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# TOTTENHAM COMMUNITY PRESS

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Local news that matters to you



Tottenham residents face changes to council tax bills **Credit** Stephen Furner (Tottenham Photography Club)

## Can't Pay, Don't Pay

Haringey Council proposes tax cuts for the least well-off but is unclear how they will be paid for

By Russell Hargrave

**M**ore Haringey residents will see their council tax bills fall or even end completely, according to new proposals announced by the local authority.

Officials estimate that more than six thousand households would see their bills reduced if the plans are approved. The changes represent the first major financial initiative for Haringey's new-look Labour administration.

The plans, to be outlined in full through a public consultation, are targeted at residents who already

receive some help with council tax, and would be paid for by raiding the council's general reserves.

The proposed tax reductions would come from updating the existing Council Tax Reduction Scheme, which was introduced locally in 2013 after the coalition government abolished council tax benefit. Pensioners and residents receiving prescribed disability benefits are already exempt from paying council tax. This would not change under any new system, the council says.

The public consultation into the changes opens in the first week

of September, and will run for ten weeks. Copies of the proposals will be available in the borough's libraries and customer services centres, as well as to download from the council website. There will also be drop-in sessions for local people to discuss the plans.

Any changes would come into effect from April 2019, and are likely to cost the council around £1.6 million a year. The council told *Tottenham Community Press* that detailed decisions about how to pay for the new system will not be made until financial planning is complet-

ed later this year, but confirmed that the money will be taken from council-wide reserves, also called the General Fund.

Political opponents on the council point out that the scheme will require savings elsewhere from the local authority's budget, leaving open the possibility of future cuts to services previously funded in whole or in part through the General Fund. Last year this included social care and health, libraries and waste collection.

“Addressing the inequality in our borough was a key part of this new administration's manifesto,” says Cllr Patrick Berryman, Haringey's Cabinet Member for Finance. “In 2013, when the government decided to abolish council tax benefit, this hit some of Haringey's least well-off residents the hardest, and these proposed changes look to redress that.”

Cllr Berryman added: “Haringey has faced government funding cuts of £78 million since 2013, which has put huge pressure on our services and budget. Despite this, we are absolutely committed to ensuring that fairness is the absolute cornerstone of all that we do.

“The council tax reduction scheme proposals would reinstate essential support to some of our borough's most vulnerable residents. I encourage everyone to have their say in our consultation.”

The Liberal Democrat group on the council has raised concerns that decisions on how to fund these plans have been pushed into the future.

“Help for the most vulnerable residents in the borough is welcome,” said Cllr Paul Dennison, their local spokesperson for finance, business and insourcing, “but under Labour Haringey's residents consistently have to pay one of the highest Council Tax rates in London.

“They deserve to know whether services will be cut or taxes increased further for this new spending commitment.”

**“Addressing the inequality in our borough was a key part of this new administration's manifesto”**

The General Fund accounted for more than £250 million in council spending last year.

The ruling Labour Party on Haringey Council has been a source of political controversy for months, after dozens of sitting councillors were deselected in favour of candidates from the left-wing pressure group Momentum, as reported by *Tottenham Community Press* in January. The Labour Party subsequently lost six seats to the Liberal Democrats at the local elections in May, but still comfortably retained its majority.

The latest announcement comes after the new Labour group moved swiftly to ditch a controversial £4 billion partnership with private housing developers. The private developers, the Australian construction company Lendlease, have since taken legal advice about recovering money from the council to cover money it had already spent towards the partnership (see page 3).

In the meantime, councillors have promised to build a thousand new homes by establishing a housing company wholly owned by the local authority. Haringey Council intends to apply to the Mayor of London's affordable housing grant to help fund this work, according to reports.

See page 3 for more information on council tax and how it works



## CONTRIBUTORS

### STEADFAST IN DIFFICULTIES

SEPT 2018 – N° 14

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

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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### BWF United

Illustration by resident of Broadwater Farm and local artist Inga Bystram

I am Managing Director of Social Spider CIC, the not-for-profit social enterprise that publishes TCP. I've worked in community media for nearly 20 years having started my career as editor of Haringey's youth magazine Exposure in 2000. TCP's editor Ellie Ward left in July to start a new career. She's done a brilliant job over the past 18 months and we're really grateful for all her hard work. I've really enjoyed co-editing this current issue with my colleague Anna Merryfield and we're delighted to be welcoming our new editor, Luchia Robinson, for the October issue.

David Floyd, Editor

I am a civil servant currently on secondment to Business in the Community (BITC) as a Business Connector. As part of this role, I

work with local businesses and community organisations to build sustainable and effective partnerships, which helps to deliver BITC's aim of building healthy communities with successful businesses at their heart. I have been in this role for two months and have enjoyed getting to know the unique culture of Haringey as a borough, as well as drawing on my own personal and professional experiences to support this.

I was introduced to *Tottenham Community Press* by my colleague and fellow Business Connector Lindi, who is a long-time Haringey resident. After reading several issues it was clear that the paper captured residents' voices, not just in Tottenham but also in Haringey. There is a genuine drive to tackle social issues, promote the borough

as a positive place to be and inspire local people. As these qualities are important to both me as an individual and BITC as a whole, it made sense to take advantage of the opportunity to write about the organisation and what we do, including the role of Business Connectors.

Musa Silla, Contributor

I am loving living in my new adopted Tottenham, having been brought up outside London in a Spurs-supporting family, with lots of North London connections in the family tree. I'm librarian by day and also a writer, book blogger & reviewer, book award organiser and judge. Having loved reading all my life and studied children's literature, I hope the new book column in *TCP* will help local people discover some

great books to share with their families and find something to love as I did as a child!

Helen Swinyard, Contributor

I've lived in Tottenham for the last 5 years or so and my last job was as a business journalist. In previous lifetimes, I was a docker for a number of years before retraining as a carpenter/joiner. Recently, I have been trying to turn my love of photography into cash (you can see my work on Instagram: pitmanjamie1). Besides boxing and photography, I'm enjoying all the new restaurants and bars opening in Tottenham but with my fingers crossed that they won't mean the millionaires are going to start moving in and moving all of us out...

Jamie Pitman, Contributor



# It could be sue

## Alastair Ball on HDV developer's legal threat

Property developer, Lendlease, has threatened Haringey Council with legal action if it cancels the Haringey Development Vehicle. The potential for legal action was outlined in a letter from Lendlease addressed to council leader Joseph Ejiofor and chief executive Zina Etheridge published on Haringey Council's website.

In the letter dated July 9th 2018, Lendlease Europe's chief executive officer Dan Labbad wrote: "If the cabinet decides to attempt to reverse our appointment as the successful bidder, we will have no choice but to seek to protect Lendlease's interests given our very significant investment over the last two-and-a-half years."

In response Cllr Ejiofor said: "We are obviously concerned at the threat of protracted legal action by Lend-

lease, however the people of Haringey elected us to govern their borough, and to take decisions that are in the best interests of all Haringey's residents."

In a follow up letter on 16th July 2018, Labbad wrote that the decision: "will expose the Council to expensive and protracted litigation." He also added that: "The Council's decision-making process has failed to meet the necessary standards of fairness and transparency that Lendlease and the people of the Borough are legitimately entitled to expect."

This exchange took place before a cabinet meeting on 17th July 2018 where cabinet members voted to end the controversial partnership. Following the meeting Cllr Ejiofor said that Haringey Council: "have now taken decisive action to set a

new direction for the council, with this final decision that the HDV will not now go ahead."

The Haringey Development Vehicle or HDV was a £2 billion joint venture between construction company Lendlease and Haringey Council to build 6,400 homes. Many residents expressed concerns about the lack of provision for affordable housing and the plans to demolish existing homes.

Lendlease were selected as the preferred bidder for the HDV project at a Cabinet meeting on 14 February 2017. At the time, Haringey Council was led by Claire Kober, who stood down before local elections in May this year following public opposition to the HDV. After the elections Cllr Joseph Ejiofor became leader of Haringey Council.

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ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

The overwhelming majority of Council Tax helps pay for local services like cleaning the streets, looking after vulnerable people, and fixing pot holes

## Where's all our money going?

### Russell Hargrave answers some taxing questions

#### A Brief History

Council Tax was introduced in 1993, as a way for councils to raise money and fund local services. It replaced the Community Charge, commonly known as 'the poll tax', which was introduced by Margaret Thatcher's government and was so controversial it provoked protests across the country. The average Council Tax bill in Haringey is about £1,700 per property each year, paid in monthly instalments.

#### Who Has To Pay Council Tax?

If you are over 18, and you own or rent your home, then you almost certainly have to pay Council Tax. This includes council tenants. There are some reductions and exemptions, though. Pensioners and students don't have to pay, and neither do people with severe mental impairments or their carers. If you are the only person over 18 in your home then you should be able to get 25% off your bill. Council Tax Benefit, which reduced bills for other people living on low incomes, was scrapped by the coalition government in 2013. Some local authorities, including Haringey, introduced other systems to help reduce bills.

#### Who Decides How Much You Pay?

The system for setting Council Tax is extremely complicated. Your Council Tax bill is linked to the historical value of your home. In Haringey, like in every other part of the UK, properties are separated into eight bands, from the cheapest (band A) to the most expensive (band H). The higher the band, the higher the bill. The decision about which property belongs in which band is taken by the independent Valuation Office Agency. The amount charged to each band is then set by your local council.

#### What Is Council Tax Spent On?

The overwhelming majority of Council Tax helps pay for local services like cleaning the streets, looking after vulnerable people, and fixing potholes. Haringey adds 3% extra to all Council Tax bills to help cover the growing costs of adult social care. According to experts at the Local Government Association, about half of all Council Tax was spent on social care for adults and children last year. About one pound in every twelve goes to help fund local schools, with the same spent on collecting waste and maintaining roads.

#### Is Council Tax Going To Go Up?

It depends. Under Haringey Council's new proposals [see page 1], Council Tax would come down for thousands of poorer residents. But there is no guarantee that bills won't rise for people who don't qualify for that help. And there is one more, rather important thing. The current bands are all based on house prices in England from 1991, nearly thirty years ago. Even homes built since 1991 are valued as if they had existed back then. If and when the government finally updates the figures, many people will find themselves moved into a much higher band.



## EDUCATION

# Local academy has questions to answer

By Russell Hargrave

Some local pupils will miss out on parts of their SAT exam scores this summer, because of a row embroiling an academy primary school in Tottenham.

The problem came to light when the Standards and Testing Agency (STA) stepped in to scrutinise tests held earlier this year. The STA found that Year 6 pupils at Harris Primary Academy Philip Lane, previously Downhills Primary School, had been “over-aided” in some of their SAT tests. Local campaigners say this could mean anything from teachers helping pupils during the tests to children being shown questions and answers in advance.

Another Harris Academy primary school in Tottenham, Coleraine Park, was investigated over allegations of falsifying SATs results in 2016, but was cleared by the STA.

Susan Head, the chair of the school governors at Philip Lane, wrote to parents in August to declare her “dismay” at the STA’s findings.

“This is deeply regrettable and disappointing,” Head said, “but I also want to stress that it will not ad-

versely affect any child’s transition to Year 7: their secondary schools will receive Teacher Assessments which provide an accurate picture of each pupil’s progress over time.” She also wrote:

“We want to apologise to all children and parents for what has happened and assure you that we are taking this matter extremely seriously. Responsibility lies with the academy and no pupil is at fault for what happened.”

The Harris Academy Chain took over running Downhills Primary after it was converted into an academy in 2011, despite a long battle with local parents and campaigners who wanted to preserve its status as a local authority school.

Susan Moyse, whose children attended Downhills Primary and who campaigned against the conversion, told *Tottenham Community Press* that the developments had not surprised her. The Harris Academy treated local school children as “data” and “bums on seats, and pupils had come second to that,” Moyse said.

“The academy system, the whole market system, just hasn’t got pupils’ best interests at heart,” she added.



Harris Academy Philip Lane Credit Stephen Furner (Tottenham Photography Club)

Moyse also said that campaigners were worried about local teachers being “thrown under the bus” over the incident, when it was for Harris to take responsibility for what had gone wrong.

This scandal comes against a backdrop of improving educational standards across the borough as a whole. Tiverton Primary School in Tottenham has become the latest school to

receive a ‘good’ rating from the regulator Ofsted. As a result, every one of Haringey’s eighty-six schools, including both academies and council-run schools, are now rated ‘good’ or ‘outstanding.’

Haringey is one of just five English councils with this 100% record, joining Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea, Rutland, and the City of London, all of which oversee far

fewer schools.

Haringey Council Cabinet Member for Children and Families Cllr Elin Weston said: “We are hugely proud that all of our schools are now rated good or outstanding. Haringey is home to fantastic schools, with a wealth of talented teachers, staff and young people. We are committed to ensuring all children in Haringey get the very best start in life.”

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## COMMUNITY

Arts & Culture  
Helen Swinyard reviews  
The Hate U Give

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# Get yourself connected

Business in the Community's local connectors bring local organisations together

By Musa Silla

**B**usiness in the Community is a national charity promoting responsible businesses and healthy communities with business at their heart. Musa Silla and Lindi Mkwanzani, the organisation's current Business Connectors for Haringey work as a pair, but have very distinct passions and reasons for undertaking the role.

Lindi says: "As a resident of Haringey, I am determined to bring about positive change to the borough... I am proud of the borough and want to promote it as best as I can." Meanwhile, Musa states that what motivates him is the huge difference you can make by connecting people and creating a space for people to share expertise and knowledge. He says: "I am enthusiastic about the opportunities and willingness of all parties to collaborate and find creative solutions to improve businesses and create healthy communities."

Musa and Lindi are getting to know the voluntary sector within Haringey and to understand more about the great work that is being done to support the local community. This engagement has helped them to understand the individual and collective aspirations the voluntary sector has for Haringey and the links with Haringey Council's corporate plan for the borough. These sessions have also helped highlight positive opportunities to collaborate across the public, private and volun-



Lindi Mkwanzani

tary sectors, with the primary goal of realising the collective ambition for Haringey.

But what does this mean for the everyday citizens of Haringey? Musa and Lindi explain that, "In real terms, we are here to listen to all interested parties across the borough, and understand the core issues Haringey faces. Our aim is to broker relationships between local and national employers and charities to implement sustainable improvement in education, employment, enterprise and social cohesion. Our overarching

focus is to collaborate not to direct."

"As an organisation, we also aim to bring a wealth of expertise from Business in the Community's education, employment and enterprise teams, as well as a number of tried and tested campaigns, to the existing good work that has already been done."

Musa and Lindi have recently collaborated with The Selby Trust on their social enterprise day by brokering a relationship with the School for Social Entrepreneurs. Through this relationship, the School for Social



Musa Silla Credit Abdullah Al-Helal

Entrepreneurs delivered a skills workshop to build the capability of existing and aspiring entrepreneurs in the borough. This is just an example of how Business Connectors are adding value and working in collaboration to support delivery.

Given the success of this event, Musa and Lindi hope to continue to promote social enterprise initiatives by holding future events which will allow Haringey residents to make strides in education, employment and social cohesion.

So what do Business Connectors need from the local community?

"We need continuous information from organisations, businesses and schools in Haringey, to understand existing issues and new concerns as they emerge, to inform our understanding and where we as business connectors can broker relationships and add value."

**If you are interested in working with Musa and Lindi or would like to know more, please contact them on**

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## Library exhibition remembers Bernie Grant

Seán O'Donovan on a celebration of the life and achievements of the late MP



Caroline Rault, Jasmin Taylor, Sharon Foster and Jeremy Corbyn

**T**his summer Tottenham's Marcus Garvey Library was packed in honour of Bernie Grant, the MP for Totten-

ham until his untimely death in 2000. The occasion was the launch of the Bernie Grant Exhibition, the result of a partnership between the

Friends of Marcus Garvey Library, the College of Haringey, Enfield & North East London (CONEL), Sharon Grant, the Bernie Grant Archives and artists Sharon Foster and Caroline Rault.

The exhibition was opened by Labour Party leader, Jeremy Corbyn, who recalled his time as a Haringey Councillor when he said, "It was Bernie Grant, when Leader of the Council, that ensured this library was built and I am so pleased that there will be a permanent exhibition here celebrating his life. I remember Bernie with great fondness and respect. It was brave people like Bernie standing up and building alliances that brought about development in Tottenham that was good

for everyone."

The centrepiece of the exhibition is a new portrait of Bernie Grant, surrounded by memorabilia of his political and personal life as well as reflections from people who knew him and were inspired by him.

Jasmin Taylor, the Chair of the Friends of Marcus Garvey Library, explained: "The exhibition belongs to the people of Tottenham. Improving the life chances of young people in Haringey was always close to Bernie's heart which is why the Friends are especially pleased to be able to work with students in the CONEL media department as part of their BTEC studies."

One of the artists Sharon Foster said, "I met Bernie many years ago

and he struck me as a very caring man who was interested in people. It did not matter to him who they were or where they came from. His ethos was to value everyone and to treasure their life story. I hope that through our artwork we have managed to capture something of the real man.

Sharon Grant, Bernie's widow, and herself a very significant figure in Haringey public life, thanked the organisers saying "It is so important to ensure that Bernie's memory is kept alive as an inspiration to future generations. I am delighted that this exhibition is in the heart of Tottenham, and that young people from the college are involved. Bernie would be smiling down today."



# exposure

Youth communications charity

Exposure is a multi-award winning youth communications charity enabling young people in north London to thrive creatively – for the good of others, as well as themselves.

*Educating young people about the power of good journalism is something both Exposure and Tottenham Community Press consider to be of vital importance. That's why, when we were given the opportunity to run an event as part of the Tottenham Creates weekend, we jumped at the chance to run a collaborative journalism workshop. We spent an excellent afternoon discussing Tottenham, its representation in mainstream news and learning basic journalistic techniques. Below you can find some of the content produced on the day.*



### **What role does the media/journalism have in shaping people's opinions?**

The media and journalism plays a huge role in shaping people's opinions. This is because it's a tool that is very informative i.e. people access information about the news via the media and also relevant research that curves their interests.

### **What are the positives of living in Tottenham?**

The positives of living in Tottenham are that there are role models from here who have paved a way to show us that our dreams can be achieved. Even though we come from an area which is most known for its gun and knife crime, it is an area which has produced "diamonds in the dirt" such as Tottenham Hotspur, David Lammy, Wretch32, Double S, Chipmunk, Adele and myself (!).

### **What are the negatives?**

The negatives of our area is the staggering rate of gun and knife crime. We are constantly losing lives to this senseless act, such as Kobi Nelson and Osman Sharif, and it's got to stop.

### **What do you think the media's representation of Tottenham is?**

The majority of the media's representation of Tottenham is definitely centred on the riots of 2011 and its gang related crimes beforehand. However, now that a new football stadium is being built, Tottenham is likely to become a new tourist attraction.

### **How does this compare to the reality?**

Well, not everything in Tottenham is negative. There are schools and colleges that produce students with the best exam results. There are also youths and mentors doing positive things but these go unrecognised.

### **What can be done to change the media's perception and wider public's view of Tottenham?**

The media's perception of Tottenham can be changed by there being more documentaries and spotlights shined on people from and in our community that make positive contributions.

### **What role can you and other young people play in this?**

Young people, including myself can contribute to changing people's negative views on Tottenham by continuing to do positive things and not disguise where they've come from – and shine a positive light on our area.

**Hayaati Njuki, 22**



### **What role does the media/journalism have in shaping people's opinions?**

The media definitely has a big role in how we think. It shapes our opinions. It is so powerful that world leaders like Hitler and his Nazi political party banned all outside media that was not German.

### **What are the positives of living in Tottenham?**

Tottenham is a really diverse place that is definitely a positive. We have



Local young people take part in journalism workshop **Credit** Exposure

lots of people who speak different languages and look different. There is great sense of community in Tottenham, for example the aftermath of the Tottenham riots, the people of Tottenham joined together to clean up the community. That is what a community should be like, supportive and willing to help.

### **What are the negatives?**

Gang crime is definitely is a big problem in Tottenham; take what happened in Vue cinema. After that my mum would not let me go there (for a bit). We live in fear and feel as if we have to watch our backs. It is scary.

### **What do you think the media's representation of Tottenham is?**

Negative, we are all represented as gangster and crazy, dangerous bandits. This makes me feel pretty angry and it also makes me think negative things about the area I live in. I wish they showed the positive side more. Then maybe, just maybe I could feel better about where I am from.

### **How does this compare to the reality?**

The media representation is false; none of my friends are like this. They are kind enough, smart, creative. No one is stupid enough to smash shops and steal stuff. It's just a couple of people who spoil it for other people. People who are not from Tottenham should come and see the reality.

### **What can be done to change the media's perception and wider public's view of Tottenham?**

Sorry for being cheesy but we need to show people what we are made of. Be proud you're that from Tottenham and be vocal when someone says something against Tottenham. The media needs to do its job too, by portraying a more positive image of Tottenham. For example the media could focus on the Down- Hills Park café, which is a volunteer-run café working to

support adults with learning difficulties.

### **What role can you and other young people play in this?**

Show your talents and try to be proud of where you are from. I know it's hard. Sometimes, I don't feel proud that I am from Tottenham. We should focus on the positives of living in Tottenham and try to push away the negatives.

**Jaden Okyere, 15**



### **What role does the media/journalism have in shaping people's opinions?**

I think that journalism plays a very important role in shaping people's opinions. Newspapers have the potential to give important information freely to everyone, however it can be easy for journalists to just rely on negative stereotypes, for instance during the 2011 riots or the recent stabbings of innocent young people.

### **What are the positives of living in Tottenham?**

The positives are the regeneration happening now to some extent... Not just Tottenham Hotspur regenerating, but the local shops and business. The Marcus Garvey library, the exceptional primary and secondary schools – Gladesmore's 'Everybody Dreams' song for Tottenham that still attracts young people to study there. The Neighbourhood Resource Centre, the Bernie Grant Centre. The fact that famous people from footballer Walter Tull to rapper Skepta came from Tottenham. There's a lot of things to be proud of.

### **What are the negatives?**

The Northumberland Park estate will be demolished and there's a chance the residents won't have a proper say in the plans, or have the 'right to return' on the same terms.

A negative looming in the media right now is the stabbings that killed Tottenham's young people.

However in reality these are not representative of what Tottenham is. You get bad people everywhere. You also get good people everywhere.

### **What do you think the media's representation of Tottenham is?**

It could be better. The media doesn't want to always present Tottenham as bad now, but it isn't always there for the good sides or more complex issues, such as regeneration.

### **How does this compare to the reality?**

In reality Tottenham is not a place where you can expect gangs. When I'm walking around Tottenham I feel safe, as I stick to the main roads. I have never personally experienced crime in the 20 years I've been living here.

### **What can be done to change the media's perception and wider public's view of Tottenham?**

Newspapers like *Tottenham Community Press*, written by local people could change the negative narrative surrounding Tottenham to the multiple narratives experienced by many different people.

### **What role can you and other young people play in this?**

Young people need to be proud of where they come from and to make a positive change.

Some may assume that just because young people are staying out of trouble, it's OK. Yet in order for young people to have a voice and help shape the future of our community, they need the guidance of youth charities, work experience, and family and friends.

As young people, we need to do our



[www.exposure.org.uk](http://www.exposure.org.uk)

best in whatever we love doing so we can make a difference - for example, we can now write for *Tottenham Community Press*, so we can positively imagine and create the future.

**Shakira Dyer, 19**



### **What role does the media/journalism have in shaping people's opinions?**

The influence of media and journalism is undeniably powerful. It communicates the issues and events surrounding the government, the local area and any other developments affecting our lives. It can lead to important discussions and people having informed opinions.

One of the biggest issues in journalism is providing these facts without political bias or prejudice. It's significant that whoever controls the media can influence public opinion; such as showing a prominent figure in a positive light or creating a bad image of a certain place.

### **What are the positives of living in Tottenham?**

Tottenham hosts a diverse range of cultures and communities from all around the world. Such diversity offers great opportunities for different jobs, knowledge of other communities, new tastes, new fashion, new literature... the list is endless.

Also, there is the improving infrastructure - transportation, local businesses and the works around this Tottenham Hotspur stadium - is very exciting and the changes create a great energy within the community.

### **What are the negatives?**

Strangely enough, some of the negative aspects of Tottenham can also be linked to its close-knit communities. People from different cultures tend to interact less compared to those from the same culture. This can lead to conflict and violence.

People are often polite, but it is hard to create bonds when they hesitate to talk to each other. This can't be said for everyone. There are many who are keen to connect with different types of people.

I can't really blame anyone for being

reluctant to step out of their comfort zone. Even I don't do it often myself.

### **What do you think the media's representation of Tottenham is?**

Tottenham is presented as a newly developing area that has been one of the most deprived in London. Mostly known for the 2011 riots and its famous football club, Tottenham is only now attracting attention for the progress made within the economy and services.

The new changes to the area - in terms of infrastructure and local businesses - are shaping Tottenham up to be more appealing, offering a higher quality of life.

On the other hand, the recent media coverage of gang violence cases has shown that there is still more to be done for a better Tottenham.

### **How does this compare to the reality?**

The media is quite accurate. Their work is increasing the anticipation for the end product and its effects on the community. The tragic cases of gang violence have also left a deep impact amongst the Tottenham youth. The fear of similar incidents is ever-present, and will hopefully turn out to be redundant.

### **What can be done to change the media's perception and wider public's view of Tottenham?**

First, we need a deeper analysis of the events that lead to any negative perception of Tottenham.

If the Tottenham male youth is getting violent, we need to find out if it is due to social or mental causes. Any research that offers a solution is useful.

If the drug intake/trade rates are rising amongst the youth, we have to investigate why and how this group is targeted.

Once these questions are answered, we can put an end to violence and present a better Tottenham youth to the wider public.

### **What role can you and other young people play in this?**

The first thing that comes to mind is technology. Social media is the greatest tool we can use to create important discussion and connect to a wider audience.

Whilst doing this, we should consult both the youth and adults and work together to fix the problems.

Though this isn't something only the adults should be responsible for: both need to connect and do their best to address what is going wrong within the Tottenham community - and how we can fix it.

**Ahuzar Demir, 17**

## ARTS & CULTURE

# "What's the point of having a voice if you're gonna be silent?"

## The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

### Book review by Helen Swinyard

Image credit <http://angiethomas.com/books>



Set in contemporary America, this is the story of a teenage girl, Starr, who is the only witness to the shooting of her unarmed friend Khalil by a white police officer. Told from Starr's point of view, you get a very real insight into her life and feelings, searching for her identity and her place in the world: all centred around this incident. She knows saying or doing the wrong (or right) thing could get her killed.

Starr is conflicted: who is she? How does race feature in everyday life? How does prejudice affect our decisions? How do we see ourselves, and how do others see us, based on the colour of our skin? It's a thought-provoking book and one to get people talking - especially if you read it out loud with your child, or several members of the family want to read it!

The story is fiction but written based on various real-life situations encountered by the author. Angie

Thomas, like her main character Starr, grew up caught between two worlds - living in an all-black neighbourhood while being the only black person in most of her school classes: trying to fit in and avoid being the "token black girl" as she puts it.

Starr is like all teenagers - navigating the world of dating, school, family, identity - and yet her life is also completely different. Even though the story is set in another country, her life and issues will resonate strongly for some in Tottenham.

The book is marketed at teenagers and the main character is 16 but it has been winning awards and rave reviews all over the place, and definitely stands up to adult reading.

It's also great if you or your child don't read that much or haven't for a while - around a 'reading age' of 10-11 years if your child does this at school - not too many complicated words, although the ideas are complex. There is swearing in the book but it is used within the

local vocabulary of the characters and not just there to sensationalise.

Teen Vogue describes it as "an essential read for everyone" and I'd agree.

The film version of *The Hate U Give* is due out in the UK in October/November - try and read the book first! If you've already read this book, the author's next one, *On the Come Up*, is due out in bookshops early 2019. It features a different main character but is set in the same neighbourhood in Mississippi.

Use the hashtag #TheHateUGive when reading or reviewing and get 10% off a copy of the book from the Big Green Bookshop using the code "TCPTHUG".

Next month we will be celebrating the opening of the new Spurs stadium with a roundup of great football-themed books for children and teenagers! Join in by emailing your thoughts on your favourite football book to [TottenhamCPreads@gmail.com](mailto:TottenhamCPreads@gmail.com) by 10th September!

## Corrections

Please note the picture taken of the artwork at Tottenham Hale station (page 15, issue 13) was taken by Tracy Gidley of The Engine Room, not Jared Barnes Photography.

Please note that two across clues for the previous crossword were not included in the last issue, these are the following:

Clue 41: Charged with power (11)

Clue 42: Which person (3)



PHOTOGRAPHY



Infancy



Come back



Death

Blooming Through Life  
Explorations in Competing  
Urban Spatial Discourse

Master Jonjon’s *Blooming through Life: Explorations in Competing Urban Spatial Discourse* is a series of three photographs depicting how architectures in Tottenham struggle between existence and neglect with the short-lived dandelion flower (withering within the day to produce the cypselae) acting as the subject of observation as an allegorical device. It challenges our self-conception as agents of humanism, annoying procreating weeds, genetic machines or symbols of romance and passion. In the three works the blossom is paired with Bruce Castle, The High Cross and Apex House. The petals face 1516°, 2018° and 2016° from north respectively, representing at least one point in time that they’re to be remembered (the year first mentioned in records to date; reopened as a pub; borough granted permission to demolish). The positioning of the pot alludes to average tendencies in modern political spectrum, behaviorism and personality theory. It is towards the end of the life cycle that the floret, representing ourselves, becomes more visible, but the ‘future’ construction works that crush upon our dead bodies are fuzzy and forever beyond imagination.

Photograph by Master Jonjon

Master Jonjon is an urban photographer, novelist and playwright, drama educator, actor, pianist and keyboardist, mathematics and computer teacher, calligrapher, director of photography, innovation consultant and sociologist. He is currently the webmaster of Blog:Ditdun and YamphotographY. He resides in London.



## COMMUNITY

## Open House Weekend – Ferry Lane Estate

Housing and green space on Ferry Lane Estate

by Lorna Reith

Celebrate Ferry Lane Estate's 40th anniversary by paying it a visit during Open House Weekend on Sunday September 23rd. Considered high-density housing when built in 1978, the popular mix of houses and low-rise flats lies adjacent to the River Lee. Built originally by the Greater London Council, the estate transferred to Haringey Council in 1982 and is now managed by Homes for Haringey.

Ferry Lane Estate is undoubtedly a popular, success story. Crime is low, people feel safe, transport links are excellent and the environment is pleasant, with plenty of trees and open green spaces. There is a thriving residents association and a good primary school. Residents come from all over the globe but settle and, generally, get on well.

When the estate was built the site was a backwater, surrounded by partly derelict industrial land. Now it is on the edge of major redevelopment

and a neighbour to the newly opened Walthamstow Wetlands. It has been included in the Open House London weekend so that the role of architecture and layout in making the estate a success can be considered.

The residents association has arranged three guided tours with an architecture researcher as part of the Open House Weekend. Bookings are not required. For further information, contact [Lorna.reith@btinternet.com](mailto:Lorna.reith@btinternet.com) or call 07973426337.

## Poets Corner

### Not enough tears

by Laura Berryman

Not enough tears could put out the fire  
We wept as we watched the flames grow higher.  
Like a hungry beast it coiled round the tower  
Leaping and spitting, burning with power  
Through floor after floor it wanted to roam  
Moving with speed through home after home.  
Not enough tears could put out the fire  
Helpless we watched the flames grow higher  
Brave fire fighters were quick on the scene  
Pushed back by smoke they tried and tried  
To rescue the people trapped inside.  
Some escaped but so many died.  
Not enough ears could hear the cries  
Of those who saw danger before their eyes.  
Pleas to make Grenfell a safer place  
Fell on deaf ears in the housing race.  
Housing bigwigs did not heed the warning  
Too late now for many are mourning.  
Not enough tears could put out the fire  
We wept as we watched the flames grow higher  
People need homes that are safe and secure  
They also need to be heard and sure  
Not enough tears to put out the fire  
Too many fears are left on the pyre.

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**Come along to our public meeting and discuss the local health services that matter to you**

For more information visit [www.haringeyccg.nhs.uk](http://www.haringeyccg.nhs.uk) or contact us: 020 3688 2729 [harccg.comms@nhs.net](mailto:harccg.comms@nhs.net)



**Haringey CCG would like to invite Haringey residents to attend our public meeting.**

🕒 Thurs 11 Oct  
2pm – 4pm  
or 6pm – 8pm

📍 Tottenham Green Leisure Centre,  
1 Philip Lane,  
London N15 4JA

We will be addressing some of the local health services that residents have told us are most important to the community, including primary care, mental health, urgent care services and care of the elderly.

You'll also have the chance to meet local GPs and ask us questions.

Light refreshments will be provided. All welcome!

**NHS**

**Haringey**

Clinical Commissioning Group

## Community Engagement

**What do you think of services in Haringey?**



Community Engagement is a new initiative that aims to address problems at the earliest opportunity and prevent them from escalating.

We want to know what you think of current support services in Haringey, and what can be done to improve them.

We want your views and first hand experiences about local services, with a focus on:

- Children and young people
- Health and social care
- Housing and homelessness
- Environment
- Community safety



To get involved please email [deborah@bridgerenewaltrust.org.uk](mailto:deborah@bridgerenewaltrust.org.uk) or call 020 8442 7640.

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## ARTS &amp; CULTURE

# “This is not only art: this is community spirit”

Review of Where They From? – WeMove Dance at Haringey Sixth Form College



Frenemies Credit Henry Mugenyi and Christopher Bean

By Camilla Stanger, Dance Enrichment Coordinator, Haringey Sixth Form College

Two young black men attempt to escape an increasingly brutal stop and search. Four friends bond over the ritual of getting ready for a big night out. A ballet class is transformed by a break-out Afrobeats performance. A group of

strangers sit at a bus stop, nursing their inner demons and searching for a sense of connection...

These are some of the moments explored in 'Where They From?' a dance theatre production exploring "what happens behind closed doors" in Tottenham, devised by young people from Gladesmore Community School in collaboration with WeMove Dance at Haringey Sixth Form College.

The company of ten young dancers, aged 13 - 15, had worked with professional dancers, supported by teachers and former students from WeMove Dance, to develop a piece looking at the sometimes troubling, sometimes uplifting and sometimes quite ordinary realities of living in Tottenham in 2018.

As well as wishing to counter "stereotypical" narratives around Tottenham seen in the national news, the young people said they wanted to "take the audience on a roller coaster of emotion", using dance and site-specific promenade theatre as their art form.

And that they did! This ambitious and (quite literally) moving production was performed around various spaces in Haringey Sixth Form College on Monday 16th July the audience included family, peers, teachers, and former staff and students from Haringey Sixth Form who now work in the performing arts industry. Each of the three performances were followed by a post-show discussion, which key spokespeople from the company handled with maturity and a great deal of insight.

Two things emerged loud and clear throughout the performances and post-show discussions: the power of young people's creative voices to provoke thought, and the deep sense of community in Tottenham.

## Performers

"... we made this performance to show what really happens in Tottenham and shed light on how Tottenham isn't a place where everything is dull and gloom and a bad place: yes, it has some negatives but there's a lot more positives ..." – Kelis Maxwell, Performer.

"This show was important because as young people, we can tell our story in the way it is viewed by us, not by the police or parents or the media." – Ketsia Bernard, Performer.

## Audience

"You could see how much effort and thought the young people had put in, and it surprised me how much they had acknowledged about their local area." – Makesha Ansell, Parent of Performer.

"The show was absolutely amazing - not what I expected to see at all. Not because of any doubt about their

talent, but because they're students aged 13-15 and the piece they put together was so creative that I almost couldn't believe their age. It truly blew me away." – Marvin Campbell, lead pastoral staff, Gladesmore Community School.

"What an amazing evening. This is one of the most ambitious and exuberant performances by a group of young people that I've ever seen. This is not only art: it is collective and community spirit." – Dr Vivienne Ekwulugo, lead performer Thriller Live, West End and Lecturer of Education, IOE.

"I really enjoyed the sense of creativity throughout the show - especially as the voices of young people are so often ignored, so seeing them being broadcast and celebrated so clearly was refreshing and encouraging."

– Member Of Haringey Unchained, Haringey Sixth Form's Creative Writing Group And Literary Magazine.

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# A new public convenience

A disused WC has been transformed into one of Tottenham's best new boozers. Jim Ottewill finds The High Cross aiming for better than bog standard



Chris and Alex outside The High Cross **Credit** Hazel Brown, founder and editor, Discovering Tottenham

“People walk in thinking it’s a toilet and they end up staying for a couple of pints: that’s always funny,” laughs Chris Johnston, one half of the team behind the newly opened pub, The High Cross.

If you’ve passed up Tottenham High Road from Seven Sisters, you can’t have failed to notice that the old WC on the corner has been undergoing a steady overhaul.

The distinctive building, straddling the junction with Monument Way, has just opened its doors as a pub but has already become one of Tottenham’s most unique spots. It’s thanks to Chris and his friend Alex Beeston, two northerners with a penchant for great boozers, establishments with buckets of atmosphere and ace beers, who have taken it over.

Chris, who used to run The Railway Tavern in Dalston, explains: “I would cycle past this building on my way to The Railway and think that it would make a great spot,” he reveals. “One day I went past and there was an advertisement asking for business proposals from prospective tenants. From the first viewing the gut feeling for it was there.”

So after some legal wrangling, paperwork, proposals, interviews, applications planning, the pair managed to secure the lease from

Haringey Council. But that was just the start of months of hard graft.

Says Chris: “We inherited a shell, good-looking but cold, damp and dirty. We had to get new power and water reconnections as there was no record of the old ones, and then work our way out of it!”

It certainly sounds like a huge challenge? “It was hard, especially in winter. But we hired professionals where it counted, then friends and family and some of our old locals from The Railway. At the same time, most of what you see is our own work.”

Entering The High Cross, you’ll be struck not only by its classy feel but by the wealth of original features. The building has been on the site since the 17th century and, according to Chris, retaining period elements of the 1920s décor they inherited was always part of the plan.

“We kept everything we could. Everything we selected was chosen to complement what existed already. It would have been sacrilege to rip it out so we used reclaimed materials and if it had to be bought off the shelf we tried to ensure it would fit in. It’s great when people say it looks as if it’s always been here.

What are your favourite bits of the reclaimed space? “The tiles are the star but for me the best feature is the light. We replaced all of the



The High Cross before and after **Credit** The High Cross

panels with clear glass, keeping the original frames.”

Tottenham is certainly becoming London’s capital of craft beer and ale, with a glut of independent breweries pumping out delicious drinks across the postcode. Now, alongside the likes of fellow newbie, The Bluecoats and of course Five Miles, plus perennial faves The Beehive, there’s an increasing number of places to sample these delicious liquid wares.

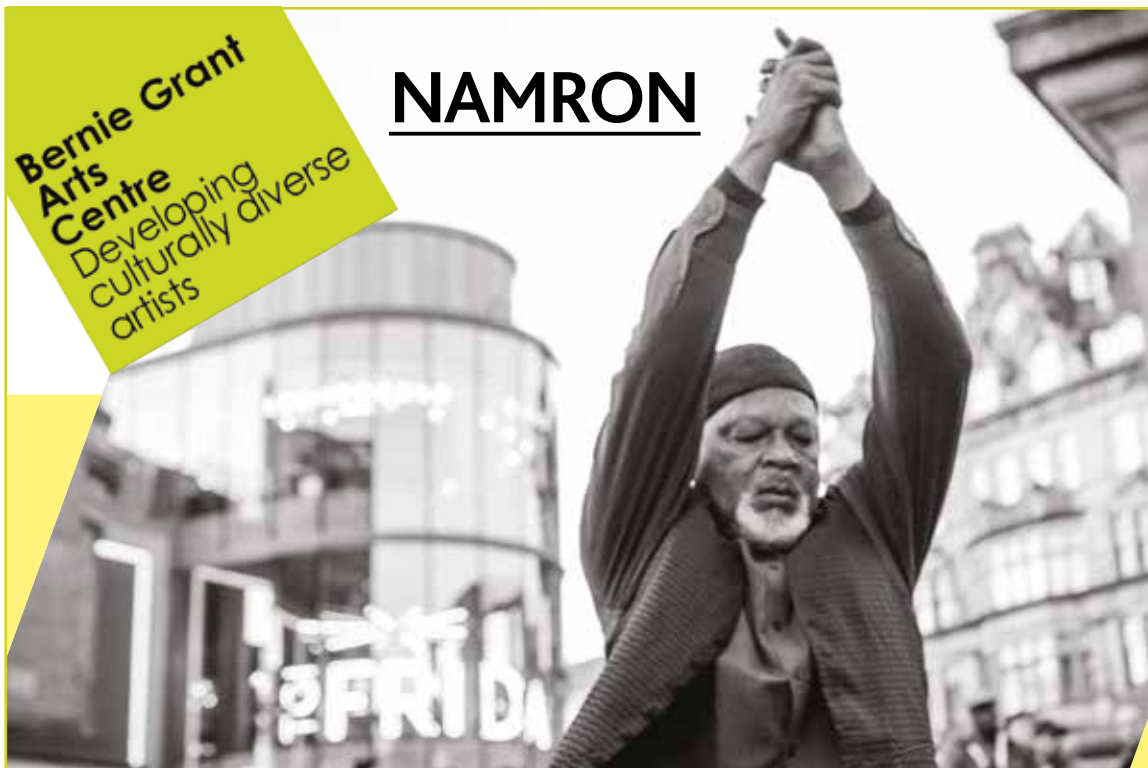
“I’ve lived here for about five years and I love it,” says Chris. “Taking this place is certainly not an obvious way of going about things but we hope we are proving there is a demand for this kind of pub. It was an opportunity, a strange one, but I’m so glad we took it.”

**Find out more:**

**Instagram** @highcrosslondon

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FICTION

# The Lilywhite Jersey: part two

Over four issues of TCP, we are publishing The Lilywhite Jersey, a short story by Andreas Koumi. In part two, Priyantha recalls his first visit to White Hart Lane and a life-changing meeting on the terraces



Tottenham cake: a taste of victory Credit Stephen Furner (Tottenham Photography Club)

“Jermain. Are you all right?” enquired Jane. The pupils had been listening attentively but one, his skin a shade darker than Priyantha’s, appeared particularly affected by the elderly gentleman’s story. With the whole class’s attention now on Jermain, adolescent bravado intervened, his previously marbling eyes now flashing anger as he sucked air through his teeth. “What’s the point of all this, Miss? Everyone knows they’d have pissed off to the Olympic Stadium given the chance. They don’t care about the area or the people. It’s all about money.” Priyantha calmly raised a hand to forestall Jane’s inevitable rebuke. “Jermain has a point. It’s best not to put too much faith in the club,” he said. “They’re a business like any other, chasing after success in a hugely competitive environment. But we’ve got to look beyond that, Jermain. Focus on the place and what it means to the people. White Hart Lane, the world famous home of the Spurs.” “Yes, well, haven’t you heard?” scoffed Jermain. “They’re getting rid of your old home.” Priyantha nodded and clasped his walking stick to steady himself a moment before escaping back into his story.

\* \* \*

They started showing football on the television. Nothing like Sky Sports, just brief Saturday night highlights on the BBC. But you needed a set for that, which was far too expensive. Instead, the nuns bought me a transistor radio. Most kids were tuning into rock and roll and “she loves you” but I craved only for football; score updates, classified results, match reports. Sometimes they would even broadcast live matches from The Lane. It was gratifying to hear the same cheers and jeers, coming through both the window and speaker. It confirmed I was somewhere famous. Another way to catch up on Spurs’ exploits was through the back pages of the Tottenham Herald. So desperate was I to devour football news, I eventually badgered the local

newsagent into taking me on as a paperboy. That way I could be first to read all about it. There was a new player grabbing all the headlines. England’s best ever striker: Jimmy Greaves. A bit older now and gainfully earning a bob or two, I felt I was finally ready to pay Danny and the boys a visit. My first match was against Nottingham Forest, August 1963. I plunged into Danny’s precious gift. It was big; as was the smile I wore with it. Slipping out of the front door a half-hour before kick off I merged with a tide of fans, streaming towards the turnstiles at Park Lane, destined for the terraces behind the goal. Finally inside, I surveyed the magical vista for the first time. Before me was the pitch, all lush and verdant. To my left the copper cockerel perched proudly atop the roof of the West Stand. A brass band ‘tiddely-om-pom-pommed’ the occasion to expunge forever, inadequate black and white versions of this scene from my mind. I stood still a moment, breathing in the freshly coiffured grass, infused with cigarette smoke and the odd belching of pale ale. Home. Then all at once a fellow fan debased the alchemy. He called me the ‘P-word’ and told me to get a move on. I was holding people up and the match was about to start. I cowered, suffering once more the rejection that had hounded me since birth. Suddenly, amongst all these people, I had never felt so alone. Nearby, a teenage girl, no older than me, piped up in my defence. “Shut your face, you. He’s Spurs. We’re Spurs. We don’t use language like that.” Emboldened, others more mature than she muttered their own rebukes, until the bonehead crimsoned. He apologised and made excuses. It was the beer talking. “Yes, well you should take more care what’s pouring in and out of that stupid trap of yours,” she berated, with the assuredness only innocent beauty bestows. Navy-blue and white ribbons, swaying in her hair, orchestrated each word. In those days there were few non-whites at football matches,

and fewer non-males. Here then was a glorious show of solidarity. “Hey, Danny,” she said, turning to me and tugging at a loose sleeve. “Who are you here with?” I explained that I was unaccompanied. She responded soothingly. “Come stand by me. And Dad.” The cloth-capped man next to her said, “Hello, Friend.” Pinned to his cap was a small badge depicting an eight-pointed red and black star that had me intrigued. They weren’t Spurs colours. He offered a warm hand. I shook it, and hers too. She introduced herself as Valerie. I introduced myself in return but said I quite liked her calling me Danny, so she never stopped. The brass band started pumping out “MacNamara’s Band”. Instinctively, Valerie and her dad joined the chorus. Oh the whistle goes, the cockerel crows and now we’re in the game. It’s up to you, you Lilywhites to play the Tottenham way. There’s many teams, from many towns, and some are great and small. But the famous Tottenham Hotspur are the greatest of them all. I listened open-mouthed. I knew the tune but not the words, and I was overwhelmed: not only by Valerie but also by the appearance of Danny and the rest of the players, darting onto the pitch to euphoric cheers. I was home once more. As the players warmed up, my sodden eyelashes rendered them a display of shooting stars. I waved and screamed at Danny, imploring him to notice me. “It’s your first time, isn’t it?” noted Valerie. I nodded, self-consciously. “So where are you from?” she added... “Oh,” she said, after I had explained about the children’s home. I was saddened to see her poise diminish. I realised her question was in fact about my heritage, so told her what little I knew. She clutched the ribbons in her hair self consciously. “Oh. I’m sorry.” I told her not to be. I was Tottenham born and bred, and proud of it. Released, her ribbons nodded approval. I asked after Valerie’s background. “Can’t you tell?” she announced, her poise returning. “I’m pure Lilywhite!” I laughed, as did her father. The match started and naturally all our focus was upon it. The play ebbed and flowed, as the multitude pushed and pulled in the stands, forever jostling for the best possible view of the action. With Valerie beside me, my feet, quite literally on occasion, didn’t touch the ground. Safety concerns prevent today’s generations from experiencing the helter-skelter thrill of standing in a football crowd back then. I recall Valerie’s father complaining about Danny, after a loose pass presented Forest with a goal scoring opportunity. Of course, in my eyes Danny could do no wrong. Seized by the passion of the moment, I couldn’t help reproach Valerie’s father for his lack of faith. We needed to get behind our captain and our team. Valerie’s father rolled out his lower lip and pinched my cheek with affection. “He’s right dad. Love the shirt!” declared Valerie and winked at us both. Spurred on by our love, Jimmy scored a hat trick that day. With the first, she and I pumped fists and rubbed foreheads. With the second, she and I clasped hands and jumped with joy. With the third, she and I hugged and planted kisses on each other’s cheek. Football does that to you. “You’ll come back to ours for tea and cake,” insisted Valerie after the final whistle and a satisfying 4-1 victory. “Tottenham cake, of course.”



## ENVIRONMENT

## Health

Improving health and tackling inequality with exercise

Page 14

## Haringey – stop profiting from climate destruction

By Quentin Given

The deadly heat-wave across Europe and Asia this summer has been a stark reminder of the urgency of tackling climate change, so it is bizarre that public bodies still have money from their pension funds invested in industries that are making the problem worse. In the long term, investing in coal, oil and gas companies does not even make financial sense – if we take effective steps to cut carbon emissions then these investments will lose their value.

After a big campaign led by Friends of the Earth, Haringey led the way amongst local authorities in 2016 by agreeing to divest 33% its pension funds from fossil fuel companies.

In 2017 they upped this to 50% and committed another 5% to invest in renewable energy. Other London boroughs have followed Haringey's example and, following the May elections, several are making commitments to divest 100%.

We are hoping that at their September 13 meeting the Pensions Committee will agree to move the last 45% out of fossil fuels – and invest more into green energy. We are lobbying the members of the committee and we have launched a petition so people can register their support.

**To sign the petition asking Haringey council to divest of fossil fuels:**

**Visit** <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/tell-haringey-finish-the-job-on-fossil-fuel-divestment/>

### Send your letters

Got an opinion on things in Tottenham? Send us a letter by Monday 17th September.

**Email** [tottenhamcp@gmail.com](mailto:tottenhamcp@gmail.com)

## Here comes the sun

Pamela Harling on the school using solar panels to save money and help save the planet

Pupils and staff at White Hart Lane's Woodside High School joined directors and shareholders of local community energy enterprise en1Oergy this summer to celebrate the installation of 150 solar panels on the school's sports hall roof.

The project, which aims to save the school money while also being used as a teaching resource, was funded through a £95,000 share offer via the investment platform, Ethex and the panels were installed in November 2017. Muswell Hill-based En1Oergy also helped the school get funding for low energy lightbulbs saving around £9,000 a year due to reduced electricity usage.

En1Oergy's chair, Dermot Barnes said "We want to show off our panels, and convince local politicians of all of the benefits of clean community energy."

Woodside's co-headteacher

Gerry Robinson added: "We are really pleased that this project is up and running – solar panels are allowing the school to generate its own energy, saving the School money in challenging financial times, and providing a clear visual symbol of cleaner, renewable energy."

Woodside councillor, Peter Mitchell (Labour) noted that: "The school has an enthusiastic group of pupils who want to raise awareness of environmental issues and this initiative helps them to demonstrate what can be done."

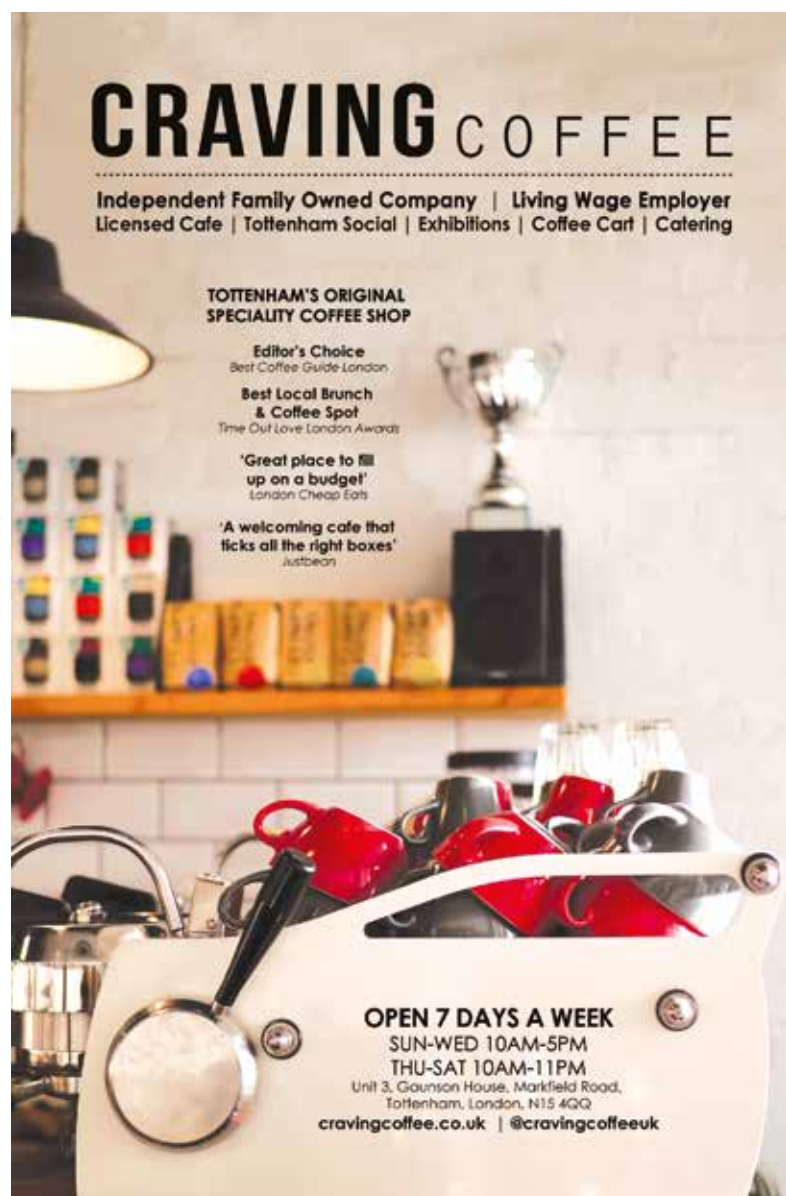
The school buys the electricity that the panels generate at a cheaper price than it could buy from the grid, so saving money as well as carbon emissions. Unlike power from coal, gas and oil, renewable power has minimal running and disposal costs. Every gram of CO2 saved by generating clean power and wasting less

power helps in the fight against climate change.

As of May this year, the panels supplied 15% of the school's electricity needs and, following the sunny weather over the last few weeks, the school is now saving even more! It is hoped that the example of the panels can be used in science classes in the school and that the school's environmental club will be telling everyone how the panels work and how they are helping reduce the school's carbon footprint. The club is also planning a campaign to reduce plastic waste and to increase recycling.

The launch event was part of Community Energy Fortnight run by Community Energy England. The Mayor of London's Community Energy Fund is also helping en1Oergy look at possibilities for new solar projects.

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## HEALTH

# A sporting chance

Blogger Bakasura on the role of exercise in improving health and tackling inequality in Tottenham

According to the Council figures, Haringey is the fourth most deprived borough in the capital and this has devastating consequences for our health. Death rates in Haringey are above the London and national averages: with half of deaths in the borough due to cardiovascular disease and cancer.

Within Haringey, the inequalities are stark: for example, men living in Tottenham die nine years earlier on average than their peers living in areas such as Highgate, Muswell Hill and Crouch End.

Exercise can be a major factor in health and wellbeing however participation is itself unequal. According to Sport England's "Active Lives Survey", those with higher socio-economic and educational levels have higher levels of engagement in sport, while another report by the charity, Sporting Equals, discovered that only 55% of Black people and 53% of South Asian people in the UK participated in sporting activities.

When compared based on gender, Black women (34.3%) and Asian

women (33.9%) reveal low levels of sports engagement, compared to White British women (40.8%), while Muslim women have an even lower rate of engagement at 25.1%.

The Casey Review (a 2016 government report targeting integration and opportunity in our most deprived communities) exposed that for some female BMEs, obstacles to higher participation in sport and other social engagements are linked to what their own ethnic communities regard as being socially acceptable behaviour. This may include: strict religious and regressive cultural norms, patriarchal dominance within close family circles and negative perceptions of female emancipation.

Another report, published in 2015 by the Social Integration Commission indicates that poor integration levels in communities leads to the rise of anxiety, mistrust and prejudice and ill-health. In addition, the lack of social integration in recruitment, employment and career progression, as well as community health, fitness and wellbeing alone costs the UK economy

roughly £6 billion on a yearly basis. Well structured sport programmes can be a successful tool for positive social change improving community relations, social cohesion, overall levels of mental and physical health, as well as helping to build self-esteem and self-confidence.

Indeed, sport institutions, charities and other public services can create meaningful opportunities for individuals from different backgrounds to interact in a healthy and constructive way.

Focusing on the local scenario, the Runnymede Trust's report "Ethnic Inequalities in London - Capital for All" lists Haringey as one of the worst London boroughs for racial inequality in terms of health, housing, education and employment.

Considering the alarming levels of deprivation and marginalization that the BME population in Tottenham faces on a daily basis, engagement in sports could prove instrumental in healing and coping with the damage.

To follow Bakasura follow their blog:  
Visit [BakasuraBlog.wordpress.com](http://BakasuraBlog.wordpress.com)

**I talked to Jimmy B, a young Tottenham resident, who delivers health and fitness programmes in the local area, to discuss what sport means to him:**

**What is your connection with Tottenham?**

I grew up here and currently still live here.

**What makes this area so special to you?**

The best memories go back to my school days. The people I met then are memorable but also the special individuals within the community who supported me and provided opportunities such as starting community projects like cycling and being involved in events, play work, canoe and kayak coaching.

**What gives you the most satisfaction in your work?**

As a multi-skilled fitness, health and sport coach, I get motivation and satisfaction from contributing towards community success, especially when I see individuals achieve their own personal goals. I appreciate the journey that we both go through.

**What could be done to improve the community's engagement levels in physical exercise and healthy lifestyle?**

Empowering by educating, delivering physical exercise and healthy lifestyle interventions and bespoke programmes for free will improve the levels of community engagement.

**Based on your experience, what has been the biggest challenge in delivering health and sport community projects in Tottenham?**

Funding has been the biggest challenge in delivering health and sport community projects in Tottenham, along with the quality of service and politics... which is a shame. Everyone who delivers community projects has the same agenda but seem to compete, rather than collaborate and be inclusive.

## Wilsons: Solicitors

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### Crossword Answers

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| S | R | E | T | S | I | S | N | E | V | E | S |   | D |   |
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LISTINGS

Upcoming

**Tottenham Photography Club: Annual Exhibition**  
Saturday 1st September, 7.30pm  
(opening event); until Sat 15th September  
Lordship Hub, Lordship Rec N17 6NU

Tottenham Photography Club is showcasing images of the community in their annual exhibition, which will be displayed in the Lordship Hub Café.

**Free**  
**Facebook** /TottPhotClub

**Circus Skills For Women Over 50**  
Thursday 13th September and Thursday 20th September, 10.30am–11.30am  
Tottenham Green Pools and Fitness Gym, 1 Philip Lane N15 4JA

Feel empowered and learn new circus skills in a supportive environment. Juggling, hula hoop and fun acrobatic shapes for beginners, a place for connections and compassion.

**Free, to sign up:**  
**Email** priyanka@jacksonslane.org.uk

**Northumberland Park School's class of '72 meet up**  
Saturday 15th September, 7.00pm–11.00pm  
Great Northern Railway, 67 High St, Hornsey N8 7QB

The class of '72 will be meeting up to recall the old times. "It is going to be a cracking night of tears, laughter and hugs" says organiser Lindsay Fowler.

**Price** Free  
**Email** lindsay.fowler@me.com

**Dementia Action Alliance**  
Monday 17th Sept 11.00am–2.00pm  
The Antwerp Arms, 168-170 Church Road N17 8AS

The Antwerp Arms is now working in partnership with the Alzheimers Society to be a Dementia friendly pub. This friendship and conversation session provides refreshments and stimulating activities, including board games, music memories and a Spurs Walk.

**Visit** antwerparms.co.uk

Ongoing

**Tottenham Art Classes**  
**Mondays**  
11.30–1.30  
Lordship Hub Co-op, Lordship Rec

**Thursdays**  
7.00–9.00  
The Beehive Pub, Stoneleigh Rd N17 9BQ

Unwind at Tottenham Art classes drop-in life drawing sessions. All abilities welcome.

**Visit** tottenhamartclasses.co.uk  
**Email** info@tottenhamartclasses.co.uk

**Tottenham Photography Club: monthly meet up**  
Wednesday 12th September, 7.30–9.00pm  
Lordship Hub, Lordship Rec N17 6NU

Group to discuss photography, share images, ideas, hints and tips about taking pictures, based in Tottenham, North London. All welcome.

**Free**  
**Facebook** /TottPhotClub

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**Haringey Law Centre**  
haringeylawcentre.org.uk

### Welfare Benefits Development Worker

Two days per week  
– £30,000 (pro rata)

**Email** info@haringeylawcentre.org.uk  
or **Call** 020 8808 5354 to request job description and further details

**Closing:** Friday September 14th



**Hornsey School for Girls**  
FORTIOR·QUO·PARATIOR  
The Better Prepared the Stronger

# Open Events

## Open Evening

• Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 17:30 – 19:30

# Open Mornings

• Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>, Friday 12<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>  
October 2018 09:00 – 10:30

**@Hornseyschool**  
Inderwick Road, Crouch End, London N8 9JF  
Tel: 020 8348 6191 Email: admin@hornseyschool.com  
Web: www.hsg.haringey.sch.uk







SPORT

It must be glove

Jamie Pitman rediscovers his passion for boxing at a local gym



Bound to be a hit Credit Total Boxer

I first stepped into a boxing gym nearly three...cough...decades ago. I had to step over used needles on the way in because the street outside was quiet and dark and drug addicts liked to hang out in the doorway whenever the gym was shut. Inside, crumbling walls were held up by hundreds of yellowing posters from boxing matches stretching back over 60 years. Len, the coach, was old enough to have fought in all of them.

Without fail, Len always dressed as neatly as his ‘Strictly’ namesake as he danced between the bags and balls suspended from the ceiling and the men sweatily trying to drill fist-shaped holes through them. Nobody, barring Len, spoke to anybody else. I loved it.

Working long hours soon KO’d my youthful boxing ambitions but my love of the sport survived. Fast-forward a decade and a half, and I had a better job with more free time and decided to join a new club. The first non-glove shaped thing to hit me was how much gyms had evolved. There was a full timetable of classes, including other martial arts; women members, and a sound system permanently playing bad house music.

But there was still room for improvement. The problem with this flashy, professional ‘McGym’ style model was its high turnover of underpaid staff. When my fourth or fifth trainer (a tree-

sized Dutch kickboxer) started sparring students and breaking bits off them in classes, I drifted away again.

By the beginning of 2017, my only exercise was occasionally jogging up the escalators at Seven Sisters station and that left me gasping and dizzy. Boxing seemed the obvious fix for my escalator game but I didn’t really believe that the world of boxing would have evolved enough to include someone whose body felt older than the Marquis of Queensbury.

Then I stumbled upon Total Boxer online. The club’s based in Hornsey but it’s easily accessible from Tottenham. Like the identikit gym, Total Boxer maintains a stacked timetable but here everything revolves around boxing. There’s Get Fit, Not Hit - perfect for beginners or older boxers who don’t want to get their face jabbed off by a fourteen-year-old

- but with a workout that still packs a punch. Then there’s HIIB (High Intensity Interval Boxing), Strongman, Boxing Yoga, Fight Ready and special classes for the newly accredited amateur arm of the club (this is where to go if having your face jabbed off sounds like your thing).

Unlike the identikit gym, Total Boxer keeps its coaching staff. They are old school types with decades of experience and underlying everything is a large and friendly community of students and fighters, complete with a 50/50 gender balance.

From tyro to Tysons, young energizer bunnies to worryingly violent seniors, Total Boxer is for everybody. It doesn’t matter if you’re a total or partial boxer, boxing-curious or even a yogi(ni) - challenge yourself and try it out.

For more information: Visit <https://totalboxer.com/>



Boxing clever Credit Total Boxer

CROSSWORD by Ajayess

| Across Clues |   | Down Clues |                               |
|--------------|---|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1            | Local road with a noble name (8,4)                  | 1          | Expressed clearly (5)         |
| 8            | Mend (3)  | 2          | A local waterway (5,3)        |
| 9            | Underground explorer (5)                            | 3          | Apologetic (5)                |
| 10           | In favour of (3)                                    | 4          | To urge to do something (5)   |
| 11           | A cereal grass (3)                                  | 5          | Mad (5)                       |
| 12           | Part of the whole (7)                               | 6          | Close (4)                     |
| 14           | Unclean (5)   | 7          | Crucially important (7)       |
| 15           | To place down gently (3)                            | 13         | Cans (3)                      |
| 17           | To free from being stuck (5)                        | 16         | Part of a circle (3)          |
| 18           | Local public toilets are now this local pub (3,4,5) | 17         | Exploiter of other people (4) |
| 22           | Hedgerow fruits (12)                                | 19         | Lazy (4)                      |
| 24           | Dispute (5)   | 20         | Lose temporarily (8)          |
| 25           | Also (3)  | 21         | Extolled (7)                  |
| 27           | Excellent (5)                                       | 22         | Broken (4)                    |
| 29           | Interrupt sleep, work etc (7)                       | 23         | Family (3)                    |
| 31           | A quick sharp blow (3)                              | 25         | Higher than (5)               |
| 32           | Be in debt to (3)                                   | 26         | Uniform (5)                   |
| 33           | Habitual or customary practice (5)                  | 27         | Your football team (5)        |
| 34           | Church seat (3)                                     | 28         | Grasses in water or marsh (5) |
| 35           | Local junction and tube station (5,7)               | 30         | Incite (4)                    |

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ABRAHAM AKWASI DUAH trading as MM&I SHIPPING LTD of No 25 BIRCHWOOD APT, WOODBERRY GROVE, LONDON N4 1FR, is applying for a licence to use UNIT 5-6 PAGE GREEN ROAD, LONDON N15 4PG, as an operating centre for DNE goods vehicles.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating they reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner’s office.