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Local news that matters to you



Campaigners protest outside the Laurels Health Living Centre
Credit: Stephen Furner

Opposing the Operose Health takeover

Haringey leaders and campaigners lobby against NHS centre transfer

By Luchia Robinson

A number of Haringey campaigners and councillors are lobbying against the takeover of Laurels Medical Practice by the US health insurance company, Centene.

The Laurels in St Ann's Road is one of 49 London NHS GP practices that was authorised in the takeover by 13 Clinical Commissioning

Groups (CCGs) in February.

Campaigners and medical professionals have criticised the deal saying the lack of consultation with local communities amount to "the privatisation of the NHS by stealth."

The controversial US company was sued by the state of Ohio in March – the lawsuit alleging the health insurer enacted a scheme to maximise profits by breaching Medicaid contracts.

Last year, Centene was found guilty of systematically underpaying frontline emergency doctors in the state of Arkansas. Other claims have also been brought against the company in America and in the UK.

The motion against the NHS takeover was raised by Apsana Begum, Labour MP for Poplar and Limehouse, gathering cross party support from many local leaders.

Signatories of a petition opposing the takeover by Operose Health, the UK arm of Centene, include that of Cllr Sarah James, Haringey's cabinet member for adults and health.

An open letter addressed to CCGs from London leaders including MPs, councillors, peers and assembly members referencing the US controversies stated: 'We have no reason whatsoever to expect that they (Centene) will

behave any differently in London. Such behaviour would undoubtedly have a profound impact on the quality of care Londoners, especially the elderly and vulnerable, receive as well as on the pay and conditions of the staff at our GP practices (including doctors).'

Local campaign group, Haringey Keep Our NHS Public (KONP) claim the private company is more interested in profits than patients, stating that they have a record of saving money by prioritising phone and digital GP consultations, while cutting services and replacing GPs with less expensive non-GP staff.

Haringey KONP said: "In other parts of the country private companies which have taken over GP practices have ended contracts when they have found they're not making enough profit, walking away and leaving patients without a GP. Private companies don't offer partnerships to the doctors they employ relying instead on locums.

"This means that patients aren't likely to have continuity of care, and because private companies are free to opt out of work such as out-of-hours care and often offer digital services instead of direct face-to-face work, patients are given a very different service from one they might have expected.

Continued on Page 3

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WELCOME

Steadfast In Difficulties

May 2021
N°. 46

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.

Publisher
David Floyd

Editor
Luchia Robinson

Designer
Jonathan Duncan

Head of Community News Operations
Paige Ballmi

Head of Advertising and Membership
Klaudia Kiss

Head of Engagement
Penny Dampier

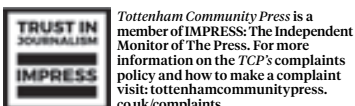
Contributors
Stephen Furner,
Bruce Castle Museum,
Zoe Alleyne, Alice Ekwalla,
Karin Lock, Tottenham's
Our Canvas



Tottenham Community Press
Selby Centre, Selby Road,
Tottenham N17 8JL

Email tcp@socialspider.com
Phone 020 8521 7956/
07762 689 995

Published by Social Spider CIC



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Gas showrooms (The Trampery) by Stephen Furner

To see more turn to pages 10-11

An introduction from the editor

Hello, welcome to issue 46. Community action in Tottenham and around the borough can be seen in multiple ways in this edition.

Our front page reports on how local campaigners and leaders opposed to the takeover of the Laurels Medical Practice in St Ann's Road by US company Centene, are making themselves heard via protest and petitioning.

Members of the local Caribbean community have developed a plan to restore their cultural centre, mobilising to ensure a new hub and homes are built (p.7).

Students from the London Academy of Excellence Tottenham provide poems this month (p.17), while Shakira Dyer launches a bilingual film addressing racism in the UK and Germany (p.14).

Stephen Furner uses the cyanotype technique, one of the oldest photographic processes to present a collection of images of local locations (p.10-11), and we take a look at when HM The Queen came to Haringey to open Wood Green Shopping City, 40 years ago (p.13).

Let us know what's happening in the community by getting in touch with your story ideas, photography, poems, and reviews. Email: tcp@socialspider.com

Luchia Robinson, Editor

Tottenham Hotspur Football Club is consulting on development proposals for Goods Yard, The Depot and Printworks sites

From 20 April to 14 May, you can view our proposals online and give us your feedback via our feedback form. We shall also be holding two webinars to explain our proposals to the community and answer any questions you may have. These will take place on:

TUESDAY 4 MAY: 6-7PM

SATURDAY 8 MAY: 10-11AM

To sign up for a webinar or to find out more, please visit tottenhamhotspur.com/the-club/passionate-abouttottenham/future-plans or scan the QR code on your phone.

Email: future.plans@tottenhamhotspur.com Freephone: 0800 307 7716



SCAN ME AND
FIND OUT MORE



NEWS



Cllr Sarah James speaks to the protesters



A placard referencing the recent opposition to the Super League



Continued from Page-1

There is a major shortage of GPs for NHS work and these changes are not going to help fill gaps in recruitment. Both patients and doctors are worse off.

“People’s health should not be treated as a commodity. People in Tottenham should be concerned that this form of contracting means a shift to a profit-driven US style system where only better-off people can afford healthcare when they need it.”

Haringey KONP staged a protest outside the Laurels last month on 22nd April, the national day of protest against Centene.

The local campaigners would like to see an end to Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) contracts, which

they say have opened the door to large companies like Centene. They state local authorities and communities should have improved controls over the NHS, and that better scrutiny of private contracts and of proposed handovers to new contractors is essential to regulating the way APMS contracts are awarded.

Haringey KONP believe there should be an investigation of the conduct and suitability of the parent company (Centene) or associate companies, and that contractual guarantees should be in place, preventing patient data from being transferred outside the UK to any other part of a privately contracted company.

A spokesperson for Operose Health said: “Operose Health shares NHS values, provides NHS services and cares for

NHS patients. Like other NHS providers, our care is free at the point of delivery, regulated and inspected by the Care Quality Commission.

“We focus on delivering personal, professional patient care, of the highest quality, to the populations we serve. We are committed to widening public access to excellent patient care, especially in the most deprived communities, experiencing the most profound health inequalities.

“By combining best clinical practice, new ways of thinking and the most innovative global health technology, we work to improve the quality, value and accessibility of NHS health care so that all patients can share the opportunity to live healthier lives.”

NEWS IN BRIEF

Council and police crackdown on Blue Badge fraud

Five vehicles have been impounded in Hornsey and Wood Green for Blue Badge fraud following a joint operation by Haringey Council and the police.

One badge was being used by an individual even though the actual badge holder is deceased whilst four further stolen badges were identified.

In addition, a fake Blue Badge and one that was lost were also picked up in the sweep that took place last month across various streets in the area.

All those caught received a £130 penalty whilst those whose cars were impounded received a further £200 fine.

Blue Badges offer a permit for those with mobility problems or hidden disabilities, allowing them to park closer to their destinations.

Haringey Council is cracking down on fraudulent Blue Badge use.

A council spokesperson said: “We will not tolerate the misuse or fraudulent use of Blue Badges. Doing this makes it more difficult for those that are not able bodied to park as it takes up their spaces.

“If you are aware of anyone using a Blue Badge who should not, please contact the council.”

Anyone who has had their Blue Badge stolen is exempt from parking restrictions for three weeks whilst they wait for a replacement badge.

This exemption is applied automatically once the council is made aware of a replacement badge application.

More information on the Blue Badge scheme, who is eligible and how to apply can be found here: haringey.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-travel/parking/parking-permits/european-blue-badge-parking-scheme#what-is-blue

Join us

Online editorial meeting

4th May 18:30

EMAIL: PAIGE@SOCIALSPIDER.COM

Candidates for the Enfield and Haringey seat on the London Assembly have made their pitch for your vote ahead of the City Hall elections on Thursday 6th May.

The seat is one of 14 constituencies on the assembly, which also has eleven London-wide members, and has been held by Labour since the launch of the Greater London Authority in 2000. Joanne McCartney has been the City Hall representative for the two boroughs since 2004 and is standing again this time around.

There are five other candidates vying to win the seat from Labour; Dawn Barnes, for the Liberal Democrats; Frances Cairns, for Reform UK; Lee David-Sanders, for the Conservatives; Jarelle Francis, for the Green Party; and Pamela Holmes, who is standing as an independent candidate.

Tottenham Community Press contacted every candidate to request a statement explaining their key priorities should they win election. Four responses were received, from the Labour, Conservative, Green and Lib Dem candidates.

Joanne McCartney



Labour Party

As we emerge from the pandemic we face a choice about what kind of city we want London to be. A vote for Labour is a vote for a fairer, greener and more prosperous city. As your assembly member I will stand up for London and our values of openness and fairness.

I have been privileged to represent Enfield and Haringey on the London Assembly and I am proud to have:

Led work on the mayor's £45m Young Londoners Fund, giving opportunities and positive activities to thousands of local young people;

Supported increases to the London Living Wage, helping low-paid Londoners, as London's living wage commissioner;

Supported bold action to reduce toxic air pollution, improve our green spaces and tackle climate change;

Successfully campaigned for better public transport, including the new 456 bus, upgrades to the Piccadilly Line, and fought off Tory attempts to take away free travel for our young people and older Londoners;

Voted for budgets putting more police on our street, despite government cuts to policing, and for the building of more council homes and genuinely affordable housing.

If re-elected I promise to stand up for the people of Enfield and Haringey, and work:

- For our local communities and to champion our underfunded public services such as policing, Transport for London (TfL) and local councils;
- To tackle unemployment by supporting local businesses and retraining opportunities for local people into well-paid jobs;
- For further action on air quality and tackling the climate emergency;
- For a safer city with more opportunities for young people and more policing;
- For a fairer city – where everyone has a decent home and can afford to live well.
- Vote for a better future on Thursday 6th May. Use all your votes for Labour.

I was born in Enfield and I have lived in Enfield for the last 15 years. I have been a local councillor in Enfield for seven years. My family comes from the area and throughout my career I have worked across the constituency in Cockfosters, Crouch End, Muswell Hill and Wood Green.

I want to be your next London Assembly Member and be your champion in City Hall to ensure that the mayor is investing in the area, creating new jobs and reducing inequality across both boroughs.

I will work with and challenge the mayor to tackle violent crime. We cannot continue with the levels of serious youth violence, and I will challenge the local police on their action plan to reduce this.

I campaign against the implementation of the Ultra-Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ). In Enfield and Haringey we have some of the poorest residents in London. The ULEZ will hit the poorest and most vulnerable and I don't want residents to have to pay to cross the North Circular to receive treatment at North Middlesex University Hospital.

I want to ensure that the Green Belt remains protected. I want brownfield sites to be used and I will hold the mayor to account on ensuring that these are the first choice for development, seeing that greener buildings are constructed and not high-rise tower blocks.

I want to continue to promote the health benefits of walking and cycling as well as ensuring that our local public transport receives the funding it needs to make the boroughs more accessible to get around, as well as into and out of central London.

Vote for Lee David-Sanders on Thursday 6th May for a strong voice for Enfield and Haringey.

Lee David-Sanders



Conservative Party

Jarelle Francis



Green Party

This is an important election for London; we are in the midst of a climate emergency and a horrendous pandemic which has claimed the lives of too many people and seen many lose their livelihoods.

The Green Party manifesto offers an ambitious and achievable set of goals to help us build back better, including:

Creating the greenest city in the world by investing in green energy and jobs, protecting green spaces and cancelling the disastrous Silvertown Tunnel;

Fresh thinking on housing: pushing the government to set rent controls and introducing a London Living Rent;

Action for a safe and healthy city: setting targets to prevent violence and bring murders down to zero, investing in youth and women's services, and setting a zero death target for road accidents by cutting speed limits and extending the ULEZ to cover the whole of London;

Championing local high streets, supporting small businesses, a London Living Wage of £14 per hour, and trialling a Universal Basic Income in London.

In Enfield and Haringey I will oppose the new Edmonton incinerator, which would be a large emitter of greenhouse gases.

We have a plan to flatten tube and rail fares. Some of us in Haringey and Enfield are in Zone 2 and some in Zone 5, meaning we are paying vastly different amounts to travel into central London. Flattening fares would make it affordable for many more.

We currently have two Greens on the London Assembly, Sian Berry and Caroline Russell, who both have a track record of wins, including forcing Sadiq Khan to declare a climate emergency and push forward his 2050 target to 2030.

If you want Green vote Green, there's no need for tactical voting. I will work hard to improve the area I live and grew up in.

I'm a councillor in Haringey and I live in Bounds Green. I used to live in Southgate and have shopped, socialised and travelled in both our boroughs.

I developed an excellent knowledge of the New River Path from Bowes Park to Town Park during lockdown and I now have a greater appreciation of the parks and green spaces we have locally and how important they are for our mental health and wellbeing. So, the Lib Dem pledge to 'rewild London' and create more parks is one I particularly welcome.

For many in our boroughs, life can be difficult. Even before the pandemic, things weren't right. Jobs, homes, clean air; three basic needs – and we are being let down on all three.

London is at a crucial moment. With the impact of Covid-19, Brexit, and the climate emergency, we need big ideas and urgent action to rise to the challenges ahead of us.

The Luisa Porritt and Liberal Democrat plan to Take London Forward does just that. It's an exciting vision of London that embraces change. Covid-19 has changed many things, possibly forever. We need to see these changes as an opportunity. To reinvent our local high streets; convert offices into affordable homes; and make it easier to choose greener ways to travel.

Locally, I brought 400 empty homes back into use and united Haringey councillors to support becoming a London Living Wage accredited employer.

You have three votes on 6th May, please use them to deliver a mix of parties to the assembly to hold the mayor to account.

Dawn Barnes



Liberal Democrats

NEWS

Tottenham begins collecting blood plasma for medicines

People in and around Tottenham have begun donating blood plasma for medicines for the first time in more than 20 years.

The plasma will be used to make antibody-based medicines – called immunoglobulins – for people with rare immune diseases.

Tottenham Plasma Donor Centre, in La Royale, High Road, is one of the 14 NHS Blood and Transplant donor centres around England now taking donations, for an initial three-month period.

Thousands of patients rely on immunoglobulin medicines for short-term or lifelong diseases and genetic disorders. Around 1,200 are patients in north London.

With rising demand across the world for these medicines there is a global supply shortage. These donations will bolster the supply chain and improve the self-sufficiency of the UK in producing its own treatments.

The antibody medicines are used to treat people with weak immune systems and a variety of other rare conditions, including neurological, haematological and dermatological disorders.

More than 175 people donated plasma in the first two weeks



Blood plasma donation

since collection in Tottenham started. When people donate, the plasma is filtered out of circulating blood by an apheresis machine and the red blood cells are returned to the donor.

Laura Iordache, Tottenham Plasma Donor Centre manager,

said: “Like blood donation, plasma donation will be altruistic, for the benefit of the NHS and we’re here ready to collect it. We’re asking people, if contacted by us, please donate plasma for medicines – you will save and transform lives.”

Several thousand donors will

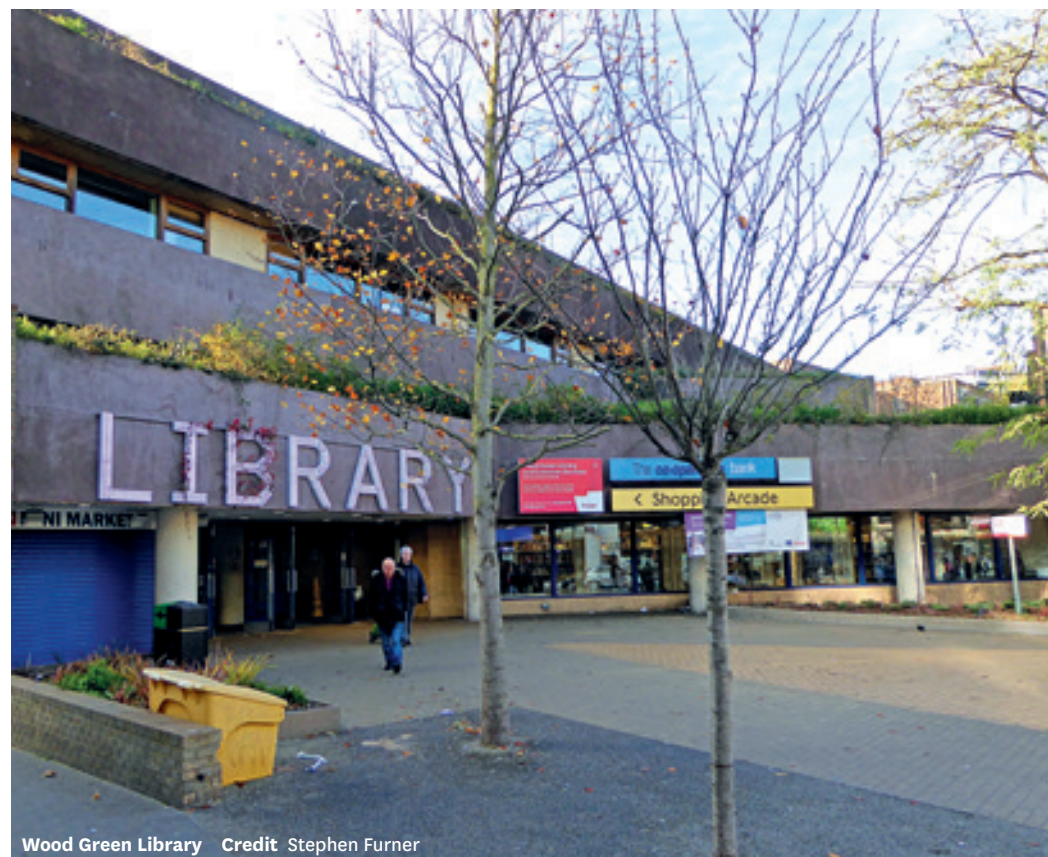
“Like blood donation, plasma donation will be altruistic, for the benefit of the NHS”

initially be recruited from the existing NHSBT blood donor base, rather than the general public. Open recruitment will be introduced in the future.

To find out more about blood plasma donation you can visit www.blood.co.uk or call on 0300 123 23 23.

Citizen journalists launch Information Station

Local volunteers set up health information platform



Wood Green Library Credit Stephen Furner

Volunteer residents from local communities have set up *Information Station*, a platform focusing on the resilience, creativity and community spirit in lockdown in Haringey.

Working from a community newsroom in Wood Green Library, the citizen journalists share content on how to stay healthy and live well during lockdown and beyond.

Haringey Adult Learning manager, Simon Beer, said: The energy that our volunteers are bringing to making news items, blogs, video diaries, features and podcasts has been incredible.

“For so many people lockdown has brought stress, isolation and anxiety. It’s not always easy to know where to go to get reliable local information or to hear from other people going through the same experience as you. *Information Station* gives Haringey people a trusted platform to share with other Haringey people.

The team running *Information Station* have been trained by a BBC journalist, The London Film School, blogging experts and community podcasters. They believe the platform can play a key role in taking crucial public health information to a wider audience during the health crisis.

Project Manager, Amanda White grew up in Tottenham and is proud to be part

of this new venture: “We are so lucky to be able to work with some amazing citizen journalists with a genuine wish to connect to their communities through their stories.”

Nikita Hyare, from Public Health Har-

ingey said: “This project is an amazing way to communicate important health messages, from a reliable source. Born and raised in Haringey, I am so inspired by the citizen journalists’ motivation to give back to their community.”

For more information: amanda@infostation.uk

“This project is an amazing way to communicate important health messages, from a reliable source”

NEWS



Credit: Stephen Furner

Over before it began Spurs at the centre of European Super League uproar

By Luchia Robinson

Tottenham Hotspur FC announced its plans to withdraw from a newly formed European Super League (ESL), just two days after announcing they had joined the project.

The now defunct Super League involved twelve European clubs uniting to develop a midweek competition with their teams as permanent members – irrespective of their performance in their domestic league.

In addition to Spurs, the founding Super League teams were Liverpool, Manchester City, Manchester United, Real Madrid, AC Milan, Arsenal, Atlético Madrid, Chelsea, Barcelona, Internazionale, and Juventus.

The announcement of the ESL was immediately met with criticism from fans, sports commentators, politicians and beyond, with claims that the twelve teams were prioritising ‘elitism’, ‘greed’ and ‘brand recognition’.

The Premier League prompted the six English clubs, and the majority of the remaining European clubs to pull out of the Super League within two days of the launch announcement.

Spurs Chairman Daniel Levy said: “We regret the anxiety and upset caused by the ESL proposal. We felt it was important that our club participated in the development of a possible new structure that sought to better ensure financial fair play and financial sustainability whilst delivering significantly increased support for the wider football pyramid.

“We believe that we should never stand still and that the sport should constantly review competitions and governance to ensure the game we all love continues to evolve and excite fans around the world.

“We should like to thank all those supporters who presented their considered opinions.”

Oliver Dowden, Secretary for Culture, Media and Sport, told parliament last month that the Super League proposal was tone-deaf and that the government will be supporting the football authorities in applying sanctions against the English clubs.

He said: “These six clubs announced this decision without any consultation with football authorities or with government; worst of all they did it without any dialogue whatsoever with their own fans.

“Football fans demonstrate an unwavering loyalty and passion by sticking by their clubs, but their loyalty is being abused by a small number of individuals who wield an incredible amount of power and influence.

“If the past year has taught us anything, it’s that football is nothing without its fans, and these owners should remember that they are only temporary custodians of their clubs, and they forget fans at their peril.”

The government is launching a fan-led review of the long-term future of football. The investigation will look at governance and regulation of the game, financial sustainability, the merits of an independent regulator, and how fans can have a greater oversight.

Bringing hope to unemployed youth

Youth empowerment charity launches in job centres across north London

Grassroots charity Local Village Network (LVN) is rolling out its services across job centres in north London, supporting 18-24-year-olds into employment.

LVN offers access to its pilot Power of an Hour micro-mentoring programme, based on professionals giving one hour of their time in group and one-to-one sessions.

Young adults are able to explore their options and get real-time help from people sharing their advice and expertise, helping fast-track them into sustainable employment.

All Power of an Hour sessions are currently taking place online in safe environments and are facilitated by trained DWP work coaches. LVN also offers a one-stop youth services signposting app which features over 1500 listings, from live job vacancies and employability programmes, to specialist support and youth activities.

LVN founder and CEO Rachael Box said: “I’m overwhelmed by the backing we’ve received across industry. It’s testament to how hard organisations are working to break down barriers to entry and open their doors to support young people at this challenging time. The willingness and commit-

ment of individual employees to give their time is humbling and it affirms my belief in the collective power of the community to effect positive social change.

“It is vital that we unlock access to wider employment opportunities and networks for those young people living in poverty, to give left-behind youth the mindset, skills and confidence that will propel them into careers they did not believe were open to them. We encourage everyone who is in this position to speak to their work coaches about this innovative programme.”

To find the LVN app:

Visit itunes.apple.com/gb/app/lvn/id1209440307 and https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.borne.lvn.lvn&hl=en_GB

Job Centre, Tottenham High Road
Credit: Luchia Robinson

Advertisement



NEWS



Credit: Stephen Furner

Community plan to redevelop the West Indian Cultural Centre

Property activist to submit planning proposal to restore neglected cultural centre

By Luchia Robinson

A local property activist has launched a planning proposal to revive Haringey's West Indian Cultural Centre (WICC).

Haringey raised Stewart Wellington has the support of the centre's trustees and community elders to redevelop the site in Clarendon Road, N8 into a modern facility called the African Caribbean Cultural Centre (ACCC) to reflect post-colonial emphasis.

Constructed in the 1980s, the WICC brought together island-based Caribbean communities who had previously gone without a common space to meet. The centre provided resources about the African diaspora and became a hub of activism welcoming guests including Nobel Prize

winning poet and playwright Sir Derek Walcott, and American civil rights activist Al Sharpton.

The new ACCC will focus on providing community output programmes that will promote education about the Caribbean, and the African Caribbean journey and heritage.

Stewart's planning proposal seeks to restore the building, which is in need of major repairs, in partnership with developer, Paul Simon Magic Homes, whilst also providing 30 homes – a mix of affordable and social rent housing. In addition, office units will ensure the viability and sustainability of the cultural centre.

However, prior to submitting the mixed tenure application, the issue of land ownership will need to be resolved with the council who own part of the land,

(the majority of the site is owned by Stewart and his partners).

Stewart explains that more than 30 years of neglect by the council as landlord, has amounted to liability works costing it more than £250,000. He believes it would be in the council's best interest

to approve the community planning proposals rather than seek to buy out their interests.

In a recent article with the *Guardian*, a Haringey councillor admitted, "the shortcomings in the current building" but said the council plans to redevelopment



CGI of the intended cultural centre Credit: Magic Homes

the site itself. "We want to bring forward the overall scheme as quickly as possible while developing appropriate plans in partnership with community leaders and making best use of public assets to serve our local community."

Stewart said: "There's a social message which shouldn't be missed by the council - the African Caribbean community wish to be autonomous in the delivery of this facility, as opposed to the arrangement that has gone on before. It's important that we seem to be able to do things for ourselves."

"We don't need to sit around and wait for the council. The development needs to be organic from the community. That was the spirit of the Windrush generation."

Stewart aims to launch an ambitious programme focusing

"We don't need to sit around and wait for the council. The development needs to be organic from the community"

on nurturing creativity amongst young people and finding the next generation of Black creative talent.

Jessie Stevens, 93, led the Mothers' Police Liaison Committee to protect young Black men from police brutality, she said: "It would mean everything to see the next generation inherit our work in the form of a new building."

Hugh Francis, an active elder member of the African Caribbean Leadership Council, said: "There's currently a disconnect between the current generation and what they know about the activism of the Windrush generation. This is because of the loss of a common space."

"Kids today don't necessarily know the legacy of the work of people like Mrs Jessie Stevens. A new space would provide the bridge between the generations."

Stewart explains what the prospect of having a new cultural centre will mean. He said: "What we're proposing is to ensure that the African Caribbean Cultural Centre has a revenue stream which will benefit the local people. It's important to me, and it's important to the elders – they're excited to have a vibrant and active facility for people within the borough to have the opportunity to enjoy and experience."

NEWS



The Duchess of Cornwall visits the London Islamic Cultural Society and Mosque and Lordship Lane Primary Care Centre (below)
Credit: Dinendra Haria/London News Pictures

Duchess of Cornwall marks vaccine milestone

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cornwall was the guest of honour in Haringey last month, marking the 50,000th vaccination-mark of one of Tottenham’s vaccine centres.

Her Royal Highness met NHS staff, volunteers and Haringey residents getting their vaccines at the Lordship Lane Primary Care Centre (also known as the ‘Tottenham Vaccination Centre’), where the Duchess saw how the centre is engaging with the local community to combat vaccine hesitancy.

Speaking at the event, HRH The Duchess of Cornwall, said: “I’ve visited quite a few vaccination centres and I never cease to be impressed at all the work everyone is doing. They are absolute stars, we couldn’t do it without them (referring to the volunteers and vaccinators).”

Dr Russell Hearn, GP Partner at Morris House Group Practice, said: “We were delighted to welcome Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Cornwall to celebrate the milestone of 50,000 Covid-19 vaccinations from Lordship Lane Primary Care Centre.

“We’ve worked closely with our local communities to get as many people as

possible the best protection from this dreadful virus, and it’s an honour to have the team’s hard work recognised.”

The Duchess then went on to visit the London Islamic Cultural Society and Mosque in Wightman Road, N8, where

HRH found out how members of the local Muslim community are rallying to assist those in need of help and support at this time.

HRH helped prepare gift hampers which are being sent to frontline staff, the home-

less, and refugee children this Ramadan.

Bibi Khan, President of the London Islamic Cultural Society and Mosque, said: “We are ecstatic to have HRH The Duchess of Cornwall visit our humble Cultural Centre and Mosque.



Credit: Warren Cooper

“It’s an honour to have the team’s hard work recognised”

“The visit grants us not only the pleasure of meeting a senior member of the Royal Family, but also access to the wealth of experience HRH has from the numerous charities HRH represents or works with.

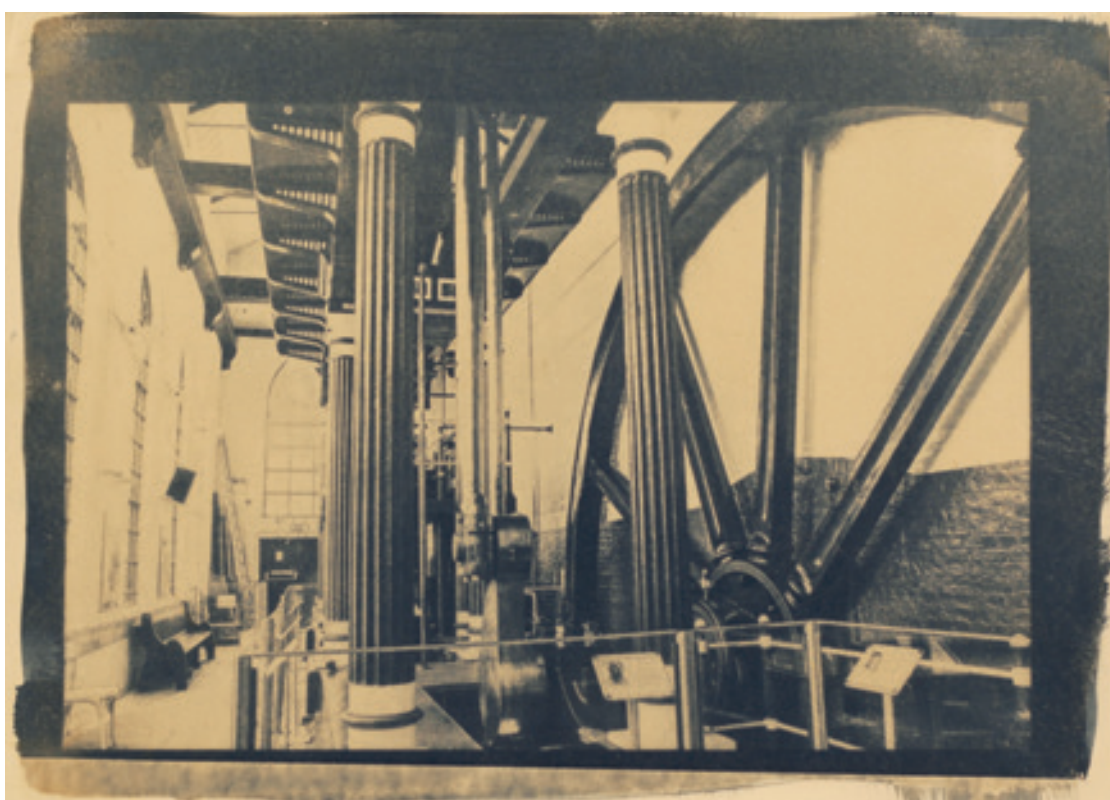
“It represents a further step in our growth, another chance to display our values of hope, peace, community, harmony, and goodwill to humankind.

“In trying times, as we are in now, a visit from HRH is a welcome boost to our community. It also highlights just how much work is being done to provide for, and help, our community.”



**PHOTOGRAPHS BY
STEPHEN FURNER**







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

Advertisement



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Email sales@ethicalproperty.co.uk
or call 01865 207 810 to find out more



Top and bottom image
Credit: Bruce Castle Museum (Haringey Archive
and Museum Service)/Photographer: Ken Peckham

When the Queen came to Wood Green | *By Luchia Robinson*

Thursday 13th May 2021 marks 40 years of Wood Green Shopping City (now called the Mall Wood Green), which was officially opened by HM The Queen in 1981.

The Queen visited the centre for a 90-min tour of the shopping complex and “the village in the sky” – the housing development on top of it, known locally as Sky City.

On the day, the Queen was welcomed by then Mayor of Haringey, Cllr Eileen Garwood and a crowd of 2000 locals, amid a fanfare of trumpeters from the Royal Artillery.

The Queen was led through the complex meeting the centre manager and local artists with the art entries they’d submitted into a painting competition organised by the Shopping City in liaison with Haringey Arts Council.

School teacher Michelle Holloway said: “I came first in my age category for a competition entitled ‘The Queen comes to Haringey’ and won art materials from WH Smith’s. I met Her Majesty – she spoke to me.

“My design was a stagecoach with the old Haringey logo as wheels. I was about 14 at the time. I remember it well. It gave me a sense of achievement.”

The Queen then met many store managers including Mr Paul Taylor, the manager of D.H Evans, before visiting the traders in the market hall (a core feature of the development providing 54,000 sq ft for 80 traders). Tottenham resident Kim Adams, said:



HM The Queen with former Mayor
of Haringey Cllr Eileen Garwood

“I was standing in the restaurant of D.H Evans as part of an invited group, with my baby daughter. My mother-in-law worked in the restaurant and got us an invite. It was an honour to be that close to the Queen when she visited the restaurant as part of her tour.

“We all had tiny little flags to wave and my daughter wore a navy and white polka dot dress, trimmed with a red ribbon and red patent shoes. It’s amazing what I can remember from 40 years ago.”

The Mayor invited the Queen to unveil a plaque commemorating the inauguration of the Shopping City, and the Leader of the Council, Cllr Robin Young presented HM with a framed first day cover. This was followed by Lisa Hutchinson, the nine-year-old daughter of one of the centre’s cleaners presenting the Queen with a posy.



Credit: Luchia Robinson

Lifelong Haringey resident Geraldine Marsand remembers the day well, she said: “We got half a day off school, so we all went up there. My mum had told me not to go inside because the Queen was going to be there and she feared an attack from the IRA. I didn’t listen to her, I went in and saw the Queen, then couldn’t get out because they’d locked all the doors – so I had to confess to my mum.”

Upon arriving at the housing development above the shopping complex, the Queen was greeted by tenants, construction staff who worked on the site, and more than 300 school children.

The Royal party toured the development, with the Queen meeting Mr and Mrs Coralie and Mr and Mrs Newnham – two families living in the new flats, before officially declaring the estate open and planting a commemorative tree.

At the time, Henry Jacobs was a publicity photographer at the council, he said: “It was a major achievement by the Shopping City in partnership with Haringey Council to get the Queen to perform the opening.

“Although many Royals have visited Haringey, I can’t recall the Queen being in the borough before or afterwards, and there was great excitement and a large crowd.

“I can remember Dickie Arbiter (former press secretary to Buckingham Palace, but then LBC radio commentator) being a judge for a baby competition.”

Before finishing the tour of the Shopping City, the Queen was presented with a multi-cassette duplicating machine on behalf of Haringey’s Talking Newspapers service.

COMMUNITY

Showcasing Tottenham's vibrant personality

Local art studio seeks funding for borough-wide artwork



the shutter gallery – a series of artworks on shop front shutters. We have received a lot of positive feedback from local residents and businesses, and it has also been very successful in bringing the local creative community together.

With our latest project, we want to support local artists, empowering the residents of Haringey to take ownership of their artwork, champion their community, and represent their area with pride.

Residents are feeling alienated by the current period of development taking place in Tottenham. Unlike previous borough wide regeneration, we want to ensure that Haringey's sense of community isn't just maintained, but



have the Mayor of London as a backer as well as over 80 pledges from members of our community.

The deadline to reach our target is the 11th May and if we meet the target, we will receive the funding to start the project next month. We have until the end of the year to complete the whole project.

This will be a great way of improving the local economy without the threat of gentrification. It supports local artists and businesses while giving residents the opportunity to have input into the changes made in their borough.

For more information and to donate:

Visit spacehive.com/art-for-haringey#/idea

Email hello@budstudio.co.uk

By Zoe Alleyne, Managing Director, Bud Studio

Tottenham has a strong identity which local people are very proud of.

Tottenham has been very good to our studio and we would like to give back by giving the community a chance to showcase Tottenham and Haringey's vibrant personality.

Bud Studio aims to bring together the local and creative community by running workshops and producing large scale co-designed artworks in the borough.

Over the past year we have been working with the council and local artists to deliver



heightened through this period of change.

We will use art and workshops to exhibit Haringey's identity and bring people together. This will add value to the local economy whilst creating opportunities for Haringey's creative communities.

Myself and co-director Albert Clegg, will be running this project, alongside local artists and residents who will be involved in the process of creating the artworks.

We are currently raising funds to deliver three community workshops, two large scale murals, and four small scale murals.

We aim to raise £17,075 in total and we need your help to raise the final 17% of our crowdfunding campaign. We already



Get up, Stand up, Speak up

Shakira Dyer launches bilingual film addressing racism in the UK and Germany

Shakira Dyer, a German translator from Tottenham, and Jochen Kienzler, an event co-creator and blind accessibility advocate from Heidelberg, Germany, have launched a film exploring the impact of racism and the intricacies of Black identity in the UK and Germany.

Get Up, Stand Up, Speak Up highlights the problem of racism by focusing on interviews with guest speakers, from the UK and Germany, who share their own powerful messages, films, research and performances.

The film was created for the German Weeks against Racism (16th March – 8th April), with much of the introduction filmed in Tottenham.

Shakira carried out the interviews in English, edited and translated the videos. Co-creator, Jochen Kienzler established initial contact with the Heidelberg Intercultural Centre, and also helped organise the attendance of a Zoom conference for their German audience, (as Shakira did with their English audience), ensuring the film was accessible with German

audio descriptions and summaries.

Qays Moses Nsanja, a young Black filmmaker from Haringey spoke about his film series *UAHell*, discussing racism, classism and the superficiality of addressing it at his former university.

"I would recommend this film to anyone who wants to learn more about the continuing impact of racism around the world"

He said: "You expect university to be this place that's inclusive and tolerant, yet sometimes I don't feel that we're really listened to."

"Teachers and even students can get away with being very elitist and racist; I feel that shouldn't be happening in a place you're meant to be safe."



Shakira Dyer Credit SparX

Aicha Hasselbach, a German writer and singer at the Heidelberg Karlstorbahnhof Kulturhaus, explained her experiences with hair discrimination. She explained that 'people touching your hair, asking weird questions about it or making weird comments' had been an occurrence all her life, and highlighted her journey pushing past the discrimination, and celebrating Black hairstyles.

The film also features a lecture by Floyd and Robin Anderson who explore the history of Rastafarianism, while Sandra Regina de Silva, a Brazilian-German performer based in Heidelberg, explains how she feels that Black people are rarely given control of their own stories in German theatres.

Shakira said: "I would recommend this film to anyone who wants to learn more about the continuing impact of racism around the world, and how it can be tackled with education, understanding and exploring other perspectives."

You can watch the full film here:

Visit youtube.com/watch?v=6iHqSrfeSjM

COMMUNITY



Credit: Tottenham Hotspur

Club hosts the Spurs series women's football tournament

Tottenham Hotspur Foundation hosted a women's 5-a-side football tournament at New River Sports & Fitness Centre in Tottenham last month, as part of its 'Making Sport a Daily Habit' programme.

The Spurs Series Women's Tournament is designed to encourage people who are not usually active to incorporate exercise into their daily routine.

Six teams from across London took part, with 'Christina and the Queens' crowned champions after securing a 3-2 victory in a tense penalty shoot-out.

The Tottenham Hotspur Foundation has been delivering sessions virtually throughout the pandemic, helping participants

to stay connected.

The foundation runs a range of projects all year round to create opportunities for women and girls to access sport, including delivering football sessions at

"With restrictions now lifting, it was great to be back outdoors playing football"

Haringey Sixth Form College, where girls between 16-18 years old can take part in inclusive drills and matches.

The tournament was led by former Tottenham Hotspur Women's defender, Renee Hector.

Speaking after the event, Renee, said: "It was brilliant to see so many people attend the tournament. As summer approaches, this is the perfect opportunity for everyone to get back outdoors and be active, and most importantly have fun. We look forward to welcoming many more participants over the coming months."

One participant said: "With restrictions now lifting, it was great to be back outdoors playing football. Huge thank you to Tottenham Hotspur Foundation for delivering this event in the local area – it helps to create a real sense of community whilst reminding us to stay active!"

To find out more: tottenhamhotspur.com/the-club/passionate-about-tottenham/



Credit: Tottenham Hotspur

Photographing golden moments

By Alice Ekwalla,
Project Manager, Embrace UK

Embrace UK recently unveiled our four-week digital photobook workshop as part of our Golden Lives pilot.

Based at the Selby Centre, we have a mission to upskill, create memories, and tackle isolation and loneliness among the older generations whose daily lives have been badly affected by the Covid-19 crisis.

The photography programme for vulnerable people in the community aged over 55, was run in collaboration with Nishil Meggi, an IT specialist and amateur photographer from Empower Skills Services (ESS).

During the weekly sessions, the participants interacted digitally, sharing images as well as their emotions and experiences of how their lives have been impacted by the ongoing pandemic.

The photobook workshop offered the seven participants who took part the chance to learn a skill they may have not tried before, to make new friends and receive technical support.

Oluremi Abate, a participant of the photobook workshop said: "I have happy memories connected to the pictures that I took for the workshops – they helped me to

go through this difficult time.

"Photography is a form of art that helps me to live in the present and enjoy spending my time doing something different, like learning about angles and composition. The workshop was a good initiative, and I would definitely recommend it to other people."

The workshop also created an opportunity for the younger generation to contribute to the community. Zainab Mohsin, a media student at CONEL (The College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London), assisted in interactive learning and facilitating the delivery of the weekly sessions as part of her work placement with ESS.

Zainab said the placement was "the opportunity to get a real insight into media marketing and content creation whilst providing practical and social support for elderly and vulnerable people during the pandemic."

We are now looking to partner with other parties to raise funding that will allow us to continue the programme, which unfortunately was not extended because of a lack of funds. Raising the necessary monies would be for the benefit of our susceptible and vulnerable community.

For more information: embraceuk.org



Experimenting with light and composition Credit: Donatus Ogbue



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LITERATURE

Pandemic profiteering

Karin Lock reviews *Blinded by Corona* by John Ashton (with Maggi Morris)

With national euphoria over the vaccine rollout, it is easy to forget the systemic political dysfunction that Covid-19 has exposed so well over the last sixteen months. Calls for a judicial inquiry from families of the deceased have been refused but when it comes, the investigators might read *Blinded by Corona* to refresh their memories.

This is a damning account of the government's failure to respond intelligently to a global public health emergency. Many of the facts we know – late lockdowns; insufficient PPE; no border closure; an inadequate test and track system. This paperback goes to the heart of the crisis, exposing the secrecy and inaction that led to, what the writer calls, 'social murder'.

Focussing on the pandemic's earlier months, the book examines why Covid-19 is now endemic. Health officials requested funds for local testing to contain outbreaks. Instead community testing was abandoned, and testing equipment requisitioned for a super lab which became overwhelmed. Tests were sent overseas and results not shared. Test, track and trace never stood a chance.

Contrasting Britain's response with lockdown-free Bahrain (whom the author advised with its Covid-19 strategy), Ashton confirms a lack of planning, complacency and over-centralisation fuelled the spread of the virus. His criticism of absentee leadership, despite news of struggling European hospitals, shows how the country was left to fend for itself –



“Blinded by Corona documents the treatments and interventions found useful elsewhere but rejected here”

with 720 citizen mutual aid groups taking the strain.

A shout goes out to the heroes of early prevention. In Wales, Ceredigion Council conducted its own low-cost community tracing, contacting every symptomatic case instead of waiting for delayed test results. The Isle of Man bought a second-hand PCR machine to test and contain the virus, with 24 deaths in a population of 85,000.

Whether you support the use of vaccines or not, *Blinded by Corona* speaks truth to power. It documents the treatments and interventions found useful elsewhere but rejected here. It remembers those who broke their own confusing rules and then blamed the public for their own failures. It presents the right

to protest issues as symptoms of a deeper malaise; a darker truth.

The book examines the profiteering and cronyism of private sector corporations (and newly set-up companies) close to government offered exclusive PPE and testing contracts. In a time of deep recession, public money was diverted away from small businesses capable of, or already making what was needed. Those “overpromised and underdelivered” resources – like the test and trace app – have wasted billions.

Written in a non-academic style, with literary references and satirical comments, *Blinded by Corona* is a wake-up call. Questioning why the silent mainstream media failed to challenge the government narrative, the author wonders if it was more than a lack of journalist access to officials. He is most disparaging about SAGE, the advisory group which initially had no named public health officials on its board.

As a public health expert with experience of Ebola and HIV, John Ashton is well-positioned to argue against the “naïve belief that public health is a cost rather than an investment in economic and social development”. He sees ongoing NHS privatisation as one of the many problems – including ill health, unemployment, debt, and homelessness – that will be Covid-19's legacy.

Blinded by Corona leaves no doubt in the reader's mind that individuals must be held accountable for incompetency and corruption. Just as with the Hillsborough, Bloody Sunday and Grenfell tragedies, it is the citizens themselves who will identify and isolate the unjust.

POETRY

These poems by students from the London Academy of Excellence Tottenham (LAET), were entries into a poetry competition run by Tottenham's Our Canvas – the arts and cultural sub magazine of the LAET student led publication 'The Tottenham Phoenix'.

The winning and runner up poems were selected by Samirah Bangura and Bela Khandker, the editors of Tottenham's Our Canvas.

WINNER

What is your Tottenham

By Baaba Nkansah-Asamoah

For some, it's black or white, right or wrong, left or right. But the reality is that at each end of the spectrum – there's a box that we're placed in; a tight unmovable phenomenon we are forced to be subdued under.

No space for categories of grey, an array of illumination extinguished gradually.

In spite of the fact that our existence is beautifully hued in stripes of mosaic chromatism, tinted by our narratives, seeds sowed into the soil of our ambience.

These brilliant differences make us all who we are, celebrating them launches a collage of cultures, backgrounds and creativity. That is what my Tottenham is – the body of LAET.

Filled with a kaleidoscope of people, deep mystery, entwined in the veins of our history. Carrying a legacy in the depth of our bellies, a fountain of knowledge allowing us to be the people we are called to be.

A dynasty of kings and queens, sixteen to nineteen, in hopes of inspiring, we endeavour to reflect and uphold the image of the community we are shaping.

I once heard a great man say – “The road to success is not a straight line, instead it's more like a squiggly line with many twists and turns” – I must say I have never heard anything more accurate.

RUNNER UP

Welcome to Tottenham

By Giovanni Rose

Where we wake up to the smell of Chick King,
mixed with the odour of the corpse from the night before.
Where we cover our blood-stained streets with dried up gum,
Where kids have holes in their last pairs of shoes,
Where daddy left mummy and mummy's left poor.

Welcome to Tottenham.

Where if you look like me then it's harder for you,
Where everybody's equal unless they're darker than you.
Where the police see colour before they see the crime,
Where children get stopped and searched and aren't allowed to ask why.

Welcome to Tottenham.

Where the drug addicts sit at the back of the 149.
Where education and sports are the only ways to shine.
Where we ride around on stolen scooters,
Where we can't afford tuition so the streets are our tutors.

Welcome to Tottenham.

I love but I hate my home,
I still listen to the voicemails of my dead peers in my phone,
I live in a nightmare. I had to learn how to dream,
I'm afraid to open up because you won't survive if you're weak.

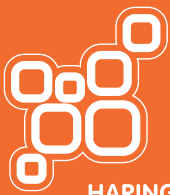
Welcome to Tottenham.

The devil's playground.

We fight over streets we don't own,
Knife crimes on the rise because the beef can't be left alone.
Why does no one understand that we just want our youth clubs back,
Why do they claim they're not racist but label the violence here black?

Welcome to Tottenham.

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**If you would like to become a stockist
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Email tcp@socialspider.com

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Support independent local journalism

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.

How you can help

As a not-for-profit publication we rely on the generous support of our community. We look to our readers, who recognise the value of independent journalism, to help support us.

You can do this by becoming a member either as an individual or as an organisation. See the rewards opposite and once you've decided what package you would like, visit our website: tottenhamcommunitypress.co.uk/join

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£5 per month upwards:

Name in print and online, pin badge, tote bag, paper posted to you every month

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Name and logo in print and online, 40% discount, six free small adverts per year



Member Spotlight

I have a few passions in life, Spurs being one of them and independent journalism another. Following Spurs from abroad – in snowy Norway – makes you somehow obsessed in a strange way: I care for much more than how the team performs – I care for the club, its history and the community they are a part of.

On one of my visits to my home away from home in Tottenham Hale, I found a copy of your brilliant local newspaper. With limited resources, but still strongly committed to writing independently on matters of importance to the community. The heart is clearly on the side of the people living their lives in Tottenham; covering their everyday challenges and dreams. There are many challenges to cover, maybe more now than ever, but also beautiful dreams of what tomorrow could and should look like.

Being a TCP member is a small contribution to the important job you are doing for N17 and its neighbours. While waiting for the next opportunity to party at the Ferry Boat Inn or have a drink at The Bricklayers Arms before another win at White Hart Lane (oh sorry, I forgot it has another name now), I listen to Adele's song River Lea and read the TCP stories with even more interest and love than ever. To quote Norwegian poet Jan Magnús Bruheim: "To exist is a lot. To belong is more."

Ole Hedemann

Current members

Lynda Jessopp, Michael Buchanan, Susie Fairweather, Peter Corley, Ole Hedemann, Andrew Leimdorfer, Amanda Lillywhite, Caesar Gordon, Susan Moyse, Cherry McAskill, Ed Anderton, Karin Lock, Sarah Moore, Robert Lindsay-Smith, Alice Kemp-Habib, Mark Adams, Neil Le Milliere, Emily Darko, Quentin Given, Adzowa Kwabla-Oklikah, Ann Walsh, Harshavardhan Bhat, Diana Shelley, Emmie Robson, Nasser Baston, Jean Gray, Nick Farrer, Rennah Satsuki Mills, Mick Egan, Adam Saltiel, Christina Egan, Joe Culleton, Peter Richards, Joe Reeve, Freddy Pitel, Alyson Bradley, Orla Falls, A Fairer Chance CIC, Fiona Brindle, Lila Wisbeach, Ben Rider, Carsten Jung, Andrew Johnston, Julian Giddings, Juliane Heider, Niv Hachlili, Cathy and Greg Abbott, Neville Collins.

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