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Local news that matters to you

College responds to Government's autism review

Young people with autism must have a voice



By Luchia Robinson

he government's decision to update the National Autism Strategy in England to include children and young people has been welcomed at Ambitious College - the only

autism specific college in London. Vivienne Berkeley, Principal at Ambitious Cnollege, Pears Campus, CONEL (College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London), spoke to Tottenham Community Press about what a review of the strategy could mean. "There's 1 in 100 people with autism

in the population, so it's really important that across the age range (O-25+), they are represented (...) so that they all get a voice in having some control over the choices in their lives," said Vivienne.

She added: "I think what's really important about this review, is that it builds on the impact of the Children and Families Act.

"(With that act) the hope was that education, health and care would work together to jointly commission and co-produce to give a much more rounded, joined up service to young people. Reality is, that's not what's happening. What I'm hoping is, the review will see where there (are) still gaps in the system and make recommendations for those gaps to be plugged."

Citing the experience of Ambitious College students, Vivienne explains: "We've got a young man with us who was placed in two general FE (Further Education) colleges and was excluded from both of them before he came here. His mum had applied for a place here, but the local authority had turned him down. (He had to) experience failure twice before his mum got the place of choice, for her and that young man," said Vivienne. "I think the review will need to look at what the current barriers for young people and their families are. [...] So in effect, what's working and what's not working."

Young people with autism face barriers going into the school of their choice, the college of their choice and a workplace of their choice, says Vivienne.

Only1in4youngpeople with autism goes into any type of post 16 education and only 16% of autistic adults in the UK are in fulltime, paid work. Only 32% of adults with autism are in some kind of paid employment.

"We work really hard for our young people to access work experience," said Vivienne.

"Our local partners are amazing. Bernie Grant Arts Centre has provided our learners with paid work placements."

Vivienne added: "For us it's about pushing those boundaries, pushing expectations and being really ambitious for our young people."

Joseph, a second year learner at Ambitious College, has work experience at the college as part of a social enterprise.

"I want to do more things in the

Continued on Page-3

HISTORY

STEADFAST DIFFICULTIES

JAN 2019 - Nº. 18

At Tottenham Community Press we believe that Tottenham deserves a newspaper that is written by and for local people, and which celebrates thecommunity 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.

Tottenham Community Press is your local newspaper, keeping you up to date with news, views and events in the local area.

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TCP 2019 meets TCP 1973

The NET (North East Tottenham) was a local newspaper produced fortnightly by the Tottenham Community Project (TCP) from 1972-1977. Henry Jacobs was a volunteer photographer for the paper at the time. He tells Tottenham Community Press what working at NET was like



Credit Henry Jacobs

ottenham Community Project (TCP) appealed to me as it was a campaigning organisation that aimed to inspire people to get involved and create a community interested in improving their lives and fostering the ideal of being a good neighbour.

NET was produced for quite a small area, probably from Chestnut Road to Northumberland Park - a very local readership.

I lived in Sherringham Avenue and the TCP office was in Rheola Close, Tottenham High Road. The office served as a resource centre for printing, advice and information.

I started as a self-employed photographer on 30th November 1971. I had previously worked in the photographic department of the Lebus furniture factory at Tottenham Hale and for Decca Records. I offered my services to NET for free as a way of getting to know people, to get my name known and because I had a genuine interest in grass roots journalism and social campaigns.

The ongoing assignments were covering the protests in the Shelbourne Road area against the relentless heavy lorries that were making the roads unsafe and damaging property and the environment.

There was a classic photograph of a local person, Flo Gregory stopping a juggernaut getting through! Campaigning over a long time eventually led to the North South route from the Hale to Enfield.

Another major assignment back then was the battle with the Lee Valley Park Authority to improve the Tottenham Marshes. Others included the slum clearance of Hartington Road and the construction of the park (Hartington park).

This was a very rewarding time and has left me with lots of good memories. I believe in being a volunteer, and I later went on to do the same for the Children's Aid Team (CATS) in Tottenham.

I can say, whatever you give away, you get more back; often in ways you could not imagine.

Contact Bruce Castle Museum for more details on the Tottenham **Community Project and NET:**

Tel 020 8808 8772 Email museum.services@ haringev.gov.uk

Head to pages 8 and 9 for some of Henry Jacobs' photos of Tottenham.

What are your memories of **Tottenham past?**

Let us know by sending an email to tcp@socialspider.com

CONTRIBUTORS

Hello and welcome to issue 18... Happy New Year! As *TCP* looks forward to venturing into 2019, we have had a great opportunity to take a look back to the past, thanks to Henry Jacobs sharing his memories of 1970s' Tottenham (above).

The concepts of past/present, old/ new, have been very much on the mind of local resident. Neri Gun. She tells *TCP* how her event, the Tottenham Mixer will allow attendees to talk about the changes that often comes with the passing of time (p.10).

Read about how Haringey's voluntary and community organisations were celebrated at the annual Haringey Expo on p.7, and turn to p.13 to hear about how music promotors, Helkat are championing live music by hosting gigs at The Cause.

Helen Swinyard provides a book review for the youth on p.11, whilst Karin Lock offers her take on Darren McGarvey's award winning book, Poverty Safari on p.14.

This year TCP has partnered with the BBC's Local Democracy Reporting Service, allowing us to share even more articles covering the local authority and other public service organisations. Wishing you all a great 2019.

Luchia Robinson, Editor

I am a local resident and have lived in north London for 28 years (15 years in Tottenham). I work as a careers adviser for young people. I am interested in journalism and writing in my spare time. I want to encourage people to read more by sharing my enthusiasm about books and writers that I find inspirational.

For me, community means coming together to share ideas; to learn and teach one another; and to support each other. I contribute to local initiatives such as Wolves Lane nursery as I think community action is transformative and positive for our wellbeing both individually and collectively!!!

Karin Lock, Contributor

am Henry Jacobs. I became a free-L lance photographer for Haringey Council in 1980 and with the exception of two years. I have been the official photographer for the Annual Mayor Making ceremony ever since. I have also worked for Haringey's Communication Office, Bruce Castle Museum and many other places. I try to encourage young people to get involved in photography. I have spoken at several schools and given work to an up and coming young photographer.

Henry Jacobs, Contributor

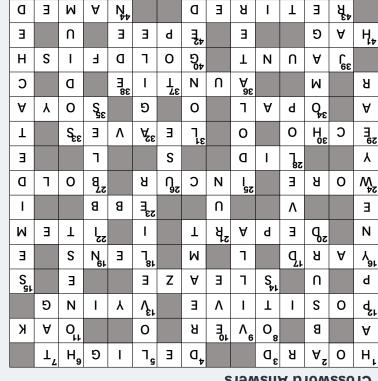
y name is Neri Gun Silveira and I run a local café called Downhills Park Café, in Downhills Park, My connection to Tottenham is from birth. I was born and raised here and the community here is everything to me.

Neri Gun Silveira, Contributor

Write for us

Send your articles, or pitch an idea for a story to:

TCP@socialspider.com



Crossword Answers



Continued from Page-1

community," said Joseph.

Third year learner, Jemar enjoys Maths and English. He also enjoys his work experience placement at a café, where he likes helping to prepare the food.

Community access and employment are just two of the core focus areas, preparing these young learners for their transition from Ambitious College into adulthood.

Vivienne believes that the review, which will be published later this $year, will\,need\,to\,pay\,great\,attention$ to ensuring early diagnosis, early intervention and a system of coproduction between partners, local authorities and local employers.

The National Autism Strategy, which was first released in 2009, provides guidance in identifying, diagnosing and assessing autistic spectrum conditions in adults.

But with statistics that show that 40% of parents with children on the autistic spectrum, wait more than a year for adequate support to be implemented in their child's school: it is apparent that more provisions for

children at school ages are required. Writing in a letter to the Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Autism and the Chief Executive of the National Autistic Society, Nadhim Zahawi MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families said:

'This pivotal review will help to find out how we can further our understanding of all forms of autism, improve how children and adults are supported and transform the life outcomes for people with autism.' As it stands, 63% of children on $the\,autism\,spectrum\,are\,not\,in\,the$ kind of school preferred by their parents. 17% of autistic children have been suspended from school; 48% of these children had been suspended three or more times.

Statistics go on to show that 4% of these young people had been expelled from one or more schools.

Prior to reviewing the strategy to include children and young people, the government will be collecting evidence from autistic youth, their families and carers as well as autism focused organisations, in order to assess how to improve levels of support.



Third year learner, Jemar Credit Luchia Robinson

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Councillors deliver aid to refugees in Calais

ottenham councillors Matthew White (Bruce Grove); Mike Hakata (St Ann's); Isidoros Diakides (Tottenham Green) and Mahir Demir (West Green) travelled to Calais last month, to deliver aid to refugees living there.

The day trip was made in partnership with Haringey Stand Up To Racism to raise awareness of the humanitarian crisis, with all funds raised going to Care 4 Calaisa volunteer run charity that delivers aid and social support to refugees facing harsh conditions in France and Belgium.

Councillor Matthew White, who had previously made a charitable trip to Calais in the summer, said: "The people I met (...) have been forced to leave their homes by war and oppression. Most have family in the UK. Haringey Labour councillors are calling for donations to help these people this coming winter, but also to publicise their plight and help persuade the UK government to let them join their families."

Care 4 Calais distributed items of donated clothing and supplies that had been collected at St John Vianney Church Hall, West Green Road, prior to the trip.

Haringey Council adopts 'welcome' motion to assist vulnerable migrants

By Alastair Ball

motion proposed by local campaign group Haringey Welcome to promote dignity and respect for migrants in the borough has been adopted by Haringey Council.

An amended version of the crossparty motion was presented to full council by Liberal Democrat councillor, Julia Ogiehor, and was unanimously approved by councillors.

The motion calls for the council to draw up a 'Welcome Strategy' to ensure that it is following best practice for the integration and inclusion of migrants. It also encourages the council not to participate in the Government's Hostile Environment policy – the effects of which were exposed by the Windrush scandal last year.

The motion states that: '(...) welcome, not hostility, should be the spirit driving the council's approach to service delivery and to working with all residents, particularly vulnerable refugees and migrants.'

Cllr Ogiehor said: "Migrants have improved London and Haringey significantly - both culturally and economically. From the Kindertransport in the 30s, to Ugandan Asians in the 70s, to the Windrush Generation, they have become cherished parts of our community."

In a blog post, Haringey Welcome said: "Through our campaign, we'd been painfully aware of the newly-arrived refugees and migrants who get no official welcome; who may become homeless, destitute, subject to cruel bureaucracies and callous decision-making."

There will be an audit of the council's relationship with the Home Office to protect migrants from the effects of the government's Hostile Environment policy.

New borough lines drawn

The Local Government **Boundary Commission for** England (LGBCE) is asking local residents to help define new ward boundary lines.

The newly established wards are to accommodate 57 councillors across the borough, in the future.

Local residents and organisations can draw their own boundary lines on a map of Haringey that can be found on the LGBCE website, in addition to directly submitting comments and documents outlining their suggestions.

This stage of the public consultation closes next month, on Monday 4th February.

A consultation on draft recommendations will take place from the end of April to the 8th August 2019 and the final recommendations will be published at the start of November.

What next for Council Tax?

More details of council tax reduction scheme to come...



Anti-poverty campaigner, Paul Nicholson

By Russell Hargrave

community, cares."

to contribute donations.

In addition, Cllr Chandwani will programme, which aims to equip young women in Haringey, from the social injustices they face.

n anti-poverty campaigner has welcomed Haringey Council's plans to reform council tax benefit.

Reverend Paul Nicholson, who has lived in Tottenham for almost thirty vears and founded the group Taxpavers Against Poverty in 2012, said that he is "delighted" about the proposals.

The council tax reduction scheme was proposed by Haringey's Labour leadership last August, and a public consultation attracted nearly three hundred and fifty responses from local people and groups, according to a council spokesperson.

Officials estimate that the council tax reduction scheme could reduce bills for six thousand people in the borough.

"I think it is wonderful, I think it is exactly what should happen," Nicholson told Tottenham Community *Press.* He described council tax as "the most regressive tax you could possibly invent" and added:

"People who are on unemployment benefits, which have been frozen since 2015, are going to food banks. Why are they going to food banks? Because they are being taken to the bailiffs and the courts by the council because they can't pay their council tax."

Nicholson also argued that high rates of council tax for poor residents have contributed to growing poverty locally, at a time when some parts of Haringey are already among the 5%

most deprived areas in the UK.

It will cost Haringey Council £1.6 million a year to implement the council tax scheme.

Under the current timetable, decisions about future spending, including how to pay for the council tax reforms, won't be made until next month.

The process has been criticised by Liz Morris, the leader of the Liberal Democrat group at the local authority, who pointed out that the council hasn't explained where it would find the money needed to pay for the reforms.

"We also welcome help for those who may have difficulty paying their council tax," Cllr Morris said, "but really we are not that happy with the consultation. People were not presented with [an explanation of] this is what we're going to do; this is what it's going to cost; and by the way this is what will have to be cut to be able to finance it."

"You wouldn't want a council tax reduction scheme which helps families with children, and then children's services are cut to pay for it. But we have no idea where the money is coming from. We just don't know," said Cllr Morris.

Cllr Morris pointed out that the council budget deficit was already rising sharply.

A spokeswoman at the council has confirmed that there are provisional plans to publish more details about the council tax reduction scheme on Thursday 31st January, to coincide with a full council meeting.

New councillor elected in West Green ward

abour candidate, Seema Chandwani has been elected a councillor for the West Green ward, following the byelection that took place last month. Cllr Chandwani won with 1273 votes ahead of, Elizabeth Sarah Payne (Liberal Democrats: 621

votes), Cecily Spelling (Green Party: 243) and Hammad Mirza Baig (Conservatives: 114).

Cllr Chandwani now joins fellow Labour elected representatives: Sarah Williams and Mahir Demir, in representing West Green.

In her acceptance speech, Cllr Chandwani announced that she will be launching the 'Tottenham Youth Fund,' and she has committed to donating £1000 of her councillor allowance to it, each year, over the next 3 years.

Cllr Chandwani's yearly donation will be matched by a

personal donation of £1,000 from David Lammy, MP for Tottenham, meaning £2000 per year will be available to young people in Tottenham, aged 11-19 who want to fund their youth projects and centres.

Cllr Chandwani said: "It will be a symbol to tell Tottenham's young people that this community, their

Cllr Chandwani will also work alongside Cllr Ruth Gordon to start foodbank collections at every full council, encouraging councillors

work in partnership with Cllr Emina Ibrahim to establish a leadership ethnic minority backgrounds, to challenge and campaign against N° 18 IANUARY 2019



Tottenham Hale housing development given the go-ahead

Planning committee approves major regeneration project plans by six votes to five



Credit Argent Related



"These types of development are only likely to push up local rent prices, and I and many other families could be forced out of our homes, as landlords seek higher market rents"

roperty developer Argent Related has been given permission to build six blocks of flats up to 38 storeys high in the centre of Tottenham Hale, providing more than 1,000 homes along with shops, public spaces and a new health centre.

Tottenham MP David Lammy was among those who had lodged objections to the £500 million scheme, raising concerns the development could "further entrench social inequality" in the area.

Speaking before the main council session, Samantha Sturgeon, chair of the Chestnuts Residents' Association, said the cost of the new flats would put them out of the reach of local people.

She added: "These types of development are only likely to push up local rent prices, and I and many other families could be forced out of our homes, as landlords seek higher market rents. We feel the population density will create a substantially increased burden on our already strained social facilities, local infrastructure and community resources."

Concerns over the lack of affordable housing were echoed by several councillors, who questioned whether the 25% being provided by Argent Related was enough.

The alleged failure to provide affordable homes on large developments was a major reason behind the deselection of sitting councillors and their replacement with a new administration, in the run-up to local elections in May last year.

Cllr Yvonne Say, Labour member for Bounds Green, told the committeetheplans were "not good enough" when the borough has "3,000 people

By Simon Allin. **Local Democracy Reporter**

in temporary accommodation".

Tom Goodall, chief executive of the Tottenham Hale development at Argent Related, said upping the affordable homes quota further could mean losing financial backing.

He said: "We have already taken a significant reduction in our profit margin. Ultimately, it is a risk margin.

"When we are seeking development funding, the lenders will look at what margin is available.

"If there is not enough margin in the development, then the plans can't come forward because we can't get the funding.

"If we could go any further to deliver on our promises, we would."

Edward Badu, who grew up in Tottenham and is a member of campaign group Haringey Citizens, said Argent's plans would boost the area's prospects.

He said: "I've noticed there is a trend, where people like myselfyoung professionals - always try and leave Tottenham once they secure a job and do well for themselves.

"This is because of the stigma and stereotype we face growing up in Tottenham.

Mr Badu said the plans would make Tottenham a "destination" and "give people who have grown up here a reason to stay."

Councillors also raised concerns over the density of the buildings, which is significantly higher than London Plan guidelines. However, officers said the density was acceptable due to the exceptional quality of the homes. They also assured committee members that the impact on road and rail connections would not be excessive, and the scheme would not reduce air quality.



Haringey Council offers estate demolition reassurances

Council reassures tenants in flats slated for demolition



Broadwater Farm estate's, Tangmere House Credit Stephen Furner

aringey Council has strengthened its pledges to tenants whose flats have been slated for demolition due to safety fears.

Cabinet members made a range of

extra commitments to people in the Tangmere and Northolt blocks on the Broadwater Farm estate after being asked to rethink their plans by the council's overview and scrutiny committee (OSC).

The flats were earmarked for demolition in June after being deemed unsafe by building inspectors – but campaigners criticised the way the council handled the matter.

At a cabinet meeting last month,

councillors pledged to ensure residents' rights are protected as demolition and rebuilding work go ahead.

Scrutiny committee chair Lucia das Neves presented the OSC report and asked cabinet members for more clarity on the right of return for leaseholders and assurances on the re-provision of council homes at council rents.

The right of return means those who have been moved off the estate would be guaranteed a home on a replacement development.

Cllr Emina Ibrahim, cabinet member for housing and estate renewal, said residents who had to move out of the borough to be rehoused would have a guaranteed right of return to the estate. She agreed to boost the voice of tenants on a panel set up to assess residents' right to return in exceptional cases.

Cllr Ibrahim also pledged to ensure residents are given a say in the rebuilding of the estate. She said: "Cabinet do commit to a fully participative process on the masterplan and future consultation. The engagement and consul-

By Simon Allin, Local Democracy Reporter

tation process will start this month.

"We would expect the details of how residents will be involved to be agreed very early in the process."

Cllr Ibrahim again re-stated her pledge to ensure all of the demolished flats would be replaced by at least the same number of council homes available at council rent levels.

In response to concerns that the use words such as "regeneration" and "renewal" in the cabinet report could give residents a misleading idea of the council's intentions, Cllr Ibrahim made it clear the project was not a regeneration scheme but a response to "severe health and safety issues".

"We would expect the details of how residents will be involved to be agreed very early in the process"

Clean air, do care

Local nursery included in air quality audit

nursery in Tottenham will take part in an air quality audit as part of a trial to reduce toxic air levels in the capital. Pembury House Nursery School will receive an air quality audit to monitor indoor and outdoor pollution levels as part of a trial by the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan to help stop children being exposed to air pollution.

In response to the news London Assembly for Haringey, Joanne McCartney, said: "We know that poor air quality has a detrimental effect on children's health and so I welcome the Mayor's latest initiative to protect our youngest children.

"These audits will help in identifying the ways that we can

tackle poor air quality inside and outside of the classroom and ensure that the health of some of the most vulnerable children, and the next generation of Londoners, is protected."

The air quality audits will take place in 20 schools across the capital in boroughs including Newham, Camden and Westminster.

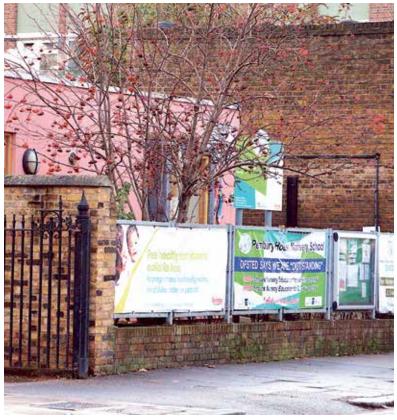
The trials will focus on reducing toxic gases such as nitrous oxide which make children more likely to grow up with lung problems and develop asthma.

The audits will look at a range of methods to reduce air pollution outside nurseries including restricting road access outside entrances; moving playgrounds away from congested roads and By Kate Oglesby, Local Democracy Reporter

promoting cycling and walking. As part of the programme there is a ring-fenced grant of £4,500 for the 20 nurseries to start some of the recommendations resulting from the audits.

Mr Khan said: "It remains a shameful fact that London's toxic air health crisis is harming the lung growth and respiratory health of our young children, and City Hall is determined to do everything in our power to protect them.

"Now it is high time the Government stepped up and matched my ambition by delivering a new Clean Air and Environment Act and introducing the scrappage scheme. We need to remove the dirtiest vehicles off our streets once and for all."



Pembury House Nursery School Credit Stephen Furner

Haringey's voluntary and community sector celebrated at exposition

Annual expo brings community organisations together

ottenham Town Hall was host to over 700 people attending the third, annual Haringey Community and Voluntary Sector Expo, at the end of November.

More than 45 organisations from across the borough's health, leisure, adult, children and environment services, exhibited their work at stalls and via presentations and performances.

Central to the day were two panel discussions: 'Arts and Culture in Haringey' and 'Serious Youth Violence.' Panel members included: Zina Etheridge, Chief Executive, Haringey Council; Dotun Adebayo MBE, Chair of the Bernie Grant Arts Centre; Haringey Borough Commander, Helen Millichap and Yvonne Lawson, founder of the Godwin

Lawson Foundation.

Members of the public and representatives from local organisations were able to ask questions and make suggestions addressing working together on these issues.

Community Impact Awards were awarded to Haringey's outstanding individuals, in recognition of their hard work and achievements at their respective community groups and organisations.

Deputy Lieutenant of Haringey Peter Baker said: "Thank you for inviting me. It was a pleasure and a privilege to attend and to hand out some of the awards. (...) It is both humbling and inspiring to meet so many people from the voluntary and community sector in Haringey and north London who give so much of themselves for the benefit of others."



The Community Impact Award winners
Credit Bridge Renewal Trust

Elevating opportunities to reduce risks of violence

Mayor of London funds to provide various youth provisions in Haringey

provision for 90 children on the

Broadwater Farm Estate, aged 13-21

and a 12-week rolling project ad-

dressing trauma, gangs and knife

crime, for high risk offenders and

those excluded from school or who

"This is fantastic news

for the borough"

A separate network of pro-

are at risk of exclusion.

By Luchia Robinson

aringey Council and a network of local community organisations has received £1.5 million from the Mayor of London's; The Young People Fund, to deliver the Haringey Community Gold scheme, a series of projects supporting young people.

Those accessing the scheme will receive a three-year training package of support provisions from across the sports, play, employment and mental health services.

Haringey Council Chief Executive, Zina Etheridge said: "This is fantastic news for the borough. We are determined to help our young people get the right start in life. This substantial funding will help us provide the support and programmes to help individuals who have experienced challenging starts to their life. This will help our young people fulfil their potential." Programmes will include sports

grammes focusing on youth crime prevention is also being established. According to figures from the council, total knife crime in Haringey is down by 1% and the total of knife crime victims is down by 13% since 2017. The council says it is looking to draw upon the skills,

knowledge and experience of the local community to reduce these figures further.

A spokesperson from Haringey Council has said that it is referenc-

 $ing the \, best \, practice \, of \, other \, London$

boroughs including Hackney and Lewisham and also cities such as Glasgow and Chicago to take a public health approach to tackling the issues of youth violence in Haringey.

This, they say, involves finding ways to reduce risk factors; speaking to young people in schools and within the borough's youth provision and building upon ways young people are already being protected and supported by their families and community.

Haringey Council is currently working on its forthcoming Young People at Risk Strategy. It will go before Cabinet in March and will set the priorities and direction of the council for the next five years.

At present, prevention activities and interventions to support young people and their families are being developed, and members of the local community are encouraged to share their solutions towards tackling the issue of youth criminality in the borough.

Alternatives to street sex work

Haringey Police volunteer, Christina Davis talks to Northumberland Park police

C Nick Davies, a ward officer for Northumberland Park ward, told me about their two pronged approach to tackle the issue of street sex work in his ward.

This has been occurring on the border between Haringey and Enfield, he explained, so in order to prevent the issue being pushed from one borough to the other, Enfield Safer Estates team and Haringey Neighbourhoods teams have been working together on Operation Nautilus.

There has been an influx of street sex workers into the area, now totalling about twenty or more women. According to PC Davies, the activities of the street sex workers and associated drug use and violence are the main generators of calls for the neighbourhood teams.

The first part of the operation took place over two nights at the end of November and was primarily aimed at kerb crawlers. Police told me that of the thirteen men arrested, some

did not realise they had broken the law. Those arrested have been referred to an educational course on the impact and risks of soliciting.

The second part of the approach focuses on the sex workers. PC Davies explained to me that two charities – National Ugly Mugs and Women At The Well, are working with the police to offer the women better prospects and safety advice. An open day is also planned for them at Tottenham Police Station.

"Some of the women dismiss the idea of earning the minimum wage when they can earn so much more doing what they're doing," said PC Davies, but he insisted to me that many are receptive to offers of help. He added: "We can't just arrest our way out of this."

National Ugly Mugs aims to end stigma and violence towards sex workers. To find out more details:

Visit uknswp.org/um/

N° 18 JANUARY 2019 TOTTENHAM COMMUNITY PRESS

PHOTOGRAPHY -



Bruce Castle Tudor Tower

TOTTENHAM COMMUNITY PRESS N° 18 JANUARY 2019

PHOTOGRAPHY



St Mark's Methodist Church

Are you a keen photographer? Do you walk around Tottenham inspired to share what you see when you see it? If so, please get in touch if you would like to be featured on our photography page.

Email tcp@socialspider.com

Mixing it up

Next month, Downhills Park Café will host the first Tottenham Mixer. Neri Gun tells TCP about it

he Tottenham Mixer is an event that encourages open conversation about the change currently happening in Tottenham. It will enable conversation regarding local changes, any animosity and progress. Attendees will have to be a mix of new and old Tottenham (10 years and older will qualify you as old Tottenham.)

The aim of the event is to get together, talk, welcome each other and acknowledge one another as neighbours. This is important because it's a neutral and honest space. It will allow people to directly address their fears, insecurities and prejudices whilst not feeling judged.

I feel the Mixer will make a difference, as all community members whether old or new will have to meet each other in a real way, and not just in passing.

Groups are tending to keep their social circles very closed and small and this doesn't allow for any form of real growth and bonding opportunity in an already fragile environment.

We, as the hosts of the Tottenham Mixer feel it is important to use our connections with the many different branches of our community to become the bridge that makes us an integral part of one another's lives. When we speak, we must speak with one voice therefore enabling strong community spirit and the chance of creating real roots in a fabulous and diverse place.

To simply say you live in Tottenham is no longer good enough and to simply say, "I've always lived in Tottenham" is also no longer good enough.

We must encourage real relationships that have the potential to genuinely create long term friendships and community.

Tottenham, new and old, the question is, how can we grow together?

The Tottenham Mixer will take place on Saturday 9th February 2019 at Downhills Park Café. You will find more details of the event in the listings section of next month's TCP.

For more information about Downhills Park Café:

Call 07947 466 236



Advertisement =



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All aboard!

Start your new year on the right track with The Train to Impossible Places

By Helen Swinyard

he Train to Impossible Places arrived in shops last October and it promises to be a great book series from debut author PG Bell.

The Cursed Delivery, book one of the new series, is a riotous romp through a bizarre imaginary land, seen (usually) through the eyes of Suzy, a girl who wakes up in the middle of the night to find someone building a train track in her hallway.

Luckily Suzy seems to be a gutsy, clever, physics-loving heroine, who manages to boss her way not only onto the train itself but into a huge adventure too. For readers who already love Matilda or Hermione; Suzy is another welcome addition.

The story is a successful combination of many well-known stories, all swirled together- avid readers will recognise aspects of Doctor Who, the Frog Prince, Sleeping Beauty and others.

The author is a librarian and he couldn't help but include a library scene with a nod to the importance of correct shelving—a little bit of insider knowledge that adds extra authenticity in the midst of fantastical goings-on.

There's a lot going on in this story – you always know exactly what's happening, but not always why. There are short, sharp chapters with cliffhangers which make it a great choice for bedtime reading with an adult or an independent middle grade/ teenage reader more used to shorter books.

The opening is also punchy, so it's a good one for reluctant readers or those that cry "I'm bored," without really wanting to give time to get into a slower book.

Book aficionado, Nicolette Jones included *The Train to Impossible Places: The Cursed Delivery*, in her *Sunday Times* top books of 2018, and it's already been nominated for the 2019 *Made for Mums Awards*!

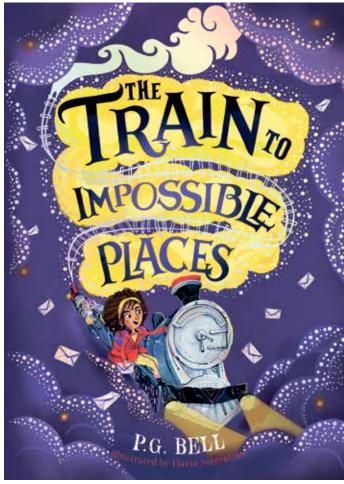


P.G. Bell Credit Tiffany Mumford

Remember you can get this book or anything else in our local Big Green Bookshop with 10% off using the code TCPTrain or by showing this article. You can also find out more about this new writer on the website **www.pgbellwriter.com** or by following **@petergbell** on Twitter.

What was your favourite book of 2018? Please send us details so we can share your reviews & favourite books with TCP readers! It might be a book published in 2018 or an older book that you discovered in the past year. We'd love to hear from you- email your details & reviews to: TottenhamCPReads@gmail.com

Head to page 14 for a book review from Karin Lock.



Credit pgbellwriter.com

Ineed
my own

Crecive

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Book your viewing: alex@meanwhilespace.com

Switchboard Studios, Uplands B, Unit 50,

Blackhorse Lane E17 5QJ





Four sitcoms changed the Comedy landscape, join us for Turn Up The Archive is an evening of screenings, stand-up and celebration.

The Fosters, Desmond's, The Real McCoy and No Problem! will be given a playful twist from FOC IT UP! (Femmes of Colour). Turn Up The Archive is part of Comedy Genius, a nationwide celebration led by the BFI Film Audience Network and Independent Cinema Office.

THURSDAY 24 JANUARY, 7:30 PM

BOX OFFICE: 020 8365 5450 / BERNIEGRANTCENTRE.CO.UK Bernie Grant Arts Centre, Tottenham Green, London NI 5 4RX



12



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16-18 learners

Being a student with dyslexia, I found it hard to cope in other sixth form colleges. However, Waltham Forest College understood and adapted to my needs and the support given really helped to boost my self-esteem and confidence. I am now a proud student at the renowned Queen Mary University of London.

Terri Stacey-White Sport Level 3

Adult learners

It was mind blowing, and I enjoyed every minute of my time at Waltham Forest College. The staff were helpful and very supportive, they made it fun and enjoyable, and the lectures were amazing.

Shakela Tariq **CELTA**

Employers

I have found working with Waltham Forest College extremely helpful. Always friendly and approachable, they are easy to get in contact with and very knowledgeable regarding apprenticeships. I recommend them highly and look forward to working with them again in the future.

David Fitzgerald Hillyfield Academy





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TOTTENHAM COMMUNITY PRESS N° 18 JANUARY 2019

ARTS & CULTURE

Keep music live with Helkat

Jim Ottewill meets promoters Helkat to learn about how they are transforming Tottenham into a hotspot for live music...

ottenham definitely has a growing bar and club scene, as well as all the recording and rehearsing spaces, but not much in the way of proper live music. It's something we're hopefully addressing..."

Step forward, Helen Parton and Katherine Melling, a pair of music aficionados with a passion for live performance and amps turned up to 11. As Helkat, they've hosted a series of gigs at The Cause since the venue opened its doors in Tottenham Hale last year.

While the majority of acts passing through this exciting new space have been DJs brandishing the latest bleeps and beats, Helkat's nights have offered something a little different. They've so far lured the likes of psych rockers, the Moderate Rebels, live rave collective the Drone Club and Brighton's, Demonstrations to N17.

So how did they start out? "Katherine and I spend loads of time watching live music," says Helen.

"She works in the music industry but for me it's a lifelong passion. We had a chat with the guys behind the Cause at the Test Pressing Festival, last spring and they mentioned they were looking for more live music. All they were short of was a few guitars in the mix- which is where we come in!"

The Test Pressing Festival and its mix up of scuzzy guitar bands and leftfield leanings has certainly been an inspiration, becoming a musical baton the pair look to carry on, with their line ups.

Tottenham may be known for its headline stars such as Skepta or Adele but scratch the surface and there's plenty of emerging talents bubbling away.

"The music scene is very diverse," says Helen.

"What's surprised me is the number of music spaces there are. We put on WondRWomN at our first gig and she runs a studio giving young people free recording sessions. Most of the acts we've welcomed are part of the community; they either live or rehearse nearby because it's still relatively affordable."

This sense that Tottenham's creatives have each other's backs

and act out of a spirit of collaboration rather than competition seems integral to the pair's approach.

"The area has a really strong sense of community and that's really inclusive," says Helen.

"It means the area has a great underground buzz – even for people who are relatively new to living here."

What is it about Tottenham that's so appealing? For Helkat, it's the independent spirit that courses through its veins.

"I love the entrepreneurial vibe," says Katherine. "Businesses popping up everywhere, the industrial estates where things are happening in warehouses and weird corners."

There's certainly a sense that Tottenham's appeal lies in retaining its rough edges, something which gentrification has smoothed off in the likes of Hackney or Clapton.

Katherine agrees. "The 1930s Millmead Business Centre, by the canal round the back of Beavertown Brewery where Bally Rehearsal Studios is also based, is in such a weird but brilliant spot and is a fascinating historical building. I also love the wild and desolate green spaces round the canal and marshes. And soon there will be a huge music festival on the site when Field Day comes to the area."

Ah yes, Field Day. In an exciting new development, one of the capital's most innovative festivals will be calling neighbouring borough of Enfield home this year. It should only bolster the good work being done in the local scene.

For Helkat, who would be their dream line up? It seems they're steadfast supporters of locals.

Helen says: "I mean, anyone with a strong connection to the area really, to continue what we've been doing—Adele maybe?"

"Shout out to Adele!" Katherine says.

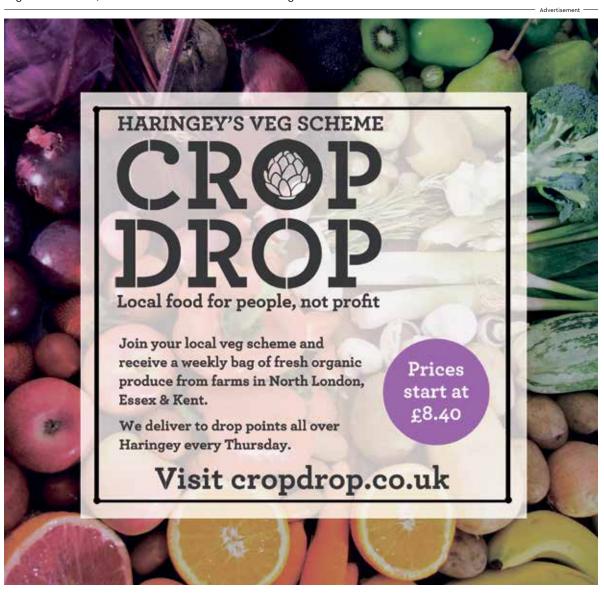
"Come on girl, when you're next in town we'll make it happen."

To find out more:
Visit facebook.com/HelKatMusic

To find our more about Field Day: Visit fielddayfestivals.com/



Brighton based band, Demonstrations Credit Katherine Melling



BOOK REVIEW

Poverty politics

Karin Lock reviews Darren McGarvey's, Poverty Safari



"The book's careful unpicking of the poverty trap serves as a reminder of the complex challenges and stresses these communities face"

et's have an honest debate about poverty.' The original premise of Darren McGarvey's debut book Poverty Safari certainly leaves no stone unturned.

Part-memoir, part social treatise; this personal story of childhood neglect, addiction and homelessness is a springboard for McGarvey to examine the effects of poverty on himself and his community. From the emotional stress of social mobility through the finer points of binge eating to the tyranny of callout culture-the journey is both unsettling and inspiring.

Poverty Safari opens with the Grenfell disaster before moving to Glasgow's neglected Southside where forgotten communities are consulted and then ignored by outsiders. Public space is captured and re-assigned (libraries become noisy community centres) with cultural heritage demolished. The end result is a soulless regeneration that obliterates social history, community bonds and affordable housing.

McGarvey's solution is simple: trust and fund deprived communities so they can improve where they live. Yet despite examples of collective community action and grassroots resistance, the author sees no revolution any time soon. Indeed, rather than play the blame game, he scrutinises his attitudes to class bias and self-sufficiency, advocating agency by any means necessary.

The book's careful unpicking of the poverty trap serves as a reminder of the complex challenges and stresses these communities face. How to sustain hope in the face of goliaths such as hungry developers, indifferent politicians and a patronising media? In this context, the anger of Britain's underclass is palpable. With 14 million classified as in poverty (4 million of those children), Poverty Safari's callto-arms is timely.

McGarvey refuses to be hijacked by the political left or cajoled by the political right. This poetic and prophetic narrative deserves to be read and is worthy of its George Orwell prize.

Across Clues

- 1 Secret store of something (5)
- 4 Great pleasure (7)
- 8 Finished (4)
- 11 Hardwood tree (3)
- 12 With no possibility of doubt (8)
- 13 Competing (5)
- 14 Sordid behaviour (6)
- 16 Contained area outside (4)
- 18 Device for focusing light (4)
- **20** Leave (6)

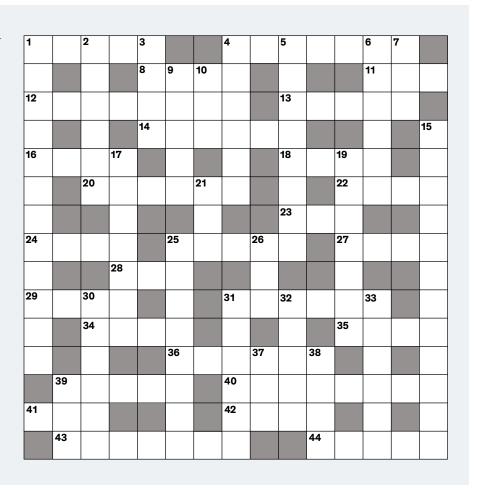
ROSSWOR

- 22 Point on an agenda (4)
- 23 The receding tide (3)
- 24 Was clothed in (4)
- **25** To bring upon oneself (5)
- 27 Strong in colour (4)
- 28 Top (3)
- 29 Reverberation of sound (4)
- 31 Exits (6)
- 34 Semi-transparent gemstone (4)
- 35 Meat protein substitute (4)
- 36 Female relative (6)
- 39 Short pleasurable trip (5)
- 4º Small carp popular in aquariums (8)
- 41 Ugly old women (3)
- 42 Sharp-pointed sword in fencing (4)
- **43** Went to bed (7)
- **44** Known by (5)

Down Clues

- 1 Topical January greeting (5,3,4)
- 2 Wildly unreasonable or illogical (6)
- 3 Spots (4)
- 4 Imagined (6)
- 5 More attractive (8)
- 6 Truthful (6)
- 7 Label (3)
- 9 Roman house (5)
- 10 The day before an event (3)
- 15 Of a house, joined to another (4-8)
- 17 To become more mature or elaborate (7)
- 19 Little snacks (7)
- 21 To trickle (3)
- 25 Person who reveres someone (8)
- 26 To employ (3)
- 30 Honour or respect shown publicly (6)
- **31** Pined (6)
- 32 Nimble (5)
- 33 Chemical element in salt (6)
- 37 Spinning toy (3)
- 38 The garden of paradise (4)
- 39 Glass container (3)

by Ajayess



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ADVICE

Your problems. Solved.

Kellie Dorrington from Citizens Advice Haringey, offers some helpful advice

recently become a carer for my partner [who I live with] and can no longer work. We've started falling behind on our bills and I'm worried our debts are only going to getworse. I'm on Carer's Allowance but what else can I do to turn things around?

A change in circumstances can often trigger financial problems. It's good to see you taking action now as this will stop you from sliding into further debt.

See if you can make any savings on your household bills by switching suppliers, or changing deals. You may be able to get a reduction on your council tax bill - speak to your local authority directly.

Try to boost your income too. You

may be able to apply for benefits jointly with your partner to be paid alongside Carers Allowance. This could be Income Support, incomerelated Employment Support Allowance or Universal Credit, depending on where you live.

You should contact your creditors and ask if you can reduce your repayments until you're back in work. They can also freeze any interest and charges so your debts don't go up while you pay less. Check to see if you have payment protection insurance to cover giving up work to become a carer as well.

If you're still struggling to cover your outgoings, it's important to prioritise paying your household bills like your council tax and rent or mortgage.

For further help working out your budget, negotiating with creditors

LISTINGS

or checking which benefits you're entitled to, contact your nearest Citizens Advice.

Visit citizensadvice.org.uk/ local/haringey Call 0300 330 1187 (Weekdays 10am-1pm & 2pm-4pm) Email admin@haringeycabx.org.uk

Here to help

Our advice page is here for you. Get in touch with your problem, big or small, and we will do our best to find the answer. We will then publish it in the next issue

Email tcp@socialspider.com Tweet us @Tottenhamcp

Ongoing

Move More Easily: Workshop In The Feldenkrais Method Every Tuesday from 8th January, 2.00pm-4.30pm Lordship Hub, Lordship Rec, Higham Road N17 6NU

Slow, gentle movement to enable self-learning. Discover movement habits and learn to improve posture, reduce stiffness and aches and pains and assist in recovery from injury. Find the pleasure in walking, running, dancing and everyday movement at whatever level.

£20 (Concessions available) Email lynda@movementaware.co.uk Visit movementaware.co.uk

Educational Support For 5-16 Year Olds

Classes are on Saturday's from September to July on Saturdays from 10.30am-1.30pm at College of North East London in Tottenham. School reopens 12th January 2019.

Does your child need help with SATS and GCSE's? Lemuel Findlay Supplementary School has been providing educational support for 5-16 year olds since 1974.

For more information:

Tel 07944 204 876 Email admin@lfss.org.uk **Free Circus Sessions For** Young People Aged 5-7 Years! Every Thursday, 3:30pm-4:30pm, Triangle Centre, 91-93 St Ann's Road, N15 6NU

Are you between the ages of 5-7? Looking for something creative and fun to do after school? Want to learn some circus skills? Ioin Jacksons Lane - IL Circus, for FREE drama and circus classes in Tottenham. Learn to create and perform stories. hula-hoop, juggle, stilt walk and perform spectacular acrobatic tricks and human pyramids! Taster sessions run from Thursday 17th January 2019. Spring term workshops run between January and March 2019. We recognize young people may come late to this depending on school

Places are free but must be reserved in advance. To register: Email vicki@jacksonslane.org.uk

Tottenham Art Classes

Every Thursday, 7.00pm-9.00pm, T Chances, 399 High Rd, London N17 6QN

Drop-in life drawing sessions provide an opportunity to bring like-minded individuals

Email info@tottenhamartclasses.co.uk

together to engage in something creative.

Free After School Activities For Youths Aged 10-19 Years Old

Monday to Friday between 4pm-8pm, Bruce Grove Youth Space, 10 Bruce Grove N17 6RA

Youth Space is for young people in Haringey who are aged between 11-19 (up to 25 years old where there is a specific additional need or disability). We make use of a wide range of informal learning opportunities to enable young people to feel safe. to develop as individuals and to participate, and contribute, as valued members of our community.

For more information: Visit youthspace.haringey.gov.uk

Turner and the Pre-Raphaelites in Tottenham: The collection of Benjamin Godfrey Windus Monday 14th January, 1.00pm-1.45pm,

Sainsbury Wing Theatre, National Gallery, Trafalgar Square WC2N 5DN

Margaret Burr explores how Benjamin Godfrey Windus, the collector of over 200 Turner watercolours, influenced artistic taste through the opening of his collection to the public. No booking required.

Email turnerintottenham@ gmail.com

Mind Talk

by Aisha Coleman-Francis

This verse documents the typical thought processes that I undergo during episodes of manic depression and borderline personality disorder. It depicts the transformative nature of my mind voice, and how focussing on reflection and mindfulness has helped me reach acceptance of myself.

I've been sad and depressed I've been barely dressed Too deep in my head Sleeping on the couch instead of my bed...

Cold like a flurry Then hot like a curry All my friends they worry Might have thought I was dead...

My thoughts they're strictly unsettling And my feelings are quickly upsetting So my actions are fickle and regretting I've got a headache let's stop talking about it...

I've been bless I've been sweet I've had plenty to eat I've got essays to write Then I'm out for the night With some friends...

Big plans for my future They couldn't come sooner Refuse to be the loser And I know I'm too beautiful For my life to end...

When I started this song I had it all wrong But I still went along And the deal is back on

At first I couldn't give But this made me pensive My mind voice is combative And she says, no, screams I wanna live...

I've been sad and depressed I've been glad I've been blessed I needed a rest to digest and address All the shit I've repressed The distress I've compressed But I'm glad I've confessed It has helped me express The zest I possess I attest I got jest For a girl so obsessed With being depressed.

Aisha Coleman-Francis is a young volunteer at Exposure



N° 18 JANUARY 2019 TOTTENHAM COMMUNITY PRESS



What we do

Here at *Tottenham Community Press*, we do things differently. We believe that local newspapers should put the concerns of the local community at the heart of their publication. We combine professional journalism with voluntary contributions from people who live and work in the local area and create content which is responsive to and reflective of the community.

These are challenging times for print media, with many newspapers closing and advertising revenue in decline, but our not-for-profit model offers a new approach to creating local news which is inclusive and accountable.

How you can help

As a not-for-profit publication we rely on the generous support of our community. We look to our readers, who recognise the value of independent journalism, to help support the continuing publication of *TCP*.

Rewards

By becoming a member, not only will you support our publication, but you'll also have access to these rewards:

- Home delivery of the paper each month
- Your name listed in the paper and online
- Tottenham Community Press tote bag
- Invites to Tottenham Community Press events
- Have your say on the paper's direction
- Tottenham Community Press pin badge

£3 per month upwards:

membership certificate, name in the paper and website, pin badge

£5 per month upwards:

home delivery, tote bag, membership certificate, name in the paper and website, pin badge

Visit tottenhamcommunitypress.co.uk/join