

Democracy

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Local news that matters to you



A snapshot of Northumberland Park, one of the HDV sites Credit Stephen Furner (Tottenham Photography Club)

Abandoned vehicle

Haringey Council votes to scrap controversial HDV

By Ellie Rae Ward

Haringey Council has announced that it will not proceed with the Haringey Development Vehicle (HDV); a plan put forward by the previous administration to regenerate areas of the borough through a partnership with the private property developer Lendlease.

The decision was made at a cabinet meeting on Tuesday 17th July and has been met with both frustration from Lendlease and celebratory cheers from those who have been campaigning tirelessly over the past four years

against the proposals.

Following the cabinet meeting, Council leader Cllr Joseph Ejiofor said: "The preference of this administration, as stated in our manifesto, is to build council homes on our own land. We firmly believe that what is currently public land should remain in public ownership. We are committed to building new, affordable homes over the next four years – including the delivery of 1,000 new council homes – and we start from the principle the council should be delivering those homes itself.

"The proposed Haringey Development Vehicle (HDV) has shown

how strongly opinions differ about the best way to tackle those important issues. Building on the commitments we made during the recent elections, we 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. We know a decision like this should not be taken lightly, in the same way that we know we have a duty to listen to all voices in our local communities."

The areas of Haringey included in the HDV proposal include Northumberland Park and Broadwater Farm in Tottenham, as well as Wood Green library and Muswell Hill library.

In the cabinet report released after the meeting, the key reasons cited for stopping the HDV were the Council's opposition to the 'proposed transfer of public assets out of 100% public ownership at the scale envisaged by the HDV proposals' and the degree of risk it believed the Council to face as a result of the HDV commitments. The risks cited include the HDV, and by extension the Council, being exposed to "fluctuations in the residential and commercial property market".

The decision to pull out of the HDV does not come without its own risks however. On 9 July, Lendlease wrote that if "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".

After the cabinet meeting on 17th July, Dan Labbard, chief executive officer of international operations and Europe at Lendlease, released the following statement: "We are extremely disappointed the Council has voted not to proceed with the HDV without even offering us the opportunity to discuss face to face, undoing four years of planning in just a matter of weeks."

The cabinet report states that the Council will need to reimburse Lendlease just over £520,000 for the planning costs incurred over the past four years.

Cllr Ejiofor said: "We are obviously concerned at the threat of protracted legal action by Lendlease, 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. As set out in the Cabinet report, this is an informed decision which we are taking with our eyes open."

The report acknowledges that by discontinuing the HDV, the Council is at risk of failing to meet its housing

"We have a duty to listen to all voices in our local community"

delivery targets. In the Mayor's London Plan, Haringey Council has a target of just over 1,500 new homes per year. The report states: "Current delivery indicates a shortfall on that target, but with the opportunity over the remainder of the plan period to make up this shortfall."

As part of the solution to housing demands, two days after the cabinet meeting in which the HDV was scrapped, Haringey Council announced that a new housing company is to be launched, which will be wholly owned by the Council itself.

Cllr Emina Ibrahim, cabinet member for housing and estate renewal, said: "Across London there is a desperate need for affordable homes and nowhere is this more true than in Haringey. With more than 9,000 households on our housing register, we have to take decisive action.

"Providing good quality, affordable housing is at the very heart of this Cabinet's vision and by setting up our own company, we are ensuring that we have the power and tools to deliver homes that are genuinely accessible to all. After nearly 40 years of being forced to leave social housing delivery to others, and to others who have failed to deliver the homes we need, the council is now getting back into the driving seat of housing supply."

The company's primary aim is to 'maximise council-owned housing, let at council rents and managed by

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CONTRIBUTORS

STEADFAST
IN
DIFFICULTIES

AUGUST 2018 – Nº. 13

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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No demolition without permission
Illustration by resident of Broadwater Farm and local artist Inga Bystram

When I took on the role of editor of *Tottenham Community Press*, one of the first stories I worked on, which provided the cover feature for issue four, was the campaign to stop the demolition of the Seven Sisters indoor Latin market. I was told by one of the campaigners: “You are a little fish in a big pond fighting with big sharks, that’s how we feel.” Over the past 18 months, we have reported on numerous campaigns and community projects, led by inspiring local people, who are not afraid to take on the big sharks. And it seems

somewhat fitting that the front cover of issue 13, which is my last as editor of *TCP*, reports on Haringey Council’s decision to discontinue the controversial Haringey Development Vehicle. It has been a privilege to edit this community paper and to have met and worked with so many wonderful and dedicated contributors. It was not an easy decision for me to step down, but I have decided it is time to move on to new challenges. The new editor will be introduced to you all very soon and I very much look forward to reading

future issues for a very long time to come! In the meantime, I hope you enjoy the issue. Make sure you check out the beautiful photography on pages 8-9 and take 10 minutes to unwind and lose yourself in the first instalment of *The Lilywhite Jersey* short story on page 14.

Ellie Rae Ward, Editor

I have lived in Haringey for 34 years, and was an organiser of the Haringey Anti-Apartheid Group – one of the biggest in the country. I been a caseworker for Bernie Grant MP (Tottenham) and Andy Love MP (Edmonton). I serve on the Trustee Board of Citizens Advice Haringey and am a volunteer with Haringey Advice Partnership, Haringey Welcome and Coffee & Computers. Tottenham, and indeed all of Haringey, has a strong history of civic society organisation – people coming together to take action to work for social improvements and influence change in our borough. *Tottenham Community Press* plays a vital role ensuring that these voices are heard.

Seán O’Donovan, Contributor

I am studying retail at the Harington Scheme and like going to the gym and art. I write articles, poems and love doing illustrations and developing my Photoshop skills at Exposure. I would love to work as an anime animator.

Nadim Malique, Contributor

Stephen Furner reflects on the previous issue’s front cover story and his photography of Broadwater Farm. In those photos I was trying to show the more human side of the estate by including features such as the mural, landscaping and children’s playground. Often it’s the harsh more brutal aspects of the architecture that are emphasised in depictions I see in the news about the estate. This does not necessarily reflect the view of the residents, who see it as their community and family home, and may well like living there and consequently not see it in those terms.

Stephen Furner, Contributor

CROSSWORD by Ajayess

Across Clues

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- 3 Tottenham landmark (5,6)
- 10 Every so often (3,3,5)
- 13 Utterance of disapproval (3)
- 14 Abashed (3)
- 15 Earthy fuel (4)
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- 21 Inner planet (5)
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NEWS

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Activists fight back
against food poverty

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Homes for Haringey'. Any surpluses made by the sales of, and rents from, the market homes will be used to deliver additional council-owned homes.

Initially the new company will look at the possibilities for three medium-sized sites; the former Cranwood Care Home site in Muswell Hill, which encompasses eight homes on Woodside Avenue; Brunel Walk near Seven Sisters station; and unused land and the car park behind the Wood Green Civic Centre.

Whilst there are still some uncertainties that lie ahead, including possible legal disputes between Haringey Council and Lendlease, as well as the success of the Council's new wholly owned property arm, many campaigners have welcomed the decision to scrap the HDV with open arms.

The Stop HDV group tweeted: “#RIPHDV the decision is made! The HDV is dead! Congratulations to all those who have campaigned so hard for this victory! #StoppedHDV”

Guardian journalist Aditya Chakraborty, who has reported on the HDV in recent months also posted

his congratulations: “At last! The HDV is dead and those who fought it can celebrate. A bunch of grassroots activists who stuck in freedom of information requests, put awkward questions in council meetings, did their best on a shoestring and kept on going. Congratulations.”

For many activists, the end of the HDV does not mean that the fight for truly affordable housing has been won however. Haringey Defend Council Housing is urging Cllr Ejiofor to tell the Mayor of London that new council homes must be at the existing council rents and to not confuse social and ‘affordable’ rent.

According to the campaign group, London mayor Sadiq Khan plans to build 10,000 new council homes, under his Future of London proposal, but that the rents will be on average £52.98 per week higher than average council rents in London.

Paul Burnham, secretary of Haringey Defend Council Housing said: “We need to stop this agenda of rent rises. The government is about to remove Social Rent from the national planning policy. The privileged



Haringey Civic Centre: one of the sites marked for development in the HDV Credit Stephen Furner (Tottenham Photography Club)

access of developers to policy making is unacceptable. Of course they want tenants to pay more.

“Haringey has given a lead in opposing bad development plans,” he continued, referring to the campaign against the HDV and the departure of former Council leader Claire Kober.

Burnham concluded: “Everybody knows that affordable housing is not affordable, so why continue making the same mistake?”

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DEMOCRACY

Introducing Haringey's decision makers

A who's who of the new cabinet in charge at Haringey Council

Joseph Ejiofor

Leader of the Council

Ward: Bruce Grove (since 2010, elected leader in 2018. Previously elected three times as a Cllr in Newham)

Appointments: Local Government Association (General Assembly), London Councils (Leaders Committee)

Interests: Self-employed consultant for iBusiness

Email: joseph.ejiofor@haringey.gov.uk



Emina Ibrahim

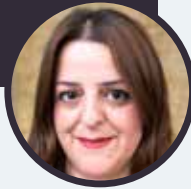
Deputy Leader and Portfolio Lead Member for Housing and Estate Renewal

Ward: Noel Park (since 2014)

Appointments: Local Government Association (General Assembly), London Councils (Deputy, Leaders Committee)

Interests: Branch Secretary at UNISON Redbridge, London Borough Of Redbridge

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Peray Ahmet

Portfolio Lead Member for Adults and Health

Ward: Noel Park (since 2014)
Appointments: London Councils (Deputy, Leaders Committee)

Interests: Branch Secretary, Merton Unison, London Borough of Merton and Technician, Premier Audio Visual UK Ltd. Owner of two properties in Haringey.

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Elin Weston

Portfolio Lead Member for Children, Education and Families

Ward: Hornsey (since 2014)

Appointments: Hornsey Parochial Charities

Interests: Visiting Lecturer, King's College London and Electrician at DMG Delta

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Zena Brabazon

Portfolio Lead Member for Civic Services

Ward: Haringey (from 2010–2014, and from 2016)

Appointments: Board member, Create London, London Councils (Grants Committee)

Interests: Owner of one property in Haringey

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Mark Blake

Portfolio Lead Member for Communities, Safety and Engagement

Ward: Woodside (since 2014)

Appointments: London Councils, Grants Committee

Interests: Project Development Officer, The Black Training and Enterprise Group (BTEG), owner of one property in Haringey

Email: mark.blake@haringey.gov.uk



Noah Tucker

Portfolio Lead Member for Corporate Services and Insourcing

Ward: St. Ann's (since 2016)

Appointments: London Councils, Greater London Employment Forum, Newable (formerly Greater London Enterprise Ltd)

Interests: Social Worker, Payerise Ltd (contracted to the London Borough of Brent), leaseholder of one property in Haringey

Email: noah.tucker@haringey.gov.uk



Kirsten Hearn

Portfolio Lead Member for Environment

Ward: Stroud Green (since 2014)

Appointments: London Councils, Transport & Environment Committee, North London Waste Authority

Interests: Self Employed Consultant, Member (Independent) for Parole Board England and Wales, Disability qualified member of second tier tribunal PIPDLA.

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Patrick Berryman

Portfolio Lead Member for Finance

Ward: Bounds Green (since 2014)

Appointments: North London Waste Authority

Interests: CSW at the Blanche Neville School for Deaf Children, owner of one property in Haringey, shares in Marks & Spencer PLC

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Charles Adje

Portfolio Lead Member for Strategic Regeneration

Ward: White Hart Lane (since 1998)

Appointments: London Councils, Grants Committee (Deputy), London Stansted Cambridge Consortium, Tottenham Green Enterprise Centre Board with CONEL

Interests: Branch Secretary, London Fire Brigade, Executive Officer, Department for Education

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Makbule Gunes

Portfolio Lead Member for Women and Equalities

Ward: Tottenham Green (since 2014)

Appointments: Bridge Renewal Trust

Interests: Co-ordinator and Business Development Officer, Roj Women's Association

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Ishmael Osamor

Deputy Cabinet Member for Broadwater Farm Resident Engagement

Ward: West Green

Appointments: N/A

Interests: N/A

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On 3 May 2018, residents of the Borough of Haringey headed to their local ballot boxes to vote in the local elections. The overall turnout figure in the election was 39%, with Labour winning 42 seats and the Liberal Democrats winning 15. This translates to Labour controlling 14 wards and the Liberal Democrats controlling five. Whilst the result demonstrated a clear majority for the Labour Party, it was also a decrease in seats for them, as the Liberal Democrats won more than double the amount of seats than they did in the 2014 election.

On 8 May, Cllr Joseph Ejiofor was elected leader of the new council, leading some commentators to brand Haringey the 'first Corbyn council'. Both Ejiofor and his deputy Emina Ibrahim are members of the left-wing campaign group Momentum.

In the pursuit of increased transparency and the promotion of healthy, local democracy, the *Tottenham Community Press* has presented a who's who of the new cabinet, which will be in charge of making crucial decisions about housing, healthcare, regeneration, education and much more.

Members of the public who want to obtain information and advice can attend their cabinet member's surgery. For more information:

Visit haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy/how-decisions-are-made/cabinet/cabinet-members

Have your say

Is there a local issue you would like to voice concerns about? We are looking for contributions to our democracy page in upcoming issues of *Tottenham Community Press*. Our aim is to provide a platform through which people in Tottenham can share their opinions and share important local debates, which in turn helps create a healthy local democracy.

No journalism experience required, just send us in your ideas for articles to tcp@socialspider.com

COMMUNITY

Photography

Up close and personal
with Tottenham's wildlifePage
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Take a stand against period poverty

Women in Tottenham has teamed up with St Mungo's in the fight against period poverty

By Amy Bush

Period poverty is a real issue for many women in the UK who cannot afford to buy feminine hygiene products. It is now possible to help some of these women in Haringey by donating sanitary items as part of an initiative run by the online platform, Women in Tottenham, and St. Mungo's.

Donations of tampons, pads, wet wipes and panty liners can be taken to charity boxes at Craving Coffee on Markfield Road and Tottenham Green Market, which runs every Sunday from 11am–4pm.

Items are distributed to clients at the St Mungo's Complex Needs Service, which supports some of the most vulnerable women living in our community. Margaret Balogun from St Mungo's charity and housing association explains why donations are needed: "Most of our clients are disadvantaged and barely have enough income to survive on. This means they cannot buy the sanitary items they need."

"Donations will go a long way to help women to maintain their hygiene and this in turn will promote a healthy living environment."

The donations project is organised by Women in Tottenham, a blog

highlighting the inspiring and creative things being done by women in the area. Founder, Rachel Ho, explains why she set up the donation boxes: "I wanted part of the Women in Tottenham project to be about helping women who are less fortunate in our community."

"At the time I had just been made aware of period poverty and the struggle for homeless and financially challenged women to obtain such essential items. It seemed like a good fit with the overall ethos of Women in Tottenham so I wanted us to reach out and do our bit for the cause."

Sanitary items are essential for the health, comfort and dignity of a person on their period. The costs of these products can add up, and many women chose to buy food or shelter over tampons or pads. This is period poverty, and it is seldom spoken about.

The St Mungo's service helps women who are facing these financial choices. Many of their clients have experienced domestic violence and abuse, are at risk of homelessness and are struggling with mental or physical health conditions. The women have often lived chaotic lives and can be vulnerable to financial exploitation.

St Mungo's provides emergency accommodation to women who have been sent to them from the council and for those referred during severe weather. These are the people who will benefit most from sanitary products being donated, says Balogun: "Some of the women who are referred to us do not have any means of living until their benefit is sorted. This means that if they need sanitary items during this time they will be forced to beg on the street to get money to buy pads or tampons. Some might go into sex work to get the funds to buy the items they need."

Another charity which has seen the huge difference donations of these products can make to women's lives is Bloody Good Period. Bloody Good Period was founded in 2016 by Gabby Edlin and they work to provide refugees and asylum-seekers with period products they desperately need.

Raina Roberts, a volunteer at Bloody Good Period says: "Period poverty is very real and is a silent struggle for most. The people we help don't receive enough money to cover the basics, let alone period products which, ridiculously enough, are considered a luxury!"

Period products are taxed at 5% in the UK. Campaign groups believe



Collection box at Tottenham Green Market

Credit Rachel Ho, Craving Coffee

this should be set at 0% as they are essential items not luxury ones. This adds to the expense and makes it even harder for those struggling financially to afford them.

Donations made to the boxes in Tottenham will be very gratefully received and could make a huge difference to someone going through a difficult time,

To donate, pop into Craving Coffee or visit Tottenham Green Market on a Sunday and deposit your items in the marked donation box (see photo).

For more information:

Visit mungos.org

Visit womenintottenham.com

Visit bloodygoodperiod.com

Activists fight back against food poverty

Anti-war activists cook up a storm for those in need of emergency food provision

By Alastair Ball



Volunteers hold the fort at the regular free food stall Credit Food Not Bombs North London

A local campaign group is giving away food to those in need whilst campaign-

ing against war.

North London Food Not Bombs collects surplus food from Tottenham

businesses, as well as food donated by the public, and offers it for free at a stall outside Seven Sisters underground station on the first and third Saturday of each month.

Food Not Bombs member Marina said that it was, "very straightforward and positive." She added: "People don't argue with giving away food."

The food is provided to anyone in need of a meal, and no questions about a recipient's circumstances are asked. They also distribute clothes and sanitary products. The group provides information about the global anti-war movement and the problems of the arms trade from their stall in the form of leaflets or through talking to the public.

Activist Fenya said: "We don't push it." Adding that the stall was not like a church, where you must hear a sermon before receiving food. "We talk about it if people ask," she said.

The food that is offered is all vegan, as vegan food is most likely to suit a wide

range of diets. Marina said they make stews and provide "comfort food". Potato-based dishes are popular, as are roast aubergines and pasta tarts. The stall also offers tea and cold drinks.

"We're not professional cooks so we improvise. It's a creative process," Fenya said.

Some of the food is surplus donated by West Green Road market traders or shops on Tottenham High Road that would otherwise go to waste. Part of the ethos of Food Not Bombs is that too much food is wasted that could feed the hungry. Food is also donated by supporters. The group organises Food Raisers, where films are screened and supporters donate food instead of purchasing a ticket.

North London Food Not Bombs is non-hierarchical and is run entirely by volunteers. "Anyone who comes to the stall is welcome to cook," Fenya said.

North London Food Not Bombs helps people who are homeless, suffering from food poverty or are

facing other difficulties.

Fenya said that the stall gives her the opportunity to: "Talk to people you might not otherwise." Adding that she was drawn to Food Not Bombs because it was, "practical and something I can do to take direct action to support the community."

North London Food Not Bombs is a part of the global network of Food Not Bombs, but each chapter is independent. Food Not Bombs was founded in 1980 by anti-nuclear activists in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and now has chapters all over the world.

Fenya and Marina said that if you are interested in becoming involved, they need help cooking, collecting and transporting food. Donations of food, clothes and sanitary products are always welcome.

Contact North London Food Not Bombs:

Email fnblondon@riseup.net

Facebook [/fnblondon](https://www.facebook.com/fnblondon)

Twitter [@fnblondon](https://twitter.com/fnblondon)

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.

www.exposure.org.uk

How I dealt with mate crime and how to identify the signs

Nadim Malique reports on his personal experiences tackling a disturbing issue affecting isolated young people with learning difficulties

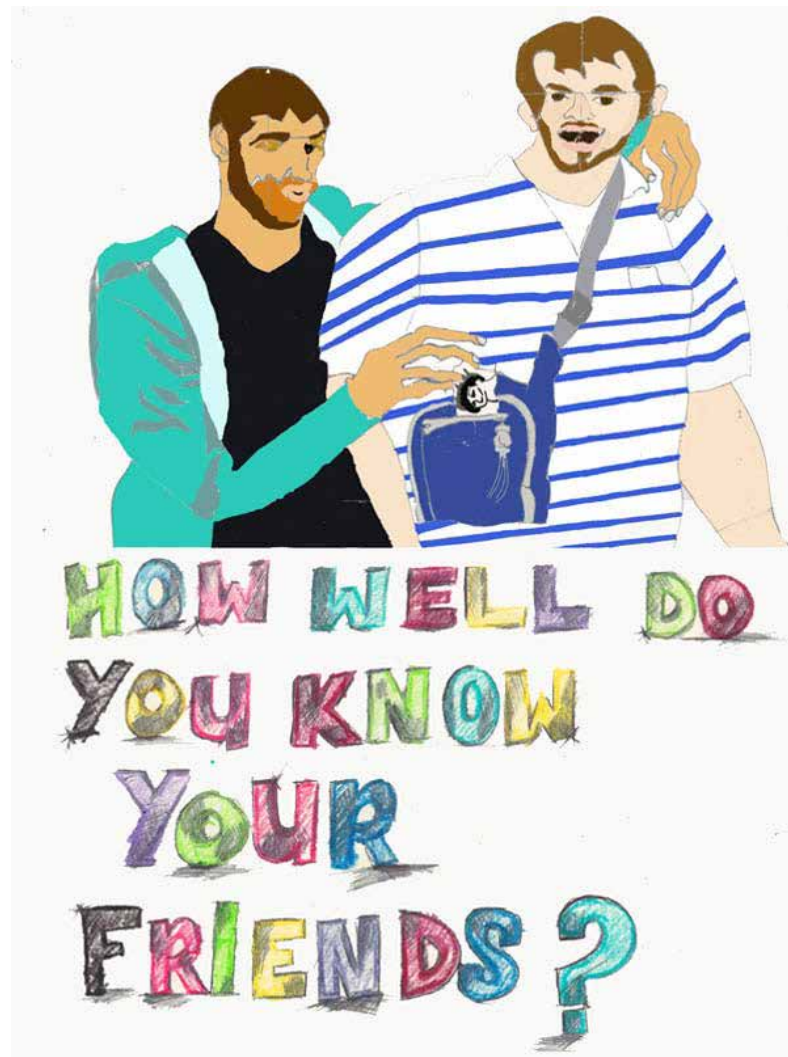


Illustration by Nadim Malique Credit Exposure

Mate crime is when a person carries out an illegal act by befriending a vulnerable person with the intention of taking advantage of them.

It is an under reported element of hate crime towards young people

with a learning disability. They are more likely to be a victim because they want to be included and have friends.

Here's my experience of mate crime. I was 15 years old and at secondary school. A boy who was in my class came up to me during

break time in the playground. At the time I was with a group of my friends.

He asked, "Can I borrow £5?"

I knew in my head not to give the money, because if I did he would carry on asking. My parents had already warned me not to give money to people.

My friends encouraged me to walk away. Just then a teacher turned up and overheard what was going on. He warned me that if you are asked for money by other students that this would be taken very seriously.

At the time I didn't think it was that serious. But afterwards I was worried that he might approach me again, without my friends around. I made up my mind that if he did I would go straight to the teachers and tell them.

I knew that my friends were people I could trust. I told my parents and they warned me to stay away from that boy. The boy never approached me for money ever again.

My advice to other young people is don't give money to people if they intimidate you or if you don't know them. Report it to teachers because they take this matter seriously.

Below are some guidelines from the Association of Real Change (a body representing service providers in the learning disability sector) on how to spot if someone is a victim of mate crime:

- They are upset, frustrated, tired or anxious;
- They have cuts, bruises or black eyes;
- They are not taking care of themselves and looking dirty or scruffy;
- They are suddenly short of money;
- A 'friend' is being unkind, rude and bullying them;
- They are 'doing what they are told to' by a 'friend';
- They are not with usual friends/family or missing weekly activities.

Fake or Friend is the Association of Real Change's easy to read booklet about mate crime.

I was inspired to create a poster to raise awareness of how vulnerable young people are taken advantage of and how to identify who is your true friend.

POETRY

Think before you do

A poem by Jaden Okyere about gangs in Tottenham



Why?

Why make a life threatening choice
That can ruin yours and someone else's life?
Danger is such a pretty thing.

I know.

With her black-biker jacket and dirty jeans.
She's tempting.

But you're feeding fear.
In the shadows.
He keeps getting bigger.
Surrounding us in the air.

You like that?
Of course you don't.
Think before you
Do.

Sometimes it's not good to
Take the risk.
It could put people in danger.
Blood on the streets.

No one wants to die.
But why do you kill?
That person does not want to die too.
Let's be civilized.

Postcode Wars may seem like
A big thing.

But it's pretty stupid.
I mean, why are you
Fighting with each other?
Just because of postcodes.
You know how stupid that sounds?
How worthless it is.

Think before you
Do.
Or it always ends in
Misery.

You're creating a negative image.
Stereotypes.
It's bringing the people of Tottenham
Down with you.
The outside views us differently.

Let's join together as a community.
Show each other love through
The hardest times.

Exposure launches 'Tuesday Club' to support vulnerable youngsters

We're pleased to announce that Exposure has been awarded funding from the Big Lottery Awards for All to initiate a new project, integrating young people with autism, learning difficulties and serious mental health problems into our award-winning youth communications activities.

Raising aspirations and broadening horizons, the 'Tuesday Club' supports beneficiaries to develop life-changing skills and confidence. Through a tailored programme of activities, beneficiaries will feel valued as they engage

with, learn from and help promote a range of new, grass-roots community projects being established locally.

Engaging in a stimulating professional environment, beneficiaries are nurtured by inspiring and responsive tutors to interview adults running community projects about their work, before developing and sharing meaningful outputs for an audience, building confidence, IT, English, communications and teamwork skills and developing a portfolio of creative work demonstrating worth to prospective employers.

For more information:
Email info@exposure.org.uk
Call 020 8883 0260

Watch Exposure's film based on the real life experiences of young men living in Haringey:

Visit youtube.com/watch?v=CwHpxLsa4Lw

COMMUNITY

Arts & Culture
Local artists open
their studios

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Make some mischief in Tottenham's libraries

Find out more about the summer reading challenge taking place in your local libraries

By Helen Swinyard



Mischief makers Credit The Summer Reading Challenge

Our local libraries are running the Summer Reading Challenge again and this year's theme is Mischief Makers!

The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children aged 4 to 12 to read at least six books during the school holiday. It's

all completely free and a great fun thing to do as a family in the holiday. Children's reading levels can dip during the long time away from school, so it's also important to support their learning.

Some schools even give prizes to students who take part, so check with your

child's school as an added bonus to complete the challenge.

Taking part is simple:

- 1) Sign up your child to a local library for free, if you aren't already a member. (Why not sign up the whole family for free?)
- 2) Collect the Mischief Makers sheet and membership card
- 3) Your child chooses, borrows and reads six books throughout the summer holiday period and collects a sticker from the local library for each book.
- 4) Hand in the finished six book sheet to collect the certificate and medal.

Mischief Makers is designed for children of all ages and reading abilities. They can read any books they like: fact books, stories, joke books, picture books – audio books and e-books count too.

As long as you're borrowing them from the local library, they all count.

There are mischief making games online too:

Visit summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Your directory of local libraries

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Tottenham High Road, London N17 8AG

Call 020 8489 4560

Opening hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9am–7pm

Wednesday: 10am–7pm

Saturday: 9am–5pm

Sunday: Closed

Marcus Garvey Library

1 Philip Ln N15 4JA

Call 020 8489 5350

Opening hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9am–5pm

Wednesday: 10am–5pm

St Ann's Library

Cissbury Rd N15 5PU

Call 020 8489 4560

Opening hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9am–7pm

Wednesday: 10am–7pm

Saturday: 9am–5pm

Sunday: Closed

Children's book reviews – coming soon!

Not sure how to support your child's reading? We'll be reviewing great books for your children and teenagers in following issues. We'll be asking for local young readers to send in their reviews and the best will be featured.

One lucky reader will get a book as a 'thank you' too! We'll also be partnering with our local Big Green Bookshop who will be offering discounts on the reviewed books.

To kick off your summer, why not pop down to their bookshop in Brampton Park Rd, Wood Green N22 6BG with your discount code 'TCPAugust' for 10% off any children's or young adult title?

In the next issue, we will be featuring the teenage book *The Hate You Give* by Angie Thomas.

Please email TottenhamCPreads@gmail.com with the reader's name, age and an up-to-250 word review for the chance to be included.

The deadline for reviews for the September issue is Thursday 16th August.



The S+K Project return with their annual festival of poetry, theatre and music, including *Sistren* on August 24. Visit our website for the full schedule!

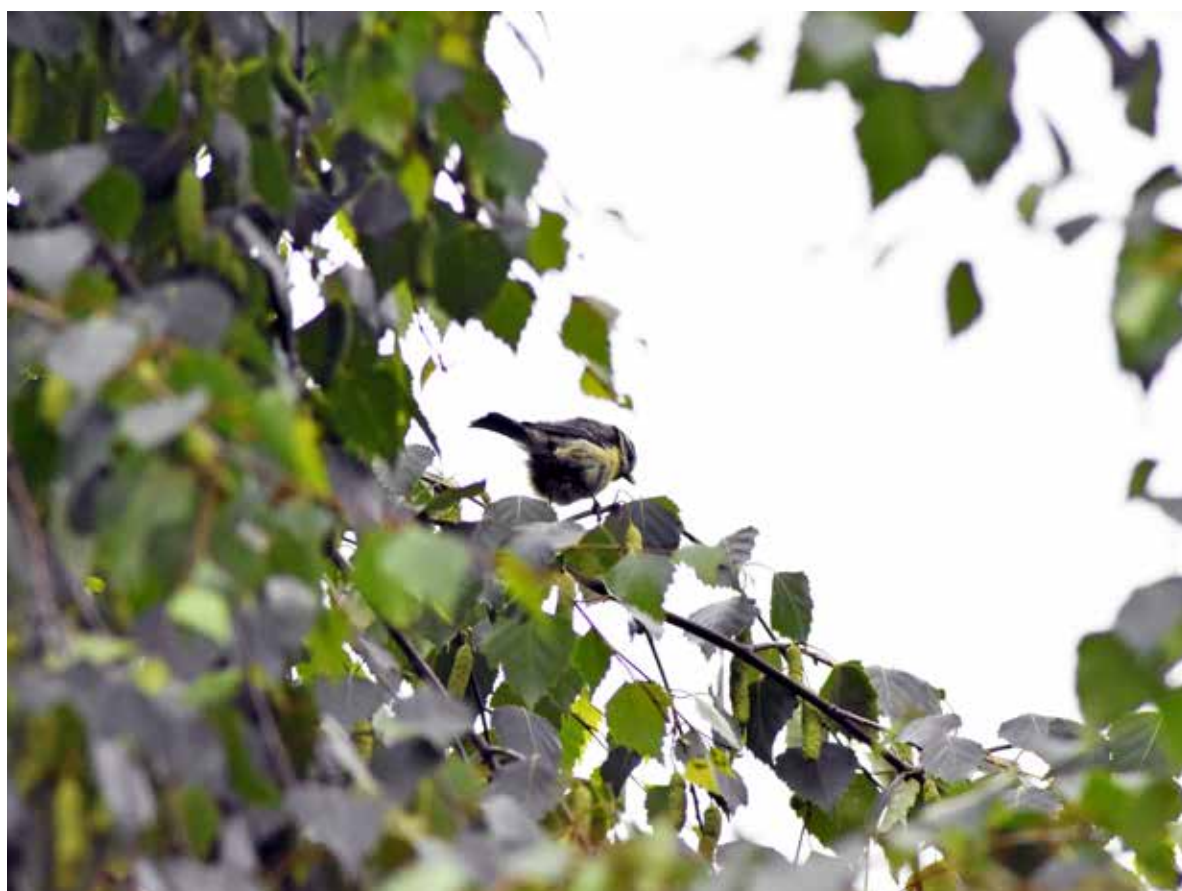
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PHOTOGRAPHY



Photograph by Holly Marks

I'm 19 years old and have lived in Tottenham my entire life and I've always had a very keen interest in its wildlife.

Although I'm fairly new to photography, and have only been taking pictures for around six months, I'm truly passionate about wildlife and nature photography and will be starting a wildlife media course this September to really learn the trade.

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

PHOTOGRAPHY



Photograph by Stephen Furner

Stephen Furner captures the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight from a vantage point in the Stratford Olympic Park. His photos include images of a Lancaster, Spitfires, a Hurricane and an A400M Atlas, which was used for tactical airlift and strategic heavy lifting. He also visits Tottenham Cemetery and the gravestones of members of the RAF who fought in WW2.



ARTS & CULTURE



Proud Lilywhites Credit Haringey Council



Wise Thoughts march with pride Credit Haringey Council

Council leader makes pledge to fight for LGBTQ+ equality

Cllr Ejiofor signs Stonewall’s “Come out for LGBT” pledge and local groups take part in the capital’s Pride celebrations

By Alastair Ball

Haringey Council and community groups are celebrating the LGBTQ+ community’s contribution to the borough this Pride season. During the celebrations, Haringey Council leader Cllr Joseph Ejiofor signed Stonewall’s “Come Out For LGBT” pledge, vowing to continue to battle for LGBTQ+ equality in Haringey.

Cllr Ejiofor said: “Pride season is a chance to make our voices heard and show support for the LGBTQ+ community, in Haringey, London, and across the globe.”

He added: “It’s vital that our borough continues to play a role in the fight for LGBTQ+ equality.”

Cllr Ejiofor pledged as an ally to: “Continue to fight for LGBTQ+ equality in Haringey and beyond.” Stonewall encourages allies to challenge hurtful or abusive comments, share positive messages and to be visible.

Haringey has a rich LGBTQ+ history, which is being explored in the Haringey Has Pride LGBTQ+ heritage project. Haringey Has Pride

is being run by Jacksons Lane Arts Centre and Wise Thoughts, a local LGBTQ+ and BME Arts charity based at Wood Green Library.

Ben Price, Creative Heritage Manager at Jacksons Lane, said: “This is an exciting opportunity for young people to learn more about Haringey’s LGBTQ+ history and share their voices to help shape these events.”

Haringey Has Pride is planning a youth-led Pride Festival for later in the year, where young people aged 14-25 will plan and deliver three Pride events. These events will be an open flag-making workshop, a community fun day at Chestnut Community Centre and a Pride Parade.

According to Price, the Haringey Has Pride team is focussing on recruiting young people to attend weekly sessions, through which they will learn more about Haringey’s LGBTQ+ heritage and help plan for upcoming events.

Cllr Ejiofor said: “Haringey is one of London’s most diverse boroughs, and that is something that we love to celebrate.”

Haringey Council staff and local community groups also joined Pride

London celebrations in July. Wise Thoughts marched in the parade, as did the Proud Lilywhites, Tottenham Hotspur’s LGBTQ+ supporters’ group. Haringey Council staff attended wearing “HarinGAY” T-shirts.

Niranjan Kamatkar, artistic director of Wise Thoughts, said: “It was fabulous to participate in the parade once again this year, and we are happy that we were able to reflect the diversity within the LGBTQ+ community of Haringey.”

Haringey Council also changed its social media and website logos to rainbow colours and flew a rainbow flag from the Haringey Civic Centre as part of the celebrations.

Haringey Has Pride: get involved

Haringey Has Pride is an LGBTQ+ heritage project looking at Haringey’s role in LGBTQ+ Activism in the 1980s. The project will involve:

- research into Haringey’s LGBTQ+ history
- a youth-led Pride Festival
- a volunteer-led LGBTQ+ reminiscence documentary
- and a community play to be performed at the opening of Alexandra Palace’s Victorian Theatre in 2019

The youth-led Pride Festival, which will take place later this year, is being developed by a group of young people aged 14-25. Events will include: a flag-making workshop, a Community Fun Day and a Pride Parade.

Organisers Jacksons Lane Arts Centre and LGBTQ+ and BME arts charity, Wise Thoughts, are keen for more local young people to get involved in the planning of the event. If you’re interested in this exciting opportunity to find out more about LGBTQ+ history while getting some hands-on experience of event planning, please attend one of the meet-ups listed below.

Haringey Has Pride: Upcoming Meet Ups

Thursday 19th July, 4:30–6:30pm at Wood Green library N22 6XD (Wise Thoughts, second floor)

Thursday 26th July, 4:30–6:30pm at Wood Green library N22 6XD (Wise Thoughts, second floor)

Tuesday 31st July, 12–2pm at Chestnut Community Centre N15 5BN

Tuesday 7th August, 12–2pm at Wood Green library N22 6XD (Wise Thoughts, 2nd floor)

Tuesday 14th August, 12–2pm Wood Green library N22 6XD (Wise Thoughts, second floor)

Tuesday 21st August, 12–2pm Wood Green library N22 6XD (Wise Thoughts, second floor)

Upcoming events

Saturday 18th August: Open Workshop at The Great Fete at Alexandra Palace

Saturday 1st September: Community Fun Day at Chestnut Community Centre

Saturday 15th September: Pride Parade and Speeches

All the meet ups and events are free to attend. The Pride Festival research and planning sessions listed above are for those aged 14-25. The events listed are open to all ages.

COMMUNITY

Poetry

Crutch Haringey brings people together at annual family fun day

Page 13

Helping Tottenham get out and about

Claire Smith explains the role HCT Group plays in reducing social isolation in the community



Service with a smile Credit: HCT Group

Haringey Community Transport (HCT) was founded by national transport provider HCT Group in April 2007 to provide community transport services in the borough – a previously unmet need. We operate as a social enterprise to provide high-quality transport to help the community to get out and about.

The original groups who used HCT were the Housing and Residents schemes in the borough and, on the odd occasion, Haringey Council themselves, both for meetings and for trips out; as well as local football groups and a number of religious organisations.

We offer group transport – a low cost alternative to minibus hire for community groups, and also a range of accessible vehicles, all of which are an alternative to minicab hire, for people living with dementia, disabilities and mobility difficulties, as well as all local community groups

and organisations. Our drivers are trained dementia friends and are not only qualified to drive a minibus, but are also very caring individuals who we are proud to have in our team.

To keep costs even lower for groups hiring from us, HCT Group runs MiDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) training courses so that groups can drive themselves. For community groups, the cost is reduced to just the hire of the vehicle and any mileage covered.

Two of our regular local users have included the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation and Tottenham Hotspur Learning Centre. Sadly the Learning Centre closed down due to funding cuts, however HCT continues to provide regular transport for the Foundation's young people.

We also run days out to the seaside on a regular basis, and trips to see the Christmas lights and other events that groups want to attend, throughout the year. This really helps people

to connect to their communities and further afield, contributing to reducing social isolation – no matter what age they are.

Our funding from Haringey Council was withdrawn about four years ago, but we continue to provide a really valuable service to groups and organisations in Tottenham and across Haringey.

Haringey Community Transport and Tottenham Community Press are both members of the Haringey Dementia Action Alliance. The alliance's aims include: publicising stories, encouraging intergenerational activity and reducing the stigma associated with dementia and memory loss.

For more information about HCT Group:
Visit hctgroup.org

For more information about the Haringey Dementia Action Alliance:
Visit dementiaaction.org.uk/local_alliances/17641_haringey_dementia_action_alliance

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Community fun day exceeds expectations

Crutch Haringey brings people together at annual family fun day

By Vanessa Parry-O'Driscoll

After last year's Community Fun Day exceeded expectations, local charity Crutch Haringey returned once more with its action-packed variety day on Saturday 23rd of June.

Taking place in Waltheof Gardens in the glorious midsummer sunshine, this year's event provided fun for all the family to the local community.

Crutch Haringey is a Big Lottery funded project, delivered by Citizens Advice Haringey, which provides practical support to those in crisis in the local community.

The annual Community Fun Day was organised with the aim of increasing Crutch's visibility in the local area, as well as offering its clients and other Haringey residents an affordable day out. It was held on The Great Get Together weekend, founded in memory of MP Jo Cox, in order to promote community solidarity and strength.

The day was only made possible by the generosity of other local organisations and individuals, who offered both their time and support in making the event a success. The face painting stand proved to be in particularly high demand, with other activities ranging from circus

skills practice with Jacksons Lane, football activities with the Haringey Borough FC Women's team, and even the possibility of getting inside a Metropolitan Police Car.

"This year's fun day was not to be missed"

Competitions included a tombola, guessing the amount of balloons in a car, and a challenge to see how many items of clothing could be put on in one minute, which entailed some impressive tactics and agility! All food and drink came at a very small cost, which included a barbecue and a delectable selection of cakes, kindly donated by Percy Ingle and Crutch volunteers.

With the day attracting over 150 visitors, an impressive total of £500 was raised, which was double what was achieved the previous year. This money will be reinvested into the charity and used to directly support its clients. There were also representatives from other organisations whose work complements that of Crutch, such as Breadline London, Sharing Earth and Smarter Travel.

COMMUNITY

Sport
Passion, pride and penalties: a World Cup report from the Latin Market

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The Tottenham variety show

SKFEST brings theatre, film, music, poetry and much more to Tottenham this August

By Danni Ebanks-Ingram

SKFEST is an annual multidisciplinary micro-festival that celebrates the richness of London's contemporary culture. 2018's edition spans across three days at the Bernie Grant Arts Centre, in the heart of Tottenham, from the 23rd to the 25th of August.

Now in its third year, the festival will embrace the notion of London being a home for all by showcasing an artistically and culturally diverse range of talent from the local community and beyond. It aims to give a platform to emerging talent working in a range of fields within the creative arts sector.

SKFEST is curated and produced by The S+K Project (S+K), a young theatre and performing arts organisation based in Tottenham, with the sole aim of making the arts accessible for everyone. S+K's work strives to amplify the voices that society often marginalises, while professionally

developing early to mid-career artists, with a particular focus on BAME creators and makers, who identify as working class and/or LGBTQ+.

Its flagship cross-arts festival boasts theatre, film, live music, performance poetry, live art, talks, drop-in and intensive workshops, outdoor performances, and a feature theatre production directed by S+K's Associate Director.

Malakai Sargeant, Artistic Director of The S+K Project said of the festival: "2018 has been S+K's most ambitious year so far artistically and operationally, delivering an extensive programme of work that aims to reach specific groups in various communities across the UK. The festival is going to encompass that and so much more, and will encapsulate the passion behind all of our projects in just three days."

Having started its residency at Bernie Grant Arts Centre in April 2018, S+K is really looking forward to spending time in Tottenham,

cultivating and developing the rich creative scene that exists in the area. While there are already a number of grassroots and established organisations that operate in and around Tottenham, S+K wishes to be a flagship company that works collaboratively with the local community, delving deep and unpicking issues relevant to Tottenham residents – and then tailoring projects to allow for creative responses to this.

Currently, S+K is invested in creating more physical spaces for marginalised voices to have an opportunity to showcase their work, with our team and wider networks being able to nurture their professional development along the way.

Sargeant concludes: "The variety of things to see and do [at SKFEST] is a actually bit wild."

To find out more information and book tickets:
Visit sandkproject.com/sk-fest

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FICTION

The Lilywhite Jersey: part one

Over four issues of TCP, we will be publishing The Lilywhite Jersey, a short story written by Andreas Koumi from Exposure a youth charity in Tottenham. In part one, Priyantha receives some devastating news and decides its time to share his past



Inside the stadium, July 2014 **Credit** Martin Hesketh (via Flickr)

There were no words. There hadn't been for a while. But that was before the news he only had a month to live.

* * *

The day before, Priyantha had been watching the match, the volume up loud.

Like a lot of things, his hearing wasn't what it used to be. When Harry Kane's inevitable goal stretched the net, the rambunctious cheers comforted Priyantha.

He allowed himself a winning, fist pumping "yes".

There would be other, more agonising emotions to contend with later. It was the last home game of the season: the last ever at White Hart Lane. Past ghosts would be returning for the closing ceremony, making final impressions on the exalted turf and waving sentimental farewells to the fans.

With his frailties, Priyantha realised he wouldn't be able to face those moments so when the final whistle blew, he switched the television off.

"Goodbye, my love."

The next morning, Priyantha had to make the effort to leave the house, bolstered by his walking stick. Jane next-door was just leaving too. She offered him the usual sympathetic smile, and a "hello-how-are-you" which Priyantha returned, as had become customary between them.

However, on this of all days Jane had more than pleasantries to exchange.

"I couldn't help but notice you had the game on yesterday."

Priyantha shrugged apologetically, pointing to his ears.

Jane continued, her voice now raised a little. "It's just that the school's working on a heritage project focused around Spurs and its impact on the community. You know, to help instill a bit of local pride and passion."

Priyantha nodded, dispassionately. He knew he oughtn't to be late.

Jane continued undeterred. "What with the old stadium being demolished and the regeneration work that's happening in Tottenham now, it's important for the kids to look back, as they look forward."

Priyantha nodded. "The kids," he noted, but only to himself.

"Well, I was just wondering whether you'd be willing to come in one day and say a few words. Share your memories, as a fan. I've heard you're a fan."

Priyantha pursed his lips momentarily but said nothing.

"You must have some wonderful memories."

He stared blankly at Jane but there were no words.

Jane nodded understanding. She could see he wasn't well.

Priyantha raised a parting hand and shuffled towards the bus stop.

* * *

"Mr Priyantha. The doctor will see you now."

Priyantha scowled. He had an aversion to his name being called out by the hospital receptionist: inviting others in the waiting room to presume his origins, perhaps form judgements about his character.

True to form, one or two sick people glanced up surreptitiously, as Priyantha headed into the surgery.

It's then he received the news.

The next morning, when "hello-how-are-yous" were exchanged with Jane, a somewhat breathless Priyantha surprised her by adding: "That heritage project you mentioned yesterday. I'll do it."

* * *

Priyantha and his walking stick arrived at the school a little later than prearranged. He'd not had a good night.

On entering, he took a series of short emotional breaths: floor cleaner, poster paint and canteen dinners. Hints of this concoction used to waft home to him daily.

"Sorry I'm a bit late, Jane," he said when she greeted him.

"Not to worry. I'm just glad you're here. And would you mind awfully calling me Mrs Gordon? In front of the pupils, I mean. For the sake of discipline."

Priyantha nodded. He knew how things worked. "My wife used to teach here," he said.

"Oh really, your wife? What's her name?"

He smiled. "Mrs Priyantha."

"Of course," she said, returning his smile.

His smile now dimmed. "Her name was Valerie."

Jane led him along a corridor, walls resplendent with assorted artwork depicting prominent local landmarks.

Priyantha was drawn to one painting in particular. A vivid representation of the inflamed 'Carpetright' building, destroyed during the riots of 2011, people in the foreground fleeing for their lives. He noted the artist's name, Jermain, 15.

"Powerful, isn't it?" said Jane. "He's a talented young man, but troubled. He lost his home in the riots. Older boys, on the estate where he lives now, are a bad influence."

Priyantha's eyes were still fixed on the anguish in the people's faces. "Will I get to meet him?"

"I hope so," Jane sighed. "If he's not truanting: going places he shouldn't, taking stuff he shouldn't."

When the pupils observed an elderly gentleman shuffle into class alongside Mrs Gordon, a respectful silence descended. Priyantha smiled warmly at them. They were in uniforms he recognised.

After he was introduced, Jane offered him a chair at the front of the room but he refused it. He wanted to stand, like in the old days.

The words began to flow.

* * *

My home was within chanting distance of White Hart Lane. Every other Saturday, legions would invade the area where I was born and raised. They'd come to be part of something, part of Tottenham.

When you're a young boy who's not part of much, that leaves an impression.

A profound childhood memory was hearing the cheers when Spurs scored. I welcomed the elation permeating through my bedroom

window. I was sad, I was alone but, in those glorious moments, I could connect with countless joyous souls. It was comforting.

Other kids have lullabies and bedside stories. After Spurs got to play in Europe, I had "Glory, Glory Hallelujah", the fans' new anthem, to settle me at night. I sang along and, being a religious hymn, the nuns caring for me at the children's home approved.

Was I an orphan? Well, you could say that, although the proper term is foundling.

No, it's OK, Mrs Gordon. I don't mind talking about it. My story will hardly make sense otherwise.

I was abandoned as a baby, left outside Tottenham Police Station. I learned later that my mother was a young Asian girl, impregnated by some English or maybe Irish guy.

I won't go into details. I don't know much. Let's just say my parents weren't ever 'lovers'. She couldn't cope: with the trauma, shame and responsibility. I was given the surname Priyantha, after one of the cleaning ladies at the station.

Well they had to put something on my birth certificate. Who knows? Things may have been different if she were called Smith.

Back then mixed-race kids had difficulty getting adopted. So I ended up in a home.

Bless them, the nuns did what they could but I was a troubled kid. By the time I got to your age, well, school and I didn't always get along.

Bunk off? Yes, sure. I'm not proud to admit it but I had other stuff to do.

The nuns' response was to encourage me to pray. Do any of you pray – maybe for your parents, brothers and sisters?

I always prayed for Spurs. I must have been good at it too, because they only went and won the Double that year: the impossible dream realised.

I stopped skipping school after that. Didn't want to let the side down.

Spurs were my family now, there for me when I needed. White Hart Lane: the place, the players and all the fans: brimming with unconditional love. Home.

I always imagined Bill Nicholson – our manager back then and the best we've ever had – as my grandfather. Grandpa Billy: strict and strong and wise. I needed someone like that in my life.

My father though, that was Danny, the Spurs captain. Danny Blanchflower: inspiring and clever and creative. A dad I could be proud of.

He and Spurs were winners and they made me feel like a winner too: well on a Saturday afternoon, at least. But that was enough for me. I wasn't alone.

I even got to meet my dream dad once. He, Terry Dyson and Cliff Jones visited the home, doing their bit for deprived kids in Tottenham. The nuns must have written to the club, alerting them of the foundling's devotion.

Back then the word 'awesome' was reserved to describe moments like this. My heroes were perfect ambassadors, polite and smartly dressed. I could smell the Brylcreem in Terry Dyson's hair.

There was a twinkle in Danny's eye as he shook my hand and shared some fatherly advice. "Just remember, son. Winning isn't everything. But wanting to win is."

And then he gave me a signed lilywhite jersey, with the number 4 on the back. I blotted blissful tears putting it on.

I've still got Danny's jersey to this day. My most prized possession. What's it worth? Goodness knows: thousands, tens of thousands, probably. But really, it belongs in a museum now.

"Come see us, soon, eh?" hinted Danny as he was leaving, and I nodded guiltily.

Somehow the captain knew. I'd never actually seen them play yet, never physically been inside White Hart Lane.

How could I, when I had no one to go with... no one to take me?

SPORT

New artwork unveiled in Tottenham Hale

Students admire their work as it is unveiled to the public at Tottenham Hale station

The grand unveiling Credit Jared Barnes Photography



By Rev'd Andrew Williams, Priest, St Francis at The Engine Room (Church of England)

On Monday 16th July, Network Rail unveiled a new piece of art work at Tottenham Hale Station to remind people how to keep themselves safe as the new station is built.

The art work has been produced by children who are members of the Engine Room's Art Workshop which meets on Monday evening's during term time.

Nailah Daley-Allen, resident artist at the Engine Room and co-ordinator of the Workshop, was full of praise for the children who have spent the last half term producing the art: "Their hard work and imaginative ideas look amazing in the new spaces."

The art is on display outside the station near the ticket machines and on the platform inside.

Following the unveiling, the team from VolkerFitzpatrick treated the children to some construction games and refreshments at the site office as they expressed their thanks to them for bringing railway safety to life so vividly.

More collaborations with the Engine Room's Art Workshop are planned for the coming months as work on the new line continues and the new station is built at Angel Road/Meridian Water.

To get weekly news of what is happening at The Engine Room

Email info@engineroom.org.uk

Upcoming

Thinking space for Haringey parents: Mums' Tea & Coffee Morning

Wednesday 15th August, 10.30am-12.30pm
Marcus Garvey Centre, Library and Customer Services, 1 Philip Lane N15 4JA

A discussion and support group for mothers with young children living in Tottenham. Aimed at mothers and children, and their families and friends.

Free
Call 07792 386 773

Friends of Marcus Garvey

Saturday 18th August
Email Chair for times
Marcus Garvey Centre, Library and Customer Services, 1 Philip Lane N15 4JA

Help support the Friends of Marcus Garvey group and the Marcus Garvey Library by coming along to this bi-monthly meet-up to share your ideas, talks and events.

Event primarily aimed at all Haringey residents (Tottenham ward) with interest, but all are welcome.

Free
Email friendsofmgl@gmail.com
(Jasmin Taylor - Chair)

Fountainne Road Open Warehouse Day 2018

Wednesday 18 August, 2pm-11pm
Fountainne Collective, 7 Fountainne Road, Seven Sisters N15 4QL

An open day of events, exhibitions, open studios, performances, markets and workshops in and around the warehouses on Fountainne Road and the surrounding area. Bringing together a collection of creatives from a community with international origins, which over the years have come together focusing their artistic energies on an industrial area of Tottenham in North London. This diverse event shows a pioneering cross section of artists and alike.

Free
Facebook [facebook.com/events/1595098037181135/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1595098037181135/) (or search Fountainne Road Open Warehouse Day 2018)

Tottenham Photography Club: monthly meet-up

Wednesday 8th August, 7:30pm-10:00pm
Lordship Hub, Lordship Rec N17 6NU

Tottenham Photography Club's monthly meeting, for anybody with an interest in photography. From complete amateurs to experienced photographers, everybody is welcome.

Free
Facebook /TottPhotoClub

Ongoing

Tottenham Community Choir

Every Tuesday, from 7:30pm
Chestnuts Community Centre, 280 St. Ann's Road N15 5BN

Uplifting, joyful and fun, Tottenham Community Choir is a non-auditioning choir in North London for anyone who wants to sing. The Tottenham Community Choir welcomes new members and offers the first two weeks free.

Visit tottenhamcommunitychoir.org
Email chair@tottenhamcommunitychoir.org

Move more easily: lessons in The Feldenkrais Method

Every Tuesday, 9.30am at The Hub, Lordship Rec

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.

£6
Free taster session
Visit movementaware.co.uk

Poets Corner

Fence Kids

by Terry Egan

How they plait the black iron bars, those fence kids;
they're the weave to that ornate weft, you notice?
Where my road becomes the Roundway, flowers hang,
like those kids suspended in air on their fence...
Every day, they come blooming out as a name;
I read it where my own bus turns - then forget.
Ah! But see, how I remember to move on;
here's my name, on a page or screen - with these words
(like stray kids waiting on a fence for a bus
or those blooms that refresh themselves every day).
I wrote this, till the big red bus picked me up
and now, look! how it dangles here: a sonnet...
Passing by, will you notice it, or forget?
How they plait the black iron bars, those fence kids.

SPORT

Passion, pride and penalties

Sean O'Donovan soaks in the atmosphere of the Latin Market whilst watching the Colombia-England World Cup match



Eyes on the prize **Credit** Sean O'Donovan

Eduardo Galeano wrote in his classic *Soccer in Sun and Shadow* that football without supporters is like dancing without music.

During a wonderful evening at the Latin Market at Wards Corner, watching the England v Colombia World Cup match, we had music, dancing, prayers, cheers, hug and tears.

There are few more enjoyable places to watch the World Cup than Tottenham. In previous tournaments we have enjoyed massive parties following wins by Ghana, Cameroon, Turkey, Greece, Nigeria and even my own country Ireland back in 1990 and 1994. Not forgetting England celebrating all the way back to 1966.

Passion and pride was everywhere that night, and there didn't seem to be an inch of room at the Pueblito Paisa café just before the match started. However, as more and more people arrived, we shuffled along and space was found. There seemed to be determination that no-one, whoever they

were supporting, should be excluded.

The Latin Market is an indoor market of 120 mainly family businesses, including food outlets, based on the ground and mezzanine floor of an old Edwardian department store called Ward Furnishing Stores, which closed in 1972. The units are arranged in rows and columns of shop units which have been compared to village roads and junctions, each with its own personality. On the night of the football, there were televisions at every junction.

“It is so emotional, it feels like all my country is here”

More than 55% of the traders are of Latin American origin or descent. The other traders have roots in 21

different countries.

So in a field of yellow football shirts in a Seven Sisters village of hope, the national anthems were played. The English one was heard in a respectful silence and then the ceiling was nearly taken off by the Colombia supporters.

Just before the start, Mrs Maya and her three children rushed in. Her young daughter told me that she was hurt by the front page of that day's *Sun Newspaper* which used a pun linking Go Kane and Cocaine. She said: “We had to come tonight to show that we can love England but also be very proud of Colombia.”

Then England scored. Even the sound system fell silent. Over in the corner Councillor Khaled Moyeed, who is a long-time supporter of the Latin Market, was diplomatically quietly happy: “I am enjoying the magnificent support of this community for their team. Football unites everyone even if we want different teams to win”.

Sorely Salazar tells me that on the day of a big match, everyone at home

in Colombia wears yellow from the moment they woke up. “I got some good natured ribbing from my work colleagues but I just asked them; why aren't you wearing England shirts?”

Half-time and 83-year-old Maria is in need of fresh air: “It is so emotional, it feels like all my country is here. My son was killed in Colombia and I had to leave. I found new friends in the market, people I could talk to and who understood me. We can't lose the market.”

The night got even more emotional in the 93rd minute when Yerry Mina equalised. Extra time.

To find out why the Latin Village is so significant I sought out Mirca Morera, one of the main organisers of the Save Latin Village and Wards Corner campaign. Morena explained: “The Latin Village is a safe, secure space for long-established residents and newer migrants from any country... People have been able to rebuild their lives here after very serious trauma. It is a great example of community helping themselves.

“However we need support. The proposed demolition of the indoor market and some of the surround-

ing residential buildings will destroy something unique. We have an alternative community plan which is viable and affordable, and will preserve the original Edwardian features and return the building to its previous glory.”

Extra-time was made bearable by a lady passing around shot-glasses of the Colombian liqueur Aguardiente to everyone in my corridor. Then penalties. Two nations hold their breath.

One brilliant save and England win. The total silence broken by applause honouring a brave and fighting performance from Colombia. Then the docile tones of a young English man singing “football's coming home.”

Eduardo Galeano wrote that the preservation of diversity is so important in these days of obligatory uniformity, in soccer and everywhere else. Many cities tend to have the same buildings, the same shops, the same coffee and food outlets. In this world, “whoever does not die of hunger dies of boredom.”

As long as the Latin Market stands proudly, Tottenham will not die of hunger or boredom.

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