

Election

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Local news that matters to you

Community rallies to help Bibi beat cancer



Bibi Maia Credit Tiago Maia

By Luchia Robinson

A family raising £200,000 for life saving cancer treatment is finding support from the local community.

Residents are coordinating events across Tottenham to help parents Tiago Maia and Laura Farmer-Maia generate funds so that their youngest daughter, Beatriz 'Bibi' can get immunotherapy treatment abroad.

Tiago and Laura, who live in St Ann's ward, first realised there was a problem, last July when Bibi began having fevers and night sweats. She also became uncharacteristically clingy, and would complain of pain in her stomach and legs.

After months of trying to discover what was wrong, medical tests confirmed that Bibi had childhood cancer, neuroblastoma.

Bibi initially responded well to eight months of frontline treatment, high dose chemotherapy and a stem cell transplant, however, she relapsed.

Bibi's parents are now hoping she responds well to a new trial of immunotherapy and chemotherapy that she is currently receiving.

Tiago said: "The vast majority of treatments for neuroblastoma are experimental- they're trials. We are lucky enough that Bibi got this one, which is being run by the NHS, but the avenues are just narrowing down."

To increase Bibi's chances the Maia's are considering different treatments available in America and Spain. The funds raised from the community events, which include a folk night, a supper club and a concert, will go towards the treatment and the family's relocation.

Genevieve Sparrow, who runs

the European supper club, Pasero with her husband Tim, is hosting a fundraiser at Living Under One Sun. She said: "We've been in Tottenham for five years and my experience is whatever it is you want help with, or whatever it is you need, you can always find it locally if you just ask."

"It just felt completely normal to us to help another family who were looking for support with, what must be such a difficult situation. It was just a no-brainer for us."

"It's an awful lot of money that they're trying to raise, so we just thought that if we could give them, what I think it will be, £1,500-£2,000 - it barely touches the sides of what they are trying to raise, but we'd love to make that contribution."

Laura Goodman organiser of music event night, Beats 4 Bibi said: "Bibi's cancer diagnosis was just so shocking, and I wanted to support in any way I could. Fundraising is a very concrete way to do something practical and useful."

"I think the way the community has come together for this, and all the other fundraising events for Bibi, feels almost as important as the money itself."

"It's been so positive to show Bibi's family how much support and goodwill there is in Tottenham. It reminds me why I love living here so much."

In response to the fundraising initiatives that locals have been organising, Tiago said: "These events have allowed us to get to know quite a lot of people. It's also given us something to keep entertained that's not just staying at home and looking after a sick child."

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Have your say! Take part in our readers' survey: Visit tottenhamcommunitypress.com/survey

HISTORY

Steadfast In Difficulties

DECEMBER 2019
N°. 29

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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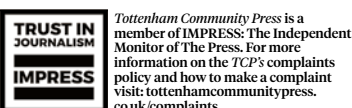
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Putting Tottenham on the map

1619 map of Tottenham shows how area has changed over 400 years



The 1619 map of Tottenham

By Alastair Ball

A new exhibition at Bruce Castle Museum invites visitors to imagine a time when Tottenham was open fields. *The Land Beneath Our Feet – the 1619 Map* exhibition focuses on a famous map of 17th century Tottenham.

The map is based on a survey conducted by Thomas Clay on behalf of

Edward Sackville, 4th Earl of Dorset, who owned Tottenham Manor.

The exhibition marks 400 years since the survey. Christine Protz, a local historian, said: "These surveys were fairly unusual, this one was only done because the Earl of Dorset was a bit hard up so he wanted to find out what possessions he had across the country."

The 1619 Map was created by

William Robertson and published in his book *The History and Antiquities of Tottenham in 1840*.

Christine said: "For a lot of local people, it has been particularly interesting because they can find out where their houses are now and find out what was there. It brings Tottenham to life in a way that you wouldn't normally get if you were reading something about

the 17th century."

There are recognisable features from today's Tottenham on the map, such as Broade Waters, which became Broadwater Farm – which the Broadwater Farm housing estate is named after.

Some features have disappeared, such as Asplins Farm, which contained the field where Tottenham Football Club first played.

The map, which shows Moselle River and Stonebridge Brook running through Tottenham, have both since been culverted.

An unusual feature of the map is that it is oriented with south at the top – giving the map an alternative name: The Upside-Down Map.

"There was no set way of where you put north and south the way there is now," said Christine.

"We think that maybe south is at the top because that is the way to London and that's the most important place in the area."

The current exhibition features pieces of contemporary art responding to the map, including a commemorative quilt designed by Katrina Cottingham and Angela Baker called *Lordship Landscape*.

'The Land Beneath Our Feet – the 1619 Map' is on display at Bruce Castle Museum until Sunday, 23rd February 2020

Hello and welcome to issue 29. It's December 2019 and we have a general election on Thursday 12th that will mark how we venture into 2020.

UK political parties have launched their manifestos and are vying for your votes with pledges and promises that will determine who will run the nation.

Turn to pages 4–5 where the MP candidates for Tottenham let you know what they have planned for the area if elected.

Samantha Greaves shares why this winter month can have such a bearing on health as the cold weather sets in (p.12) and Kaz Foncette offers a suggestion on what you can do with any unwanted Christmas gifts you may get this month (p.11).

Photographer Jack Smethers is working on a project called *White Hart Lane* that will document the changes in the area over the coming years (p.8 and 9).

On page 12, Keesha Sinclair and

Ashley Grey discuss how a network of Haringey services have come together to help women and girls in the borough dealing with the menopause.

Get in touch if you have any story ideas that you wish to share: tcp@socialspider.com

Wishing you a fantastic Christmas. TCP will back in the new year continuing to bring you local news that matters.

Luchia Robinson, Editor

My name is Jack Smethers and I'm a photographer based in North London. For the first ten years of my life, I grew up in Tottenham.

We lived in Nursery Street N17, a dead-end street by Bruce Castle Park, in the same house my Mum was brought up in. I went to St Francis de Sales school on the High Road, opposite the Spurs ground.

We moved out of the area when I was ten and I've found that through this photography project (p.8 and 9), I've been able to rekindle many

childhood memories attached to the area that I had forgotten about.

I feel like a bit of an outsider here now though, so the main thing I like to do is talk to the locals and find out how they feel about life in Tottenham today.

Jack Smethers, Contributor

I love Tottenham – its vast green spaces, its rural and urban history, its colourful citizens.

You can walk through nature for miles: along rivers and across hills, through immaculately kept parks, past duck ponds, a village church, an ancient cemetery, and a lovely manor house. There, at Bruce Castle Museum, I also learnt to imagine what is not there any more: the dense forests and flooded leas, the wheat-fields and watermills, the deep clay pits and tall kilns, the steam trains and factories.

I moved to Tottenham 15 years ago, to this country 25 years ago. I am a poet and librarian. I passionately believe in education and libraries. Free, local,

public libraries are invaluable tools for creating community and bringing society forward!

Christina Egan, Contributor

I moved to Haringey from South London aged 12. My first address as an adult was in Tottenham, where I started my family. It is the place where I am able to execute my visions and passions.

Apart from the many parks to sit in and walk around in Tottenham, I'm happiest when trying to make a difference to the lives of the Sickie Cell Community. I do this from within the walls of the George Marsh Centre, St Ann's Hospital – our hub and bonding place for over 30 years. Being able to live my passion of service to my peers is of fundamental importance to me.

We need our community – our extended family. Without community we have no bearings nor foundation.

Samantha Greaves, Contributor

NEWS

Election

Find out about your
Tottenham candidatesPage
4-5Cuddles with Dad
Credit: Tiago Maia

Continued From Page 1

"We have been using our work skills [to promote the events] – I'm a designer and Laura's a copy writer, so we've been able to focus on the social media side of things. It's kept us busy, which is good."

"When we had the folk gig, I had a smile on my face the whole evening, and that hasn't happened much. It's an opportunity to be outside of the house – having a little bit of positivity happening around us."

100 children are diagnosed with neuroblastoma each year in the UK. There is a 40% survival rate for children diagnosed with 'high risk' neuroblastoma.

Although neuroblastoma is a rarer childhood cancer, Tiago advises parents to be alert. He said: "If you think something is

wrong, if there is something that has been lasting for a long time and the symptoms are not just the symptoms of a cold, get your GP to actually get it tested properly."

For more information:

Facebook /helpbibibeatcancer

To donate to the fundraiser:

Visit justgiving.com/campaign/beatriz

To attend a fundraising event:

Beats for Bibi: Sunday, 1st December, 7.30-11.00pm, Craving Coffee, Markfield Road, N15 4QQ

Visit eventbrite.com/e/beats-4-bibi-tickets-79565391227

Pasero presents: The Winter Supper Club, Saturday, 7th December, 7.30pm, Living Under One Sun, Down Lane Park, N17 9EX

The future of fashion

Fashion Tailoring Academy launches in Tottenham

The capital's brand-new Fashion Tailoring Academy has launched in Tottenham, paving the way for the next generation of British fashion talent.

The £1million academy – in partnership with Haringey Council and supported by the Mayor of London's Good Growth Fund – is the latest offering from social enterprise, Fashion-Enter Ltd, which focuses on training and business growth in the fashion production sector.

Students at the academy will train at the highest level, producing tailored clothing for major retailers and

fashion brands including ASOS and Brora, in a live factory environment.

Located on the Crusader Estate in Tottenham, it is part of a cluster of academic institutions and businesses working together as part of North East London's Fashion District. It will complement forthcoming spaces at Monier Road at Fish Island, Hackney Wick and Poplar Works, delivering skills, affordable workspace, access to finance and innovation programmes to grow a more inclusive and sustainable fashion sector in London.

The Fashion Tailoring Academy will

create 50 jobs – with the potential for more than 500 more – and almost 750 apprenticeships, including with the world-renowned Savile Row Bespoke Association. It will also link local talent to experts, specialist training, professional development courses, equipment and opportunities.

Last month's launch was attended by Nick Beighton, CEO at ASOS; Debbie Jackson, Interim Executive Director for Development, Enterprise and Environment at the Greater London Authority, and Eric Osei, Senior Business Growth Manager, Haringey Council.

Guests saw how the machinery works and tried out some of the latest hi-tech equipment.

Skills programme N17 Creative Callings was also introduced at the event. Fashion-Enter was chosen by City Hall to deliver the project, which is funded by the European Social Fund and the Mayor of London.

The programme will offer business support to boost creative industries in Tottenham's Creative Enterprise Zone, supporting 130 creative workers – at least 65 of whom will be women – to improve their career prospects, and 38 small and medium

enterprises will provide work placements and opportunities.

Creative industries are now Tottenham's fastest growing sector, experiencing growth of 127% over

"This academy will provide jobs for local people and support many of our residents to fulfil their potential"

the last five years and accounting for 4,400 jobs and 660 businesses. If these growth rates continue, it is estimated that 300 new creative jobs could be created each year.

Dan Hawthorn, Director of Housing, Regeneration and Planning at Haringey Council, said: "Haringey has been supporting Fashion-Enter since 2013 and I am absolutely thrilled that they are now launching such a prestigious academy right here in our borough."

"This academy will provide jobs for local people, boost our local economy and support many of our residents to fulfil their potential and achieve their dreams. We are excited that Haringey and Fashion-Enter will be home to London's next generation of fashion talent."

For further information:

Email stephanie@fashion-enter.com



Fashion production in progress Credit: Fashion-Enter Ltd



Cutting out samples Credit: Fashion-Enter Ltd



David Lammy



Labour Party

These are dark and uncertain times. A decade of austerity has forced local and youth services to close, created a crisis in our health service, and worn down our schools.

On our streets, there has been a dramatic surge in knife crime that has robbed our community of countless young lives. House prices have sky-rocketed, making homeownership and renting unaffordable. Homelessness has more than doubled since 2010. The vast majority of victims of the Windrush scandal have still not received a penny in compensation. Globally, the climate emergency is getting worse. Meanwhile, politicians in Westminster have had no time to address these real crises, because all our energy has been wasted on the chaos of Brexit.

The country is understandably crying out for real change. Yet instead of change that will improve lives, the Conservative government has shifted to the hard right, using the same nationalist and populist politics of Nigel Farage and Donald Trump. This is the politics of fear, which has been used again and again in human history. Ethnic minorities and migrants are being blamed for national government failure to fund public services. Foreign institutions, like the EU, are scapegoated as the cause of all that is wrong. The problem is that false solutions will only make our real crises worse. Brexit will cause thousands of job losses, as businesses find it harder to trade with our closest neighbours; a drop in workers' environmental and consumer standards; and the sell-off of the NHS to Trump's US.

The real change Tottenham and the whole UK needs will not come from blaming minorities, migrants or Europeans. It will come from properly funding our schools, hospitals, higher education and services. Sharing wealth between our richest and poorest communities, so that everyone has a fair chance to succeed. And creating the green jobs of the future, to protect our environment and provide well-paid work for millions over the years to come. The real choice you face in this election is change inspired by hope, versus change inspired by fear. I ask you to back me on the side of hope.

We need representatives in parliament who aren't afraid to challenge the current system and call for change. I'm standing as the Green candidate in Tottenham because we need urgent change to tackle the Climate Crisis. As a Green MP I will be your voice in Westminster - saying 'yes' to Europe and 'no' to climate chaos.

We have to work nationally to stop environmental collapse. This means permanently banning fracking, investing in public transport and replacing fossil fuels. But we also need to think about our local environment too. As your MP I would campaign to protect our Tottenham green spaces, the really valuable wildlife habitats we have right on our doorstep in our marshes and the River Lea. These need to be nurtured and protected for us all to enjoy.

Alongside local and national change, we need urgent global action to tackle Climate Breakdown. That means working across borders. Now, perhaps more than ever, we need to come together to face our common problems. If elected I would firmly stand up for a people's vote on Brexit.

At home and overseas we can't tackle Climate Chaos without tackling inequality because the most vulnerable and least to blame for environmental damage suffer its harms first. A healthy life, healthy planet and healthy local environment benefit us all. However, in our deeply unequal society many don't have the time and resources to access these benefits. As your Green MP I would call for a Universal Basic Income and a four-day working week - transformative policies, giving everyone the power to create a more sustainable and happier society.

Working as an NHS doctor I've seen firsthand the damage done to people's lives by austerity. As your Green MP I would fight tirelessly against these cuts, for properly funded public services, better renters' rights and investment in council housing. In one of the wealthiest countries in the world nobody should worry about making ends meet or putting a roof over their head.

We all benefit from a greener future. Please vote Emma Chan for a fair future and a green future for all.

Emma Chan



Green Party

Jonathan Silberman



Communist League

I'm Jonathan Silberman, 68, a decades-long factory worker and trade unionist.

The greatest challenge facing working people is to overcome the self-image the rulers teach us and recognise our capacities and our worth. We can take power and organise society.

The other parties defend the interests of the UK's ruling rich. They have no answer to the economic, social and moral crisis caused by capitalism - other than to make working people pay.

The working class must organise and act independently of the bosses, the capitalist state and its parties. We need to overcome the divisions the rulers sow among us - between black and white, men and women, young and old, native- and foreign-born - and unite in struggle to defend our interests.

We need to mobilise working class solidarity, forging a movement of millions to establish a workers and farmers government to put an end to the dictatorship of capital.

The unions: should use union power to defend and organise all workers - agency, temporary, permanent, and native- and foreign-born. One union for Black Cab, minicab and Uber drivers. Fight against all two-tier wages and conditions. For a government funded programme of public works to provide jobs and improve nationwide infrastructure.

Cuba: An example that shows it is possible for workers and farmers to transform themselves in struggle, to take political power and uproot capitalist exploitation. Oppose the US economic war against Cuba; US out of Guantánamo. End British complicity.

Oppose Jew hatred: For recognition of Israel and a viable contiguous Palestinian state. For the right of Jews to return to Israel as a refuge. Freedom for Kashmir. For Kurdish national rights.

EU: Oppose London's wars abroad! Bring the troops home now! For international working class solidarity.

Land and Labour: Capitalism's profit drive is the despoiler of nature and the environment; the cause of unsafe working and living conditions. For workers, control over production, building construction and safety. No more Grenfells! The stewardship of nature falls to the working class.

Vote Communist League!

The last three years have been an eye-opener. We have watched in horror as the political establishment set about blocking Brexit. By betraying the British people, they have shown just how out of touch they are.

The Labour Party in particular should be ashamed of itself. As we prepare to vote, the thought of Corbyn, McDonnell, Abbott and co running this country is truly frightening.

That's why I'm proud to be standing as your Social Democratic Party candidate in Tottenham.

Haringey man and boy, I am a Haringey library worker, a housing association tenant and occasional writer and editor. I have worked in health, housing, social care and the arts over the years, and would relish the chance to serve this community.

The SDP believes in nation, community and family. First and foremost, we are democrats. We are patriotic and internationalist. We are pro-market and pro-public sector. We defend free speech.

We support Brexit, electoral reform, the Union, rail nationalisation, the establishment of an English Parliament, and the abolition of the House of Lords.

Think of us as the radical centre. We believe there needs to be greater investment in our public services - especially housing - and we believe big corporations must pay their share of tax.

Working in Haringey libraries, I get to hear what's on people's minds. Housing shortages, crime and anti-social behaviour, the neglect of our public spaces, air pollution damaging our children's health. Or simply the struggles of families caring for one another, trying to get by.

We are only a small party, and we won't be in a position to tackle these issues in the short term. But a vote for me brings closer the day when they will be tackled, with common sense policies underpinned by our 'communitarian' values.

Some habits need breaking. Fed up with the Labour Party? Then stop voting for them. Especially here, in this 'safe' Labour seat, occupied by an MP whose only claim to fame after 19 years in Parliament is his well-earned reputation for speaking divisive nonsense.

Tottenham deserves better! Vote SDP.

Andrew Bence



Social Democratic Party



Tammy Palmer



Liberal Democrats

Tottenham is an extraordinary place to live and somewhere I am proud to be raising my family.

Despite this I know we have our challenges and too many families and young people are struggling with poor services and a lack of opportunity.

I grew up in care and I know that a hard start in life for a young person can greatly change their future for the worse. I am in politics to change that. Since being elected to Haringey Council I have fought tirelessly on local issues to make our community a better place to live.

Climate change is key- as a Mum I want to make sure we create a world that is cleaner and greener for future generations, as a Cllr this has been one of my key focus areas and I put forward a motion this year to create school streets and no idling zones.

Education is also critical: as a parent with a child in a local primary school I know how damaging cuts will be. Education is key to closing the inequality gap and every single child deserves the best start in life and the best education we can provide.

Tackling violent crime must also be a priority, young people deserve to grow up without fear. There is no easy answer to tackling this issue but our pledge to invest £500 million into targeted youth services will, I am sure, be welcomed by everyone in Tottenham.

My message on local issues is clear, investment is welcomed, it must only ever happen when it is of benefit to the existing community and puts their needs at its heart.

We must never put profit before our own people.

As for Brexit, I think our position is crystal clear - a vote for me is a vote to Stop Brexit.

Tottenham has been governed by one party for too long, this isn't representative. I believe it's time to challenge that and to give Tottenham the bright future it deserves - elect a MP with Liberal values.

I am ready for that fight.
I hope you will join me.

Living in North London, I know and understand the key issues that constituents in Tottenham face daily. Crime is a serious issue in this constituency. Among others, antisocial behaviour, violent crime, and robbery are clear problems, and have resulted in people no longer feeling as safe as they should. The Conservatives will put 20,000 more police on our streets and give them the powers they need to protect us. Only a Conservative majority can ensure our communities remain safe, which is why you should back me, as your Member of Parliament.

To ensure our streets are not only safe, but prosperous, the Conservatives will cut business rates, cut national insurance contributions for over half a million employers, and cut construction tax. I believe that small businesses help constituencies like Tottenham thrive, they are the pillars of our community. My father has been a small business owner his whole life, I have watched him suffer under Labour administrations with higher taxes and no support, but prosper under Conservative Governments. We are the Party of business and are committed to regenerating suffering high-streets.

The Conservatives will continue to support the NHS, to give people the care and support they need. My brother is a doctor and has seen improvements under the Conservatives, however, because of Labour's Brexit deadlock, our NHS hasn't had the attention it deserves. If you vote for me, and the Conservatives win a majority, we can get on with giving the NHS the biggest cash boost in history, ensuring our local GPs and hospitals get the necessary funding.

There are 55 schools in Tottenham. As a former school governor, I don't want Labour undermining our children's educations, or falling standards and failing students. Under the Conservatives, England has moved up the international league tables. We cannot afford to allow a Labour government to undercut our work by removing free schools, scrapping SATs and abolishing Ofsted.

To secure a Government that will get Brexit done, so we can invest in a future for Tottenham, and a future for Britain: turn Tottenham it's true colour, Blue, and vote for James Newhall!

James Newhall



Conservative Party

Abdul Turay



Brexit Party

The Brexit Party is about more than Brexit. The Brexit Party wants Britain to leave the EU and rebuild ties with the Commonwealth.

A vote for the Brexit Party is a vote for the Commonwealth and the ordinary working people of Tottenham. A vote for Labour is a vote for Europe's elites. For too long Labour has taken your vote for granted. David Lammy thinks he has a job for life, and it has made him complacent.

I will fight to give the people of Tottenham the voice that they deserve. I will fight for affordable housing, to protect the Latin village, to reduce taxes on small businesses and for zero interest rates on student loans.

My family are a Windrush family who came over to Britain in the 50s. They worked in factories for 40 years. They built this country.

The people of Tottenham deserve better. The area is rife with gang-related violence. The streets are covered in litter and houses are dilapidated.

David Lammy cares more about hobnobbing with his rich powerful friends in Brussels than he does about the working-class people of Tottenham.

Crime: As your MP I will oppose any attempt to bring back stop and search. I will focus on community policing to tackle knife crime. As your MP, I will lobby to introduce compulsory martial arts and self-defence lessons in our schools, so our young people don't feel afraid and don't feel the need to carry knives.

Education: The Brexit Party will scrap interest on loans repayment on student fees as a first step towards getting rid of student fees altogether.

Housing: Whilst other parties are focusing on wasting money on big infrastructure projects and faster broadband, The Brexit Party will focus on building affordable housing so young people can have independent lives. Britain needs homes, and more homes.

Values: I stand for traditional conservative values which I know many people in this community share. David Lammy has let you down on this.

Brexit: First, we must get Brexit done so we can have our laws, govern ourselves and form friendships with other countries.

This crisis election is a result of the refusal of parliament to implement the 2016 referendum result and capitalism's worldwide economic crisis which is deepening rapidly.

Eleven years of severe austerity has seen wages cut, benefits abolished by the notorious Universal Credit and homelessness skyrocket.

Over a million use food banks to survive, teachers take food and clothing into school for pupils, and students are impoverished by tuition fees.

Tottenham has suffered more than most, with so called "housing regeneration schemes" and "redevelopment" merely an excuse to bankroll privateers and drive working class families into poverty.

All this while we are part of the bankers and business corporations EU!

The WRP campaigns for an immediate "no deal" break with the EU and no payment of billions in compensation.

Our demand to leave the EU has nothing to do with being anti-European, anti-immigrant or nationalistic.

We are against the capitalist EU.

We are for a Socialist United States of Europe, based on the Europe-wide nationalisation of the banks and major industries.

We unite with our fellow workers in all countries against their capitalist rulers; their enemy is our enemy.

Citizens from the EU living in the UK will enjoy the same rights, wages and voting rights with free access to the NHS and education.

We demand a minimum wage of £12 an hour for everyone over 16.

Lower the voting age to 16, so that young people can play a real role in the future.

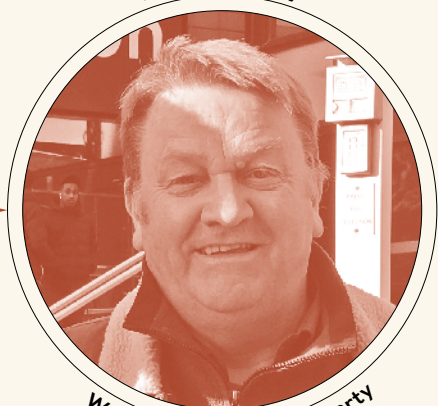
End all academies, restore the highest quality state education, with no access for big business.

Free university education, end all fees, restore bursaries and grants and end the dangerous privatisation of student accommodation.

This crisis has split the Tory and Labour parties and created conditions for workers to advance. Seize the opportunity to establish a workers' government and socialism.

Vote WRP on December 12th.

Frank Sweeney



Workers Revolutionary Party

NEWS

Enfield Police Station
Credit Wikicommons



By Simon Allin,
Local Democracy Reporter

A merger between police forces in Enfield and Haringey is “going well”, the police chief in charge of the two boroughs has said.

Detective Chief Superintendent Treena Fleming, commander of the Met Police’s North Basic Command Unit (BCU), said the merger means police now have more flexibility when responding to crimes.

Enfield and Haringey police joined forces in January this year as part of a London-wide shake-up by the Met designed to help save £325 million by 2022.

At a meeting of Haringey’s environment and community safety scrutiny panel last month, Det Ch Supt Fleming said: “I think it’s going very well. With any change, there is still a period of uncertainty, but I think it is stabilising now.”

The police chief said the merger means the BCU can send a police response car from one borough to another to deal with a reported crime.

She said: “I think it makes far more sense if I have a crime reported near the border with Haringey and our nearest patrol unit is the Enfield patrol car, I can drive that car to the Haringey offence and they can deal with it quickly.”

Det Ch Supt Fleming said the BCU is responding to 80% of the most serious calls – dubbed ‘immediate’ or ‘I grades’ by the Met – within the 15-minute target time.

For the second most serious, ‘significant’ or ‘S grades’, 75% are within the 60-minute target time.

The police chief said: “We have always focused on I grades and how quickly we get there. For me, it is not about that – I don’t think the victim will notice if we are a minute or two minutes out of target.

“I think what they will care about is what we do when we get there – that we do the right thing, investigate their crime and provide a really good level of service.”

She added she was “really delighted” with the safeguarding team.

Det Ch Supt Fleming said that before the merger, victims of child abuse, domestic abuse and sexual offending might have had three investigating officers, whereas now they only have one.

She said: “That is far less confusing for the victim. It means we are much more joined-up and balanced in our risk assessment process because we know exactly what is going on.”

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) dealing with complex crime and neighbourhood policing are also “working well”, the police

chief said.

She added the shift patterns of neighbourhood ward officers had recently changed so there are more of them patrolling streets from 4.00pm to midnight.

Ian Sygrave, a resident member of the panel, raised concerns about the number of police officers apparently being taken out of safer neighbourhood teams to deal with other issues. He said: “It is of particular concern to residents who are just not seeing those officers.

“Obviously there are some things, like Extinction Rebellion, that are beyond your control.

“But there are other things at BCU level where you have more say. I just get the feeling officers are being abstracted for incidents within the BCU than they used to be.”

Det Ch Supt Fleming said a lot of officers had been sent to police the Extinction Rebellion protests.

But she added: “I will backfill where that occurs. It is difficult – we have to manage demand – but thankfully that does not happen too often.

“The great thing about having the autonomy that I do with two boroughs is that where I need to, I can flex resource, so if you have a particular problem in your ward, I can call upon other strands and central asset to come in and support that crime problem.”

Up for a challenge?

Haringey Giving is a new initiative to enable people to give their time, talents and funds to local good causes

By Colin Bowen,
Director of Haringey Giving

For our first campaign, The Haringey Big Give appeal, we are focussing on helping people in Tottenham by distributing small grants quickly and effectively to individuals and community organisations that make a difference.

As part of the Haringey Big Give Christmas Challenge, all donations made between 3–10th December will be matched by local and national funders up to a total of £75,000, doubling the positive impact we can make on the community.

The Bridge Renewal Trust is collaborating with Tottenham Brewing Co (TBC) to present the Big Live Music fundraiser – a fun night with some great live music, and a chance to hear a bit more about what we’re doing to help make life better for people in the area.

The collaboration came about through a chance conversation Rudi Keyser (TBC) and I had at the Tottenham Traders Partnership, where I was talking to local traders about Haringey Giving.

Rudi understood what we are aiming to achieve and how this could complement the aims of TBC’s social arm, Watling Street Beer. We are delighted that Rudi came forward with such a generous offer to host and support the Big Live Music Night fundraiser.

Rudi said: “Brewing Co and Watling Street Beer aims to be a brewing and drinks innovation hub with a unique event space.

“Community has always been one of our core values, and we are looking to get people engaging.

“We want to create a space where everyone feels welcome, safe and accepted.

“If every engagement we have makes people walk away and think, ‘Wow! I like what they are trying to achieve’ and if we can get enough people to question how they approach other people and society, then we are winning!”

The Big Live Music Night fundraiser takes place on Thursday, 5 December, 7.00–11.00pm, at Tottenham Brewing Company, Tariff Road N17 0EB

To find out more and book tickets: Visit haringeygiving.org.uk

Rudi and Ben
Tottenham
Brewing Co
Credit: Olivia
Dunscombe



“If we can get enough people to question how they approach other people and society, then we are winning!”

COMMENT

Community
Hale Village Estate
wins horticultural prize

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Standing for change for all our families

Paige Ballmi tells TCP why planting a family tree holds so much significance for her, and many others



Paige (centre) with David Lammy MP, local residents and councillors at the family tree planting event, held at Living Under One Sun Credit Tom Ferrie

By Paige Ballmi, Reunite Families UK

"When a tree is planted, it puts down roots in its new home. It gives life to its new surroundings and can flourish and grow."

Cross-border families are often unable to do this, because current visa policies like the Minimum Income Requirement (MIR) prevent them from doing so.

Since 2012, immigration rules brought in by former Prime Minister, Theresa May have demanded that British citizens must earn at least £18,600 a year if they want to establish a life here with a partner from outside Europe.

This is a policy that tears low-income families apart, forcing parents to live away from their British children for years, often on different continents, and trying to raise their kids over a dodgy Skype connection.

Last month, I planted a 'Family Tree' to raise awareness about these damaging rules and make our voices heard by those who have the power to change this discriminatory policy: MPs.

This event enabled families who have been affected to come together, share their

experiences and support one another.

The more people that know about the MIR policy and understand how it discriminates against huge parts of our community – including women, people from a BME background, those with disabilities and the elderly – the stronger we are. Together, we will get our voices heard and put an end to the price on love.

In 2017, my husband's visa was incorrectly refused on the basis that I did not meet the minimum income requirement. Although the decision by UK Visas and Immigration was completely wrong, the refusal pushed me to a dark place, almost ending my life.

Becoming a part of the campaign group Reunite Families, and real-

ising I was not the only person in this situation, gave me the inspiration and motivation I needed to be able to fight for the rights of cross-border families. I never want anyone to feel the way I did.

It is important that we do what we can for things to change and for that change to be sustainable, as so many lives depend on it, including mine.

Words will never explain how important it was for me to hold the Family Tree event in Tottenham. I spent most of the

time that I was separated from my husband, suffering because of the Home Office's refusal, at my workplace in Tottenham.

As I was going through it, I realised that anyone in Tottenham could be affected in similar ways. So, what better way to campaign for change than to plant a tree here, and bring new life into the world?

I hope that people in Tottenham who've been negatively affected by these rules and anyone who supports the rights of families to be together, no matter what, will come forward and join our fight. During the election campaign, you can be part of the fight for justice by writing to your local candidates to get them to pledge to scrap the MIR – the price on love that splits up cross-border families based on their income.

Ways you can help

Register to vote:

Visit gov.uk/register-to-vote

Write to your MP to end the MIR:

Visit jcwi.org.uk/take-action-to-bring-families-together

Visit reunitefamiliesuk.co.uk

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PHOTOGRAPHY

White Hart Lane



The project *White Hart Lane* aims to present a well-rounded view of Tottenham and how it is evolving. The introduction of the £1 Billion Spurs Football Stadium represents a significant change in the area. However, it is causing many people to fear the inevitable gentrification

of Tottenham and possible loss of the place they call home. The *White Hart Lane* photography project will run until 2021. It charts the impact of the development, in an attempt to get an unbiased, accurate view of the change Tottenham has been going through over the decade

since the riots in 2011 and more recently since the completion of the football stadium. I am conscious of the need to give a true representation of the area and the people who live here, and I plan to exhibit my work in a local exhibition when the project is completed.



by Jack Smethers

If you want to be part of this photography project:
Email jack@jacksmethers.com
Visit jacksmethers.com

COMMUNITY

Green space in Hale Village Credit: Inez Hickman and David Tothill



In bloom

Hale Village Estate wins national horticulture prize

By Inez Hickman,
Facilities & Landscape Manager
at Hale Village Management Ltd

At the end of October, Hale Village and The Engine Room staff were invited to the finals of the Brit-

ain in Bloom awards held at the headquarters of the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) in Westminster, London.

The RHS puts on the annual Chelsea Flower Show and is the national charity which seeks to grow excellence in horticulture.

Hale Village, supported by The Engine Room Community Centre, entered the category of Best Urban Community. We won the Gold Award, which was presented by former children's TV presenter and actress Baronees Floella Benjamin, OBE, DL. We

also won a Discretionary Award for the initiative, Greener Streets Better Lives.

The national judges observed how the estate "had been set up in such a way that quality of the green space had been prioritised and the transition from the ecological corridor of the Lee Valley to the estate works well."

The Engine Room was also recognised for its role in the development of great horticultural awareness in our local commu-

nity, with resident engagement in seed planting, window boxes, bug hotels and nature walks, all being coordinated by Church and Community Worker Maria Joseph.

Estate Manager, Jeremy Hickman Said: "We know how much quality green spaces matter to residents and visitors and this award celebrates the dedication that goes into maintaining Hale Village to such a high standard."

For more information about Hale Village:
Visit halevillagelondon.com

"We know how much quality green spaces matter to residents and visitors"



Hale Village and the Engine Room are presented an award from Floella Benjamin, OBE, DL

Stonebridge Lock Apple Day celebrates our feathered wildlife and local waterways



By Frances Dismore

The 2019 Village Butty, Stonebridge Lock Apple Day was a sunny affair with much music, marvel and merriment.

The October event celebrated our local waterways through the medium of apples: with mulled-cider; toffee apples; home-baked apple goodness; wood crafts and games.

Supported by local businesses,

The Stonebridge Lock Coalition (a local volunteer resident-led waterways clean-up group) and the Waterside Café raised £430.67 for The Swan Sanctuary charity.

The Tottenham Lock, Hale Wharf swans have had a difficult year. The breeding pair were oil-slicked three times whilst brooding their eggs, and two of the four full-grown cygnets became trapped behind steel sheeting retrofitted to the lock gates.

With the summer heat, water levels dropped. Exacerbated by the general poor water quality, dissolved oxygen levels fell even further. A naturally occurring bacterium, clostridium botulinum thrives in these conditions and produces a toxin, which when ingested by water birds can cause fatal paralysis. If not treated, this is known as avian botulism.

Unfortunately, both the adult

swans and a cygnet needed hospitalisation, the cob did not survive. The two remaining cygnets were displaced by a territorial adult pair.

The Swan Sanctuary stepped in and reunited the two with the pen and cygnet undergoing rehabilitation for safe release elsewhere once they had fully recovered.

This past year The Swan Sanctuary has volunteered many hours and much effort and resources to keep our local water birds safe and healthy.

Local resident, Claire Falconer said: "The swans have been part of my life since getting a boat 25 years ago. Living near them is such a privilege, it has made me more aware of wildlife and their struggle

to survive while their habitats are being more and more degraded.

"It made me connect with what I was doing too, what washing up liquid I use and how my choices affect the environment.

"It really saddens me to see more and more pollution in the river every year. We need to help

preserve these river havens in our busy city. I feed the swans because they need all the help they can get especially through the hard winter – I'm sure they recognise me as I walk along the tow path coming home."

For more information:

Twitter @StonebridgeLock
Facebook /StonebridgeLockCoalition

"We need to help preserve these river havens in our busy city"

COMMUNITY

Feature

Local man helps rescue seal pups on the South West coast

Page 13

Tottenham Literature Festival

Spoken word artist Koko Brown
Credit Luchia Robinson

L to R: Cultural programmer, Chrystal Genesis chairs a panel with author, Desiree Reynolds, poet, Zena Edwards, author, Candice Carty-Williams and actor and writer, Emma Dennis- Edwards Credit Luchia Robinson



L to R: Writer and curator, Ama Josephine Budge with authors, Okechukwu Nzelu, Sulaiman Addonia, Nana Oforiatta Ayim and Matilda Ibini Credit Luchia Robinson



Interviewer Sarah Ozo-Irabor (centre) with authors, JJ Bola (left) and Hannah Lee (right) Credit Luchia Robinson

For more information:
tottenhamcommunitypress.co.uk/interviews/centring-black-narratives/

POETRY CORNER

Window Seat
by Christina Egan

You beat me to the window seat,
 the secret poets' nest;
 you watched the broad and busy street,
 a highway on your quest.
 You beat me to the poets' prize,
 without a rhyme or form:
 you saw the faces floating by
 in the approaching storm,
 you caught the litter and the leaves,
 the puddles and the birds
 and strung them as bizarre bright beads
 on your vibrating verse.

To submit your poetry:
 Email tcp@socialspider.com

Frocking Cancer Diary: Donating your unwanted Christmas gifts

By Kaz Foncette

December is here, which can only mean one thing, it's almost time to unwrap some unwanted presents.

We all get them, just like the common cold, and we are sometimes unsure as to what to do with them. Most of the time they get tucked away in the back of our bathroom drawers, and then chucked in the bin a year later after we discover them still unused.

Bath smellies from a secret Santa, more shower gel from your brother because he panic bought on Christmas Eve, or even Santa dropping off something you didn't recall asking for.

Whoever you've received your unwanted gift from, they wouldn't take too much offense if you donated the item to charity, would they?

This time of year can be financially difficult for some families,

especially if you have cancer.

Cancer muggles (people who do not have cancer) are often oblivious when it comes to understanding the sheer cost of living with the disease. The cost of food, transport, hospital car parks, post-surgery clothing, beauty products, wigs, not to mention the additional cost of heating and energy throughout the winter months!

The list can often be endless and for people who are living in cancer poverty, small charities such as mine, Wigs for Heroes and other grassroots groups, can play a small part when it comes to easing some of the financial burden.

Since my own cancer diagnosis in 2017, I've not only worked tirelessly to be free from the disease but also to help others navigate their way through treatment.

It's been almost two years since we launched our 'Pamper Bags', our beautiful and often essential

gift bags put together for people undergoing chemotherapy at North Middlesex University Hospital. We fill them with beauty and hygiene products that have been kindly donated by brands, bloggers and the general public, and we distribute them once a week, to patients having chemotherapy.

It brings smiles, conversations, and hope to people facing the journey alone.

So as much as you may fake a smile and think about who to recycle your gifts to – not speaking from experience of course – consider donating to Wigs for Heroes this year.

For more information about product donations

Visit Linktr.ee/WigsforHeroes
Post FAO Wigs for Heroes, N&N Signs LTD, (Unit behind Shell Petrol Station) 65A East Barnet Road, New Barnet, Hertfordshire EN4 8RN



Kaz with donated gifts, wrapped and ready to go Credit Linda Athey

HEALTH

Navigating your health needs

New support network helps local women who are experiencing the menopause



Gathering together at Living Under One Sun
Credit Ashley Grey

By Keesha Sinclair & Ashley Grey,
Menopause Planning Group

Earlier this year, the Menopause Planning Group (a network of Haringey services) was formed. The group is a direct response to frustrations from residents and professionals in the borough, who were concerned about

not being able to access the right information, guidance and support regarding the menopause (when a woman stops having periods and is no longer able to get pregnant naturally), in its various stages.

The planning group consists of a diverse range of contributors (Local Area Coordination, Women with a Voice, Haringey Coordination and

Prevention Service, Thinking Space, Reach and Connect, Social Prescribing, and Public Voice) who have come together to share expertise and fill the information gap.

Prior to the group, the women that we had spoken to had all shared experiences around exclusion, feelings of anxiety and depression, and the worry of having little or no understanding about what was happening to their bodies or what to expect.

The Menopause Planning Group supports women to be co-producers of a project that helps to inform and support other women across Haringey. It provides a platform for women and girls from different cultural backgrounds to share their experiences and develop a new united voice about their health.

Last month local women came together at an event hosted by Reach and Connect, at Living Under One Sun (LUOS) in Down Lane Park, to discuss the stigmas around getting older and principally the 'taboo' topic of the menopause.

As the group feasted on tasty tagines made with delicious home-

grown vegetables from the LUOS garden, they listened to herbalist Marion Makonnen talk about how our bodies and emotions change over time.

Marion reminded everyone that we should not see this time in our lives as an ending, but as a new beginning, in which anything is possible. There were tears and laughter and above all, a sense of lived experience.

Attendees had the opportunity to sign up for training that will take place in January 2020, and also Haringey's 200 Voices project – an initiative that invites anyone affected by the menopause to share their experiences. The project aims to collect a minimum of 200 voices that will be celebrated at the Southbank Centre next March, as part of International Women's Week.

We want to harness this people power in order to create well-woman and girl hub spaces throughout Haringey.

There are an estimated 19,000 perimenopausal women (within the 2-3 year stage, leading up to the menopause, when women may start to experience symptoms) in Haringey, and approximately 2,500 of these

are women aged 40–45. Almost 14.5% of women in Haringey are aged 45–55 – the age group most likely to be perimenopausal.

Tottenham is a rich tapestry of cultural traditions and it has a diverse community of people. However, there are stark health inequalities between the East and the West of the borough.

Every woman and girl has the right to access advice and guidance in order to understand and plan for their present and future health needs, and we are focused on creating resilience through education.

The Menopause Planning Group seeks to gather support from existing groups and services in order to run more projects in Haringey. We have a collective approach and we believe that we can assist these groups in extending their reach towards women in need – creating a vibrant information network for women, girls and their families affected by menopausal concerns.

If you are interested in finding out more, participating in the training or being a part of the 200 Voices project:

Email ashley@reachandconnect.net or Keesha.Sinclair@haringey.gov.uk

Winter with Sickle Cell

Why it's important to be aware of the effects of weather upon our health

By Samantha Greaves,
Sickle Cell Care Advocacy, Unity, Support with Empathy Group

I remember during my childhood, spending many playtimes and lunchbreaks huddled up as close to the door as possible having exhausted all means of gaining entry into school, and being thrown back out into the cold.

When I was growing up as a child in the 60s, school playtimes meant 'get outside until it's over', no matter the climate: neither rain; sleet; snow nor even smog was an accepted reason to be indoors during these times. My teachers and peers never really understood how painful it felt for me.

Extreme weather conditions but especially the cold, amongst many other issues can cause severe pain attacks known as a Sickle Cell-crisis – each crisis is a serious attack on life, and fatalities are not always recorded as a result of the patient having sickle cell,

but often via its resulting cause, such as a stroke, pneumonia or chest infection.

Red blood cells, which live on average 120 days in normal circumstances, only live for 20 days in the case of a Sickle Cell patient, causing an extreme deprivation of oxygen which leads to many lifelong health and lifestyle battles.

The average Sickle Cell patient lives with daily symptoms including: full body pain, regular bouts of Sickle Cell crisis, eating disorders, trauma, anxiety, memory failure, tooth and hair loss. Other symptoms include: swollen joints, migraine, hearing and vision impairment and loss, and depression. They may also have a morbid fear of impending death.

However, because of patient led initiatives such as the Organisation Sickle Cell Anaemia Research (OSCAR) – the first ever support and research network in Europe, founded in Haringey in 1975 by Sickle Cell patient Dr Neville Roy Clare – many



Samantha Greaves Credit Carl Kirton

advancements have been made in the UK Sickle Cell world.

I am very proud that Neville was my Sickle Cell mentor. He encouraged me to create the Sickle Cell Care, Advocacy, Unity, Support with Empathy Group (SC CAUSE), six months before he died.

It is hard volunteering support about such a horrific, killer disease, especially when one lives with the condition as well but I feel a deep passion and a sense of duty that I cannot ignore.

The winter months are the most painful, traumatic and life threatening. It is important that all schools and work environments are educated about this illness; if only to reduce the type of mental and physical trauma I suffered as a child.

Copies of Professor Simon Dysons Guides on managing Sickle Cell anaemia in schools and the workplace can be obtained via SC CAUSE.

For more information contact Samantha Greaves:

Email sicklecellcause@gmail.com
Facebook [/sicklecellcause](https://www.facebook.com/sicklecellcause)

FEATURE

Local man on a mission to save seal pups



Credit: Stephen Furner

By Stephen Furner

"Don't whatever you do put your hands anywhere near them they don't hesitate to bite. They may look cuddly but those teeth are sharp and they aren't afraid to use them." It's the first thing anyone used to handling seal pups says to the newbies. It was a warning repeated every time the team transferred the pups in or out of the aircraft or discussed their welfare.

For me this journey started on a Thursday evening last month, when I took my phone out of silent mode on the way home and started checking my messages. There was one on WhatsApp from Graham Mountford at Sky Watch – was I free to help out with a transport flight for injured seals the following day? Seal pups, they look so cute, how could I say no?

I've been a member of the UK charity, Sky Watch for several years. Sky Watch describes itself as: "The UK Civil Air Patrol (legacy name Sky Watch) comprising of pilots, observers and supporters who are organised to provide complementary air support to agencies or individuals who would otherwise

not have access to such support or whose own regular air support is not available."

Like a lot of young boys of my generation I made model aeroplanes both static and flying. The static models hung from my bedroom ceiling on a fishing line while the balsa wood kits flew over Lordship Recreation Ground and into its trees.

For a while I was to be found of an evening in a hut behind the former Territorial Army Centre in the High Road near the Spurs ground. This was where the local Tottenham Air Training Core (ATC) cadets used to meet. It was through the ATC's air experience programs that I got my first flight in a glider and also a light aircraft.

Many years later in middle age I finally got to learn to fly and gained a pilot's licence. I wanted to use my skills for more than just leisure so I volunteered with Sky Watch.

While Sky Watch's primary role is aerial search for missing people who are at risk, its members will undertake other relevant aviation tasks where there is a clear social need.

I wasn't the pilot in the seal flight, this was Graham Mountford's job, I was part

Credit: Stephen Furner



"The balsa wood kits flew over Lordship Recreation Ground and into its trees"

of the aircraft crew helping with seal boarding, transfers and making a photographic record of the flight.

Many pups are being injured because of poor weather on the South West coast. The local animal welfare facilities are being overwhelmed, so pups have to be taken to other locations where there is capacity available to treat them.

These seals, known as Humbug and Chewit had been rescued in Cornwall, but had spaces reserved for them at an animal hospital in Scotland.

Our job was to pick them up from Newquay airport and take them to an airfield in Scotland. Here the Scottish Society for the Protection of Animals met us to take them onwards to the hospital by road.

My impression was that both Humbug and Chewit enjoyed their flight – dozing most of the time. According to the team we handed them over to, they were in good shape and expected to make a full recovery before being returned to the wild.

For more details of Sky Watch and how to join: Visit swcap.uk

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Credit: Stephen Furner

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STAY WELL THIS WINTER



YOUTH

Unravelling life's mysteries

Helen Swinyard talks to Sharna Jackson, author of the book, *High Rise Mystery*

Love a good 'whodunnit?' Nik and Norva, our two teenage protagonists in *High Rise Mystery*, do.

Their love of TV shows like *Death In Paradise* has spilt into real life, documenting the goings on and daily drama of life on the Tri – taking photos of everything and writing lists, like real detectives.

However, the stakes are raised from the usual mundane mysteries in their local area, when a neighbour gets murdered... Their usual loyalties are tested as well as their skill, in trying to beat the police to the truth.

Set in London, this is a great story for any teenage reader, with authentic sounding voices from a variety of diverse characters.

Here we have essential reading from 2019. *High Rise Mystery* has already been nominated for the Carnegie Medal, a prestigious award for books for young people – maybe you will give it a go too?

What connections do you have to Tottenham (or, North London) and what are your favourite things about it? I lived in London for 12 years – my brothers live there, my son was born there and I still have many friends in the capital. There is so

much to love about London. My favourite things include: the diversity of the people, the arts, the food and the river. I miss the Thames so much.

Why should young people from Tottenham give your book a try? How will they see themselves reflected in it?

High Rise Mystery is set in London, where two young sisters solve a murder on their estate. It's important for me that young black children see themselves in books and in the media as being positive, being clever and being creative. Representation matters.

What were you like as a teenager?

What were your favourite things to do? I loved reading, watching MTV (when it showed music videos), going out on my bike, thinking I was in love, plotting my future. Standard teen things.

What advice would you give to any Tottenham teenagers hoping to become writers?

Nothing is wasted – every experience you have is potential material for your stories. Find a way to note it down in a way that works for you – in a notebook or on your phone, it doesn't matter.



Sharna Jackson Credit Joshua Fray

“It's important for me that young black children see themselves in books and in the media as being positive, being clever and being creative”

Building a single seat racer Credit Andre Whyte



Bentley Cars come to Tottenham

Motorsport engineer, Andre Whyte leads an engineering workshop at The Engine Room

By Andrew Johnston,
Operations Manager,
The Engine Room

Every once in a while, someone comes through the doors of The Engine Room with an inspirational idea and this was one such case.

We were delighted to welcome Andre Whyte and a collective of engineers ranging across different fields: automotive; aerospace; rail and biomedical, to run an engineering workshop, as part of our youth programme COMPACT, which is funded by Lee Valley Estates and the Mayor of London.

The workshop was split into different age groups, ages 8-13 in the morning and 14-18 in the afternoon. The first activity was to assemble an electric car model using environmentally friendly wood, a motor and batteries. A winner was crowned after a series of great races!

In the afternoon, the older students built a mock-up of a single seater race car, learning the ergonomics of the car.

Andre, who was born and raised in Tottenham started engineering in secondary school with a BTEC Level 2. He continued studying engineering in college and university.

When he was younger, Andre was keen to understand how cars were designed and so he grabbed the chance to study Motorsport Engineering.

Heavily influenced by Lewis Hamilton, Andre went for a few job interviews and got plenty of rejections. Finally, he landed the opportunity to work for Bentley Motors in Crewe.

Andre said: “Whilst working in our roles, a few of us at Bentley decided that we wanted to give something positive back to the communities in which we grew up, positively influencing young people growing up in similar environments to ourselves.

“We went out to visit schools and colleges, sharing our stories with students, shedding a light on what could be achieved.

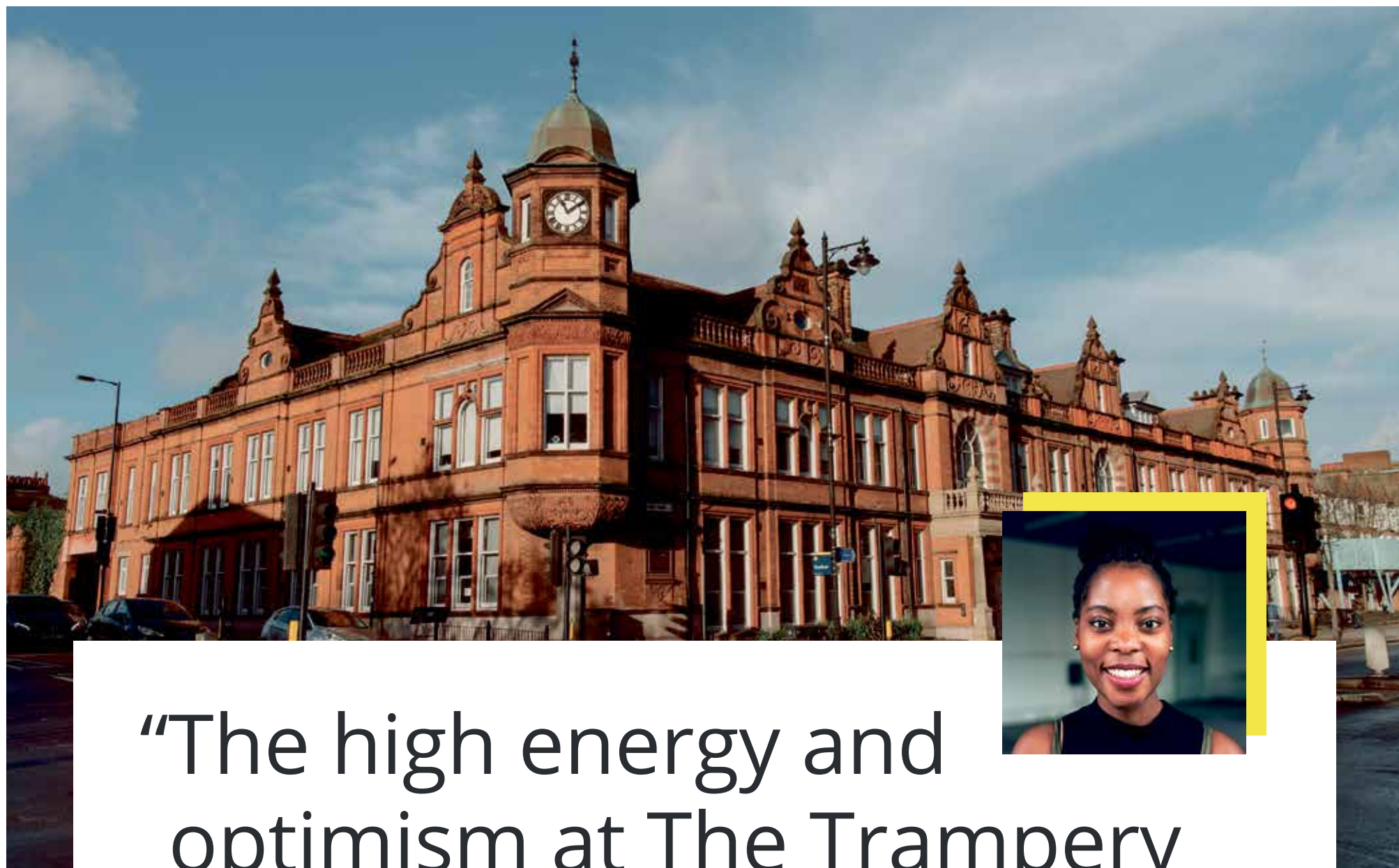
“We decided to create

the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) based organisation, Dynamic Prospects – a youth organisation campaigning for balance and representation of underprivileged individuals.

“We aim to encourage, enable, and energise individuals in business, industry, and education to widen participation and contribution of diverse individuals in STEM.”

Andre has been fully supported by Bentley Motors and his engineering workshop manager, Gary Hughes, who said: “I am convinced that Andre has grown in confidence and capability in his role as a result of participating in, and now leading these workshops and I wish him and the events he runs every success.”

Andre said: “The Engine Room is a great place with amazing facilities and very kind and wonderful staff. They gave us a great opportunity to run our workshop. We look forward to working closer with them in the near future.”



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Zara Afflick – Founder, Box of Prints
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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.

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