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Local news that matters to you



Floral tribute to Gabriel Bringye Credit Lydia Odelana

Increased police presence follows spate of murders

Metropolitan Police and Haringey Council outline plans to tackle violent crime

By Luchia Robinson

The police have increased their presence in Tottenham following a spate of murders which have raised concerns about the rates of violent crime in the area.

Officers are intensifying their focus on gang activity, conducting more stop and searches as well as weapons sweeps, issuing more arrest warrants, and increasing

community engagement.

To date four people have been killed in Haringey since the start of the year – all four incidents happening in Tottenham.

Tyreke Watson, 21, was chased and fatally stabbed in an attack, in February. Despite attempts to save his life, he was pronounced dead at the scene.

17-year-old Anas Mezenner and another male were found with stab injuries in January. Anas died; the other victim's injuries

were not life threatening.

Both Tyreke and Anas were stabbed in West Green Road, N15.

In February, Gabriel Bringye, 37, was stabbed and killed in Jarrow Road, N17. The police had been called to the scene after concerns an injured man had been found unresponsive inside a car at the location.

Last month three men were attacked in Penshurst Road, N17. 19-year-old Nikolay Vandev died from a fatal wound. The injuries suf-

fered by the two other male victims, both 18, were not life threatening.

These murders and violent attacks have happened despite a recent report detailing total crime across the Metropolitan Police's North Area Basic Command Unit (covering Haringey and Enfield), having dropped by 10% during the past 12 months since the pandemic restrictions were set in place – knife crime falling by 43% and violence with injury down by 12% as a result.

Speaking to the *Evening Standard* in February, Oneica Williams, 23, the pregnant girlfriend of Tyreke Watson (who is expecting their child next month) said: "Tyreke was an amazing partner and did his best to make me happy. He was excited about being a father. Not only do his family and I deserve justice, but so does our unborn child."

Detective Chief Superintendent Treena Fleming, who is responsible for policing in Haringey, said: "My deepest sympathies lie with the family and friends of those who have lost their lives in this tragic way.

"My top priority remains tackling violent crime in our community – as one person killed or injured is one person too many.

"But the police can't do this on our own – my teams and I are working closely with the local authority, education and the health system to come together to prevent our young people getting involved in crime, recklessly carrying knives and getting killed on the streets of Haringey.

"It is vital that we share information and work together if we want to keep crime levels down and put an end to this mindless violence that we have already experienced in Haringey this year.

"Stop and search is one import-

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WELCOME

Steadfast In Difficulties

April 2021
N°. 45

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

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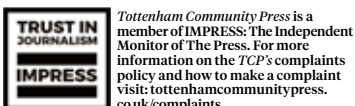
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Mural by Carleen De Sozër in Stoneleigh Road Credit Karin Lock

An introduction from the editor

Hello, welcome to issue 45. Haringey Council has been successful in securing funding that will change the area in many ways. Investments will go toward improving local high streets, including Tottenham Green, Seven Sisters and Bruce Grove (p.3).

Funds have also been approved to kickstart the High Road West development in the White Hart Lane area. This ambitious development scheme will see the creation of new homes and a community civic hub, as well as economic investment into local businesses, if a residents ballot confirms a 'yes' vote to the planned proposals (p.5).

The murders of Gabriel Bringye, Tyreke Watson, Nikolay Vandev and Anas Mezenner have caused alarm within the community. The police and council tell TCP about what they are doing to address violent crime in the area and improve safety following these tragic fatalities (front page).

The death of Sarah Everard, a 33-year-old woman who was attacked and killed in South London last month has had a massive impact on people nationwide. Members of the community joined in Chestnuts Park to pay tribute to Sarah, and other women who have also been subjected to violence by men (p.10-11); resident Joan Curtis provides a personal commentary on p.15.

Street art collective Blank Walls are planning Tottenham's biggest wall mural, which will connect the community to the green spaces of Tottenham Marshes (p.12).

What initiatives are happening in your area? We welcome your story ideas and are now accepting pitches from residents in Wood Green too. Get in touch: tcp@socialspider.com

Luchia Robinson, Editor

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NEWS

Tottenham's high streets to receive multi-million-pound funding

Schemes to revamp Tottenham's high streets are set to go ahead after Haringey Council's cabinet agreed new multi-million pound funding.

The money brings approximately £30 million of investment to the area – with around half of this coming from the council's budget.

The funding award – an in-principle funding offer of £10m from the government's Future High Streets Fund (FHSF) programme, will enable works to start on the schemes planned along Tottenham High Road, improving the town centres of Bruce Grove, Tottenham Green and Seven Sisters.

Cllr Charles Adje, cabinet member for finance and strategic regeneration, said: "Tottenham High Road is the social and economic heart of a vibrant and growing community. It supports retail, civic, employment, cultural, wellbeing, leisure, community activities, housing and more, enriching the lives of residents and visitors.

"Tottenham, just like high streets across the country, faces real pressure to adapt for a digital age and there is a need to future proof the town centres of Seven Sisters, Tottenham Green and Bruce Grove. This pressure has increased due to the pandemic.

"This Future High Streets Fund



Tottenham High Road
Credit: Stephen Furner

investment comes at a critical time and I am confident it will help us to unlock Tottenham's vast potential and support our wider commitments to addressing socioeconomic inequality."

The money will be used on plans to expand Holcombe and Tottenham Green Markets and secure Seven Sisters market. It will also be used to revamp heritage buildings at 551b and 639 High Road, providing workspaces for local business start-ups, and to trans-

form an underused yard space in south Tottenham into a mixed use industrial and commercial site.

The money will also support the area's retail post Covid-19 and be invested in community assets such as Bruce Grove Youth Space, the Cloud Garden and St Ann's Community Centre.

In addition it will also facilitate land acquisition, such as at Gournley Avenue, N15 for housing and local economy building.

Public access for pedestrians

around Bruce Grove and Seven Sisters will be enhanced, improving the infrastructure around the five schools in the area.

Land such as Stoneleigh Car Park will be made available for residential and commercial development to increase footfall in the local area, and benefit already established local businesses.

There are also plans to increase CCTV coverage with more cameras set to be put in place and improve digital access.

NEWS IN BRIEF

New financial hardship fund launched by council

The Haringey Support Fund has launched a hardship fund aimed at providing assistance to residents receiving benefits or with low incomes and no access to other help.

Cllr Seema Chandwani, cabinet member for transformation and public realm investment said: "The impact of more than a decade of austerity is clearly visible across our borough, with too many people struggling to make ends meet, and having nowhere to turn when a financial crisis hits.

"I know from personal experience how hard that can be, and Covid-19 has only made things harder, particularly for those who were struggling before the pandemic.

"No-one should suffer financial hardship in silence. Whether you're a single parent whose boiler has just broken, a retired citizen who can't afford the cost of traveling to a loved one's funeral, or a self-employed person left behind by the government's furlough scheme with bills you can't pay, the Haringey Support Fund may be able to help."

The Haringey Support Fund can provide one-off payments in emergencies and help with the costs of household items that are difficult to budget for such as white goods, or furniture.

It can also be used for essential items that are necessary for day to day living such as food, utilities and clothing.

The fund is not available to asylum seekers, people who are subject to immigration control, or those with no recourse to public funds.

For more information:
haringey.gov.uk/haringey-support-fund or call the Connected Communities team on 020 8489 4431.

Continued from Page-1

ant police tactic that will help us take dangerous weapons and knives off the streets but we need the help of our communities to do this so that we are intelligence led and targeted in our efforts.

"Whilst last year did see a drop in the violent crime levels as we've been in and out of lockdown, it is clear that we now need to work even harder to stop the violence. Our communities can therefore expect to see more officers on our streets, a renewed focus on gang activity, more weapons sweeps, arrest warrants and more engagement with the community to make Haringey a safe place for all."

At the time of going to print, all but one of the people charged for the deaths of Anas, Tyreke,

Gabriel and Nikolay are teenagers; 13 youths in total aged 14-18.

It is anticipated that there could be a rise in crime as lockdown lifts into the summer and the council's community safety team is working alongside the police and partners to put plans in place to avoid an escalation in violence.

Haringey Council's cabinet member for communities, Cllr Mark Blake said: "My thoughts are very much with the families of these victims. We believe any act of violent crime, especially when it leads to a fatality, is one too many and we at the council work closely with the police and others as well as the communities we serve to deter young people from getting involved in illegal activity."

Cllr Blake says the council's Young People at Risk Strategy aims to support vulnerable youth within

the borough from violence, abuse and exploitation, and that the North Area Violence Reduction Group is leading on the delivery of the borough's action plan to reduce non-domestic violent crime. This includes working with schools to reduce exclusions and the introduction of two new targeted youth teams delivering whole family working where young people are at risk of offending behaviour or at risk of exploitation.

Haringey Community Gold – a scheme led by the council and a network of community partners offers detached youth work and community programmes such as sport provision, employment support and mental health support.

The council was recently awarded £750,000 from the My Ends programme from London's Violence

Reduction Unit which will be used to build upon the Haringey Community Gold projects. It will also go toward helping tackle violence and youth crime in Tottenham Hale by supporting young people and their families to develop their own initiatives to bring about positive change where they live as well as provide more opportunities for them in the area.

Speaking of these targeted preventions, Cllr Blake said: "All of these endeavours in very difficult financial circumstances highlight our continued commitment to address serious youth violence. However, what is missing is a clear overarching national strategy and commitment from central government."

Anyone with information is asked to call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

NEWS

Council seeks to address inequalities highlighted by Fairness Commission

Haringey Council has accelerated a number of recommendations made by the borough's Fairness Commission.

The Haringey Fairness Commission was established in July 2018 to better understand the causes of unfairness in the borough, tackle structural inequalities and better support residents, communities and businesses.

Over the course of its work, the Commission heard from over 1,500 residents, including individuals, schools, local stakeholders and voluntary sector groups.

The five key themes identified by the commission were: unemployment and low pay; access to safe and affordable housing; education for children and young people; the inequality faced by disabled people and Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities; and trust in public bodies and democratic participation.

The commission highlighted the detrimental effects of low pay and insecure work and housing on some members of the community, including the inability to access a financial safety net in times of difficulty and the effects of limited access to basic services. It also highlighted the need for trust-building between public institutions.

The emergence of Covid-19 in March 2020 reinforced the findings of the commission and, as a result, some recommendations have been accelerated as part of

Cllr Matt White



“We will continue this work to ensure that Haringey is a fair and equal borough”

the council's response to the pandemic.

The council is now refreshing its 2019-23 Borough Plan to confront structural inequality in Haringey.

A report will be presented to cabinet in June setting out how the council intends

to implement the Fairness Commission's recommendations.

Cllr Matt White, cabinet member for planning and corporate services, said: “The Covid-19 pandemic has deepened and made more obvious many of the structural inequalities highlighted by the Fairness Commission, including financial and housing insecurity, debt and access to food and essential items.

“As recommended by the commission, in response to the pandemic we have started with the hardest-hit areas such as unemployment, low pay and access to safe and affordable housing. We're also working to ensure our young people have access to the education, resources and services they need to get ahead.

“It's no secret that our Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic and disabled residents have been disproportionately impacted during the pandemic and we will continue our work to support these communities and reduce inequality.

“An important step for the commission has been to ensure that our residents are included in the decision-making process and have the opportunity to shape the services that will impact them.

“We will continue this work to ensure that Haringey is a fair and equal borough and reduce the structural inequalities that blight the lives of so many of our residents.”

NEWS IN BRIEF

Haringey commits £200,000 to supporting local foodbanks

Haringey joins call for the ‘right to food’ to be enshrined in law

Haringey Council is committing £200,000 to supporting local foodbanks, joining the calls for the right to food to be enshrined in UK Law, and becoming the first #RightToFood London borough.

The #RightToFood campaign, led by Ian Byrne MP and backed by Unite the Union, is calling to make the government legally responsible for addressing the national income inequalities and the “broken” benefits system.

The campaign intends to force the government to scrap its five-week wait before a claimant receives a Universal Credit payment – the long waiting period has been identified as a main reason why people are having to turn to food banks.

Foodbank use in Haringey has increased by 1400% compared to last year. The £200,000 funding investment into the borough's foodbank network will be given directly to the local foodbanks through sustainability grants.

“Whilst we wait for national government to take action, we are committed to supporting the work of our local communities who have stepped in to fill the gap”

Haringey Labour say they will be making a submission to the National Food Strategy review and promoting the national #RightToFood petition in the borough to pressure the government to act.

Cllr Mark Blake, cabinet member for communities said: “Whilst we wait for national government to take action, we are committed to supporting the work of our local communities who have stepped in to fill the gap.

“I hope these grants give them some stability for the fantastic work they are doing. Without their work and the kind donations from local people and businesses, many of our residents would have gone without food.”

For more information: petition.parliament.uk/petitions/562838

Cabinet agrees investment in highways network

Haringey Council is to invest £11million into highways improvement programmes between April 2021 and March 2022.

The improvement schemes include: a street lighting investment plan, a parking improvement plan, a disabled parking action plan and road safety investment plan.

The Street Lighting Investment Plan will see £4.8 million invested into converting the borough's street lighting to LED; lighting columns will be replaced where needed, and a new central management computer system put in place.

60 contactless payment terminals will be in place by the end of the month to enable a ‘stop and shop’ approach at on-street parking locations and council car parks. 40 more terminals are planned for the coming months.

Existing disabled parking bays will be made longer (6.6 metres), improving access to vehicles for those with disabilities.

Funding will also be used to improve the parking management computer system

used by civil enforcement officers.

Cabinet has agreed plans to improve walking conditions by preventing parking on footways, where it is currently permitted.

“All these initiatives are being delivered after listening to residents and will help ensure Haringey is safer, greener and that we have a public realm we be can proud of”

Nearly £900,000 has been set aside to carry out pothole repairs and remove footway trip hazards. In total, 30 roads across the borough have so far been selected for resurfacing, as have 22 locations across Haringey's 374 miles of footways.

Cllr Seema Chandwani, cabinet member for transformation and public realm

investment, said: “I am pleased that we are investing so much in local road network, street lighting and parking infrastructure. This is in addition to the millions that we will invest this year in walking, cycling and safer, greener streets.

“Our Disabled Parking Action Plan will make it easier for our disabled residents to be independent and make full use of all the borough has to offer. This is a critical social justice issue and I have been pleased to work with disabled residents to inform our plans.

“As part of our drive to reduce carbon emissions and redirect as much of our scarce resources as possible to frontline services I am pleased that we will be replacing all our old street lights with modern LED lights. This will provide better street lighting for residents whilst be more cost and energy efficient.

“All these initiatives are being delivered after listening to residents and will help ensure Haringey is safer, greener and that we have a public realm we be can proud of.”

NEWS

Funding for revised High Road West scheme approved by cabinet

£91million funding secured to kickstart High Road West redevelopment



CGI images of the High Road West redevelopment

By Luchia Robinson and Simon Allin, Local Democracy Reporter

Haringey Council has been awarded £91 million funding to kickstart the revised High Road West (HRW) redevelopment scheme.

Made up of £70 million from the government and £21 million from the Mayor London's of Land Fund, the funding package was agreed by Haringey's cabinet last month.

The funds will be used to create 2,600 mixed tenure properties, and more than treble the number of council-rent homes on the development.

For plans to go ahead, residents on the Love Lane Estate (which will be demolished under the scheme) are required to take part in a 'yes'/'no' ballot, expected to happen in June.

Cllr Charles Adje, cabinet member for finance and regeneration, told the meeting the increase in council homes would enable residents on the Love Lane Estate to "remain together as a community."

"The scheme offers a once-in-lifetime opportunity to tackle the barriers of inequalities in north Tottenham and deliver comprehensive and coordinated change," he added.

Haringey Council agreed a masterplan to regenerate the area of the High Road opposite the Tottenham Hotspur stadium in 2014.

A deal signed with developer Lendlease in 2017 included a plan for 30% affordable homes and 145 social rent homes.

The funding approved by cabinet last month will boost the affordable housing level to 40% and the number of social homes to 500.

Speaking to *TCP*, leader of Haringey Council, Cllr Joseph Ejiofor said: "I really think that the residents need to understand that we've listened to them – we've improved the scheme. We've taken on board their key concerns.

"There was a fear that they were going to be turfed off the estate – that was never the case, it was never something our administration would agree with."

Love Lane leasehold tenants are guaranteed a home on the redeveloped estate. Haringey Council has now made a commitment to the 200 temporary residents (they must have lived on the estate for a year prior to the landlord offer) that they will also be re-housed, if a 'yes' ballot goes through.

Cllr Ejiofor said: "Ultimately, people need to vote for this change, they

need to agree the landlord offer and vote for it in the ballot; if they do that, effectively the development progresses. The temporary tenants on the estate, and the secure tenants on the estate – we can guarantee them a home on the new estate should they so wish it."

It's expected that the redevelopment will create more than 3,500 jobs and 1,500 training opportunities, with Lendlease pledging £10m economic and social investment to go toward providing employment training and upskilling opportunities.

Independent freehold traders in the Peacock Industrial Estate, however, remain affected as their businesses are slated for demolition.

Cllr Ejiofor told *TCP*: "Any people or businesses who are part of any area that is being redeveloped by the council are an integral part of that neighbourhood's future, but being an integral part of that neighbourhood's future doesn't mean that you stay in exactly the same spot.

"Roughly 40-50% of the businesses in the Peacock Industrial Estate, and the commercial businesses overall will be able to be integrated within the new development. We are aware that a certain number of businesses won't be able to be integrated there, but

it is our continued objective to make sure that we can find them space as close as possible to where they are."

Speaking to councillors on behalf of Peacock Industrial Estate at last month's meeting, Joe Olivieri said: "It is not acceptable for you to go around and say, 'we will take your land if you do not cooperate.'

"We will continue to defend our rights as owners of freehold properties. Our freehold properties are not for sale."

Cllr Ejiofor says the council is seeking a "bespoke solution for each individual business" and points out most firms on the estate would not need to move for several years.

He added that the council aimed to ensure businesses could move to alternative sites close to the estate, such as Shaftesbury Road, which is around 650 yards away.

Cllr Ruth Gordon (Labour, Tottenham Hale) asked why a consultation with people living on the

Love Lane Estate did not include an option for temporary tenants to be offered secure tenancies ahead of a ballot on the regeneration.

Cllr Adje replied that the issue would be dealt with at a later stage. He said: "There is going to be a paper to discuss tenancies, which everyone in the borough will be consulted on."

Liberal Democrat leader Cllr Luke Cawley-Harrison (Crouch End) asked if some social tenants

would see their rents increase in their new homes – in some cases by up to 50% – as a requirement of Greater London Authority funding arrangements.

He questioned what would happen to people who cannot afford such rents, and whether social rents would be set at London or Haringey levels.

In response, Cllr Adje said: "Our ambition is to continue to charge fair and equitable council rents. We will do everything in our power to ensure Haringey rents, in terms of council-owned properties, are reasonable and affordable for our tenants."

Cabinet members agreed the funding package following a debate held in private session.

The announcement of the Love Lane ballot is expected in July. If the scheme is voted through, the council says it will then develop a planning application with community input, from August to December.

This will be followed by the first phase of building at Love Lane Estate starting in 2022, projected to be completed by 2026/27.

"The scheme offers a once-in-lifetime opportunity to tackle the barriers of inequalities in north Tottenham"



NEWS



Credit: Wendy Charlton

Roundway tenants demand to be seen and heard

Residents protest against Clarion for not addressing problems on their estate

By Luchia Robinson

Residents living in homes managed by housing association Clarion have joined a national campaign highlighting what they deem to be systematic housing management failures.

The tenants, who live in an estate at the junction of The Roundway N17, Lordship Lane N22, and Granville Road N22, have started a banner drop protest – a wall of protest, organised with SHAC (Social Housing Action Campaign).

The Roundway residents are lobbying Clarion about ongoing issues they are facing, which include broken communal doors and entry gates, and an alleyway described as a “public toilet” and “hiding place”.

Increased public access via the private car park is also a concern, which residents say has led to cases of anti-social behaviour: attacks, vandalism, fly-tipping, loitering and drug dealing.

The estate tenant’s steering group claim Clarion are failing them by managing their homes poorly, and not providing repairs or improvements. They state ineffective communication by the landlord means their concerns are often ignored or not adequately addressed.

Clarion Housing owns and manages 125,000 homes making it UK’s largest housing association, with 350,000 tenants

nationwide. Speaking of the housing association, resident Wendy Charlton said: “We find it very difficult to get issues resolved. We are kept in a hamster wheel of misery where you are repeating your issues with a different person from customer services each time.

“Notes get lost, meetings don’t get recorded; someone may call you or they may not.”

The residents have been posting images on social media of the protest banners hanging from their homes, with hopes that Clarion’s senior management will engage with them about their concerns.

Wendy said: “Clarion tend to not want to have these conversations with us, because it means that then they have to act on the points that we raise; we’ve noticed that they try their best to avoid creating a dialogue with us.

“They see us as a bit of an inconvenience, but we’re basically asking for them to invest a little bit of money back into the estate to maintain it and make it a nice place to live, and they’re not doing that.”

With the help of SHAC, the residents are demanding Clarion: improve their communications and complaints systems; restore neighbourhood managers as points of contact who can offer a continuity of service; and review their service charges, as many tenants state they’ve received billings with multiple errors.

Suzanne Muna, secretary of SHAC, said:

“This is a systematic problem. You would have thought a responsible landlord, particularly a social housing landlord, would have jumped at the chance to make their services more efficient, and speak to us at a strategic level.”

In response to the Roundway tenants’ complaints, a Clarion spokesperson said: “The safety and wellbeing of our residents is our top priority and they are at the heart of everything we do at Clarion. Although we have had no recent reports of anti-social behaviour, we acknowledge there have been some historic anti-social behaviour issues at

“Clarion tend to not want to have these conversations with us, because it means that then they have to act on the points that we raise”

the Roundway and we have taken these very seriously. These have been linked to issues with the door entry system. Despite multiple visits to repair this, we have not been able to permanently fix it, so we are in the process of arranging a complete replacement.

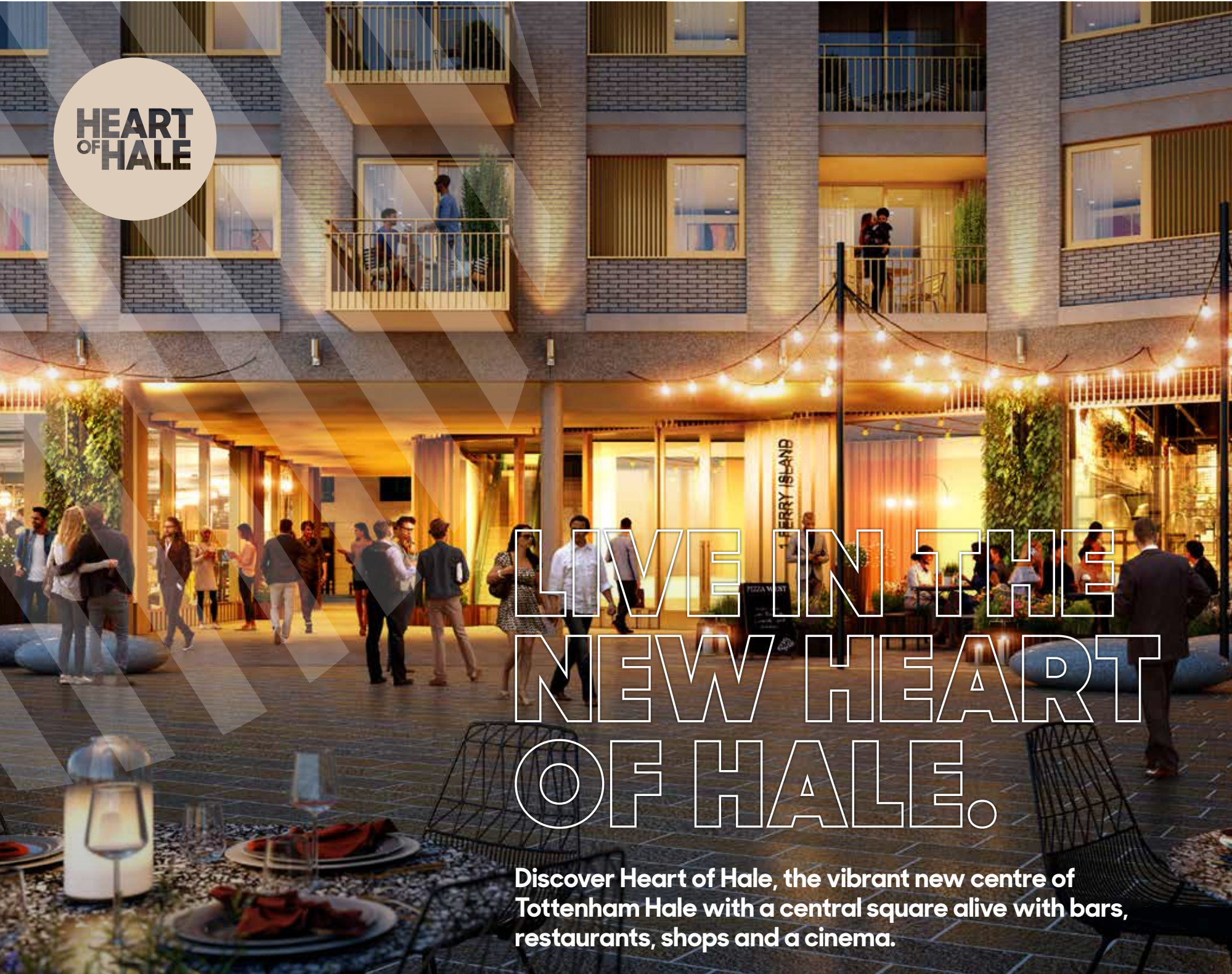

“A repair to the lift serving the building also took longer than we expected to fix but after working with the manufacturer and specialist consultants we were able to put in place a permanent solution last year, along with a monitoring system so that we are now automatically notified of any issues with the lift and can deploy operatives straight away.

“We measure customer satisfaction regularly and over the last year have consistently met or exceeded our targets. We also have a robust complaints system in place so that if residents do feel we haven’t delivered the service we should have, we can look into the issues raised, put things right and make sure they don’t happen again in the future.”



The alleyway described as an unsafe hiding place
Credit: Wendy Charlton

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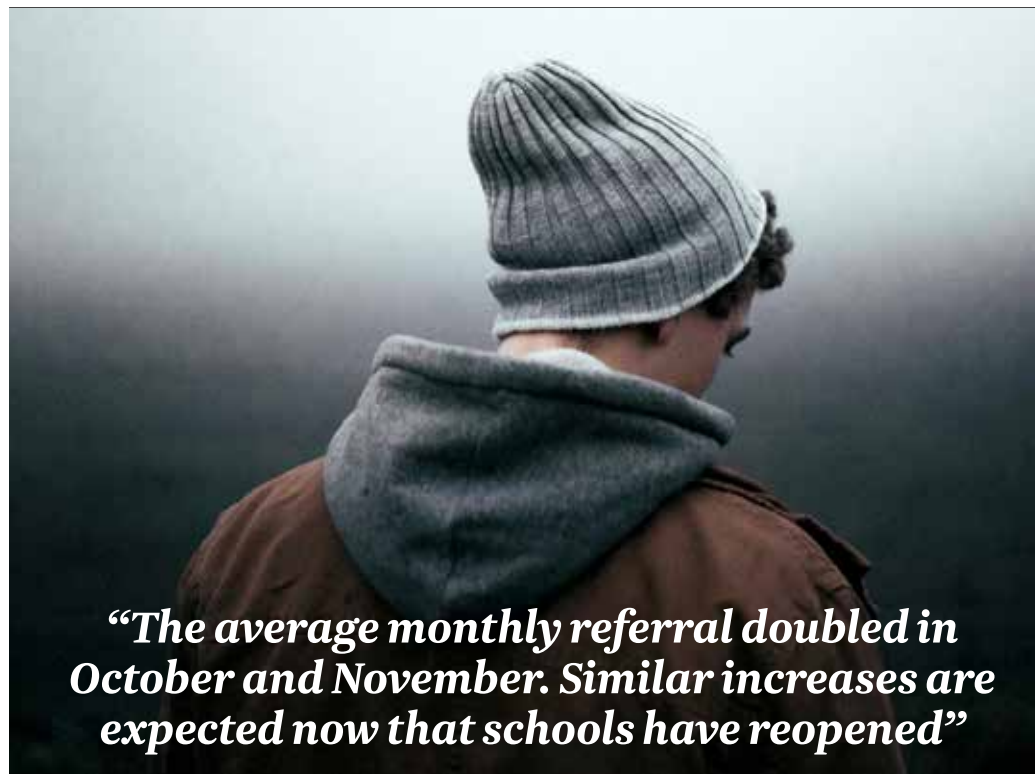
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HEALTH

Increase in mental health conditions amongst Haringey's children and young people



“The average monthly referral doubled in October and November. Similar increases are expected now that schools have reopened”

By Luchia Robinson

The prevalence of children and young people in Haringey estimated to have mental health conditions has increased to one in six in 2020/21 – up from one in ten in 2017/18, according to a borough report.

School closures and lockdowns as a result of Covid-19 are identified as significant factors to the increase upon the emotional health and mental wellbeing of children and young people. Haringey's CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental

Health Services) has remained available throughout the pandemic offering clinical assistance via video and telephone conferencing wherever possible.

There was an increase in referrals and crisis presentations after the reopening of schools in September 2020. The average monthly referral doubled in October and November. Similar increases are expected now that schools have reopened once again.

Prior to the pandemic, mental health waiting lists had been reduced to four weeks, however, the impact of Covid-19 upon staff redeployment

and lower work capacity because of sickness has meant mental health waiting lists now take four to six months, according to clinical priority.

Recent figures show that 55% of CYP (children and young people) are seen within four weeks from first referral to Haringey CAMHS to first appointment.

In late 2020 Haringey CYP experienced an increase of acute mental health inpatient admissions amongst residents with the most complex needs. At this point, Haringey had the highest figures in London with 13 inpatients – this number has since reduced by half.

Haringey Council's investments to support the local youth include: a social workers in schools programme; counselling for the youth; parent education support; and funding for embedded CAMHS specialist posts in early help and children's social care, supporting children and young people with more complex needs.

For help and resources:

Crisis support line – 24/7 support for North London children, young people and carers

Call 0800 151 0023

Online mental wellbeing community

Visit kooth.com

NHS Go is a confidential health advice and information service for 16-25 year olds

Visit nhs.uk

Council Resources

Visit haringey.gov.uk/children-and-families/local-offer/covid-19-guidance#social-emotional-support

Visit haringey.gov.uk/children-and-families/local-offer/health-services/children-and-adolescent-mental-health-service-camhs/haringey-child-and-adolescent-mental-health-service-generic-team



A space to think

Supporting key workers through the pandemic

Key workers in Haringey are being invited to share their stories and experiences in efforts to improve their mental health and wellbeing.

The community wellbeing service, Haringey Thinking Space is providing support via free online sessions to key workers – many of whom have been profoundly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, and who remain at the frontline of care and support services.

Key workers are encouraged to reflect on their own experiences and those of others, in order to address difficulties and generate ideas about how to confront adversity.

Clinical staff experienced in working with diverse communities will be facilitating the sessions, which are run by the Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust in partnership with Haringey Council.

Frank Lowe, the founder of Thinking Space, said: “Thinking Space draws on therapeutic principles and methods to create an environment where dialogue can take place and learning and understanding achieved.

“The idea is that we create a space for people to talk in a way that can be more open and more thoughtful. These ideas have been really successful and groups can be very powerful catalysts for change.”

To book, visit: thinkingspace21april.eventbrite.co.uk

Wednesday, 21st April, 6.30pm–8.30pm

‘No evidence’ South African virus variant spreading in Tottenham

Health chief calms fears over Covid-19 variant

By Simon Allin, Local Democracy Reporter

There is no evidence that a more infectious strain of coronavirus found in Tottenham Hale has spread, according to Haringey's public health chief.

Dr Will Maimaris, director of public health at Haringey Council, said initial findings indicated “no evidence” the South African variant of Covid-19 was spreading through local community contact but added that surveillance is ongoing.

Surge testing was rolled out after the variant, which can spread more easily than the original virus, was identified in the N17 postcode area in February.

Vaccines work against the South African variant, but trials have shown some jabs are less effective than they are at combating the original Covid-19.

Dr Maimaris said: “We are really grateful to all residents in Tottenham Hale who completed a Covid-19 test even though they did not have symptoms to help us understand whether there was any spread of the South African variant of Covid-19.

“Thousands of local residents returned their tests, which enabled us to identify that overall cases of Covid were low in the community”

“Thousands of local residents returned their tests, which enabled us to identify that overall cases of Covid were low in the community,

and initial findings indicate no evidence that the South African variant was spreading through local community contact, however surveillance continues.

“The London Borough of Haringey will continue to work closely with the Department of Health and Social Care and Public Health England to deploy appropriate public health interventions when variants of concern are found including testing, increased genomic sequencing, and other measures to monitor and help suppress the spread of new variants.”

Data showing Haringey's seven-day coronavirus infection rate remained stable at 29 new cases of the virus per 100,000 people in the seven days to March 17.

There were 25 parts of the borough with fewer than three cases of Covid-19, according to a government map of middle layer super output areas.

ADULT COURSES APRIL 2021 START

The UK government is investing £2.5 billion in the National Skills Fund to help adults to train and gain the valuable skills they need to improve their job prospects.

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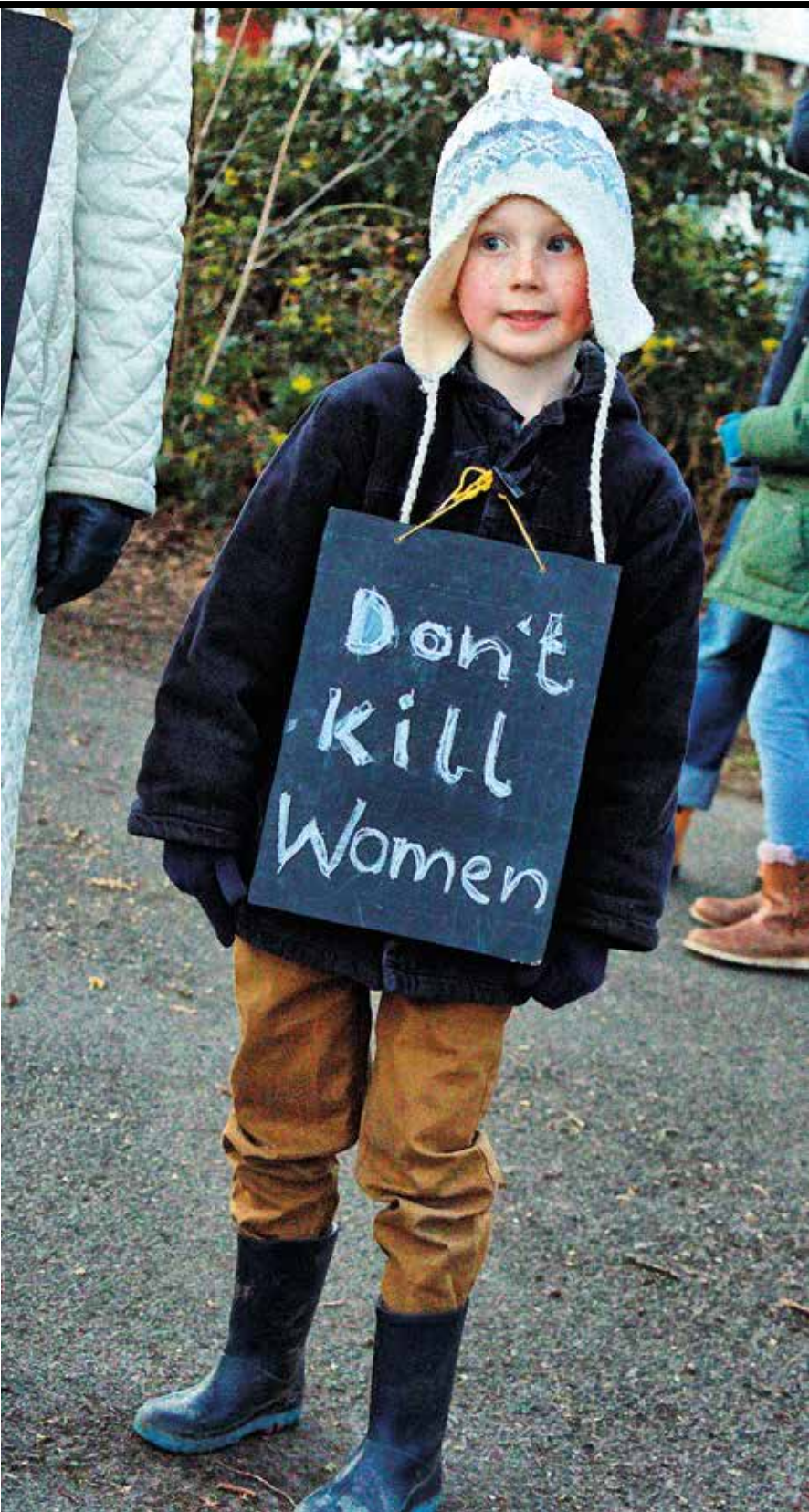
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**PHOTOGRAPHS BY
STEPHEN FURNER**



COMMUNITY

Tottenham Marshes Bridge Credit Richard Nixon



Grime to green

International street art collective plan Tottenham's biggest mural project

Street art collective Blank Walls are leading a crowdfunding campaign to produce a series of murals aimed at transforming the area of Carbuncle Passage.

The *Grime to Green N17* project is part of the Make London scheme developed by the Mayor of London, designed to support projects that help communities recover from the Covid-19 crisis including the improvement of public spaces.

The mural walls are located on the corner of Scales Road and along Carbuncle Passage which leads to Tottenham Marshes Bridge. The project aims to reconnect the community with the green spaces of the marshes; if it goes ahead, it will be the biggest mural in Tottenham at 166.5m².

The crowdfunding campaign is supported by various local community groups including We Are Tottenham, Friends of Hartington Park, Tottenham Marshes Bridge and Made by Tottenham.

Alex Harvey, co-founder of Blank Walls said: "People have asked me why we chose Tottenham in particular; it all started after connecting with the local community groups where there was a real outcry for more public art in Tottenham."

"There was a particularly big noise around the lack of links to green spaces or even awareness of the existing links, which led us to the walls in Carbuncle Passage and Scales Road, where we've had great support from the council and residents to make it happen."

The murals will be the starting step in changing the way people feel about accessing the local green space and how they interact with the bridge. The

murals will create a safer, exciting, more accessible and inviting space for residents and the wider community. It would be an area that local people feel proud of, whereas residents currently report that they feel unsafe, disgusted and embarrassed at the state of the bridge and its surroundings.

The design and mural installation will be led by Curtis Hylton. Curtis has a distinctive nature style that will be influenced by the natural wildlife found in the marshes. Curtis' work can be found worldwide, including the addition of a beautiful Kingfisher mural in Romney Close N17, last year.

The Blank Walls team have partnered up with Graphenstone who produce a range of paints that absorb CO₂ and purify the air that we breathe. It's calculated that both murals can expect to absorb nearly 15kg of CO₂ which is as much as a 250kg tree.

Grime to Green N17 has been supported by the Tottenham Hale councillor, Cllr Ruth Gordon, who said: "I have worked closely with a large number of residents who are keen to support this idea as a means of taking pride in an unloved spot. The area could be transformed with the artwork project, turning an uninviting drab council building wall into a point of attraction."

The project will need to raise the target of £41,975 before 11th May for it to happen. Any overfunding will be put toward future mural projects in Tottenham.

For more information and to pledge support: spacehive.com/grime-to-green-n17. You can follow Blank Walls on Instagram or Facebook (@blankwallscollective) for updates.

MOTIVATE gets going at The Engine Room

New social activities to get you motivated

By Maria Joseph, Church and Community Worker, The Engine Room

The Engine Room has received a boost to its programme of activities, which will soon get going as we emerge from lockdown restrictions.

Thanks to some generous funding from Haringey Giving's 'Together We Can' Covid relief fund, provided by Linklaters and the National Lottery, we are excited to bring these new activities to the local community.

Operating under the MOTIVATE banner, these programmes will be addressing two of the key challenges within Haringey's socially and financially challenged communities: social isolation and digital poverty.

These issues have affected

many of our older people, some of our migrant communities, and they have left many women in particular in need of extra support.

One of the new programmes will be art therapy classes, using collage, water colour and continuous line drawing, all offered in a supportive and

women, migrants and refugees.

The MOTIVATE fund will also go toward the expansion of the Engine Room's popular Messy Play Parent and Toddler drop-in group, and a new service, coordinated by Hale Village volunteer, John Saitine, called Digital Access which provides IT support and makes more digital devices available to the community.

MOTIVATE aims to help people overcome their reluctance to meet, whilst

providing practical solutions to specific needs. It is hoped that this programme will bring people together, motivating them to engage with their local community again, after what has been such a difficult twelve months for so many.

For more information about MOTIVATE: www.facebook.com/engineeroomtottenham Twitter @stf_engineroom

"MOTIVATE aims to help people overcome their reluctance to meet, whilst providing practical solutions to specific needs"

encouraging environment, available in person at the Engine Room and online.

These sessions will be led by the community arts expert Nailah Daley Allen, who has run our hugely successful children's art workshop since 2014.

These activities will be available to all local adults, with some specific sessions solely dedicated to older people,



Art session in progress
Credit Nailah Daley-Allen

COMMENT

Here, in Tottenham, for good

What you need to know about the EU Settlement Scheme

By Floe Davis

Over the last few years, already draconian UK immigration policy has tightened its grip on those who have made the UK their home.

Harsh new regulations from the Home Office mean that EU citizens living in the UK must apply to the EU Settlement Scheme before the 30th June, or risk losing their legal right to live and work in the UK. This may impact many residents living in Tottenham.

The EU Settlement Scheme has been introduced by the UK as part of the withdrawal negotiations with the EU. The scheme is open to EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their families, as well as non-EEA citizens in certain circumstances.

Irish citizens have an alternative right of residence in the UK and are not required to apply, though they may do so if they want. To settle indefinitely in the UK, applications for status must be made through the EU

Settlement Scheme – it won't be given automatically, and all family members need to apply individually. It's mandatory to apply for the scheme if you want to continue living in the UK after the 30th June – even if you have a permanent residence document.

If your application is successful, you'll be granted either settled

status or pre-settled status. Both of these decisions entitle you to continue working, studying and living in the country. Applicants eligible for settled status will have usually lived in the UK continuously for five or more years and will not have spent more than six months abroad in any 12-month period. If you haven't lived in the UK for five continuous years, you might be granted pre-settled status. You must have started living in the UK by the 31st December 2020 to qualify for this status,

unless applying as a family member of an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen. Settled status gives you indefinite leave to remain in the UK, whereas pre-settled status is a temporary permission lasting for five years, after which you will need to re-apply for settled status. Applications can be made online on the Home Office

“Tottenham residents are integral parts of the fabric of the community, no matter their immigration status”

website, or in certain circumstances on a paper form.

The application process can be confusing, but there are resources to help you navigate the system. Here for Good is a charity that provides free immigration services and support to EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK. Its services include a phone advice line, 1-1 support and strategic litigation, as well as a comprehensive online guide to understanding and applying to the EU Settlement Scheme. Their lawyers are

based around the UK, including one working at Wilson Solicitors (697 High Road, N17 8AD).

Here for Good have also mapped out support services and facilities for immigration advice across the UK which can be accessed at the website EURights.uk; people can input their postcode to find free assistance in specific areas.

Other helpful services include Haringey Migrant Support Centre, which provides advice on immigration, welfare and housing issues to all migrants.

Tottenham residents are integral parts of the fabric of the community, no matter their immigration status. It is now more important than ever to be aware of your rights and legal status to live in the UK.

The deadline for EU Settlement Scheme applications is Wednesday, 30th June.

To apply:

Visit gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families

Useful resources:

Visit hereforgoodlaw.org

Visit eurights.uk

Visit wilsonllp.co.uk

Visit haringeymsc.org

LETTER

Ermine Road residents say 'no' to modular homes plan

Residents of Ermine

As residents of Ermine Road, we have legitimate concerns – irrespective of circumstances of incoming residents and Haringey Council fulfilling obligations to that effect, the question is: is this proposed development right for this site? Our answer is 'no'.

This is a cul-de-sac, set back from the main road. We have seen more than our fair share of drug taking, drunkenness, defecation, fornication, murders, rape, littering and loitering; problems un-tackled by Haringey Council, likely to be exacerbated by the addition of more vulnerable residents to be supported.

Of course, it is commendable to tackle the problems of homelessness and rough sleeping, none of the residents are of a different view, but these problems have not appeared from out of nowhere and have been big issues for many years.

It is the responsibility of Haringey Council to find solutions that work borough wide, in collaboration and consultation with existing residents. This housing project does not fulfil that ideal. This project only serves Haringey Council to fulfil quotas and reduce outgoings and although they profess to have everyone else's best interests at heart, evidence to support this does not exist.

With adequate consultations, thoughtful planning, and proven track record on Haringey Council's part to deliver a project of this complexity, (especially dealing with such a varied range of support needs under one roof) this could have been a welcome project.

Unfortunately, Haringey Council's lack of transparency, communication and behaviours towards existing residents leaves us with a total absence of faith in their judgement.

Who will be the true beneficiaries?

NHS



After clean water, vaccination is the most effective public health intervention.

LICENSING ACT 2003 Notice Of Variation Of Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that **Tiny Changes N17 Ltd** have applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Haringey for a Premises Licence to permit:

- Sale of alcohol between the hours of 08:00 and 23:00 Sunday–Wednesday, 08:00 and 24:00 Thursday–Saturday for the premises **Perkyn's**, situated at 10 Vicarage Parade, West Green Road N15 3BL

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at Licensing Team, River Park House, Level 1 North, 225 High Road, Wood Green, London, N22 8HQ

Any person wishing to submit relevant representations concerning this application must give notice in writing to the London Borough of Haringey, Licensing team at the above address, giving in detail the grounds of the representation no later than 16/04/2021.

Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Authority's Sub Committee and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations can be emailed to licensing@haringey.gov.uk

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

It is an offence liable on conviction to a fine up to £5000 under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application.

Dated: Saturday 20th March 2021

Signed: Nicholas Owen

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- 20 The Engine Room
- 21 Unite Students
- 22 VIP Graffiti Paint
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- 24 Cafe Lemon
- 25 Blighty Cafe

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**If you would like to become a stockist
or help distribute papers in your area:**
Email tcp@socialspider.com

* Note: we cannot guarantee each location will always stock the paper

COMMUNITY

An equal start for Tottenham

Community partnership supports Lea Valley Primary School pupils



The partnership team

North Middlesex University Hospital has partnered with Haringey Council and community and voluntary sector organisation, Bridge Renewal Trust, to support local families in lockdown.

Working with Lea Valley Primary School, the project, An Equal Start, aims to support the wellbeing of families through the challenges of lockdown by supporting a culture of learning at home via the provi-

sion of equipment, and by providing wrap around community assistance from the voluntary sector and partners.

Maria Kane, Chief Executive at North Mid and Russel King from the Bridge Renewal

Trust launched the initiative by visiting the school and donating laptops.

Maria said: "Many of the children at Lea Valley will have been born at North Mid, and have parents who work with us here. It was wonderful to meet some of them and I was so impressed with how the school leadership and staff have adapted so successfully to the challenges of providing a mixture of face-to-face and remote teaching."

"Partnerships have always been at the heart of what we do but even more so during these challenging times"

The pilot project will enable many children to access teaching from home. Maria Kokotsis, Head Teacher of Lea Valley said: "We were thrilled and honoured to welcome our very special guests to launch the project and so grateful to accept the delivery of devices for some of our families."

"Partnerships have always been at the heart of what we do but even more so during these challenging times. On behalf of our community, thank you."

Advertisement

Pet portions

Keeping pets well fed

By Sophie Bullock

I launched Haringey Pet Foodbank at the start of the year with the aim of keeping pets well fed, and reducing the number of animals being taken to pet rescue centres.

It is my hope that pets are able to remain with their owners during times of hardship, by relying on food and pet care donations from the local community.

With the help of the staff at Downhills Park Cafe who kindly accept donations and give out what is asked for by beneficiaries, we have been able to ensure that anyone in the community who might be struggling financially doesn't have to worry about how they will feed their beloved pet.

According to Trust for London 34% of Haringey residents are living in poverty, this rate is significantly high compared to the London average of 28%.

Statistics also show that of all the inner London boroughs, Haringey has the second largest proportion of residents earning below the London Living Wage.

Pets deserve to be looked after, but now more than ever people have less money in their pocket.

We aim to take some of the stress away from struggling pet owners so that they can use any spare money on electricity, food or other outgoings.

"We aim to take some of the stress away from struggling pet owners"

One local resident rescued a stray cat and needed food but couldn't get to the food bank, so we posted food to her. Another resident was struggling to feed her dog and managed to get a large bag of dry dog food from the pet food bank.

Morning donations to the pet food bank, (located at Downhills Park Café, in the North East corner of the park by the tennis courts) are best, and this also goes for item collections, which are available to pet owners in need, a few times a week. We accept food donations for any local pet!

For more information: We are on Facebook at Haringey Pet Foodbank and Instagram: @haringey_pet_foodbank.



Art4All

We have four creative art sessions running – each for six weeks with our in house artist Nailah Daley Allen. Three groups will be reserved for women, over 50's and migrants. The other group will be open to all.

Register at www.engineeroom.org.uk/community/motivate or email info@engineeroom.org.uk



COMMUNITY FUND

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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

COMMENT

Narrowing the educational attainment gap

Empowering young people with critical thinking skills

By Karim Al-Abbas,
Director, Enlightened Education

As the director of Enlightened Education, an education company based in the heart of Tottenham, we have, for the last ten years, empowered schools, universities and companies around the world to use critical thinking techniques.

Critical thinking gives us the ability to understand the world around us. It teaches us to ask questions about our society through independent research, enabling us to share those ideas openly with others. Critical thinking is about deeper questioning, rather than superficial answers, and is brought to life with emotional intelligence.

You cannot control the types of ideas that critical thinking produces, which is why it is our greatest asset in enabling our young people to challenge society's inequalities. Societal change does not happen when we rely on the dominant group to lead that shift. If we are serious about redressing society's imbalance, then we must empower our most disadvantaged students to think for themselves, to join forces with each other and critique the world they live in, to enact change.

Anyone who claims certainty around what education should be, probably has not thought about it deeply enough. But we are aware of some of

the key ingredients that will let our young people move into the world with confidence, creativity, courage, resilience and openness. The ability to understand how they learn, and the ability to work closely with others. An understanding of what they most enjoy, and the motivation to improve.

Now imagine what our government is doing to help state schools empower our young people towards these skills. Now, imagine what private schools are doing, and then take a moment to think about where most of the cabinet were educated, and where they will send their own children.

This is not a government that is interested in disrupting the status quo.

“In Tottenham, our young people demonstrate huge creative energy and resilience every day. But we also understand many of them face very real challenges”

The government has talked about ‘catch-up’ and narrowing the attainment gap. But their ideas include lengthening the school day of our most disadvantaged students, removing their summer holidays and cramming content into them.

In Tottenham, our young people demonstrate huge creative energy and resilience every day. But we also understand many of them face very real challenges.

We have watched in horror as the promised laptops never arrived, but the degrading free school meal parcels did, and as an overcomplicated tutoring scheme continues to miss its most urgent targets.

Worthwhile initiatives have sprung up across the country, but all have been focused on curriculum and content, so, we asked ourselves – what could we contribute?

What if, instead, we supported young people emotionally, whilst providing them with simple techniques that enabled their learning across every subject and beyond?

We have distilled the simplest techniques into four, free, short ready-to-watch videos that focus on skills such as accelerated learning, and how to develop creative insight.

Critical thinking takes time and patience to implement, but we can help to start that conversation today – that is what these short videos enable us to do.

We need to place our young people at the centre of their understanding. Let them learn by making associations to their own lives. Empower them with techniques to become active, involved, reflective, and able to state their beliefs confidently.

Critical thinking will not solve everything. But it is a start.

For more information:
Visit enlightenededucation.co.uk



Credit: Stephen Furner

Just walking home

A personal commentary on the local vigil held in memory of Sarah Everard

By Joan Curtis

When I first heard about the planned vigil on Clapham Common in memory of Sarah Everard, a victim of random male violence against women, I knew I had to be a part of it in some way.

I saw on social media that there was going to be a vigil in Chestnuts Park, so I went along to show solidarity.

I had found myself in tears as I listened to the Clapham vigil organisers talking about why they had felt moved to organise it. It made me cry, in part, because the life of a beautiful young woman had been violently and senselessly taken, but also because I had been involved in a Reclaim the Night demonstration back in 1977 highlighting the same violence against women. It was too sad to feel that after all this time, nothing much had changed and we are still in a position where we need to draw attention to this pervasive reality.

I am now 70 and have been a feminist and ardent fighter for the empowerment of women nearly all my life. However, even I walk at night on high alert with my keys clenched in my hand, checking as I turn a corner and sometimes changing my route if I see a lone man who spooks me. It is a habit that is hard to break.

I remember in my adolescence, I would cover my ‘new’ body in ‘shame’, embarrassed by the comments and cat calls of random men leering out of car windows or hanging off construction scaffolding in the street.

I have encountered too many minor harassments and humiliations to mention throughout my life but also a couple of more scary ones, when I was abducted miles out of my way by a taxi driver in New Delhi, and when a malevolent man would not let me get out of a deserted, old style train carriage. Luckily, I escaped both unscathed but shaken.

I nearly lost my older sister when she was jumped on and nearly strangled by a random man whilst just making her way back to the halls of residents at her university one night. She was only saved because of the fortunate arrival of another student who heard her screams.

I have not let anything stop me from fighting for a woman's right just to be and to live a safe and fulfilled life. Despite everything, I do walk through local parks and streets alone after dark, and although I still experience a residue of fear and vulnerability, I stride forward and quietly resist.



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Our newspapers are a growing and valued part of the local community – loved by readers who want to read about what matters to them. Be part of that and advertise with us!

Our publications *Tottenham Community Press*, *Waltham Forest Echo*, *Enfield Dispatch*, and *EC1 Echo* cover a wide area of North-East London and part of The City.

We distribute 40,000 free copies to readers via local newsstands, community venues, and door-to-door, with a total estimated readership of 120,000 people.



Example full page advert

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NEWS

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Free Range Roast Chicken with
Roast Potatoes & Onion Gravy
House Burger, Bacon, Cheese, Tomato,
Garden Lettuce with Chips
"Beyond Meat" Burger, Spicy Cauliflower,
Vegan Cheese, with Chipotle Aioli

Desserts
Sticky Toffee Pudding with Ice Cream
Raspberry Pudding with Lime Cord & Vanilla Cream
Vegan Chocolate Brownie
English Artisan Cheeses, Chutney & Crackers (V)

"We've been advertising in *Enfield Dispatch* and *Tottenham Community Press* for just over a year, and it's been really helpful to share vital public information about Covid-19 safety measures, as well as useful details about pharmacy services and flu vaccinations in the winter period.

It's not only about sharing important health messages with our local community, but also that we're helping support the very same community that we're proud to be part of, with a newspaper that gives a platform to community and voluntary groups and partners, and covers important local issues"

Georgie Agass

Head of communications and engagement
North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust

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LITERATURE

Letting go of the past

Karin Lock reviews Cockfight by Maria Fernanda Ampuero and The Bitch by Pilar Quintana

With quarantine now mandatory when returning to the UK, and foreign holidays forbidden, reading may be the only way to travel in 2021. Books have always opened windows into different cultures. They can also confront difficult subject matter and encourage more understanding and empathy for others.

Cockfight is the debut work of Ecuadorian journalist Maria Fernanda Ampuero. This compilation of 13 tales recounts domestic scenarios that often border on the macabre or grotesque. Home is not always a place of safety: it can be a brutal environment where adolescents grow up fast and learn that “life isn’t a game anymore.”

Coercion and control are the main themes in *Cockfight*. There are girls who bully; women who always say ‘yes’ to men; and those too traumatised to leave the house. Secrets exist behind every family’s closed doors and nothing is taboo: torture, incest and abuse are all explored. For this reason, this anthology is not recommended for readers at risk of being triggered.

Most enjoyable is the writer’s acute dissection of class. In the story *Ali*, maids sleep in cupboards or have their underwear checked for smuggled food. In *Coro*, rich ladies exist on pills, botox and eating disorders, destined to gossip to avoid “having to talk about themselves”. In *Monsters*, even the nuns, who “gave out rice to the poor while they ate sea bass,” are not spared.

Written in simple language with powerful animal imagery, *Cockfight* high-

lights how women struggle to negotiate their identities in an intensely violent patriarchal world. The author concludes that humans are motivated by the primal emotions of fear and lust; or as one character puts it: “people are incapable of seeing themselves, and

try’s Afro-Colombian population, it is a region of rich cultural heritage, emerald sea, and black sand beaches.

High above a small village, the proud but lonely Damaris lives on a bluff in a wooden stilted shack with her fisherman husband Rogelio. Destined to be childless, Damaris adopts a surrogate puppy to fulfil her dream of motherhood. Her puppy Chirli has, like Damaris, lost her mother at a young age and a strong bond develops.

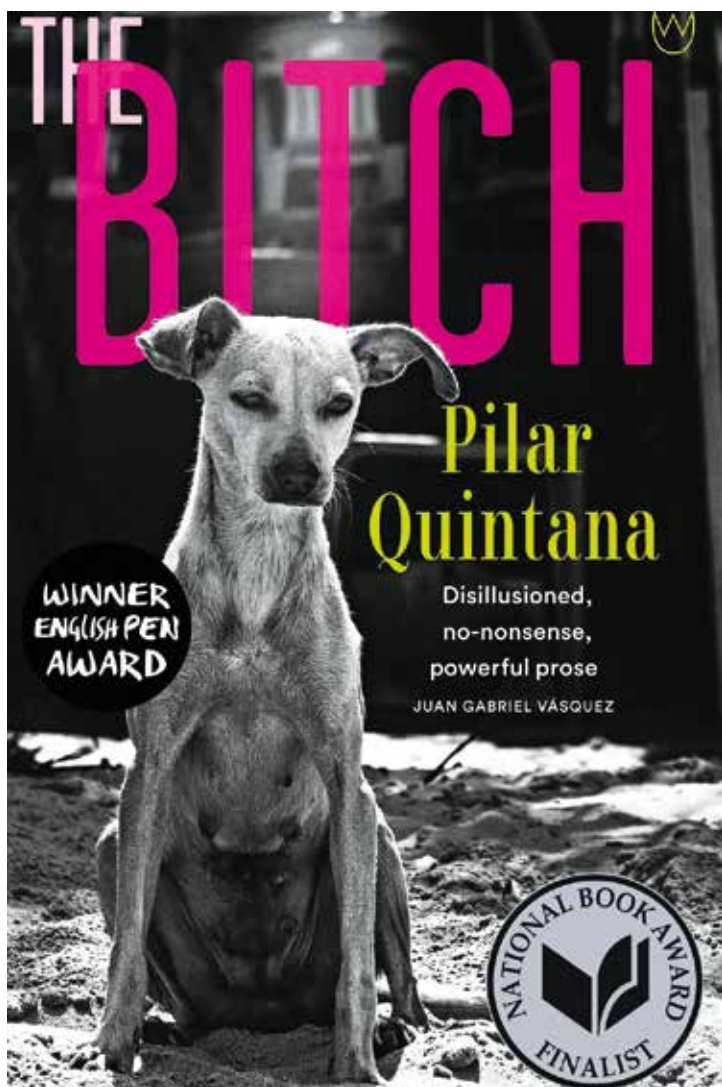
The Bitch is a beautiful atmospheric novella which depicts the harsh lives of a resourceful and resilient community living at the mercy of natural forces. The steamy jungle and tempestuous ocean determine Damaris’ fate as she in turn tries to control her beloved pup. The supporting characters are interesting but Damaris commands most sympathy in this moving story.

Pilar Quintana is a notable writer from Colombia’s thriving literary scene and has several international awards to her name. The novel’s remote location is based on her own nine-year residence in Juancho, Valle del Cauca. On arrival, the author witnessed a dead dog on the beach, which is the book’s starting point.

The Bitch and *Cockfight* both reveal the psychological effects of internalised self-blame and the importance of letting go of the past. One bad chapter in life does

not determine a story’s ending. Just as nature corrects its mistakes, humans have the capacity to heal and thrive.

With thanks to Turnaround Publisher Services in Wood Green (Britain’s leading independent book distributor) for these two free review copies: visit www.turnaround-uk.com



“The Bitch is a beautiful atmospheric novella which depicts the harsh lives of a resourceful and resilient community living at the mercy of natural forces”

that is the root of all evil”.

In a similar vein, Pilar Quintana’s *The Bitch* transports the reader to an isolated stretch of Colombia’s Pacific coast. This is the wild stormy west where the air is “so damp that a fish could have lived out of water”. Home to the coun-

POETRY CORNER

What’s in a name?

Harringay or Haringey, the names can puzzle, two places, same sound, one locale in the other.

The first a district either side of Green Lanes. The second the borough the council named.

In ‘65 Haringey’s title was picked, a vote was taken, the boxes ticked.

Confusion followed, say it “gey or gay?” mistakes in spelling, from then to this day.

Heringes -hedge in origin, from Saxon rule, an old form of Hornsey was later recalled.

It could have been different, the record does tell, we could now be calling the borough, Moselle!

By Henry Jacobs

Venus and Mars

The darker the night,
the stronger the stars,
the fiercer the fight
of Venus and Mars.

They fight not each other
but darkness and cold,
they each hold a banner
embroidered with gold.

The later the hour,
the likelier dawn,
with fire and flower
in splendour reborn!

By Christina Egan

Haikoo from: ‘36 Views of the Lea Valley’

‘Coo coo,’ scoots the coot
along the Lea Valley, look!
Little coots coo too...

By Terry Egan

Send us your poetry
Email: tcp@socialspider.com

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

Individual rewards

£3 per month upwards:

Name in print and online, pin badge

£5 per month upwards:

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

Organisational rewards

£10 per month:

Name in print and online, 10% discount on advertising

£20 per month:

Name and logo in print and online, 20% discount on advertising

£50 per month:

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



Member Spotlight

"I've lived on the Ferry Lane Estate, Tottenham Hale, since 1983 with assorted cats and partner Lorna Reith (ex-ward councillor, chair of Haringey Citizens Advice Bureau and our residents' association FLAG). I've been active since, with FLAG and our local Friends of the Earth group (FoE).

"We used to have a weekly paid-for local newspaper, and other free papers, with human interest and political coverage. Since they disappeared, we've lacked a local paper so it's harder to find out what's going on and for local groups to communicate to a wider public. There's some news on social media but many people have little digital access – a printed paper is easier to read.

"So, I've welcomed *Tottenham Community Press* and been glad to support it and deliver it; running up staircases to deliver it in my street has been good exercise during lockdown when I can't go hill-walking."

Quentin Given

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.

Visit tottenhamcommunitypress.co.uk/join