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TOTTENHAM COMMUNITY PRESS

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March 2020
Nº.32, Free

Local news that matters to you

Cancelled connection

Locals petition TfL over cancelled link bridge in Tottenham Hale



Tottenham Hale station Credit Stephen Furner

By Luchia Robinson

A petition calling for the installation of a link footbridge from Tottenham Hale Station into Hale Village has received lots of support from local residents.

The petition, which received over 800 of the necessary 1000 signatories (at the time of going to print), was started by local resident, Andrew Johnston, who, concerned about the lack of connectivity for residents and local

businesses, is angry that the promise to build the bridge, has been reneged upon by TfL.

The original 2013 planning proposal (which was approved in 2014) included works to create a new station entrance, an enlarged

station concourse, an Access for All (AFA) bridge, and a Hale Village link bridge connection, which would have re-used and extended the old station footbridge.

The station expansion plan was then upgraded in 2016 to address

“Very little is of benefit to people living in Tottenham Hale”

changes to Network Rail’s part of the project delivery, allowing for improvements to further accommodate the expected flow of commuters.

Last year, however, it was decided by TfL that the link bridge was no longer going ahead because the proposed changes to the development would cost significantly more than originally envisaged.

TfL now claims the link bridge falls outside of the scope of the London Underground station scheme, meaning it is considered a separate project, in need of alternative funding.

The ‘Get the Tottenham Hale Link Bridge built now’ petition, which is addressed to the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, reads: ‘A short term plan to widen the current footpath over Ferry Lane is still fundamentally unsafe, does not meet the planning consent and is simply a cost saving solution which will mean that the improvements to Tottenham Hale station do not benefit local Tottenham people at all, but simply assist commuters using the station as an interchange. This is not good enough.’

Reasons for residents signing the petition include, avoiding

Continued on Page-5

Have your say! Take part in our readers’ survey: Visit tottenhamcommunitypress.co.uk/survey

WELCOME

Steadfast In Difficulties

March 2020
N°. 32

At Tottenham Community Press we believe that Tottenham deserves a newspaper that is written by and for local people, and which celebrates community in all its diversity.

We believe that local news brings people together around the issues that matter most to them and ensures everyone can have a voice in local decision-making. Now more than ever we believe that the media should be responsive and accountable to the community it serves.

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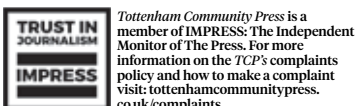
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Purim celebrations by Vicki Couchman

Turn to pages 8-9

Hello and welcome to issue 32. TCP contributor Alastair Ball reports on a recent archaeological dig in Tottenham Hale, which reveals rare details of an early Tottenham settlement, whose residents crafted tools, most likely bringing flint down the River Lea, in the Mesolithic age (p.6). Fast forward to March 2020, and today's Tottenham is just as interesting.

Lorna Reith looks at the link between the community who worked at the Harris Lebus factory between 1840-1970, and the residents on Ferry Lane estate (p.11), photographer Vicki Couchman documents

Purim celebrations (p.8-9), and coordinator, Sally Sturgeon raises funds to support the maintenance of a much-used community hub.

Much like Sally, TCP finds itself in a very similar situation – in need of the support of the community, to ensure that we can fulfill our purpose of serving the community.

We provide details of how we are funded, outlining how much further we need to go to break even and become a fully sustainable publication (p.3).

March is a particularly important month for us at Social Spider CIC, as we will be revealing our TCP ambassadors – members within

the community, (or who have strong links to it), who are supportive of our mission and ethos of providing independent, local journalism. We will be providing details of this on our social media platforms: Twitter, Facebook and Instagram @tottenhamcp, throughout the month.

You can support us in many ways: by becoming a member, (details of this can be found on the back page); advertising with us (email klaudia@socialspider.com); and by sending in your story ideas, low cost listings, poems, photographs, illustrations and letters for consideration

(tcp@socialspider.com).

I hope you enjoy reading this edition.

Luchia Robinson
Editor

How is TCP funded?

We asked our readers: How do you think Tottenham Community Press is funded?*

Free to readers

Whereas many news publications either sell their newspaper or set up an online paywall (a subscription model where readers have to pay to access content) – we don't and we don't want to.

We believe our community deserves to know what is happening locally – and we want everyone in Tottenham to be able to access local news for free.

Passionate about local news

We are passionate about keeping journalism alive by covering local stories that are ignored by the corporate media. We rely primarily on advertising revenue in order to be able to do this.

Advertising revenue is used for the sole purpose of paying for TCP to continue to publish local news that matters to you.

Proud to work with local advertisers

We love the local businesses, charities and public sector agencies that work with us. We have a strict advertising policy, whereby we only publish adverts that are in line with the community ethos of the paper. This means, for example, that you won't see gambling advertisements in TCP.

We offer discounted advertising rates for local not-for-profit organisations, because we think it's socially useful to help them get their messages out to local people.

More ads = more news

We have a principle of guaranteeing that a minimum of 50% of the content of each newspaper is editorial rather than advertising.

This means that the more advertising we sell, the more pages of local news we produce.

Supported by our members

In addition to advertising, we also generate income through our membership scheme. To produce Tottenham Community Press with no advertising at all, we would need 1,166 members paying £3 per month or 700 members paying £5 per month.

It might not be possible to have a newspaper entirely funded by members – and we love having our amazing local advertisers, too – but every new member who signs up makes it easier for us to continue producing local news that matters to you.

65% SAY:
GOVERNMENT
GRANTS

YES

Mostly not: We have no ongoing government funding though we did receive a one-off grant for a 4-page supplement on Windrush

50% SAY:
HARINGEY
COUNCIL

NOPE

Fact: We are an independent publication – we receive no grant funding from Haringey Council

25% SAY:
ONLINE ADVERTISING

NOPE

Fact: As a print first publication our website is a FREE reflection of the printed paper

20% SAY:
BENEFACTORS

YES

Not currently: We raised around £6,000 from a crowdfunding campaign in 2017 to support our move to monthly publication but we have no ongoing support from wealthy individuals

80% SAY:
PRINT
ADVERTISING

YES

Fact 1: Print advertising is our major source of revenue

Fact 2: Advertising currently covers around 1/3 of TCP's cost so the paper is currently subsidised through our not-for-profit social enterprise research work

75% SAY:
MEMBERSHIP

YES

Fact: We would need 1,000 to break even without advertising (or publish a much better newspaper with advertising). You can help to do that by becoming a member

* Details taken from our readers' survey. Note that one person could choose multiple answers.

NEWS

Regeneration review rejected

Haringey Council reject regeneration review after warning over council finances

By Simon Allin,
Local Democracy Reporter

Labout councillors rejected calls for a review of a controversial regeneration scheme following a warning over the potential financial risks to Haringey Council.

The Liberal Democrats called on the council to look at alternatives to the Wards Corner regeneration project, which involves demolishing the current site of Seven Sisters Indoor Market – also known as the Latin Village.

At a meeting of the full council last month, the Lib Dems claimed a review of the scheme could be funded by a £281,000 cut in the communications budget.

Despite the council's repeated pledges to ensure a new market is provided on the redeveloped site, some traders voice strong opposition to the scheme and want their own 'community plan' to go ahead instead.

Cllr Paul Dennison (Liberal Democrats, Highgate) said: "This amendment keeps the door open on Wards Corner.

"We were told we could not right the wrong of the Haringey Development Vehicle – but the reality was very different to what we were told.

"Our amendment will replace the cabinet's convenient defeatism on Wards Corner with a serious effort to review the current plan and see how the community plan can be its hub to deliver a sustainable future."

But the council's monitoring officer, Bernie Ryan, warned members that voting for the proposal could endanger the local authority's finances.

Mr Ryan said: "If amendment two [on Wards Corner] were to go ahead, it would create the risk



of a multi-million-pound action against the council for breaching the development agreement."

The budget debate saw Labour councillors defend their manifesto pledges and claim they are improving the borough – despite the challenges created by large funding cuts begun under the Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition government in 2010.

Cabinet member for finance and strategic regeneration, Cllr Charles Adje (Labour, White Hart Lane) said: "This budget builds community wealth, reduces inequality and creates a fairer and better borough."

Haringey Council's budget for 2020-21 includes a 1.99 per cent increase in core council tax and a 2% rise in a levy used solely to fund adult social care.

Cllr Adje said the administration would continue to invest in social services, build 1,000 council homes by 2022 and enact a plan to make the council's housing stock more energy efficient, among a range of other projects.

Budget documents show that

the local authority will also have to make savings of £14.6 million over the course of the year.

As well as the review of the Wards Corner scheme, the Liberal Democrats called for business rates relief, the creation of a climate emergency task force, a fund to support youth projects and service improvements such as dementia hubs.

Cllr Adje claimed the council was already delivering many policies similar to those proposed by the Lib Dems.

On Wards Corner, he said: "There was a scrutiny review and a response to it. There was a policy advisory group review and a response to it.

"In terms of the financial implications for the council, have you thought about that? No, you haven't."

All the Liberal Democrat amendments were rejected by members of the majority Labour Group when put to the vote.

The council's budget for 2020-21 was then passed, despite opposition from the Lib Dems.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Year 2: The Borough Plan

Council assesses second year delivery plans

Haringey Council has assessed the delivery of year two of the Borough Plan 2019-2023.

The Borough Plan sets the strategic direction of the council's commitment to reducing inequality in Haringey. Its objective is to promote fairness in five core areas: housing, people, place, economy and your council.

Second year delivery plans include more care workers in the borough being paid the London Living Wage of £10.75 an hour,

from next month.

April will also see the staff managing council buildings transition from the private firm, Amey back to the council, in efforts to bring more services in-house, reducing costs and offering better job security for these workers.

As of May, it is expected that 350 of the Council's 1000 social home pledge will have started on site.

The council says that the year two delivery plans fall within the constraints of the 2020/21 budget.

Council adopts Asset Management Plan

Haringey Council has adopted a new Asset Management Plan (AMP) for the period 2020-2025.

The AMP, which sets out the strategy for the use of council property, supports Haringey's Borough Plan (2019-2023) and Capital Strategy (Capital Programme for 2020/21 – 2024/25) by providing a baseline on property and land matters.

The AMP focuses on how the council uses its land and property assets to deliver its Borough Plan priorities. It aims to: help guide decisions for future investments; help identify land or property which is surplus to requirements for current purposes (disposals); help guide decisions about future use of land or property (acquisitions), and to ensure that property is effectively managed and is fit for purpose.

The adoption of the AMP fol-

lows guidance from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting (CIPFA), who published its Strategic Asset Management Framework guidance for local authorities in August 2018.

The Council's current property estate includes a range of land and buildings with a total value of approximately £2.377 billion, comprising of housing stock and assets used for operational/non-operational purposes. The remainder consists of community assets – parks, open spaces, transport infrastructure and plant vehicles/equipment.

A Haringey Council report states that the AMP will help to ensure the council meets its ambitions in relation to maximising housing growth, delivering council homes, achieving local economic outcomes, reducing carbon emissions, and regeneration activities.

Haringey wins Cultural Impact Award

Haringey was presented with a Cultural Impact Award by Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, last month at an event held at City Hall.

Haringey's team was at the Greater London Authority headquarters to learn which borough would be named the London Borough of Culture for 2023.

Although the honour ultimately went to Croydon, Haringey was successful in being awarded the

Cultural Impact Award, which comes with £200,000 in funding to deliver cultural projects and events across the borough.

Haringey's bid highlighted the borough's cultural history and some of the world-famous artists who have called the area home, including music performers, Adele, Skepta and The Kinks. It also focused on the many entertainment and artistic venues in the borough, such as Tottenham's Bernie Grant

Arts Centre, Alexandra Palace and Jackson's Lane Arts Centre in Highgate, as well as the wealth

"Some of the world's biggest stars call Haringey home and it is a hotbed of talent for future generations"

of performance arts, culture and music they have on offer.

Cllr Kaushika Amin, Cabinet Member for Corporate and Civic Services, said: "Haringey has a

truly rich cultural history and we are thrilled this is being recognised.

From our borough's heritage to our amazing musicians, artists and diverse communities, I am proud of everyone who makes Haringey a remarkable place – there's simply nowhere like it.

"Some of the world's biggest stars call Haringey home and it is a hotbed of talent for future generations. Our borough has an amazing story to tell and I'm thrilled we get the opportunity to do that through this programme."

NEWS

News
Archaeological discoveries
unearthed in Tottenham Hale

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congestion and overcrowding because of a growing population, the prioritising of local residents in any development works, and increased accessibility in and out of the station.

Andrew, who is the centre manager at The Engine Room in Tottenham Hale, said: “The lack of the promised link bridge to the east of Tottenham Hale station is a huge betrayal of the promises made to local residents and developers and is a major blow for those wishing to walk or cycle from Haringey to Waltham Forest or vice versa. The response of over 800 signatures on our petition demonstrates the depth of local feeling about this issue.”

Mayor Sadiq Khan was asked about the TfL change of plan when he came to Haringey in January for People’s Question Time. He said: “In relation to Tottenham Hale, we are discussing with Network Rail what we can do in relation to the link bridge you refer to.

“We will carry on talking to Network Rail because the link bridge could

make a real difference, and I want it to happen – and so we’ll carry on talking to them, and see if they can support us in getting improvements that we so desperately need.”

Lorna Reith, Chair of the Ferry Lane Action Group (FLAG), which represents over 2000 residents on the Ferry Lane estate in Tottenham Hale, says: “FLAG pushed for and welcomed the inclusion of the bridge in the original planning permission and we very much want it to go ahead.

“The current pedestrian route to the station along Ferry Lane is severely overcrowded, especially at peak times. The bridge would alleviate this and provide a safe route for residents from parts of our estate, across the traffic light controlled crossing and through Hale Village, away from the traffic.

“The same would be true for residents from Bream Close and Hale Wharf (when occupied) as well as from the boats. This would of course bring more footfall into Hale Village which would help

shops and cafés there.

Lorna added: “We believe that the costings put forward for the bridge are unnecessarily high and money could be found to extend the bridge, as originally promised.

“Local residents have had to put up with years of disrupted transport links while works to the station are undertaken. Very little is of benefit to people living in Tottenham Hale – mostly it seems it is about getting people off the trains from Cambridge, Hertford and Stansted and through into the Victoria Line.”

In response, a TfL spokesperson said: “Discussions are ongoing with Network Rail and Haringey Council on the best way to provide a link bridge to the Village as part of the redevelopment of the Tottenham Hale station area.

“We have offered to contribute towards the cost of the revised scheme that has been developed. However, there is still a shortfall that would need other sources of funds to deliver this improvement for the local community.”



Continued from Page 1



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NEWS

Mesolithic Tottenham Hale

Recent archaeological discoveries reveal Tottenham's history



Locals take a look at the ancient findings
Credit John Sturrock

By Alastair Ball

An archaeological survey conducted at the former Welbourne Centre site on Chesnut Road has found new evidence of the earliest settlement in Tottenham. The number of items found by archaeol-

ogy company, Pre-Construct Archaeology, indicates that the Tottenham Hale plot was a tool-making site.

Many of the Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age) tools, which are still sharp, would have been used for skinning animals,

cutting meat and whittling wood. The remains include flint axes that are between 8,000 and 9,000 years old.

It is thought that this ancient settlement was far bigger than most Mesolithic sites, with a lot of people living here, by the standards of the Mesolithic period.

The finds were displayed to school children and the general public at an open day last month. The ultimate home of these objects is yet to be decided but it is likely that they will go to the Museum of London. Bruce Castle museum would like to hold an exhibition; however, more work needs to be done on the site and to the objects already found.

Archaeologist Barry Bishop said: "[Finding a] Mesolithic [site] is not uncommon in the London area but sites of this size are quite rare."

"Not only were they using tools here but they were bringing flint in." Barry believes that the flint was most likely brought in from Hertfordshire, from a site at the top of the River Lea.

Adam Single, Historic England's Archaeological Adviser, said: "The site is producing a lot of early Mesolithic remains.

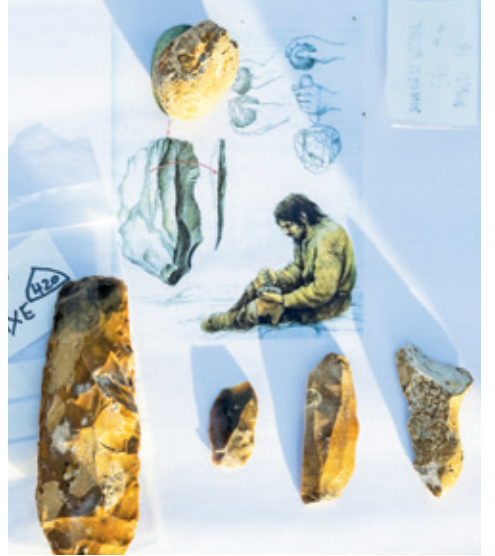
"Evidence of intensive activity from that distant prehistoric period is very rare and I

expect we will learn a great deal about that time during this work."

He added: "Passing through busy Tottenham Hale today, you perhaps wouldn't realise that amid all the new development it has so much heritage, but this dig has shown some truly special items coming to light."

"The discovery is certainly an important one for London, and for the Lea Valley especially."

Mesolithic tools Credit John Sturrock



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HEALTH

Community

Community hub raises funds to cover maintenance costs

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North Mid's 'Magnolia Midwives' model recommended to midwives across UK

Nursing and maternity regulator praise local maternity service

The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) has cited a pioneering maternity service at North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust as an example of innovation and professional leadership which all midwives should be striving for.

The 'Magnolia Midwives' service, which is the first of its kind in the UK, is a multi-disciplinary model which brings together antenatal care, obstetrics, psychiatry, psychology and social workers, to support women with moderate to severe mental health issues during their pregnancy.

Established last May under the leadership of consultant midwife Fiona Laird and specialist perinatal mental health midwife Jennifer Elliott, the service provides continuity of care for women during their pregnancy, birth and post-natally. In 2018, more than 600 women booking their pregnancy with North Mid needed the kind of joined-up service provided by the Magnolia Midwives team.

The Nursing and Midwifery Coun-

cil (NMC) is now looking to see this innovative responsiveness in the midwifery profession across the UK, as part of the launch of their new midwifery standards.

The new standards, which set out what the next generation of midwives should know and learn, follow two years of engagement with women, midwives, student midwives and other health professionals, acting as an evidence-based benchmark for the midwifery profession.

Speaking at the England launch of the new standards at an NMC event in central London, Fiona said: "For pregnant women already facing family, social or financial problems, the stigma that still surrounds poor mental health can be crushing, and can lead to them feeling even more isolated and vulnerable.

"Being looked after by the Magnolia team means they get to know their midwife, have access 24/7 to them, and get joined-up care from a whole range of health and care professionals under the one umbrella, which can really make a

difference to their mental health."

The joined-up care the Magnolia team offers means that women don't have to constantly go over traumatic and difficult issues with different people. The Magnolia model also includes community-based mindfulness sessions and peer support, helping new mums share how they are coping with the life-changing event of a new baby.

Katherine Woolly, who used the

Magnolia service when giving birth to baby son Charlie last December, said: "Pregnancy was bloody difficult and emotionally draining, but with the support of Fiona and the perinatal mental health team, I'm not afraid to go through it and birth again."

North Mid's chief nurse Sarah Hayes, who is the Trust's executive lead for maternity services, said: "Since joining North Mid in Decem-

ber 2019, I have been really struck by the commitment our staff show to their patients, colleagues and local community. The development of Magnolia Midwives, which is an innovative approach to meeting a particular local need – and doing this in a way which is not just good, but exemplary – is just one instance in which team North Mid is delivering our aim of providing outstanding care for local people."

Fiona Laird (further right) with her team, meeting England's Chief Midwifery Officer Professor, Jacqueline Dunkley-Bent (front row, second from left) Credit: North Middlesex University Hospital.



Innovative approaches to health and wellbeing

New cancer support service launched at the Selby Centre



The panel discuss the community cancer engagement service Credit: Macmillan Cancer Support

The Selby Trust has launched a new community engagement project in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support.

The project, called Selby Health and Wellbeing Organisers, takes place at the Selby Centre and will run until May.

The initiative focuses on providing cancer care support that blends social

and community activities with health services and shared spaces.

This accredited training uses the national framework for social action developed by the charity, Community Organisers. It provides an opportunity for residents with shared experiences of cancer to receive valuable skills through doing and learning. It also aims to build community capacity by bringing people together, in an unobstructed environment where they can share their stories and receive support to make healthier lifestyle choices.

Macmillan Cancer Support is the UK leader in providing support to people finding their best way through cancer so that they are able to live life as fully as they can.

This partnership initiative meets health needs and increases social participation, enhancing the link between primary health care and community groups by connecting individuals and families to community resources, practical help, group activities and volunteering opportunities.

The project is led by Community Organiser, Moussa Amine Sylla, whose

role involves reaching out to people affected by cancer in Haringey and listening to what they have to say about their experiences, as well as training and fostering a network of local health and wellbeing connectors.

Moussa is working with partner organisations and local communities to develop, deliver and coordinate a broad range of community-based initiatives that address the various health and wellbeing needs.

Breast cancer survivor, and founder of the charity, Wigs For Heroes, Kaz Foncette, is one of the project's community leaders. Kaz said: "It's up to us to start to make change and reach people who are not only isolated, but in desperate need of direction when it comes to the everyday needs when dealing with a cancer diagnosis.

"I'm so happy to be part of the beginning of our borough's journey in making change – working together we are definitely stronger."

For more information:

Email: moussa.amine@selbytrust.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHY



*Photographs
by Vicki
Couchman*



I first came across the Jewish festival, Purim in 2015, as many of my neighbours are from the Jewish community.

The holiday, which commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman, a First Persian Empire official (as recounted in The Megillah – The Book of Esther and the Christian Old Testament), is celebrated locally and worldwide.

The children were going from house to house delivering gifts to friends and family, dressed up in the most incredible outfits. I was on my way to work, so I just stopped to take a few photos. I put the next year's date in my diary, so that I could document it, as the community comes alive with colour and parades.

These photographs were taken at Purim 2016 and 2019. Unfortunately, I was away in 2017 and it was snowing in 2018. Purim 2020 is from 9–10 March.

Website vickicouchman.com

Instagram @photosshmoto



COMMUNITY

Literature

Karin Lock reviews *The Salt Path* by Raynor WinnPage
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Big in heart, but small in funds

Community hub in need of maintenance funding

By Sally Sturgeon,
Coordinator, People's World Carnival Band

To look at from the outside, it's just an ordinary building, but when you step through the door you will find a hive of activity in the heart of the community.

It's an old building, which needs not just decoration but constant maintenance and regular upkeep. We have a huge commitment to keep it safe and warm for everyone who enters our doors.

With ever increasing costs, and without any public funding, we still need to have equipment regularly checked (gas, electricity, fire safety, and insurances). All this is very expensive, but we do not pass on these costs to our users, who are mostly from families struggling to survive.

We are desperate to raise £10,000 in order to maintain the building and keep it safe and comfortable. We have started a GoFundMe campaign to raise the funds for the year's maintenance costs. Achieving this target will then free us up to concentrate on our main objective of engaging with our community.

The building is a community asset that benefits and caters for huge numbers of people and their needs. We estimate that in excess of 200 people access the building during the week, with these numbers trebling during the summer months.

The building in Tottenham High Road, is home to People's World Carnival Band, a multi-award winning organisation that has been operating in Haringey since 1983.

We started as a small group of parents and children coming together to make costumes for Notting Hill Carnival and other local community events, but we have evolved organically into a community hub working with a diverse community in Tottenham.

We host many activities, including an afterschool family club, pensioners groups, workshop sessions, and surplus food distribution to those in need and also various community kitchens.

We are proud to feed and clothe many local children thanks to our amazing relationships with local and major retailers. We also provide last minute out of hours care packages to victims of domestic violence or for whenever disasters hit. It's all part of our continued commitment to our community.

We are the 'go to' group in our area! The organisation is run wholly by qualified and trained volunteers and we rely upon funding from grants and from individuals who believe in our ethos.

We are big in heart, but small in funds. Please support us if you can.

For more information about our GoFundMe campaign, head to Facebook and search: People's World Carnival Band



"We have a huge commitment to keep [the building] safe and warm for everyone who enters our doors"

People's World Carnival Band and Community Hub Credit: Stephen Furner

Ahmed Mohammed



Aman: Safety awareness sessions for Haringey's unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children

This is Ahmed Mohammed's story, told to Miri Burnett, Phoenix Community Care

I arrived in Britain from Nigeria, alone on a cold and overcast day in September 2010, aged 14.

Adapting to the British climate was one of many things I was about to embark on. However, the complexities of London youth culture and crime was one that took me off guard. Friends I had made got entangled in gangs, selling drugs and various criminal offences, after fleeing their countries of origin for a safer future.

My love for football and the opportunities that derived from it, kept me on a different path. I now see how vulnerable I was and how easily it could have been different. I feel a strong sense of responsibility to share my experiences, and to support more positive transitions for young refugees and asylum seekers.

I founded, You vs You Ltd in 2018, out of my desires to ensure the development of young people. We host a variety of workshops based around employability, mental health, and public speaking services.

Last month, I teamed up with Metropolitan Police, Phoenix Community Care and the Bridge Renewal Trust to create and deliver Aman.

Aman, which derives from an Arabic word meaning safety, is a 4-session programme. The sessions run fortnightly in Tottenham, and they are designed to support unaccompanied refugee and asylum seekers aged 16–21, developing their understanding and awareness of how to be safe within our borough

and wider community. The project also helps to improve the knowledge and understanding of the role of the police in Britain.

Young refugees and asylum-seeking children often have negative experiences with the police during their difficult and precarious journeys to the UK. This can make them avoidant and fearful, and subsequently open to accepting misinformation shared amongst peers. *The Guardian* highlighted this in an article last year, which when referring to these young people, stated: 'Their need for money makes them susceptible to unscrupulous gangs operating along routes, in refugee centres and in destination countries.'

Haringey is home to over 140 of London's unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children. It has also been listed as having one of the highest rates of gun and knife crime out of the London boroughs.

The Aman sessions aim to offer strategic support and information to help reshape and challenge some of the accepted misinformation that puts these young people at risk of exploitation, gang violence, and criminal activity. In addition, the sessions provide a specialist service with these specific vulnerabilities, challenges, and barriers in mind.

I aim to ensure that the Aman project helps to fulfill the moral duty to serve and support safer outcomes.

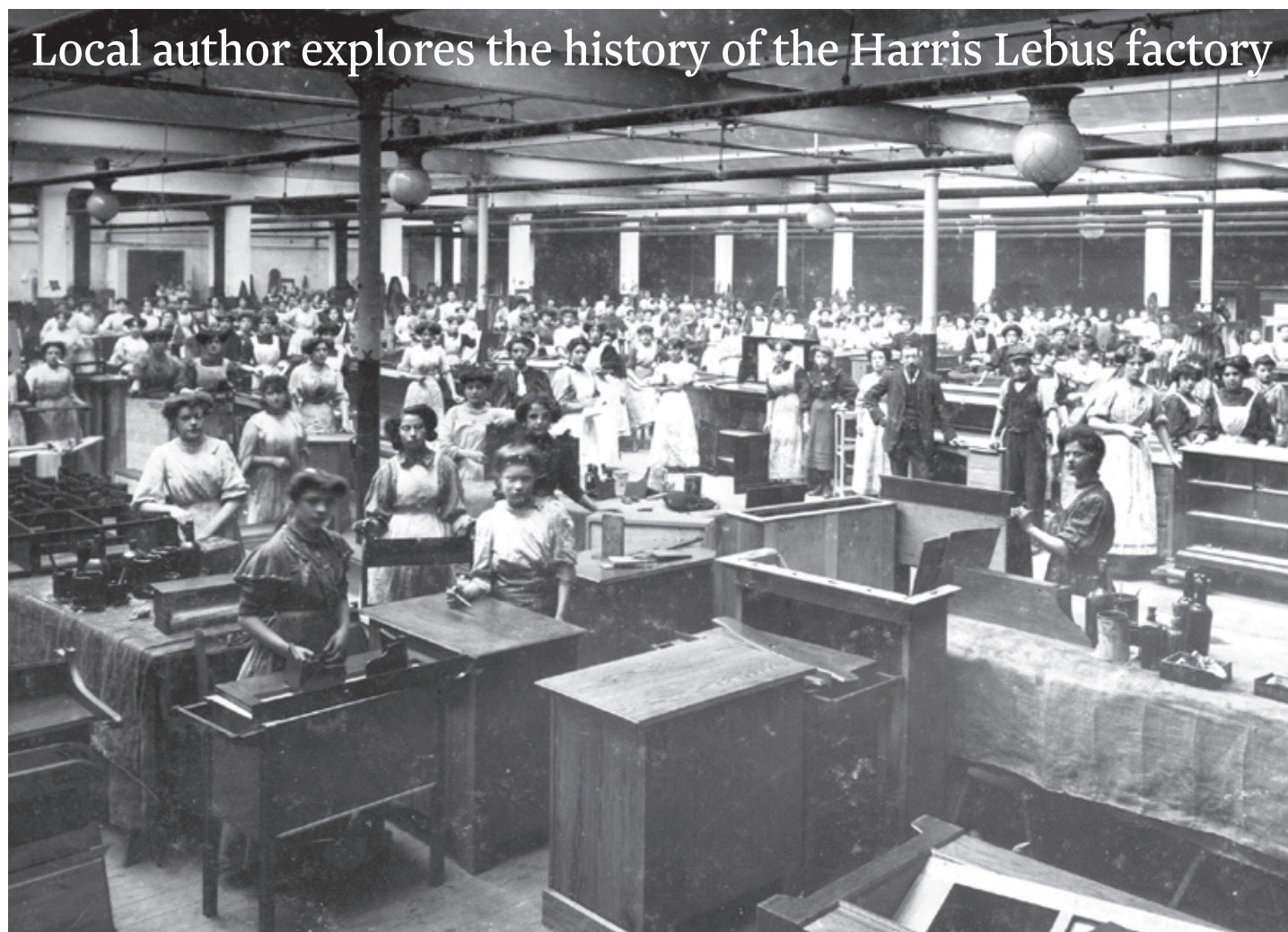
The Aman sessions run until Monday, 16th March. To find out more:

Visit youvsyouuk.co.uk

FEATURE

The furniture trade story behind the Ferry Lane estate

Local author explores the history of the Harris Lebus factory



The polishing shop just before the First World War Credit Lebus Family Archives/Haringey Archive and Museum Service, Bruce Castle Museum

By Lorna Reith, Chair of the Ferry Lane Action Group (FLAG)

Few local people know that the 'largest furniture factory in the world' once stood in Tottenham Hale. The site, which occupied both sides of Ferry Lane and had its own railway sidings, is now home to the Ferry Lane estate and Hale Village.

The factory employed some 6000 people at its height, before closing 50 years ago. The headline in *The Tottenham and Enfield Weekly Herald*, dated Friday, 27th February, 1970 read: 'Lebus Shut Down – So 1,000 Will Lose Jobs.'

Former employee Sissy Lewis recalls: "Oh, it was dreadful. Fellas were coming along the lines shouting out, 'we're finished, we're finished; we're closing down!' We all cried."

The story of how Harris Lebus rose to become the world's largest furniture manufacturer in the mid-20th century and then collapsed, needed to be told. *Harris Lebus: A Romance with the Furniture Trade* is written by local resident Paul Collier and will be published this month.

Fifty years on from the fateful day of the closure, the book retells the story of this world-class furniture manufacturer,

featuring testimonies and reminiscences from those who were there - drawing the reader into the drama as if experienced in real time.

The book includes recollections and oral histories of past employees, and is fully illustrated with 200 photographs, old catalogues and maps.

Paul was privileged to spend time with Oliver Lebus, the grandson of Harris Lebus,

"There is a sense of there being a real community"

and the only family member who still remembered the factory. He gained access to Oliver's personal archive collection and so is now able to tell the complete Lebus story spanning 130 years – from small beginnings in 1840 to the closure in 1970.

Tottenham was once a key manufacturing centre and this book records an important part of that history – it is the story of a life, of a business, of a family, and of a workforce community.

Paul, who has lived on the Ferry Lane

estate for many years was supported in making the book by residents' association, the Ferry Lane Action Group (FLAG), said: "When I first looked into Harris Lebus, the man behind the name, I discovered he had died at a relatively young age, 55. This was not long after he had established the factory here at Tottenham Hale, which was in fact an extension to operations that had already been taking place from premises in the East End of London.

"Harris died on 21st September 1907, and in line with Jewish tradition, he was buried the very next day. I moved into my flat on September 22nd 2007 – 100 years to the day when Harris was laid to rest.

"I wrote the book because I wanted to share this story and preserve history for future generations. In a way that is hard to place into words I felt drawn into the story and somehow guided to do it. The process from start to finish has spanned 13 years.

"One of my favourite characters was Phyllis, the canteen assistant who weaved her tea trolley through obstacle after obstacle to keep workers refreshed during the morning and afternoon tea breaks. In testimonies and reminiscences from other workers – they all seemed to remember Phyllis, the 'tea trolley lady'. The book

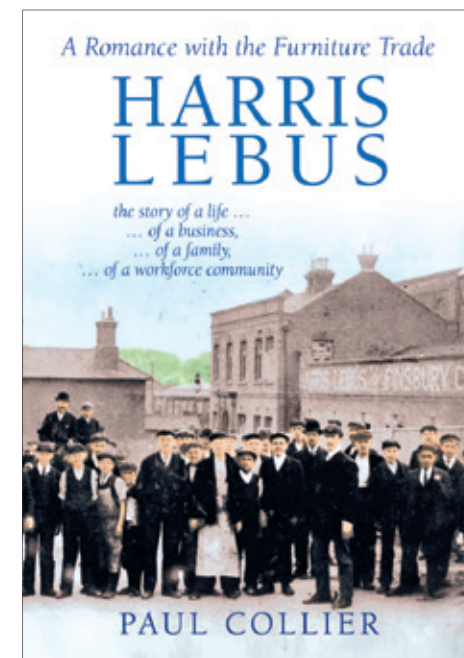
is full of characters like Phyllis. The factory seemed a pleasant place to work and former employees had fond memories of working at Lebus. There is a sense of there being a real community."

Paul has generously agreed that, once costs are covered, proceeds from sales will be diverted to enable FLAG to continue to provide activities for the 2,000 residents on the estate.

FLAG organises a number of activities and events throughout the year, and we are already well advanced with plans for an Eco-Day, following on from a very successful event last year, which was attended by over 400 people. We would use any monies raised towards this event, celebrating wildlife and the green environment, as well as providing opportunities for residents and their children to interact with nature.

Paul said: "Ferry Lane estate is a great place to live, it's by the River Lea, the blocks of accommodation are low-rise, and there are abundant areas of green space to enjoy. Lots of work is done by individuals who are passionate about these green spaces – in particular Jeanette Sitton, FLAG's nature officer.

"Maintaining and celebrating our green spaces through an annual Eco day event is a fitting way to celebrate the evolution from industry to open, pleasant, green spaces, whilst at the same time making the story of the past beneath our feet accessible to all. Paul added: "If I were to break into the realms of fantasy, I would say that one of my hopes is that one day, the book leads to a period drama, because, in my mind's eye – I can see the characters come alive, as dramas are played out once again."



'Harris Lebus: A Romance with the Furniture Trade' will be available from Bruce Grove Museum when published this month.

You can help support this historical publication by subscribing in advance and getting special editions:

Visit gofundme.com/f/harris-lebus-history-book
To order libripublishing.co.uk/Products/ProdID=218

YOUTH

Part 2: Bibliobuzz books reviewed

This year's BiblioBuzz: The Alexandra Palace Children's Book Award is in full swing with schools and local library clubs all around Tottenham and surrounding areas reading the six shortlisted books and creating a buzz about reading.

Any school in the borough can join in, and the award is aimed at 8-12 year olds (those in years 5,6, and 7). If your school isn't taking part – sign up at your local library branch instead!

Helen Swinyard, who helped to choose the shortlist with a panel of other local school librarians, introduces the final three of the six shortlisted reads. The winner will be announced at the ceremony at Alexandra Palace on Monday 30th March, and we'll bring you news from the day in a future edition!



A Pocketful of Stars By Aisha Bushby

This debut novel is the wonderfully imaginative and emotive story of a young person coming to terms with some hard issues in life. As she sits with her mum in hospital, Safiya starts to explore a world that seems very much like the video games she plays, but one of the main characters looks suspiciously familiar... Can she complete the levels of the game and save her mum?



Checkmates By Stewart Foster

Felix is not a big fan of school. He finds it really hard, and his school doesn't seem to cater well for his ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder). He also misses his mum and dad who are often out at work.

Felix is not impressed when his mum decides he should spend more time with his grandad, who has problems of his own, or when his grandad insists on teaching him chess. But gradually he learns to love this new hobby, and it brings adventures of its own! This is a story that explores family, friendships and being yourself.



The Middler by Kirsty Applebaum

A debut novel for this writer, this book has been shortlisted for various awards around the country. It's the perfect introduction for the dystopian genre, with a futuristic isolated society which divides family members and their roles by which order they're born in.

With themes of exclusion, welcome, friendship and concepts of where you draw the lines which separate people, it's a thrilling yet thoughtful story with plenty of ideas to discuss relevant to the fears readers may have about our modern world.

Haringey Pirates to walk the red carpet



Credit: Literacy Pirates

Local children from Haringey Pirates have worked hard to create a fantasy film script, for an animation which will be screened this month at the Rio Cinema, in Dalston.

The film, called *The Literacy Pirates and the Legend of the Golden Quill*, is a fantasy story about some local children who fly through time and space to help Captain Splurge to find the key to writing a good story, while trying to escape the grips of Pirate Greybeard.

The Literacy Pirates deliver an after-school learning programme for local children (aged 9-13) to improve their reading and writing, increasing their confidence as classroom learners and their ability to keep on going when the going gets tough.

Children are referred by their school and come weekly to the ship – it's not actually a ship, it's a room

at the top of The Trampery, (639 High Road, Tottenham), that has been converted into a fantastical pirate-themed space!

The film has been a creative way of showcasing the children's writing from this term. The young pirates worked hard to craft descriptions and scripts for each scene of this film, and they enjoyed being filmed like real movie stars! They gained confidence and learned perseverance throughout the film making process.

This experience has given the children a clear sense of achievement, putting a smile on their faces, and the premiere is a chance to celebrate their accomplishments in front of their family and teachers.

Aaron River, Haringey Pirates Session Leader, said: "The children have come together and created a magical film for their families to enjoy. I loved working on the project."

The film is not all that has been accomplished since we opened in January 2019. As a small charity, we have recruited nearly 100 local residents to give over 2,000 volunteer hours to support 200 children from 10 local schools, and recently we were awarded Haringey's Community Impact Award for Improving the lives of Children and Young People.

Jude Williamson, Chief Executive, Literacy Pirates said: "We are so proud of what the Haringey Pirates has achieved in this short amount of time. A huge thank you goes to the Tottenham volunteers, schools and families that have believed in us, and together supported their children's literacy."

"Improving reading and writing skills really is the key to unlocking children's potential at school."

For more information:
Visit literacypirates.org

COMMUNITY

Dele kicks off a conversation about mental health

Last month, Spurs footballer, Dele Alli led children at Lea Valley Primary School through a variety of activities geared towards building their confidence, teamwork and communication skills.

The Tottenham Hotspur Foundation programme aims to support young people to be active and use sport as a positive mechanism for managing their mental wellbeing.

Working in partnership with local mental health organisations, the Foundation delivers physical activity sessions in primary schools across Haringey to help children get active and develop a positive mindset.

The midfielder's visit formed part of the Club's support for the Heads Up campaign from the charity, Heads Together. Spearheaded by HRH The Duke of Cambridge, the initiative aims to harness the influence and popularity of football to normalise the conversation around mental health.

Following a series of team-building games and football-based challenges at the school, Dele sat down with students to talk about the importance of opening up

about their feelings, supporting each other and working in a team.

He also reflected on the pressures of being a professional athlete and how he deals with these to manage his own wellbeing.

Speaking at the event, Dele said: "As players, we do a lot of exercise and that helps with wellbeing, but also just spending time with friends and having the time to reset is really important."

"By being here today and supporting the Heads Up campaign, I want to let people know that they're not alone. There are always people to talk to and people who can help if you're struggling."

Katrina Heal, Health and Wellbeing Manager at the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation, said: "It was fantastic having Dele here showing his support for these young people and talking to them about wellbeing."

"From children all the way through to older people, everyone has different needs when it comes to looking after their mental health. That's why we run programmes to help people of all ages in our local community lead healthy, positive lives."



Credit Tottenham Hotspur FC

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HM Government



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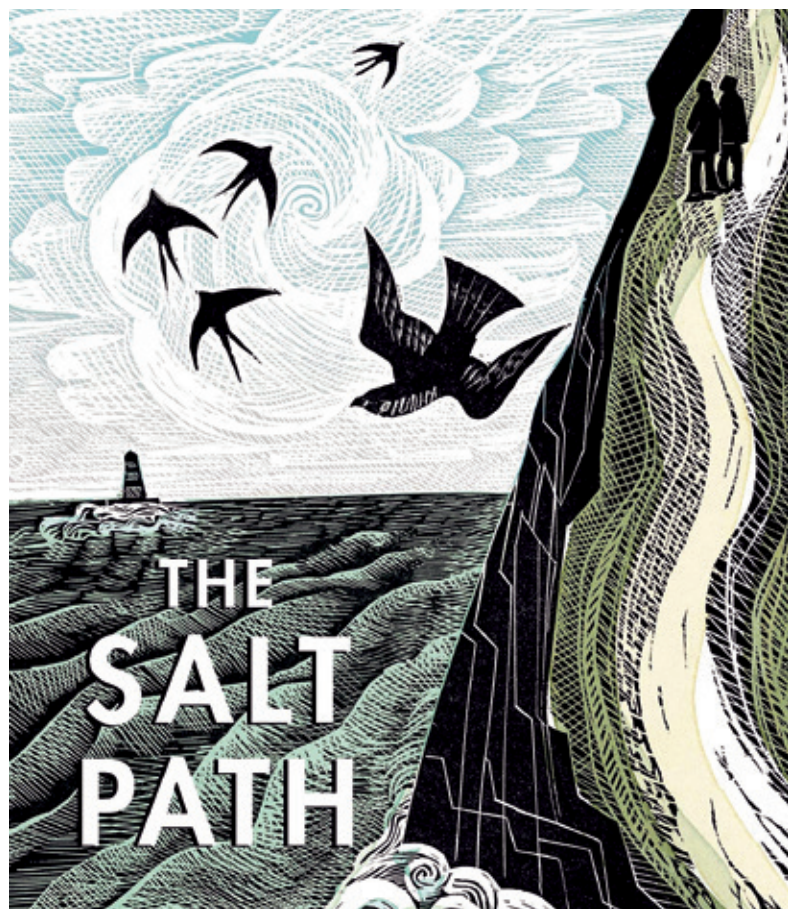
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LITERATURE

Travelling along a new path



By Karin Lock

Every once in a while, a book appears that foregrounds those important life ingredients: hope, gratitude and self-belief. *The Salt Path* is the awe-inspiring true story of a couple's journey from comfortable Welsh farm existence to 'homeless hikers', trekking the 630 mile South West coastal path with little more than a tent.

Following a bad investment, Raynor (Ray) Winn and her husband Moth find themselves liable for a friend's failed business. The court decides to confiscate the home and holiday business they have built from scratch over thirty years. Three days later, Moth is diagnosed with a life-threatening illness and given six months to live.

With the bailiffs knocking (and a doctor's recommendation for Moth to rest), the duo decide to go walking, a decision which lit-

erally saves their lives. Equipped with guide book, camping equipment and train tickets, they set off for Minehead.

So begins a life-affirming adventure at the mercy of marauding seagulls, unpredictable tides and unreliable Universal Credit. However, *The Salt Path* is not only a tale of survival. It is a celebration of the tenderness of true love; an account of the kindness of strangers; and an ode to the natural wonders of this dramatically beautiful terrain. It is also a frank appraisal of what happens when you find yourself on society's periphery, and a critical look at how we treat people in that predicament.

The novel features a medley of idiosyncratic characters – the fake Glastonbury beggar; a massage-offering landowner; the hippy surfer dispensing herbal comforts. Most people are friendly until they learn that the Winn's have no home.

The Salt Path's narrative challenges stereotypical tropes associated with homelessness, reminding the reader that no single story can represent this marginalisation. As well as street sleepers and wild campers (both illegal), the book gives voice to a 'hidden' forest-dwelling community, priced out of local accommodation. The suggestion is that storytelling is therapeutic, and can nudge the listener to question their conflicting attitudes and behaviour.

According to housing charity Shelter, homelessness figures have doubled in the last ten years and *The Salt Path* documents the causes and effects of this. With its seasonal employment and shortage of affordable properties, the South West is at ground zero of the catastrophe. As Ray and Moth delve deeper, they uncover local resentment to the 'blow-ins' – the second home owners – who have completely disrupted the region's rental economy.

The real star of this book is undeniably mother-nature herself, depicted through lush descriptions of flora, fauna, scenery and the weather (it is England!). Originally created by coastguards to monitor the smuggling trade, the coastal path is a wild place of coves and headlands where you can spot bottle-nosed dolphins, peregrines and seals. Half of it is National Trust-protected, making it a safe haven for wildlife.

The Salt Path is a revelation. It shows how physical movement can liberate you from past burdens and open you up to future unknown possibilities. Living between sun, sea and rock, Ray and Moth become one with the landscape and, like the surfers, greet the waves of their life with humility, openness and resilience. Reading about their quest for inner strength and acceptance is an invitation to the reader to "let the wildness in."

"The Salt Path is a revelation. It shows how physical movement can liberate you from past burdens and open you up to future unknown possibilities"

POETRY CORNER

Sunlight, As I See It

by David Hutchinson

A small red and yellow glow appeared and as if by magic, burst over the Eastern hills, spreading its light far and wide over miles and miles of the dark, green land.

By my window, I sat and watched the tiny streaks of golden rays dance before my eyes, casting long arms of light across my room and filled it with brilliant sunshine.

Outside, the trees swayed to the rhythm of the gentle breeze while the sunlight reflected off their dewy leaves.

The sky was cloudless, only the majestic hue of azure could be seen.

Butterflies fluttered above the lilies in the nearby pond, dancing with nature, dancing with sunlight.

Even the grass, though rejected and daily trodden upon – defied all with its lushness in its sunny splendour.

Oh! How beautiful for the eyes to behold, such a sight!

Yet, some seem not to care or see, that golden sunshine with its glowing smile.

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Licensing Act 2003: Application for the Grant of a Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that **MUESSER MEHMET** has applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Haringey for a Premises Licence to permit the sale by retail of alcohol for consumption on the premises for the premises **BITE TO EAT CAFE** Situated at **698 HIGH STREET ROAD N17 0AE**. A register of licensing applications can be inspected at Licensing Team, River Park House, Level 1 North, 225 High Road, Wood Green, London, N22 8HQ

Any person wishing to submit relevant representations concerning this application must give notice in writing to the London Borough of Haringey, Licensing team at the above address, giving in detail the grounds of the **representation no later than 25/03/2020**

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

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

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



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