

News

Local resident organises exam grading protest at Westminster

Page 3

News

Protesters demand an end to police violence and impunity

Page 6

Community

Furniture restoration enterprise raises funds for Bruce Grove Youth Space

Page 10

Youth

Shakira Dyer reviews online play, 'Blowin' in the Wind' by Chickenshed Theatre

Page 13

TOTTENHAM COMMUNITY PRESS

tottenhamcommunitypress.co.uk
facebook.com/tottenhamcp

T @tottenhamcp
E tcp@socialspider.com

September 2020
Nº.38, Free

Local news that matters to you

Seven Sisters Indoor Market
Credit: Luchia Robinson



Latin Village traders shut out of market Traders seek compensation for loss of earnings

By Luchia Robinson

Save Latin Village campaigners are demanding compensation from TfL for damages and loss of earnings because of the closure of the indoor market site.

Seven Sisters Market (The Latin Village) in Wards Corner, Seven Sisters, was closed in March when the nation went into lockdown following the outbreak of Covid-19.

At the start of June, TfL (the freeholder of the market) declared the market unsafe to reopen, stating it would be doing critical remedial works because of concerns about safety – namely electrics,

gas and the use of the market's mezzanine floor.

The campaigners say that the closure of the mezzanine floor amounts to a 50% loss of trading space, and that livelihoods and business investments have been lost as a result of the market's prolonged closure.

Campaigner Vicky Alvarez said: "We feel devastated because the organisation that's supposed to protect us and look after us are not doing it.

"[TfL] are not even thinking that we have been closed for six months now, and people have to pay rent, they have to live, they have to put

food on the table. It is extremely upsetting to see how desperate the traders are at the moment.

"All this is really upsetting because you can see a big corporation trying to swallow small communities and do whatever they please with them."

The Save Latin Village traders say that TfL has been negligent by managing the decline of the market and delaying the repair works.

Community campaigner, Mirca Morera said: "TfL should be working around the clock to do the remedial work, and they are not doing anything.

"Every trader in [the market] is

from a Black and minority ethnic group, they've already been disproportionately impacted by Covid-19 and [TfL have] almost compounded that impact by not doing what they are meant to do – which is what they should have done ages ago."

The Save Latin Village campaigners have been fighting to save the indoor market from demolition for many years, raising awareness of the site's importance, both as a cultural asset for BAME communities, and as a business hub with the second largest concentration of Latin businesses in the UK.

Tensions between the traders,

TfL and the previous market manager (leaseholder) MAM (Market Asset Management) have been fraught throughout; the traders having flagged up instances of racial discrimination and misconduct to TfL and Haringey Council, which they say were made by MAM over the years. These concerns were addressed last year at the council's

"All this is really upsetting because you can see a big corporation trying to swallow small communities"

scrutiny review of Wards Corner.

TfL say they had tried to promote better relations between the traders and the market manager on several occasions, adding that they were disappointed in MAM's progress to address recommendations made in a report (commissioned in December 2019), which highlighted a number of health and safety issues at the market.

Continued on Page 3

As a not-for-profit organisation, we need your support to help produce Tottenham Community Press. Scan this code with your PayPal app to support our publishers Social Spider CIC with a one-off donation.



WELCOME

Steadfast In Difficulties

September 2020
N°. 38

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

Harry Godfrey, Alastair Ball, Stephen Furner, Catherine Suttle, Tessie, Orange-Turner, Cllr Mike Hakata, Shakira Dyer, Karin Lock, David L. Hutchinson, Jessie Mathewson



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

Email tcp@socialspider.com
Phone 020 8521 7956

Published by Social Spider CIC



Credit Harry Godfrey

An introduction from the editor

Hello, welcome to issue 38.

The Covid-19 health pandemic has meant many people around the world are facing adversity unlike never before.

A variety of socioeconomic disparities across gender, race and class have been further emphasised, affecting people in multiple ways, including: ill health, the closure of businesses, and a loss of jobs.

On a local level, TCP looks at how a prolonged opening of Seven Sisters Market is having an impact on the traders (front page).

A-Level students unable to sit their exams this year, were affected by a newly implemented grading system, that left several people disappointed and angry (p.3).

Anger was also felt by protesters last month, who took to Tottenham High Road calling for the end to police brutality (p.6).

Campaign group, Haringey Welcome have produced a song to raise funds to support financially insecure migrant domestic workers (p.5).

Funds are also being raised for community initiatives that will see a mural created at Downhills Park Café, and resources provided for Bruce Grove Youth Space (p.10).

What is your experience of Tottenham? Get in touch by sending a story idea to tcp@socialspider.com, and further details will be provided.

Advertisement

NEWS

Continued from Page-1

In July, TfL ‘instigated a process’ that saw them take over the lease of the indoor market from MAM.

TfL did not provide *Tottenham Community Press* with details of a date of completion or when the traders can expect to start trading again. They also didn’t address claims of managing the decline of the market, nor say whether there were delays to the improvement works.

Graeme Craig, Director of Commercial Development at TfL, said: “We have been working hard to address the significant health and safety issues at Seven Sisters Market since we took over the lease so businesses can reopen at the earliest opportunity. We’ve been carrying out fire safety inspections and surveys in addition to electrical repairs.

“The market is an important local asset and we are keen to see businesses trade again as quickly as possible but this can

only happen when it is safe to do so. We are in regular communication with the traders to offer information and support.”

Stuart McNamara, a volunteer with the Save Latin Village campaign, said: “TfL are in dialogue with traders – that is good, but the bottom line is, there’s a difference between the validity of talking and actually getting anything done.

“[The market has been] closed for over 20 weeks, under the pretext of the need to do urgent works – how urgent were the works that they still haven’t been done?

“Traders have not been able to trade, in contravention of guidance from the government that would have allowed them to trade. They’ve been economically starved into submission whilst TfL are saying that they are trying to be part of the solution.”

Haringey Council says it has provided dedicated support for the market traders, to enable them to access government business rates grants. It says it is “fully committed



Credit Luchia Robinson

to a sustainable long-term Latin Village market,” and that the traders are being supported with the temporary move to the Apex Gardens site located across the road.

A community redevelopment plan for Seven Sisters Market was created as an alternative to the proposed redevelopment works on the Wards Corner plot. However,

redevelopment of the site was agreed by Haringey Council and property developer, Grainger in 2004. This is subject to a Compulsory Purchase Order proceeding.

Unlevel A-Levels

Haringey resident organises student protest in Westminster after A-Level grading fiasco

By Luchia Robinson

Ted Mellow, 18, headed to Parliament Square with thousands of fellow students, last month, protesting against the government’s A-Level marking system, which left many young people with downgraded results.

Local resident Ted, who co-ordinated the protest with friend, Stanley Lewis, 18, from Mill Hill, was predicted 3 A*s but received grades: A*, B, B. He said: “I think the general consensus from everyone who is in the same position as me, is that we’re not trying to get A*s and A*s – we are trying to get the grades we feel we deserve.”

Approximately 40% of A-Level grades were downgraded from those initially predicted by their teachers, after exams regulator Ofqual used an algorithm based on schools’ exam histories to award this year’s results. This system meant university places were immediately taken by those who received the highest final grades.

Ted wants to apply to Cambridge University in his gap year, but believes the grades he has received will make it difficult for him. He said: “I have been impacted in quite a significant way. I feel, I did however, get off quite lucky compared to other people.”

The government made a U-turn following widespread uproar about the algorithm grading system, which was widely criticised for being discriminatory and biased to favour privately educated students.

Backlash came from across the

UK, with Tottenham MP David Lammy tweeting that this year’s grading experience was: ‘Utterly damaging to thousands at state schools and hugely demoralising for their teachers and parents.’

The government U-turn means originally predicted teacher/ Centre Assessed Grades (CAG) are now officially recognised instead of the algorithm’s calculated results.

The U-turn was made to try to re-establish fairness in the English exam system, as well as recreate a level position for the universities admissions service. This has allowed some students the opportunity to try and get their university places reinstated, however, it came too late for other students who were left without places because their entry offers had been re-allocated.

Ted said: “The government U-turn puts a lot of people who are in very bad positions, in better ones, which I think is needed because these are people’s opportunities and lives that have been affected.

“I do think that the government

needs to do more, because whilst they’ve allowed us to use CAGs as a representative for our grades,

“A-Level students have been messed over.”

these CAGs still fall under compliance with the ranking system that they implemented, which involved students having been ranked most and least likely to get an A*. So even with your CAGs, these might not be representative of what the teacher felt you deserved in the exam.

“[The government] could just write off the exams as a whole, and universities would just have to focus on personal statements and interviews more.

“Quite frankly, I feel A-Level students have been messed over.”



Ted Mellow (centre, holding sign) protests against unfair exam grading system
Credit VXP/ Vudi Xhymshiti

NEWS

The Bruce Grove Conveniences
Credit: Stephen Furner



Disused toilet to be transformed

A disused Grade-II listed public toilet in Bruce Grove will be transformed into a community café designed to benefit local residents and businesses.

The restoration, which has now been given planning permission,

ushers in a new community wealth building lease.

The council's property lease offers discounts for employing local residents and provides long-term opportunities for those not in education or work or who have additional needs.

Work has been done by local

campaign group, The Last Elm, heritage consultant Rob Bevan, and Haringey Council to capture and protect the significance of the small building, both above and below ground, to ensure it comes off the Historic England 'at risk' register.

The design has been carried out by

architects at DK-CM and includes the ground floor being extended with a garden room to the rear.

The toilet was first constructed at the beginning of the twentieth century, but has deteriorated in the last few decades since it closed its doors in the 1980s.

The renovation of the new café

will be funded by Haringey Council, the Greater London Authority's Good Growth Fund and Historic England's 'High Street Heritage Action Zone' funding.

Cllr Charles Adje, cabinet member for finance and strategic regeneration, said: "We are excited to see this community led initiative bringing the Grade II listed public conveniences building back into use with the confirmation of planning permission.

"Positioned in the centre of Bruce Grove, we welcome the restoration in this busy and vibrant area of Tottenham and will be seeking suitable contractors in the coming months.

"This project will be an example of our community wealth building approach to maximise every public pound spent and to support local and smaller providers.

"It demonstrates our firm commitment to ensuring local people benefit from the investment in their neighbourhoods and aims to create a more equal and fairer community."

Emma Twine, Project Architect at DK-CM said: "We have really enjoyed working with the council to explore how this small but important building can be brought back into public use. Almost everyone laments the loss of public toilets from our daily lives, but this project shows that we can restore the existing infrastructure in new and exciting ways and help to grow the local economy in the process."

Mayor calls for more support for people self-isolating

Credit: GLA



By Jessie Mathewson,
City Hall Reporter

The government must make sure that no one forced to self-isolate because of coronavirus is worse off as a result, the Mayor of London has said.

Sadiq Khan warned that "far too many Londoners are falling through the gaps" in support and can't do their "civic duty" to stop the spread of Covid-19.

The Mayor wants guaranteed statutory sick pay for any employee

who has to take time off because of the virus "as a minimum".

As much of the population returns to work, those forced to stay at home because of the virus may need more tailored financial support. Statutory sick pay ensures employers pay a minimum £95.85 a week if workers are ill – but this is just 15% of the median income for London.

170,000 employees in the capital earn below the £120 a week threshold, meaning they are not eligible if they have to take time off. A further 864,000 people are self-employed, and could be forced to rely on benefits if they can't work from home.

Mr Khan wrote to Chancellor Rishi Sunak and Health Secretary Matt Hancock in August, warning that gaps in support will put communities at risk.

Gig economy workers and those on zero hours contracts – who are disproportionately from Black, Asian or minority ethnic heritage – will be worst affected, he warned. "Far too many Londoners are falling

through the gaps or are unable to make ends meet," the Mayor wrote.

"We cannot be in a situation where Londoners are forced into financial hardship for following public health advice and keeping their community safe."

Mr Khan claimed Britain is "once again [...] falling behind the rest of the world" by failing to provide more comprehensive support.

In Germany, the government will pay the equivalent of an employee's take home pay for up to six weeks if they are self-isolating.

"It is now clear that we need to learn to live with the virus, and NHS Test and Trace plays a large role in giving the public confidence," the Mayor wrote.

"Not only is it the right thing to do and will save lives, it makes economic sense.

"Effective test and trace, that recognises self-isolation as a civic duty, will help us control the virus and keep our economy open by avoiding the need for further

lockdowns and restrictions."

A Treasury spokesperson said the government is "committed to supporting individuals financially through this difficult time".

"We have extended statutory sick pay so that it's now payable from day one and employees can claim it if they are asked to self-isolate by a contact tracer," they explained.

"We have also invested more than £9 billion in strengthening our welfare safety net, ensuring

it's more generous and accessible for those who need it."

The spokesperson said many employees receive more than minimum sick pay from their employer.

Businesses can also reclaim two weeks sick pay worth almost £200 if an employee has to self-isolate because of the virus.

But the Treasury did not comment on the call to widen sick pay eligibility or introduce a new flexible furlough scheme.

that
Slimming
World
feeling
back together!

With our groups
opening from the
10th August please
check the website
for your local group
and consultants to
book your space

You can find details of your nearest consultant at: slimmingworld.co.uk

NEWS

News

Protesters demand a
stop to violent policingPage
6

Support in times of adversity

Local campaign group raises funds for migrant domestic workers

By Alastair Ball

Activists in Haringey are raising funds to support migrant domestic workers whose lives have been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The campaigners from the voluntary group, Haringey Welcome (a collective that works for the fairness, dignity and respect for migrants and refugees), released the song *Adversity Rhyme* at the end of July, to raise funds for domestic workers who have been left destitute, as they have no recourse to public funds.

Miri Weingarten, a Haringey Welcome volunteer, said: "Life in the age of Covid-19 has exposed the fault lines of our society in a very stark way.

"Inequalities and injustices that already existed before, have now become more pronounced and there is a much deeper divide between those who live in relative safety and prosperity and those who live precariously."

The song, with a connected six-week fundraising campaign, aims to raise £5,000 for the education and support group, Voice of Domestic Workers, which calls for justice and rights for Britain's migrant domestic workers.

At the launch event Marissa Begonia, director of Voice of Domestic Workers, spoke about her experience of escaping from an abusive employer and then losing her job at the start of the lockdown. She said: "I managed to find a new job and slowly tried to rebuild my life, but then Covid-19 happened. "When the government announced the

lockdown, my employer asked me to pack my things and told me 'don't come back.' I didn't know if I was being terminated

"There is a much deeper divide between those who live in relative safety and prosperity and those who live precariously"

permanently or temporarily, but I was not even given my last salary when I asked."

Adversity Rhyme was written by Haringey Welcome coordinator Lucy Nabijou, and was recorded and produced remotely during the lockdown. The song tells the story of a Syrian refugee's journey to Europe, and features qanun player, Sanaa Wahbah, oudist Rachel Beckles Willson, vocals from Paula Rue and piano and clarinet from Kayvon Nabijou.

The funds raised will go towards providing counseling for domestic workers who have escaped from abusive employers and those who have lost their jobs during the pandemic.

Haringey Welcome's fundraiser can be supported online until the 10th of September. For more information:

Visit crowdfunder.co.uk/haringeywelcome-covid-19-music-fundraiser

North Mid to receive £4.4million investment

North Middlesex University Hospital is set to receive a £4.4million investment to upgrade facilities in preparation for winter and any further outbreaks of coronavirus.

The hospital's A&E department is among the busiest in London, and regularly sees more than 600 people each day. The funding will enable infrastructure development in A&E improving patient flow in the hospital. This includes providing a larger waiting area with 50% more capacity, doubling the number of treatment cubicles, and trebling the provision of same day emergency care.

There will be a new facility dedicated to treating patients who are frail and a redesigned paediatric A&E department. The investment will allow other areas throughout the hospital to be repurposed so that even more patients get the right care when they need it.

"Not only will it make it easier for staff to provide safe care but it helps us better support our community"

Maria Kane, chief executive of North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust, said: "It's incredibly important that people in Enfield, Haringey and beyond are able to get the emergency care they need, so I'm thrilled that we will be



Credit: Stephen Furner

receiving this funding.

"With coronavirus still at the forefront of many people's minds, it's understandable that some might be nervous about coming to the hospital. This investment will help us to provide additional treatment space,

reduce overcrowding, and further improve on the robust infection control measures already in place.

"Not only will it make it easier for staff to provide safe care but it helps us better support our community during what will

inevitably be a busy winter period."

The funding comes as part of the government's £300million investment to help the NHS prepare for winter. The development work begins this month, and will be completed at the start of 2021.

NEWS



Local activist, Stafford Scott with justice campaigner, Marcia Rigg
Credit Luchia Robinson

One struggle, one fight

Protesters demand a stop to violent policing

By Luchia Robinson

Hundreds of people attended a protest against police racism, violence and impunity, in Tottenham High Road, last month.

The protest, which took place outside Tottenham Police Station, marked the nine-year anniversary of the killing of Tottenham resident, Mark Duggan.

Many people affected by acts of police brutality, shared their personal experiences. Speakers included Marcia Rigg, who is fighting for justice for her brother Sean Rigg, who died in police custody in 2008, and Camilla Mngaza,

the mother of Siyanda Mngaza, 21, from Cardiff, who is currently serving a four-and-a-half-year prison sentence for GBH.

Camilla told the crowds that her daughter was racially attacked, last May, sustaining multiple injuries from being beaten. She added that Siyanda's allegations were not investigated by the police, and that she was wrongly jailed for defending herself, whilst outnumbered during the attack.

Camilla said: "The police are not supposed to be above the law, but they are allowed to get away with being above the law."

"Not one member of the police

in the UK have been charged, convicted or sent to prison for killing, maiming and causing gross injustice to Black people.

"Siyanda is one case of gross injustice, she sits rotting in a prison because she was beaten, and stomped in the face numerous times because of the colour of her skin."

In July, the Independent Office for Police Conduct announced that they will be launching 'race discrimination' as a thematic area of focus, in effort to 'develop a body of evidence to identify systemic issues which should be addressed.'

IOPC Director General Michael Lockwood said: "Initially we will

focus on investigating more cases where there is an indication that disproportionality impacts BAME communities, including stop and search and use of force.

"We will also be investigating more cases where victims from BAME communities have felt unfairly treated by the police. For example, whether the police are treating allegations of hate crime from BAME complainants seriously and where it is alleged the police have not recognised or treated BAME victims of crime as victims.

"This is about identifying where we are seeing good and bad practice, and where there are then opportunities to drive real learning and change.

"We know this is an issue of community concern. Our police forces can only police effectively with the trust and confidence of the community they serve."

The speakers at the protest expressed their lack of trust and confidence in the police because of their experiences of racist policing.

Black people in England and Wales are ten times more likely to be stopped by the police than white people. Stop and search was increased during the coronavirus lockdown, and 30% of young Black men in London were stopped a total of more than 20,000 times.

43,000 stops were carried out in May, compared to 21,000 the previous year, and 30,608 in April, compared to 20,981 in 2019.

A recent report commissioned by the Hope not Hate Charitable Trust, which looks at minority communities in the time of

Covid-19 and protest, found that 80% of Black respondents feel that the police are biased against people from their ethnic group. 61% said the government should reduce spending on policing, instead diverting money to preventative services such as social care, youth work and mental health provisions.

A petition calling for Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Cressida Dick to resign has been started by organisations challenging racism and racial violence: Tottenham Rights, The Monitoring Group, 4Front Project, and Black Lives Matter UK.

Local activist, Stafford Scott said: "We've come to demand the end of the planned roll out of Tasers. We want [the police] to scrap the use of Section 60 stop and search, where they can just stop and search any young Black kid, treating them like chattel without any reasonable cause, without any evidence, or without any suggestion that they've done wrong."

"We want them to stop putting handcuffs on our Black youth."

"We are going to come out and we're going to support as we did in the eighties, and we're going to slow [the police] down until we make them understand that enough is enough, and we can't take no more."

"Tottenham, Wood Green, Hornsey – one struggle, one fight."

"Northumberland Park Estate, Broadwater Farm Estate – one struggle, one fight."

Turn to p 8-9 to see more photographs taken at the protest

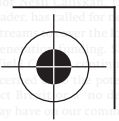


Credit Luchia Robinson

ADVERTISE WITH TCP

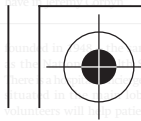
TCP is the only newspaper dedicated solely to covering Tottenham. We print 10,000 copies every month. Are you running a business that wants to reach local people? Get in touch for a quote on advertising in the paper.

Contact our advertising salesperson Klaudia:
Call 07732 000 430
Email klaudia@socialspider.com



new and untried 'settled status'...
Enfield's flagship £600m Meridian Water development is intended to bring thousands of jobs and new housing, but could become one of any projects that struggles to find qualified workers, with the council...

New £200m hospital building...
Newly-rebuilt Chase Farm Hospital has welcomed its first patients...



Action plan launched to support Haringey's local economy

Haringey Council has launched a recovery plan to help local businesses dealing with the effects of Covid-19. The Good Economy Recovery Plan aims to encourage business growth and assist Haringey residents into jobs and training. The four priorities of the plan will focus on: reopening and supporting the borough's high streets and town centres; supporting businesses through recovery and into renewal; assisting residents into work and/or

training, and securing social and economic value through investment in local neighbourhoods and communities. Haringey's High Street Recovery Action Plan will also be initiated to help revive local town centres. A borough-wide high streets team will be established as part of this plan. Cllr Gideon Bull, cabinet member for local investment and economic growth, said: "Coronavirus has affected our whole society, but our businesses and high streets have been affected particularly badly by the lockdown. "We are launching these plans to help get local businesses and residents back on their feet, promote local growth and get Haringey's high streets buzzing again. "These plans are part of our wider strategic commitment to supporting local businesses and residents, working alongside our Business Pledge, New Local Plan and Community Wealth Building approach."

"We are launching these plans to help get local businesses and residents back on their feet"

Advertisement

London's First **FREE** College

ENROL NOW
at one of our
COVID-secure centres

**YOU
HAVE
IT IN
YOU**



part of
Capital City
College Group

The College of
Haringey, Enfield
and North East London

Is your income under threat due to the impact of Covid-19? Try out a new skill with a short course or retrain for a career that's in demand.

- Accounting and Business
- Construction
- Creative and Media
- Early Years and Childcare
- Engineering
- English and Maths
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Hair and Beauty
- Health and Social Care
- ICT and Computing
- Music
- Public Services
- Science
- Sport and Fitness
- Travel and Tourism
- Teacher Education

All courses up to Level 2 are
FREE

conel.ac.uk/enrol
020 8442 3055 | courseinfo@conel.ac.uk

PHOTOGRAPHY



ANTI-POLICE BRUTALITY PROTEST 08/08/20

*Photographs by
Stephen Furner
& Luchia Robinson*



COMMUNITY

Restoring youth club activities and items of furniture

Upholstering project raising funds for Bruce Grove Youth Space



Before and after of a 1970s chair that, when stripped, had numerous pay slips and party invitations from the 70s under the seat **Credit** Catherine Suttle

By Catherine Suttle, *Of All Places*

My family and I settled down in Tottenham seven years ago, having moved from the other side of the world. It was a big move for my kids, aged 10 and 12 years, but we discovered the Bruce Grove Youth Space, nearby, and we went along. One of my sons became a regular there for a while, and he and

I discovered the Youth Space's enormous value to local young people, with the brilliant youth leaders and volunteers providing important role models, teachers and mentors. I want to describe the Youth Space as gold dust, but really it might better be compared to water – it is vital to many young people's lives in Haringey.

I have witnessed the Youth Space's value to its members on many occasions, but one stands out.

Back in 2018, I attended the launch of the Tanisha Melbourne-Blake Foundation, an evening in honour of Tanisha, an innocent young woman who had been shot and killed in Tottenham earlier that year. It was very clear that Tanisha was loved, both as a member of the youth club, and as part of a family; she was viewed as a sister.

The Bruce Grove Residents' Network had raised funds for refreshments at the launch, and some of the young people speaking at the event had thanked residents for these funds. They seemed moved by the fact that local residents had raised this money – not the government or a funding body, but ordinary neighbours.

Like numerous other centres here and around the country, the Youth Space has been hit hard by closure during the pandemic, having lost close to 75% of their regular attendees. To re-engage the young people who may now be feeling isolated, they are planning to enhance their already fantastic summer activities programme, (which for years has offered creative, sport and musical activities), with podcasting and photography programmes for their previously regular attendees, as well as their new ones.

I've recently been raising funds for the Youth Space by fixing furniture via my not-for-profit social enterprise, Of All Places. Most of the furniture I work on, I find discarded on the streets, some is donated to me, and other items I restore on commission, with all profits going to Bruce Grove Youth Space.

I'm an amateur and furniture restoration is something I've learned about locally through part-time courses. So far, I've repaired and/or reupholstered all sorts of chairs. In this way, chair owners of Tottenham have raised almost £700 which will pay for some of the podcasting and camera equipment to help get the Youth Space's additional courses started.

If you'd like to raise money for Bruce Grove Youth Space, and you have furniture you'd like to revive, get in contact with me.

For more information:
Visit ofallplaces.co.uk



Downhills Park Café **Credit** Tessie Orange-Turner

Celebrating Tottenham

Raising funds for community mural project

By Tessie Orange-Turner, *North London Creative Resistance*

We at North London Creative Resistance (NLCR) are creating a mural that is targeted at the community of Tottenham.

We aim to celebrate black history, experience and community in north London through organising innovative and engaging creative community projects, and we chose Downhills Park Café as it is a vital meeting place that serves people from all walks of life.

The mural will have interactive elements, a chalkboard, and multiple languages displayed, providing inter-generational appeal (and a distraction for the kids while the adults chat!).

All members of NLCR along with the owner of Downhills Park Café, Neri Gun are involved in the running of this project. We use the community circle which takes place fortnightly at Lordship Recreational Ground to outreach to the local community, as they will be involved in every step of the process, from finalising designs to painting the café.

The mural will be an opportunity for everyone to come together and create something important and visually outstanding that represents the area as a whole; people of all ages, cultures and beliefs, coming together to celebrate the history of Tottenham.

Our vision for the mural is a piece of artwork that enhances the café and displays the multicultural identity of Tottenham, which is made by the people, for the people.

It will feature a map of Tottenham as well as a 'Tottenham Heroes' section celebrating iconic figures from the area who have inspired and continue to inspire the people of our community today.

We hope the mural will cement Downhills Park Café and the park itself as a community hub that welcomes and engages everybody who visits. The café is an important part of the community, but at the moment, it is not much to look at. It is definitely in need of some TLC and we hope we can bring that with the mural.

Together we can make this happen.

For more information:
Visit crowdfunder.co.uk/downhillsmural

“The mural will be an opportunity for everyone to come together and create something important”

COMMUNITY

Literature

Karin Lock reviews 'The Beekeeper of Aleppo' by Christy Lefteri

Page
14

The oldest working pub in N17 wins cask beer award



North London branch chairman, Colin Coyne (right) presenting the award to Antwerp Arms' Peter Passam (left)

The community owned Antwerp Arms (known locally as the 'Annie') has scooped the north London branch of the award for the Campaign for Real Ale's (CAMRA) Pub of the Year 2020.

The Antwerp Arms beat hundreds of pubs to this prestigious award, as the result of a vote open to 1,600 local CAMRA members.

The award was presented last month by the chairman of the North London branch, Colin Coyne, who said: "This Georgian building has been serving local people since 1822.

"The Antwerp Arms is the only community owned pub in north London and it's a really worthy winner."

In 2013, the Antwerp Arms faced demolition, however, the local community and CAMRA campaigners came together to prevent the developers taking action. Following this, the Antwerp Arms Association was set up, raising funds through shares and a grant, which enabled the pub to be purchased two years later.

The association is formed of over 400 shareholders who run the pub by electing a small management committee every September. There is a full-time manager and part time staff who run the operational side of the business, and volunteers who help with community work, maintenance, and gardening.

"[The Antwerp Arms] is a great example of local people taking ownership of, and doing something to keep what they value," said Colin.

CAMRA formed nationally in 1971. It is a volunteer membership organisation with over 200 branches across the UK and 190,000 members, that exists to promote good beer, protect pubs, and defend consumer rights.

The Antwerp Arms is part of CAMRA's

"The Antwerp Arms is the only community owned pub in north London and it's a really worthy winner."

LocAle scheme, which is an initiative that promotes pubs stocking local beers. In this case, Tottenham's own Redemption Brewery is usually on handpump.

Peter Passam, Antwerp Arms general manager said: "We are absolutely thrilled to receive this great honour from CAMRA. As a Community Pub we are committed to being a friendly and welcoming place run by our community, for our community."

For more information:
Visit antwerparms.co.uk

COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

St Ann's: An inspiring place to live

Cllr Mike Hakata discusses healthy streets and the importance of a helpful community

It's been an incredibly busy month in St Ann's as local residents discussed and devised plans to transform the ward's transport infrastructure.

With the government announcement that local authorities must submit bold and far-reaching schemes, Healthy Streets, St Ann's (a campaign group determined to make our local streets, not just safe, but liveable), reached out to residents for ideas.

Sharing their plans with council officers, the group suggested interventions that would: reduce through-traffic (the majority of car journeys begin and end outside the ward), reduce speeding (a vehicle smashed into the metal fence just outside Chestnuts School only a few weeks ago), and improve the overall environment for all pedestrians. Many of the ideas fed directly into the council's bid for a low-traffic neighbourhood in St Ann's, and we are awaiting a decision from the Department for Transport.

The St Ann's mutual aid group revealed the passion, expertise and compassion of local residents. The group was oversubscribed with volunteers offering support to shielding residents in need of groceries, medicines and often just a chat on the phone. Samantha Foster was the critical lynchpin

coordinating the ingenious technical aspects as well as galvanising and inspiring volunteers.

Samantha then worked with a small group of mutual aiders to create an additional group, the St Ann's Food Hub, to address the chronic issue of food poverty which the pandemic has revealed.

Operating at first out of the church hall, the food hub struck a deal with a local wholesaler which enabled them to put together boxes stacked with fresh fruit and veg for sale and donation to families in need.

The Bridge Renewal Trust then agreed to host the food hub at Chestnuts Community Centre where it has been able to donate hundreds of healthy boxes to local people as well as almost £3000 to other food causes in Haringey.

Sarah told me that volunteering for the food hub gave her a chance to get out and connect with people in the community whilst doing something to help out. One of the original creators, Rich Walker, said that one of the highlights for him was: "Discovering how many good, kind people there are in N15 and how eager they have been to pitch in on what sounded like a crazy idea at the start."

St Ann's is an inspiring place to live!

Cllr Mike Hakata
Email mike.hakata@haringey.gov.uk



Cllr Mike Hakata
Credit: Erdal Vural

ONLINE ON CAMPUS



It's not too late to Enrol!

Find out why Waltham Forest College was voted London's number 1 College for Learner Satisfaction.

The College offers a huge range of subjects at levels to suit everyone from school leavers (16-19 years) to adults (19+) and will offer both online and on-campus learning from September.

To secure your place and find out how you can Create Your Future with Waltham Forest College visit www.waltham.ac.uk for on campus enrolment dates and times.

Our courses:

- Access Accounting
- Apprenticeships Art & Design
- Automotive Business
- Computing Construction
- Counselling Digital Media
- Electrical Engineering
- English & Maths ESOL
- Fashion Hair & Beauty
- Health Care & Early Years
- Hospitality & Culinary Arts
- Public Services Sport
- Supported Learning
- Teacher Training
- Travel & Tourism

Contact us for more information:

☎ 020 8501 8501 ✉ myfuture@waltham.ac.uk
 🖱 www.waltham.ac.uk 📍 707 Forest Road, Walthamstow, E17 4JB

Follow us to keep up-to-date:

📘 📷 🌐 📺 WalthamForestCollege
 🐦 @WFCTweets

Create Your Future

Waltham Forest College



YOUTH

How many roads must we walk down?

Shakira Dyer reviews Chickenshed Theatre’s *Blowin’ in the Wind*

“Education is power, not racism.” This was one of the quotes from Chickenshed Theatre students, shown at the start of *Blowin’ in the Wind*.

Chickenshed’s virtual play, directed by Lou Stein and first shown live in 2017, captures the turbulent timeline of global protest. Now, after the killing of George Floyd in America, it resonates even more.

Jojo Morall stars as the ‘spirit’ of civil rights activist Rosa Parks, travelling through time and worldwide protests, such as the suppression of the Native Americans, the racist killings of black men in 2017, and the separation caused by the Berlin Wall.

Each protest was brought to life using well-linked songs and performance, choreographed by Christine Niering along with the young performers.

Bob Dylan’s famous song *Blowin’ in the Wind*, written after he returned from Martin Luther King’s famous speech, asks: “How many roads must a man walk down / Before you call him a man?”

The play also highlights another song by Dylan: *The Lonesome Death of Hattie Carroll*. Based on a true story, Black barmaid, Hattie Carroll [Tania Jacobs] was killed by a white tobacco farmer, William Zantzinger [Aled



Williams] in racially segregated Baltimore. Portrayed as rich, cruel and untouchable, Zantzinger strides into the room behind the dancers, striking Hattie down.

The powerful *Blood on the Streets* rap, by Michael Bossisse, highlights the killings of Trayvon Martin, Eric Garner and Michael Brown.

Jump to 2020. The figure of Rosa Parks,

with her 1960s green hat and gloves, walks silently through every scene – sitting with Malala Yousafzai, watching the Black Lives Matter protests with shock, standing with the mothers of those who died.

I hadn’t known that in Argentina in the 1970s around 40,000 children had been stolen from the political opponents of a military dictatorship. The scene of their mothers’ protest at the Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires was set to Sting’s *They Dance Alone*.

The theme of forcibly separated communities was continued with the song *Castles*, which is about the Berlin Wall. During the song the performers took different levels, in ‘East’ or ‘West’, connecting to each other as they silently smashed the wall.

One actor, Will Lawrence, representing separation and prejudice, stood atop a table, while others shouted that they couldn’t get medical supplies or see their families on the other side.

The play implies that the oppression of a group of people anywhere creates a mountain of problems, and asks: “how

many years can a mountain exist before it is washed by the sea of protest?”

The perceived futility of change is evoked powerfully in the very last song, where the hopeful strains of *We Shall Overcome* intertwines with the loose questions of *Blowin’ in the Wind*.

Though seemingly differing injustices appeared to be pulled together, we were nudged towards understanding

their connection of protest against discrimination across the world.

The young performers’ energy and support for

each other was even felt through a computer screen in 2020s lockdown.

This play used the singing, movement and dancing talents of all its young people. Its meaningful songs connect to issues that are, unfortunately, still all too prevalent today.

You can watch ‘Blowin’ in the Wind’ until Thursday 24th September:
Visit chickenshed.org.uk/Event/blowin-in-the-wind-youtube-premiere

For more information:
Visit chickenshed.org.uk
Visit exposure.org.uk

“How many years can a mountain exist before it is washed by the sea of protest?”

Advertisement

September Timetable

Selby ABC PRICES:
First session FREE!
Adults £6.00 PAYG / £30 pm
Juniors £5.00 PAYG / £25pm
Kids £4.00 PAYG / £20.00 pm

Selby Amateur Boxing Club & Fitness

Selby Amateur Boxing Club & Fitness is based in the Selby Centre, White Hart Lane. Selby Amateur Boxing Club exists for the love of the sport and at Selby's core is the discipline and life skills, that boxing can provide for any individual. The club is particularly focused on the enhancement of health and happiness to members within a safe, yet challenging environment.

We offer classes for women and girls only, competitive boxers, teenagers, children and adults.

To pre book: Follow @selbyabc1 and send a DM with name and time of session you wish to book. Any questions call 020 888 5543

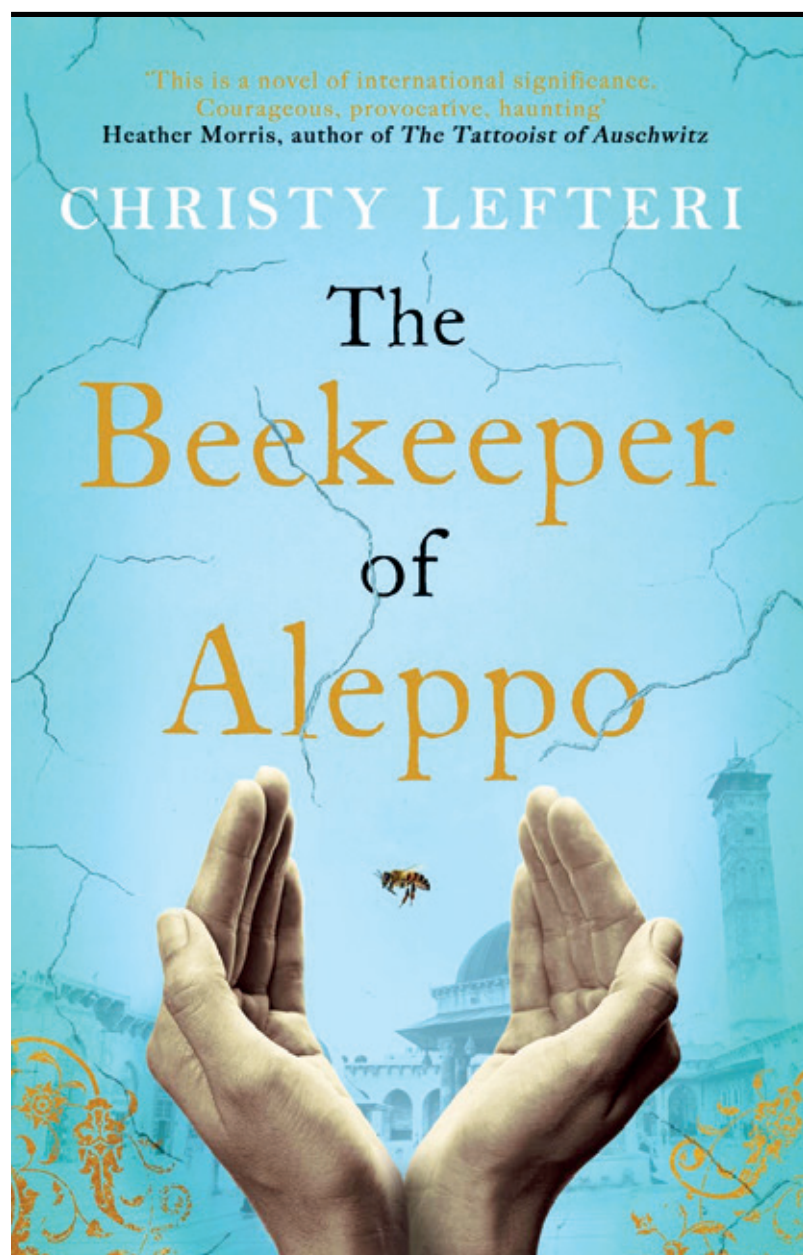
www.selbyboxingclub.co.uk

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Online ZOOM Class Boxing Fitness 12:00pm-1:00pm Coach Paulo				Online ZOOM Class Boxing Fitness 12:00pm-1:00pm Coach Paulo
			Young Justice (Private class) 2.00pm-3:30pm Coach Neves	
	Boxing Circuits (Haringey Gold) 3.00pm-5.00pm 12yr-25yr		Boxing Circuits (Haringey Gold) 3.30pm-5.00pm 12yr-25yr	
		New Girls Boxing 4.45pm-5.45pm 12yr+ Coach Lucy & Coach Flo		
Woman Only Class Boot Camp 6:00pm - 7:00pm 15yr+ Coach Neves	Kid Class Boxing Workout 5:00pm-6:00pm 5yr-12yr Coach Paulo & Coach Steven	Woman Only Class Boot Camp 6:00pm-7:00pm 15yr+ Coach Neves	Kid Class Boxing Workout 5:00pm-6:00pm 5yr-12yr Coach Paulo & Coach Steven	
Online ZOOM Class All Round Fitness 6:00pm-7:00pm Coach Neves & Lucy	Fitness Boxing (Private class) 6:30pm-7:30pm Coach Neves		Fitness Boxing (Private class) 6:30pm-7:30pm Coach Neves	
Adult Session Boxing Fitness 7:00pm-8:30pm Coach Paulo & Coach Steven	ADVANCED Adult Session Boxing Fitness (Invitation Only) 7:30pm-9:00pm Coach Paulo & Coach Steven	Adult Session Boxing Fitness 7:00pm-8:30pm Coach Paulo & Coach Steven	Adult Session Boxing Fitness 7:00pm-9:00pm Coach Paulo & Coach Steven	ADVANCED Adult Session Boxing Fitness (Invitation Only) 7:30pm-9:00pm Coach Paulo & Coach Steven

LITERATURE

Nurturing compassion

Karin Lock reviews *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* by Christy Lefteri



With the hotter weather enabling calmer crossings, the debate over illegal Channel boat traffic is dominating the newspaper headlines once again. As border control becomes more militarised, with Royal Air Force planes and Royal Marines boats now policing the strait, critics and activists are calling for a safe, legal route for asylum seekers to enter the UK.

Despite the presumption that these are 'economic migrants' to be 'pushed back' to France, the overwhelming majority are desperate people fleeing decades of

civil war and daily bomb attacks in Syria, Afghanistan or Iraq. Arriving in the UK, they await their claims for refugee status; their lives prescribed by restrictive policies and a bewildering immigration process.

“In such a broken world, we need to look for hope where we can”

It is hard to imagine a life of such constant stress and uncertainty yet *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* is one novel that attempts to describe the realities of migration under these tortuous circumstances. Having volunteered for two summers

in a UNICEF-supported refugee centre for women and children in Athens, the author Christy Lefteri used her life-changing experience to give those survivors a voice.

Written with empathy and authenticity, *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* is an amalgamation of true accounts heard by the writer. Having lost their Aleppo home, livelihoods and son, the book's narrator Nuri, and his wife Afra, have travelled through Syria, Turkey and Greece to reach an unnamed seaside town in Britain.

Interviewed initially by a social worker in their bed and breakfast accommodation, the couple are advised to “get their story straight” before they meet the immigration officer who will decide their fate. As the reader pieces together that story from the fragments of Nuri's memories, it is evident that both he and his wife are experiencing severe trauma. What keeps the couple going is the hope they will find Nuri's cousin Mustafa who is now living somewhere in England.

In spite of its chilling descriptions and disarming storyline, *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* is a vital read because it humanises the experience of displacement in a way that a news report can never do. Although the couple struggle to communicate with each other as much as with the outside world, it is Nuri's recollections of his former life as a beekeeper that enable him to keep his sense of self.

Throughout the novel, the bee motif cleverly illustrates the importance of community and culture. Like humans, bees need each other

to survive; without their hive or colony, they will die. The underlying message of *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* is that, in such a broken world, we need to look

for hope where we can.

This tale is a lesson about the importance of compassion in the face of a dominant mainstream narrative that strives to dehumanise refugees and desensitise us to the unspeakable horrors of war.

POETRY CORNER

Towers

There they both once stood.

Tall, proud, imposing... depicting power, modernity and affluence.

Twin pinnacles of the “New World's” dreams and aspirations... for so many years.

I had visited them before too – in their once glorious state.

Take a juicy bite of “The Big Apple” they'd say, savour a panoramic view from the Towers' roof of the world – “Manhattan style” and you would never be the same again.

Then, suddenly... in a moment's flash, on a fair, late summer's day - they crumbled ... cascading in a massive shattering explosion of rubble ... casting vast shadows of fear, doubt, dread and anger... mirroring humanity's numerous emotions and frailties.

As the entire world watched ... horrified ... technologically transfixed and mystified, that this anathema of a thing could happen ... to these, such majestic structures.

No one until now ... can even fathom why?

Now, with new “Ground Zero” founded, with its intended soul soothing memorial space.

Can NYC which never sleeps, ever be the same again?

To assert a resurgence of itself, in true “New York grit” never say die spirit ... and rise like a phoenix from the ashes of confusing despair...

No one knows.

Not I.

by David L. Hutchinson

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

Current members

Lynda Jessopp, Michael Buchanan, Susie Fairweather, Peter Corley, Ole Hedemann, Andrew Leimdorfer, Amanda Lillywhite, Slimming World Enfield and Tottenham, Caesar Gordon, Susan Moyse, Cherry McAskill, Tina Hutber, 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

Member organisations

Slimming World Enfield and Tottenham



touching hearts, changing lives

To become an organisational member email:

klaudia@socialspider.com

Visit tottenhamcommunitypress.co.uk/join



Profix
ROOFING LTD



020 8485 6264
07467 065 097

Complete roofing service from one slate to a new installation, using quality materials from well-known manufacturers.

We provide written estimates for all our projects, for customers large or small, residential and commercial.

Call our team today for free help and advice

Chimney Repair

Roof Repairs

Soffits &
Fascias

Moss Removal

Flat Roofing

Scaffolding

Lead Flashing

Tiled/
Slate Roofs



profixroofingservices@outlook.com



www.profixroofing.co.uk

207 Regent Street, London W1B 3HH Company Number: 12808211