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# TOTTENHAM COMMUNITY PRESS

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Local news that matters to you



## Listen up

Sick and tired of being ignored, young people in Tottenham urge leaders to listen and act

By Ellie Rae Ward

Young people in Tottenham feel neglected and ignored by those who have a responsibility to help and support them.

This was the overwhelming message *Tottenham Community Press* (TCP) received when speaking to a group of young adults about rising levels of violent crime in the area.

In early April, on Monday 2nd April, Tanesha Melbourne-Blake was shot and killed on Chalgrove Road, Tottenham. She became the 48th person to be murdered in the capital this year.

At the time of going to print, this figure has risen to above 50, sparking concerns about increasing levels of violence in the capital.

In response, Met Police Commissioner Cressida Dick has announced a new, 120-strong taskforce to tackle organised crime.

It is widely acknowledged that there is not one single cause of the increasing levels of violence.

Speaking to the BBC's Today programme, Ché Donald, the vice-chair of the Police Federation, said that the 'current crisis was a direct result of cuts to officer numbers and funding,

but also that the police could not solve this issue alone.

"We also have to think about reductions in funding to councils, and councils themselves were responsible for putting youth workers on the streets, making safe areas for young people to go to. Various charities were involved in engagement with young people and all of that's gone," Donald said.

Harriet, 20, used to work in Tottenham and spends a lot of time at the Bruce Grove Youth Zone. She told TCP: "Everyone's been singing the same song for years – 'we're working

with the youth'.

"If you really were working with the youth then knife crime wouldn't have gone up to the stage it's at now... I would actually go out there to interact. You can't say you're going to work with someone if you haven't gone out there to interact. It doesn't make sense. It's like saying 'I'm a chef', but you've never been in the kitchen."

TCP also spoke to a young person who has lived in Tottenham from around the age of nine. She reflects on what it's like growing up in Tottenham: "I just love it. I love being in Tottenham, it's home for me... If you see one face and then see them a few times, they'll always say 'hello' to you. Everyone knows each other."

She says that the recent increase in violence has made her more wary however and thinks that having positive role models is a key factor in preventing more young people from joining criminal groups or committing crimes.

"When there's younger boys especially, and they've got older boys who they look up to and they're from the same area, they want to be like them or they want to please them. If those older boys are doing wrong, the younger boys will copy," she explained.

Another young adult tells TCP she has lived in Tottenham her whole life and says she can see herself staying and working in the area in the future. She told TCP: "A lot of people think it's a bad area, that it has a bad influence on people... People have a misunderstanding of Tottenham – that it's full of people that do drugs and all of this... Of course some of it's true. There is drugs going on, but it's not like all of Tottenham is bad, there's good bits of it too."

She says that trust plays a crucial role in how young people relate to figures of authority: "I don't think young people trust the police... I know that a lot of people don't trust the police at all. Even if something goes wrong at home, or at school,

***“ You can’t say you’re going to work with someone if you haven’t gone out there to interact ”***

someone threatens someone, the police aren't the first person they go to. Even teachers – a lot of people my age don't trust these people."

The issue of trust became apparent when a number of young people said they did not want to talk to TCP. In fact, their silence spoke volumes. Many of these young adults have spoken out before – they've campaigned to stop cuts to local youth services or they've been open about more personal matters. But they do not feel it makes a difference. They say the media has been known to twist their words and that those in charge do not act upon what they say, so what is the point in talking?

Whilst there was strong agreement amongst the individuals we spoke to that there is no single solution to stop violence among young people, there was a strong feeling that a lot more can be done to work towards this.

A member of a local girl's football team told TCP: "Schools could do more – there's not enough talks and awareness. Family talks as well. Everybody needs to talk about it."

Harriet said: "If there was more opportunities given... if they were more accessible, it would contribute to less knife crime... It would lessen the chances of a young person carrying a knife because they are being encouraged to do something else."

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# CONTRIBUTORS

## STEADFAST IN DIFFICULTIES

MAY 2018 – Nº. 10

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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### The Unity of the Graveyard by Inga Byram, with Simon Hester

Inga Byram's illustration depicts pro HDV councillors at a council meeting after Claire Kober announced she was standing down.

I have an admission to make. This issue has been the hardest to put together to date. All of the usual challenges remained the same – meeting deadlines, sourcing enough quality photography and securing enough advertising to name a few. But it is not these technical challenges to which I am referring.

When I woke up to the news that 17-year-old Tanesha Melbourne-Blake had been shot and killed in a drive-by attack on Chalgrove Road, I, like many across the country felt deeply saddened and fearful of the direction in which the capital seems to be travelling. Of course, I cannot begin to comprehend how those closest to Tanesha were feeling and would never pretend to.

Speaking to people in Tottenham in the aftermath of this fatal shooting, I heard comments such as, 'it's not been this bad since 2011 – just before the riots' and 'I'm not letting my kids play out after school anymore'.

Tottenham MP David Lammy told the BBC: "I've had as many knife attacks as there have been weeks in the year. There are parents, families, friends, schools, traumatised

and grieving."

He went on to say that "there is no single cause" of the rising levels of violence.

The prospect of reporting on these recent events in a way that was truly representative was extremely daunting. It would be impossible to analyse every single one of the possible causes of the increased violence. What we therefore decided to do was to focus on young people living in Tottenham right now – what did they want to say? Of course, not everybody we approached wished to speak with us and we respect that decision 100%. They've spoken before and had their words misconstrued or ignored.

I'd like to thank all those individuals who contributed to this issue's front page story in particular, including those whose names are not specifically mentioned. And I would like to encourage anybody reading who would like to comment on the issues brought up to get in touch. We want to continue this conversation in the months ahead.

I hope you enjoy the issue.

Ellie Rae Ward, Editor

I've lived in St Ann's Ward for 20 years. I'm a retired ESOL teacher/College Principal. I'm a long time anti-racist and feminist activist, and a recent Labour Party joiner. I'm also an active grandparent of three, a volunteer advocate at Haringey Migrant Support Centre, a StART supporter, Chair of Friends of Chestnuts Park, but I'm writing for the Tottenham Community Press in a personal capacity. About to get a new hip from NHS!

**Ceri Williams**  
Volunteer Contributor

I've been living on Broadwater Farm for 12 years and in Haringey since 1980, first in Bounds Green, then Crouch End and now Tottenham.

I recently put on a show of my paintings of Broadwater Farm in the hub in Lordship Rec, including a few political cartoons based on drawings done from the public gallery of the council chambers at the civic centre during meetings around the HDV. I was thrilled when one was accepted for publication in this paper.

**Inga Bystram**  
Contributor

I'm a creative at heart and dedicated to educating and inspiring people of all ages to engage with environmental and social issues. I have a BA in Theatre: Design for Performance and an MSc in Education for Sustainability, and currently work as a freelance educator and project coordinator. I have been involved with This is Rubbish (TiR) since it was founded in 2009. I conceived of the values-led Edible Education project for This is Rubbish in 2014 and continue to be a co-coordinator. I lived in South Tottenham for a number of years during which I formed a connection with the community through art and grass roots project work.

**Poppy Flint,**  
Contributor

Tottenham Community Press has seen a lot of change since the last issue, from settling into our new home at the Selby Centre to moving to a monthly publication. It's been an exciting time for our small team and it's amazing to look back on our journey since beginning publication in November 2016.

We are still constantly discovering new things to celebrate in Tottenham, from incredible community projects to passionate local campaigns. This month we had the pleasure of attending Spoken – an evening of poetry and spoken word hosted by Embrace U Empire and the Selby Trust. Get yourself along to their next event on Tuesday 15th May to see some inspiring local talent!

As project manager, I'm always keen to meet local individuals or groups interested in getting involved in the paper so send me an email on [anna@socialspider.com](mailto:anna@socialspider.com) if you want to chat.

**Anna Merryfield**  
TCP Project Manager

### Call for contributors

TCP is looking for contributors to ensure that we continue to publish the stories that matter most to you. No journalism experience necessary. We are also looking for volunteer photographers, cartoonists and poets.

If you'd like to contribute to the next issue of TCP:

Email [tcp@socialspider.com](mailto:tcp@socialspider.com)



## NEWS

## News

New campaign aims to welcome refugees and migrants

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“It’s about investing time. Just because you’ve got a building, you need people to be in the building supporting the young people.”

She also explained why places like the youth centre are invaluable to communities and their young people. “You’ve got what you need here – there are activities, people you can talk to...your friends are in here... A lot of young people are into music so we’ve got a music studio upstairs.”

In agreement, another young person told TCP that the reason the centre was so popular was down to the staff: “They’re such caring people. You can talk to them about anything and they don’t judge you.”

Tanesha used to come to Bruce Grove Youth Space regularly and an array of photos of her, along with flowers, has been put up in the centre’s courtyard.

“She was the life of the youth club,” TCP was told.

“People have stopped coming here since the thing happened with Tanesha... It’s either because people’s family aren’t allowing them, saying it’s not a safe area, or people, her friends, are too upset about what’s happened.”

The message from one young person to the incoming Haringey Council is to listen to and pay attention to young people in the area: “They should prioritise teenagers more, because teenagers are going to grow up and end up ruling the country.”

For more information:

Visit [youthspace.haringey.gov.uk/bruce-grove-youth-space](http://youthspace.haringey.gov.uk/bruce-grove-youth-space)

## COMMENT

## Seema Chandwani responds to the murder of Tanesha Melbourne-Blake

I’ve been relatively silent about the murder of 17 year old Tanesha Melbourne-Blake, sometimes you just have to shut up and listen. I first met Tanesha three years ago during the fight to ‘Save Haringey Youth Services’. A fight her and many of her peers fought with passion.

I’ve re-watched some of those campaign videos. The words are haunting. Those young people knew what could/would happen should cuts to services continue. Watching Tanesha’s face in those videos, little did she realise the lives she was campaigning to save, would include her own.

I’m not in anyway saying if the youth services cuts didn’t happen she’d be alive. But the issues raised by young people in such campaigns need to be heard - cutting of services creates an environment where young people feel compelled to speak out about their lives.

Young people in areas like Tottenham are very capable of articulating their own wants and needs, but they asked me to campaign with them because they needed a ‘political advocate’, as this fight was in their words ‘unequal’. They felt unable to ‘compete’ alone.

I didn’t understand it at first, but

soon did. I won’t go into details, the campaign (both in 2011 & 3 years ago) are well documented. But I’ll make my first point; we fail as adults when we see young people fighting for support services as the problem.

I’ve watched the response over the past few days and there are times I’ve been frustrated. If you’re a Politician or politico, currently engaged in this issue of youth violence, ask yourself why? Why are you getting involved?

If you are genuinely interested in helping young people in this fight you have to accept this is their fight, not yours. This isn’t about your stats, your policy, your budget or even your child. This is about young people’s current everyday life.

If you are speaking about young people’s daily life, actually understand it first. They are surviving, navigating through a world that mainstream society haven’t dared make a TV series out of yet. It’s nothing like you think you know about, even if you once smoked weed when you were 15.

There are now politicians and policy donks up and down the country holding events and meetings to show they’re doing something. Less than 1/10 will be inviting any young people to hear what they have to say. A lot of pictures

will be taken.

Of the few that will engage young people, they’ll go to speak to a school council or local church group or something similar. Young people are not a homogeneous group. Tarquin in Hertfordshire doesn’t speak for Trevor in Wood Green.

Engaging young people facing this battle is difficult, made more difficult as almost every embryonic cord connecting them to society has been cut. The young people in survival mode don’t know you, some don’t even believe they need to know you. But don’t find a substitute!

‘Community Leaders’ don’t exist, they are a political fabrication designed in the 80s to create a hierarchy amongst the working class. Stop meeting with them. If you want to ask people how you can help, ask those directly who need the help.

Ask your ‘community leaders’ to give you direct access to those people, if they cannot, then the only thing they lead is you, up the garden path. There is only one way to solve this problem and that is long term inclusion.

This means understanding there has always been a criminal underworld - Dickens wrote about it centuries ago. If Oliver Twist was born in 1998, he’d have a YouTube account.

Marginalised people exist because the system of marginalisation exists.

This is not a new problem. It existed when I was a teen. My and my little sister can remember the names of our friends murdered in the 1990s. Why we keep acting like this is a new thing is almost insane! It’s always been about economics, opportunities and belonging, always.

You are competing with an industry that can promise young people a life you have failed to give. It’s not just money, it’s a sense of worth, purpose, belonging and achievement. Maslow is basic GCSE level psychology. Young people need investment.

It’s not a short term fix. It’s not a four week Twitter campaign. It’s not a six week summer project - it’s a complete 0-19 long term investment, including investment in people working with young people. And it’s a lot cheaper than these knee jerk reactionary initiatives.

Until you can get a child to tell an organised crime ring they’re not interested – you’ll have this problem. Criminals need a workforce and our society is providing them with an unlimited supply of young people to choose from. Stop it.

**Tweet** @SeemaChandwani

## NEWS

## Onside or Offside? £6.5m Youth Zone greeted with opposition

On Monday 19 March this year, Haringey Council announced it had “approved proposals” to build a £6.5m Youth Zone in partnership with national charity Onside.

The centre will be built on the grounds of Woodside High School and will be run by a newly established charity employing a “local team of youth and activity workers”. The Council has committed to fund £3m of the capital cost of creating the Youth Zone and £250k per annum revenue for three years, and “charitable funders” will provide the remaining £3.5m capital and annual revenue.

The outgoing Leader of the Council Claire Kober said: “This is a fantastic

facility that will give young people from across Haringey the opportunity they deserve to access cutting-edge facilities that the council would simply be unable to provide without such an innovative partnership.”

The announcement has been met with opposition however. Writing for TCP, Ceri Williams stated: “I’m a recent Labour Party member who was ashamed of the outgoing Labour leadership of Haringey Council’s determination to act in the face of opposition in pushing ahead in the very last hours of their days in power with a controversial land and cash giveaway.”

According to Williams the deal was pushed through, “in contradiction

of the local Labour manifesto commitment to local youth work and in spite of opposition to the decision being taken at this point during purdah from both local MPs, both Constituency Labour Parties, the Lib Dems, the Green Party, the majority of Labour candidates and many local residents.”

Haringey Council insists that the decision to establish a Youth Zone in Haringey was originally taken in March 2017 and the more recent decision regarding the location of the Youth Zone was taken in advance of purdah. During purdah the decision was “called in”, but that this followed standard governance procedures.

Williams organised two deputa-

tions (lobbying motions), which involved presenting public signatures, to object to the ‘Onside deal’. She said: “At the heart of this activity was our objection to the outgoing leader trying to give away land, £3m capital and over 40% of the future youth service revenue budget to a national charity OnSide. The deal was for OnSide to run a single youth facility, for the all the borough’s young people, in an inaccessible part of the borough... The decision would inevitably lead to less money for Bruce Grove Youth Centre and other local centres.”

Haringey Council’s stance is that the site chosen is currently unused and has direct transport links to

almost every other part of Haringey. It has also confirmed that the centre would be in addition to all existing youth provision.

Williams also stated that she has “received phone calls from voluntary sector and youth workers in boroughs and towns where the OnSide juggernaut had been allowed in, telling of how they Hoover up all available trust and private funding once their guaranteed 3 years of funding runs out.”

Williams concluded: “Investing in services for young people is at the heart of my politics. But good youth work is about trusted relationships, and is not buildings led. I urge you to support the incoming council in making good decisions on this!”

## NEWS

# Tottenham MP leads Windrush justice campaign

David Lammy demands justice for the Windrush generation



Lammy demands action **Credit** Tottenham Labour Party

**T**ottenham MP David Lammy is demanding justice for members of the Windrush generation who have been told they are living in the UK illegally because they do not have the correct documentation.

The Windrush generation includes those who arrived in the UK between 1948 and 1971 from Caribbean countries. The term 'Windrush' refers to the ship MV Empire Windrush, which brought workers from Jamaica, Trinidad and other islands, to Tilbury Docks in Essex on 22 June 1948, with the aim of addressing the post-war labour shortages in the UK.

It has been widely reported that the Home Office 'did not keep a record of those granted leave to remain or issue any paperwork confirming it – meaning it is difficult for Windrush arrivals to prove they are in the UK legally'. In addition, the Home Office has been accused of destroying the landing cards that were issued.

David Lammy MP told the *Tottenham Community Press*: "What is going on is a scandal and the way in which the Windrush children are being treated is a national disgrace and that is why I am leading this campaign."

"I am calling for all Windrush generation children to have guaranteed status, for Theresa May to apologise to everyone affected, for the government to pay significant compensation and for an independent review of immigration policy and the hostile environment."

"My parents were from Guyana. Their ancestors were enslaved and colonised like millions of others in the Caribbean and when they were invited to come to rebuild Britain and our public services after World War II they were invited as citizens. The way in which the Windrush Children are being treated is a national disgrace."

"There but for the grace of God go I. One of these cases could have been me – my parents were part of the Windrush Generation and I am a son of the Windrush. I am doing this for my parents' generation and for thousands of people who are suffering at the hands of the Home Office."

"These aren't isolated cases. This is not a glitch in the system – this is the system."

"What has caused this is an orchestrated policy by Theresa May called the hostile environment and she must take responsibility for this crisis."

At the time of going to print, prime minister Theresa May has issued an apology to Caribbean leaders and said that individuals of the Windrush generation had a right to stay in the UK.

*"One of these cases could have been me"*

"I take this issue very seriously. The home secretary apologised in the House of Commons yesterday for any anxiety caused. And I want to apologise to you today. Because we are genuinely sorry for any anxiety that has been caused," said May.

*Tottenham Community Press* is calling for anybody from the Windrush generation with a story to tell to come forward so we can help raise awareness about the issues being faced.

**To get in touch:**

**Email** [tcp@socialspider.com](mailto:tcp@socialspider.com)

## Mayor limbers up for laughing yoga bash

**D**o you know your downward dog from your plank?

The Mayor of Haringey and residents from across the borough took part in a record-breaking Laughter Yoga UK attempt, in support of the Mayor's chosen charities, Mind in Haringey and Studio 306.

The mass Laughter Yoga session took place at Lordship Recreation Ground on Friday 23 March, and aimed to raise awareness of mental health issues and promote good wellbeing.

The Mayor of Haringey, Cllr Stephen Mann, said: "They say that laughter is the best medicine, so combining it with yoga seems like the perfect recipe for improved wellbeing."

"This is a great chance for us to

come together as a community, learn more about mental health issues and support two exceptional local charities, whose work is helping people all across Haringey to improve their mental health."

*"This is a great chance for us to come together as a community"*

Laughter Yoga draws on traditional yoga breathing techniques and encourages relaxation but, with a focus on giggling, rather than posing, it's suitable for all ages and abilities.

Lynette Charles, CEO of Mind in Haringey, tweeted: "Brilliant event lovely to see all those children doing Laughter Yoga."

As well as lots of laughter, entertainment on the day included music, community stalls, children's activities and prizes. The Mayor also presented an award to the winners of his recent "What makes you happy" competition held at schools across the borough.

**To find out more about the Mayor's chosen charities:**

**Visit** [mindinharingey.org.uk](http://mindinharingey.org.uk)  
**Tweet** @MindinHaringey  
**Facebook** [facebook.com/MindinHaringey](https://www.facebook.com/MindinHaringey)

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Mascots on hand to cheer on the yogis  
**Credit** Stephen Furner (Tottenham Photography Club)



## COMMUNITY

## Photography

Tottenham Photography Club  
members showcase their latest workPage  
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# Election fever

In the run up to the May election, Haringey Citizens gather in their hundreds to discuss the issues that matter most to them

By Michael Pugh

Teamwork makes the dream work **Credit** Haringey Citizens Assembly

In mid-April 500 residents gathered under one roof to hold politicians to account and show that a different kind of community politics is emerging - but who are Haringey Citizens and what is their agenda?

The national spotlight has been on Haringey in recent months as local politics has been dominated by stories of Labour infighting during the bitter row over the Haringey Development Vehicle, which has cost Leader of the Council Claire Kober her job.

But with the focus so firmly set on politicians, what has gone largely unreported are people's stories of what it is like to really live in Haringey and why so many people desperately need change. Life for many in Haringey is challenging, and despite recent changes, Tottenham remains one of the most deprived areas in the country. Leadership is needed.

As is so often the case, it falls upon civil society to show that leadership and many of the solutions to our problems lie in the power of our communities and that's exactly what we are seeing from a radical group of community leaders from Haringey Citizens and with them - a different kind of politics is emerging.

Haringey Citizens is a broad based alliance of faith groups, schools and charities who campaign for the common good and are part of the national organizing charity Citizens UK - best known for starting the Living

## Wage Campaign.

On Thursday 26th April, we hosted our Local Election Assembly to share the stories of struggle and hope from young and old across the borough and to seek commitments on housing, wages and refugee issues from the politicians who have leadership aspirations on our Council.

During our listening campaign last year, we engaged in thousands of conversations and heard stories of parents and children being exploited by rogue landlords living in overcrowded and unsafe privately rented housing. We've heard from people living in uncertainty as the future of their estate is up in the air and from families struggling to afford to live in the borough with the cost of housing spiraling out of control.

Yet we've also heard stories of hope, like of Muswell Hill Methodist Church resettling a Syrian Refugee family, of residents taking on housing developers to secure affordable housing on new developments and of pensioners campaigning to win a new road crossing outside their church.

We've gathered these stories together, voted on the issues most important to us and, ahead of the upcoming local elections, compiled our own agenda for change. The top five issues for Haringey Citizens are; rogue landlords, affordable housing, Broadwater Farm's future, the Living Wage, and refugee resettlement.

## Broadwater Farm

Linda has been a teacher at the Willow Primary School on the Broadwater Farm Estate for seven years, joining not long before the riots broke out in 2011.

During that time, and in the decades before, the future of the Farm has been uncertain. Parents at the school have felt left out of the conversation as hollow promises and unfounded threats have characterised the narrative, whilst the challenges of day to day life on the Estate have gone ignored.

Linda is conducting a listening process on the Estate over the summer and is calling on the new administration to come to Broadwater Farm in the Autumn and engage with our recommendations to make the Estate a safe, healthy and affordable

place to live now and in the future.

## Affordable Housing

The term 'affordable housing' has lost all meaning in London and Haringey. The cost of buying or renting homes in the borough have left homes out of reach for the majority of Haringey residents.

That's true for Tola's family. She is a grandmother living in Tottenham Hale and her daughter has a well-paid job. However, earlier this year the landlord put the rent up and she's been forced to move back in with Tola. There is now three generations living under one roof and the family have no prospect of being able to afford to buy in the Tottenham they call home.

Tola is calling for Haringey Council to redefine affordable housing, to link affordable housing to average

incomes - not the market rate, with the goal of people spending no more than a third of their income on housing costs. It may just mean Tola's daughter could afford to stay in Tottenham Hale.

These are just two of the individual projects Haringey Citizens will be campaigning for and urging the soon to be elected Council to take note of. There are many more.

**To find out more about Haringey Citizens:**

**Visit** [citizensuk.org/north\\_london](http://citizensuk.org/north_london)

**Tweet** @HaringeyCitizen1

The local elections will take place on Thursday 4th May. To find out where your nearest polling station is, visit [voting.haringey.gov.uk/polling-stations/](http://voting.haringey.gov.uk/polling-stations/)

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**Bernie Grant Arts Centre, Tottenham Green, London N15 4RX**



## NEWS

# Welcome one, welcome all

New campaign aims to welcome refugees and migrants



'Say it loud, say it clear, refugees are welcome here!' – London, 2015

By Alastair Ball

A group of Haringey residents have launched a campaign to make Haringey and the areas which fall within it, including Tottenham, more welcoming for migrants and refugees.

Haringey Welcome, launched on 24th February, will campaign for 'fairness, dignity and respect for migrants and refugees' and to 'reinforce the positive values of diversity and inclusivity' across the borough.

Lucy Nabijou, the campaign co-ordinator, said they are campaigning for, "decency and respect for all refugees and migrants whether you have been here a few days or years".

She added that refugees and migrants are often some of the "most vulnerable people in society".

The campaign's main aim is to address the "hostile environment" that makes it difficult for refugees and migrants to access public services. It also aims to tackle the suspicion of refugees and migrants that creates "hostility in the wider community".

"People are afraid to access public services," Nabijou said. "People are

afraid to go to the police. People are afraid to go to the doctors, which has public health implications."

She was keen to stress the hostile environment's impact on all residents of the borough, saying that they want "more open public services in Haringey".

Ciaran Price, communications and public affairs officer at the Migrants Resource Centre, which is based in Tottenham, added: "When victims of crime are too afraid to tell the police, because they fear having their own status being questioned, for instance, crime goes unreported and that makes us less safe."

He continued: "When they are excluded, which is what we are seeing happen to migrants, our society doesn't function properly and we are weaker as a result."

Haringey Welcome will work with other campaigns such as Docs Not Cops, which campaigns against immigration checks when accessing NHS services; Schools ABCs, which opposes immigration questions on the school census; and Project 17, which works to reduce destitution among the children of migrants

and refugees.

Eve Dickson, Project 17 policy officer, said: "We welcome the launch of Haringey Welcome and the work they are doing to advocate for dignity and respect for all migrants."

"Sadly, intimidation, disrespect and discrimination are routine. The borough is urgently in need of Haringey Welcome's campaign."

Activists from Haringey Welcome had previous success with a campaign called "Refugees Welcome Haringey" in 2015, which was part of the national Refugees Welcome movement. The campaign encouraged the council to help families of Syrian refugees settle in the borough as part of the government's resettlement scheme. In November 2016, the council announced that it would resettle 10 Syrian refugee families in the Haringey.

Nabijou would like voters in Haringey to raise the treatment of refugees and migrants with councillors on the doorstep in the run up to the local elections in May.

"A culture change is necessary," she said, as "a lot of migrants are destitute or in vulnerable situations."

## Local Support

### Haringey Welcome

**Visit** [haringeywelcome.wordpress.com](http://haringeywelcome.wordpress.com)

**Tweet** @HaringeyWelcome

**Facebook** Haringey Welcome

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

### Migrants Resource Centre

**Visit** [migrantsresourcecentre.org.uk](http://migrantsresourcecentre.org.uk)

**Advice line** 020 7354 9264

**Email** [info@migrants.org.uk](mailto:info@migrants.org.uk)

### Docs Not Cops

**Visit** [docsnotcops.co.uk](http://docsnotcops.co.uk)

**Tweet** @DocsNotCops

**Facebook** /DocsNotCopsonFacebook

### Schools ABC

**Visit** [schoolsabc.net](http://schoolsabc.net)

### Project 17

**Visit** [project17.org.uk](http://project17.org.uk)

**Call** 07963 509 044

**Email** [info@project17.org.uk](mailto:info@project17.org.uk)

## Become a HostNation befriender

HostNation, a new online befriending scheme, is looking for more Londoners to register as refugee befrienders. The organisation was founded by Anneke Elwes to link socially isolated refugees and asylum seekers to volunteer befrienders in their borough.

Patty, a Tottenham-based befriender was matched with Bei from China. She says: "Meeting her has opened a window of new interests and fulfilment for me that I find difficult to put into words. It has been very enriching and positive for me."

HostNation has 200 registered befrienders and has made 85 matches so far. It is always on the look out for more volunteers, especially more men and more Londoners who live in zones 3-6 – because that's where the need is greatest.

### Here's the deal

Register online at [hostnation.org.uk](http://hostnation.org.uk). Once matched and introduced, you commit to meeting at least once a fortnight over a period of three months.

A refugee in need of friendship, needs to be referred by an organisation – ask a caseworker, refugee service provider or volunteer to refer you via our website.

If you're not in a position to befriend but like the sound of what HostNation is trying to do, you can make a regular donation at [mydonate.bt.com/charities/hostnation](http://mydonate.bt.com/charities/hostnation)



## COMMUNITY

Community

Young people go on a food rescue mission in Tottenham

Page 10



The sweet sound of community Credit: Lordship Rec

# A day in the life

A glimpse into what goes on behind the scenes at one of Tottenham's bustling community centres, Lordship Rec

By Carola Kornfeld

8.50am. Lordship Rec is already teeming with life. The dog walkers, joggers, walkers, late risers running to school or for the bus to work are on their way. Meanwhile the staff and volunteers of Lordship Hub make their way to start their shift. The yellow, wood, straw and clay building nestles between the wild-life lake, the children's playground and the outdoor gym, with its early-bird exercisers out in all weathers. The geese are out foraging on the grass and the ducks are chasing about, waiting for visitors to feed them with the tasty bird food they have bought at the Hub.

Once inside, preparations for the day commence. In the office a huge white board displays the day's activities. What will it be today? Monday, watercolour; Tuesday, Silverfit; Wednesday, Baby Yoga; Thursday, Mixed Media; Friday, African Barefoot dancing; Saturday, Family Singing or Sunday, Chi Kung? And there is plenty more to choose from!

What needs to be done? Tables and a music system are set out for a weekend birthday party or chairs, a projector and a flip chart for a meeting. The phone rings all day; someone wanting to book a room for a party, a delivery van wanting to know how to enter the park, a volunteer who is unable to make it today, has anyone handed in a woolly hat, glasses, gloves, a kids scooter?

In the café, the manager and volunteers start to prep the food for the day and set out a display of all the freshly made cakes (brownies, banana bread, lemon drizzle and flapjacks), fruit and other snacks out on the counter. Today the weather is chilly, so hot wholesome soup is on the menu and tasty tomato sauce to go on the pasta for the kids. Cheese is grated, tomatoes and mozzarella is sliced and sandwiches are made up ready to be served up as delicious toasties.

11am (10am on the weekends). The doors to the Hub are opened. Immediately the regulars drop in for their 'usual' and gradually, if the weather is fine, the café starts to

fill up with people of all ages from 0 to 90. Toddlers, some of whom first entered the Hub as 'bumps', run up and down as if they own the place, young professionals set up their laptops, older people sit and enjoy the company over a hot drink.

Some days a group of knitters and embroiderers put a few tables together to talk, laugh and work on their beautiful projects. Other days Hail (Haringey Adult Independent Living) takes over the small room and sing and make things and generally socialise, or a gaggle of prams (and mums) queue up for coffee and cake after baby singing.

It is a full day, but a worthwhile and heart-warming one. And at the end of the day we know that we have done our part in making Tottenham a happier and more sociable place.

**Visit** [lordshiphub.org.uk](http://lordshiphub.org.uk)  
**Email** [hello@lordshiphub.org.uk](mailto:hello@lordshiphub.org.uk)  
**Call** 020 8885 5684  
**Tweet** @LordshipHub

For the full timetable of activities,  
**Visit** [lordshiphub.org.uk/whats-on/](http://lordshiphub.org.uk/whats-on/)

## Snap happy

Tottenham Photography Club is going from strength to strength. Its chair Glynis Kirkwood-Warren provides an update.

Tottenham Photography Club was formed in October 2017 after a brief exchange on a local Facebook group page. I had been given a camera but was having difficulty getting used to it and wondered if there was anyone else in the area that might be in the same position or have some interest in forming a local photography group.

The response was overwhelming and culminated in an inaugural meeting on 18th October 2018, with 17 members in attendance.

Since then the Club has gone from strength to strength, holding monthly meetings where members discuss plans for the Club including monthly 'Shoot Outs' – meeting up to take pictures as a group, of a place of interest or to try out a photographic style, and also decide what the 'theme' for the month will be. For example, the theme for January and February was 'Yellow' so members added photographs that represented 'Yellow' to the Club's Facebook album.

The members look through the pictures on a projector at club meetings and critique them, giving constructive criticism or asking questions about technique, camera, settings and processes used. Members want the Club to be a supportive space where anyone with any level of skill or interest in photography can feel welcome and supported.

There are no restrictions to becoming a member, all cameras types and styles are welcome and as of yet the Club has no membership fee.

### For more information:

**Facebook** /TottPhotoClub

**Visit** [tottenhamphotographyclub.org](http://tottenhamphotographyclub.org)

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

### Upcoming events

Tottenham Photography Club meeting  
 Wednesday 9 May, from 7:30pm  
 Lordship Hub, Lordship Rec N17 6NU

### Club Annual Exhibition

1-14 September  
 Lordship Hub, Lordship Rec N17 6NU



Glynis Kirkwood-Warren backs community media

## Advertise with the Tottenham Community Press

Advertising with us will allow you to directly engage with local customers. We print 10,000 copies which are distributed across Tottenham in a range of community venues, we also have an active online presence. Get in touch to find out more:

**Email** [anna@socialspider.com](mailto:anna@socialspider.com)



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## PHOTOGRAPHY

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### Photograph by Mustafa Suleman

I've lived in the Tottenham Hale area since 2001 and four years ago I took up amateur photography as a hobby. There are some fantastic photo opportunities locally.

I was looking to join a camera/photography club, and, as if by magic, the Tottenham Photography Club appeared last October. The ethos is to assist rather than compete and we hold regular 'shoot outs' rather than competitions.

In January, we set ourselves a task to catch a sunset on Walthamstow Wetlands. Thanks to some tips picked up on the day I managed to capture this shot (unedited), which I'm very proud of.



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PHOTOGRAPHY

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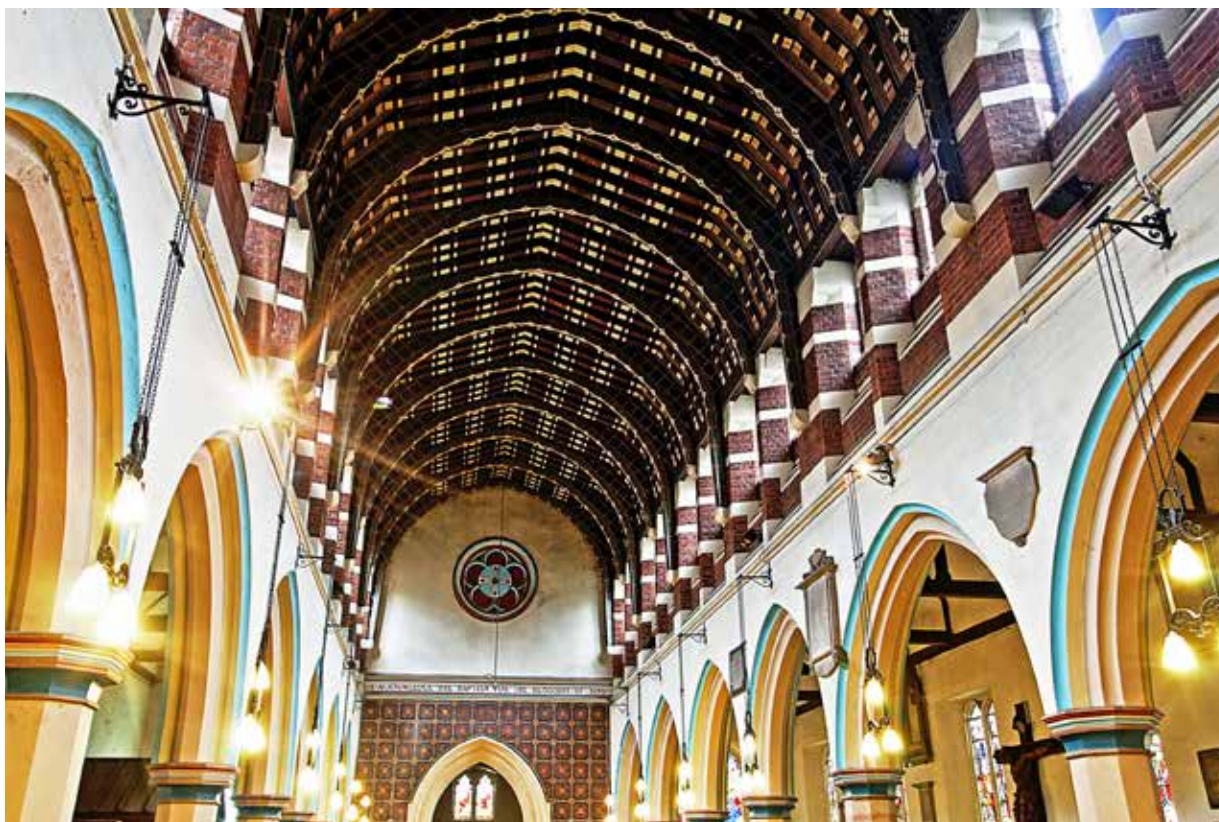


Photographs by Stephen Furner  
*Tottenham Photography Club*

All Hallows Church in Tottenham dates back to Norman times. I have walked past it on many occasions when growing up in the area and more recently while visiting. Then, for the first time I was able to go inside with a group from the Tottenham Photography Club and take a few pictures.

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](mailto:tcp@socialspider.com)





## COMMUNITY

# Smoothies in a storm

Young people go on a food rescue mission in Tottenham



Respect them smoothies Credit Project 2020/This is Rubbish

On a cold day in February young people from the borough took their first steps towards enterprising careers in food rescue. Six young adults from Project 2020 took up the challenge of serving smoothies in the snow at Tottenham Green Market on Sunday 11th February.

This marked the culmination of an Edible Enterprise programme hosted by Project 2020, in partnership with This is Rubbish (TiR),

which works to reduce industry and supply chain food waste in the UK. Project 2020 exists to help local people who are currently unemployed, or not in education, gain the necessary skills and confidence to find training and job opportunities.

Fruit was rescued from local wholesale markets and donated by Sainsbury's, instead of being thrown away, and was converted into delicious, nutritious smoothies. Tropical flavours were on the menu as hail fell

from the sky, but market goers were undeterred and dozens of low-cost drinks were sold. The young people showed remarkable resilience and gained an opportunity to put their learning about food enterprise and the environment into practise.

One of the aspiring entrepreneurs who took part in the food waste challenge as part of Project 2020 told us: "I liked helping each other and the community."

Tottenham Green Market promotes

community by celebrating street food, crafts & vintage from the local area and beyond, each Sunday. The young people were granted a free pitch to trial their enterprise. Some said it was their favourite part of the programme and all of them learnt valuable skills.

Each year about one third of all food produced globally is wasted, translating to 1.3 billion tonnes. About half of this food never reaches the consumer. Many crops are left unharvested because they are too wonky or the wrong size. Research has shown that a leading supermarket threw away about 70% of bagged salads in 2016 and nearly half of all bakery items in previous years. These are shocking figures, but we know the young people of Tottenham will be doing their bit to reduce waste.

Over the course of the Edible Enterprise programme, the young people met entrepreneurs who started businesses around food surplus, such as the founder of Dash Water, which uses wonky fruit and vegetables to flavour their drinks. They also learned about healthy eating and cooking with vegetables. One participant claimed: "The best thing was learning to cook with more vegetables and less meat."

This is Rubbish CIC was started in 2011 by volunteers who used theatre and feasting to raise awareness of food waste. In 2014, many of the original ideas were brought together to form the basis of Edible Education, a programme for young people promoting active citizenship. The

By Poppy Flint & Mickey Reedy

education team delivered interactive school workshops, assemblies and after school clubs tailored for diverse groups. They are currently working with young people from refugee backgrounds through partnerships with charities.

This is Rubbish likes to save food with a smile – they bring their unique Cirque de Surplus acts and activities to public spaces to spread the message about food waste. Watch out for a three legged carrot race or a giant salad toss at an event near you this summer.

Alongside the youth work and public engagement, This is Rubbish has been campaigning for legislation to reduce food waste.

Mickey Reedy from the organisation, said: "If the UK sets binding targets for reduction then big businesses will be accountable for their practices and the responsibility won't fall solely to the consumer."

"People are becoming aware of the vast amount of food which goes unharvested, unsold, or uneaten, and they want to see a change. Government policies to reduce food waste could make a real environmental and social difference."

This is Rubbish's 'Stop the Rot' campaign gathered nearly a quarter of a million signatures and the work continues.

Visit [homesforharingey.org/community-development/project-2020](http://homesforharingey.org/community-development/project-2020)

Visit [thisisrubbish.org.uk](http://thisisrubbish.org.uk)

## Horsing around

Two Tottenham primary school students won the chance to take their classes to see the Mounted Branch at New Scotland Yard. The students, from West Green Primary and St John Vianney RC Primary School, won Haringey Police's Fireworks Safety Poster competition.

PC Charlotte Bell said: "They all had a good time and the horses certainly enjoyed the mints that the children gave them. It is a great opportunity for them [the students] to meet the officers and the horses and for a lot of them to be able to stroke and ask questions which they may not otherwise have the chance to do."

Rubina Ali, a year 4 teacher at St John Vianney RC Primary School, said: "It was such a great trip. The children thoroughly enjoyed it".

Students at the Scotland Yard stables Credit Haringey Police





## ADVICE

## Letters

Local dad gets a shout out and local  
CLr addresses ward boundaries

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# Your problems. Solved.

From gym contracts to travel advice, Haringey Citizens Advice is here to help you navigate your way through the legal jargon

**I'm planning a long holiday and have been struggling to find travel insurance for a reasonable price. I've found a good deal from a Facebook advert but my friend thinks it might be a scam. How can I be sure if it's legitimate?**

Your friend is right to raise the possibility that it might be a scam and you should do some research on the company before making a purchase.

Insurance is a financial product and the seller must be registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Check they're listed on the financial watchdog's register which can be viewed on its website.

If they're not named, take your business to a different provider as the seller will not be legitimate. If

they are listed, it's still worth doing further checks on them.

A good starting point is comparing the price of the insurance deal with similar offers from competitors. Big discounts are often a tell-tale sign of a scam, but it could also be that the policy is cheap because it doesn't provide adequate cover.

Ask for a copy of the full policy so you can check it against where you're going and what you're doing. If the seller won't provide one, or says they will only give it to you it after you've paid, don't give them your business.

Once you know the seller is legitimate use a secure payment method, such as a money transfer service like PayPal, to pay for the insurance. Don't pay with a bank transfer, and don't go ahead with the deal if they ask you to.

**My gym will only allow me to cancel my membership in person. This is written in the contract but I've since moved away from the area. What can I do?**

To end your gym membership you will need to follow the terms of the contract. However, it's also possible to challenge any terms which cause unnecessary hassle or are designed to keep you tied into the contract.

For this reason, you could try to challenge the term which states you need to end the contract in person.

Start by writing a letter or email explaining you want to end your membership and why you can't do so in person. If writing a letter, it's best to use recorded delivery so you have proof that the letter arrived.

If the gym won't accept your

written cancellation ask if they've got a complaints procedure in place which you can follow. If not, then send another letter giving them a final chance to end the contract.

If they still won't agree to cancelling your contract get in touch with an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) scheme – an independent complaints body which settles disputes. The gym may belong to one already, or should provide details of an approved scheme and say

whether they'd be prepared to work with it.

You can also contact the Consumer Service or your nearest Citizens Advice for help on cancelling contracts which include possible unfair terms.

**Visit** [citizensadvice.org.uk/local/haringey](http://citizensadvice.org.uk/local/haringey)

**Call** 0300 330 1187

(Weekdays 10am–1pm & 2pm–4pm)

**Email** [admin@haringeycabx.org.uk](mailto:admin@haringeycabx.org.uk)

## Here to help

Are you struggling with a household problem, finding it difficult to get your head around the legal jargon in a contract or in need of some advice on budgeting? Our advice page is here for you. Get in touch with your problem, big or small, and we will do our best to find the answer. We will then publish it in the next issue of TCP.

**Email your problem to** [tcp@socialspider.com](mailto:tcp@socialspider.com)

**Tweet us** @Tottenhamcp

Advertisement

## It's Time.....to get them checked



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**Hammonds**  
eye practice



546 High Road  
Bruce Grove, London N17 9SY  
Tel: 020 8808 3327

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715 Seven Sisters Road  
Seven Sisters, London N15 5JT

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we are on the MOVE  
Due to the new development work  
at Seven Sisters, we have moved to  
**Hammonds**. All our staff and records  
are now at the above address.....

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the health of your body  
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[www.eyeppracticegroup.co.uk](http://www.eyeppracticegroup.co.uk)



## POLICE

# Police to meet you

Alastair Ball finds out about Haringey Police's new campaign to make the streets safer



From the ground up: the new stadium takes shape **Credit** Stephen Furner

**T**he promise of technology is that it will unite us, but the internet and social media also have the power to divide us.

These relatively new channels of communication increasingly create challenges in policing, for example by providing more platforms for criminal groups to communicate with one another or spread hateful messages.

Haringey Police is on a mission to embrace the challenge of using

technology to improve community policing. Residents in London can now inform their local police service about goings on in their community on the Metropolitan Police's website. They can also use Facebook and Twitter to see what police officers are up to and to ask questions.

From these sources, Haringey Police discovered that residents of Northumberland Park, were concerned about antisocial behaviour

(ASB) and violent crime in the area. This led to the launch of Operation Marlin in early January this year.

Superintendent Nigel Brookes of Haringey Police said: "Operation Marlin... is a new initiative trying to rid that ward of its perennial problems with crime and ASB, prostitution, drug taking etc. It's quite a new approach where all the partners are directed by the community to what they consider the trouble hotspots to be."

The key to Operation Marlin is two-way communication between the police and residents, made possible by new technologies. Community contact sessions are advertised on Facebook and Twitter and offer residents the chance to inform the police of where crimes or ASB is occurring. The police can then make targeted responses based on this information.

Sergeant Glen Walker, of Tottenham Hale and Northumberland Park Safer Neighbourhood Teams, said that they wanted to be a "visible presence" in the community and "to break down barriers", while addressing some "stereotypes" about the police.

One of the main aspects of Operation Marlin is carrying out community weapon sweeps, where police officers search for weapons that have been

hidden in public spaces following tips from residents.

"It's a way for the community to feel empowered and for people to take back their communities," Sergeant Walker said, adding that they were "working with people from Northumberland Park to make them feel safer."

*"It's a way for the community to feel empowered"*

As well as working with residents on local law enforcement, Operation Marlin has an emphasis on community engagement.

"A goal of our work in Northumberland Park is to increase the public's confidence in policing, ensuring that the community feels well informed about policing activity and knows how to contact local officers," Superintendent Brookes said.

Alongside modern technology, more traditional forms of community engagement are being used, including monthly leaflets displayed on supermarket notice boards and in doctors' surgeries.

As well as informing residents about police activity, Operation

Marlin involves the police partnering with other groups, including Haringey Council, local housing associations, The Tottenham Youth Football League and the ARCA youth group on Stirling Road to ensure the concerns of all residents are being addressed.

Sergeant Walker said that in sessions with local youth groups, the police were "mixing with the youths in an informal way, i.e. kicking a ball around with them, having dinner with them, holding Q&A sessions and really trying to break down barriers."

Operation Marlin has met with local approval. Tottenham MP David Lammy recently joined officers on a community weapons sweep. It has also led to five warrants being executed, eight arrests, four closure orders and one Community Behaviour Order being issued.

The initiative's main success has been improving relations between the police and community.

"People are opening up more," and the residents are "noticing a positive impact," concluded Sergeant Walker.

**Visit** [met.police.uk/report](http://met.police.uk/report)

**Tweet** @MPSHaringey

**Facebook** [facebook.com/MPSHaringey/](https://facebook.com/MPSHaringey/)

## COMMUNITY

# On your marks, get set, run

Tottenham's newest 10k run has been launched by The Engine Room

**T**he Engine Room in Tottenham Hale is organising a 10k fun run in June and is encouraging everybody in the community to get involved.

The run is taking place on Saturday 9th June at 9:00am, with the starting line at The Engine Room community centre. The route is a 10km flat, off road route from Hale Village to Tottenham Marshes and back. It includes two circuits of Tottenham Marshes.

It has been organised by the Engine Room in partnership with Lee Valley Estates, Lee Valley Regional Park and the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation.

Andrew Johnston, operations man-

ager and race director, explains: "The Engine Room is where community meets. What better way to do that than to organise a fun mid-summer sporting event in the fabulous Lee Valley Park which is just on our doorstep.

"I walk my dog every day on Tottenham Marshes and have often considered it Tottenham's hidden gem. So whether an experienced runner or first timer, why not join your local 10k? We'd love to see you on the start line.

"If you don't fancy the run, a walking event will be organised by Tottenham Hotspur Foundation on the same day starting at midday from The Engine Room."

Entry into the fun run costs £15. To secure your place, visit [entrycentral.com/theenginerrun](http://entrycentral.com/theenginerrun)

All entrants will be presented with an Engine Room medal and goodie bag.

Since 2013, the Engine Room has provided a community space for adults, children and families in Hale Village. It is home to St. Francis Church, a modern café and a 26-place nursery.

**To find out more about the fun run:**

**Email** [info@engineroom.org.uk](mailto:info@engineroom.org.uk)

**Call** 0208 808 5490

**To find out more about The Engine Room:**

**Visit** [engineroom.org.uk](http://engineroom.org.uk)



The Engine Room team after their fundraising run in 2017 **Credit** The Engine Room



LISTINGS

Upcoming

**The Black Europe on Film Fesitval**  
Various dates and times  
throughout May and June  
Bernie Grant Arts Centre, Town Hall  
Approach Road N15 4RX

Black Europe on Film is a programme of screenings curated by Black History Studies in partnership with the Bernie Grant Arts Centre, celebrating the history and contributions of African people in Europe where their presence is significant but little known. The film festival will feature a selection of documentaries that document, examine and discuss stories from various parts of Europe and each session will end with an engaging post film discussion with audience members.

**For more information about screenings and tickets:**  
**Visit** berniegrantcentre.co.uk/  
announcing-the-black-europe-on-film-festival/  
**Call** 020 8365 5450  
**Email** boxoffice@berniegrantcentre.co.uk

**Tottenham Art Class Exhibition Launch**  
May 4, from 5pm–11pm  
Exhibition runs 5th–27th May  
Craving Coffee, Gaunson House,  
Markfield Rd N15 4QQ

Tottenham Art Classes are very excited to hold their fourth annual group exhibition, ‘TWO HOURS: TO OURS’ at Craving Coffee in May. The exhibition will showcase works by Watercolour Painters and Life Drawers who have attended their classes in Tottenham for the past year. Expect a range of artwork in a variety of media and styles, all nurtured in our local area. Also let’s not forget the affordable ‘Silent Auction’, which will be back again this year, where you will be able to bid on small original artworks from £7!

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

**Swap on the Green**  
Sunday 13th, 20th, and 27th of May,  
11am–4pm  
Tottenham Green Market,  
Town Hall Approach N15 4RY

SwapAholics goes outdoors! Find our gazebo at Tottenham Green Market, eat delicious food, chill in the sun, take home some new-to-you clothes without the guilt of shopping. Got an item of clothing that does not fit anymore? Too far from your current mood? Not quite your style? ...BUT still in good shape and totally wearable? Then take it to the swap! You can bring up to 10 items in excellent condition:

- clothes (any season & size, no underwear, no pjs)
- shoes (no slippers)
- bags (no tote or canvas shopping bags)
- accessories (high street and max 3 pieces per person, no jewellery)

Due to lack of storage we cannot take books, games, toys, etc

**Entry £3 to swap, free to browse**  
**Facebook** /SwapontheGreen

Ongoing

**Late Night Stretch with Yoga Me Happy Intermediate**  
Wednesdays, 7.45pm–8.45pm  
*Suitable for all*  
Wednesdays, 8.45pm–9.45pm  
The Engine Room, Unit A, Eagle Heights, Lebus Street N17 9FU

Stretch your way to feeling great with Hatha yoga classes in Hale Village. The evening sessions will build you up and then wind you down set your body and mind up for the rest of the week.

**£9 pre-book/£10 drop in**  
**Email** eliza@yogamehappy.co.uk  
**Visit** yogamehappy.co.uk

**Meditation Class for Mindful Living**  
Every Tuesday, 7pm–8pm  
Lordship Hub, Lordship Rec,  
Lordship Lane N17 6NU

Do you want a quieter mind? And to experience more peace and happiness into your life? Join us to learn to live in a stress-free way!

**£5 per session**  
**Email** hello@boyanm.com  
**Visit** boyanm.com

**Olive’s Bodycare**  
For info on classes, see contact details below.

Olive’s Bodycare is a business that helps people with chronic illnesses to make the best of their life and to move better without pain and discomfort. I don’t believe anyone should be in pain or have a chronic condition to live with. Olives Bodycare offers a variety of classes, workshops and support services.

**Visit** livesbodycare.co.uk  
**Email** olives.bodycare@btinternet.com

**Tottenham Speakers Toastmasters Club**  
Bernie Grant Arts Centre, Town Hall  
Approach Road N15 4RX

Do you want to be a better communicator and leader? Attendees of the Tottenham Speakers Toastmasters Club get a chance to deliver impromptu or prepared speeches, receive and hear evaluations, take part in the running of club meetings, and take part in speech competitions.

**Free**  
**Visit** berniegrantcentre.co.uk/do/tottenham-public-speaking-club  
**Call** 020 8365 5450  
**Email** tottenhamspeakers@gmail.com

**Barnado’s London**  
First Thursday of every month,  
11am–1pm  
Wood Green Library and Customer Services, 187-197a High Road N22 6XD

Advice on independent support services for parents and young people with Special Educational Needs.

**Free**  
**Call** 020 8489 2755

**Emergency Food Provision Timetable**  
Crutch has developed a Haringey Emergency Food Provision timetable. This timetable provides a one stop shop of all sources of Emergency Food across the borough. See below for Emergency food provision in Tottenham.

**Tuesday**  
12pm, Community Cook Up, Park Lane, N17

**Wednesday**  
12pm–3pm, Selby Centre Foodbank, Selby Road N17 8JL  
Drop in by appointment (call 0208 885 3490, ask for Mary), Haringey Irish Centre, Pretoria Road N17 8DX

**Thursday**  
6pm–8pm, Selby Centre Foodbank, Selby Road, N17 8JL

**Friday**  
1pm–3pm, Holy Trinity Tottenham, Well-side Cafe Foodbank, 136 Tottenham Green, N15 4GZ, 1pm-3pm

**Saturday**  
10am–12pm, Selby Centre Foodbank, Selby Road, N17 8JL

**Visit** crutchharingey.com/haringey-emergency-food-provisions  
**Call** 0203 872 5856 or 07584 264 348  
**Email** info@crutchharingey.com  
**Twitter:** @CrutchHaringey

**Move more easily: lessons in The Feldenkrais Method**  
Every Tuesday, 9.30am at The Hub, Lordship Recreation Ground

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.

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**Visit** tottenhamcommunitychoir.org  
**Email** chair@tottenhamcommunitychoir.org

**Tottenham Green Market**  
Every Sunday, 10–4  
Town Hall Approach N15 4RY

Tottenham Green Market is a local event that celebrates the diverse street food, produce, drink, crafts & vintage from the local area and beyond.

**Visit** tottenhamgreenmarket.co.uk

Poets Corner

The Car Boot Sale  
by Terry Egan

They stand in the dust,  
these old market stalls;  
and fumes from the vans and cars  
that brought them here swirl about  
collapsible stools,  
tables and deckchairs...  
Oh! What a hotchpotch  
of half-remembered items  
lie strewn round:  
a yellow teapot  
with a squinchy lid,  
an electric mandolin,  
a picture of Charles the Fifth...  
buses won’t stop here  
till half-three!

I see it all, though,  
from the topmost deck:  
stopcocks without their bathrooms,  
traps for gnats that don’t exist,  
industrial size  
construction boxes  
for Tot-the-Builders -  
hordes sitting on what they’ve  
bought  
as we pass...  
And then there’s London  
stretching itself out  
behind all that dust, those fumes -  
high rises spiring behind  
so much bric-a-brac  
up for sale...

Submit Your Listing

Send us the name of your event/activity, the date/time, location and a short description of it.  
Deadline for listings in the June issue is 24th May  
**Email** tcp@socialspider.com



## COMMUNITY

# Business corner: Q&A with local entrepreneur Tameka Archer

Tameka Archer talks business growing pains, Tottenham challenges and words of wisdom



Meet the boss **Credit** Meka Marketing

**T**ameka Archer has recently stepped into the daunting world of entrepreneurship. She is the founder of Tottenham-based Meka Marketing, a business she set up to take back control of her work-life balance. She is a single mum and a big advocate of flexible working.

*Tottenham Community Press* finds out who she looks up to, what the challenges are for entrepreneurs in Tottenham and much more.

**What qualities do you think are required to be a successful entrepreneur?**

I think the most important quality an entrepreneur needs is resilience. Starting a company from scratch is really hard, there are definitely ups and downs that as a new business owner you need to prepare for. Staying positive in the times when things are not going to plan can be hard, but it's that sheer staying power and passion for what you love that helps keep things together. The important thing to remember in those times is that you will get through.

**What are the biggest challenges you face as a local business-owner in Tottenham?**

There are a few practical issues with having a business in Tottenham. The

main one is having no parking for customers, but we try to find a way around this with our clients.

Secondly, with Tottenham's negative portrayal in the media, some people make assumptions about the area which are not true. When I think of Tottenham, I see a vibrant community and a high proportion of small and local businesses.

**If you were the Business Secretary for a day, how would you support small businesses?**

Great question, I would offer businesses more help in terms of business development grants and extend the services that you are entitled to as a small business owner. As I said before, businesses, especially start-ups, experience growing pains. As business secretary I would do more to address these pains.

**What makes Tottenham an attractive area for entrepreneurs looking to set up a new business?**

Tottenham still has a community vibe especially here at LYST (London Youth Support Trust). With so many independent businesses there are plenty of potential clients who can benefit from our marketing services, as an agency we want to help put Tottenham businesses on the map.

**What is the best piece of advice you've received in your career so far?**

"Always put your customer at the heart of everything you do."

**Who are your role models in terms of your career, and why did you choose these individuals?**

Neil Sewyer (Channel, Education and SMB Director at HP): He was my first manager and I genuinely learnt so much from him. He achieved a lot and always seemed so confident and assertive. I really learnt a lot from him.

Another career role model was the former head of Marketing at Lumeon, Aldous Lippard. As my manager, he really helped me develop and indulge my passion for digital marketing, he is also a great leadership coach.

**Recently, companies in the UK have had to reveal the gender pay gap in their organisation. Do you think**

**this is a significant milestone?**

Yes, pay equality really affects women of all ages, but especially those who may have had a maternity gap in their career. Companies should be accountable and ensure they adopt a culture of fairness and transparency with all employees. I think this is great for team moral.

**What goals are you working towards in your business at the moment?**

As we are new we want to get to know and work with as many small businesses as possible, helping them deliver a measurable, affective and creative marketing solutions to help them get customers. We want to work with more amazing businesses and really help them achieve our objective.

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**Email** info@mekamarketing.co.uk.

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LETTERS

Cllr responds to TCP’s Woodside Ward article

Dear Tottenham Community Press

This was a good article but obviously when you quoted John Fisher it became quite clear that he did not know the history of Wood Green. Prior to 1918 the areas, which are now called Wood Green, and Tottenham, were called North Tottenham and South Tottenham, and therefore had two MPs.

When in 1934 the new constituencies of Wood Green were created, the areas now known as White Hart lane, Woodside and Northumberland Park, had different names, but came into the constituency of Wood Green.

Then in 1983, with the boundary changes, Wood Green was then split into two – half to Hornsey, creating the constituency of Hornsey Wood Green and the rest into Tottenham.

With the next boundary changes we saw the change of names and areas of wards and new ones were created. Mainly because the Government

under Margaret Thatcher wanted London to have annual elections like the rest of the country, so the two members wards were changed into three member wards and given new names and new areas.

When I first came on the council, I represented Park ward which was a two member ward. The other ward, which was split to create Northumberland Park and Tottenham Hale used to be Coleraine, which was like Park ward was in Wood Green.

The only thing that Tottenham people are still unhappy with, is when the Borough of Haringey was created, they chose Wood Green Town Hall, now the Civic Centre to be the new ‘Town Hall’ and that Wood Green would be the new centre of the Borough. The knock on effect of this was to kill off Tottenham High Road. We lost department stores,

Marks and Spencers, Woolworths and many other shops, and we have never recovered from this loss.

Woodside should be pleased that they are returning to Tottenham. I noticed that you did not mention that Bowes Park is returning to Wood Green, after being part of Southgate.

In addition, all these proposed changes will be only, so far, for parliamentary elections, not for local council elections. That I am sure will come in a few years’ time when we will get the proposed changes for councils. But another thing that might be on the horizon, is the complete change of the Borough.

We have already seen the merging of the police in Enfield and Haringey, and also the health service. We might then get the other change that the famous Margaret wanted, which was to merge Enfield and Haringey to create a large Borough of 500,000 people, and merge all other Boroughs in London, as well as reducing the 32 London Boroughs to 16.

I remember 1964 so well, so many staff lost their jobs due to the merging, as we had three Town clerks reduced down to one, who

became the Chief Executive by the name of Kenneth Robins. The same happened with many other leading officers in all three Boroughs. Three Borough Treasurers, reduced to one, Mr Wax was his name, I remember his car WAX 1 being parked outside the Civic Centre.

**Cllr Sheila Peacock**  
Labour, Northumberland Park

**Shout out to Dad**

*Dear my unbelievably wise, generous Dad*

First of all, I would like to say 100,000 thank you’s, you make me feel like the most blessed son ever! Sadly, I’ve never written my titanic, compassionate feelings for you. Wistfully, I’ve been thinking about this letter. You have been through hard times lately but I hope you enjoy!

Secondly, I’d like to tell you the why on me writing this letter to you.

Here’s a list on what you do, you come to school whenever you’re needed. Even when times get rough you work to provide a warm, cosy home. I’m oblivious on how you simultaneously manage the house. You’re always there when I have an appointment. My homework, which is quite hard, you help me with. As a result, I’m writing this letter.

Years ago, we went to an impeccable, fun theme park it was the bomb! Due to the fact that I was short and too young, I couldn’t go on any rides. I was disappointed. In the hotel you brought me a toy and a balloon I was a happy hyena. I recall that when I attached the plane to the balloon and BAMM it was beyond saving.

In a nutshell, you’re an exploding ant. There is no way I could repay you. You’re the Greatest.

Ayman

Email your letters for the June issue to: tcp@socialspider.com by Thursday 17th May.

Announcements

CEO of Citizens Advice Haringey steps down

Dear Voluntary Sector,

I am writing to let you know, if you have not already heard, that I am leaving Citizens Advice Haringey and moving on to pastures new. My final date will be 4 May. As an interim, Kellie Dorrington will be acting CEO until such time the new CEO has been appointed. We are currently going through the recruitment process.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and in many respects sad to leave. I am proud of the fact that CA Haringey is in a good place for the incoming CEO. I have really enjoyed working with different partners over the years and long may this continue with future opportunities.

**Lynn Hannah**  
CEO Citizens Advice Haringey

New Tottenham Hotspur Foundation CEO announced

Sarah Ebanja has been appointed as the new chief executive of the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation, the football club’s charitable body.

Donna-Maria Cullen, chair of trustees at Tottenham Hotspur Foundation said: “Sarah brings a wealth of experience coupled with great drive and energy. She is widely recognised for her work in areas that are the focus of our Foundation’s delivery and, indeed, has spent years in North Tottenham.”

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## HISTORY

# Listening to the past

New exhibition takes you to bygone eras and teaches you about the history of Tottenham's High Road



Jenny Hall, a fruiterer on the High Road in the 1950s **Credit** Bruce Castle Museum

By Alastair Ball

Tottenham High Road has over 2,000 years of history. It has been a conduit for Roman soldiers marching to Londinium, trams and political protests, as well as home to music legends and football stars. Tottenham High Road is more than

a road; it is the heart of a community.

A new exhibition at Bruce Castle Museum aims to capture the memories of this community for posterity. Memories of the High Road – an oral history-focussed exhibition about Tottenham contains objects, photographs and over 25 hours of recordings, all documenting in hab-

itants' memories of the area.

There is a lot to be learnt about the history of Tottenham High Road, such as that it used to be called 'Ermine Street' and follows the path of the Roman road that connected London to York.

Many famous people have made the area their home over the years, including Tottenham Hotspurs

players. At the exhibition opening, a 94-year-old local resident who used to work at the club told attendees that before the Second World War, Spurs players were paid only £1 a week, and £2 when they won.

Tottenham High Road also has a strong connection to music history. It hosted Blues Parties that gave black musicians spaces to play when they were excluded from mainstream venues. Dave Clark grew up in the area and his band, the Dave Clark Five, once rivalled the Beatles for fame.

The exhibition places a strong emphasis on ordinary people's memories of the High Road. From racing Jiggers – go-karts made from scaffold planks and pram wheels – to Scrumping for Apples, the small but significant details of life on the High Road have been recorded.

There are memories from many diverse communities. In the 18th and 19th centuries, Quakers opened schools in the area. In the early 20th century, so many Russians settled around Lorence Road that the area was nicknamed "Little Russia". After the Second World War, Tottenham became a centre for the African-Caribbean community during the Windrush era, when many people from the Caribbean emigrated to Britain.

Adam Stoneman, exhibition curator, said at the opening: "By keeping living history in our mind we can move forwards to a better life."

He added that he hoped that this leads to other oral history projects in Tottenham.

*"By keeping living history in our mind we can move forwards to a better life"*

This exhibition is a celebration of a place that has been home to many people for many years. From hearing the memories, you get a strong sense of a community where diverse people have made homes alongside each other.

Musician John McAnuff, who performed his song "Way Back Home" at the exhibition opening, summed it up when he said: "Home is where a cup of tea tastes exactly how you like it."

The Memories of the High Road is on at Bruce Castle Museum until 1st July.

Opening hours Wednesday to Sunday, 1pm–5pm

**Visit** Tottenham N17 8NU

**Call** 020 8808 8772

## SPORT

# Girl power

All female football team is on the lookout for new members

Around three years ago Darren Gosnall was on the lookout for an affordable girls' football club for his daughter to join. After not having much luck, he took matters into his own hands and decided to set up Tottenham F.C.

On an unusually scorching Saturday in April, *Tottenham Community Press* headed down to the Tottenham Sports Ground to talk to the Tottenham Under 14s team as they prepared to take on Watford Academy.

Alvin, the coach/manager of the team, explained: "The aim of the club is to provide all kids the opportunity to play football at an affordable price. [Being a part of the team] improves the girls' con-

fidence and attitude – it becomes more of a social club. The parents get involved, we all pull together to make this happen."

Michelle Marshall's daughter has been playing for Tottenham for around eight months. She said: "My daughter is in to football and because there's not many places that support girls playing sports like football, this was a good place for her to come and interact with other like minded young females."

"It keeps her occupied and engaged in physical activity. She gets to build a team. They work hard together."

One of the young players explained how she'd previously trained with a different local boys

team, but was not allowed to play in competitive matches.

When asked if they would like more girls to join, the team replied with a resounding 'yes'. One of Tottenham's defenders said: "We don't have enough girls. People doubt themselves and they're not confident enough. If you come here, you'll train, you'll get better, we've all got better."

Tottenham Girls Under 14 train every Saturday throughout the Summer and also on some evenings. There is a small membership fee to join the club.

**For more information on joining:**

**Email** gosnalldarwin@icloud.com

**Call** 07513 580 863



On the ball Tottenham **Credit** Tottenham Community Press