He is the one who's got the patience to do all of those things, I'm the one who's pushing, pushing, pushing.”

The challenges saw George and Geanina travel in time to their future 50th wedding anniversary, as well as creating a teddy bear's picnic-inspired table scene that would ultimately see them exit the competition at the semi-final.

Geanina said: “We have been blessed to have the judge's opinion. We didn't only learn from their critiques, but from others as well because we paid a lot of attention. To be judged in that competition, and to be at that level, you really do gain a lot.

“[Judges] Cherish [Finden] and Benoit [Blin] are amazing, they are gods in the patisserie for every single pastry chef. We learned what we could do, what others could do, and how you can present it.

“We didn't take it as criticism, we took it as the most amazing thing that could happen to us because we learned combinations that we can apply in the future in the patisserie, for our pastries.”



Geanina and George in action Credit Channel 4

NEWS

A protest against the Latin Village redevelopment in October 2019 Credit: Stephen Furner



Developer scraps Latin Village plans citing ‘significant delays’

Plans for 196 homes cancelled amid local opposition

By Simon Allin,
Local Democracy Reporter

Local campaigners in Seven Sisters hailed a “huge victory in the fight for a fairer city” after a developer pulled out of a controversial regeneration scheme.

Private landlord Grainger has ditched plans to demolish buildings at Wards Corner and build 196 new homes, citing “legal challenges” and “significant delays” to the scheme.

Its plans have long been opposed by traders’ groups at Seven Sisters Indoor Market – also known as the Latin Village – who feared it would put their livelihoods and culture at risk.

Grainger’s decision could pave the way for an alternative ‘community plan’ to restore the market to go ahead – a proposal that has already won backing from Haringey Council leader, Peray Ahmet.

Following Grainger’s announcement, campaign group Save Latin Village tweeted: “This is a huge victory in the fight for a fairer city.”

Vicky Alvarez, chair of Seven Sisters Market Traders Association, described the news as a “significant victory for all those fighting gentrification in London” and urged Transport for London (TfL), the Greater London Authority and Mayor of London to get behind the community plan.

Plans to regenerate the land at Wards Corner – which is part-owned by London Underground and managed by TfL – date back to 2004. Grainger won permission

belonging to minorities and their right to equal participation in economic, social and cultural rights”.

As part of a legal agreement with the council, Grainger had pledged to provide space in the development for a new market and a temporary market in a nearby building during construction work. But earlier this year, the developer told traders that work to open the temporary market was being held up because of “viability challenges”.

“This is a significant victory for all those fighting gentrification in London”

for a housing scheme at the site in 2008, but the decision was later quashed by the Court of Appeal.

In 2012, the firm secured permission for a revised scheme to build 196 rental homes – none of which would be classed affordable – at the site.

But five years later, a group of United Nations human rights experts warned the council’s plans to forcibly buy up land to allow the scheme to go ahead would have “a disproportionate impact on people

business office space and 200sqm of community space, including a childcare centre.

Cllr Ahmet said: “Having met with the West Green Road/Seven Sisters Development Trust, we are supportive of the trust’s community plan to bring the existing historic building back to life for the next generation, with Seven Sisters market, popularly known as the Latin Village, at its heart, and we are looking forward to seeing the next iteration of the plans.

“As TfL are the owners of the market, we urge them to work with the trust to co-produce a solution for the long-term future of the market.”

A TfL spokesperson said it was continuing to focus its efforts on supporting traders, including carrying out essential works on site. It said it had also provided direct financial assistance to traders and was working on options for a temporary market, although no decisions had been made on the community plan.

Graeme Craig, TfL’s director of commercial development, said: “We know how much the market means to the small businesses based there and the local community, and we want to see traders being able to operate safely again as soon as possible.”

NEWS

Pregnant woman housed 'in a shed' by council

Public responds with anger to pregnant woman at risk in unsuitable accommodation

By Luchia Robinson

Haringey Council faced strong public criticism when details of a pregnant woman housed in unsuitable accommodation, surfaced on social media last month.

Community initiative Sebby's Corner took to social media seeking help from the public, as well as local and central government, after receiving an emergency referral for a pregnant woman housed 'in a shed' by council housing management, Homes for Haringey (HfH).

Sebby's Corner (an organisation that provides basic essentials to families in need across London and the South-East), asked for public contributions to an emergency fund to help the woman and others in similar situations, alleging that Haringey Council had claimed the woman couldn't

be moved until the baby was born. The viral tweet drew angry responses from the public.

Haringey Council leader, Peray Ahmet responded to the situation by tweeting that Haringey officers were on site with the woman "providing support", "establishing the facts of the case", and "looking to resolve the situation as soon as possible."

Upon hearing that the woman had later been housed, one Twitter user said: "She is housed! There are homes, but these councils would rather you out of London. That's what this is. They run estates to the ground, put residents in garden sheds and neglect the needs of their tenants so they get fed up and leave, and they can sell land to developers."

They went on to add: "[Haringey Council] should be ashamed. The very council that has earned its notoriety for some of the most shocking child neglect cases in

UK history (Victoria Climbié, Baby P) has now trended on Twitter because they housed a pregnant woman in a garden shed."

In a public statement, Cllr Ahmet, said: "We would like to apologise unreservedly to this resident, who should not have been housed in this property by Homes for Haringey.

"Whilst the accommodation is a studio flat at a registered address, and had all the required safety documentation, it was not appropriate and will not be used by HfH again.

"HfH were already looking to relocate the individual to alternative accommodation, and I'm pleased to report that [...] an offer has been made to move her to a one-bedroom flat.

"We'll ensure she receives an appropriate level of assistance, help and support going forward."

Bianca Sakol, founder of Sebby's Corner said: "We were heartbroken



Credit: Mustafa Omar/Unsplash

when we received an emergency referral for a pregnant woman being housed in unsuitable accommodation and we raised our concerns on social media platforms to try to ensure she received the support she deserved.

"We would like to apologise unreservedly to this resident, who should not have been housed in this property by Homes for Haringey"

"Sebby's Corner is delighted to hear that Haringey Council acted swiftly when we raised our concerns. We welcome her move to a one-bedroom flat and the assurance from leader, Cllr Ahmet that she will now receive the appropriate level of assistance, help and support going forward."

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NEWS

LTN consultations launched

Council seeks feedback on traffic reduction schemes

By Simon Allin,
Local Democracy Reporter

Borough residents are being asked to have their say on plans to introduce three traffic-reduction schemes.

Haringey Council wants those living and working in and near to proposed low-traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs) in Bruce Grove, St Ann's, and Bounds Green to share their feedback on the final designs.

It claims the schemes will improve air quality, reduce traffic levels, and enable safer walking and cycling.

LTNs are designed to stop rat-running by closing residential streets to through traffic, while allowing access for residents and businesses.

Such schemes have proved controversial in some areas, including in a neighbouring part of Enfield, where opposition councillors have repeatedly called for its removal. Opponents of them claim they have



A low-traffic neighbourhood (LTN) in neighbouring Enfield borough

pushed traffic on to surrounding roads and caused delays. One of the LTN schemes planned in Haringey will border Enfield Council's scheme in Bowes Park.

Mike Hakata, Haringey's cabinet member for environment, transport and the climate emergency, said the council had "learnt from

the introduction of LTNs elsewhere" and was "determined that residents, who know their areas best, will be able to tell us what works and what doesn't work."

The council unveiled Haringey's three proposed LTN schemes in February and launched a survey on local traffic issues and what

improvements the community wanted to see. It has also held design workshops and claims to have been in regular contact with emergency services so their feedback could be taken into consideration.

Measures the council is consulting on include the location and design of road closures and restricted

access points, secure cycle parking locations, new school streets and additional pedestrian crossings. The consultation will run until Friday, 17th September.

"Residents who know their areas best, will be able to tell us what works and what doesn't work"

The results will be considered by the council's cabinet next month before a final decision on whether to go ahead with the projects. LTNs that are approved will be rolled out on a trial basis, allowing the council to make changes to the schemes as it receives feedback.

Head to Haringey Council's website for details on the consultation and links to the surveys.



Sign up to the TCP newsletter

We have recently launched a weekly newsletter to keep readers up-to-date with the latest news, features and comment from the TCP website

Sign up: tottenhamcommunitypress.co.uk

HEALTH



Dr Nnenna Osuji was appointed as the new chief executive of North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust earlier this year
Credit North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust

Pandemic impact at North Mid ‘will be felt for years’

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

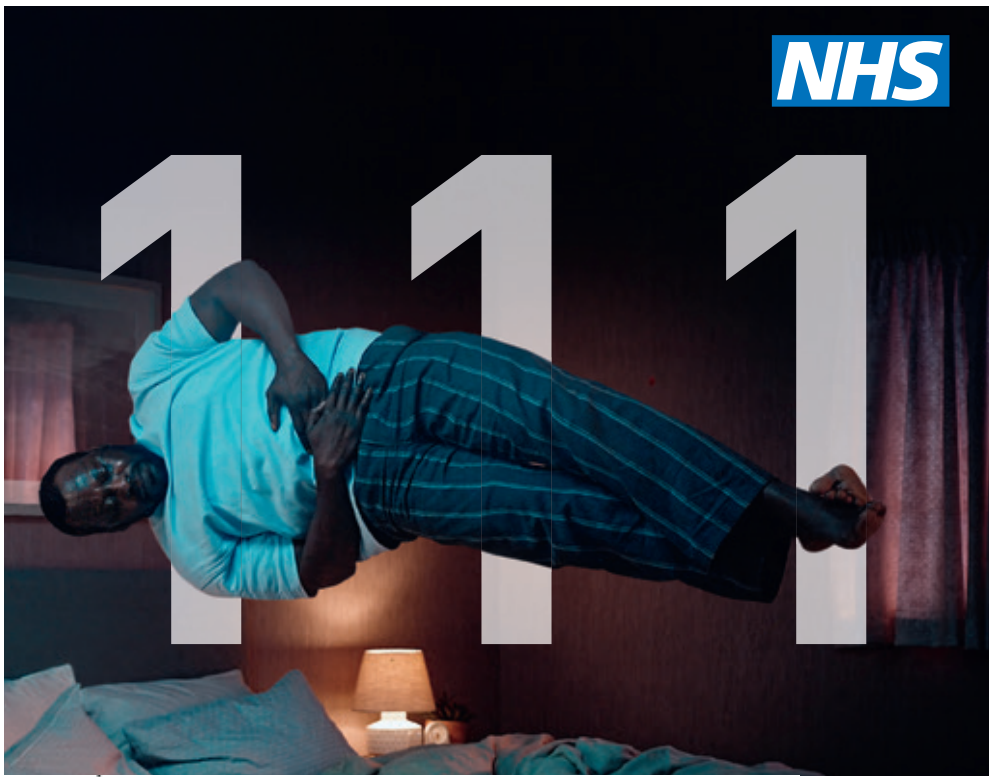
The impact of the pandemic on the treatment of non-Covid ailments at North Middlesex University Hospital will be “felt for years to come”. This is according to the new chief executive of the NHS trust running the Edmonton hospital, who has reacted to the release of new data showing the hospital is falling behind on several national targets for key performance measures.

A report published by North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust last month revealed that the percentage of patients waiting under 18 weeks to be treated – described as the ‘referral to treatment’ (RTT) time – had reduced from 94.4% before the pandemic to 85% in June 2021. This puts it below the national target of 92%. Out of a total of 14,374 people on North Mid’s waiting list for treatment as of June 2021, 94 had been waiting for more than a year and 16 had been waiting for more

than 90 weeks. Before the pandemic, only eight patients had been waiting more than 40 weeks and none more than 52 weeks. In diagnostics, the NHS target is for 99% of all patients to receive a diagnostic test within six weeks, but North Mid’s performance has dropped from 99.6% in December 2019 to 87.1% in June 2021. And for cancer treatment specifically, the national target is for at least 85% of patients to start a first treatment for cancer within two months (62 days) of an urgent GP referral. At North Mid, this performance measure has fallen from 88.9% before the pandemic to 64.1% in May 2021. Dr Nnenna Osuji, North Mid’s chief executive, said: “North Mid was one of the first trusts in the country to experience the impact of Covid-19 during the first wave, and again in the second wave, with huge demand of our services from severely ill patients with Covid-19. “Despite this, the trust has continuously adapted its services in line with government guidelines to ensure the safety and care of our patients remains a top priority.” During the peak of the first wave of the pandemic in spring 2020, the trust had more than 250 Covid-19 positive patients in an inpatient bed, while at the peak of the second wave in January 2021 there were more than

300 coronavirus patients at North Mid. At these peak times, non-cancer elective activity was reduced. Cancer patients requiring urgent treatment had their procedures performed at private health-care providers, freeing up space for Covid-19 patients at North Mid. Dr Osuji added: “Throughout both peaks, the trust has continued to provide patients who require non-Covid care with the treatment they need, accelerating this where possible and using clinical review. “Having said this, the impact of Covid-19 will be felt for years to come, and we continue to work with GPs and local health partners to help make sure that local people receive care in the most appropriate setting.” A trust spokesperson added that it had introduced “a Covid-19 secure pathway” for patients having surgery at the hospital via the newly-opened Sir Captain Thomas Moore’s Centenary Ward. Any patients waiting more than 52 weeks for treatment are clinically reviewed at least monthly. Attendances at North Mid’s accident and emergency (A&E) department are also up this summer, with the hospital seeing a record number of attendances in July, when there were sometimes more than 700 patients seen in a single day, compared to the average of 550–600 attendances per day.

“The impact of Covid-19 will be felt for years to come”



JUST THINK 111 FIRST

When you think you need A&E, contact NHS 111 by phone or online.



MADE BY TOTTENHAM

You might not immediately think of Tottenham as being at the forefront of fashion, but you'd be wrong! In the past, the Harringay Warehouse district and the wider Lea Valley were at the centre of a thriving textile manufacturing industry. Today, many local creatives can still be found cutting their teeth in fashion. We chat to some of the creatives featured in the Made By Tottenham directory, which showcases creative freelancers and businesses in the local area.



Portraits Agenda Brown, Hanna Benihoud portrait Tim Jobling, Design Wiedemann Lampe, Campaign Jack Arts

Huq That specialise in fashion styling and henna and is run by Sabria. She told us: "I didn't feel there was a space for me in the creative industries so I decided to create my own through the business. Places like Pxssy Palace and other dedicated collectives for queer BIPOC really helped and inspired confidence to bring Huq That to life."

A highlight of her career "has been connecting with so many incredible people through the business and seeing how it's grown from henna services to styling and costume."



Huq That

Rasha Swais produce hand-made, made to order 60s and 70s inspired men and womenswear. Rasha explained: "After graduating, my friend introduced me to Phillip Normal and I started producing handmade one-off button-down shirts for his small boutique in Camden."

"My business started pretty organically, I didn't want to rush into creating large collections... Now after ten years I own my own studio, and produce bespoke, as well as off the peg, made to order garments."

Rasha said she loves Tottenham. "It's changed so much but you still have that gritty real-ness that pulls you in."

Rasha Swais is working with Tottenham Textiles on a collaboration of Graft wear inspired by 60s French working jackets, produced in Tottenham by locals.



Rasha Swais

Franklin Boateng aka King of Trainers is a local social media personality who specialises in trainers, footwear and digital marketing. He's excited about his collaboration with Ellesse which releases next year. "I have a capsule collection dedicated to my mum..."

Franklin likes the community vibe of Tottenham the most, "We have so so many creatives... I was shocked how many of us there were."

He recently launched the shop Green Machine CBD with Tottenham local Wretch 32 in Shoreditch.



Franklin Boateng Credit Agenda Brown

Semsah Fashion is a sewing platform where you learn how to sew, upcycle and mend your garments. During the lockdown Semsah Fashion helped the Haringey community come together by collaborating with Sewn Together by 4U2 News Mag.

Susanna has been in the fashion industry for over a decade as a fashion garment technologist, and has worked with Alexander McQueen and Jack Wills. Her work has shown her that "behind every garment is a story, a person that brings to life what is often disregarded and undervalued."

They will be running workshops in Tottenham later this year and are launching a programme in September helping aspiring fashion designer-makers that want to start a label.



Semsah Fashion

Sündar Swim produce ethical reversible swimwear, made entirely from 100% regenerated nylon Econyl (taken from landfill and ocean waste). Tanya said: "I was lying on a beach wearing my latest high-street bikini which, after one week, was beginning to go see-through. I started to wonder what happened to this short-lived swimwear I'd buy into every summer – where did it end up? Landfill of course..."

She added: "Receiving positive feedback from customers really makes my day - it is so true that when you purchase from an independent business that a person literally does a dance when they get an order through."



Sündar Swim

Made by Tottenham aims to support the local creative economy, freelancers and businesses by offering business advice and guidance, skills and training, and is a platform for news, events and opportunities. At its heart is a directory of creative people and businesses.

The platform is part of the Mayor of London's Creative Enterprise Zone programme and is funded by the GLA and Haringey Council.

Visit madebytottenham.com
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FOOTBRIDGE OVER THE LEE NAVIGATION AT TOTTENHAM HALE BY ST





STEPHEN FURNER



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TCP
Nº 50

Sep
2021

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ARTS & CULTURE

Attendees at Haringey Fringe Credit: Stephen Furner



Fringe benefits

The fringe theatre festival showcasing what Haringey has to offer

By Benjamin Froehlich, *managing director, Newsroom Theatre Company*

What do people outside Tottenham or Haringey as a whole associate with our borough? Many things, but not its rich and powerful performing arts scene.

There are so many players in the arts who are challenging limiting realities within our communities, and it is time that an annual event celebrates this on a large scale, in a way that our borough deserves.

Theatre – or performing arts in general – is such a powerful tool to tell stories. Dance, music, pictures manage to reach hearts and minds in different ways when powerful words take the shape of a play, a poem, a song or a comedy set. Professional performers can guide us to unimaginable places and make us feel emotions that we may never have felt before.

Theatre is the living proof that diversity makes us stronger. The arts make us human, and they help us claim spaces, making voices heard.

Having moved to Seven Sisters nine years ago from Switzerland because of my passion for musical theatre, I grew to love our challenging

and colourful borough. I am a trained actor, singer and choir conductor – a theatre maker, trying to support other theatre makers in their journey to bring their ideas to their audiences.

When I first came across the Shell Theatre on my runs in Lordship Rec, I started to envisage a festival taking shape in this wonderful park, one that would bring local professionals, community groups, and theatre makers together to create opportunities to perform, find audiences, showcase new work, and celebrate theatre.

The outbreak of Covid-19 made it hard to plan ahead, so I decided to give it a go on a small scale, financing it myself, and calling it the 2021 trial.

In partnership with the Friends of Lordship Rec, the Lordship Hub Co-operative, many active players in my theatre network, Newsroom Theatre Company, as well as many others, we launched *Haringey Fringe – Theatre Festival* at the end of July.

More than 25 acts joined the festival to perform their work or run workshops for free between 2–10pm. Although the start of the day was rather wet, from the afternoon we ran all acts on our outdoor stage built behind the Lordship Hub, in the Shell Theatre, and other locations in the park.

The important connections created on the day will remain in place throughout the year, as we exchange resources and explore opportunities. Together with the Shell Performing Arts Collective and hopefully with support from Haringey Council and other bodies, we aim to be back next summer with a Haringey Fringe in Tottenham, as well as some satellite events in parks and venues across the borough.

We've only just begun to scratch the surface of what Tottenham and Haringey has in store in the performing arts.

To get in touch with thoughts and questions and to get involved, head to:

Instagram and Twitter @haringeyfringe
Email info@newsroomtheatrecompany.com



Abstract head by Christopher Owin Lane



Credit: Stephen Furner

COMMUNITY



Year 2 winners, Sapphire Class Credit Hayley Dix

Peaceful green

In early July, Devonshire Hill Nursery and Primary School in Weir Hall Road, N17, were invited to participate in a competition by The Mall shopping centre, Wood Green.

Children were asked to choose a name for the most recent green space project – a roof garden, that had been installed in The Mall.

The Mall shopping centre has been working alongside Grow N22, a community organisation that transforms disused and neglected gardens and spaces, to create a 'green corridor' for bugs, birds, bees and butterflies to enjoy along Wood Green High Road.

The nursery and primary aged children, aged 2–11 years-old, were inspired by images of the roof garden, and regular updates of its development, including some very exciting aerial pictures captured by a drone!

We submitted a total of ten potential names for the competition. Year 2 Sapphire Class were chosen as the winners with their submission 'Peaceful Green'.

Class teacher Caleen Davis-Moore said: "The children wanted to

acknowledge the roof garden as a space for wildlife to be safe and at peace, away from the busy flow of people and traffic."

The Mall's marketing manager, Catriona Baillie, organised the competition and expressed why they chose the winning name, stating: "The team loved that it evoked the idea that the garden is

"The children wanted to acknowledge the roof garden as a space for wildlife to be safe and at peace"

an oasis of calm for wildlife on the busy High Road."

Year 3 Coral Class were selected as runners up with their suggestion of 'The Bugs are Coming Home'. Both names will be incorporated on

to a sign alongside the new roof garden which will explain the project to visitors.

The children were very excited to learn that their efforts will represent such an important cause. They showed great curiosity in visiting the newly named Peaceful Green, which can be seen through the window from the bridge on the upper mall.

The generous competition prize of £200 will be spent on an eco-project within the school. After careful discussion, both classes decided together that they would like to create an environment especially for frogs, newts and fish. This will be a great addition to our wonderful 'March Wood' forest school which is within the school grounds.

A pond will provide a slightly different ecosystem for the children to experience which is so valuable for developing interest and passion for nature, as well as understanding and confidence to care for the environment.

All updates regarding the progress of creating the nature pond will be shared on the school's Twitter page: @DevonshireHill.



Six weeks after planting Credit David Trott

Express yourself

The work of young Haringey writers features in anthology following professional mentoring

The attendees at the workshops with the 2021 anthology Credit Jennifer Harris



By Sarah Tinsley,
company director, Write
By You CIC

At the end of July, a group of young writers gathered in The Green Rooms, Wood Green, to celebrate their achievements in the first ever Write By You project, which supports diversity in writing in the borough.

As a teacher who has worked in Haringey for many years, I wanted to give diverse writers an opportunity to explore their creativity, using writing as a way to express themselves. I also wanted to give them an outlet for the frustrations and difficulties they may have encountered as a result of the pandemic.

The project was aimed at female writers aged 12–18 living in Haringey, who are currently underrepresented in the publishing industry. This included those who identify as LGBTQI+, BAME, carers, disabled, or those from low-income households.

With the same voices continually dominating the stories we hear, I hoped that the writers taking part in the project would gain confidence to find their voices. Tottenham in particular, as one of the most diverse areas in London, has many voices that I hope we hear more from in the future.

The group of young writers attended workshops with established writers also resident in the borough. Following the workshops, they were given professional feedback, personal

coaching, and their work was then collated into an anthology.

Seeing their work in print was a huge experience for many of the young writers, and the event was filled with excitement as they saw the words they had written in a professional book.

The writers learned about slam poetry from Rakaya Fetuga, a poet-in-residence at The Roundhouse, and about using their personal identity to rewrite myths with Alexandra Sheppard, a local young adult writer. They also talked about the issues they were passionate about with multi-disciplinary writer Elizabeth Chakrabarty, to inspire non-fiction essays.

After our success this year, Write By You will be expanding in 2022. Subject to restrictions, we will be offering in-person workshops next January with six fabulous writers, and offering 20 local writers the opportunity to learn and be inspired from them. The coaching will take place in March and the celebration event will be held in May.

I am so excited to meet the next set of inspirational young people who want to share their stories, learn more about the craft of writing, and receive personal mentoring on their skills.

For more information, head to: writebyyou.org or find us on Twitter @WriteByYou or Facebook www.facebook.com/writebyyouuk

You can buy a copy of the 2021 anthology, featuring a range of fiction, poetry and non-fiction at the All Good Bookshop.

COMMENT

Haringey GND campaigners challenge politicians to “take a side” on climate

By Haringey Green New Deal Rising Hub

During a time of turmoil created by extreme weather events at home and abroad, and coinciding with the devastating report about global heating by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); young volunteers from Haringey Green New Deal (GND) have been challenging politicians to “take a side” on the climate crisis.

Campaigners aged 16-35 from the borough have joined ‘Green New Deal Rising’, the newly launched youth movement of Green New Deal UK, which specifically mobilises people as the face and front line of the movement.

The aim of GND Rising is to “create widespread disruption to the political system by challenging politicians wherever we find them”.

The key objective is to get politicians to agree to back the Green New Deal bill, which is being tabled in parliament in the autumn. The bill is seen by many as the first step towards combating the climate crisis because it would create a government mandate for a ten-year plan for transforming the UK economy, at the speed and scale needed to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Unless we get these rapid and large-scale reductions, limiting global temperature warming to close to 1.5°C or even 2°C will be beyond reach, and this will have devastating impacts in the UK, and across the world, with more and more severe weather events.

Last month, Haringey GND volunteers joined around 30 other campaigners from across the UK in a protest which began at

the Houses of Parliament. Upon entering Westminster Hall on a walking tour, the protesters got into position with banners and placards, before reading aloud from the latest IPCC report.

After being escorted out by security, they went on to Conservative and Labour Party headquarters, demanding that politicians face up to the scale of the climate crisis and

back the Green New Deal bill. Images and videos of the group in parliament, with an array of banners and signs, were circulated widely on social media.

A few days later, youth campaigners from the Haringey hub were involved in further action, this time trying to speak to the leader of the Labour Party, Keir Starmer, when he was visiting a hospital in Stroud. Their aim was to get his support for the Green New Deal bill.

“The key objective is to get politicians to agree to back the Green New Deal bill”

Starmer appeared to duck the group by claiming to be “too busy” to speak to them, but on their second attempt, the following day, they did manage to briefly speak to him. He did not offer his categorical backing to the Green New Deal bill.

For anyone aged 16-35 interested in getting involved with Green New Deal Rising, visit gndrising.org, and for more information on the local branch group please contact: haringeygnd@gmail.com.

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FEATURE

Trojan tenacity

The Tottenham netball team bringing more than 40 years of experience to the game

By Orla Falls

Troy Netball Club's head coach, Fay Downie, sipped her morning coffee as she sat in her leafy back garden – in a few hours' time she'd lead trials for the 2021/22 season at Tottenham's oldest netball club.

How would things be different as netballers came out of lockdown? So many London clubs had shrunk because of members leaving London for good or battling long Covid. How could she bring the club back together? What might 18 months without league competition mean for Troy's appetite to winning?

club no longer exists.

The netball club's first team developed from the folded Broadwater Farm's Blue Arches netball club, which Fay had coached previously. Several original members, like Sharon Philip and Theresa Magloire still play and umpire today at a competitive level.

Funding for an after-school club during the 90s helped attract more players, by providing somewhere for youngsters to build their skills and get homework done. One of the highlights during these years was the training camps run by Bath University, inspiring and developing Troy's teens.

The club is a melting pot, and a real family made up of locals, 'blow-ins' and others who travel

“If you show talent, there's nothing stopping you”

Fay established Troy netball and football clubs in 1977, taking the name from Greek mythology and the cunning tactics used during the Trojan siege and the battle to recover Helen, the most beautiful woman in the world.

She has been championing grassroots netball in Haringey for more than 40 years, making the sport accessible to girls across the community. Sadly, with so much organisation needed, the football

from the capital's far-flung corners to play for the club. Troy netballers come from diverse backgrounds, bringing influences from the Caribbean, Africa, and the UK to the game. Players ages range from 20-60+, with all abilities and fitness levels.

Fay said: “With so many pressures on women at work and at home, we've strived to support them to stay in the game they love throughout the years. Some



Coach Fay Downie speaks to the team at half time
Credit: Cherelle Bryan

return after being away at university or having babies – it's a special moment when much missed players return from illness or injury.”

Following a great turn out at trials in August, Troy has grown in membership, with the club fielding four teams in both the North London and Middlesex leagues: prem, first, second and fourth division.

Last year, many of Troy's members took part in a series of conversations about racism, set up by England Netball, (the national governing body of netball in England), in an effort to better understand Troy's diverse membership.

Teacher, Beth Link said: “We're committed to supporting our local leagues to build their self-awareness and take responsibility for driving out prejudice and micro aggressions. We'd love to see netball leadership representing the diversity of its membership.

“To enable this, our club is focusing on home growing more diverse umpires for local leagues, and representing on the diversity committees.”

Troy originals Courtesy of Troy Netball Club



Coaching at Troy instils a positive attitude toward competing and a growth mindset to developing individual talents.

“Elite players don't arrive at Troy, they're homegrown! Nothing is fixed,” says Fay.

“If you show talent, there's nothing stopping you. Egos aren't accommodated – positions in our first team can be filled by players from the lower teams, as we try out new combos to see what works well together. Our teams are all the better because of it.”

If you live in Tottenham and would like to train with your neighbours, training is on Thursdays (6-7pm for Back to Netballers, 7-9pm for the whole club) at Markfield Park multi use games area, N15 6EB. Everyone's welcome. If you're a Blue Arches or an old Troy girl, get in touch.

Stay updated by following Troy's progress in the leagues on Instagram, follow: @TroySports.



Team line up on match day Credit: Cherelle Bryan

LITERATURE

The representation of history

Karin Lock reviews *There There*

What if the history we were taught in school was a misrepresentation, a distortion, an outright lie? Decolonising the UK school curriculum has been an ongoing demand from pupils and teachers since the radical 1970s. For five decades, alternative texts and syllabuses have been available but the system's resistance to change has maintained the status quo.

The government's recent diktat that teaching "anti-capitalism" is an "extreme political stance akin to antisemitism" shows how far they will go to uphold 'official' versions of history. But luckily books have not yet been banned. Contemporary literature offers many vital fresh stories which can change perceptions, re-educate minds and provide solace and hope.

There There should be on everyone's reading list. It has a rich tapestry of nuanced characters cleverly woven together with pathos and humour by young prodigious American author Tommy Orange. The book is a blend of Native wisdom and mythology, intergenerational trauma, and lessons on Indian history and representation. It also portrays the traumas facing young people within this invisible urban community.

Tommy Orange is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes of Oklahoma who grew up in East Oakland, around Fruitvale. Having flunked school, he worked in a bookstore, developed an interest in reading, and achieved two university degrees. This stunning debut work was a finalist for the 2019 Pulitzer

Prize and won the 2018 American Book Award.

Written in instantly accessible prose that is conversational, poetic and gritty, *There There* is an engrossing read that builds up to its crescendo event – the Big Oakland Powwow. The novel revolves around a storytelling project taking place at the local Indian centre. Native filmmaker Dene Oxendene wants to pay the participants because:

The book has much to say about the genocide's "unattended wound" – the ongoing effects of which are evident in prolific teenage suicide rates and babies born with "drome" (foetal alcohol syndrome).

There There, has a prologue and interlude, giving context to the characters' narratives. The fiction of Thanksgiving; the fetishizing of feathered braves; the proliferation of sports mascots – all

are tactics to impose an identity from outside. It is the elders, the medicine men and women who can teach about self-determination and belonging: "Don't let anyone tell you what being Indian means... Every part of our people that made it is precious."

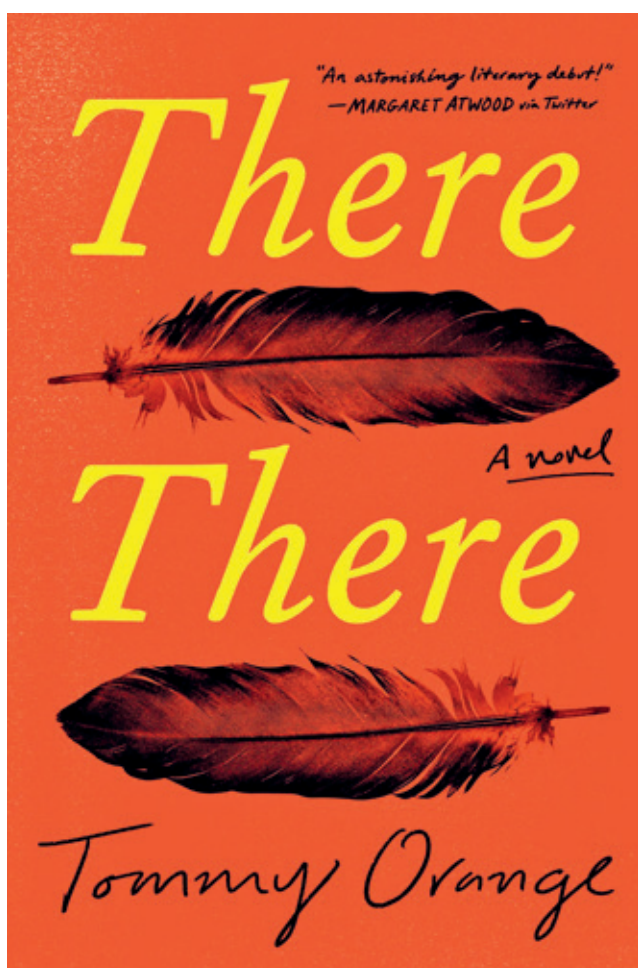
This is also a book about place (the 'there' of the title). When Dene goes for his grant interview, he ruminates on what Oakland (and America) has become: "So much development had happened... there was no there there anymore." The ancestral buried land has been built over long ago but songs, dances, drums, arts and languages have survived. The internet (and powwow) keeps them alive.

Reading *There There* is a sobering but familiar experience. The colonial project that started centuries ago decimated indigenous populations through disease and violence.

The acquisitive nature of capitalism has continued that destruction of planet and people. Storytelling is part of the healing process, engendering courage and possibilities: "When we see that the story is the way we live our lives, only then can we start to change."

"Stories are invaluable, but to pay is to appreciate."

Storytelling gives visibility and validation to both individual and community because as Dene remarks: "All we got right now are reservation stories, and shitty versions from outdated history textbooks."



"There There should be on everyone's reading list"

POETRY CORNER

Nocturne

Midnight in the city.
Soft summer air
Gently waving the curtains
Of an open window.
In the stillness, children listen
For the thin blue note of the siren.
Recite your poems in an undertone.
Finger the keys delicately
As a butterfly lighting
On a chrysanthemum.
For this is the way you disappear
Singing the Lord's song in a strange land.

By Michael O'Sullivan

Londoner

I take my place among the bustling crowds
Passing shop windows and blurry faces
I walk among them and leave no traces
We are like children on merry-go-rounds.
Separate but equal, part of the mob
That moves through this city like a huge snake
I am not quite asleep, not quite awake
As I wait for buses and do my job.
Through the ages, many wandering souls
Have walked and breathed in these same streets.
Fortunes have been won; fortunes have been lost.
The rich get richer; the poor pay the cost.
Power stays in the pockets of elites
And we keep digging our boroughs like moles.

By Orlando Plume

Advertisement

LICENSING ACT 2003 Notice of Application for a Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that **Mr Vakkas Miral** has applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Haringey for a Premises Licence to permit:

- **Retail off-sale of alcohol Monday to Sunday from 07:00 to 23:00, including delivery of alcohol by way of our own drivers and/or third party drivers such as Just Eat, UberEats and Getir, with and without food for the premises Mezo Food Centre situated at 350 Lordship Lane, London N17 7QX**

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at by contacting Licensing Team at licensing@haringey.gov.uk

Any person wishing to submit relevant representations concerning this application must give notice in writing to licensing@haringey.gov.uk, giving in detail the grounds of the representation no later than: **16/09/2021**

Copies of all valid representations must include your name and address and will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Authorities Sub Committee, these will therefore pass into the public domain.

Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

It is an offence liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application.

Dated: 20th day of August 2021

SPORT

What does the return of Spurs fans mean for local businesses in Tottenham?

By Haran Naresh

The current football season marks the return of fans at full capacity for games for the first time since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Last month, a pre-season game saw Tottenham Hotspur play at home against Arsenal. The game saw Spurs secure a 1-0 victory, with Heung-min Son scoring the decisive goal. Although only 25,000 fans were present at the 62,850 capacity Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, the match was a pre-cursor for what it'll be like when stands are filled to the maximum.

With full capacity crowds being absent from Tottenham Hotspur Stadium since March 2020, how will the return of thousands of fans impact local businesses?

Many local businesses benefit from the huge number of fans in the area on matchdays. When the stadium was opened in April 2019, Haringey Council stated that it would provide a major economic boost to the area. It estimated that matchdays would generate more than £10million in social and economic support for businesses and residents.

Kelly Hayday, the landlady of the Bricklayers Arms pub in Tottenham High Road, said that the return of fans will allow her business to catch up for the time lost in the pandemic. She went on to say that the Bricklayers Arms has lost hundreds of thousands of pounds in this period and has had to let a lot of staff go.

Although the return of fans will bring financial relief to many local businesses, Kelly believes that it will not be able to help them

generate the same level of revenue as it did pre-pandemic. She cites travel restrictions and expenses of Covid testing as being factors that may prevent many foreign fans from attending games and she predicts that the possible absence of supporters from Ireland and Spain in particular, will affect the Bricklayers Arms.

Eric, the owner of La Barca restaurant in the High Road, highlighted the importance of fans for businesses in the area, he said: "We rely on fans, the whole of High Road relies on fans, if there is no football, there is no trade. We can't wait to have them back".

These business owners have felt the effects of the pandemic, having suffered from not having the influx of supporters converging on matchdays because of the pandemic.

The consensus amongst these local businesses is that the return of supporters will be welcomed. They spoke of the much-needed revenue that the fans bring, explaining how crucial they will be in helping businesses recover the losses that they have incurred.

However, there are some businesses that have not felt the same impact, and haven't necessarily seen things dramatically change.

Gina Moffatt, the owner of Bloomingscent Cafe, stated that her business has not been affected, attributing this to them not serving alcohol.

The owner of fast-food shop Chick-King, Agi Kyriacos, echoed this sentiment, he said: "The return of fans is rewarding. It will bring in lots of customers but we have regular customers, so, we've been quite fortunate to survive."



The Bricklayers Arms Credit Haran Naresh



Spurs forward Heung-min Son
Credit Getty Images/ Tottenham Hotspur

Spurs make strong start as Kane finally commits

By Haran Naresh

Tottenham Hotspur overcame a tumultuous build-up to the new season to emerge with a strong start to the campaign.

A chaotic 72-day search for a new manager ended with Nuno Espirito Santo's appointment. The 47-year-old has had to deal with ongoing speculation linking talisman Harry Kane with a move to Manchester City. But this finally ended in late August when Kane said he would be "staying at Tottenham this summer and will be 100% focused on helping the team achieve success".

In June, Spurs appointed the former chief football officer of Juventus, Fabio Paratici, as the club's new managing director. Paratici is now in charge of transfers at Tottenham and he quickly set about making his mark on the squad. His first signing was goalkeeper Pierluigi Gollini from Atalanta on a season-long

loan with an option to make it permanent. Gollini is expected to provide competition for captain Hugo Lloris.

This was followed by the acquisition of Sevilla winger Bryan Gil, with the club paying a reported £21.6m, with Erik Lamela joining the Spanish club as part of the deal. This looks to be shrewd business, adding a talented young winger to the squad whilst

defender to help fix what was a porous backline last season.

Despite being without several players who were involved at the Euros, Copa America, and the Olympics, Nuno guided Spurs to a successful pre-season. Tottenham went unbeaten across their five games, winning three, including a 1-0 victory over Arsenal.

Spurs delivered an outstanding performance in their 1-0 win over

Manchester City in their opening Premier League fixture. Nuno set the team up in a 4-3-3 formation, a departure from the three at the back he almost exclusively deployed at Wolverhampton Wanderers. Tottenham survived a difficult first ten minutes to emerge as the better side, causing City problems on the counter with the pace of Heung-min Son, Lucas Moura and Steven Bergwijn.

Defensively the team worked tirelessly to thwart City, with Japhet Tanganga putting in a brilliant display to neutralise both Raheem Sterling and Jack Grealish.

"The team worked tirelessly to thwart City"

moving on an older squad player.

Tottenham then signed Cristian Romero on loan from Atalanta, with an option to make the deal permanent. Romero was voted as the best defender in Serie A last season and was part of the Argentina side that won Copa America this summer. This appears to be an astute signing, recruiting a highly-regarded

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What we do

Here at *Tottenham Community Press* we do things differently. We combine professional journalism with voluntary contributions from people who live and work in the borough and create content which is responsive to and reflective of the community.

These are challenging times for print media with many newspapers closing and advertising revenue in decline, but our not-for-profit model offers a new approach to creating local journalism which is inclusive and accountable.

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Member Spotlight

Credit Elizabeth Adams



Dare I confess that I am not, strictly speaking, a Tottenham resident? For some years I have lived just over the border into Wood Green - near 'The Roundway West Arm' as they announce on the buses. However, I consider Tottenham to be my 'real' home, because for many years I have been a volunteer at Lordship Rec, a 'friend' of our excellent Bruce Castle Museum, and a member of several Tottenham-based environmental groups, including the Tottenham and Wood Green Friends of the Earth.

I became a member of *Tottenham Community Press* because it does a great job in emphasising the positive aspect of this side of the borough. There is a much more varied, interesting and optimistic side to Tottenham which this paper helps to promote.

Tottenham Community Press also informs us of what is happening around us in the way of community groups' activities, planning applications, and so on. This sort of news is especially valuable given that we have previously lost other Tottenham focused publications.

Peter Corley

Credit Terry Egan



In a more and more fragmented world, in a more and more virtual life, many people have rediscovered their local spaces and local communities during the pandemic. Tottenham is an amazing place, so urban and so rural at the same time, with enormous potential in its mix of people.

Tottenham Community Press contributes to building up a sense of belonging. When reporting on community projects or protests, for instance, it brings more people together in the same or similar endeavours.

An independent press is at least as important to democracy as parliament itself, and newspapers are at least as important as books. I have spent much of my life at universities, and the most important things I learnt are to be critical and to be political. I love reading print and have spent many blissful hours of my life with the large rustling sheets of *The New York Times*, *Die Zeit*, or *Le Monde*.

Tottenham Community Press is – against the trend of bite-sized news, shallow news, and fake news – part of serious, critical, relevant reporting. It is also great fun! *TCP* adheres to high standards while being accessible in its writing and design; moreover, it is free of charge and widely distributed.

Sometimes, I have been inspired by reports or poems or images to write texts which were in turn published in the paper. I am honoured to write for it and delighted to support it also as a member.

Christina Egan

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