#### News

Haringey care workers struggling on pay below the Living Wage

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#### **Photography**

Karin Lock documents street art in Stoneleigh Court

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Haringey Learning Partnership honoured in national teaching awards

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Community

Local neighbourhood

celebrates nature at

Ferry Lane Green Day

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#### Local news that matters to you



### New data reveals demand for bike hangar parking spaces far outweighs current capacity

#### By Luchia Robinson

he waiting list for bike hangar spaces in Haringey tops 6,000, according to recent data. An FOI request has revealed that the demand for the on-street hangar parking spaces in Haringey (6,163), more than quadruples the current total capacity, which stands at 840.

The Lib Dems have criticised the

council for "not doing enough to promote cycling in the borough" or source adequate funding to meet the growing demand.

Lib Dem councillor Liz Morris, opposition spokesperson for transport and neighbourhoods, said: "The council's plans to increase the number of bike hangars by just 50 per year means it will take until 2039 just to get through the current waiting list. "Haringey residents know that

we need action to tackle the climate emergency, but all we get is warm words from the Labour-run council, who are failing time and again to take the issue seriously."

3% of journeys in Haringey are by cycle and 36% by walking. The council's Walking and Cycling Action Plan (WCAP) aims to deliver the Mayor of London's 2018 Transport Strategy by increasing the uptake of active travel in local communities,

improving health, decreasing trips made by car. and sustaining the local environment.

The plan factors social distancing, strategic cycle routes, and Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) into its approach, however, results from the 2021 Healthy Streets Scorecard places Haringey 13th (having dropped from 10th in 2019) out of 33 boroughs.

According to the scorecard, Haringey is lagging behind its

neighbouring boroughs: Hackney has 55% LTNs opposed to Haringey's three initial proposed LTNs (in Bruce Grove, St Ann's/Green Lanes and Bounds Green); Islington is ranked second place on the scorecard; and Waltham Forest has 12% protected cycle tracks, in contrast to Haringey's 3%.

Limited residential hangar parking space is one of the major obstacles facing cyclists in Haringey.

Penny Baker, an NHS administrator who lives in Seven Sisters, signed up for a bike hangar in Vartry Road N15, nine months ago. She said: "I tried getting a bike hangar space, but I've had no luck – even when a new one opened up just outside. I'm still on the waiting list; I just carry my bike upstairs into the house instead now."

Amber Cooper-Davies, an illustrator and new cyclist from Hornsey, also finds parking an issue. She said: "I am lucky enough to have a small space in my hallway where I can keep my bike, however, I have lots of housemates who also regularly ride bikes, and we have pretty much reached maximum capacity with three bikes so far.

"Living in a rented flat, we are not allowed to put hooks in the walls or add any kind of structure **Continued on Page-3** 

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#### WELCOME

#### **Steadfast In Difficulties** August 2021 N⁰. 49

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 evervone 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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Published by Social Spider CIC





#### Lordship Rec by Julia Parnaby

### **Editor's letter**

ello, welcome to issue 49.

Residents in the Love Lane Estate will be given a vote on rehousing plans, ahead of the estate being demolished and replaced with new homes (p.4).

A community redevelopment proposal for the Latin Village, Wards Corner, could be considered by Haringey's new administration, following the council's decision to take a 'new approach' to regenerating the site (p.3).

Resident Wendy Charlton recently took the approach of partially withholding rent from landlord Clarion (p.6), and new data reveals the extent to which care workers in the borough are struggling to live on low wages (p.5).

Here at Social Spider, we've welcomed football reporter Haran Naresh to the team.

Head to p.17 for Haran's coverage of the appointment of Spurs manager Nuno Espirito Santo. What will Nuno's leadership mean for the club? Get in touch if you have any Spurs related story content. Email: haran@socialspider.com.

Do continue to send in your article ideas, photos, poems, and illustrations for consideration - your contributions are central to what we do here at TCP. Email: tcp@socialspider.com

Luchia Robinson

**North Mid** ne community

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North Middlesex University

#### Invitation **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** 10-11:30am, Thursday 2 September 2021

You are warmly invited to attend our AGM, to find out about our work over the last year.

Our AGM will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams. Please book a place by emailing Barry Ray, company secretary by email: northmid.companysecretary@nhs.net or calling 0208 887 3749

#### **Continued from Page-1**

outside, so we don't have many options to store any more. Another of my housemates would like to start riding, so we have been looking into getting spaces in one of the public bike hangars, however, there are none near us and we are aware of the extremely long waiting list, so don't hold a lot of hope for that."

There are 1,500 accessible on street cycle parking spaces located in town

centres, and outside tube and rail stations across the borough. However, local residents and campaigners have raised concerns about safety in some of

hangars, there needs to be more 'free at the point of use' parking on the high street and in residential areas"

"As well as more cycle

these areas, as well as the need to improve Haringey's overall parking infrastructure. A spokesperson from Haringey Cycling Campaign said: "There's clearly a major shortage of options for people when it comes to residential cycle parking, equally there's a huge shortage of places for people to park on high streets as well.

"Residential parking is particularly an issue in areas where people live in flats or high-density housing. It's clearly a huge barrier for people taking up cycling in terms of not having anywhere to park a bike.

"We need to look at the efficiency of how we use the space around the borough there's very little space for cycle parking and lots of space for very cheap subsidised car parking. The issue is not just about how Haringey can provide parking, but what other options can people have.

"As well as more cycle hangars, there needs to be more 'free at the point of use' parking on the high street and in residential areas, as this would provide more options for people to secure a bike.

"There isn't any way to park adapted cycles or cargo bikes at the moment, because they don't fit in cycle hangars and you can't use kerb side spaces unless you're someone with a big front garden or rear access or a garage.

There's all categories of cycles that are really important to transition away from

cars for more sustainable forms of transport, for those people who don't want to, or can't drive. These sorts of options can really help to enhance your quality of life. Any sort of plans that Haringey has for increasing residential cycle parking, need to include adapted/ cargo bikes in them."

Haringey's draft WCAP includes aims to ensure hangar cycle parking (or similar) within a three-five minute walk by 2030 to meet demand. A public consultation on the plan will be launched this summer.

It is expected that in addition to funding already sourced from TfL, that an extra £80,000 will be required for residential cycle hangars, and an addi-

tional £40,000 will need to be sought for Homes for Haringey cycle hangars or sheds.

Mike Hakata, deputy leader of Haringey Council and cabinet member for environment, transport and the climate emergency, said: "As part of our plan, we are continuing to deliver secure residential cycle parking by installing bike hangars across the borough, with 46 installed in 2020/21, up from 29 in 2019/20.

"Available funding is a constraint on delivery, and Covid-19 has had a further impact on the funding we receive from Transport for London to install the hangars. However, in December 2020, the council agreed a significant proportion of Strategic Community Infrastructure levy funding to be spent on active travel projects.

"A proportion of the £5.1m, to be spent over the next three years, will be used to support our bike hangar programme. In addition to this, the council is actively exploring additional funding and different ways that we increase the number of hangars by looking into other local authorities' delivery models.

"We will also be expanding the number of bike hangars delivered in our three proposed Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, subject to a forthcoming consultation, and looking into how we can increase secure cycle storage on our estates."





## 'New approach' to Latin Village from council

Long-running redevelopment plans for Wards Corner in doubt

"Once we have a clear

a whole number of options

in conjunction with the

traders at the market"

#### By Simon Allin, Local Democracy Reporter

community plan for a market building could be considered as an alternative to a regeneration deal after Haringey Council's leader signalled a "new approach" to the site.

Traders at Seven Sisters Indoor Market have put forward a plan to redevelop the site in Wards Corner, Seven Sisters, as an alternative to developer Grainger's plans for 196 new homes and retail space.

The community plan for the market, which is also known as Latin Village, involves restoring and improving the building, which would be managed by market

traders and the local community. Ruth Gordon, cabinet member for housebuilding, placemaking and

development, said the council was "behind the community plan", which she described as "universally supported".

She made the comments at a meeting of the housing and regeneration scrutiny panel last month, where councillors were given a brief update on the site.

Grainger won permission to develop the Wards Corner site in 2012. As part of a legal agreement with the council, it is required to provide a temporary market at Apex Gardens, opposite the site, while development takes place. However, according to the update, Grainger told traders in April that it is unable to instruct the works to open the temporary market because of "viability challenges" with the Wards Corner scheme.

Cllr Gordon told the meeting that senior councillors had been discussing options for the site with traders. Their community plan also has planning permission.

Panel member Noah Tucker said that while the update included details about talking to people and a "new approach" from Haringey Council leader, Peray Ahmet, it did

not set out what the counpath, we will come up with cil was trying to achieve.

He suggested the council could have pledged full support for the community plan

in writing, as well as setting out plans to use the site "for the maximum provision of council homes."

Cllr Gordon said: "Once we have a clear path, we will come up with a whole number of options in conjunction with the traders at the market."

The land on which the market sits is owned by London Underground and managed by Transport for London (TfL). According to the update, TfL is "accelerating a review of options for a temporary market" and "assessing work to restore the market hall and wider buildings."

**NEWS** 



# Love Lane Estate residents to vote on regeneration plans

Ballot of residents on Tottenham estate agreed by Haringey Council

By Simon Allin, Local Democracy Reporter

eople living on an estate earmarked for demolition under a regeneration scheme will be given a vote on rehousing plans.

Haringey Council's cabinet have agreed to hold a residents' ballot on proposals for the 2,600-home High Road West scheme in Tottenham.

Residents on Love Lane Estate, which is slated to be knocked down and replaced by new homes, will be asked to vote 'yes' or 'no' to the council's offer of rehousing in a ballot held during the summer. If a majority vote yes, the regeneration scheme will be allowed to go ahead.

The decision on whether to hold the ballot was originally expected to be made in May but was delayed after a change in the council's leadership. It was finally given the go-ahead by cabinet members last month, under new leader Peray Ahmet.

Ruth Gordon, cabinet member for housebuilding, placemaking and development, told the meeting: "The primary focus of the council is to keep the community together. That obviously includes the tenants in temporary accommodation, as well as the secure accommodation. We think this offer is able to do that.

"The offer is very clear on its promise that temporary accommodation and secure tenants will be offered a new home on the developed estate."

The High Road West (HRW) regeneration deal was agreed between Haringey Council and developer Lendlease in 2017.

"The offer is very clear on its promise that temporary accommodation and secure tenants will be offered a new home on the developed estate"

In March this year, the council announced it had secured £91million from the government and Mayor of London to triple the number of council-rent homes on the HRW scheme to 500 and boost the affordable housing level to 40%.

The funding will allow the council imously agreed by cabinet members.

to rehouse all secure and non-secure tenants on Love Lane Estate, as well as 250 households with the highest priority on the wider housing register, according to the cabinet report.

It adds that if any tenants need to move off the estate because of the phasing of the construction process or to alleviate housing issues, they will still be eligible for a new council home in the HRW development.

The cabinet papers also include a pledge to cap rents on the scheme for eligible residents within the HRW area at 10% above the average rent residents are paying for an equivalent size property on Love Lane Estate at the time of their move. Under rents set using a government formula, they could have faced rent hikes of up to 50%.

David Joyce, the council's director of housing, regeneration and planning, told the meeting the rent increases would be offset by savings on energy bills in the new homes. He said the council was confident people would not be worse off as a result of the move.

Cllr Gordon said the council would continue to visit Love Lane Estate "to make sure every single resident understands what is in the offer". Her report was unanimously agreed by cabinet members.

### Housing service to be insourced

By Simon Allin, Local Democracy Reporter

housands of tenants and leaseholders in Haringey will be able to have their say on plans to bring a housing service back under the council's direct control. The council believes insourcing housing arm Homes for Haringey (HfH) will improve the service and give residents more say in how it operates, as well as providing better value for money.

Set up in 2006 to access a government funding stream, HfH employs around 750 people and manages more than 20,000 properties in the borough.

But with the reasons behind the establishment of arm's-length management organisations no longer applying, fewer than 30 remain in operation.

A proposal to insource the service was set out in January by then-leader Cllr Joseph Ejiofor, however, cabinet members agreed to hold a consultation on the move during a meeting last month.

Julie Davies, cabinet member for employment, skills and corporate services, told the meeting: "The division between the council and Homes for Haringey has become increasingly artificial and could now be said to be hampering the smooth running of housing service and delivery of new council homes.

"What is also clear is that the council cannot be seen to be in any way divorced from its roles and responsibilities. Legislation is changing after the Grenfell tragedy and for other reasons, and we have to respond to those."

The cabinet report sets out a plan for a minimum eight-week consultation, including focus groups and a questionnaire sent out to all tenants and leaseholders.

The council will also carry out a review of the service and consult with staff on the changes. It has set out plans for a housing sounding board and residents' forum to increase the involvement of tenants and leaseholders in the running of the service.

Cabinet members unanimously approved the consultation.

### 177 new council homes approved

pproval has been granted to acquire 177 homes at Hale Wharf, Tottenham Hale. The site will deliver new council homes at social rent in six blocks, all meeting adaptability standards, with 27 being wheelchair accessible.

The council will identify disabled families and individuals on the housing register with specific needs, with a view to creating bespoke homes for them at Hale Wharf.

Construction will begin by the end of the year and should be completed by late 2023. Cabinet member for house building, placemaking and development, Ruth Gordon, said:

"This decision will provide 177 homes built to high design standards in a very nice location beside the River Lea and overlooking the Paddock Community Nature Park. It demonstrates the council's commitment to delivering high quality homes for Haringey residents."

#### **NEWS**



# Haringey care workers struggling on low pay Local adverts for care worker jobs paying below the Living Wage

#### By Luchia Robinson

ome care workers in Haringey are being paid below the real Living Wage (the only UK wage rate voluntarily paid by UK businesses who believe their staff deserve a wage which meets their everyday needs), despite the councils' pledge to make sure they are paid at that level.

According to research from the Bureau of Investigative Journalism (TBIJ), Haringey Council has commissioned work from Dimensions UK Ltd, a not-for-profit support provider found to have advertised support worker roles, paying wages below the real Living Wage (of £10.85 per hour in London).

Dimensions UK Ltd advertised six of these roles in Haringey between October 2020– April 2021. TBIJ, however, found thousands of care worker job ads paying below the real Living Wage, nationwide.

Haringey Council is one of 43 local authorities across the UK that is fully signed up to Unison's ethical care charter – a series of commitments which include paying home care workers at least the Living Wage, and replacing zero contract hours with guaranteed ones. TBIJ found that 37 out of those 43 councils appear to be failing to ensure the

#### pledge is enacted.

Some of the issues uncovered centred on a lack of high-quality training for care workers; not being given sick pay or paid for travel time between clients; social care staff not feeling as valued as NHS workers; and stress from job pressures.

According to research by the GMB trade union, three-quarters of care workers' mental health has worsened during the pandemic, and an earlier study found that care workers are at a significantly higher risk of dying by suicide. package commissioned with this provider. We can also confirm that Haringey Council has been paying Dimensions UK an increased rate to facilitate LLW payment since last year which was further increased in April 2021 in line with LLW."

"As a council, we take this matter extremely seriously. Our guidelines stipulate that providers pay their staff LLW at a minimum. We carry out audits and spot checks as part of our quality assurance process to assure ourselves that any contractual obligations UNISON general secretary Christina McAnea said: "Social care is a deeply flawed system in urgent need of reform. The blame for all that is wrong must be laid solely at the government's door.

"Ministers have failed to fund the system or make the necessary reform and so now care is in the grip of a damaging crisis.

"With the sector starved of resources, many councils are forced to commission care at bargain basement rates, resulting in poverty pay for highly skilled and dedicated staff.

"But despite the odds being stacked against them, many local authorities have tried to do the right thing by getting on board with our ethical care charter.

"If some councils don't appear to be meeting their charter commitments, UNISON will investigate and try to iron out what's been going wrong.

"But that's not to let the government off the hook. Ministers must stop with the feet-dragging and share their plans for the changes that have long been promised.

"Top of the list should be the cash to lift thousands of care staff - who've more than proved their worth during the pandemic - on to the real Living Wage.

"A proper pay rise would at a stroke make care a more attractive career option and help fill the thousands of vacancies currently putting such pressure on services, staff and the vulnerable."

#### "Ministers have failed to fund the system or make the necessary reform and so now care is in the grip of a damaging crisis"

Data from 2019–20 revealed that the vacancy rate for care workers in Haringey is 4.5%, while the turnover rate is 11%.

60% of care workers in the borough are on zero-hour contracts.

Last year, following the agreement of the council's 2020–21 budget, it was decided that care workers across the borough would receive the London Living Wage (LLW).

When asked about the commissioning of work from Dimensions UK Ltd, a Haringey Council spokesperson said: "According to our records, the council has one home care

are being met by the provider.

A Dimensions UK spokesperson says that without appropriate funding from central government, local authorities use up their financial reserves to cover funding shortfalls, and as a result "there is downward pressure on the amount of social care to which people are entitled. More people are put at risk of entering crisis. And ultimately, skilled care workers [...] are paid less than we would all wish."

The care provider adds that it is lobbying government for a new settlement for social care.

"This recent

development at

the Roundway is

a victory for the

whole estate"

#### TOTTENHAM COMMUNITY PRESS

#### NEWS

# **Rent strike victory** Partial rent strike campaign leads to compensation pay out

#### By Luchia Robinson

resident living in an estate in the Roundway, N22 has been offered compensation from their housing association, following years of complaints about maintenance and anti-social issues going unresolved.

Tenant and Social Housing Action Campaign (SHAC) member, Wendy Charlton says she began withholding part of her rent to Clarion, last month, in an attempt to get the landlord to address numerous problems on the estate, which include faulty facilities, pigeon fowling, and anti-social behaviour.

The partial rent strike is one of a collective that SHAC is coordinating nationwide, alongside housing association tenants who are protesting failings by their landlords.

Clarion Housing owns and manages 125,000 homes making it UK's largest housing association, with 350,000 tenants nationwide. It is one of 18 landlords that SHAC is currently protesting against.

A Clarion spokesperson told *TCP* they are sourcing a security gate to replace the current faulty unit, they have scheduled the communal repairs reported to them (which includes installing lighting in the communal utility cupboard), and that pest control contractors have

been requested to visit the estate to explore what further works can be carried out to prevent pigeons nesting on the block.

Wendy has also been offered a sum of £425 in compensation for "having to repeatedly chase responses and seek correction of mistakes", as well as for Clarion's "delay in complaint response" and their 'failure over



a considerable period of time to act in accordance with policy in addressing estate issues."

Suzanne Muna, secretary of SHAC, said: "We started the strike group when we realised that some of the tenants were already withholding rents or service charges, either wholly or in part, because they weren't able to get genuine engagement from their landlords or housing associations. Others were thinking about doing it out of sheer frustration.

"This recent development at the Roundway is a victory for the whole estate."

However, Clarion has denied any strike hav-

ing happened at the Roundway, stressing that they "undertake repairs in line with our repair obligations and landlord responsibilities."

A spokesperson from Clarion said: "The safety and wellbeing of our residents is our top priority and we are committed to resolving all reported issues at The Roundway. We are not aware of any rent strike at this scheme and would like to stress that we undertake repairs in line with our repair obligations and landlord responsibilities. Repairs will be progressed in the same manner irrespective



of residents' rent account balance or payment history.

"We have a robust complaints and compensation process. On the occasions we have failed to deliver the service we should have, we will address this directly with our resi-

dents and provide compensation when required."

According to SHAC, the tenants from the Roundway strike group have pledged to continue withholding part of

their rents until the promised work has been completed.

Wendy is in the process of negotiating an increased sum of compensation. She said: "Ultimately, we want a change in approach across the board. We pay rent; [Clarion] are not doing us a favour by housing us. We want a fundamental resetting of the relationship between Clarion and the tenants."

# Leader apologies over repair works Haringey Council leader sets out improved major works offer

By Simon Allin, Local Democracy Reporter

he leader of Haringey Council has apologised for the "quality of communication" with leaseholders on an estate that is to undergo major repair works.

Peray Ahmet said the council had tried to "find a new way forward" after she took over as leader, and set out improvements to its offer to leaseholders in Noel Park Estate, Wood Green.

The work, which includes replacing bathroom pods, as well as repairing or replacing roofs, brickwork, doors and windows, is designed to bring the buildings up to the government's decent homes standard. Fitted in the 1970s, the pods are affected by structural movement, dampness and asbestos in the wall panels. Estimated costs sent to leaseholders last year ranged from £56,000 to £118,000 – far higher than previous estimates of around £25,000.

The council and its housing arm, Homes for Haringey, have previously apologised for a "lack of sufficient communication" when the major works notices were sent out, admitting it took "additional time" to respond to some comments from leaseholders.

Earlier this year, several leaseholders complained they were not told about asbestos risks in their homes until more than a year after they were flagged up in reports.

Opposition Liberal Democrats also called for an investigation into councillors' concerns that there appeared to be "political interference" with responses to Freedom of Information requests made by leaseholders. The council said it was confident the "appropriate processes" were followed.

During a meeting last month, cabinet members agreed to cap bills for replacement bathroom pods at £25,000, including for non-resident leaseholders who can demonstrate hardship.

The council will also provide more certainty over the costs and pay for an independent surveyor to challenge the scope of the works it has identified.

In the cabinet report, Cllr Ahmet apologised to leaseholders for the quality of communication and engagement on the project. She told the meeting: "Since I became leader, we have worked closely to find a new way forward, and this is reflected in the proposals, and hopefully [the leaseholders] felt there have



been improvements to what we are offering."

Cllr Ahmet added that the council was committed to further engagement with leaseholders following the cabinet decision.

Robbie Erbmann, the council's assistant director for housing, admitted there had been "so many false starts" on the works project, but gave assurances that tenants and leaseholders would not be waiting "too much longer" for work to begin.

Liberal Democrat councillor Dawn Barnes told the meeting that former council leader, Cllr Joseph Ejiofor had said bathroom pods were "actively unsafe" and asked if the council was assured that it had fulfilled its legal duties regarding the maintenance of the homes.

Robbie replied: "Those properties have received responsive repairs and maintenance over a period of time, and where there have been problems with the pods or windows those have been fixed. We don't accept that we have not taken our legal duty to leaseholders in this matter."

The council confirmed the report's recommendations were approved during the private session of the meeting.

#### NEWS

# Mayor of London visits the Cookbook Edible Library project

Advertisement



Mayor of London Sadiq Khan (second from left) with Haringey council members and the Cookbook Edible Library project team

he Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, visited St Ann's Library garden last month, to see how local families and young people in Haringey are cooking their own food at the Cookbook Edible Library project.

The project, a partnership between Haringey Libraries, Edible London and Volunteer It Yourself, has

transformed a previously unused space into a flourishing community kitchen and growing garden. It has twin aims of tackling food in s e c u r i t y while providing training for young people.

"This fantastic garden is the result of hard work by dedicated volunteers and community groups, delivering a wonderful local resource"

Approximately one-in-six Haringey pupils are known to be eligible for and claiming free school meals (16%), but provisions are not available out of school hours. The project aims to be up and running in time for its planned summer holiday food programme for children and young people who often have little or no access to healthy food. Edible London founder, Sunny Karagozlu, said: "The importance of this project goes beyond merely food and growing. Here, at Edible London, food is the connecting block to a whole new world. Disenfranchised youth can enter a safe space where they can not only read and educate themselves – in terms of using the services already on offer at the library – but where they

can now also get access to an educational growing space. "Furthermore, thanks to the state-ofthe-art kitchen on site, young people will also be able to see how some of these foods can be used,

first-hand, through the provision of educational cooking workshops centred around plants. Put down the knife and pick up the shovel because the seeds we sow today, helps our communities grow tomorrow."

The Edible Library garden is part of the council's borough plan commitment to promote and improve Haringey's open and green spaces. The work was partially funded through the first round of the Grow Back Greener Fund, part of the mayor's programme to secure a green recovery from Covid-19.

Mayor Khan said: "As mayor, I want London to lead the way in tacking the climate emergency and for all Londoners to have access to great green spaces close to where they live.

"The community-led projects that benefit from our grants provide so much more than just improved green space for local communities. The Cookbook Edible Library [...] provides an educational, safe space for young people to develop new skills – providing positive opportunities and alternatives to those who might be vulnerable to getting drawn into gangs." Zena Brabazon, Haringey cab-

inet member for early years, children and families, said: "This fantastic garden is the result of hard work by dedicated volunteers and community groups, delivering a wonderful local resource. It connects this lovely local library even more to our community.

"Our libraries are a real haven and I am proud we are seeing further developments. At St Ann's, the garden provides children and young people with real life experience connecting valuable life skills on good nutrition and food budgeting with reading and study. A great combination of learning and activity, and we will continue to invest in training and skills for all of Haringey's young residents."

To visit St Ann's Library Garden: St Ann's Library, Cissbury Road, N15 5PU For more information about the Edible London Library:

Visit ediblelondon.org/projects/ launched-the-cookbook-edible-libraryproject/

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## ——— HEALTH North Mid neonatal team crowned winner at NHS Parliamentary Awards

Neonatal team awarded for innovative work keeping families and their newborns safe at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic

he Sunrise Neonatal Team at North Middlesex University Hospital has been announced as winner in the Future NHS category at the NHS Parliamentary Awards. At the start of the Covid-19 pan-

demic, the neonatal unit had to limit visiting to parents, in order to help reduce the spread of infection.

The team used technology as a way of keeping families con-

nected, by working alongside the trust's IT team to adapt the secure NHS video calling service 'Attend Anywhere'.

The video calling service is usually used for pre-arranged hospital Advertisement

appointments, for parents and families to visit their baby virtually in the unit. The technology is also used for parents to speak to clinicians and be kept updated with how their baby is doing.

Cheentan Singh, consultant paediatrician and neo-

"I'm really proud we natologist said: "The bond were able to find between a newa way to reunite born and their families quickly and family is vital to their developto be recognised for ment and with this is a huge boost visiting restricfor the team" tions in place, we knew that it was

going to be really difficult for families. So, I'm really proud we were able to find a way to reunite families quickly and to be recognised for this is a huge boost for the team."

The parliamentary awards rec-

The Sunrise Neonatal Team



ognise health and care staff for MP for Enfield, Southgate). their contribution to the NHS, Dr Andy Heeps, interim chief and individuals and teams are executive of North Middlesex nominated by the hospital's local University Hospital, said: "I am Member of Parliament (The Sunso proud that our neonatal team rise Neonatal team was nomihas been recognised nationally nated by Bambos Charalambous, for their innovative response to a really difficult problem. Technology has played a key role in our response to the Covid-19 pandemic and it's great that the team were able to respond so quickly to meet the needs of families in Enfield, Haringey and beyond."

The College of Haringey, Enfield

and North East London

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Georgie Agass Head of communications and engagement North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust





# STREET ART IN Stoneleigh Court

By Karin Lock











A

P

H

neroom

where community meets

# Echoes of a remarkable life

Words and photograph by Chiara Contrino

his unique shop, situated at the junction of Salisbury Road, N4 and St Ann's Road, N15 was run by Andreas Michli and his family, for decades. Andreas was a Greek Cypriot who came to London from his village in 1956. He was well known and loved in the local community.

In addition to selling fruit and vegetables imported from Cyprus, the shop boasted beautiful displays of pottery and antique ceramics, resembling an old Cypriot village store, in the heart of Harringay.

A note on the door announces Andreas' passing. He ran the shop right up until his death in August 2018.

Three years later the note is still there, hanging on the closed door. The shop has never reopened and has not changed; it is as if time stopped when its owner died.

Slowly being filled with dust and spider webs, engaged in a silent fight against death and decay, it still bears witness to a creative spirit and remarkable life.

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#### COMMENT

# **Keeping boundaries**

The Boundary Commission for England is intending to move West Green ward into the Hornsey and Wood Green constituency. West Green ward Councillor Seema Chandwani discusses why she believes we must object to the proposal of moving West Green out of Tottenham

Yee lived in Tottenham most of my life, I went to West Green Primary School, played on the model bike track in Lordship Rec as a child and played football in Downhills Park as a teenager. These experiences are what shape my identity, enabling me to have a sense of belonging and whenever I'm asked where I grew up or live, "Tottenham" is my response.

Constituencies are named after the areas they cover. Tottenham is the name for our area and has been for centuries, it was even cited in the *Domesday Book* back in 1086. If we are going to name a constituency after an established area, we need to show respect for that identity and that history.

West Green has been part of the Tottenham constituency since its creation in 1885. For more than 130 years, parliament has always respected the use of our name, but these proposals break that respectful long held relationship. Removing a chunk, a significant and important chunk, of our community and placing it in an area with a new name shows no understanding of our history, culture, and identity.

The West Green ward is also home to three parks; Belmont Rec, Downhills Park and Lordship Rec. Whilst these won't physically move, they are left outside of the new Tottenham boundary. Parks and open spaces are important places for people to build a community. These are where we congregate to celebrate Tottenham – from the Tottenham Ploughman's to the Tottenham BMX Club.

Downhills Park is home to the statue celebrating Tottenham's famous achievers; Luke Howard, Nicola Adams and Walter Tull. The park was chosen because it is a Tottenham park. West Green Common is home to the Windrush Memorial, which



celebrates and appreciates the large Black community who have made Tottenham their home. The common is also the home of the West Green and Tottenham war memorial.

Removing these spaces from the Tottenham constituency rips out those long-established connections and leaves the new formation of a constituency called Tottenham with a huge reduction in parks and green spaces, a void in its heritage, and a misplacement of its history.

My biggest concern however, is the removal of Broadwater Farm from the Tottenham constituency. After decades of social issues, it's taken strong parliamentary leadership, over a long period of time to address the multitude of factors of the estate. Whilst there has been significant progress, there is still much to do. We are about to embark on a huge upgrading of the housing on the estate, as poor housing conditions have long contributed to the low outcomes for residents.

It's exciting but also deeply complex and often scary for the people living on the estate. With more than 1,000 dwellings and nearly 4,000 residents, these tenants make up a large proportion of the ward, and their needs have to significantly influence where this ward sits in the parliamentary map.

If these proposals go ahead, we risk making a significant change at a very crucial time when these residents will need a democratic voice more than ever. Whilst I am the ward councillor, the political voice at

times needs to be independent from the council. To represent people, especially those on an estate with the complexities of Broadwater Farm, requires time and trust. All residents of the ward and estate have a democratic right to choose their MP, but these proposals remove the opportunity for them to retain the MP they have worked with through tough times, even if he re-stands. That seems unfair, undemocratic and not conducive to their needs.

More widely many of the funding formulas and statistics of issues and deprivation collected are presented at constituency levels. The assessment of needs of Broadwater Farm and for many in West Green, will be diluted by the high levels of wealth seen in Hornsey, Crouch End and Alexandra. I believe this will significantly reduce the much-needed resources for Broadwater Farm, as well as other parts of the ward.

No matter where you live in Tottenham, you can still give your views on these changes even if your ward remains in the Tottenham constituency. This proposal affects us all as a Tottenham community.

Please take five minutes to complete the online form and encourage others to do so. We have until 2nd August to participate in the consultation and convince the Boundary Commission that this proposal is unacceptable on so many grounds.

The consultation is open until Monday, 2nd August 2021. To view the maps, find more information and submit your feedback: Visit bcereviews.org.uk

## LETTER

#### **Dear TCP**

aving just read about the proposals for the boundary changes I can't help but think they are detrimental to Tottenham.

For my area alone, near Downhills Park, the new proposed lines take three lovely green spaces, three schools, a couple of churches, a community centre, a nice restaurant, a new housing development, and a nursery (among other things), out of Tottenham and into the Hornsey and Wood Green constituency, which are both historically seen as more desirable areas.

Whilst obviously it doesn't change the area physically, it does change it by name. So, Tottenham loses some cool stuff. I don't think this is necessary or has any purpose. If you are interested you can leave a comment on the proposal site. This also seems to have been done under the radar and there is only until 2nd August to put your point across.

It would remove my road from Tottenham too and I would rather it remain as it is.

#### Jonathan Maris



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#### COMMUNITY

# Local neighbourhood celebrates nature at Ferry Lane Green Day



#### **By Quentin Given**

undreds of parents, children and other residents enjoyed the Ferry Lane Green Day last month. Children and adults alike queued to pet giant rabbits, miniature goats, pigs, sheep and even a donkey that brayed loudly over the music. The kid goats loved jumping on the bales of hay, making them even cuter. Others queued to have a great grey or tawny owl, kookaburra or Chilean Buzzard-eagle on their wrists, falconry-style. The open-sided bee hives and rescued bats were also big draws, while the Smarter Travel stall was there to encourage greener travel. Dr Bike came and helped get a number of bikes back on the road, and made others safer and more road-worthy.

Living Under One Sun was there with its honey bees in a see-though hive, and Lee

Valley Bats showed a live rescue bat. Haringey Mayor Adam Jogee came to speak, the Ferry Lane School musicians played along on trumpets and clarinets, and local police joined the dancing while younger residents enjoyed the bouncy castle.

#### "It is so important that people know about and value the wildlife on their doorstep"

Organised by Ferry Lane School, and residents' association Ferry Lane Action Group (FLAG), the event was supported with grant funding from Homes for Haringey and McLarens, the construction company working on Hale Wharf.

In previous years FLAG has organised an eco-day, and the school has had a fundraising fete. The eco-day wasn't possible last year because of the pandemic, and it was looking very uncertain this year, so FLAG decided to partner with the school, and it was a great success. We had many more people than on the separate events, and there was a real community buzz with lots of people making connections.

Lisa Rawashdeh, headteacher of Ferry Lane Primary School said: "We have really enjoyed working with FLAG to bring the community together in this event. It is so important to give children a taste of nature, because many of them rarely get out of London to even see farm animals.

"We were delighted by how many parents and children came, but also people of all ages from the estate and around. Thanks to Homes for Haringey for funding [the green day], and to all who helped organise it."

FLAG chairperson Lorna Reith said: "The event exceeded our expectations and it was lovely to see so many residents and children learning and interacting with bees, bats, farm animals and birds of prey. It is so important that people know about and value the wildlife on their doorstep. The school was fantastic to work with and we will definitely want to organise future events together."



# **Junior jollof chefs** Local youth learn about popular West African rice dish

By Shirley Boateng, founder of Simply Shirley's

n June, an event designed to give the young generation the opportunity to experience cooking jollof rice with ease, took place at the Engine Room, Hale Village.

23 junior jollof chefs, aged 11+, from all multicultural backgrounds, took on the quick and fun task of cooking jollof rice in a conventional way, as part of Simply Shirley's life skill programme. The majority of the young people have now taken the skill home, using Simply Shirley's jollof paste to make the dish with confidence.

Simply Shirley's jollof paste has made it easy for anyone who loves jollof rice to cook it at home like a professional within 35 minutes without compromising on the authentic

taste and flavours of West Africa. It would usually take around two hours to prepare and cook jollof rice, however, the art and skill of making the meal is now gifted in a jar. The versatility of the product means it can be used to marinate, stir fry vegetables, create pasta sauces, stews, and pizza bases. Jollof rice is a mild-spicy aromatic tomatobased stew cooked together with rice, onions, herbs, spices, vegetables and meat – the

ingredients vary across regions and countries. The dish originates from the Senegambia region of West Africa, in the ancient Wolof or Jolof Empire (between the 14th and 16th centuries). The dish is called Benachin is this region; neighbouring West African countries have since adapted this wellloved one-pot recipe, putting their own stamp on it. This has led to debatable banter about which country has the best jollof

rice, gathering great media attention.

Locally, Simply Shirley's jollof paste is making a difference in the community by bringing an award winning, innovative, and versatile product to the market that encourages local people to explore West African cuisine at their convenience.

The junior jollof chef cooking event was a great success because it inspired local people wanting to start their own businesses to "start as they mean to grow, and to do it all with excellence." It also helped young people to start cooking early, as this is something they would often leave to their parents and relatives to do, or instead preferring to buy from a takeaway. Now, they've learnt the life skill of cooking, and they know the history of jollof rice and how it has now evolved into a paste product that was started in Tottenham, and is expanding nationwide. For more information, visit: www.simplyshirleys.com



The junior jollof chefs Credit Jo Narkz and Yasmin Anang

#### **COMMUNITY**



# Haringey Learning Partnership honoured in national teaching awards

aringey Learning Partnership (HLP) has been honoured as one of 102 Pearson National Teaching Silver Award winners across the country. HLP is a network of alternative provision schools and services, ensuring students unable to attend mainstream settings are provided with a high-quality education that's both specialist and personalised.

The Pearson National Teaching Awards

"I am delighted that

highly valued"

is an annual celebration of excellence in education. founded in 1998 by Lord Puttnam to recognise the life-changing impact an inspirational teacher can have on the lives of the young people they

work with. This year marks its 22nd year of celebrating teachers, teaching assistants, headteachers and lecturers across the UK.

HLP was honoured the Award for Impact through Partnership as part of the wider celebrations for 'Thank a Teacher Day', a national campaign to honour and recognise school staff for their work.

Gerry Robinson, executive headteacher of HLP said: "Working with the staff, students and families at HLP, not to mention the wider community, is an absolute honour. I know

how rigorous the selection process is, so to win the Silver Award is huge recognition of all that we are doing at HLP.

"I am delighted that all the hard work, care and commitment of all involved with HLP is so highly valued."

The HLP network has shifted perceptions of alternative provision, which can be very negative - helping local people to see that their students have just as much to offer as their

peers in mainstream. Sharon Hague, senior vice president of all the hard work, care schools at Pearson UK, and commitment of all said: "After a year like no other we want to involved with HLP is so take today to say thank you to all the incredible school staff who have

> kept children and young people learning despite unprecedented challenges.

> "We hope the celebrations [...] show how much you are appreciated, and that your hard work has not gone unnoticed nor unrecognised."

> The Mayor of Haringey, Adam Jogee, joined Hayley White, director of assessment for Pearsons, to present the award at HLP's Windrush Day event.

> HLP has now been shortlisted to win one of 15 Gold Awards later in the year, in a programme which will be broadcast by the BBC.





#### Supporting independence at home for people with dementia

Would you be interested in helping us? We would like to invite family or friends who support someone living with dementia to try out a new intervention (NIDUS-family) to help people living with dementia stay independent and remain at home.

#### What will happen if I take part?

- You will have the opportunity to discuss the study and ask questions
- You will be asked to complete questionnaires with a researcher at the start of the study and then 6 & 12 months after the initial call.
- If you are offered NIDUS-family, a researcher will explore what is important to you and the person you support, help develop strategies with you and signpost you to services. This might include support with getting out and about, staying healthy and safe, improving sleep, help at home and making future plans.
- We will offer you £60 in vouchers to thank you for taking part.

#### If you are interested in hearing more please contact.

Jessica Budgett, UCL (University College London) Email: dop.nidus@ucl.ac.uk Tel no: 07899 858 684





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# A new era with Nuno

#### By Haran Naresh

fter a protracted twomonth hiring process in which Spurs came close to hiring several different managers, Nuno Espirito Santo was appointed manager of Tottenham Hotspur in June.

Nuno left Wolverhampton Wanderers at the end of the 2020-21 season by mutual consent. He enjoyed great success at the Midlands club after being appointed manager in May 2017, guiding Wolves to promotion in his first season, and winning the Championship title with 99 points.

He followed this up with an impressive seventh place finish in the Premier League, taking Wolves into European competition for the first time since 1980. Nuno once again steered Wolves to seventh place in the 2019–20 season, and also took them to the quarter-finals of the Europa League.

Much like Jose Mourinho's best sides, Nuno's teams are very well drilled defensively and when at their best, can be lethal from counter-attacks.

Mourinho's relaxed training methods became a source of contention amongst Tottenham players last season but Spurs fans will take confidence from knowing that Nuno has a reputation for being a hard taskmaster. His attention to detail helped Wolves become comfortable playing three at the back and has been one of the reasons why his sides have caused problems for many of the Premier League's elite.

However, like Mourinho's Tottenham, his Wolves side were reliant on individual players to provide attacking quality. Many of the world's best managers now train their teams to rehearse attacking patterns of play, which they become familiar with over time and execute in games. Nuno, however, opted for a more reactive approach, setting his teams up to sit deep and hit the opposition on the counter. The weaknesses of this approach were laid bare last season, after Raul Jimenez sustained a skull fracture in November that kept him out for the rest of the campaign. Wolves struggled for a long time going forward after this and weren't able to score many goals.

Nuno will encounter similar issues at Tottenham. Harry Kane and Son Heung-min scored 23 and 17 Premier League goals respectively last season. Their next highest goal-scorer in this competition was the on-loan Gareth Bale with 11.

Bale has since returned to Real Madrid and beyond him the next highest goal-scorers were Lucas Moura and Tanguy Ndombele with three goals each. Nuno will need to ease the goal-scoring burden on Kane and Son and



extract more of a goal threat from the likes of Dele Alli, Moura and Steven Bergwijn. He will also have to fix a porous defence which contains aging veterans such as Toby Alderweireld and Jan Vertonghen and the likes of Eric Dier and Davinson Sanchez, who have failed to fulfil the potential they showed as youngsters.

Spurs have good options to choose from in central midfield with Pierre-Emile Højbjerg, Giovani Lo Celso, Tanguy Ndombele, Harry Winks and Moussa Sissoko. He will be tasked with finding the right balance in this area, something which Mourinho failed to do last season.

In Tottenham's friendly fixture against Leyton Orient, Nuno set the team up with four at the back, instead of the back three that he seemed to be wedded to at Wolves. Nuno will shore up Tottenham's defence but will struggle to improve a disjointed attack that

is heavily reliant on two players carrying the attacking threat.

The team currently does not have a senior back-up striker; consequently, a long-term injury to Kane could be disastrous.

Tottenham fans want attacking football but this will not come naturally to the pragmatic Nuno. Ultimately, another season finishing outside the Champions League places beckons.

Position prediction: 5th

# Art and football gallery arrives in Tottenham



contemporary art gallery dedicated to football is now open, free of charge to the public, in Warmington House at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

The Grade II listed building is now home to OOF – the biannual magazine that explores the relationship between art and football.

OOF's debut exhibition is BALLS – a group show of football-themed sculptures from artists including Sarah Lucas, Marcus Harvey and Hank Willis Thomas, alongside rising art stars like Lindsey Mendick and Kieran Leach.

This is OOF's first permanent home after three years of exhibitions across London, specialising in contemporary football themed art. OOF founder and lifelong Spurs fan, Eddy Frankel, said: "The aim is to create a space for contemporary art, but away from the mainstream art world – a place where everyday football fans can encounter art in an approachable, intelligible, non-judgemental way.

"At the same time, OOF wants to bring art and art lovers to a deprived area of the city. Future plans include a community outreach programme and the establishment of an artist residency, which will invite artists to spend time in the area and interact with its community."

'BALLS' is at OOF Gallery, Warmington House, 744 High Rd, N17 OAP. Free.



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#### LITERATURE

# Green gold

### Karin Lock reviews Cannabis: An American history by Box Brown

n interesting tactic to persuade Washington state citizens to get vaccinated (as well as free McDonalds and lottery tickets) is the 'joints for jabs' offer. With possession legalised in 40% of the US (and Canada), cannabis is dominating new businesses in many states. In a decade, this has drastically altered the North American economy. It was not always like this. Those

old enough will remember President Reagans' eighties slogan 'Just Say No' (to drugs). African and Mexican American consumers being disproportionally targeted in stop and search had occurred for decades. The new zero-tolerance War on Drugs introduced harsher sentences for possession which further decimated the tax base. In 2008 the global economy crashed.

Box Brown's Cannabis: An American History charts the highs and lows of the plant's journey from spiritual aid, to pariah, to acceptance. From the outset, the narrative highlights its benefits: reduced inflammation, nausea alleviation, mood elevation and creative stimulation. The negatives are also explored: paranoia, disorientation, dream suppression and shortterm memory loss.

With its balanced message and simple line drawing style, this graphic novel uses

humour to engage readers. It abolishes stereotypes by presenting a nuanced, more complete picture of the past. Graphic novels are becoming popular because they often focus on alternative historical perspectives. Books like *Persepolis and Parable of the Sower* are being repackaged as pictorial narratives

to reach a wider audience. *Cannabis: An American History* begins with Hindu mythology, explaining the importance of cannabis in Indian culture from 2000 years BC. The British colonial administration's scientific studies proved no links to sanity, violence or death, and brought in taxes for Indian consumers. In the US, cannabis was being sold as an asthma cure in pharmacies.

NEW YORK TIMES-BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF ANDRE THE GIANT: LIFE AND LEGEND

**BOX BROWN** 

gave it a new name: marijuana. Fleeing revolution, Mexicans brought the culture north. Here the book delves into the campaigns, from the Great Depression onwards, that conflated cannabis with race, crime, sex, and violence. Jobs were scarce; and the press was awash with anti-Mexican propaganda. Jazz music was also demonised; its joint-smoking musicians labelled degenerate and dangerous.

> It is the disconnect between myth, science and the law that needs dismantling. Box Brown campaigns for truth, shunning the 'gateway drug' theory. After heroin production was monopolised by Big Pharma, marijuana regulation was next. The 1937 Marijuana Tax Act taxed the industrial growers but made public consumption and possession crimes.

> This book uses art to highlight injustice and support social change. Just as AIDS activists agitated for access to medical cannabis in 1985, today the US has charities like the Last Prisoners Project, advocating for the release of the 40,000 people still in US prisons, some on life sentences for cannabis-related crimes. What relevance does

> this story have for post-Brexit Britain? Despite being the world's largest legal cannabis-producing country, Britain severely restricts NHS prescriptions. In 2019

we produced 320 tonnes of medical cannabis (75% of the world's total), yet 1.4 million chronically ill patients had to buy it illegally. The UK's private 'great green gold rush' may have favoured some (like Theresa May's husband) but sharing health (or wealth) was never on their agenda.

## **POETRY CORNER**

### **Sonnet for Michael**

Heart's questions pulsing puzzles We order the shrine For there you were Familial archangel, fly and shine

Our everything was your inheritance No prodigal son, it was always yours Though from the first month's coldest waters There could be no coming back

The crown of your living was loving The crown of your song was life Creating, building and bringing forth Is a legacy, an energy. That endures

And soon and very soon we will see you Singing and sailing, drumming again

By Theresa Kemp

### The Sun is Strong

The sun is strong The light is long The river's low The houseboats glow And hey! High summer feels As if it lasts Forever

The sun is fierce The wood is sparse The river's low And slow its flow And hey! We lie afloat Atop the boat Together

Another day You wake to grey The day is dark The rain is hard And then It blows away: A murky cloud A feather

Another night The moon is bright A planet shifts A comet drifts And ho! We rise on wings Of misty winds Together

By Christina Egan

### **AN AMERICAN HISTORY**



"With its balanced message and

simple line drawing style, this

graphic novel uses humour to

engage readers"

By looking at the past, we can bet-

ter understand the present. The

Spanish brought industrial hemp to

Central America to make ship sails

and ropes to increase their fleets.

Indigenous people soon cultivated

a smaller cannabis sativa plant for

therapeutic and ceremonial use.

Centuries later their descendants

# <u>Support independent</u> <u>local journalism</u>

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### Member Spotlight

I now live in Wood Green but I was a Tottenham resident for several years in the 1970s and 80s. My children went to local schools and I was involved in local issues in south Tottenham.

Back in the 70s and 80s Tottenham was a lively place to live. Believe it or not Ward's Corner was an issue even then, the area had several groups supporting the miners' strike, raising money for their families, and of course there were anti-racist movements and demonstrations. There was a campaign to save the Prince of Wales Hospital from closure – which failed – and the building is now housing units.

Now in my retirement I have been involved with Bruce Castle Museum as a volunteer and as membership secretary to the Friends of Bruce Castle Museum, Archive and Park. I first came across *TCP* at the museum, picking one up from reception. A personal reason to support the paper became obvious when Alastair Ball (my daughter's partner) started writing for the paper.

I appreciate the wide range of articles and issues *TCP* covers, and I love the photographs and artwork the paper prints. The local news coverage always brings a fresh perspective to the problems of residents, and keeps a keen eye on council and health decisions. It highlights great achievements of youngsters and other activists that may go unnoticed without *TCPs* reports.

*TCP* is a real delight as a truly local paper. Keep up the good work!

**Cherry McAskill** 

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