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Marcus Decker climbed the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge as part of a climate protest
Credit Kardos Gabor

Tottenham resident at risk of deportation after peaceful protest

A petition has gained over 85,000 signatures

A Tottenham resident is at risk of deportation after he protested against the "government's inaction on the climate crisis".

Marcus Decker scaled the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge and blocked the Dartford Crossing on 18th October 2022, with fellow Just Stop Oil protester Morgan Trowland, after which he was sentenced to two years and seven months in prison for causing a public nuisance.

Last month, Marcus' partner Holly Cullen-Davies launched a petition on change.org, saying the protester – who is a German citizen – is now "threatened with deportation". Marcus is stepfather to Holly's two children.

Speaking to *Haringey Community Press*, Holly said: "He was visited by an immigration officer at the prison who said this is a mandatory process because you've got a twelve-month sentence. We're now going to serve you a deportation order, and so this is what you're going to need to get together if you want to try to fight against it. She

said the letter would come in the next few days. That was like three weeks ago.

"There does seem to be some suggestion that the Home Office is stalling on actually sending it to him."

Immediately after the visit by the immigration officer, Holly launched her petition, aware that when Marcus receives the letter calling for his deportation, he will only have 20 days to appeal the decision.

By UK law, if a prison sentence is over a year and the convicted is not a British citizen, a deportation order is served. While European Union (EU) status would have previously provided protection against a deportation order, since Brexit the deportation order applies to all non-British citizens.

Holly said: "It's really important to emphasise obviously that people get deported from Haringey all the time, or that there are loads of people trying to fight deportation in Haringey, not usually from Germany, and not usually because of protests. I'm not going to pretend that we're very special in that sense, because there are families being torn apart regularly.

"But what's very unusual about this case is that he is being deported for peaceful protest, and this would be the first case ever of a peaceful

protester getting over a twelve-month prison sentence. And that's because of new laws that this government has brought in because they hate environmental protesters.

"Of course he didn't think he'd get over a twelve-month sentence – but he also didn't know that if he did that would mean a deportation order."

Holly's petition had raised more than 85,000 signatures at the time of publication, with a target of 150,000. A march outside parliament in his support took place on Saturday, 24th June.

The petition has gained support from the local Haringey community, with Extinction Rebellion Haringey and Harmless Store Hornsey calling on residents to sign.

A spokesperson for Just Stop Oil said: "The treatment of Marcus Decker is unfathomably wicked.

"Marcus is currently being held in Highpoint Prison in Suffolk, but this draconian punishment is not sufficient for a heartless, morally bankrupt administration. Because the sentencing ceiling has been raised under a new act, his sentence crosses the threshold for mandatory deportation, banishing him to Germany, his place of birth, without leave to return... ever. This act will destroy a family.

"In fact with this ruling, judge Shane Colliery showed utter disregard for the UK Borders Act assurance that if 'you are socially and culturally integrated in the UK' and 'you have a genuine and subsisting relationship with a qualifying partner, or a genuine and subsisting relationship with a qualifying child and the effect of your deportation on the partner or child would be unduly harsh', then an exception should be made. This concern for the child is amplified by guidance on 'compelling circumstances' such as 'the impact of deportation on the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of any child in the UK'.

"When sentencing, judge Colliery said he wanted to deter others from copycat actions: 'You plainly believed you knew better than everyone else [...] In short, to hell with everyone else'.

"It is ironic that this accusation was aimed at two activists whose very mission was to sound the alarm, on our behalf, of the danger of global hellfire. At least someone cares about the children."

A Home Office spokesperson said: "Foreign nations who commit crimes here in the UK will face the full force of the law, including deportation."

The petition is here: bit.ly/3r18H3i

Local news that matters to you

1st July

Waxing Gibbous

95%/0.53

30th July

Waxing Gibbous

98%/0.54

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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This image was taken by Crouch End-based photographer David Winskill who said “these two were spotted tearing along the Parkland Walk just as the long, dark winter was finishing: both seem to be full of the joys of spring! The Parkland Walk follows the route of a disused railway line on Haringey’s southern border with Islington and is one of London’s most important green lungs”. For your chance to have your pictures featured in our next issue, use the hashtag #haringey and tag us @haringeycp on social media **Credit** David Winskill

AN INTRODUCTION FROM THE EDITOR

Hello and welcome to issue 21. While shocking, Marcus Decker’s story on our front page this month seems like a more extreme example of smaller scale conflicts going on between climate protesters and the authorities – whether local or governmental. Earlier in June, a case of a tree in Bounds Green at risk of being felled over subsidence claims was saved after a lengthy struggle, the Scout Association saying in court it lifted a tree protection order “in error”. Meanwhile, the Stroud Green plane tree, which garnered national media attention, has also been temporarily saved from the chainsaw. The felling of other trees in Down Lane Park in late May and early June by Haringey Council, however, sparked anger and questions by locals about the lack of notice given.

A wider concern over environmental issues in our borough seems one of Haringey’s biggest problems. The closure of public leisure facilities, namely Tottenham Green Pools and Fitness, Park Road Leisure Centre, and Highgate Library, is at risk of significantly affecting residents’ quality of life. The list of locations shows this is not just an issue facing the less wealthy areas of the borough – and now, the YMCA Fitness Centre in Crouch End (closed permanently) and Muswell Hill Library (which will be closed until early next year) have been added to this catalogue of closures. The closure of public parks is another key issue – this month Wireless Festival returns to Finsbury Park, having recently made a five-year deal with Haringey Council, however, sparked anger and questions by locals about the lack of notice given.

London, many of which are completely free: on page 10, we speak to one of the founders of the twelve-years-old Crouch End Festival, which has been called one of the best arts festivals in the UK. The Markfield Road Festival is also back – *HCP* will be partnering with the festival this year to bring you the latest updates and celebrate local creativity. And two new festivals, The RecFest and North London Lates, are set to showcase the best of local talent.

We are always keen to hear your views on what’s going on in the borough – and, if you enjoy reading, please consider supporting us. Find out more about us on our website (haringeycommunitypress.co.uk) and keep up-to-date with all our stories. Enjoy!

Miriam Balanescu

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Any person wishing to submit relevant representations concerning this application must give notice in writing to licensing@haringey.gov.uk, giving in detail the grounds of the representation no later than: **17th July 2023**

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Council accused of ‘lack of transparency’ in commissioning social care

New report highlights inconsistent engagement, co-production and consultation

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

A report highlighting poor engagement with residents in Haringey Council’s adult social care commissioning process has sparked concerns from councillors.

The report states that there is “not consistent engagement, co-production and consultation of residents in Haringey” and reveals a need to make significant improvements across a range of key areas.

Commissioning is the process of identifying, buying in and monitoring social care services for residents, including home-based and residential care.

The council reviewed its commissioning process last year, gathering the views of professionals, providers, service users and voluntary organisations. The findings were presented to a meeting of the authority’s adults and health scrutiny panel on Thursday, 22nd June as council officers prepare for an inspection of the adult social care department by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

According to feedback gathered as part of the review, some residents find the commissioning to be a “mystery” and do not understand what is really involved in the process. Further

“There is a disconnect”

the comments state that there is “a lack of transparency”, and sometimes there is a “disconnect between what commissioners think is happening and what is happening on the ground”.

Speaking during a committee meeting last month, Labour member Cathy Brennan raised concerns over the lack of communication with residents, warning relationships “are not positive”.

Cllr Brennan added: “I feel it is really, really important [...] that the council is so much more transparent, that so much more communication goes on, because I just think that that is going to change everything.”

“Once the council has an ethos of really communicating, it spreads outwards, and we will have the reputation – because at the moment we don’t have the reputation within the community of being outward-facing, and I want us to be that.”

The report recommends engaging with the local community across the commissioning cycle, ensuring this is well understood and implemented, and

evaluating outcomes and satisfaction across several areas of work.

But Helena Kandia, a non-councillor member of the committee, described the recommendations as “really weak”.

Helena added: “It is not good enough just to engage with the local community. You should be consulting and co-producing with them. Where is the recommendation that you feed back to them? It’s not even there. I feel for the residents – that is my job – and I am disappointed.”

Vicky Murphy, the council’s service director for adult social services, said officers would “absolutely go away and strengthen that particular area to make sure it encompasses that comment”.

Liberal Democrat committee chair Pippa Connor said the council had received a “significantly low score across all the areas” under a rating system of its commissioning.

The council scored 30 out of 100 in a rating of “citizen-centred commissioning” and “putting people in charge of care”, highlighting that it needs to make improvements to counter risks.

Cllr Connor said: “For me, that’s the bit when I go to my carers’ coffee mornings, that sums it up – that they are engaging with the council, but the council hasn’t quite heard what they have asked for, and there is that miscommunication somewhere along the line of what they should be getting, they are not sure what they should be getting, there are challenges, there is upset.”

Asked how officers would improve the score, Alexandra Domingue, the council’s adult social care commissioning project manager, said the authority was looking at “different ways to engage and work with people”.

Alexandra added that the council wanted to get co-production and consultation right “across the whole cycle”, asking for feedback once a contract is in place and “keeping people involved throughout”. She revealed the council is planning to work with community interest company Public Voice to improve its engagement.

Officers aim to have made improvements and to be engaging with the public regularly in six months’ time so that the service is ready for an inspection by the CQC.



Crouch End town square soon to reopen after delays

The green space in front of Hornsey Town Hall is set to reopen for the first time in four years, reports Simon Allin, Local Democracy Reporter

A town square that has been closed to the public for several years following delays to a redevelopment scheme finally looks set to reopen this month.

The redesigned square in Crouch End was expected to open last summer, but fencing has remained in place around the green space in front of Hornsey Town Hall despite much of the landscaping work having already been finished.

Plans to renovate the Grade 2-listed town hall and build 146 homes were approved by Haringey Council in December 2017. The scheme, led by developer Far East Consortium (FEC), promised to bring a range of benefits to the town centre, including a hotel, restaurants and an improved town square.

Although work on the project began in 2019, residents are currently still unable to access the green space. But last month, a Twitter account linked to the team behind the development announced that the green would open on 17th July.

Luke Cawley-Harrison, Crouch End ward councillor and leader of the opposition Liberal Democrat group, said it was “disappointing”

that the town square had been closed to the public for several years.

He added: “The importance of prioritising the square has been stressed by councillors, community groups, reps and residents throughout; and despite seemingly being ready last summer, a number of unfinished elements and incomplete conditions seems to have prevented its opening”

Mark Afford, chair of Crouch End Neighbourhood Forum, said that when planning permission was granted the redevelopment was supposed to be finished by the end of 2020 – and the Covid-19 pandemic did not explain the extent of the delays.

Mark said the town square green should have been opened last summer and it was “very disappointing” that it remained closed off. But he also questioned when the other promised benefits of the scheme – the hotel, restaurant and a new arts centre – would be delivered, as residents currently “just do not know”.

Insisting the development would be “a really good thing for the local area” if it goes according to plan, he added: “All this stuff is really of value to the local economy.”

“It is all about visitor numbers – and if they get it right, it could really help with that.”

A spokesperson for the council confirmed it is waiting to receive a detailed hard and soft landscaping scheme required as part of the approved planning permission.

They added: “We have been liaising with the developer to help them with an updated submission and are awaiting further details.”

“We have already given the green light to the developer to take down the fencing around the public space, on the understanding that they address other outstanding issues at the site in a timely manner. We understand that the removal of fencing is being progressed and have encouraged them to do this as soon as feasibly possible.”

Cllr Cawley-Harrison said he was “really pleased” that the square would be open by mid-July after the developers got the green light from the council’s planning team – although he added that it is currently in a “sorry state” and he hoped work would take place to “make it look as good as possible” before it opens to the public.

FEC was approached for comment.

▲
The square has been fenced off for years despite most landscaping work being completed

‘Absurdity of the immigration system’ reflected in new theatre show

The production *Ali in Wonder(Eng)land* explores the experience of migration through the lens of a classic children’s story, reports Olivia Opara

A Tottenham-based theatre group for migrants and refugees is set to showcase its adaptation of Lewis Carroll’s classic tale *Alice in Wonderland*.

Co-created by theatre company LegalAliens, working with migrants and refugees over a year of weekly classes, *Ali in Wonder(Eng)land* explores the experience of migration. The production, using Lewis Carroll’s children’s book as a loose structure, follows the character Ali who arrives at the door of a strange land and is subjected to random questioning and people shouting “illegal alien!”, while their body keeps changing size.

The show weaves together personal stories, improvisations inspired by the Life in the UK Test, and ensemble moments, with the cast of 17 each taking turns to play the leading role.

Yuna, an asylum seeker from Singapore and part of the cast, said: “The show helps me express myself in a way that is also relatable for others. The public needs to know what happens in our lives, especially in my case as a transgender woman. My experience is different from the average male asylum seeker from war-torn countries and I feel not enough



Performers from LegalAliens theatre company Credit Kuan-Ying Chou

of our stories are heard.

“Many parts of the show resonate with me, I [know] many people hold bigoted views or people appeared to be nice but it was performative allyship and they tried to silence me when talking about my experience and the show highlights how even people who look nice [often] aren’t genuinely nice.”

LegalAliens is a migrant-led theatre group and project in

Tottenham Hale that offers free weekly theatre classes to anyone identifying as a migrant, refugee or asylum seeker, and has been running since 2018. The group has earned ‘theatre of sanctuary’ status and works with theatre professionals who share skills and acting techniques – tackling sensitive themes with elements of Brecht’s socio-political theatre and visuals incorporating text and multimedia.

Lara Parmiani, artistic director of LegalAliens, said: “A participant in one of our weekly groups once said sometimes they felt like Alice in wonderland. We re-read the book and realised how dark some parts are and how perfect it was as a metaphor for the absurdity of the immigration system.

“We even kept some of the rhymes. Having a strong frame in place allowed the group to freely devise scenes letting their imagination run wild, and the result is a mix of hilarious scenes followed by very intimate and personal moments.”

Raquel, another cast member and migrant from Spain, said: “When you move to a new country you do feel like Alice in wonderland, you don’t understand what people say, you feel lost, alone, you miss home.

“You don’t feel like you belong but at the same time you know it’s a journey, a learning experience and that there are laughs as well as tears, and inside something is always telling you you’ll make it.”

‘Ali in Wonder(Eng)land’ will premiere at Jackson’s Lane on Monday, 10th July and Tuesday, 11th at 7.30pm

To find out more visit: jacksonslane.org.uk/events/ali-in-wonderengland

Mayor acts to end violence against women and girls in Haringey

City Hall has announced a two-year programme to tackle violence against women and girls will be rolled out across Haringey.

Sadiq Khan has worked with councils across London to secure £1.46million to launch the programme, with Haringey one of ten boroughs taking part.

The ‘Culturally Integrated Family Approach’ (CIFA) programme will be delivered by Rise Mutual CIC, an organisation which delivers behavioural change programmes within the criminal justice system. As part of the programme, perpetrators of abuse referred through social services will take part in a 20 session intervention course ‘helping them take responsibility for their actions and recognising the harm they are causing their partners and their families’.

Lucia das Neves, Haringey Council’s cabinet member for health, social care and wellbeing, said: “I’m delighted to see this additional funding for Haringey residents from the Mayor of London. Here in Haringey, we are committed to supporting

£1.46million has been invested in the programme ‘tackling abusers’ in ten boroughs, reports Miriam Balanescu

survivors, holding perpetrators to account, and working with our local communities to ensure all our residents can live a life free from violence, abuse and hate. Haringey has a zero-tolerance approach to violence against women and girls, which is why we’re working with the Mayor of London to stamp out domestic abuse.”

The programme has been operating in Barnet, Enfield and Brent, with 400 participants so far. City Hall reports that 80% of

participants have shown progress.

Deputy mayor for policing and crime, Sophie Linden, said: “We’re really pleased to support Haringey Council in launching this vital service across the capital, as part of our work to tackle violence against women and girls.

“At City Hall, we’re determined to end violence against women and girls once and for all, and through the mayor’s refreshed strategy, we are putting the onus on men to change their

We are putting the onus on men to change their behaviour

behaviour. This includes investing over £15m in programmes focused on addressing and changing the behaviour of perpetrators of abuse, in order to protect those at risk from violence and help build a safer London for all.

Kuljit Sandhu, CEO of Rise Mutual CIC, said: “We are thrilled with the opportunity to expand the CIFA (Culturally Integrated Family Approach) to domestic abuse project across ten London boroughs, building upon the valuable insights gained during the pilot scheme over the past two years.

“This funding presents a remarkable opportunity to work with more individuals who cause harm to victims and their families, employing an innovative intersectional approach to address harmful behaviour. CIFA also offers an integrated victim safety support service and will work with local victim-led services, fostering a safe and supportive environment where victims from ethnic minorities and LGBTQ+ groups can seek assistance and address the unique cultural sensitivities surrounding abuse disclosure.”

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Tall tales

Crouch End author Pony Louder explains how – thanks to her debut novel – the Highgate oaks have been admired in places as far-flung as Canada and Pakistan

My novel, *The Memory of Blood*, is set both in 1900s London and modern-day Sydney. Mina has been stolen from her farm to work as an indentured labourer in one of the first English cotton mills in 1811. Two centuries later, Evie has just found out her world-famous father is dying.

She must race from her North London flat to see him in Australia. Finding out what connects the two women is exciting. It's literary, but I wanted it to read like a thriller.

As you'd imagine, this proved difficult to illustrate in one cover image – especially for a debut author. What's fun to read was proving challenging to illustrate! The novel was finished, everyone was happy with it, but the

cover was becoming hilariously problematic. We needed something beautiful, but also eye-catching and memorable. The cover needed to appeal to both men and women and give some sense of the sweeping storyline and historical scope. As well as London and Sydney, there was post-revolution France. Mina travels from a dirt-floor cottage to the most important rooms in the British Empire. Evie's storyline involves one of the most celebrated men in the world.

We tried drawings, photographs of St Paul's and parliament – lots of different portraits. Birds, figures in silhouette, the sea! Hundreds of treatments, what felt like thousands of images. At one point, we were wondering if there was any way we could get Keira Knightley involved. Editorial budget ruled that out quite quickly!

Nothing we tried worked.



We collaborated with different designers and artists. Then, one afternoon, I was walking through Highgate Woods. It was such a beautiful day. The sun was dappling through the leaves. I stood for a moment, just listening to the wind rustling through the treetops, and realised that what I was looking at had hardly changed for centuries. The oak I was standing

under was hundreds of years old. Had she come here, Mina would have seen what I was looking at. I started taking pictures on my iPhone.

Months later, those photographs of the oaks, overlaid on a woman's face and designed into a book cover have travelled all over the world. I've had emails from readers in cities as faraway as Ontario and Islamabad.

It makes me so proud, because Highgate Woods is hands down my favourite spot in London. One of the reasons I love living in Crouch End is because it's so close to such beautiful green spaces. We North Londoners are rightfully smug. With Highgate Woods, Queens Woods, the Parkland Walk and Alexander Palace on our doorsteps, who would ever want to move?

'The Memory of Blood' is out now. Available from good bookshops and Amazon. To find out more visit: ponylouder.com

Care to dance

Dr Maria Kyriacou, founder of Live 4 Dancing, shares the story behind this local fundraising initiative

Live 4 Dancing's goal is to give back every year with a spectacular show dance fundraiser in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity (GOSH). This year is no different.

Our award-winning dance studio, will perform *Broadway 2023* at Jackson's Lane Theatre this month.

Inspired by timeless Broadway musicals, the show is filled with sensational choreography and singing that will put you on the edge of your seat! It's a ballroom and Latin experience infused with musical theatre and jazz.

The show sold out in a mere couple of hours – a fantastic achievement since profits will be donated to GOSH. However, we want to go further with our fundraising than ever before and have now set up a Just Giving page so that we can



Dancers at the Live 4 Dancing performance at Jackson's Lane

continue to raise money for this brilliant cause.

Every day, around 750 seriously ill children and young people are seen at GOSH and they need charitable donations

to continue their fantastic work. Funds are used for research

into children's health, to buy lifesaving equipment, for rebuilding and refurbishing the hospital, and for supporting

all those families who are going through a very challenging time.

Live 4 Dancing Dance Studio is London's premier dance school for ballroom dance classes. We won the 'Best Children and Youth Ballroom Dancing School' 2022 award at the Greater London Enterprise Awards, and the silver award at the Anne Walker MBE Awards for 'Dance School of the Year 2019'.

Ballroom dance classes promote improved coordination, correct posture, strength, flexibility, improved self-confidence and body image, teamwork and discipline.

The school strives to nurture and develop talent, celebrate the achievements of all students and inspire a love and appreciation of dance.

'Broadway 2023' will be performed at Jackson's Lane Theatre on Sunday, 9th July at 7pm. To find out more visit: live4dancing.co.uk

Richard's shop in Wood Green



Good as goal

Richard Horsted at The Goal Hanger in Wood Green explains why he decided to found 'the world's smallest sports art gallery'

The Goal Hanger creates infographic artwork which celebrates sporting moments by combining sports data and art. Covering football, tennis, rugby, cricket, golf, snooker and more, there is something for any sports fan!

I started the first design for what would become The Goal Hanger after looking for some 'grown up' sports artwork but not really finding anything out there. My background is in graphic design so I went about designing my favourite ever football goal as an infographic print. This led to a friend asking for their own favourite goal, which then spiralled – now there are over 3,000 designs covering pretty much any sport.

We would all like a life-size print of our favourite player in the living room but you get to a certain age where that is simply not socially acceptable (unfortunately). The ultimate aim of The Goal Hanger is creating sports artwork which could sit in your house and not look overtly sporty, so you can get away with it if whoever you live with is not a raging Liverpool fan, for example.

Data is always used as the starting point for each design and many of the prints are like maps for how iconic sporting moments played out. Each type of design is also inspired by a certain artist. For example, Jackson Pollock for the game prints, Piet Mondrian for the tournament prints and Damien Hirst for our season prints.

For more, visit: thegoalhanger.co.uk

The Goal Hanger's prints are inspired by iconic sporting moments



▲ Author and Crouch End resident Pony Louder

Tottenham sports centre founder awarded British Empire Medal

7

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Kevin Lincoln has been at the epicentre of ‘a brilliant place’ for the community for more than 50 years

BY OLIVIA OPARA

A Tottenham resident has been awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) by the King for his services to sport and the community.

Growing up in Tottenham with an interest in sports from a young age, Kevin Lincoln established the Tottenham Community Sports Centre, in Tottenham High Road, in 1969 with his friend Malcolm Springthorpe, alongside Haringey Sports Council, a collection of local sports clubs and groups. This followed a campaign and petition to the Conservative government organised by Kevin and the sports council to convert the Middlesex Regiment Drill Hall, a territorial army base, into a sports centre.

Kevin had been playing football with his eleven-a-side team at the disused drill hall prior to its closure.

In 1976, the government eventually agreed to offer the freehold of the army base to the sports council but the council couldn't afford it, so Kevin and the sports council petitioned Haringey Council to purchase it. The council renamed it Tottenham Sports Centre from 1977 until it became a casualty of government cut-backs in 1990. The local authority would later close the centre in 1998.

Kevin would then rally the local com-



Kevin Lincoln receives a British Empire Medal Credit Royal photographer

munity to take out a lease on the centre and run it as a charitable trust which he still volunteers for as the secretary to the trustees, helping with the finances, bookings and day-to-day management.

Kevin said: “I was immensely proud and also humbled to receive this award and having been born, educated and married in Tottenham, I have always considered it ‘home’.

“In addition to a 40-year career with Haringey Council, my 54 year involvement with Tottenham Community Sports Centre and local football has given me so much enjoyment. If, along the way, I have helped people of the area, then I feel proud

that I have been able to do so.”

Kevin was also the winner of the former mayor of London Boris Johnson's ‘special award’ in 2015, which he was presented with by Ledley King.

The former Tottenham and England footballer said: “This place creates lots of opportunities for people to better themselves. I grew up in East London and there weren't many sports centres around and just through boredom kids can make bad decisions. But a sports centre can allow youngsters to thrive, and the people here can help take them along a whole new path and help them do something good with their lives.”

Since opening 50 years ago, many Tottenham locals both past and present have utilised the centre and become part of its sports community – with founding volunteers still in connection with the centre today. Like Kevin, Malcolm Springthorpe still volunteers for the centre as chair of the trustees and both were present for the centre's 50th anniversary in 2019.

Former mayor of Haringey, Sheila Peacock, said: “I was a part of the centre right from the beginning and I still come to play bingo on Tuesday nights! You can come here anytime of the week, and anytime of the day, and there are groups and clubs for you to take part in. It's a brilliant place.

“[I] think the sports centre is very important because [it has been] the only constant sports provider in this part of north Tottenham and on the High Road and having been here for 50 years, we're now seeing the third generation of families coming through.”

Both Kevin and Malcolm are passionate about the centre and both aim to ensure that it will continue on and have a long legacy in the community: “I have accepted the award on behalf of the people who helped found the centre and those who continue to use and benefit from it.”

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Clicks and mortar

▲
Girls of the
Internet perform
in the BBC studio

What's the story of Girls of the Internet? Girls of the Internet is a project I imagined many years ago — I always thought there was a disconnect between what house, and electronic music in general, has become, and its roots. Also, I know much of the 'real music' scene doesn't consider electronic music 'real music', but house comes from a place of incredible musicianship and amazing songwriting. I wanted to attempt to re-join those dots.

I started Girls of the Internet as a studio project. It was at an incredibly low point in my life when I had nothing. The first full piece of music I made was *When U Go* — it got signed to Defected, and started me on this path. From the start, I wanted to have a full live band, but it took five years of begging promoters to give us a chance before I had the opportunity to do so. Everybody in the band seemed to just be in the right place at the right time, and we started rehearsing. Night Tales gave us our first show, and we sold out. We've had a few line up changes in the live band since we started, but I think we're stronger than ever right now!

What music have you been working on since you released your last single in 2022? The album! We have so much stuff ready to go — we should have had a few more singles out by now, but we had a couple of issues. Our next single, *Affirmations*, will be out on 7th July.

There are traces of trip hop in your work. Where do your musical influences come from?

Anywhere and everywhere. Mo Wax Headz was a big influence on me when I was very young, and I definitely followed some of the trip hop scene back then, but I listen to loads of different stuff. I get just as much from Stereolab and Kate Bush as I do from Kraftwerk and disco.

Ahead of their appearance at Kaleidoscope Festival, Miriam Balanescu sits down with Girls of the Internet's Tom Kerridge

Where does your passion for house music come from?

As with any true house or techno fan, you fall in love with it in the club, then you find yourself in a whole new world of music when you start looking deeper. House is so different to every other music scene — it's hard not to fall for its magic once you're in it.

How has your sound and process evolved across the two albums?

I've got better! Every track on the first album I made soon after *When U Go*, and it was really me finding my feet as a first-time producer. The second album I made over lockdown, and I was exploring our sound. I still come up with the initial ideas in the same room in my house, but now I have access to more musicians and vocalists. Everything Girls of the Internet has done has been about collaboration, and the more established we get, the more we get to work with people.

You've said Star Trek Discovery is a big influence. Could you explain a bit more why this is the case?

Well, I think artwork is open

to interpretation, and I don't like to give away too much of my thoughts and feelings behind a piece of music, because I want people to find their own meaning. Essentially, some of the themes in the show really spoke to me at a specific moment in time — it was very close to some of the ideas in the new album.

What have been your recent non-musical inspirations?

I've been locked away working on the album, so haven't been digesting too much culture. I love Atlanta, and anything Nathan Fielder does. *Everything Everywhere All At Once* was very inspirational — it made me feel how I did watching some of Spike Jonze and Charlie Kaufmann's films for the first time.

You also create drag tributes. What's the crossover between art, music and other types of performance for you?

I did a series of paintings inspired by drag — I may do some more. All types of art are about conveying an idea, so when I see anybody creating something in an interesting or different way, it can inspire

“
The 'real music' scene doesn't consider electronic music 'real music'
”

me. We're all doing the same thing, but with different materials and mediums.

The name of your group seems to be inspired by championing women in music. Is this important to you and what are the issues of gender inequality in music today?

I think the problem is both at the bottom, and at the top. Saying “we need 50% women and non-binary artists on line-ups” is just a short-term solution, and doesn't address the real issue — we do need that, but the problem is much deeper. We need 50% women and non-binary people at the bottom of the industry, enrolling in music education. We also need to see the same at the top tier, on the board of directors at big music companies. Both of those remain straight cis-male dominated spaces.

One reason I wanted to work with Defected was the amount of women working high up in the company — I remember the first few times I walked in, it was inspirational. I remember the music industry when it wasn't like this, and now we have such a strong female presence in all of these rooms — which in turn have all become safer spaces, and every day, more inclusive.

We need to throw queer people into this conversation too, as they are often left out. In dance music, as with drag, it's 100% from queer culture. But unlike drag, house and dance music has been snatched from them, and straight-washed for years.

Finally, how do you feel about performing alongside Hot Chip at Kaleidoscope? I can't wait to annoy them backstage and pinch their rider. Joe has been a supporter of the band for a long time, and has said lots of nice things about us before a lot of people cared about us — so I'm hoping I get to have a chat with him.

Kaleidoscope Festival is at Alexandra Palace on Saturday, 15th July. To find out more visit: kaleidoscope-festival.com

Opportunity Haringey

Haringey
LONDON

Workshop and Discussion Event

Thursday 27 July • 5pm – 7pm • Wood Green

We want Haringey to be a fairer, greener borough built on the strengths of our residents and businesses.

To achieve this ambition we want to create, with your help, Opportunity Haringey, an Inclusive Economy Plan for the borough. It will set out how residents, businesses and the community can benefit from, and contribute to, local economic success and prosperity.

Join us for a workshop on 27 July and together we will explore topics like:

- the role of the green and creative economies in Haringey's future
- how we help working residents transition to 'good work'
- what our town centre's need to thrive
- what businesses would you like to see invest in Haringey
- and let's talk about big ideas!

Help shape the economic future of Haringey. Scan the QR code and register today!



www.haringey.gov.uk/opportunity-haringey

LISTINGS

Dance

Icandance

Saturday, 1st July, 1.30pm
Alexandra Palace, Alexandra
Palace Way N22 7AY

Icandance is a performing arts company which offers a community for London's children and young people with severe disabilities and medical needs. 80 dancers aged 5–25 will take to the Ally Pally stage to perform a specially choreographed piece.

Tickets £16

Visit alexandrapalace.com/
whats-on/icandance-3

Music

Ein deutsches Requiem

Sunday, 9th July, 6pm
Alexandra Palace, Alexandra
Palace Way N22 7AY

Warming up before their big BBC Proms concert, Crouch End Festival Chorus will sing 'Ein deutsches Requiem' by Brahms, followed by The Wreckers by Victorian-era opera composer Dame Ethel Smyth and libretto Wailing Woman by African-American composer William Grant Still, on the horrors of the persecution of Jewish people.

Tickets from £10

Visit alexandrapalace.com/
whats-on/cefc-brahms-ein-deutsches-requiem

Theatre

What's Within

Friday, 7th July, 7pm & Saturday,
8th July, 12.30pm & 2.30pm
Haringey Sixth Form College, White
Hart Lane N17 8HR

Directed by Alexandra Dowson and Aran Cherkez and with music by Terry Tetteh-Martey, this children's theatre production has a truly magical setting, where a fantastical cast of characters compete to go to a ball – not realising that kindness is the only way to enter.

Tickets £5

Email info@haringeyshed.org
Visit haringeyshed.org/whats-on/whats-within

Film

John F Kennedy An American Visionary

Sunday, 9th July, 6pm
Picturehouse Crouch End, 165
Tottenham Lane N8 9BY

As part of Crouch End Festival, this short documentary written by Joshua Buyukyilmaz will screen, looking at the life of 'the most popular president in American history'. Joshua is a North London-based filmmaker who previously worked at Exposure magazine, based in Muswell Hill.

Free

Exhibition

Healing

Until Tuesday, 4th July
The Original Gallery, Hornsey
Library, Haringey Park, Crouch
End N8 9JA

Former Haringey GP and local sculptor Rick Morrison is showcasing his work in aid of local charities Samaritans, Open Door and Mind in Haringey. The exhibition itself includes sculptures inspired by psychotherapy.

Tickets pay what you can
Call 020 8489 4560

Visit rickmsculptor.com

Concert

Summer Concert

Saturday, 15th July 2023,
7.30pm–9pm
St Mary's Church, Stoke
Newington Church St N16 9ES

The New Tottenham Singers will be crossing the borough border into Hackney to raise funds for St Mary's roof appeal. On the line-up is Vienne, Rutter, Messe Solennelle and more. The choir, made up of 50 choristers, has been performing since 2010.

Tickets from £12

Email info@tottenham
singers.com
Visit tottenhamingers.com

Film

Black Lens: Pretty Red Dress

Thursday, 6th July, 7pm
Bernie Grant Arts Centre, Town
Hall Approach Rd, Tottenham
Green N15 4RX

A gorgeously rendered feature film on Black and LGBTQ+ identity, Dionne Edwards' debut stars the X Factor's Alexandra Burke in the lead role: after Candice is gifted her dream dress to play Tina Turner on Broadway, her family life starts to take an unexpected direction.

Tickets £8

Call 020 8365 5450

Visit berniegrantcentre.co.uk/
whats-on/black-lens-pretty-red-dress

Kids

Little Buds Nature Club

Every Friday, 10am–11am
excluding bank holidays and
school holidays
Down Lane Park, 43A Park View
Road N17 9AU

Little Buds Nature Club is a relaxed group for children aged twelve months to 5 years and their grown-ups. We will be exploring themes of nature through art and craft activities, stories and sensory play.

Email chloe@livingunder
onesun.co.uk

Instagram @livingunderonesun

Advertisement

Licensing Act 2003

Notice of Application for a Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that **Mr Tsehaie Tesfay Ghebrihiwet** has applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Haringey for a Variation of Premises Licence to permit:

- The sale of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises: Monday to Sunday, 08:30–23:30
- Late Night Refreshment Monday to Sunday, 23:00–23:30
- For the premises: Christina – Off Licence situated at 14 White Hart Lane, Tottenham, London N17 8DP

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at by contacting Licensing Team at licensing@haringey.gov.uk

Any person wishing to submit relevant representations concerning this application must give notice in writing to licensing@haringey.gov.uk, giving in detail the grounds of the representation no later than: **20/07/2023**

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: 23rd day of June 2023

Signed: Mr Tsehaie Tesfay Ghebrihiwet

Submit your listing

For next month's listings, email the details of your event to hcp@socialspider.com by Monday 17th July

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The Haringey festival guide

As the summer season gets underway, we take a look at some of the best community-focused festivals happening this year

Markfield Road Festival

For its second edition, Tottenham's Markfield Road Festival will be bringing back more incredible local creatives for art, music and discussion. *HCP* is excited to be partnering with the festival this year to bring you news and events as part of the celebrations. "For 2023, we're adding additional activities, a bigger programme, and will be teaming up with more local businesses for a weekend celebrating all the amazing creative work happening on Markfield Road," says founder Malene Oddershede Bach.

8th–10th September

To find out more visit: markfieldroadfestival.co.uk

Crouch End Festival

"In the beginning, we had no experience, no money or anything. But we've – over the years – learned a lot of lessons," says Chris Arnold, one of three founders of Crouch End Festival. The celebration returns this month for its 12th edition, after emerging out of 'Crouch End Creatives' Facebook page meetups at The Queens Pub.

What was meant to be a one-day event turned into a ten-day extravaganza, showcasing the crème de la crème of Crouch End businesses, talent and community – entirely free to attend and completely volunteer-run. "We wanted to keep this very much grassroots, and very much community," says Chris. "Also, we decided from the beginning, we wanted everything to be free. It's a myth that everybody's wealthy on this side of the borough."

"It's a bit like Edinburgh [...]" We'll organise four or five events and the rest is dozens if not hundreds of events being organised by other people."

Stationer's Park will be home to the festival's family hub, where a packed programme of children's activities and entertainment will take place. Seven local schools will also perform from this stage. At Weston Park, a market with 60 stalls will unfurl, with a big stage playing host to jazz performances.



“
It's a bit
like
Edinburgh
”



The festival took a hit during the pandemic, and will now be focused across three days. A "psychedelic lighting show" will return to St Mary's Tower – a tribute to Pink Floyd who did their first light shows at Crouch End. And the 'poets in a phone box' will make its comeback, which involves "poets literally coming out of the phone box and giving you poems". This addition, Chris says, has "gone global. It's been covered all over the world."

This year, many of the events will be dedicated to Ukraine. "We have one of Ukraine's biggest rock bands playing," enthuses Chris. "Also we've got a couple of Ukrainian musicians who are absolutely amazing."

Over 100 bands apply to play at the festival each year, which – while exciting – creates a lot of admin. "People say: why do you do this? We do it for the community," says Chris. "And it's a great joy to see people having a great time."

"It's a bit of a jewel in the crown for Haringey, because it's [...] one of the biggest community arts festivals, and it's very highly respected now."

Supporting fringe arts is crucial, with no auditions held for acts. "We provide a platform for anybody to basically do their thing," explains Chris.

What makes Crouch End special – named the 'best place to live in London' by *The Times* – is it has "got a very high population of creative people," says Chris. "About half the people work here or work in the creative industries", plus it's home to "one of the top five recording studios in the country, The Church Studios."

"We've had some very famous people come in, including Johnny Depp [...]" a lot of them say that the thing they like about the Crouch End is it is actually a place where you can be quite anonymous."

Friday, 7th–Sunday, 9th July

To find out more visit: crouchendfestival.org

The RecFest

A brand-new festival will be coming to the borough next month, hosted by The RecordShop's own Mary Otumahana – aka WondRWomN. The free full-day event will be held at The Mall in Wood Green.

Saturday, 12th August

To find out more visit: therecshop.co.uk/the-recfest

North London Lates

This new, multi-venue festival will unfold across North Tottenham and Upper Edmonton in collaboration with Fore Street For All CIC. Music, art, circus performances, street food and more is in the works.

Saturday, 15th July

To find out more visit: madebytottenham.com/news/join-the-first-ever-north-london-lates



People in poverty must make the distressing decision to eat or stay clean

Kate Currie at The Hygiene Bank aims to raise awareness of the often neglected issue of hygiene poverty

Imagine having to choose between feeding your children and washing them, or your daughter not being able to go to school because she has her period but no sanitary protection, or having to scrape out the contents of your baby's disposable nappy and then reuse it. These are true cases, documented by The Hygiene Bank.

Many people in poverty, or those who find themselves so in times of crisis, often have to make the distressing decision to eat or stay clean because they can't afford to do both. The Hygiene Bank

aims to give those in need access to the everyday basics that all of us use.

We have become all-too-familiar with the sad need for foodbanks: hygiene products are just as essential. 'Hygiene poverty' is the term used to describe the inability to afford the everyday cleaning and personal grooming products that many of us take for granted.

A shocking nine million UK adults (one in six) now live in hygiene poverty – a figure that has tripled over the last year, according to research in April 2023 by the charity In Kind Direct.

For those unable to afford basic hygiene products like shampoo, soap, deodorant, sanitary products, toothpaste and toothbrushes, toilet paper and soap powder, The Hygiene Bank aims to give those in need access to the everyday basics that we all use.

A shocking nine million UK adults (one in six) now live in hygiene poverty – a figure that has tripled over the last year

We now have a collection point at St Benet Fink, Tottenham, or our team can also collect direct from Haringey residents. Donations make a world of difference to pull people out of hygiene poverty. So far, we have only been able to support the work of CARIS, which works with homeless families in Haringey. It would be wonderful to be able to help more people in our community.

To find out more visit thehygienebank.com

Paths through change

Eily Livingstone explains why she decided to set up a youth club supporting children of divorce and separation

Almost one in three children will experience their parents' divorce before they turn 16 – 11% of Haringey households have single parents.

Talking about the impact of parental separation on children can be tricky because it can add to the guilt that many parents feel, and it can encourage people to remain in high-conflict relationships (which has a negative impact on children).

Nevertheless, children with single parents are 1.4 times more likely to be at risk of mental health problems and are twice as likely to live in poverty.

A lot of the potential negative consequences of parental separation can be reduced with support. However, waiting lists for publicly funded support, like child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) and school counselors, can be so long that children are left to deal with the transition alone.

That is why I founded Paths Through Change CIC in 2020, a not-for-profit social enterprise that provides specialist support services for children and young



The Engine Room, where COAC takes place

people experiencing divorce or relationship breakdown in their families, including an advocacy scheme, befriending service and events.

In spring 2023, thanks to funding from Haringey Giving and Locality, we started a free youth club for

Haringey children aged 7–10 years whose parents live apart, known as COAC. Running monthly on the last Tuesday of the month from 4:30pm to 5:30pm at The Engine Room, children can meet peers whose families look like theirs and who have had similar experiences. As well as enjoying activities, including tech, cooking and circus skills, children gain a wider support network, reduced stigma, increased independence, social skills, confidence and esteem.

Paths Through Change CIC is hoping to secure additional funding to run the youth club on a weekly basis and to start a new youth club for older children. The greatest challenges for children and young people affected by this issue are the cultural confusion around how to think about parental separation and parents who think that their only option when they are concerned about their children is the family law industry.

There are benefits for everyone in asking what children really need. If we support children when their parents separate, we'll better equip the adults of tomorrow and we will change society.

He was someone of extraordinary warmth, resilience, generosity

Haringey residents remember friend Majed Hassan, who was killed in the Darfur genocide in Sudan

BY ALASTAIR BALL



Haringey residents honour the life of Majed Hassan in Alexandra Palace Park

On Sunday, 18th June, activists and members of the Sudanese Masalit community gathered to call for an end to the Darfur genocide.

Organised by the Masalit community, Haringey Welcome and Waging Peace, the gathering involved a picnic and a memorial to Majed Hassan, a Haringey resident who died in Darfur in 2021, and took place at The Grove in Alexandra Palace Park, near a bench dedicated to Majed.

"Majed's life moved from one direction to another to find a better life,"

Majed's friend Saif Nemir said. "As we speak now hundreds of thousands are going through the same in Darfur."

Majed was born in 1961 in Sendikoro, Darfur. He came to the UK after fleeing the conflict where his wife and sons were killed. While here, he shared his story to encourage compassion for refugees. Majed visited Darfur in 2021, where he was murdered by militiamen.

Lucy Nabijou, campaign coordinator for Haringey Welcome and friend of Majed, said: "He was someone of extraordinary warmth, resilience, generosity and integrity who loved and lived life to the full."

A letter was read from Tottenham MP David Lammy, who said that Majed was "a beacon of hope and resilience," and praised his "courage and determination in the face of adversity."

This year marks 20 years of the Darfur genocide, which has killed up to 400,000 people. Militias backed by the government have been accused of murdering civilians, rape, and genocide. The Masalit have been particularly targeted. Arbab Adam Kharif, chair of

the Masalit community in the UK, said he had lost more than ten members of his family in the last few days. Maddy Crowther, co-executive director of Waging Peace, said this was "a time of great pain for Sudan."

Dr Martin Stern, a Holocaust survivor, spoke at the event and drew parallels with the Holocaust. Members of the Masalit community urged those present to spread the word about the genocide and to put pressure on the British government to act.

A Sudanese song called *Idana Ya Walad*, about standing together for the country, was sung by women from the Masalit community.



Back in business

13

HCP
July
2023

Nº 21

20 years on from his wave-making debut album, Tottenham-born artist Lemar is back and better than ever

BY MIRIAM BALANESCU

Lemar is undeniably an artist associated with the 2000s: he first stepped into the spotlight while on reality show *Fame Academy* in 2002, released his hit debut album *Dedicated* in 2003, and, five albums later, *The Letter*, in 2015. But then things slowed down, and he held back on releasing his own music for a solid eight years.

Now, two decades on from *Dedicated*, Lemar has decided it's the right time to make his return. His new album, *Page In My Heart*, harks back to his signature style but with a very contemporary update: one part electronic, one part dance. As he created the album, staying true to his own sound while also reflecting changes in music was "the biggest challenge".

"I like writing certain types of songs," Lemar says. "We ended up going for a more eighties soul-funk-R&B sound as a way to bring in the electronics, but still feel modern."

While Lemar may have been out of the public eye for most of the past decade, he's been keeping busy behind the scenes, writing for other artists and even dabbling in another performing art – acting – namely in Netflix's *Bridgerton* spin-off, *Queen Charlotte*.

"I've been doing music for over 20 years now," he says. "So, it's always nice to do something different and experience something a bit new."

"Putting yourself out there in a different capacity is always a bit nerve-wracking because you think, number one – am I any good at it, or can I be any good at it? And also, I know that [for] actors who tried to be actors from birth, there's a certain amount of effort that goes into the craft. So, I've never wanted to jump the gun, so to speak."

There has also been a benefit to writing for other artists, an anonymity which he has enjoyed. "Writing music for other people I find much easier, because I can take myself out of the equation," Lemar explains. "I take out all the personal ghosts that haunt you when you're trying to reveal a certain part of you or talk about a certain thing that you've been through. Or even in relation to sound, I can write an electronic song or a dance song."

"The freedom of just being able to create without limits when you're writing for other people, that's a nice thing. When I write for myself, obviously there's much more consideration because people have bought stuff and I feel I owe them a duty to at least not stray too far from that."

On whether it feels strange to be returning to releasing his own music now, Lemar says: "It just feels like I've just been continuously doing what I do. The number's strange, but it's nice



“
I approach albums the way I approach songs
”

to be out doing what I love again.”

True of all his albums, in Lemar's latest the unity of the track list as a whole is key. "I approach albums the way I approach songs," he says. "I think if you go and sing everything monotone or you go and sing everything at the top belting and singing all the notes underneath the sun, you're not really telling a story. Stories have peaks and troughs and ups and downs through them, and that's what makes them beautiful. That's what makes people feel emotion when you touch them at the right moment."

Born in Tottenham, Lemar's love for the classic soul artists of the eighties – Marvin Gaye, Michael Jackson – he was raised on is infinite, and their influence endless: "Back then, I just think a lot of the proof was in the pudding – a lot of people had to stay on the road and perform and you had to have a good voice and be able to do the live thing. And for me, that's what I'm all about. You do all of this promotion, but really it is to just get people to come to that live show to see you do your thing."

"I've always been attracted to good voices, male or female. So that's sort of been my muse and that was my training ground, listening to those voices and trying to get my own sound."

For the singer, the role music plays in his life has stayed constant. "That's the power of music – you don't need to speak the language, you don't need to even necessarily understand what the song is about," Lemar says. "But the melody of a song, or the sound of a voice, or the story, or the lyrics can transport you to a whole other place, can give you different feelings, help you through bad times, good times. I don't think we realise how much music is just a backdrop to our everyday, whether it be music coming through a TV or radio, or on your Spotify playlist."

Things have changed, however, in the way the music industry ticks today, Lemar says, the rise of social media creating extra challenges for artists: "You have to create a huge amount of content in order to stay in people's minds."

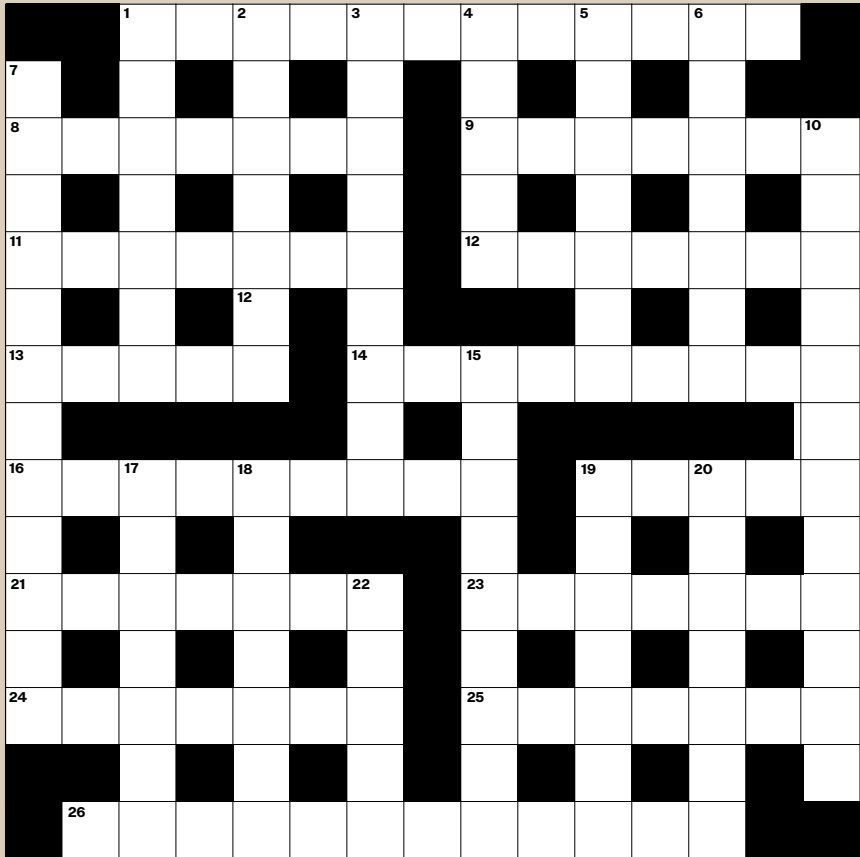
"How we buy it, where we place it in our minds priority-wise may have changed a bit."

With his return to the scene, Lemar has started performing music live again. I end by asking him whether it feels strange to hear crowds singing songs from 20 years ago back to him. "I feel blessed," he responds. "As an artist, the one thing you always long for is to have a song that people remember or song that people connect with a certain memory in their life. The harder gigs are when you go and no one really knows the rest of the song."

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Crossword N° 2

Win a £250 prize bundle from The Dusty Knuckle, ORA Brewing and Dunns



ACROSS

- 1 Oscar made way, unexpectedly entertained by an eccentric (7,5)
- 8 Survey of stout at Oxford or Cambridge? (5-2)
- 9 Little daughter took notes (7)
- 11 Shelters with son, after starting late, showing signs of tiredness (7)
- 12 Jewish school and hotel breaking agreed debt solution (7)
- 13 In retreat, soldiers captured by the old foe (5)
- 14 Post mum the first part of the hospital results (9)
- 16 Her co-star's playing several instruments (9)
- 19 Briefly sift rocks (5)
- 21 Drunken Nelson's hiding places for dogs (7)
- 23 Spy infiltrating university course is a red (7)
- 24 One who wishes breadwinner's following cryptocurrency, ultimately (7)
- 25 Mindlessly repeat terse instruction to remove socialist? (4,3)
- 26 Party with Bond's wife (4,3,5)

DOWN

- 1 Um, an ale's ordered for former students (7)
- 2 Decry an inappropriate passion (7)
- 3 Peasants in revolt over baron's latest, incidentally (2,7)
- 4 Delicious strawberry gateau from Amsterdam bakery, at the end of it all (5)
- 5 Drunk grabs policeman, beginning to release knot (7)
- 6 Wine served up in Bhutan is terrible (7)
- 7 Mechanic surprisingly agrees on £500 (6,6)
- 10 A sentence that might once have seen you suspended? (5,7)
- 15 Aboard public transport, you heard a jerk being upsetting (9)
- 17 Get rid of rubbish American choral piece (7)
- 18 Timeless tale about protecting English sailors (7)
- 19 Italian woman is upset with German woman (7)
- 20 Manage, sad and tired (3-4)
- 22 Father and son's final warning (5)

For a chance to win an £100 meal for four at The Dusty Knuckle Haringay, a £90 case of 24 ORA beers, and a Dunns hamper send your solutions to hcp@socialspider.com. An entrant with the correct solution will be selected randomly. Competition will close 1st August 2023

For more information about Amoeba, visit: mycrossword.co.uk/Amoeba

For more information about bakery, cafe, pizzeria The Dusty Knuckle, visit: thedustyknuckle.com

T&Cs: Redeemable from 5.30pm onwards from Thursday, Friday or Saturday! Pizza, wine and more

For more information about ORA Brewing, visit: ora-brewing.myshopify.com. For 15% off online orders at ORA Brewing, use the discount code HARINGEYPRESS (valid until 9th July)

For more information about Dunns, visit: dunns-bakery.co.uk

Some of the dishes available at Pasero Credit Joakim Blockstrom



Food for thought

Genevieve Sparrow shares the story behind her restaurant Pasero in Tottenham

Pasero started life as a pop-up. I'd always worked in restaurants until I had children and I was keen to feel the buzz of the restaurant again, so in September 2019 I hosted my first supperclub at the cafe in Downhills Park. I enjoyed it so much I decided to make it a regular thing. The pop-ups grew in popularity and I realised I enjoyed this more than my day job, so I decided I needed to find a way to open a permanent restaurant – and here we are!

Our food philosophy is very much led by the

ingredients – we work with fantastic sustainable suppliers such as Shrub Provisions and build our menus around their seasonal produce. The style of food is loosely European in flavour but not loyal to any particular cuisine. Our chefs like to experiment

“Our chefs like to experiment with flavour to keep it interesting”

with flavour to keep it interesting. Most importantly, our menu is designed to be shared! We love the conviviality of sharing plates, and it means you aren't restricted

to just a couple of dishes.

July is when the availability of local produce just grows hugely! We are enjoying lots of peas, tomatoes, strawberries, elderflower and much more. We're sad to see the end of British asparagus though as it has been a really popular staple for the last few weeks.

Our menu tends to change every week so there are always surprises! Expect lots of super fresh flavours, however, such as heritage tomatoes with stracciatella, and plenty of fresh seafood.

To find out more visit: pasero.uk



Missing buzz

Dear HCP

I am extremely concerned about the disappearance of honey bees from gardens across the borough. I am a working gardener, and I have noticed it in several of the gardens that I tend, and friends who have gardens locally have reported the same experience.

I grow plenty of bee-friendly plants, so that's not the reason. Plants that were full of bees three or four years ago now have none on them, or very few.

One explanation I have seen is that there are too many beekeepers now in London and hives are placed too close to each other which has caused disease to spread between them and has necessitated the extermination of some of the hives.

This is true, but I cannot explain the widespread disappearance of honey bees from the borough. Bees will normally travel several miles for nectar, so as long as there are hives in the borough (and there are), there should be bees in people's gardens. I wonder whether something is affecting the bees' navigation systems?

It is often said that, were the bees to disappear, humanity would follow them seven years later, so this is certainly an issue to be concerned about.

Andrew Barr
Muswell Hill

Making tracks

Dear HCP

With Alexandra Palace celebrating 150 glorious years is it time we consider bringing back the railway that once served this iconic London landmark? The station was built by the Muswell Hill Railway and opened on 24th May 1873 along with the palace. However, when the palace burned down only two weeks after opening, the train service was considerably reduced and from 1st August 1873 was stopped for almost two years while the palace was rebuilt. The station reopened on 1 May 1875, but there were several further periods of temporary closure due to insufficient demand, including from August 1882 to March 1885 and September 1885 to May 1889.

With dwindling passenger numbers, and a failure to incorporate the line into the London Underground network, services to Alexandra Palace ended on

3rd July 1954, along with the rest of the line from Finsbury Park. Had the war not intervened and the Alexandra Palace branch line been electrified (as originally planned by 1941), today millions of commuters and tourists would be taken off congested roads and relax in comfort between the capital and Alexandra Palace.

Nathaniel Dodd
Alexandra Palace

Hale Village

Dear HCP

With reference to last month's *In the frame* feature interviewing Jack Smethers, may I point out that Hale Village is a separate development from other developments around Tottenham Hale. It has a very mixed housing portfolio and also plays host to St Francis at The Engine Room, a church and community centre, funded by the Church of England which I have been the director of since we opened in 2017. While it is easy to denigrate these new developments as 'gentrification', the fact is that they bring substantial and much-needed additional social housing to our area and developers play an active role supporting community programmes at The Engine Room and other local groups.

We may not like the high-rise architecture, but were the Blockbusters video store, the Pizza Hut and the KFC that preceded them, making a useful contribution to our community? I think not. Tottenham has never been a static community. New groups have arrived ever since we were a small rural village on the fringes of the city. We should be proud of our long history of being a welcoming community and we should not shun 'the other' even if they are able to afford an expensive penthouse apartment in a high-rise.

Andrew Johnston
Tottenham

Editor's note: Issue 20 of HCP contained an article on Page 8 with an incorrect caption labelled 'Tottenham Hale Village'. Within the article, a quote incorrectly implied that Tottenham Hale Village was a larger area of Tottenham Hale, rather than one specific estate. We regret the impression this created and recognise the important work of the members of Hale Village in fostering the community.



It is no surprise that young people are living with mental health issues

Recently elected mayor of Haringey, Lester Buxton, sets out his pledges for his time in office

▲
Cllr Lester Buxton

I'm delighted to be serving as mayor of Haringey for 2023/24. At 27, I am the youngest mayor in Haringey's history. I broke the record that was set back in 1995, coincidentally the year that I was born.

As a mayor in my 20s, I hope that I can raise awareness of young people's issues. What with the climate emergency, housing and cost-of-living crisis as well as the toll the pandemic had on their education and ability to socialise, it is no surprise that many young people are living with mental health issues. That's why I have chosen Open Door as my mayor's charity this year.

Open Door, based in my ward Crouch End, offers therapy to young people between twelve and 24. We know that 75% of mental health issues start before the age of 24 and, of those, 50% start before a child is 14. It's therefore vital that we ensure that organisations like Open Door get the

funds they desperately need to address a young person's mental health early so they can live their fullest life.

Despite growing up in Crouch End, I had no idea what Open Door was until my ward colleague Cressida Johnson, a former psychiatric nurse, explained. Even since announcing them as my charity, I've had people coming to me saying they hadn't heard of the great work that they are doing. By choosing them as my charity, I hope that I

"It's vital that we ensure that organisations like Open Door get the funds they desperately need to address a young person's mental health early"

can further raise awareness of Open Door and the great work they do, as well as the epidemic that mental ill health is becoming.

Throughout this year, I will be holding fundraisers and

events for Open Door. Last year, my predecessor, Gina Adamou, held a five-a-side tournament for her charity Mind in Haringey and I hope we can continue this to make it an annual event for future mayors too. If you would like to donate, you can find the mayor's charity section on the council's website.

It's possible my term will coincide with a general election. It is my civic duty as mayor to ensure that as many of our residents are not only registered to vote, but that they are aware that they must now have up-to-date photo ID to bring to the polling station. Registering young people to vote has long been an issue I've campaigned on and will continue to do so as mayor to make sure their voices are heard by parties of all colours.

To contact Lester Buxton
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Send us your letters

Email HCP@socialspider.com before Monday 17th July

WE NEED YOUR HELP



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- Every penny of income from HCP helps us deliver more journalism in Haringey
- The paper costs nearly £6,000 per month to produce and distribute, but monthly income is under £4,000 currently
- We currently have 110 supporters who contribute around 11% of our income, but we need more!

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