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Tottenham resident John Poulter is inspiring students at The College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London (Conel) with his personal story of triumph over adversity. John was paralysed from the waist down in an accident at work 15 years ago but bounced back to retrain as an electrician at the college. He now runs his own electrical services business in Tottenham and has become an advocate for diversity and inclusion at Conel – read the full story at [haringeycommunitypress.co.uk](http://haringeycommunitypress.co.uk)

## PM backs 'transformative' Crossrail 2

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

**B**oris Johnson has championed the “transformative” benefits of building Crossrail 2 – despite his own government currently blocking its progress.

As the Elizabeth Line – the £19billion railway formerly known as Crossrail – was opened to much fanfare last month, the prime minister was asked about future transport infrastructure projects. He voluntarily brought up Crossrail 2 and said it could “fix” a lot of the current problems with travelling between north and south London.

Crossrail 2 would connect stations in Surrey with Broxbourne in Hertfordshire, via Victoria, Euston and several stations in Haringey, including Tottenham

Hale and a branch that would link Seven Sisters with Alexandra Palace. Transport for London (TfL) had previously been developing detailed plans for the railway line, but the Department for Transport (DfT) inserted a clause in one of its many short-term funding deals with TfL that explicitly required this work to be brought to “an orderly end”, while still ensuring the proposed route is safeguarded.

TfL has been forced to negotiate its financing with the government over the last two years, since the Covid-19 pandemic led to a sudden shift in people’s travel patterns and drastically reduced TfL’s ticket revenue.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said: “I have got absolutely no embarrassment – as a former mayor of London – about supporting projects in London.

“We have completed Crossrail, but frankly there is more that we should be doing; we should look at tax-increment financing like we did with the Northern Line down to Battersea, and look at projects such as the Bakerloo Line extension, but I think the real thing for us now is to think about things like Crossrail 2 – the old Hackney/Chelsea line – that is going to be transformative again.

“All the problems of commuters coming into Waterloo, getting up to North London, you can fix that with another Crossrail.”

Johnson’s comments came 18 months after the government demanded that consultancy work on Crossrail 2 be halted by TfL. Asked for City Hall’s response, a spokesperson for the mayor of London said: “The mayor welcomes the prime minister’s recognition

of how important investment in London transport is for the whole country, and his comments about the need for Crossrail 2.

“The Elizabeth Line will transform transport in London and the south-east, but will also contribute £42bn in net benefit to the UK economy.

“The key thing now is for the Department for Transport to realise that a properly-funded transport network in London is an issue of great national importance, and to commit to a long-term funding deal that will protect London’s transport network – for the sake of the capital and the whole country.”

A DfT spokesperson said: “We are in discussions with Transport for London about updating the directions surrounding the latest safeguarding requirements. We hope to conclude these discussions in due course.”

Local news that matters to you

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Jun

Thu 30<sup>th</sup> Jun



Waxing  
Crescent  
4%/0.49



Waxing  
Crescent  
1%/0.49

ABOUT

At *Haringey Community Press* we believe that the borough deserves a newspaper that is written by and for local people, and which celebrates community in all its diversity. We believe that local news brings people together around the issues that matter most to them and ensures everyone can have a voice in local decision-making. Now more than ever we believe that the media should be responsive and accountable to the community it serves.

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Firefighters rescued a Tottenham fox cub which had its head trapped in a wheel. The frightened creature was found not far from Tottenham Fire Station, near Bruce Grove Station, with firefighters being alerted to the incident by animal welfare charity RSPCA. Specialist cutting equipment was used to free the fox cub, who was fortunately uninjured. An RSPCA officer then took the animal back to where it had been found so it could try to find its fox family **Credit** London Fire Brigade

AN INTRODUCTION FROM THE EDITOR

HELLO AND WELCOME TO ISSUE 8. I'd like to firstly welcome the new editor of *Haringey Community Press*, Alice Kemp-Habib, who started with us at the end of May and is already working on her first edition of the paper, which will be the July issue. As our new permanent editor she will be very keen to start interacting with local readers, writers and artists so do get in touch with her on the usual email, [hcp@socialspider.com](mailto:hcp@socialspider.com).

At the start of May another new journalist started working with us, Olivia Opara. Olivia has been hired specifically as a community reporter to cover Tottenham, as part of a project being led by the National Council for the Training of Journalists which aims to provide new job opportunities for trainee journalists from diverse backgrounds. If you have a story idea for Tottenham, you can get in touch with Olivia via [olivia@socialspider.com](mailto:olivia@socialspider.com).

Last month saw the long-awaited local election take place in Haringey, which was covered by our Local Democracy Reporter, Simon Allin, and ended with Labour tightening its grip on Haringey Council. Simon's report from the election count can be read on Page 8, alongside what I hope is a helpful and easy-to-digest breakdown of the election results on Page 9. Elsewhere in this month's issue; on Page 10, we've got a report on ex-council leader

Joseph Ejiofor's legal challenge against the Local Government Ombudsman; on Page 13, Haringey's long-serving London Assembly member Joanne McCartney writes for *HCP* about what she's been working on recently at City Hall; and on Page 14, find out why a group of artists from Harringay have decided to cover their warehouse in a giant hand-stitched quilt!

James Cracknell

# Hit-and-run driver jailed for killing grandfather in Tottenham High Road

A man has been jailed after being convicted of causing the death of a “doting grandfather” by driving dangerously along Tottenham High Road after a night out drinking.

Hit-and-run driver Anop Singh “invented a series of lies” in a “desperate bid” to distance himself from the 2017 incident in which 72-year-old John Francis Heneghan – known as ‘Frank’ – was left fatally injured in Tottenham High Road.

After numerous delays to his trial, Singh, from Clapton, was convicted of causing death by dangerous driving on 11th May. He was sentenced on 13th May at Wood Green Crown Court to a total of 14 years’ imprisonment. He had previously also been found guilty of perverting the course of justice in relation to an earlier trial that failed to reach a verdict.

Frank’s family described Anop as an “evil, selfish man” who had “never shown any sliver of remorse”.

The court heard that on 12th August 2017, Frank had alighted a bus in Tottenham High Road at around 1.30am, having been out for the night with friends. He began to cross the road to the opposite carriageway when he was struck by a grey Volkswagen Golf, at a speed estimated to be between 47mph and 76mph, in an area with a 30mph speed limit.

Frank was left at the scene after the vehicle failed to stop. Police and paramedics attended but there was little they could do, so severe were his injuries. Frank was pronounced dead at 1.54am.

A man was arrested shortly after the incident when a witness identified him as the driver of the car, however it transpired that he was in fact the front-seat passenger and had run back to the scene in disbelief after exiting the vehicle a short distance down the road. Meanwhile, Singh had travelled home and parked the car on his drive.

Singh called police from a relative’s phone at 7.30am, claiming he had been awoken in the back seat of his car by family. He said he believed his car had been involved in some sort of collision but that he was asleep in the rear at the time, that he could not remember anything, and that he did not know the driver. He was arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving and answered ‘no comment’ to all questions asked.

Detectives began an investigation to piece together the events from that

## Long-awaited conviction of “evil” Anop Singh followed years of lies told to try and avoid justice

night. They tracked CCTV and discovered that Singh had been out drinking with two other men at bars in Haringey. They spent around two hours drinking vodka and champagne at the second bar before being ejected by staff at around 11pm. Singh returned to remonstrate before going back to his vehicle with one of the other men and finally driving off at around 12.21am.

ANPR cameras picked up the Golf travelling along Seven Sisters Road at 1.34am, close to the collision site. Singh’s phone number was identified and he was found to have made 53 phone calls between 1.37am and 2.39am, with 38 of these to one number and the rest to four different phone numbers, proving that he could not have been asleep during that period as claimed. The actual phone he used has never been recovered.

has been an incredibly protracted process. They were present again throughout this trial and have had to listen in detail to how Frank was so awfully taken from them. I would like to thank them all for their unwavering support throughout our investigation.

“By all accounts Frank was a much-loved man. He was originally from Ireland but had lived in South Tottenham for some time. Frank was on his way home having been out for the night with friends.

“The only way to describe Anop Singh is as a coward and a liar. He knew exactly what he had done but still attempted to spin a web of lies, going to great lengths in disposing of his phone and clothing. He even claimed a family member had awoken him in his car that morning – but that relative refused to confirm that in a statement to police.

## This evil, selfish man has finally been brought to justice

Officers also found Singh had substantial swelling to his eye when arrested, believed to have been caused by the collision. CCTV from the night before did not appear to show any such injury. The clothing he had been wearing was also found to be different on arrest. Forensic evidence from the vehicle further proved Singh was behind the wheel when the car struck Frank in Tottenham High Road. A post-mortem examination held on 17th August at Haringey Mortuary gave cause of death as multiple injuries.

Detective Inspector Cheryl Frost said: “Firstly I’d like to pay tribute to Frank’s family, who have displayed the most incredible courage and dignity during what

“There is nothing we can do to bring Frank back, but I hope his family have some sense of peace in knowing that officers from the serious collision investigation unit, in particular DC Owen Randall, have done everything we could to bring Anop Singh to justice.”

In an emotional statement, Frank’s children said: “John ‘Frank’ Heneghan was a former farmer, builder and publican. He had retired shortly before his untimely death.

“He was a loving husband, married to his wife Derry for 42 years. Devoted to his wife, he nursed her through a long illness before her death in 2012. A father of four, he was always warm and affectionate with his

children, and always encouraged and inspired them to be the best they could be.

“He was a doting grandfather and loved spending time with his seven grandchildren, making them laugh and telling them stories. His own father died when he was just thirteen and he grew up as one of the eldest of a family of 14 brothers and sisters in poverty in the west of Ireland.

“Family was the most important thing to him, and he saw his children and grandchildren on a daily basis right up until his death. He was also close to his brothers and sisters, and nephews and nieces, meeting them all a number of times a year in the UK and in Ireland.

“Throughout his life he was a mentor and teacher to many, through work and in his sporting life and he was actively involved in charity work, establishing a musical tour in the west of Ireland that took place every summer and raised money for many local charities. Hundreds attended his funerals, one held in London and one in his hometown.”

Regarding Singh, the family statement added: “The defendant behaved in a contemptible and appalling manner throughout. For five years he has constantly lied and has never once shown any sliver of remorse for killing our dad.

“He has put us through hell. First by callously killing our dad Frank and then by constantly lying and offering not a word of sympathy or remorse. This evil, selfish man has finally been brought to justice.”

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### Licensing Act 2003

#### Notice of Application for a Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that **Loopleafmarket Ltd** has applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Haringey for a Premises Licence to permit:

- Sale of alcohol: Monday to Thursday, 12pm–9pm; Friday to Saturday, 12pm–9pm; Sunday 12pm to 8pm
- For the premises: Loop situated at 189-191 Broad Lane, London N15 4QT

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at by contacting Licensing Team at [licensing@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@haringey.gov.uk)

Any person wishing to submit relevant representations concerning this application must give notice in writing to [licensing@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@haringey.gov.uk), giving in detail the grounds of the representation no later than: **16/06/2022**

Copies of all valid representations must include your name and address and will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Authorities Sub Committee, these will therefore pass into the public domain.

Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

It is an offence liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application.

Dated: 8th day of April 2022  
Signed: Blazej Dziedzic

▲ John ‘Frank’ Heneghan, aged 72, was a popular figure in South Tottenham



▲ Anoop Singh has been jailed for 14 years but still shows no remorse for the killing Credit Met Police



BY OLIVIA OPARA

# Offering hope to all of Haringey

**D**uring the first Covid-19 lockdown two years ago, Hope in Tottenham found issues facing young people included low self-confidence, social anxiety, concerns for the future and grief.

The charity also realised these issues were not unique to youngsters in Tottenham, as it had frequently found itself supported vulnerable young people across the whole of Haringey. By extending its outreach to the west of the borough, Hope in Tottenham saw there was a separation between what they were doing and local people who only saw them as a Tottenham-based community organisation.

Wanting to better reflect and represent the areas of Haringey that it now finds itself working with and in, Hope in Tottenham decided to rebrand. In July, Hope in Tottenham will be officially relaunching as Hope in Haringey to mark the expansion of its work with new partners in Muswell Hill and other areas of the borough.

Rebranding does not mean that Hope in Tottenham's work in Tottenham is over, however, as Hannah Whitehead, the charity's development and mentoring manager, explains.

"Hope in Tottenham has been working across the borough for a long while," says Hannah. "It is an exciting time as we continue to work across east and west Haringey to recognise the whole borough, not forgetting where we formed."

"Renaming us as Hope in Haringey [while still being] rooted in Tottenham really describes us well and enables the west of the borough to feel part of it all as well."



Hope in Tottenham offers a variety of mentoring programmes in conjunction with local education providers, including a construction mentoring scheme at College of North East London (Conel)

## Local charity to rebrand after expanding its outreach borough-wide

Hope in Tottenham will be working with twelve media and arts students from Haringey Sixth Form College on the rebranding process, as part of its partnership with the college. Collaborating with digital marketing agency, Blaze Communications, the charity's communications and youth arts project teams will provide the students with a month of training in social media content creation and management, website content population, how to run a public media platform and how to create content for such a platform – including photography, videography and

copywriting training.

Digital marketing and communications training will also be included, helping students to hone their writing and audience-engagement skills. This will be useful for students considering a career in public relations, communications, journalism or community management. Following the work experience, six of the students will be taken on as paid interns by Hope in Haringey to transform its social media and help with its website redevelopment. This will be a portfolio-building opportunity for them and the students will receive ongoing mentoring from

communications and media production professionals.

Additionally, hospitality students from the college will be hired to cater for a launch event on 6th July and will receive further careers development in the form of mentoring.

Hope in Tottenham started as a counselling programme in 2002. In 2011, it expanded this into 'Give Tottenham a Chance' and began offering police engagement and mentoring programmes as well. Hope in Tottenham officially launched later in 2014 as a charity offering programmes in counselling, mentoring, youth work and police engagement, with an aim to change the negative narrative of young people. The charity started working with local schools in Tottenham to provide youngsters with creative outlets. And in 2019, Hope in Tottenham ran the Schools Art Festival, a project where they worked with primary students, including the work of Tim Benson and Adebunji Alade from the Royal Institute of Oil Painters.

Hope in Tottenham runs a mentoring programme to guide young people on their career and life prospects, from ages four to 25, starting young as a means of early intervention. The mentoring programme consists of 100 mentors and there are 65 ongoing mentoring relations with a minimum of six months. This has previously been a one-to-one mentoring programme but, from June, the charity will be trialling group mentoring sessions as a way to increase capacity.

**Find out more about Hope in Tottenham:**  
**Visit** [hopeintottenham.com](http://hopeintottenham.com)

BY ALASTAIR BALL

## How we can make Haringey a welcoming place

**T**he local election campaign might be over, but it prompted some interesting discussions locally that will likely continue for a long while yet.

Nationally the main debates at present are the cost-of-living crisis and various Westminster political scandals, but in Haringey a group of activists organised an event to focus people's attention on the so-called 'hostile environment' and what it means for migrants and refugees in this country.

Haringey Welcome, a campaign group which works for "fairness, dignity and respect for migrants and refugees", held a film screening and hustings event at McQueens Theatre in Wood Green.

During her opening address, campaign co-ordinator Lucy Nabijou invited the audience to "collectively consider how our communities are welcoming to people who have arrived".

The event began with a screening of the documentary *NHS Borderlands*, which told the story of Angela, a refugee living in London who was charged £8,000 for an NHS hysterectomy. The film was followed by a hustings hosted by London School of Economics professor Myria Georgiou who, along with voters, put questions to two election candidates, Lucia

and Josh Dixon (Liberal Democrats).

Both candidates said they supported Haringey Council's Welcome Advisory Board, established in 2020. Cllr Neves said: "We're really

passionate and really committed to the Welcome Advisory Board, to making people feel welcome and making sure that we're not participating [...] in practices that actually alienate our communities."

Prof Georgiou asked for specific measures the council could use to resist the hostile environment. Cllr Neves said the council should "continue to sup-

port schools in enabling and welcoming young people and children who are coming" and also mentioned pushing the council's partners to be more welcoming and making sure new arrivals can

access healthcare. "We're doing everything that we can within the powers that we have," she said.

The candidates both mentioned the constraints placed on the council by recent Westminster legislation, such as the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022, the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 and the Elections Act 2022, all of which were passed in April. Josh said the Elections Act would disenfranchise many people in Haringey. He added: "The council will need to use its weight in this. It's going to need to use its relationship with the local police and say we don't want to see an expansion of stop and search and we want to see you actually working with us as a partner to build cohesive communities and not divide people."

At the end of the evening Lucy Nabijou stressed the importance of "working together and building trust".



The election hustings was hosted by Haringey Welcome, a local campaign group

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## FINSBURY PARK

# Anger over removal of newly-planted trees



The trees after they had just been planted, before their removal by Haringey Council Credit: Friends of Finsbury Park

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL  
DEMOCRACY REPORTER

A LOCAL VOLUNTARY GROUP has criticised Haringey Council for removing 200 newly-planted trees from Finsbury Park.

The Friends of Finsbury Park group issued a statement saying it was “hugely disappointed” by the move after volunteers gave up time to plant the trees to provide shade near a children’s play area.

The group said the trees had been planted with the prior agreement of council staff, but that they were later removed without warning. A council spokesperson explained the trees were mistakenly planted in an “unsuitable place”.

Volunteers from Friends of Finsbury Park later met with councillors who, they said, “publicly apologised on behalf of the council” and “committed the council to replanting the trees” in partnership with them.

They added: “Green vandalism should not be tolerated in London parks, which are principally open spaces for local residents – not venues for commercialisation.”

A Haringey Council spokesperson said: “We are looking to relocate these 200 trees to a more appropriate place in Finsbury Park, as they were originally planted in an unsuitable location. This was a mistake, for which we have already apologised.

“The trees are currently in our nursery in the park on an interim basis, and we have offered the Friends a meeting to discuss a new setting for them. Wherever they are planted next will be in line with our conservation action plan.

“We would like to reassure our residents here in Haringey and those further afield that we would never just destroy our trees and this has nothing to do with the major events in the park this summer.

“We already work closely with charitable organisations and community groups here in Haringey, as has been evident throughout the pandemic. However, we remain keen and open to strengthening those ties still further in the future.”

## MUSWELL HILL

# Bar’s booze licence relaxed

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL  
DEMOCRACY REPORTER

COUNCILLORS HAVE AGREED TO allow a partial relaxation of the premises licence for a Muswell Hill bar.

The Broadway, a coffee and cocktail lounge in Muswell Hill Broadway, will be allowed to serve alcohol without a meal at a table after 11pm if there is a private event with a “substantial buffet” on the premises.

Owner Savvas Morgan, who took on the licence in 2020 after buying the venue, applied to remove a condition stating that alcohol should only be sold at a table with a meal after 11pm, while keeping opening hours and other details largely the same.

During a meeting of the council’s licensing subcommittee in April, several neighbours raised objections to the proposal, complaining of noise and antisocial behaviour from the venue. When the meeting reconvened on 3rd May, the applicant claimed via a barrister that steps had been taken to reduce noise and suggested the problems were linked to other late-night venues in the area. They also claimed the The Broadway was “not a nightclub”.

Haringey Council revealed on 12th May that the application was approved, but with a string of agreed conditions aimed at protecting neighbours. These include the installation of CCTV, a sound limiter, and the implementation of effective door security.

According to the conditions, after 11pm alcohol can be sold only at a table with a meal unless there is a private event at the premises at which a substantial buffet is being provided.

A council spokesperson said: “The licensing subcommittee has approved the application for a new premises license for The Broadway.

“Given the premises are located within a mixed commercial and residential area, the committee was required to conduct a fine balancing exercise to ensure that the licensing objectives are upheld.

“The committee gave serious consideration to the submissions made and has thus imposed a set of additional conditions on the licence, including that after 11pm alcohol is only to be served with a meal served at the table, noise reduction measures, effective door security, and quiet dispersal of patrons from the premises that ensures patrons do not use the private car park.”



The Broadway in Muswell Hill Credit: OpenTable

## WEST GREEN

# Life sentence for Tyreke’s killer

A MAN WHO CHASED HIS UNARMED former ‘friend’ down a Tottenham street and fatally stabbed him has been jailed.

Momodu Samura, aged 23, of Stanley Road, Tottenham, was sentenced to life imprisonment with a minimum term of 23 years for the murder of 21-year-old Tyreke Watson. It followed a sentencing hearing at Wood Green Crown Court on Friday, 13th May.

Samura was found guilty of murder following a trial at the same court in March. The fatal attack took place in West Green Road in February 2021, at around 4pm. Tyreke was due to become a father when he was killed. His daughter was born four months later.

In a statement read to the court, Tyreke’s mother said: “The pain and suffering I felt that day as a mother is still with me, and I know it will never go away.

“Tyreke was the only child my husband and I had together. He was our everything, bringing us happiness and joy. Even though there is an empty place in my heart I, along with my family, will always have cherished memories of Tyreke that no-one can ever take away.

“Before Tyreke was killed he found out that he was going to be a father. We were all so excited and happy, Tyreke more than any of us. On 2nd June 2021, Tyreke’s daughter was born. She will never know her father and Tyreke never had the opportunity to meet his daughter. His daughter will never receive the love that Tyreke had to offer and will only know her father through photos, stories and our beloved memories.

“Young men like Tyreke are being murdered on the streets of London far too often. The Met Police has demonstrated in this court what a fantastic job they are doing but, they need the support of the community, they need the support of London.”

## WOOD GREEN

# Shop sold wine to underage teen

BY SIMON ALLIN,  
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

COUNCILLORS HAVE AGREED TO SUSPEND a shop’s alcohol licence after it was caught selling wine to an underage teenager.

Haringey Council’s licensing subcommittee imposed the three-week licence suspension on Oz Sultan in High Road, Wood Green.

The decision, which is subject to appeal, comes after a 16-year-old was sold wine during a test purchase exercise in the shop in August last year. Two months later, non-duty paid cigarettes and hand-rolling tobacco were found on the premises.

The council’s trading standards department had recommended suspending the licence, citing concerns over the prevention of crime and disorder and the protection of children from harm.

In a statement issued after an earlier hearing, the committee said it “considered revocation or a lengthy suspension of the licence” but gave the shop owner “credit for trying to turn things around”.

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Newly-elected Labour councillors celebrate at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, where the election count took place on 6th May **Credit** Haringey Labour

# Labour wins increased majority on Haringey Council

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL  
DEMOCRACY REPORTER

**T**he Labour Party recorded its best local election result in Haringey for more than two decades after gaining ground from the Liberal Democrats in the west of the borough.

The Labour group won 50 seats in the council election held last month, giving it a majority of 43 – the largest lead the party has achieved since 1998.

It was one of a series of strong showings for Labour in the capital, with Barnet, Westminster and Wandsworth councils all coming under the party's control after long periods of Conservative rule.

Haringey Council has been controlled by Labour since its creation in 1964, with the exception of a brief period of Tory rule between 1968 and 1971. In 2018, the local group lost seats to the Liberal Democrats amid a voter backlash over the leadership's handling of antisemitism within the party. But it regained territory from the Lib Dems in May's election, which was dominated by concerns over the cost-of-living crisis and the Downing Street 'partygate' scandal.

Labour's vote share in Haringey has now hit the 60% mark, up by 2.7 percentage points from four years ago. The Lib Dem vote share across the whole borough stayed broadly the same, with the Tories down by one percentage point and the Greens by nearly two. There were also fewer independent and smaller party candidates standing this time around, which helped bolster Labour.

The key gains for Labour included two seats in Crouch End, where opposition leader Luke Cawley-

## Gains for Labour in west of Haringey on positive night for party in London

Harrison was the only Lib Dem to be elected. Labour also won two seats in Fortis Green and a seat in Muswell Hill. The only ward in Haringey to now be solely represented by the Lib Dems is Highgate ward, in the far west.

Speaking after the final results were declared, leader Peray Ahmet promised Labour would not let residents down and would be "collaborative, competent and radical". She said: "Despite the huge strain on our finances, we are ambitious about what local government can do."

The Labour leader pledged to address the climate emergency, make 50% of new homes truly affordable, protect private renters, keep libraries open, improve leisure centres and support local businesses.

Cllr Ahmet added: "We will welcome and support our communities as we always have done, including migrants and refugees, and celebrate our diversity. The Haringey deal means all of this. Everything

we do will be done with, and not to, residents."

The Lib Dems won council seats across the country on Thursday, but the local group was unable to replicate those national successes in Haringey. In some wards, the party even came fourth behind the Conservative and Green candidates.

Leader Luke Cawley-Harrison said residents had wanted to support both the Lib Dems and Labour to make a point "that they do not want this Conservative government" and second and third votes had tended to go Labour's way.

"We got a fantastic reception on the doorstep," he added. "People in Haringey know that if they get Lib Dem councillors, they will work hard for them and represent them. I don't feel that this was an anti-Lib Dem thing, and that is what we heard time and again."

"We will continue working hard for the next four years. We are still the only opposition here, and we have a really good team of experienced councillors."

Conservative candidate James Barton was in an upbeat mood despite the Tories' failure to win seats. The last time the Conservatives held a seat in Haringey was in 2009.

James said: "I feel very positive. I have been very honoured to meet some residents. Some of them have never seen a Conservative before, so it's been great. One road I went to, they have never been canvassed – never seen a candidate, and they voted for me just for that. It's things like that that make it all worthwhile."

"I actually think that because Labour has been in power here for 51 years, it's much more about Labour's failings and the general stagnation of the whole borough. We've not heard anything about partygate at doorsteps."

Green candidate Emma Chan, who came third in St Ann's ward with 938 votes, said: "I'm absolutely thrilled that we came this close. This is the closest we've ever been. This shows that we're still going to be here, today, tomorrow and next week. This shows that people are ready for change and are taking climate change seriously."

Overall turnout in Haringey was 34.4%, the lowest figure since 2002. The wards with low turnout tended to be traditional Labour strongholds in the east of the borough. Tottenham Central saw the lowest turnout, at just 20.04%. The figures were better in the west of the borough, with Alexandra Park recording the highest turnout of 50.69%.

**To view a full list of the winning candidates in every Haringey ward:**

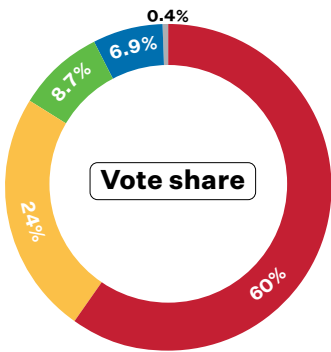
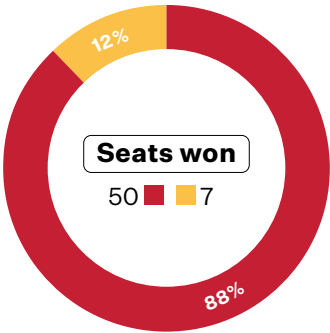
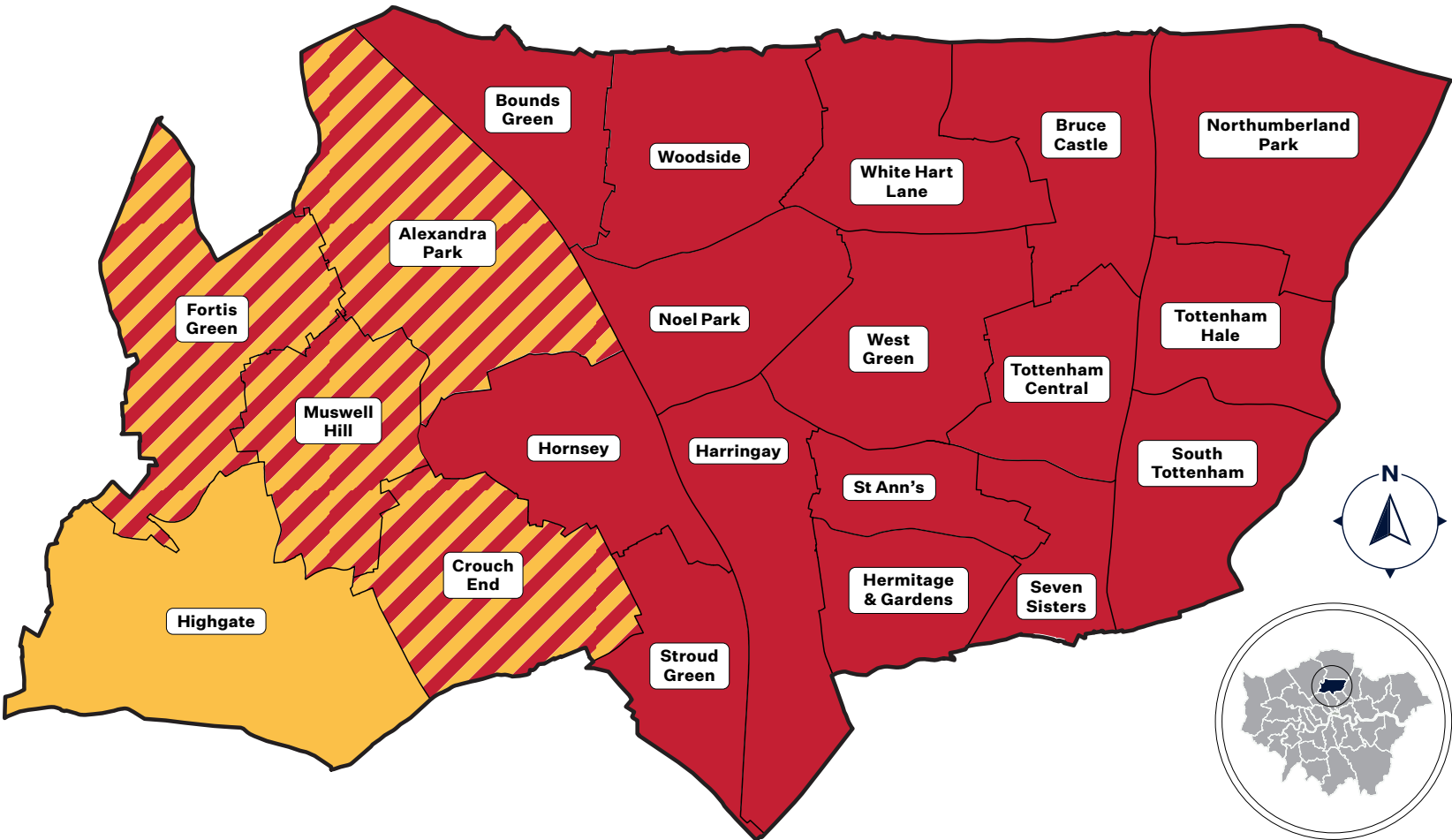
**Visit** [haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy/elections-and-voting/previous-election-results](https://haringey.gov.uk/local-democracy/elections-and-voting/previous-election-results)

**To find contact details for your new ward councillors:**

**Visit** [minutes.haringey.gov.uk/mgFindMember.aspx](https://minutes.haringey.gov.uk/mgFindMember.aspx)

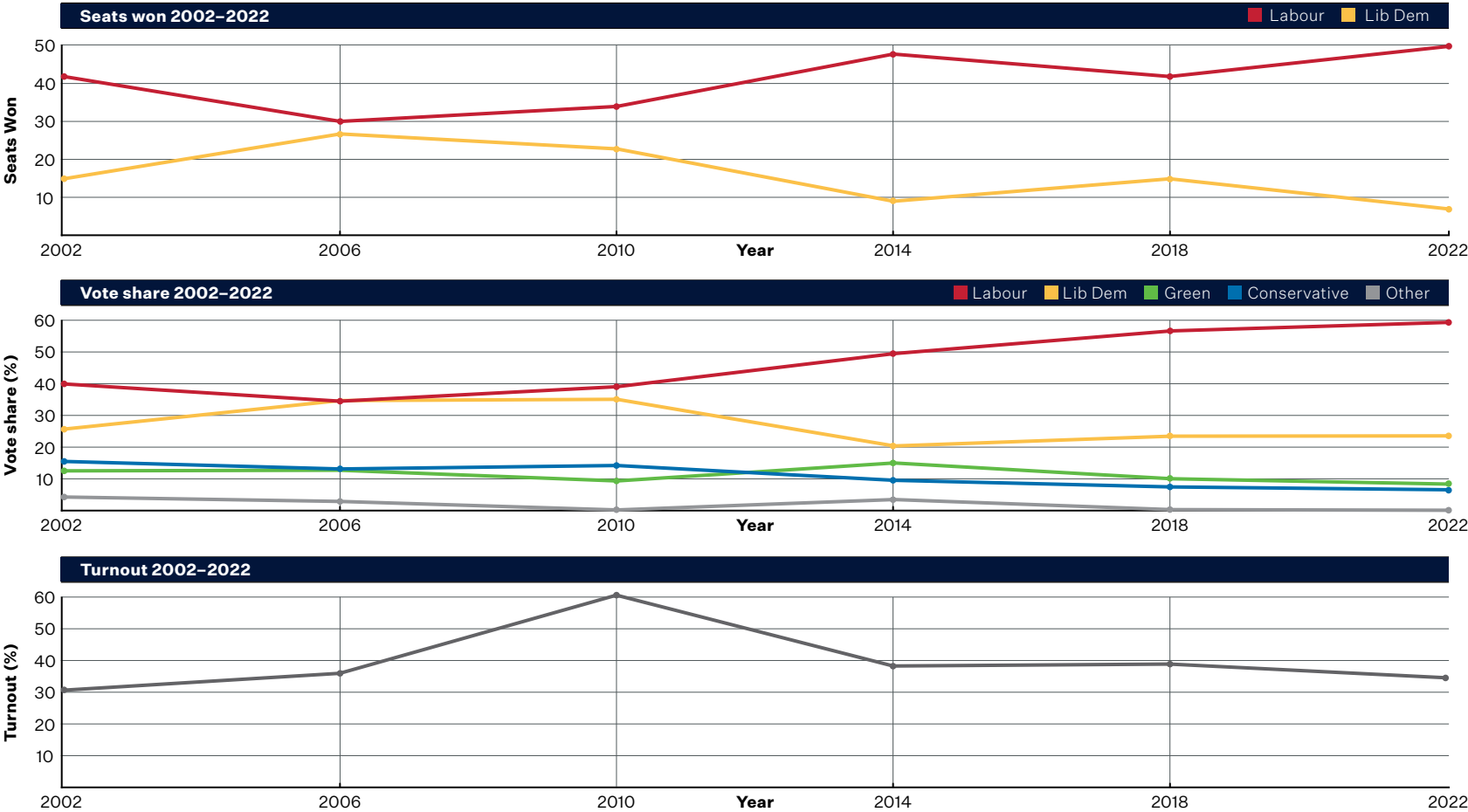
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*Despite the huge strain on our finances, we are ambitious about what local government can do*  
”

# Election Results 2022



Ward	Councillors elected	Ward	Councillors elected
Alexandra Park	■ ■	Northumberland Park	■ ■ ■
Bounds Green	■ ■	Seven Sisters	■ ■
Bruce Castle*	■ ■ ■	South Tottenham*	■ ■ ■
Crouch End	■ ■ ■	St Ann's	■ ■
Fortis Green	■ ■ ■	Stroud Green	■ ■ ■
Harringay	■ ■ ■	Tottenham Central*	■ ■ ■
Hermitage & Gardens*	■ ■	Tottenham Hale	■ ■ ■
Highgate	■ ■ ■	West Green	■ ■ ■
Hornsey	■ ■ ■	White Hart Lane	■ ■ ■
Muswell Hill	■ ■	Woodside	■ ■ ■
Noel Park	■ ■ ■		

\* New wards for 2022



# Ex-leader launches legal challenge against ombudsman

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL  
DEMOCRACY REPORTER

**Legal bid comes after ombudsman named Cllr Ejiofor as part of investigation into council-led housing development in Muswell Hill**

**T**he former leader of Haringey Council is planning to take the Local Government Ombudsman to court after he was criticised in a recent report.

Joseph Ejiofor, who led the council from 2018 until 2021, is seeking a judicial review of the decision to name him in the report and has issued legal proceedings.

The ombudsman, which handles complaints against councils, released a report in January criticising Cllr Ejiofor following an investigation into a resident's complaint over a proposed council-led housing development in Muswell Hill.

Under the initial plans, former care home Cranwood House was set to be demolished along with two nearby



Joseph Ejiofor was replaced as leader of Haringey Council last year. Credit: Luchia Robinson

terraces, to make way for new homes. The council spent more than £2million buying up one of the properties.

Several years later, in 2020, Cllr Ejiofor decided to ditch the scheme in favour of new plans that would avoid demolishing the homes.

The resident complained to the ombudsman that the council's handling of the possible buy-up of his

home to allow the scheme to go ahead left his family facing six years of uncertainty and caused "considerable stress".

The ombudsman's report described Cllr Ejiofor's decision to abandon the initial scheme as "flawed" and said naming him was "in the public interest".

According to the ombudsman, the decision was taken "without proper scrutiny

and analysis of all options and consideration of the consequences".

Cllr Ejiofor subsequently disputed the report's findings and said the decision not to demolish the terrace "was a result of the council listening to residents" who had "opposed the demolition of their homes".

In a statement issued earlier this week, Cllr Ejiofor said the ombudsman, which has been operating since the 1970s, had failed to identify a single precedent case of naming an individual councillor, despite multiple requests to do so by his legal team.

Cllr Ejiofor said: "Whilst the ombudsman enjoys broad discretion in many areas, its ability to 'name and shame' individuals is tightly prescribed by law, because these decisions have severe personal consequences.

"I am seeking leave to judicially review the ombudsman's decision to name me, because I believe it to be legally flawed, and because I want my good name back."

In February, Cllr Ejiofor suggested the ombudsman's report had been one of the reasons he was blocked from standing as a Labour candidate in the local election.

A spokesperson for the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman said: "As the councillor has indicated he has lodged a claim with the court, it would be inappropriate for us to say anything further."

**"I want my good name back"**

Advertisement

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| 3 Craving                      | 16 Harringay Green Lanes Station      |
| 4 Bernie Grant Arts Centre     | 17 Stroud Green and Harringay Library |
| 5 Hunters Estate Agents        | 18 Crouch End Picturehouse            |
| 6 The Engine Room              | 19 The Great Northern Railway Tavern  |
| 7 People's World Community Hub | 20 Muswell Hill Library               |
| 8 Antwerp Arms                 | 21 Maid of Muswell                    |
| 9 The Selby Centre             | 22 The Hedgehog                       |
| 10 Bounds Green Station        | 23 The Clissold Arms                  |
| 11 The Pavilion Sports & Cafe  | 24 Highgate Station                   |
| 12 Alexandra Palace Station    | 25 The Gatehouse                      |
| 13 Wood Green Library          |                                       |

\* Note: we cannot guarantee each location will always stock the paper

Haringey Community Press is available to pick up from dozens of locations, including cafes, libraries, community centres, pubs and more. We distribute 15,000 copies in total. Distribution is usually complete by the end of the first week of each month. The map shows a selection of our regular stockists, but is not an exhaustive list.

**If you would like to become a stockist or help distribute papers in your area:**

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



**We offer licence advertising for local businesses via our weekly newsletter and monthly print edition:**

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## Why street must be renamed

Dear HCP

As a black resident who's lived in the area for over forty years, I remember when people would openly refer to Black Boy Lane as "n\*\*\*\*r road", "coon road", or "wog road". Back then, people would remark that I probably lived on the road because "that's where you lot are from". This was often played down as harmless banter, that was "never meant to cause offence".

These racist slurs were legitimised by the fact there was a pub on the road called The Black Boy. The signage carried a depiction of a little negro boy with full lips and wide eyes, an insidious caricature that not only belittled and stigmatised black people, but also singled us out as being some kind of 'other'.

The legacy of this street name in our multi-cultural community cannot be allowed to continue. I'm sure all fair-minded and reasonable people agree.

Anthony Layman  
Tottenham

## No confidence

Dear HCP

Issue 7 was my introduction to *Haringey Community Press*. I was encouraged to see a focus on investigative journalism regarding the actions of Haringey Council. It made me wonder what optimism and confidence our newly-elected councillors might inspire?

William Spring's letter [*Street name change is delusional*, Page 13] highlighted concerns over the council's wasteful and undemocratic £186,000 renaming of Black Boy Lane; Simon Allin's report on plans for the High Road West development [*Tottenham business owners express anger over High Road West plans*, Page 3] added further insight into our council's attitudes to local businesses; and the illustrations for the Wards Corner Community Plan [*A new era for Wards Corner*, Page 12] showed the designs – now supported by the council – are utterly characterless and match the drab centres of many new post-war towns.

Michael Jones  
Wood Green

## For peat's sake

Dear HCP

Big retailers in Haringey are still selling garden compost containing peat, a Friends of the Earth survey has revealed. Peat is a great carbon sink, but digging it up releases this carbon and adds to climate change. The government has finally agreed to ban sales of peat-containing compost from 2024. Some responsible retailers have already stopped, but some are still selling it, putting short-term profit before planet.

Locally, we found the worst offender was Wilkos in Tottenham Hale, selling two kinds of compost with 40% and 70% peat content and offering no peat-free alternative. Homebase in Green Lanes was selling varieties with 51% and 100% peat, but did offer an alternative, and Alexandra Park Garden Centre was selling varieties with 35%, 45% and 60% peat, as well as a variety of peat-free brands. Although B&Q has largely withdrawn peat-based products, we still spotted John Innes No3 compost with 50% peat. On the plus side, Tesco, Asda and Sunshine Garden Centre were only selling peat-free brands.

Quentin Given  
Tottenham and Wood Green Friends of the Earth

## Voting reform

Dear HCP

The recent local election highlighted the need for the reform of our electoral system. The low turnout shows how irrelevant local elections have become, with so many 'safe' seats in Haringey giving voters no choice. In my part of Tottenham, turnout averaged around 25%.

Is it not about time that a voting system of proportional representation – as used in Scotland – is extended to local authorities in England? Such systems ensure the share of seats closely matches the share of votes, so residents are not forced to vote tactically based on which seat they live in.

Councils have an immediate effect on people's lives, but are often able to proceed as they please with little opposition.

Keith Hubbard  
North Grove, Tottenham

Joanne McCartney has represented Haringey at City Hall since 2004



# Fighting Haringey's corner at City Hall

London Assembly member Joanne McCartney on what she is doing to help Haringey

It's my job as your London Assembly member to use my position to stand up for Haringey residents.

As well as helping my constituents with a range of issues, I hold the mayor to account to make sure he's doing the right thing by Londoners. I also deal with strategic London issues such as transport, policing, inequality, housing, economy and jobs.

The past couple of years have been difficult. The pandemic has hit those on low incomes, or with insecure jobs, the hardest. Many of those worst affected have been working on the frontline.

Local areas such as ours have been badly hit. But it has been wonderful to see the Haringey community pull together to support each other. I've been doing my bit for you at City Hall. I've regularly questioned the mayor and lobbied him, and the government, on food insecurity, the need to keep the Universal Credit uplift, for more financial and debt support, and I have been pushing hard on training and job opportunities for Haringey residents, especially those in insecure or low paid employment.

The mayor is taking action through the investment he has put into equipping Londoners

with the skills they need, expanding debt advice services, and promoting the London Living Wage. But it is clear that more needs to be done on a national level. I will continue to demand support for areas like ours as the government's cost-of-living crisis continues to plunge more people towards poverty.

Something that is very important to me is our early years sector. Nursery and early years professionals continued working so that other key workers could go to work. They are under enormous financial pressure. Government support is inadequate and workforce issues mean that many are teetering on the edge of viability.

*I will continue to demand support for areas like ours as the government's cost-of-living crisis continues*

I'm pleased to have helped deliver a support package to offer business advice and financial assistance across London, including in Haringey.

I've been frustrated by the government's failure to properly fund Transport for London (TfL). As TfL's operating budget is primarily funded by

fares, short-term sticking plaster deals from the government just won't cut it. A new long-term funding model is desperately needed. I've regularly raised the need to upgrade the Piccadilly Line signalling and track with the mayor, and lobbied the government on it too. The mayor has assured me it's a top priority, but it's impossible without a long-term funding package. We have worked hard to deliver a fleet of new Piccadilly Line trains that will be arriving over the next few years – but their capacity will be severely reduced if we can't get signalling sorted.

I have also put in a lot of work opposing government plans to take away children's concessionary Zip Oyster cards which would have been devastating for many low-income families.

As your voice in City Hall I will continue to fight your corner for a fair deal as the borough recovers from the pandemic and help deliver a cleaner, greener, safer Haringey.

Labour's Joanne McCartney is the London Assembly member for Enfield and Haringey. To get in touch:

Call 020 7983 5524

Email joanne.mccartney@london.gov.uk

Visit london.gov.uk/people/assembly/joanne-mccartney/more-about

## Send us your letters

We accept letters of up to 150 words from people and organisations in the borough. Email HCP@socialspider.com before Monday 20th June.

# Consumed with quilt



How the warehouse is expected to look once it is covered by the quilt

**A** crafting group based at Harringay Warehouse District is planning to cover an entire building in a big quilt.

Quilt Club, which describes itself as a “not-for-profit community craft collective”, has been gathering at Eade Studios every Wednesday night since November to create a patchwork quilt big enough to cover a warehouse in Overbury Road.

“*Our little initiative is about bettering our neighbourhood and championing creativity*”

After months of sewing, the quilt is now complete, and to celebrate a “community carnival” is now being planned to

take place on Saturday, 2nd July, starting from 12pm. The event will feature live music, as well as the chance to see the newly-

quilted warehouse “in all its glory”.

Anna Vincent, one of the artists involved with the project, said: “Our little initiative is about bettering our neighbourhood and championing creativity.”

The warehouse where the quilt will be installed is on the corner of Overbury Road and is a former textile factory, now converted into a communal living space.

## How Tottenham barber became Doctor Who actor's hair stylist

BY OLIVIA OPARA

**A** Tottenham hair stylist who cut the new Doctor Who actor's hair has recalled how the connection helped boost his career.

Silas Baiden says Ncuti Gatwa – who was announced as the new Time Lord last month – is “one of his best friends” having first met him in 2013. The pair even once lived together at Silas' mum's house.

The connection with Rwandan-born Ncuti helped Silas, who runs Ama Hair Salon in South Tottenham, land the role of a TV hairstylist for the Netflix hit series *Sex Education*, the show which was also Ncuti's big break.

“Ncuti is one of my best friends,” explained Silas. “We met at a party in Glasgow and I cut his hair when he moved to London and lived with me and my mum for a couple of years.”

“When he got a part in *Sex Education*, he told me that they were looking for a barber. I was fresh out of college at the time and didn't feel ready to work on a production, but I nervously went to the set, made some connections and they gave me the job.”

Silas also cut and styled hair for

Former Conel student shared a house with Ncuti in Tottenham before he landed his breakthrough TV role



Doctor Who actor Ncuti Gatwa with Silas

other *Sex Education* cast members including Asa Butterfield, Kedar Williams-Stirling, George Robinson, Chinenye

Ezeudu, Jonny Amies and Olive Gray.

“I remember having a bit of imposter syndrome, like I'm

not supposed to, or don't deserve to be here, but now I feel I've reached another level.

“In addition to barbering, I can do braids, cornrows and locks, which are still quite niche things in the TV industry.”

Silas has since gone on to work on *Halo*, a TV series based on the video game of the same name, as well as *The Mosquito Coast*. He has now had other famous clients at his salon, including actors Yasmin Finney, Clifford Samuels, Morgan Rees, Ariyon Bakare, Karla Chrome and singer Henry Dell.

Silas trained as a hairdresser at The College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London (Conel). His salon specialises in afro-Caribbean hair and Silas works there with his mum Ama, who also trained at Conel and started the family hairdressing business in 2001.

“Working with my mum is awesome,” says Silas. “I'm proud that I've been able to continue the business and raise the salon's profile with new ideas and clientele and put it on the map.”

Ama, an advocate of natural hair, said: “Silas has made so many wonderful changes to the business and we have been able to grow and increase our turnover. We're now busier than ever.”

# Free drama classes for Tottenham Hale youngsters

BY OLIVIA OPARA

Young people in Tottenham Hale will be able to enjoy a free performing arts programme starting this summer.

Established in 1992, Black Arts Productions (BAP) is a theatre company which develops and performs educational stories to help young people understand the world they live in. It also trains adults and young people in drama, to produce high quality plays to perform to a live audience.

From this July, BAP will be running free drama classes for young people aged from eleven to 16 years, who live in the Tottenham Hale area, as part of its 'Festival of Plays' programme.

Writing and directing their own plays, the students will

be taught how to tell their stories as a play, using the basic structure of improvisation; with a beginning, middle and end. They will also be casting actors for their plays, providing them with acting and scriptwriting experience.

*“Celebrity guests from the theatre and film industry will be invited to judge”*

Celebrity guests from the theatre and film industry will be invited to judge the plays for best actor, actress, play, and young director, after seven of the best plays have been selected. The selected plays will be showcased in a theatre performance of seven plays

in one night, all produced by BAP. The performances will take place next February at a venue in Tottenham.

Festival of Plays is funded by Homecooked, a partnership project to help tackle youth crime and violence in Tottenham Hale. The drama classes start on Monday, 25th July and will run every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday in the first week. In August, the classes will be on Mondays and Saturdays only from September until the performance date. The classes will be held at St Ann's Library Hall in Cissbury Road, Tottenham.

**For more information about Festival of Plays and to get involved:**

**Call** 07958 946 273 or 07903 749 752  
**Email** info@baptheatre.com  
**Visit** baptheatre.com



Bernie Grant Arts Centre in Tottenham Credit Bernie Grant Arts Centre

## Funding to support black visual arts

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Bernie Grant Arts Centre has been awarded £150,000 to help create “a permanent home for black visual arts”.

The Tottenham-based charity was one of 66 recipients of new Arts Council England funding totalling £22.7million, handed out as part of the Arts Council's new ten-year strategy which aims to support arts infrastructure is “fit for the future” and “can operate safely post-pandemic, improve access, seize technological opportunities and reduce environmental impact”.

The funding also builds

on the government's Culture Recovery Fund, set up to support arts organisations affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

*“This project will allow us to create a permanent home for black visual arts programming, right in the heart of Tottenham”*

The cash received by Bernie Grant Arts Centre will enable the charity to update three of its spaces – the gallery, hub and Paul's Square – to meet the needs of contemporary artists

and audiences, and launch a permanent strand of black vision arts programming.

Hannah-Azieb Pool, artistic director and chief executive, said: “We are thrilled to have been awarded a £150,000 capital grant from the Arts Council England for our project, Black Art Matters.

“As one of few UK multi-disciplinary arts spaces dedicated to commissioning and developing black artists, this project will allow us to create a permanent home for black visual arts programming, right in the heart of Tottenham; supporting our vision of a world where black-led work is given space, status and a chance to thrive.”

### LISTINGS

#### Sport

##### Introduction to rowing

Friday, 3rd June, 1.30pm–4.30pm  
Lea Rowing Club, Spring Hill, Stamford Hill E5 9BL

We would like to see more diversity in rowing which has for too long been elitist and very much lacking diversity, this is why we have teamed up with Lea Rowing Club to present #I Belong Rowing Taster.

##### £12 tickets, booking required

**Visit** eventbrite.com/e/i-belong-rowing-taster-tickets-335569275737

#### Youth

##### People Need Parks youth festival

Saturday, 4th June, 1–6pm  
Lordship Recreation Ground, Tottenham N17 6NU

A festival showcasing young talent in Haringey, including dance, martial arts and music.

##### Free entry

**Email** lily.labonte@haringey.gov.uk

#### Dance

##### Streetz Ahead present 'Wolf'

Thursday 9th June, 1.30pm & 6.30pm  
McQueens Theatre, 4 Coburg Road, Wood Green N22 6UJ

A fiery explosion of hip hop dance, physical theatre and rap performed by four kids who revitalize 'The Three Little Pigs', with a contemporary script.

##### Tickets £6

**Email** info@streetzahead.org

**Visit** streetzahead.org/wolf

#### Choir

##### The Tottenham Singers summer concert

Saturday, 18th June, 7.30pm  
St Ignatius Church, Tottenham High Road, Tottenham N15 6ND

The Tottenham Singers perform Mozart's 'Requiem' to celebrate the group's tenth anniversary. This concert is also a tribute to Chris Wilson, a local composer who wrote 'Alleluia' but died soon after presenting the manuscript.

##### Tickets £15, concessions £12.50

**Visit** tottenhamingers.com

#### Walk

##### Tottenham heritage walk

Wednesday, 29th June, 11am  
Hub Cafe, Lordship Recreation Ground, Tottenham N17 6NU

This is a free local heritage walk designed for older people aged 60 years and over.

##### Free, booking required

**Call** 07986 504894

**Email** oonagh.gay@icloud.com

#### Art

##### Citizens Art Market

Sunday 12th June, 12pm–5pm  
Blue House Yard, 5 River Park Road, Wood Green N22 7TB

This is a monthly art market at the iconic Blue House Yard in Wood Green. Twelve artists show their work in a public space surrounded by amazing independent businesses and a cafe/taproom in a double-decker bus!

##### Free entry

**Visit** bluehouseyard.com

#### Health

##### Sickle cell support event

Saturday, 25th June, 1–5pm  
Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, Tottenham High Road, Tottenham N17 0BX

North Middlesex University Hospital is partnering with other North London hospitals to run an event for children and young people with sickle cell disorder. The fun, uplifting but informative event will help support the hundreds of children and young people living with this life-threatening disorder in North London, as well as their families.

##### Free entry

**Visit** northmid.nhs.uk/news

#### Market

##### Alexandra Palace Farmers' Market

Sunday, 26th June, 10am–3pm  
Alexandra Palace Park, Alexandra Palace Way, Wood Green N22 7AY

This award-winning market was founded by City and Country Farmers' Markets back in 2003 and has become a well-loved local fixture for residents, as well as visitors to the palace and park. The primary focus is top-quality local produce such as fruit and veg, bread, cakes, meat, cheese, eggs, raw milk, preserves and more. You will also find a great selection of local crafts and hot food on offer, plus charity stalls and Fairtrade coffee.

##### Free entry

**Visit** alexandrapalace.com/things-to-do/farmers-market

#### Parents

##### Buggy walk exercises

Every Tuesday, 10–11am  
Broadwater Farm Community Centre, Adams Road, Tottenham N17 6HE

A chance to walk and socialise with other parents, carers or grandparents in the local area. Please bring a water bottle, suitable clothing and footwear. The walk is in the fresh air and will boost your mental as well physical health.

##### Free, booking required

**Visit** tfaforms.com/4872759

### Submit your listing

We can include low-cost community events taking place in Haringey borough. For next month's listings email the details of your event to [hcp@socialspider.com](mailto:hcp@socialspider.com) by Monday 20th June

15

HCP  
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2022

Nº 8

ARTS & CULTURE

# Support independent local journalism

## What we do

Here at *Haringey Community Press* we do things differently. We combine professional journalism with voluntary contributions from people who live and work in the borough and create content which is responsive to and reflective of the community.

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

## How you can help

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

You can do this by becoming a member either as an individual or as an organisation. See the rewards opposite and once you've decided what package you would like, visit our website: [haringeycommunitypress.co.uk/membership](http://haringeycommunitypress.co.uk/membership)

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### £20 per month:

Name and logo in print and online, 20% discount on advertising

### £50 per month:

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