

News

Haringey Metropolitan police's Taser usage under investigation

Page 5

News

Place names with links to colonialism to be reviewed

Page 6

Community

Community organising under lockdown in Tottenham

Page 11

Feature

Threads Radio: Supporting the rights of refugees in the UK and abroad

Page 13

TOTTENHAM COMMUNITY PRESS

tottenhamcommunitypress.co.uk
facebook.com/tottenhamcp

T @tottenhamcp
E tcp@socialspider.com

July 2020
Nº.36, Free

Local news that matters to you

Council leader outlines COVID-19 next phase plans



Haringey Civic Centre Credit: Stephen Furner

By Luchia Robinson

Haringey Council is looking at ways of gradually phasing out lockdown measures. This includes reducing the resilience support it has been providing throughout the pandemic.

Since the outbreak of coronavirus, the council has implemented a number of immediate measures. This has included setting up a food distribution service and providing emergency accommo-

dation for rough sleepers within the borough.

The leader of the council, Cllr Joseph Ejiofor says these services are now being readdressed, and methods to ensure sustainability are being developed.

He said: "The most important thing is to make sure that people who've been most disadvantaged by the Covid lockdown can be helped to get back on their feet as quickly as possible."

Ensuring this, he adds, will

involve some of the emergency implementations being moved on to the voluntary sector, which the council will support with £0.5million hardship funding. £250,000 will be available for operating costs, and the other £250,000 will be for critical assistance.

The council is also expecting the government to reimburse the £70m cost of addressing the pandemic. This amount includes an estimated £45m of income losses and additional expenditure,

as well as a loss of over £16m cash income reduction, and an expected £8m housing revenue loss. So far central government has awarded Haringey £15.4m in emergency grants.

Community wealth building is high on the council's agenda as a way of tackling the imminent recession. This approach consists of retaining wealth within the borough by procuring services locally and helping local businesses to build capacity by

upskilling their workforces.

Cllr Ejiofor said: "I think the recession itself will last 18 months as a minimum before we get back to any semblance of what everything used to be like, and that is only based upon if we don't get a second wave, and a third wave.

"Our only priority is to make sure that having got through the coronavirus lockdown, that our people don't continue to suffer."

The decision to not yet reopen schools has been taken as a safety precaution to help minimise transmission of the virus.

"The council's position is that schools should reopen when it's safe to do so. A number of schools have undergone robust risk assessments on their buildings, and on their processes to move small numbers of people in and around the buildings, but there is absolutely no way that you can socially distance in a

"We need to be putting our money into places that our residents get benefits from"

classroom which is ten metres by ten metres, and has got 30 kids in it," says Cllr Ejiofor.

"The problem is that the national government is pressing councils like us.

"We believe that is the right route forward and refute pressure from elsewhere to take a different route."

As the government is no longer committed to funding emergency housing for rough sleepers, the council is looking at locations to build modular homes for when the temporary accommodation

Continued on Page-3

WELCOME

Steadfast In Difficulties

July 2020
N°. 36

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

Ivan Gonzalez, Simon Allin, Stephen Furner, Alastair Ball, Kaz Foncette, Joan Curtis, Moussa Amine Sylla, Nick Mahony, Jack Nation, Cllr Barbara Blake, Cllr Erdal Dogan, Cllr Dhiren Basu, Luke Thurnham, Helen Swinyard, Hannah Phelps, Karin Lock, Terry Egan



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

Email tcp@socialspider.com
Phone 020 8521 7956



Tottenham Community Press is a member of IMPRESS: The Independent Monitor of The Press. For more information on the TCP's complaints policy and how to make a complaint visit: tottenhamcommunitypress.co.uk/complaints



Protesting at Lordship Recreation Ground Credit Ivan Gonzalez

To see more turn to pages 8-9

Advertisement

An introduction from the editor of TCP

Hello, welcome to issue 36.

The fight for justice is being fought as Black people in the UK and across the world stand for equality. The killing of American citizen, George Floyd in May brought racial tensions and inequalities to global attention, with resulting reactions to the death, police brutality, and social disparities being displayed on national and local levels. Cllr Mark Blake makes a statement on the death (p.4), and photographer Ivan Gonzalez captures a local Black Lives Matter protest here in Tottenham (p.8-9).

Community organising has been pivotal, not only in the mobilising of local protests, but also when assessing and finding solutions to the impact of coronavirus. Moussa Amine Sylla and Nick Mahony discuss this, informing us of how organising under lockdown has led to the formation of the Selby Food Hub (p.11), whilst leader of Haringey Council, Cllr Joseph Ejiofor

provides next phase COVID-19 plans (front page).

Jack Nation reminds us that this month, we get the chance to look up and away to the skies as the International Space Station passes overhead (p.12). The Seven Sisters Councillors bring us back down to earth with an environmental ward focus (p.12).

The actions of Haringey's metropolitan police are under investigation after a Taser was used to stun a 62-year-old Tottenham resident (p.5), and place names with links to colonialism will be reviewed to be more reflective of our diverse community (p.6).

If you have been impacted by coronavirus in any way, or if you require any emotional and well-being support, please know that help is available should you require it in these uncertain times (p.3).

Stay safe.

Luchia Robinson, Editor

LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice of application for the grant of a Premises Licence, under section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003

Notice here is given that **Tottenham Green Market** has applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Haringey for a Premises Licence permit:

Sell alcohol, have live music, background music, entertainment at the market

For the premises: Town Hall Approach Road, London N15 4RY

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

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: **13th July 2020**

Copies of all valid representations must include your name and address and will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Authorities Sub Committee, these will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations 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: 18th June 2020

Signed: Marika Gauci

NEWS

NHS services remain now that football has returned

Tottenham Hotspur has ensured NHS services being delivered at the stadium can continue to be accommodated now that football has made its return.

Since April, North Middlesex University Hospital has been using the Spurs stadium for COVID-19 drive-through testing, and the relocation of its Women's Outpatient Services.

The stadium was the first in the Premier League to facilitate testing for hospital staff and key workers from other health and social care organisations, including care homes and the wider public sector. The Women's Outpatient Services, which has been taking place within the basement car park has been supporting the redirection of pregnant women

away from the hospital's main facility during the pandemic.

Other areas of the stadium used for health purposes included the away changing room, emergency medical room, officials' room, doping control and medical welfare rooms. These spaces have all now been cleaned, sterilised and disinfected, returning to their original use, and the NHS services have been relocated to other appropriate areas.

Hospital patients are continuing to enter the stadium via the Media Entrance and drive-through testing continues in the basement car park. The food distribution hub operated by Haringey Council remains within the South Stand 'pitch pocket'.

To maintain health and safety and limit the amount of people on site, no non-football operations

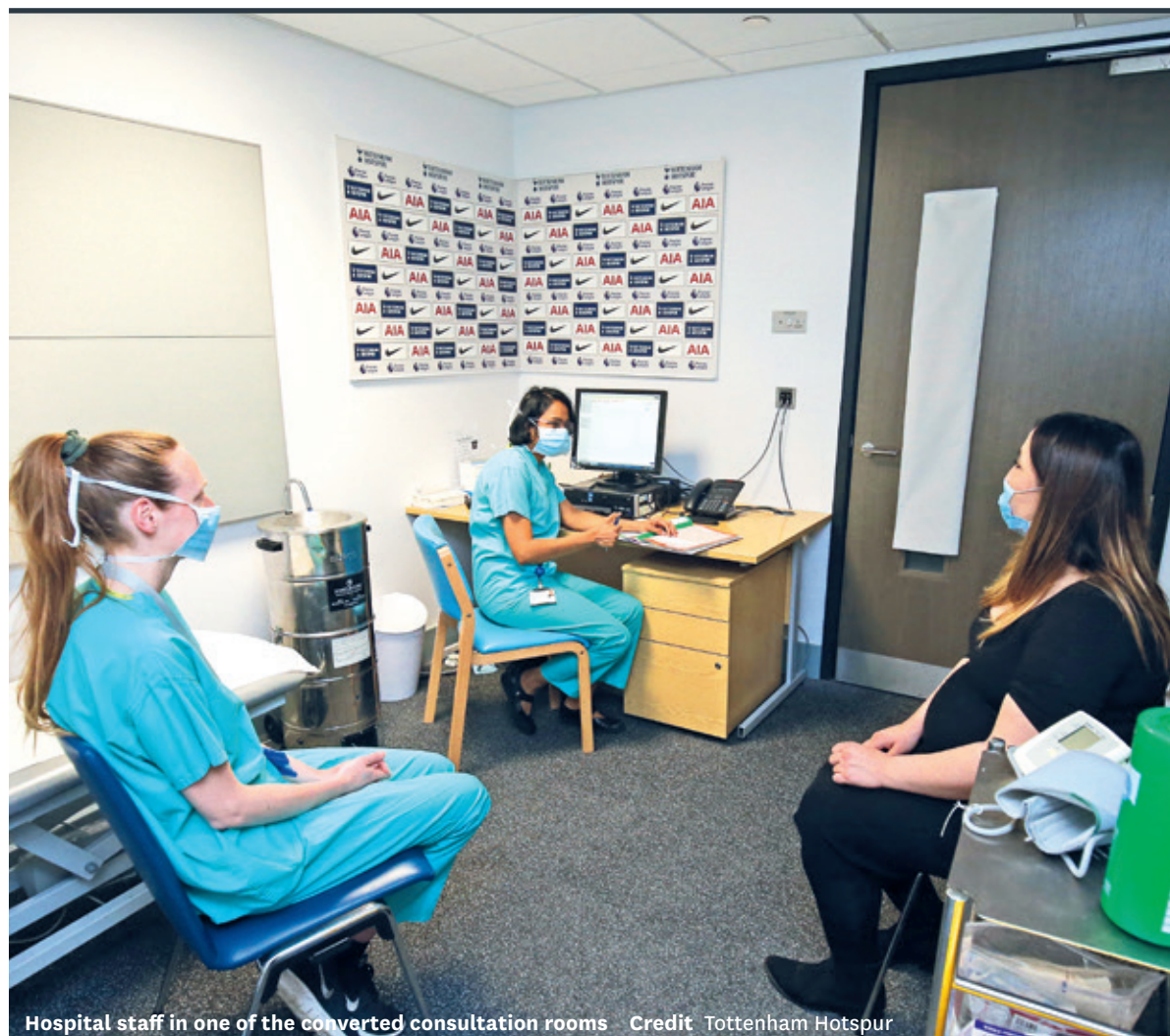
will take place at the stadium on home matchdays.

Daniel Levy, Chairman, Tottenham Hotspur, said: "We have been overwhelmed by the response we have received from hospital staff and patients who have been using our stadium facilities in recent months and how much they have enjoyed being at our home during such a challenging time."

Maria Kane, Chief Executive of North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust, said: "The innovative partnership between our two organisations has been vital to ensure NHS services continue while the country copes with the challenges posed by Covid-19.

"I am pleased that this partnership will continue, and that local women will still be able to access high quality maternity care."

"I am pleased that this partnership will continue, and that local women will still be able to access high quality maternity care"



Hospital staff in one of the converted consultation rooms Credit: Tottenham Hotspur

Continued from Page-1

currently being used is no longer available. The council is also restarting its social housing building programme.

In 2018, the administration pledged to build 1000 social rent homes by 2022. The council has admitted that it is not on course to deliver this target, and that the majority of homes will be built a year later than originally intended. The council attributes this to "issues around coronavirus," with construction work having stopped.

Cllr Ejiofor said: "We are likely to be looking at completing only 225 homes by May 2022, but completing over 800 homes by May 2023.

"This is just one of those things where the programme's been impacted; but as a council that has built 32 homes in 32 years, 200+ homes in four years is a really big step forward."

Last month, seven new sites

across the borough were identified as potential housing locations, including: 345 White Hart Lane, Kerswell Close (St Ann's), and Waltheof Gardens (White Hart Lane), as well as Stokley Court (Hornsey), Fredrick Morfill House (Bounds Green), Chettle Court (Stroud Green), and Blae-nayon Garages (Fortis Green). Proposals for these newly identified sites will be discussed with residents in these areas.

Whilst transitioning out of lockdown, the council's key objectives are to improve local infrastructure, and make investments in local businesses.

Cllr Ejiofor said: "It keeps coming back to community wealth building - we need to be putting our money into places that our residents get benefits from."

"I'd hope Tottenham's residents have high expectations of their council, because we have high expectations for Haringey."

Help is available if you need it

Useful information

- **Haringey Council's Connected Communities:**
Call 020 8489 4431
(open Monday to Friday 8.30am-6.30pm)
- **The latest information council advice for residents:**
Visit haringey.gov.uk/news-and-events/haringey-coronavirus-covid-19-updates
Visit haringey.gov.uk/covid-19/i-want-help
- **For information about domestic violence services Haringey Domestic Abuse Helpline:**
Call 030 0012 0213 (Monday to Friday, 10.30am-5.30pm)
Visit www.haringey.gov.uk/vawgcovid19
- **Mind In Haringey. Emotional and well-being support service:**
Visit mindinharingey.org.uk
Call 020 8340 2474 (9-5pm, Monday to Friday)
Email dmin@mih.org.uk
- **Government advice relating to Coronavirus:**
Visit gov.uk/coronavirus
- **NHS advice:**
Visit nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19
- **The Samaritans. Listening support service, help available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year:**
Call 116 123 (free)
- **Shelter. Urgent housing advice, open every day. 8am-8pm on weekdays, 9am-5pm on weekends**
Call 0808 800 4444

NEWS



Haringey Councillor makes a statement on George Floyd killing

Cllr Mark Blake comments on the death of American citizen, George Floyd

By Luchia Robinson

Cllr Mark Blake, Haringey Council's Cabinet Member for Communities and Equalities has commented on the death of George Floyd.

George Floyd, 46, was a Black American man who lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. He died in May when killed by a police officer who knelt on his neck for over eight minutes.

Mr Floyd was heard yelling the words "I can't breathe", whilst beneath the full weight of police officer Derek Chauvin, who was pinning Mr Floyd down when arresting him for allegedly using a fake dollar bill.

Cllr Blake said: "The horrific death of George Floyd is a stark reminder that racism and injustice are still too prominent a feature in our world. Many of us knew this already – but it is playing out now on TV and social media across the globe. We know the USA's long history with regard to its treatment of African Americans, but we have seen an increase in racism in our own country too, and a rise in hate crime. The Windrush scandal is our nation's own shame.

"Now, yet again, we need to unite in our opposition and abhorrence of the prejudice that has a devastating effect on our com-

munities. Even now, we are seeing the disproportionate impact that the coronavirus pandemic is having on BAME communities."

The brutal death of Mr Floyd was captured on video by bystanders. It has sparked global protests for justice, with many protesters and activists calling for governments to defund the police.

***"Now, yet again,
we need to unite
in our opposition
and abhorrence of
the prejudice that
has a devastating
effect on our
communities"***

Cllr Blake said: "Policing in a democratic society is a central issue that this case has raised, and it is clear that over a near-decade of peaceful protest, the response from institutions in the USA has been woeful.

"The UK has its own challenges, as we in Haringey know only too well. Across the

country, it is imperative that our politicians and institutions take these challenges seriously, engage with communities with good faith and respond with real conviction. We are committed to that in our borough."

Protests have taken place in Tottenham; outside the Bernie Grant Arts Centre and across local parks, with resident's kneeling (as demonstrated by American Civil rights activist and former NFL player, Colin Kaepernick), as a symbol against police racism and brutality, as well as the oppression of Black people worldwide.

Officer Derek Chauvin and three other colleagues were fired. Chauvin has been charged with murder and manslaughter. The other police officers have been charged with aiding and abetting the death of Mr Floyd.

"We hope for a non-violent conclusion to the protests in the USA, that can result in justice not just for George and his family but for African Americans," said Cllr Blake.

"As for the UK, and our borough, we feel the pain intensely, and we stand in peaceful solidarity. We must all learn from what is happening in the USA."

Turn to pages 8 and 9 for images from Black Lives Matter protests in Tottenham

New deputy leader of council appointed

Council leader appoints new deputy

By Simon Allin,
Local Democracy Reporter

A new deputy has been appointed by the leader of Haringey Council.

Cllr Seema Chandwani has taken on the role of deputy leader alongside her current brief as cabinet member for neighbourhoods.

She replaces Cllr Zena Brabazon, who was sacked by council leader Cllr Joseph Ejiofor last month amid the fallout from a child protection case in which the local authority was sharply criticised.

Cllr Chandwani, who represents West Green ward, said: "I've lived in Haringey since I was three years old. I went to school in this borough, I went to youth centre in this borough, I work in this borough, and if Coronavirus didn't postpone my wedding, I would have got married in this borough.

"This council looked after me when I was in care, housed me when I left care and supported me to get a degree and have the stable adult life I'm fortunate to have now.

"I am proud to become the deputy leader of a borough that is my home and of a council that gave me so much. This Labour administration is working hard to ensure everyone gets opportunity. [From] our ambitious council home programme, our investment in young people's services to our support for thousands affected by Coronavirus needing food, support and advice – we are a council determined to be there for local residents."



Haringey Metropolitan police's Taser usage under investigation

Police Taser 62-year-old local man



Rapper Wretch 32 at Jersey Live in 2011

Credit Wikicommons

By Luchia Robinson

Shocking video footage showing police officers using a Taser on a 62-year-old Tottenham resident, has led many to question the use of the incapacitating weapon.

The clip released online by music artist, Wretch 32 shows the officers forcefully entering a home. When inside, they call out: "Police officer with a Taser, stay where you are." An officer ascends

the residential staircase, using a Taser when reaching the top of the steps. A man is then seen falling backward from a height.

The injured person is Millard Scott, the father of Wretch 32, whose real name is Jermaine Scott.

Speaking of the incident, which happened in April, Wretch 32 told *ITV News* that he's spent his whole life witnessing his family fight against police brutality, and there has been "no progression".

Millard Scott believes that he

would not have been Tasered if he was a white man. He says he is "lucky to be alive" and is adamant that the Black community are being "singled out and targeted."

A spokesperson from the Metropolitan Police said a 22-year-old man at the house was arrested and charged with encouraging another to commit an offence. A 52-year old woman was also arrested, and later charged with obstructing the police.

The police state that the Taser

was deployed after "several warnings," and that no indication of misconduct had been identified by the Met's Directorate of Professional Standards.

Oliver Feeley-Sprague, Amnesty International UK's policing expert and member of the independent advisory group to the National Police Chiefs' Council lead on Tasers, said: "There are numerous red flags raised by this very disturbing incident.

"Tasers are potentially lethal weapons, linked to hundreds of deaths in the USA and a growing number in Britain, and we've always said that UK police forces needed to restrict their use to highly-trained specialist officers. This appalling footage underscores that call.

"It beggars belief that the Met's own professional standards body has concluded there is no case to answer here. This is yet another litmus test for the Met's claim that black lives matter to them."

"The police are behaving like an occupying force. They are entering the homes of some of the most vulnerable families in our community"

Stafford Scott, a local community activist and brother of Millard Scott, said: "Although I was aware that my older brother had been Tasered I was shocked to the core when I saw the actual video.

"This is totally unacceptable; my brother was in his home looking after his severely disabled child. He is not a gangster or drug dealer, just a father.

"He heard a commotion in his home and his partner screaming out his name. He did what anyone would have done, he attempted to

see what the hell was going on.

"These animals did not need to do that. I cannot describe them as law enforcement officers as the law requires that the Taser is only drawn when an officer is under threat. We have all seen the video, my brother poses no threat at the best of times.

He added: "The police are behaving like an occupying force. They are entering the homes of some of the most vulnerable families in our community. They do so without search warrants and in the most violent fashion possible as their intent is to terrify those they target.

"Someone is going to die at this rate. We are fortunate that it wasn't my 62-year-old brother on this occasion. But this is Tottenham, we will stand up against racist policing, and it does not get more racially motivated than this."

Just over a week after Millard Scott was Tasered, another occurrence involving a man in his 20s took place in Burgoyne Road, N4. According to a police statement, the man 'ran off' when approached by officers. He was then chased and Tasered as he jumped over a wall, falling and suffering serious, life changing injuries.

Both Millard Scott's case and that of the paralysed young man, were issued to be investigated by The Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC).

A 2018 study conducted as part of *The Guardian's* Bias in Britain project, showed that the Metropolitan Police Tasered black people more than four times as often as white people. When addressing concerns about disproportionate use of force amongst Black people in several cases across London, IOPC Regional Director Sal Naseem said: "We will complete full and independent investigations looking at all the circumstances and whether the use of force by officers was justified and proportionate in each of these instances.

"We are also looking into complaints that police allegedly acted in a discriminatory manner where these incidents involved Black people. The outcome of our independent investigations will not be prejudiced and will remain impartial."

NEWS

Place names in Haringey to be reviewed



Street, place and building names in Haringey with historical links to colonialism will be reviewed

By Luchia Robinson

Leader of Haringey Council, Cllr Joseph Ejiofor has said that there is need for a long-overdue discussion about the way in which we memorialise historical figures.

Cllr Ejiofor’s statement comes amid a wider public demand to challenge racism in everyday structures.

The toppling of the statue of slave trader, Edward Colston, in Bristol, last month, physically symbolised the tearing down of these structures, bringing the discourse of dismantling racism to the collective forefront.

In response to the statue falling, London Mayor, Sadiq Khan announced that there will be a commission to ‘review and improve the diversity of London’s public landmarks.’

Sadiq Khan said: “We must commemorate the achievements and diversity of all in our city – and that includes questioning which legacies are being celebrated.

In an interview with *Sky News*, he added: “We’ve got to recognise that our public realm – statues, squares, street names don’t accurately reflect our values or London in 2020.”

In light of this review, Cllr Ejiofor said: “If we are to truly demonstrate our commitment to and solidarity with the aims of the Black Lives Matter movement, we must seriously address these issues.

“If we were naming roads today, we would never choose Rhodes Avenue, which is named after Thomas Rhodes – Great Uncle to Cecil Rhodes, an imperialist, colonialist, and white supremacist.

A petition to rename Rhodes Avenue Primary School in Wood

Green is currently being led by three former pupils: Alex Wiffin, Alexia Counsell and Frances Browning. They advocate for the school to be renamed in honour of the late South African activist, Oliver Tambo, who lived in exile, in Haringey for over two decades.

As the long-time president of the African National Congress (ANC), Oliver Tambo fought against the apartheid government, bringing the plight of Black South Africans to international attention.

Petitioners, Alex, Alexia and Frances say: “The Rhodes name cannot be disentangled from the pursuit of white supremacy and the dehumanisation and subjugation of Black people. The school’s name pays homage to a family whose most notable member fought against the ideals of great leaders in civil rights and the anti-apartheid movement, such as

“As a borough, everything we do must be a reflection of our values and to do this we must not shy away from correcting the mistakes of the past”

Nelson Mandela and Oliver Tambo.

“Oliver Tambo lived in our community, and there are two monuments to memorialise him in [Albert Road Recreation Ground] N22, which sits adjacent to Rhodes Avenue Primary School. The ultimate irony appears that imperialism and the man that helped to end its rule in South Africa are juxtaposed within a few hundred yards of each other.”

Cllr Ejiofor says the Head of Rhodes Avenue Primary School, will be guided by the commission to change the school’s name.

With regards to other place names within the borough, he said: “Street names such as Black Boy Lane may have a more contested history, but we cannot ignore the fact that meanings change over time, and the term Black Boy is now used most commonly as a derogatory name for African heritage men.”

He added: “As a borough, everything we do must be a reflection of our values and to do this we must not shy away from correcting the mistakes of the past. This is why we will be working with our residents, BAME communities and organisations, and experts to understand the history of our street names and other memorials, to understand their true meaning and reflect on whether or not they are appropriate for our society today.”

Haringey Council’s decision to review the imperial linked place names has been welcomed by the Haringey Liberal Democrats.

Cllr Liz Morris, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group on Haringey Council, said: “It is right to consider the messages these send about the acceptability of racism, colonialism and other noxious ideologies.

“To ensure the review has credibility it should be conducted on a cross-party basis and engage the full range of voices in the borough. It should also draw on the expertise of historians to contextualise these names and why they were chosen.”

A public consultation will follow the outcome of the review.

Residents can send any concerns, queries or suggestions regarding Haringey’s place names to:

Email leader@haringey.gov.uk

For details of the ‘Rename Rhodes Avenue Primary School’ petition:

Visit www.change.org

Migrants denied GP services

Haringey Welcome's GP surgery survey highlights barriers to healthcare

By Alastair Ball

GP practices in Tottenham have refused to register undocumented migrants, according to a recent survey.

Local campaigners, Haringey Welcome carried out a 'secret shopper' survey of 17 of the 38 GP surgeries in the borough in May, to find out if they were putting barriers in place that prevented migrants from accessing healthcare.

Haringey Welcome campaign coordinator, Miri Weingarten said:

"Of the 17 [GP surgeries] we surveyed, eight were in Tottenham and of those eight all of them had problems."

"There's a real problem of lack of knowledge, even amongst well-meaning staff who would like to assist, [but] who don't know the law or the guidance."

Haringey Welcome promotes 'dignity and respect for migrants and refugees.'

"There's a real problem of lack of knowledge"

They carried out the survey after being told that migrants in Haringey were struggling to 'access primary healthcare services via GP surgeries, as they are wrongly told they require ID and proof of address to register.'

Miri said: "The official rules are that they [GP surgeries] can request those things, but it's unreasonable to deny somebody registration because of it."

"A clinic is perfectly entitled to say 'no referrals' or 'no you're not in our catchment area, we can't register you', but lack of residency status or lack of an address or lack of a formal ID are not considered reasonable reasons for refusing registration."

The report, which was presented to NHS Haringey Clinical Commissioning Group last month, concludes that further work is needed to investigate why some practices appear to have more awareness than others of the needs and rights of migrants and other vulnerable patients in the borough.



Haringey Welcome in the community

ADVERTISE WITH US

Are you a business who wants to reach local people in Tottenham? Did you know that 98% of our readers are residents in Tottenham? Reach them, and support local media at the same time by advertising with us! We are not-for-profit and all income is reinvested in the continuing success of the paper.

Call 07732 000 430 Email klaudia@socialspider.com

Advertisement

COLLAGE N17 CREATIVE CALLINGS
COLLAGE N17 CREATIVE CALLINGS
COLLAGE N17 CREATIVE CALLINGS
COLLAGE N17 CREATIVE CALLINGS

ONLINE TRAINING & RESOURCES FOR CREATIVE FREELANCERS & BUSINESSES IN TOTTENHAM

It's good to hear from people working in the industries of choice and sharing their own stories. Thank you for the time you've devoted to making this happen.

Feedback from 'Relevant and Effective Advertising' with Simin

<<< CONTACT OFFICE@COLLAGE-ARTS.ORG <<<
07913 112481 / WWW.COLLAGeworks.ORG

A FREE PROGRAM CO-FUNDED BY THE MAYOR OF LONDON & THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND



Advertisement



North Middlesex
University Hospital
NHS Trust

Can you help lead us to outstanding?

We're looking for two new Associate Non-executive Directors to join our Board and help lead our continued improvements.

Candidates need senior level experience, and either a clinical or financial background.

For more information, visit www.improvement.nhs.uk and search L2197, then arrange a call with our Trust Chair, Cedi Frederick.

Deadline for applications is 11am, Wednesday 22 July 2020.



PHOTOGRAPHY



Top, bottom left & bottom right
A Black Lives Matter protest held at Lordship Recreation Ground





BLACK LIVES MATTER

Photographs by Ivan Gonzalez
www.ivangonzalez.co.uk

Top left

'Kids walk against Racism' which began at Lordship Recreation Ground and concluded at Downhills Park

Top right, middle left & bottom right

A Black Lives Matter protest held at Lordship Recreation Ground

COMMUNITY



Kaz Foncette at a protest.
Credit: Davina Gayle

Frocking Cancer Diary

I stand with Tottenham and Tottenham stands with me

So, everyone thought that 2020 would be the year that the world was torn apart. Empty supermarket shelves, no going out, no holidays, no contact with the people we love, job losses and depleting bank accounts.

For some, being furloughed or working from home was what they'd been hoping for. Finally having a chance to spend time with the kids or finish the odd jobs around the house. Virtual wine nights took place, some sat in their back gardens pulling out guitars they hadn't played in years and singing (badly) into the night.

Others however, were not so excited. Cancer treatments put on hold, operations cancelled, food parcels delivered from local food banks and home schooling being carried out by parents with language barriers or learning difficulties.

Then in the midst of this, another innocent person was killed by the hands of the police whilst in their custody, and the world not only screamed but also began waking up. The year we had branded a 'write off' suddenly became the most important year of our generation. We started to see a global crisis expose the divides and inequalities in our society.

So, we stood together in protest (whilst trying to keep two metres apart) and demanded justice. We recommended books, videos, and black businesses to support, to our friends, family and online audience's. We volunteered to deliver essentials for the people that needed it the most.

Growing up in Tottenham it was educational just living here, but the differences when we'd take a trip 'up west' to buy a new frock were evident to me from early

on. Our debatably beautiful and diverse area was as such because of poverty and government failures. We may be rich in culture but in my 34 years, things sadly haven't really changed that much.

Heading into a 'new normal' isn't anything new for me, having experienced this 'coming out of a cave feeling' twice before, post cancer. Stepping into a new way of life looked easy for onlookers but for some of the cancer muggles, it's becoming clear that it is anything but.

As patients we are often branded weak and vulnerable, but we carry with us an immense amount of knowledge and experience of isolation, and we all know what that knowledge equates to... Tottenham needs to continue to stand with one another, learn from one another, connect with one another, and if we do, we won't fail one another.

COMMENT

Dangerous junction improvements cancelled

For over 10 years, local people have been campaigning for the traffic lights at Lordship Lane, Downhills Way and The Roundway to be made safe.

At present, at three of the crossing points, the traffic never stops. Often cars don't bother to indicate or they come up so fast you don't realise they are approaching. You see old and infirm people trying to cross, as well as people with buggies running. It is very dangerous and you just have to hope for the best that you will get to the other side safely.

Last year we got the good news that there was consultation on a few options for altering the whole landscape of the crossing, and putting in green man lights. We all took part and eventually an option was chosen, it was not perfect, but much improved and we were told the money from TfL was assured and the work would start in March 2020. We were

all overjoyed as we had spent so long campaigning, writing letters etc.

Unfortunately, coronavirus struck and March passed by. I eventually wrote to find out what was happening and was told that plans have now been cancelled as TfL have lost so much income, and that the little money it does have, has to go on COVID-19 social distancing road projects.

This is all really disappointing and yet again the needs of traffic have taken precedence over the needs and safety of pedestrians, as it always did.

We are determined not to let this issue go and will continue to keep it alive by more campaigning and writing.

One day I hope to be able to step out into the road on my way to the shops, the bus stop or the park, in the confidence that all the traffic is stopped and I will have enough time to cross safely.

Joan Curtis, local resident



Credit: Joan Curtis

ADVERTISE YOUR LICENCE WITH US

If you need to advertise your licence application, your local paper will help you with that! Support local media at the same time as advertising with us. We are a non-for-profit and all income is reinvested in the continuing success of the paper.

Call 07732 000 430 Email klaudia@socialspider.com



Your Enfield and Tottenham Slimming World groups are now virtual



that Slimming World feeling!

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

COMMUNITY

Community organising under lockdown in Tottenham



David Lammy MP (centre) with community organisers, Sally Sturgeon (left) and Moussa Amine-Sylla (right) **Credit:** Moussa Amine-Sylla

By Moussa Amine-Sylla, *Community Organiser, Selby Centre* and Nick Mahony, *Municipal Enquiry*

When the UK 'lockdown' was put in place in mid-March and the government emphasised we were in the midst of a pandemic, the situation here felt really grave. Lots of people were understandably shocked and worried, local authorities and communities were caught off guard, and the usual sense of community almost instantly disappeared, at least for a time.

The lockdown thereby set in train a kind of forced devolution. Busy high streets shut down and workers stayed at home. The local government authorities in Tottenham almost entirely vanished overnight.

It was in this context that the Selby Food Hub came about. The project was a result of the Selby Food Bank being unable to operate in the usual way because of the lockdown. The staff at the Selby Centre realised that this would have immediate and negative effects, so a proposal for an independent, alternative food hub was quickly developed following discussions between the Selby Community Organisers and the Selby Projects Officer. This was then put into action with the aim of alleviating the food poverty and insecurity in our community, which was being exacerbated by the pandemic.

None of this could have happened if staff at Selby Trust had not already nurtured a network of social activists in the local area, over several years via the community organising approach.

It was through the strength of these rela-

tionships that we were also able to link with the over 30 mutual aid groups that had quickly emerged following lockdown. The food hub became one point of focus around which some of this new social action could be organised.

My favourite experience happened as a result of the local CWU (Communication Workers Union) branch secretary getting in touch with us. Together, we talked about how local union and community organising activities could be better connected. Not long afterwards a Royal Mail van pulled into the Selby car park laden with food, donated by local CWU members who the branch secretary had been able to quickly mobilise. We have now begun discussions about how we might extend and develop this relationship, as we are interested in the idea of creating a new food cooperative that could be run by local workers and the community.

The starting point for this and the many other new connections has been the need to survive. This has meant people finding new ways to get together, understand and respond to what's happening. The mutual aid work has happened in areas that don't have access to lots of resources so they've just had to organise for themselves. People haven't been able to wait for the professionals to step in and support them, or for the usual agencies to intervene – these infrastructures have broken down.

We have many people from different ethnic backgrounds coming together around food, all in the desire to self-organise and provide mutual aid. People queue together chatting, getting along with one another while respectfully

also keeping their distance by being two metres apart.

What we've been doing in recent weeks, in collaboration with many people from the local area, builds on what the Selby Centre and the wider community have been doing together here for many years. Now we need to continue to build these solidarities,

working together in all of our diversity to help create the alternatives that work for people here in Tottenham – securing food and a better community for all.

The Selby Food Hub is open on Tuesdays (2pm–4pm) and Thursdays (5pm–7.30pm) at The Selby Centre, Selby Road, N17 8JL. No referral or voucher required. People with no recourse to public funds are welcome

For more information: www.selbytrust.co.uk

Advertisement

Do you need to find your pet a loving new home?

Wood Green can help. Our pet collection service – for cats and small animals – can collect your pet from your home, making it easy for you!

WOOD GREEN
The Animals Charity

To find out more and book an appointment, please call **0300 303 9333** or email pet.support@woodgreen.org.uk

ENVIRONMENT

International Space Station
Credit Wikicommons



Tottenham look up

This July, you'll be able to see the International Space Station, Jack Nation tells us more

During May, as the boredom of lockdown was at its peak, I, as well as many others across the UK, looked up to the sky and watched the International Space Station (ISS) travel over our heads using nothing but the naked eye.

For those of you that do not know what the ISS is, it's a large spacecraft in low Earth orbit, which currently travels at the speed of five miles per second. It allows for scientists to learn more about space, such as what happens to the human body in microgravity over a long period of time and how to keep spacecrafts properly maintained and operational, with crew members regularly carrying out experiments on board. Information like this will help in future operations of space exploration, as the human race seeks to explore other planets.

The ISS is usually one of the brightest objects in the sky and looks like a moving star up above. As it travels at a slow enough speed, people on earth can easily

“Crew members on board see 16 sunrises and 16 sunsets every day”

spot the 357ft long space station.

If you didn't get to see the ISS in May, it will be visible once again over UK skies this month; traveling from West to East, it will be noticeable periodically from

10.00pm till late in the night.

This will be a special thing to see if you live in Tottenham. As there is heavy light pollution in London, much of the beautiful night sky is washed away, leaving residents not much to look at once the sky goes black. However, because of the brightness of the ISS, the spacecraft is clearly visible for a few minutes, without the aid of any equipment.

The ISS circles the Earth every 90 minutes so can often be seen multiple times throughout the night, with crew members on board seeing 16 sunrises and 16 sunsets every day.

No matter where you are, everyone will have a chance to view it, as all it takes is to look up at the sky.

For more information on exact times and directions:
Visit spotthestation.nasa.gov

COUNCILLORS' COLUMN

Environmental focus

Seven Sisters: Strengthening the community and building pride

By Cllrs Barbara Blake, Erdal Dogan and Dhiren Basu

As councillors for Seven Sisters our focus is firmly on the environment. This can mean anything from tackling fly tipping, working with community groups to keep our parks clean from litter, planting trees and bulbs, or working to bring a neglected community garden back into life.

Our priority is to make it easier for residents to spend time with their neighbours doing everyday things together, strengthening the community and building pride in the borough. This can be working together to introduce traffic calming measures or preserving trees, having a litter pick or organising a play day for kids on the street or in the estate (post coronavirus of-course).

Seven Sisters has three much loved family parks: Markfield Park, Paignton Park and Manchester Gardens, with active residents' groups who help maintain and protect these valuable assets. We would like more people to come forward and 'own' the Tewkesbury Road Open Space and Orchard.

It is worth mentioning the historic Beam Engine and Museum in Markfield Park. This is the sight of a rare sewage treatment works, possibly the oldest in the country, first built around 1851 when cholera and typhoid was endemic in Tottenham and Hackney. The museum houses

the original Woods Brothers Beam Engine and still works under steam and on certain days is open to the public.

The Harringay Warehouse District is home to a large and vibrant community of artists and creatives. New River Studios on Eade Road is the best place to sample the warehouses' creative output. It is a café and bar that also hosts gigs, exhibitions, workshops and a variety of other events. They also have music practice rooms, a podcast studio and an event space with a special rate for community organisations.

Our role is to represent residents and that is what we intend to do. Our surgeries are very busy with housing being at the top of the list of residents' concerns. We need more of all types and tenures of housing and more government funding for social housing. We also need better regulation of the private rented sector.

We are always working with residents and the Safer Neighbourhood police team to tackle anti-social behaviour and street drinking. We would like to see more research carried out on how we can better manage our public spaces, be those parks, internal squares on estates, and even alleyways to ensure they are safe and inviting, because good management of our spaces will benefit us all.

Contact details:

Cllr Dhiren Basu
dhiren.basu@haringey.gov.uk

Cllr Barbara Blake
barbara.blake@haringey.gov.uk

Cllr Erdal Dogan
erdal.dogan@haringey.gov.uk



Cllrs Basu, Blake and Dogan Credit Abed Rabbe

FEATURE

Supporting the rights of refugees in the UK and abroad

Threads Radio highlights issues facing refugee communities



Parwana Amiri Credit Judith Buthe

By Luke Thurnham,
Threads Radio, Head of Outreach

Last month, we hosted activists, experts and survivors, from the frontline of the refugee crisis in the UK and abroad, as part of our ongoing mission to platform important causes and to amplify the voices of the marginalised. From front rooms to phone calls throughout London and overseas, we heard the most up-to-date and honest accounts of what being a refugee is truly like.

Tottenham is incredibly diverse. This community has a long and proud history of accepting displaced people - from those fleeing war in revolutionary France to those

fleeing conflict today - Tottenham has housed them all.

Immigration enforcement vans have become a familiar sight to some who live here and increasingly the social services that people all over the country rely on are becoming front lines in this crisis. The status of those people the government chooses to 'other', through no fault of their own, should worry us all and embolden us to offer our solidarity.

At Threads Radio, we recognise the enormous contribution that people from around the world have made to life here in the UK. Without them we wouldn't have so much of what we love and cherish - including them.

Refugee week (15th-21st June) presented

another opportunity for us to do some good for others. We intended to raise awareness of the plight of refugees in both the UK and abroad throughout seven days of programming. We looked at a broad range of topics including: political activism; adaptation to COVID-19, and legal injustices. We spoke to committed and inclusive groups, and individuals, such as Haringey Anti-Raids (community focused legal rights support), Injera Club (cultural support for East African young people living alone), May Project Gardens (innovative and nature focused project), and Gulwali Passarlay, the author of *The Lightless Sky*, which describes his harrowing journey from Afghanistan to the UK.

We also ran a fundraiser to help provide further impetus to those doing the amazing work supporting refugees. We aimed to raise £500 pounds over the week to be split between several organisations that have kindly given their time and experience to our platform: Best Foot Music; Collective Aid Org; Humans for Rights Network; Refugee Solidarity Summit and Trust for London.

All these organisations are doing really important work fighting the dehumanisation of people facing huge adversity, providing practical and emotional support and sharing great music. We hope the funds raised will help support them, allowing the continuation of their important work.

This country owes an incalculable amount to the rest of the world, not just because of its still unresolved legacy of colonial-

Maddie Harris Credit Steph Champion



“At Threads we accept we have a responsibility to do more to help tackle the systemic racism in society”



Laura Nyahuye Credit Dan Waorth

ism. Raising awareness is one thing, and at Threads we accept we have a responsibility to do more to help tackle the systemic racism in society.

In addition to informing people who already have an interest in the rights of refugees and our responsibilities to them, we also hoped to counter some of the virulent anti-immigrant, anti-refugee and general anti 'other' attitudes prevalent in large sections of the UK media.

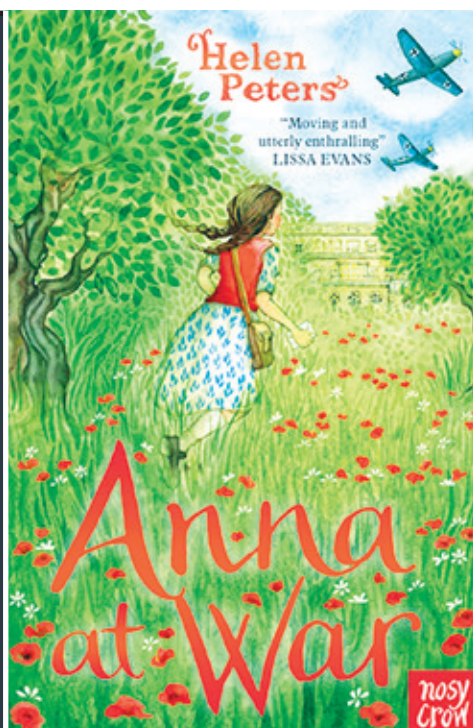
With a government and a political climate that is increasingly unpredictable and discriminatory towards a wide range of social groups, platforms like ours need to be progressively supportive and ensure we highlight these issues. That being said, it's just as important to celebrate the incredibly diverse and multifaceted way of life we enjoy here - particularly in Tottenham - thanks to people who've chosen to stay and make it their home.

For more information: threadsradio.com

YOUTH

Young people's book news

By Helen Swinyard



Anna at War
By Helen Peters

Checkmates
By Stewart Foster

BiblioBuzz: The Alexandra Palace Children's Book Award winners have been announced as *Anna At War* by Helen Peters and *CheckMates* by Stewart Foster.

Both winners were voted for by children aged 8-12 years from public library and school groups around Haringey and the surrounding areas.

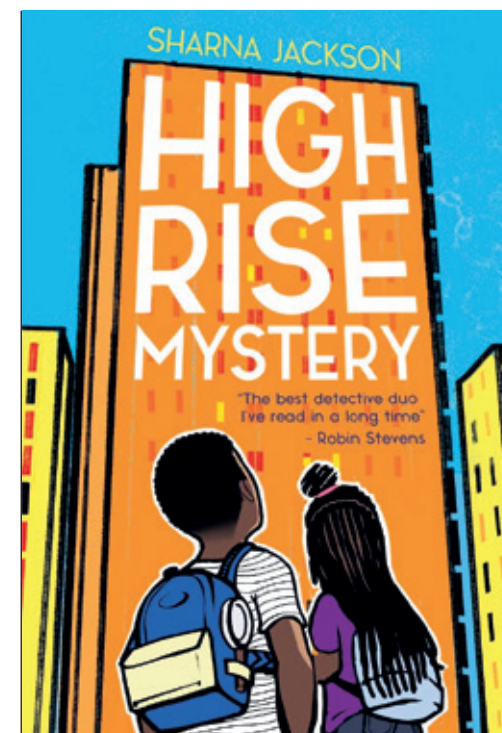


Meat Market
by Juno Dawson

Juno Dawson wins YA Book Prize 2020 for her new book *Meat Market*.

This is third time lucky for Dawson, who has been shortlisted twice for this award.

Classed as YA (Young Adult) and therefore most suited to older teenagers, *Meat Market* is based in the fashion industry and follows main character Jana Novak who is launched into catwalk stardom overnight – it's a far cry from the south London estate she has grown up in. She soon finds that the industry is not just the glamorous place she expected – there are predatory people everywhere.



Looking for a book to gift to a child who is due to start in Year 7? A few great books which have age-related characters and deal with transition are:

Can You See Me?

by Libby Scott & Rebecca Westcott

Wonder by RJ Palacio

Not My Fault by Cath Howe

Running on Empty by SE Durrant

High Rise Mystery by Sharna Jackson

Adjusting the sails, when you can't direct the wind

Hannah Phelps describes how she is overcoming the lockdown challenges she faces on her final film project

It still seems so crazy to me that I am living through a global pandemic. Something I've only ever seen in disaster movies and TV shows.

I think the level of uncertainty is what scares me most. Not knowing when it will end, how it will end, or even how many people will die because of it.

I'm in my final year at university; myself and other students were hit pretty hard, as our last year of study came so unexpectedly to an end. Emotional goodbyes to our friends, mass confusion surrounding our final projects, and a general feeling of

sadness filled the air as lockdown struck.

My heart rate increased as summer plans, future dreams and prospects dissolved. My nights have been restless, and regularly disturbed with anxieties about not being able to see friends and family. When I do sleep, I sometimes wake up with a gnawing in my stomach, and feeling like there isn't much point in starting my day.

Slowly I'm adapting to this new environment, adjusting the sails, as I can't direct the wind. I have started to create a schedule and routine for myself, not that I always find it easy to stick to.

I've been studying Film at university for the

past three years, and we were given complete creative freedom for our final projects. From September 2019, I've been working hard; researching, planning, and writing a short film. My script explores five different female friendship groups, who range in age, social background and life experience.

I wanted my film to be representative of the diverse community I know, love and grew up with in north London. I planned to examine and emphasise cinematography within my film, specifically the lighting, colour, and mise-en-scène (design) aspects, which I am particularly passionate about.

Collaborating with creative people and building a trusted team who were committed to the project, gave me great confidence. With plans to begin filming mid-April I was so excited to finally bring my vision to life.

Filming was of course impossible, because of the pandemic. I was heartbroken. I felt awful letting the crew know that shooting

would no longer happen.

The last couple of months have been a challenging time, adjusting my initial ideas and concepts. Spending long periods inside, has also suppressed my creativity, let alone my productivity.

Being isolated from my coursemates has been hard, too. I definitely work more happily and effectively when I can bounce ideas around, and receive feedback in person. This crisis has made me feel incredibly anxious, more than ever, about my future.

On the upside, my personal supervisor has been incredibly supportive. She has inspired me and helped me reshape my project.

Subsequently, I have started to plan and create a video essay, where I talk in depth about how my film would have looked. Like many others who would never have dreamt we'd be finishing our degree like this, it's been an emotional roller coaster, to say the least. I'm gradually managing to change my mindset, and be more positive about what the future holds; one day at a time.

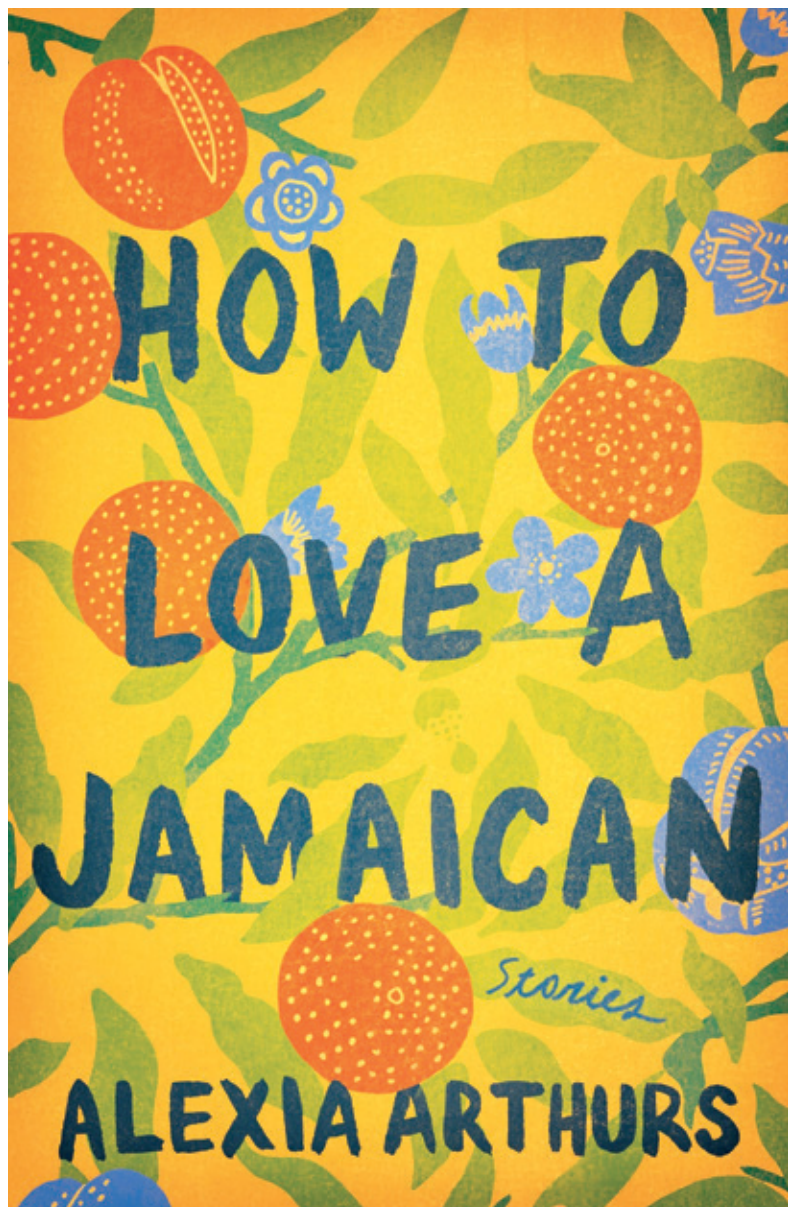
For more information about Exposure:
Visit exposure.org.uk

Contact Kooth if you are a young person under 25, in need of an online mental wellbeing community:
Visit kooth.com

LITERATURE

A short story masterclass

Karin Lock reviews *How To Love A Jamaican* by Alexia Arthurs



The short story – the literary form of our times that’s bite-sized for an attention-deficit society. It is a fictional genre easily digested in one sitting, yet few have mastered it. Olive Senior’s *Summer Lightning*, Junot Diaz’s *Drown* and Roberto Bolano’s *Last Evenings on Earth* are all contenders, and now there is a new kid on the block.

Alexia Arthurs has certainly risen to the challenge with her compact debut collection, set in the US and Jamaica. As expected, these eleven mini-sagas are humorous, fresh and sensual, albeit voicing blunt truths about life, love, family and friendship. The writing is mature with the right balance of tension and control, propelling readers

towards the surprising revelatory moment that makes reading short stories so pleasurable.

In *How to Love a Jamaican* the author presents us with a kaleidoscope of stimulating narrators: scholarship track student, glamorous singing star, lonely undergraduate, cautious gay holiday maker, unruly teenager, cheating returnee, desperate spinster and bitter son. There is also a roster of errant fathers and controlling mothers who, having not achieved their own goals in life, demand that their children over-succeed.

Even though Arthurs gently critiques her characters’ chauvinistic attitudes, there is touching nostalgia for their no-nonsense values, respect for the elderly and humble

country lifestyle. As she lovingly describes the sights and sounds of everyday Jamaican life, you can easily visualise fried fish sizzling, higglers (vendors) calling out and domino players joking around by the roadside as you read.

These wonderful vignettes linger in the reader’s consciousness as do constant references to mouth-watering provisions: fried dumpling, green banana, cornmeal porridge, sweet potato pudding, chicken foot soup, oxtail stew and roasted yam. For further sustenance, we are nourished by the book’s recurrent themes of identity crisis, class resentment, sibling jealousy, parental favouritism and familial deceit.

The over-riding leitmotif here is ‘cultural bifurcation’: being caught between two cultures, yet not belonging to either. Characters often appear lost, either trapped in a white world of invisibility, or choked by the constraints of duty and appearances. Many are hermetically tied to their homeland by an invisible umbilical cord. One narrator explains her bittersweet longing as: “the loss of not being able to eat fruit I picked by hand in my grandmother’s yard”.

Here the writer is masterfully describing the poignancy of the black diasporic experience. Although her central characters are trying to improve their opportunities and quality of life by migrating, they now have to deal with everyday racism and prejudice. Starting over in a new country with next-to-nothing can feel like going backwards, especially if you are unable to escape the shadows of your past.

How to Love a Jamaican also acts like a magnifying glass, exposing the hypocrisy of those who brand others as ‘bad minded’ yet have absolutely no self-awareness of their own flaws. This defence mechanism – which psychologists call ‘mirroring’ or ‘projection’ – allows the protagonists to ignore their own unresolved emotions and continue their reckless behaviour. It is a lesson we might heed from this captivating set of cautionary tales.

POETRY CORNER

Or Not To Be

Once a day, at least, it is
Ophelia passes floating down the River Lea.
Of course, I've only noticed it
since this pandemic came about. Self-isolating,
with coffee and a paper in the closed café
they've left those tables outside of,
I watch her open mouth, the mask that's over it,
glide singing where I drink and read...
How many boats are there along
the river's bank that leads up to the lock? And yet
they're strangely quiet; no one sees
her gloved hands that are turned up to the empty sky,
as though consenting to the only love she knows.

by Terry Egan

Advertisement

2nd
SUNDAY OF
THE MONTH
11AM-4PM

TGM is reopening as a monthly food & drink event from July 12 2020. Join us every second Sunday each month and support Haringey's amazing food, drink and craft producers. Show your support and shop local.

The market will be operating in a COVID-19 secure way and will maintain social distancing measures so you can shop safely.

New market dates:

- Sunday July 12
- Sunday August 9
- Sunday September 13
- Sunday October 11
- Sunday November 8
- Sunday December 13

tottenhamgreenmarket.co.uk
[tottenhamgreenmkt](https://www.facebook.com/tottenhamgreenmkt)
[markettottenham](https://www.instagram.com/markettottenham)
[tottenham.green.market](https://www.tottenham.green.market)
tottenhammkt@gmail.com

Town Hall Approach Road, N15 4RY

5 mins from Seven Sisters and 10 mins from Bruce Grove Stations by foot

Busses: Tottenham Town Hall: 243, W4, 76 & 341

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, Ann Walsh, Harshavardhan Bhat, Diana Shelley, Emmie Robson.

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