

The Brent Magazine

Issue no.157

Autumn 2018

Free for people who live and work in Brent

This is the large print edition of
The Brent Magazine produced for
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Brent

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**The UK's
Largest Hindu
New Year
Celebrations**

Diwali & Annakut

CELEBRATIONS

BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir

– LONDON –

Diwali

WEDNESDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2018

Diwali Darshan: 9.00am to 8.00pm

Chopda puja: 5.30pm to 7.00pm – BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir

Fireworks display: 8.15pm to 8.45pm – The Swaminarayan School

Hindu New Year Annakut

THURSDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2018

Annakut Darshan: 12.00 noon to 9.00pm

Half-Hourly Arti: Until 9.00pm

Hot delicious snacks will be available on both days from food stalls

Please kindly note: For security reasons, bags and cameras will not be allowed into the Mandir complex. Please deposit them in the security baggage cabin across the road in Shayona car park.

BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir LONDON

105-119 Brentfield Road, Neasden, London NW10 8LD

For further information, please visit londonmandir.baps.org

 **+44 (0)20 8965 2651**

 info@londonmandir.baps.org



[@neasdentemple](https://twitter.com/neasdentemple)

Organisers: BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha, UK
Inspirer: His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj Diwali

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Issue 157

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Large print edition

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Achieving our potential

September marks the start of autumn as well as the start of the academic year. While many students will be joining a new form in their existing school, for others, September means leaving their friends and their family home to begin a new life in a different town as university beckons.

Huge congratulations to all the students who have achieved great results in their GCSEs and A' Levels. I wish you all the best for the future (page 35).

The council was also delighted to receive our best ever Ofsted rating for Brent's children's services as we strive to give every child the best start in life.

Of course, we know university is not the only way for ambitious residents to develop themselves and further their careers. Brent, and Wembley in particular at the moment, is home to some really exciting regeneration projects and residents are benefiting from this through the many apprenticeships and jobs on offer (page 24).

Unfortunately, not every young person with great potential is able to fulfil it. Quamari Serunkuma-Barnes was tragically stabbed and lost his life in January 2017. His parents Paul and Lillian, organised the One Love festival to celebrate his life and it was really moving to see so much love and support for the family and what they are trying to achieve on the day (page 33).

Despite the pressure all public services are under, including the council and the police, we won't let crime thrive in this borough and our recently opened state-of-the-art CCTV control room is just one of the many different ways we are helping to keep residents safe (page 10).

Violent crime has no place in Brent and we will continue to work closely with the police and other partners – and most importantly, the community – to ensure that all of us who live or work in Brent feel safe and secure as we go about our daily lives.

Councillor Muhammed Butt
Leader of Brent Council

News Update

Best ever Ofsted rating for Brent's children's services

Ofsted has rated Brent 'Outstanding' for the support it provides children in care and care leavers, with children's services overall receiving a 'good' rating.

Brent's overall rating has moved to good from 'requires improvement' in 2015.

Ofsted praised the, "strong leadership at a political level and throughout the council, which has resulted in significant improvements in the quality of social work practice for children since the last inspection."

Ofsted also noted how, "Children benefit from the very high proportion of schools in Brent judged to be good or outstanding. A high proportion of children and young people come into care with significant gaps in their learning and attendance, many with complex needs and substantial barriers to overcome. Despite this, they are now making better progress in care."

Since the inspection, the council has made progress in addressing the four areas identified for improvement in the report, of better case recording, alignment of procedures, escalating cases where children's circumstances don't improve and the council's response when children go missing from home and care.

Cllr Mili Patel, Brent Council's Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care, said: "As a council, we are 100% committed to ensuring that every young person in Brent has the best start in life possible, and this report, together with Brent's highest-ever Ofsted rating, is testament to what we have achieved in recent years.

"My thanks go to everyone in our children's services department, as without their effort, professionalism, passion and dedication, we wouldn't have reached this milestone."

Read about some of the fantastic A' Level and GCSE results achieved by Brent students on p35-39 or read more about apprenticeships, and how they are helping to improve the lives of Brent residents on p24-25.

Stars pitch up at Wembley to mark International Busking Day

Legendary record producer, songwriter and guitarist Nile Rodgers topped the bill in a day of music, circus and dance at Wembley Park to mark International Busking Day.

The Chic star was joined by Dream Catch Me singer Newton Faulkner as Wembley Park played host as the official global destination for the day, now in its third year.

Newton Faulkner said: "Busking is the soundtrack to the underground and the streets. It's part of living in London. I don't think the city would be the same without it."

Wembley Park's hosting of the event formed part of the Summer of Play programme which presented more than 300 hours of free entertainment, music, magic, comedy, physical theatre, living statues and dance.

Cllr Muhammed Butt, Leader of Brent Council, said: "It was an absolute pleasure to host International Busking Day in Wembley Park and celebrate busking and street performance. I hope it gave audiences a little taste of what's to come as we warm up for Brent's year as London Borough of Culture 2020."

London-wide Mayoral plan to make roads safer rolled out in Brent

A plan from Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, which aims to ensure no-one is killed or seriously injured on the capital's roads by 2041, is being backed by Brent Council.

The council recently completed the first section of Quietway Cycle Route 3, a safe 3km route between Gladstone Park and Kilburn station, as well as the Carlton Vale Cycle Route, a segregated 1km cycle lane.

Other measures to reduce road danger include 35 new LED speed-reduction warning signs, a pilot scheme to allow motorcycles and power two-wheelers to use bus lanes, introducing more 20mph zones, safer crossings, and road safety campaigns.

Cllr Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, said: "With funding from TfL, Brent is well under way with projects to make the borough safer for walking and cycling, which includes new cycle lanes, safer junctions and major projects such as the Kensal Corridor which include plans to improve traffic flow, road safety and bus services along Chamberlayne Road, Kilburn Lane and Station Terrace."

£28m leisure centre opens in Kensal Green

Residents in Kensal Green and across Brent can now take advantage of the new Moberly Sports Centre.

The new leisure centre, which flung open its doors to eager punters in July, boasts two swimming pools, a huge sports hall with seating for 500 people, a fully equipped gym, dance and exercise studios, a café and crèche.

Located just inside Brent on Chamberlayne Road, the new centre was built by Westminster Council but thanks to a deal struck at the planning stage, Brent residents can claim discounts for activities by signing up to the B.Active card. Brent residents with a B.Active card will get a discount of 25% when using the centre, with holders of a concession card getting a 40% discount.

Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Culture and Leisure, said: "This is a great example of two councils working together for the benefit of residents and it's a particularly good deal for people in our borough. It's a really exciting development and has the potential to transform the leisure and fitness experience of the whole community."

The centre, which is open seven days a week, was opened by super-middleweight boxing champion James DeGale, light welterweight champion and local boxing star Ashley Theophane and double gold Olympic gymnast Max Whitlock.

Children celebrated by National Young Writers' Awards

Two local children have been celebrated for their writing after being named local 'centre winners' by their Explore Learning centre in Wembley.

Abira Rameshkanna, 10, from Sudbury Primary School and Keya Madhani, 13, from Claremount High School in Kenton were selected as local winners in the Explore Learning National Young Writers' Awards competition, which was entered by more than 38,000 children. Children were asked to write a 500 word story about their heroes.

David Walliams, who judged the entries, said:

"I was overwhelmed by the quality and creativity of the stories I was reading and was so impressed that this broad range of exciting ideas have come from such young writers."

Rogue landlord in Kingsbury exposed in TV sting

More than a million viewers watched Brent Council officers in action on a raid on an overcrowded and unlicensed shared home.

The raid was part of Channel 5's series, *Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords*. Police and council officers entered a two bedroom flat above a shop during a dawn raid in and found 16 people crammed inside.

Mattresses, bunkbeds and sofa beds had been packed together in two bedrooms and living room. Fire escapes had been blocked and a smoke alarm was found hanging off the ceiling.

Cllr Eleanor Southwood, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform, said: "People can see the shocking conditions tenants were living in. Every renter has the right to a decent standard of living."

Schools seeking new Governors

Local schools are seeking new governors to make a real difference to the lives of local children, as well as learning and developing new skills themselves.

Governors volunteer their time to help provide the strategic direction of the school holding executive leaders, including the head teacher, to account and making sure the school's money is well spent. The role is rewarding and is an excellent way to make a positive impact in your local community. If you are over 18 years old and would like more information please visit: www.brent.gov.uk/governors

Willesden dog owner fined for failing to update his pet's microchip

A dog owner has been fined £761 by Brent Magistrates after ignoring repeated warnings to update his dog's microchip.

The Willesden resident was advised by Brent's Animal Welfare team to update the chip after the animal was collected as a stray. After ignoring numerous reminders about microchipping his dog, court proceedings began. Microchipping is harmless to the animal and costs just £20. If you wish to microchip your dog, contact the Animal Welfare Team at Brent at environmental.health@brent.gov.uk

State-of-the-art digital CCTV control centre opens

A new £2.3m digital CCTV control room using the latest in high definition technology has been unveiled at Brent Civic Centre.

The updated control centre has a new monitor wall with 14 huge screens, letting operators keep a close eye on all the borough's high streets. High resolution images are streamed in from enhanced high-definition cameras across Brent's town centres and from deployable mobile cameras for hotspot locations when issues arise.

"The old system served Brent well for over 20 years but needed replacing, and now our residents can rest assured that our public spaces are being protected by the very latest digital system. It will lead to better surveillance and help our security patrols and the police respond to incidents quickly," said Cllr Tom Miller, Brent Council's Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities.

To find out more about the work to create a safer Brent, visit www.brent.gov.uk/strongercommunities

Stronger Communities consultation

The Stronger Communities consultation seeks residents' views on a range of key values and priorities for creating more cohesive communities within Brent.

Issues such as dealing with the effects of poverty, promoting gender equality, engaging newer communities and tackling extremism all form part of the consultation which closes on 31 October, 2018.

Cllr Tom Miller, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, said: "Brent's diverse communities have been a source of strength for the borough, helping to make it the exciting, successful place it is.

"The council is committed to building on this heritage so that Brent remains somewhere everyone, whatever their background, can be proud to call home. We want to make sure everyone is part of this journey so get involved and have your say today."

Complete the consultation survey at https://brent-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/ce/sp/stronger_communities

Celebrate the people who put the Pride in Brent

Nominations are now open for the 2018 Pride of Brent Awards; the new name for the Brent Community Champions award scheme.

The Pride of Brent Awards celebrate those selfless individuals, community groups and local businesses who contribute so much to the borough and who have gone the extra mile to make Brent a better place to live and work in 2018.

Winners will be announced at a ceremony at Brent Civic Centre on Thursday 22 November 2018 and the deadline for nominations is Wednesday 12 September 2018.

To find out more about the awards, including how to nominate someone you know, visit www.brent.gov.uk/prideofbrent

Photo competition goes totally wild

There is still time to get your entries in for the Brent Wildlife Photography Competition.

From squirrels to swallows, Wembley to Willesden, Brent Council is looking for your pictures of wildlife across the borough.

All photos must be taken in Brent and this can include your own

garden or one of the public parks and spaces locally.

To be in with a chance of winning a £100 photographic voucher, for the winning adult entry, or £40 London Designer Outlet voucher for the winning under-8s entry, fill in the form and send us your image at www.brent.gov.uk/wildlife

Job show coming to Wembley in October

Around 60 employers are ready to meet Brent jobseekers and showcase their job and apprenticeship opportunities at the Job Show this October.

West London's top employers, training providers, universities, and colleges will be at the event at Wembley Stadium on Wednesday 10 October 2018, 11am-7pm, to meet local job seekers face-to-face.

Councillor Amer Agha, Cabinet Member for Employment and Skills for Brent Council, said: "Our ambition is for every Brent resident to have the right skills to access employment that pays the London Living Wage, and this event at Wembley is part of a wider plan to achieve that aim."

For further information and to register to attend, visit www.thejobshow.com

Super fast broadband is on the way by 2020

Residents and businesses in Brent are set to get some of the fastest broadband speeds in Britain by 2020.

Brent Council has given the go-ahead to two high-speed broadband providers, Hyperoptic and Community Fibre, to roll out full-fibre broadband, aiming to deliver up to 1 gigabit per second broadband to an estimated 14,500 council homes and a number of businesses in the borough. But it's not just for residents in council-owned properties. Around 80% of all residential properties and 50% of businesses in Brent will have access to the new network at more affordable prices than many internet providers.

Community centres will benefit from free broadband connections, where training sessions will give local people and businesses the tools they need to get online. The council is also in talks with other providers to offer residents a wider selection of internet providers to choose from.

Cllr Margaret McLennan, Deputy Leader of Brent Council, said: "In an increasingly digital future, the need for fast broadband has grown rapidly.

We want to offer residents and business better choices when it comes to getting online, and access for those who may otherwise be unable to afford it."

Inspiring the next generation of entrepreneurs

South Kilburn was buzzing with anticipation, ideas and creativity for the extremely popular Ultra Education Kids Business Fair.

Hosted at the newly redeveloped business and enterprise hub, The Granville, more than 30 young entrepreneurs showcased their passion and energy for their businesses in July.

Visitors, including the Leader and Mayor of Brent, enjoyed the work of authors, bakers, YouTubers, motivational speakers and so much more.

Ultra Education founder and Harlesden entrepreneur, Julian Hall, 43, said: "I'm truly inspired by the diverse range of kid entrepreneurs that we had on the day. They've worked incredibly hard and are a great example of what's possible when you do what you love."

Vibrant mural brightens up Ealing Road

A colourful new mural, which depicts the diverse culture of Ealing Road, has been unveiled on the walls of the Brent Indian Association.

The Mayor of Brent, Cllr Arshad Mahmood, cut the tape to reveal the lively painting which was designed with local community groups, residents and traders and created by street art specialists Positive Arts.

The borough's newest artwork received funding from the council's Community Infrastructure Levy pot allocated to community projects. The Brent Indian Association community and advice centre was established more than 50 years ago and offers practical assistance on immigration and benefits as well as community activities including yoga, meditation, dance and singing.

Cllr Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, said: "This is a stunning mural to recognise a building that has played a vital role in bringing local communities together. We are creating spaces in Brent where local residents are able to demonstrate pride of place and this new mural will be a real boost for the surrounding area."

Recycling stolen bikes to get kids moving

Stolen bikes which have not been reunited with their rightful owners but have been confiscated by the police are being given to local schools.

As well as bicycles, students receive helmets, high visibility jackets and special training as part of Brent Council's ReCycle scheme, in partnership with the Metropolitan Police.

Cllr Shama Tatler, Brent Council Cabinet Member responsible for transport, said: "Children are being encouraged to get more active and cycle to and from school but some, through no fault of their own, don't have access to a bike and are missing out.

"This new initiative is a fantastic opportunity for fun and exercise, whilst encouraging more sustainable forms of travelling and making use of bikes that would have otherwise been destroyed."

If you have an old bicycle you would like to donate please email gerardo.guercio@cyclinginstructor.com

Thousands more homes approved for Alperton

A proposal to redevelop an industrial estate in Alperton and build thousands of new homes, new business spaces and new community facilities has been agreed by Brent Council's planning committee.

Property firm St George's Developments have been approved to redevelop Northfields Industrial Estate. The remaining buildings on the 21 acre site will be replaced. There will be new workspaces, retail premises, restaurants, a community centre, health clinic, a children's nursery, a public open space and 2,900 new homes, 1,015 of which will be affordable.

The plans also include public transport improvements, enhancements to Beresford Avenue and better lit pedestrian and cycle routes through to Stonebridge Underground station.

Cllr Shama Tatler, Brent Council's Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, said: "This scheme will breathe new life into a worn-out and redundant industrial estate while bringing new homes, jobs, and improvements to the public realm and local transport networks. It's brilliant news for those looking to start-up a business,

looking for work, not to mention it being fantastic news for those needing a place to live."

A bright idea to tackle litter louts

Students and teachers from Alperton Community School are starring in a short film which uses bright pink litter to highlight the problem of dropped rubbish.

The video, which is part of Brent Council's Love where you live campaign and is being promoted on social media, is designed to remind litter louts of their responsibility to put their rubbish in a bin, or take it home with them, or face the consequences.

Council enforcement officers issued more than 250 fixed penalty notices of £100 each for littering in July alone.

Cllr Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Environment, said: "We want people to take pride in where they live and either put their litter in a bin or take it home with them.

We're working closely with residents and businesses across the borough to proactively tackle the menace of litter, and are determined to get our zero tolerance message across."

Check out the video at www.brent.gov.uk/lovewhereyoulive



Kensal Rise actor gets ready for Strictly

Red Dwarf and *Death in Paradise* star Danny John-Jules is joining celebrities to strut his stuff on the BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing* this autumn.

The 57-year-old actor said he couldn't wait to put on his dancing shoes as he prepares for the live shows. As well as starring as Cat in cult TV show *Red Dwarf*, Danny – who is a trained dancer – has also appeared in *Death In Paradise* and films including *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, and *Blade II*. He said he was "absolutely delighted" at the chance of performing in "glittery spandex".

Shamed 'super head' and bonus scandal colleagues face hefty bill

A former head teacher, who arranged to pay himself a whopping £400,000 in one year, and previous colleagues face paying back thousands of pounds they received unlawfully as part of a school bonuses scandal.

Alan Davies, the former Head teacher of Copland Community

School in Wembley, alongside former Deputy Head, Dr Richard Evans, former HR Manager Michele McKenzie, and former School Bursar Columbus Udokoro, were found to have benefitted from the "vast sums" they received in illicit bonuses over several years before Mr Davies was suspended in May 2009.

Davies, who had previously been knighted for services to education, took home more than £400,000 in one year, three times the going rate for the job, and was convicted of false accounting in 2013. He was stripped of his knighthood in 2014 following his conviction.

The purported bonuses to Davies and the others were sanctioned by former Chair of Governors Dr Indravadan Patel and former Vice Chair of Governors, Martin Day, both of whom were criticised by the Judge for "breach of fiduciary duty", "wholesale failures" and "reckless indifference".

Cllr Margaret McLennan, Deputy Leader of Brent Council, said: "We are delighted with the verdict as it means the money, which had been swindled, will be returned and can now be used for the benefit of local people. It has taken years of stamina and determination to win this victory but justice has finally been done."

The exact sums that each of the six must now pay back will be decided at a further Court Hearing in October.

Get involved in Brent's year in the cultural spotlight

Brent won the bid to be named London Borough of Culture 2020, beating off stiff competition from 22 other London boroughs, and now Brent is giving it back to the people.

Brent is kicking off engagement with two summits drawing in cultural organisations, artists and residents who will be involved in the delivery of this 2020 initiative early in September. Local people and especially young people, who were key to formulating the winning bid, are now shaping how the London Borough of Culture will impact their community.

The London Borough of Culture award is a new initiative by the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, to celebrate the wealth of creativity across every corner of London.

Cllr Hirani, Brent's lead member for Public Health, Culture and Leisure said: "It's a great honour to be chosen as the London Borough of Culture 2020. Young people and local groups played a key role in winning the bid, so it is vital that they continue to shape the ideas for Brent's year in the cultural spotlight."

If you would like to get involved visit: www.brentculture2020.co.uk for more information.

Map of Brent to be redrawn

The areas that local ward councillors represent are set to change as the number of councillors is reduced.

Residents are being asked to take part in the Boundary Commission's consultation before 5 November, to find out where the ward constituency boundaries for the borough should be drawn.

The consultation comes after significant population changes since the last boundary review in 1999 and aims to make the people-to-politician ratio across Brent more equal.

Carolyn Downs, Brent Council Chief Executive, said: "We know that by the 2022 local council election, we will be electing six fewer councillors than we have done in the past, but what's not yet known are the areas that those councillors will be representing." Have your say at www.brent.gov.uk/boundaryreview

Healthier food on the menu

Transport for London canteens are the latest catering contract in Brent to sign the Healthy Catering Commitment (HCC) which is an award scheme that acknowledges businesses that promote healthier choices for their customers.

Examples include offering smaller portions, allowing the customer to add their own salt, offering water and alternatives to sugary drinks, having a side of vegetables/salad available. For more information on the HCC and to see which businesses have the award, check out www.brent.gov.uk/healthyliving

NEWS IN BRIEF

HEALTH APP NOW HAS A NEW LOOK

Health App Now, the app launched by Brent Clinical Commissioning Group, has been updated and has a fresh, new look. Designed with patients in mind, the app takes the guesswork out of common symptoms. Users are instantly provided with advice and local services that may be able to help them.

APOLOGY

An editing mistake in issue 156 of *The Brent Magazine* meant that the article about the record breaking fine for illegal rubbish dumping in Kingsbury printed the incorrect address for Ommegas Services Limited. Their correct address is 470 Church Lane. We apologise for this mistake.

WEMBLEY PARK COMMUNITY FUND REVEALS WINNERS

The Wembley Park Community Fund has announced its round two winners. There are 13 Brent-based organisations receiving grants, including; AQ Arts CIC, Learning Through The Arts and Track Academy, all of which were awarded £10,000 each.

SIGN LANGUAGE WORKSHOP SIGN UPS

A new workshop to enable more people to learn sign language as an extra language skill is now available in Brent. If you would like further information about the Signs4Life workshops, please get in touch with Sara on 07964 019 764 or visit www.signs4life.org

Start a new future

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- English and Maths • Digital Skills • Community Learning
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- ESOL in the Community
- Pottery for wellbeing
- Kiln Form Glass for wellbeing
- Family language
- Family Maths
- Story Sacks



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Term dates:

Term 1: Monday 10 September-Sunday 22 December 2018

Half term: Monday 22 October-Friday 26 October 2018

Term 2: Monday 8 January-Friday 6 April 2019

Half Term: 18 February -22 February 2019

Term 3: 23 April-13 July 2019

Half Term: 28 May-Thursday 31 May 2019

"Brent Start is here to help you fulfil your goals, whether you are looking for work, wanting to progress in your career or learn new skills."

Cllr Amer Agha
Cabinet lead for Schools, Employment & Skills



www.brent.gov.uk/brentstart

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Regeneration

Half way there

Now at the half-way point, with the South Kilburn Regeneration programme's anticipated completion in 2029

The Brent Magazine caught up with Marie Frederick, Senior Project Manager, for an update on how the South Kilburn Programme is progressing.

The South Kilburn Regeneration programme's anticipated completion in 2029 will provide approximately 2400 new high quality homes, of which 50 per cent are affordable for existing secure tenants of South Kilburn, as well as new health centre, retail, a new school for primary age provision, energy solution, a larger park and improvements to public spaces and the public realm.

**1-8 Neville House,
1-64 Winterleys, 113-128 Carlton
House and Carlton Hall
(together defined as NWCC)**

We've chosen Pollard Thomas Edwards as our architects to design the scheme and put it in for planning permission this winter.

As part of the process, we're engaging with residents and stakeholders on our plans which if approved will see approximately 260 new high quality homes built

and an enhanced and improved public realm.

For more information please see: www.southkilburnnwcc.co.uk

Chippenham Gardens/ Stuart Road

We aim to start demolition of the blocks in the winter 2018 to early 2019 to provide 52 new quality high homes and the adopted highway adjacent to it will be improved to form an enhanced new high quality public square.

Queens Park/Cullen House/ Falcon Pub/Keniston Press

We're working with our Limited Liability Partner, London Newcastle on this scheme and demolition work on some of the site has already started. This scheme will provide 137 new high quality homes, new offices for Transport for London, new retail space and parking.

Gloucester and Durham Court

The concrete tower block and low rise blocks have been demolished and work is being carried out by Telford Homes. 235 new homes will be provided on the site with the first units expected in 2020.

Peel

Countryside has been chosen as the development partner along with Housing Association, Home Group, to work on this scheme which will see the Peel site flats and maisonettes, shops and temporary studio site replaced. This is due to include 308 new homes, a health centre, gym and new shops.

Carlton and Granville

The Granville centre reopened a couple of months ago offering community space, venue hire and space for new start-up businesses. In the long-term, the site will be redeveloped, but the current facilities will be included in any plans brought forward.

Hereford and Exeter

The concrete block and low rise blocks are earmarked for redevelopment to provide approximately 200 new homes, new retail space and a new park. Karakusevic Carson Architects are working on the proposals and consulting residents and stakeholders, with a planning application expected to be submitted later this year.

For more information please see: www.herefordandexeter.co.uk

Stephen Lawrence

Charitable Trust

As well as providing the homes that people need, we're working with the Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust to help ensure the regeneration benefits local residents.

The Trust offers mentoring, work placements and bursaries for students from diverse backgrounds interested in a career in architecture or other areas of construction. Email neil@stephenlawrence.org.uk for more information

Awards

The regeneration in South Kilburn has won so many awards. We've won awards from the Royal Institute of British Architects, the British Association for Landscape Industries, the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, New London Architecture Awards and many others, and we were even a finalist for the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture.

What we do, we do for the people of Brent, but winning these awards provides recognition that we're doing things right and meeting the council's aspirations for high quality.

Want to know more about the South Kilburn Regeneration Programme? Visit www.brent.gov.uk/regeneration

Helping you into work

1,000 Brent residents will have been supported by Brent's employment team into jobs and apprenticeships by 2019

With some of the country's biggest and most exciting regeneration taking place right here in the borough, residents are set to benefit from the apprenticeships and jobs on offer, including opportunities in construction, retail, hospitality, IT, engineering and the creative industries, as well as the opportunities that will grow from Brent's successful 2020 London Borough of Culture bid.

Brent Works

The Brent Works team assists local residents to get onto apprenticeships and into jobs both in Brent and across London.

It's a service that's already helped scores of residents into work since April and can help find the job or apprenticeship that's right for you.

One resident who got into work through Brent Works is 25-year-old Arsell Aziz from Neasden,

"I was extremely privileged to have the support of Brent Works who opened doors for me, without which I would've found it a lot more difficult," said Arsell.

"They were always on hand to support me and answer any questions I had. And as a result of

all their hard work, support and care I have been able to find the right role for myself. "I will always be grateful and feel they deserve a special mention for all the people they have been able to help."

Brent Works provides help and support for jobseekers throughout the application process, with advice on preparing for interviews and guidance throughout the recruitment process. It's a service that is also proving to be a hit with employers, as Karin Holmes.

Manager at Premier Inn explains, "During the opening recruitment for London Wembley Stadium Premier Inn, Brent Works worked closely with us to get a good understanding of the types of positions available and exactly what we were looking for, to organise candidates for our recruitment days," Karin said. "It has been a great partnership and together we were able to recruit seven candidates into permanent Team Member positions. They have been in training for the last three weeks and are now ready to welcome our first guests to Premier Inn!"

Visit www.brent.gov.uk/brentworks for more information.

The Living Room

Advisors at The Living Room offer one-to-one sessions and ongoing support to help visitors identify the right career path, with help on writing CVs, applications, and advice on finances and benefits too. They can also help you to find the right training and development opportunities to support you into work.

Fatima Asmouni, 30 years old, from Wembley, got into work after visiting the Living Room.

"I am really happy. I like this job a lot, I have met a lot of really nice people, and we are doing training with our work at the moment," said Fatima. "This is a very good job for me, so I wanted to send an email to say thank you for what you do.

"I have spoken to other people about what your team do and will tell them to come and see you as well!"

Councillor Agha, Cabinet Member for Schools, Employment and Skills, said: "I am delighted to see the wealth of opportunities from Brent's exciting developments and the benefits for local people." Visit www.brent.gov.uk/livingroom for more information.

YOUR SHOUT

FATIMA ASMOUNI, 30
WEMBLEY RESIDENT, TEAM MEMBER, PREMIER INN

"I am really happy. I like this job a lot, I have met a lot of really nice people, and we are doing training with our work at the moment. This is a very good job for me, so I wanted to send an email to say thank you for what you do.

I have spoken to other people about what your team do and will tell them to come and see you as well! "

EWA JEDRZEJOWSKA, 43
BRENT COUNCIL, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION APPRENTICE

"I am so happy to be here as it has almost been ten years since I have been out of work as I was raising my children. This has been a great opportunity for me, it has given me the chance to gain real life experience and a qualification at the same time. I never imagined that I would be here and I am excited about developing my career. It's amazing!"

KARIN HOLMES
HOTEL MANAGER, PREMIER INN
"During the opening recruitment for London Wembley Stadium Premier Inn, Brent Works worked closely with us to get a good understanding of the types of

positions available and exactly what we were looking for. It has been a great partnership and together we were able to recruit seven candidates into permanent Team Member positions! "

ELLIS MCNORTHEY-GIBBS

GETJAR, ENGINEERING APPRENTICE

" This experience has changed my life and outlook. It's given me confidence and a career. The Brent Works team, K10 and Getjar have answered every question I asked and supported me at various points. Working on site has allowed me to utilise my previous training and forge working partnerships with some great people. "

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AGENT?

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Brent

Dudden Hill
Harlesden
Kensal Green
Kilburn
Mapesbury
Queen's Park
Wembley Central
Willesden Green

Happy & healthy

Mental health matters

Mental health issues have been more in the news recently, with public figures such as Prince William and Prince Harry speaking openly about their personal experiences

On Monday 10 October 2009, I had a very bad breakdown when I was working on a project with homeless people," explains Fiona Heffernan, long time Brent resident, mother and grandmother who is also a Brent Council employee.

"That week, when I went to see three of them, I came to know that all three had died of natural causes. I took it to heart. There should have been someone to talk to me about it but there wasn't and so I kept it to myself.

"I couldn't get off the sofa for five days, I struggled to breathe, and it didn't occur to me that I hadn't had a bath, or even a wash, for five days. The distress grew and grew and things began to swamp me. I struggled to organise events at work, do the housework, shopping or cooking."

After speaking to her GP, Fiona was referred to CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy) provided by Brent Talking Therapies service.

"The therapist asked me to keep a diary and it didn't take me long to realise that I wasn't actually doing

anything nice for myself. That's when I decided to travel to Ireland alone. The trip didn't go without its challenges. I had a panic attack at the airport and felt exhausted by the end of it. However, I also felt a big sense of achievement."

Taking time out

Fiona has been able to implement the tools she learned in CBT throughout her day-to-day life and notices a real difference in her ability to cope with everyday stresses.

"To this day, I ensure I make some time for myself every week. The counselling and CBT helped me to say 'no' when I am asked to do too much by others. I think taking notice is so important. I live in the moment.

"I make sure I'm there for anyone who doesn't seem OK. I tell them to look after their mental wellbeing and that I'm here to talk. I think it's important you realise you're not the only one with the problem. Everyone has mental health."

Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Culture and Leisure, said:

“Around one in four of us deal with mental health issues each year so it’s vital that no one should ever hesitate or feel embarrassed to seek help. There is support available if you need it.”

For further support and resources on mental wellbeing, visit brent.gov.uk/mentalwellbeing

ARE WE OK, BRENT?

Friday 28 September 9:30am-1pm, Brent Civic Centre Come along to this free event and hear about ‘The five ways to wellbeing’ and discover more about help services and facilities available. For further support and resources on mental wellbeing, visit brent.gov.uk/mentalwellbeing



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Properties wanted**

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Will your child be starting school for the first time in September 2019 or transferring from infant to junior school?

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Apply if your child was born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015

DEADLINE TO APPLY

15 January 2019

APPLY ONLINE

www.eadmissions.org.uk

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Apply if your child is in year 2 at an infant school and born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012

OFFER DAY

16 April 2019

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.brent.gov.uk/admissions

TRANSFERRING SCHOOL?

Will your child be transferring to secondary school in September 2019?

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Apply if your child was born between 1 September 2007 and 31 August 2008

DEADLINE TO APPLY

31 October 2018

APPLY ONLINE

www.eadmissions.org.uk

OFFER DAY

1 March 2019

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.brent.gov.uk/admissions

Arts & culture

Music to your ears

Hundreds of the borough's talented young musicians performed on the iconic arena stage for Brent Makes Music 2018 at The SSE Arena in Wembley in June

Young singers and instrumentalists from around Brent were given the opportunity to showcase their talents at the beginning of the summer.

The event, which takes place every two years, was presented by Brent Music Service (BMS) and included a record number of BMS ensembles, as well as the youngest performers at the event, the 1,000 voice Brent Primary Schools Massed Choir.

Brent Young Musician of the Year 2018, Anna Sinko-Urbe, a year nine student from Queens Park Community School, was welcomed as a special guest soloist and performed Chanson & Waltz from Suite Antique on the flute.

Anna said: "Performing on stage felt very good – it was less scary than I anticipated. It was also strange because I'd never performed with another orchestra as the accompaniment. However, I enjoyed it very much.

"BMS has been crucial in my musical development, I started doing lessons aged seven with a teacher from BMS who I still have

teaching me to this day. Overall, I'm so grateful for all they've done for me, all the amazing opportunities they have given me, all of the incredible friends I've made and all of the amazing people I've met."

Attendees of the event were also lucky enough to witness the world premiere of *Time Rolls On*; a piece by young songwriter Theo Laird.

Theo said: "I grew up in Brent and used to take part in Brent Makes Music so I found being back in the arena incredibly emotional.

"The song *Time Rolls On* is about the inevitable change and growth that life brings, and this notion was definitely intensified when watching so many children sing my words back to me as a young adult.

"Each experience given to me to create and perform in my younger years has contributed to my passion and skill."

This occasion was particularly poignant as it marked the retirement of Paul Fensom, Head of Service, following 40 years with BMS. After a short tribute and presentation there was a special

encore of 'Thank You for the Music', whilst Paul declared that "Brent children are the best!"

Cllr Mili Patel, Cabinet Member for Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care, said: "This was a brilliant event which helped to showcase how much talent we have in the borough, and allowed the children and young people to experience performing on the stage of a world renowned venue which is really impressive."

"Brent Music Service do an outstanding job and I'm grateful to them for their dedication to teaching young musicians and providing them with a well-deserved spotlight."

As the lead partner in the Brent Music Education Hub, BMS strives to promote music and the teaching of it to young people. BMS, a council-run service, provides musical tuition to over 17,000 children every week, who either reside or attend school in Brent, and has taught around 160,000 students over the past 26 years.



Advertisement

What is Private Fostering

Have you, or someone you know made an arrangement to look after someone else's child for more than a month?

If so, you could be fostering privately!

Brent Council has a responsibility to ensure that all children in Brent are being cared for properly and that carers are supported.

If you know of, or are caring for a child who is being privately fostered please let us know.

www.brent.gov.uk/privatefostering

**Brent Family Front Door:
020 8937 4300 (option 1)**



Safer Brent

Festival of love

The local community sang *One Love* as they celebrated the life of murdered local school boy Quamari Serunkuma-Barnes at the One Love anti-knife festival in Roundwood Park in July

Roundwood Park was the venue for one of the biggest outdoor gatherings of the summer as thousands of people gathered to remember Quamari Serunkuma-Barnes, who was just 15 when he was fatally stabbed outside Capital City Academy in January 2017.

His parents, Paul and Lillian, invited the whole community to the 'One Love Memorial Festival' in July to hear rappers, singers, dancers and families of knife crime victims celebrate Quamari's life, and also send out a strong anti-knife crime message.

Brent Council supported the event and is running its own anti-knife crime campaign to deter youngsters from carrying knives.

Quamari's mum, and One Love organiser, Lillian, said: "It was a really fantastic day and I want to thank everyone who turned up to support the event."

Knife crime is becoming a real menace in our society and we have got to get the message across to our

young people that knives destroy two sets of lives – the victims, and also the perpetrators. Both sets of families suffer. So the message is simple: Don't carry a knife."

Lillian, together with Paul, Quamari's father, has now started the QSB Foundation, which will work with other community groups to tackle knife crime.

Cllr Tom Miller, Lead Member for Stronger Communities, said: "This is an issue that seems to be on the news nearly every day now, and we have got to try harder to find a solution as it's destroying lives on both ends of the blade. The One Love memorial festival was a great success and I want to work with Quamari's family and the QSB Foundation to explore ways we can tackle the knife crime problem."

The event brought together young and old from all sections of the community, but there was also a strong 'no violence' message from families of knife crime victims who travelled across the UK to speak at the event.

The festival ended poignantly with a mass sing-a-long of Quamari's favourite song, the Bob Marley classic *One Love*.

The council is now campaigning to stop youngsters carrying knives. It will be working with the QSB Foundation, other community groups, schools and the London Mayor to try to get the message across.

Commander Simon Rose says: "Brent Police are working tirelessly, using a range of tactics and technologies, to tackle and prevent violence. These tactics include large scale proactive operations using different assets from across the

Metropolitan Police Service as well as supporting our local neighbourhood teams to work with communities to target weapon carriers and provide alternative activities. Bearing down on violent crime on the streets of Brent is a top priority for us, which is why we are working tirelessly day and night to identify and pursue offenders, help bring perpetrators to justice, support victims, engage and reassure the public, and keep our communities safe."

Look out for the hardhitting video, poster and social media campaign coming this autumn, or visit www.brent.gov.uk/strongercommunities

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Do something

AMAZING!

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**FOSTER IN
BRENT**



Education

Another great year for Brent students

A' Level and GCSE results are in!

[A' LEVELS]

SAMIYA MOHAMUD

PRESTON MANOR

Samiya Mohamud achieved three As and will now study Dentistry at Sheffield. "I am really delighted with my results and I am proud of my efforts which have paid off. I am very grateful for the unconditional support from all my teachers."

RAJVI PATEL

PRESTON MANOR

Head Girl Rajvi Patel, received three As and will now go on to study Medicine at Queen Mary's. She said: "I am very happy with my results, all the effort that the teachers and my parents have put in for me had paid off. I couldn't have done this without them but I am so excited for the next year."

PREET PATEL

PRESTON MANOR

Preet Patel, achieved two A*s and an A. Preet is going to study mechanical Engineering at UCL and said: "A massive thank you to all the teachers for their hard work and support. I can't wait to start university."

HANNAH MASTERS

JFS

"I got four A*s I'm really, really happy! I'm going to Bristol to study Maths."

JULIETTE GRAHAM

QUEENS PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Juliette Graham achieved two A*s and an A and is headed to Cambridge. She said: "I'm really really pleased. I'm going to study History and French, and beyond that maybe I'd like to work in advocacy or diplomacy. I'm really excited to start university!"

HUSSEIN, MICHAEL AND HUSSAN

QUEENS PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Twins Hussein and Hassan Mottam, achieved an A*, four As and a B grade between them. They are off to Nottingham, Hassan to study Aeronautical Engineering and Hussain to read Physics. Hussein said: "I had no idea whether I would get an offer or not and when I was walking here I was extremely nervous. When I realised I got A A B I was so pleased and excited!"

ALANNAH MCGRATH, GUI MOVIOI
ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC SCIENCE
COLLEGE

Alannah McGrath got two As and a C. She will be reading RE and Sociology at Leeds University. "I'm really happy, I can't wait for the next stage of my journey. The teachers at St. Gregory's have always been really supportive especially through our tough times."

Gui Movio will be reading medicine at Lancaster University. He achieved four As. "I am absolutely delighted that I got in to read Medicine and I'm looking forward to the next few years at university."

SAMEER BAIG
PRESTON MANOR

Deputy Head Boy, Sameer Baig, who achieved an A* and two As is going to Oxford to study Law. Sameer said: "I am over the moon! This is a huge stepping stone for me in my academic career. I must say thank you to the school and especially my teachers who went above and beyond the call of duty to help me."

NATHALIE SADIE
JFS

Nathalie Sadie achieved two A*s and one A. "I found my A levels really hard so I wasn't expecting them to be this good, I'm delighted! I'm taking a gap year to do volunteering but I hope to study BioMed at Uni."

LINA, ALAIT, SHUELL AND MELEY
ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC SCIENCE
COLLEGE

Lina, Alait, Shuell and Meley are all heading to University following their results. Shuell received an A* and two As and is going to read Medicine at Imperial College London. Shuell said "I've always wanted to be a doctor. Hard work pays off!" Meley is also going to study Medicine at Imperial. "I am really pleased. I have wanted to study medicine since doing work experience over the holidays. Medicine was my first choice."

ADAM BERNSTEIN
JFS

Adam Bernstein achieved A* and two As. "I logged on to UCAS and I found out I got in to Oxford to study Philosophy, Politics and Economics. When it came on the screen I had to read it six or seven times before I actually believed it. It's all very, very exciting!"

ZAK HASSELL
JFS

"I've just received 3 A*s at A' Level and I feel absolutely amazing. I've worked so hard for this moment and to finally be here with these sheets of paper which decide my future is brilliant. In about a month I'll be off to Warwick to study Management. It's absolutely amazing."

YASMIN LERMER
JFS

"I just got three A*s and I'm going to Nottingham to study Law. I wasn't expecting this at all, I'm just really, really happy."

URI SHINE
JFS

"I got three A*s and a B which I'm pretty happy with. I'm going to Israel to study for a year and spend time in Jerusalem, then I'm going to Bristol after that."

[GCSEs]

ZCHENELLE ANTOINE
CAPITAL CITY

"I was extremely pleased when I saw my results because it proved that as long as you believe in yourself, you can achieve anything you want. I was still nervous as results day approached but overall I was not completely surprised as I did work really hard."

ADAM MANSOURI
QUEENS PARK SCHOOL

"I'm really pleased, especially as with a lot of the new exams, we had absolutely no idea what to really expect. The time and effort our teachers put in has been brilliant."

NAZIM MOHAMED
PRESTON MANOR

"I worked really hard and am especially proud of the 9s I achieved in Maths and Biology."

RIO FERNADES
ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC
SCIENCE COLLEGE

"I got a few 9s and 8s and 7s. I think I did very well and it's all thanks to the school."

SULEGA ADEN, FATIMA ELMI
ALPERTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Fatima: "We're both so relieved and excited with our results, it's been quite a stressful few months but it's been worth it."

Sulega: "I'm just really pleased that all the hard work has paid off. We're both staying on at Alperton for our A levels and I hope to go to university after that."

ROPA SITOLE
PRESTON MANOR

"I'm over the moon, I didn't expect the results to be this good especially, the 9s in Geography, English language and literature. My advice to year 10 would be to carry on pushing for the end goal and don't give up!"

AHMED SHUKRI
CAPITAL CITY

"I thought I was dreaming! "I am really grateful for the amazing support given to me by all the teachers, especially in German and Maths. They gave their all to ensure I achieved the best grades possible including giving up their break times and after school to help."

ADAMSON BAMISEDUN

ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC
SCIENCE COLLEGE

"I got decent grades, I'm happy with them. I feel like it's good."

SHARDONNA'E EKUN

ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC
SCIENCE COLLEGE

"I passed everything and I'm very glad I passed everything. I doubted myself for a little while but by God's grace I made it through."

MARVYNE OURAGA

ARK ELVIN ACADEMY

"I feel really happy, especially about having done an extra GCSE and the 9s in science because I want to do physics and chemistry at A' level. I had more work to do because of the extra GCSE – I had to come in early in the mornings and have revision sessions in the evening. I had to sacrifice football, playing games on my Xbox and socialising in order to study."

ALKA VIMARKANT

ALPERTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

"I wasn't expecting to get such high grades and it hasn't quite sunk in yet, but I'm so happy! I'm staying at Alperton for my A' levels and am planning on studying maths, chemistry and biology."

KUNAL MAGAR

ALPERTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

"We've all done better than we expected so we're buzzing right now! I'm staying on here to study maths, chemistry and biology, but right now we're just going to chill out and enjoy ourselves before we have to come back!"

TWINS KILLIAN AND LORCAN O'KANE

ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC SCIENCE
COLLEGE

Killian said: "I very pleased with what I got. It was better than expected actually, but I did put a lot of work in before."

Lorcan said: "I'm also very happy. I think healthy competition between the two of us has led to good results. I'm over the moon that I got this many 9s."

ALEXANDRU MIHAILA

ARK ELVIN ACADEMY

"I feel proud that I passed everything. Most of my grades just improved by the end of the year from pushing myself and from a lot of work from the teachers. Normally I would get a 6 for history and the fact that I got a 9 makes me feel super, super proud. I'm going to study history and economics at Sixth form."

Cllr Amer Agha, Cabinet Member for Schools, Employment and Skills said: "This year has been another strong year for GCSE results in Brent. Pupils in the borough continue to achieve well and are once again performing well above the national average. I'd like to say a massive congratulations to all the pupils who received their results this summer. It was great to meet some students as they were getting their results . I know that pupils across Brent will have studied very hard in preparation for their exams and will have made their teachers and families proud with their brilliant grades ."

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THE GOVERNMENT IS CHANGING THE LAW AROUND HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION



From 1 October 2018 any property rented out to five or more unrelated people will require a Mandatory HMO licence.

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Happy & healthy

Parent power

From Mellow Parenting to Stepping Stones, parents in Brent can take advantage of a wide range of different parenting support programmes

The 'Stepping Stones' parenting programme has made a huge difference to me and my son. I had a fantastic experience taking part in this course," says Wembley resident Janki Upadhyay, mum to Mann, aged five.

"My son has autism and social services referred this course to me. The trainers were really friendly and approachable, if there was anything that I didn't feel comfortable discussing in a large group, they were available for one on one sessions as well.

Janki took part in the Stepping Stones course in 2018 which is an evidence based support programme for parents who have a child with a developmental disability.

"I loved the fact that the course had parents of teenagers in it, as well as people with younger kids. This meant that I could learn from the parents of the older kids and it gave me an idea what children with autism can go on to do if they have the right guidance and support."

The Colombo family are also pleased with the parenting course

they completed. Roberto says: "My wife and I did the Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities (SFSC) course last year. Five years ago, we adopted two boys and as they grew, we became concerned about their slow development and how hard it had become to manage their behaviour when they were together.

"This programme was suggested to us and we can't rate it any higher. It was a broad and effective course. One of the best aspects of the programme helped to raise awareness about why certain methods of discipline should be applied. It has given us the tools to help understand ourselves and especially our children.

"I would recommend the programmes to everyone as I think there is always something you can learn about parenting and this will only help to make your family stronger."

All parenting courses are free and are run during term time. Find out more at

www.brent.gov.uk/parenting

Your benefits

Getting ready for... Universal Credit

Your benefits are changing due to the government's roll out of Universal Credit

London is one of the great global cities of the world. But for too many, it can be quite a tough place to live in.

Here in Brent, at various points in their lives, plenty of people find that they need a helping hand, whether it be paying rent, putting food on the table, or moving to a better paid job.

And that's what this country's welfare state was designed to do - to help those in need to get by and get on. Now, after a number of delays and teething problems in other areas, the government's long-awaited welfare changes are being rolled out in Brent.

What will this mean?

In a nutshell, where a person currently receives a weekly or fortnightly mixture of benefits including Housing Benefit, Job Seeker's Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit, and Income Support, from November, they'll start getting a single,

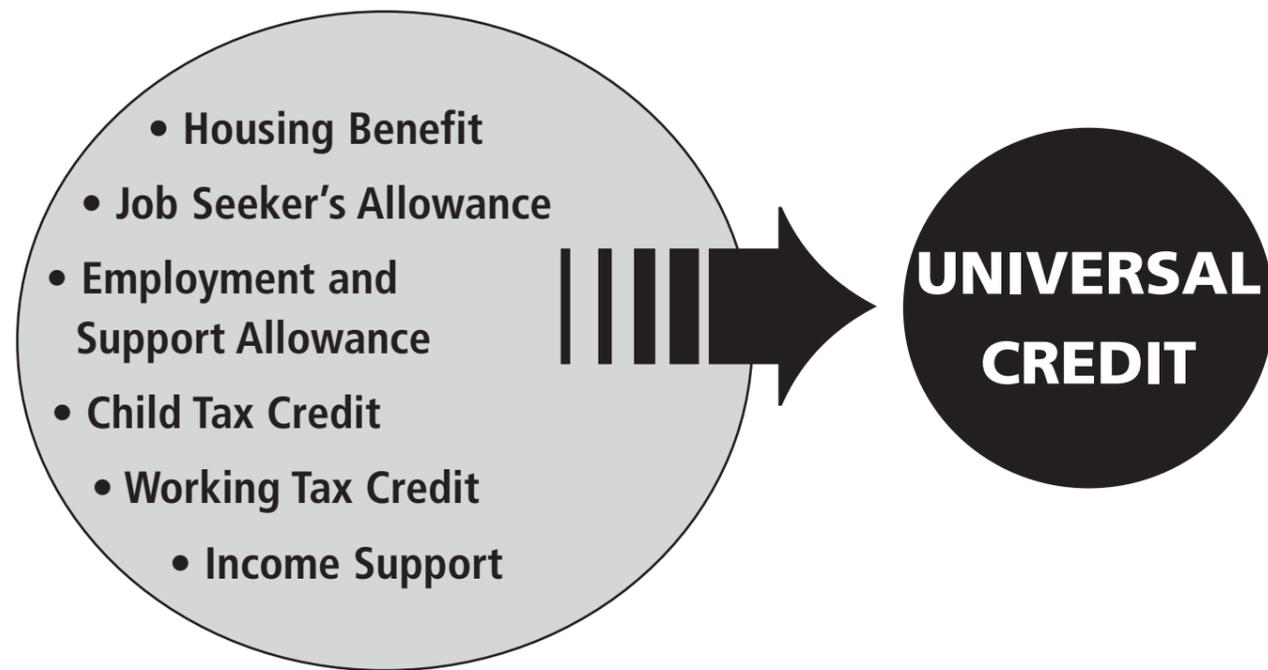
monthly payment called Universal Credit.

Given how big and complicated a change this is, it's simply not possible to guarantee that everything will work perfectly first time. Cllr Eleanor Southwood, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform, said: "Our priority is to get all of our residents through these changes without skipping a beat. Obviously, that's easier said than done, but the sooner we can talk to people the sooner we can be sure that they are all sorted."

What should you do?

We're asking anyone who is concerned that these changes will leave them in financial difficulties to get in touch. Council officers will be able to provide advice, make appointments with Citizen's Advice Brent (CAB) and get you the information you need.

Please contact the Income Management Team on **020 8937 2400** or email housing-management@brent.gov.uk



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My council

Question Time returns

Community figures and local politicians will make up the panel for a Question Time event at Brent Civic Centre as part of European Local Democracy Week on 15-21 October this year

Inspired by the popular BBC1 political television programme, the All About Brent Question Time event returns for another year as part of the week aimed at getting residents more involved in local democracy to influence local decisions.

The event will adopt an identical format, with Dr Jonathan Carr-West, chief executive of the Local Government Information Unit (LGIU), returning for the fourth-year running to emulate David Dimbleby as chair of the panel.

As with the popular BBC1 show, residents are asked to submit questions before the event to identify the main areas of interest for the audience, before one resident will read out their question to kick-start the discussion. Audience members will then be able to join in to ask a question or comment on the issues raised.

The All About Brent Question Time event is set to be the highlight of a week of planned activities organised to mark European Local

Democracy Week, which also includes opportunities to discuss issues with council Scrutiny Committee Chairs over a coffee, a debate among young people and an open mic night at the Library at Willesden Green.

Cllr Margaret McLennan, Deputy Leader of Brent Council, said: "The Question Time event last year really lived up to its billing as the highlight of Local Democracy Week as it was so well attended, particularly by our younger residents who demonstrated how incredibly well-informed they are on political issues.

"It's all of our responsibility to know about local and national issues and when things aren't right, to do something about it; whether that's by voting, signing a petition, campaigning on an issue, standing for election or by holding elected figures to account.

"I hope that along with the other events in the week, Brent residents of all ages and backgrounds get involved and are inspired to engage

more in our democracy going forward.”

For a full list of events taking place in Brent to mark Local Democracy Week, and to book your place at an event please visit www.brent.gov.uk/ldw.

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My community

Our survey says...

Every four years, Brent Council carries out a large survey to get the views of residents on a range of issues. The results are now in

The council launched its most recent survey with BMG Research, who spoke to 2,100 residents in May and June this year - 100 in each ward.

The information gathered is then used to help inform the borough plan and council policy and spending.

Here's what you said:

- **59%** are **PROUD** to live in Brent.
- **69%** said Brent is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together.
- **76%** are **SATISFIED** with their local area as a place to live. This is slightly below the national average of 79%.
- **ONLY 35%** of residents surveyed felt that they could influence decisions affecting the local area.
- **45%** agreed that the council is **HELPFUL** when contacted.
 - 25% disagreed
 - 30% neither agreed nor disagreed
- **45%** said it was **EASY** to carry out council transactions online.
 - 21% said that it wasn't easy.
- **66%** of people are **HAPPY** with the way Brent Council runs things. A figure higher than the **61%** national average.
- **45%** said the council provides **GOOD VALUE** for money. This figure is in line with the **45%** national average for councils.
 - 27% disagree
 - 28% indifferent
 - This is in line with the national average.

Brent Council satisfaction rates have risen from a low of 30% in 2006 and have remained at 66% since 2014. Interestingly, over the same 10 year period nationally rates reached a peak in 2014 of 68% but have dropped down to 61% in 2018.

- **10%** of residents feel unsafe when out after dark.

Main reasons residents said they felt this way:

- 41% Crime levels
- 21% Gangs/people hanging around

- **23%** said their local area had **IMPROVED** over the last four years. (+2% from 2014)

- **ONLY 2%** of residents said that roads and pavement maintenance is the thing that they value most locally.

6% saying they would like to see more money spent on it.

- **59%** said the council keeps residents either very well or fairly well **INFORMED**, compared to the national figure of **52%**.

- **IN HARLESDEN 49%** of residents thought their local area had improved over the last four years, almost double the **27%** who thought this in 2014.

MAIN ISSUES IN BRENT

- **57%** of residents agreed rubbish and litter lying around was a problem
- **41%** said people being drunk or rowdy in public places
- **40%** of residents said people were hanging around the streets
- **42%** said people were using or dealing drugs

A quarter of Brent residents have no formal qualifications.

English is the first main language for 51% of residents.

28% of residents have in the last 12 months read for pleasure.

Housing

You are the champions

Not everyone in privately rented homes knows their rights. The launch of a new community champions scheme aims to change that. The Brent Magazine went along to find out more

Leading figures from Brent's voluntary and community sector came together over the summer to put themselves forward to become Community Champions and provide important information to those who provide and live in privately rented accommodation in the borough.

"For various reasons, our clients have difficulties with their housing," said Zuzanna Krzemien, manager at Victims Support in Stonebridge.

"I decided to come to the community champions workshop to see if there are other services that I could direct them to for support with private rental issues. I have learned so much from the session, such as the difference between a HMO and a selective licence."

Alison Plaku, reception manager at Brent Community Law Centre, welcomed the launch of the new scheme.

"The community champions project will be a way for people

to get advice from Brent Council about renting in the private sector," Alison said.

"We see people who don't know that their deposit should be protected or that a landlord has to make an arrangement with a tenant to enter the property before coming around."

The launch event was also useful for Leroy Simpson, community liaison officer at Harlesden Hub.

"Ninety per cent of the people who come into the hub rent from private landlords, so it's important to be able to assist them," said Leroy.

"They tell me about the conditions they live in, the maintenance issues, the overcrowding. The community champions training session has taught me the terminology and what Brent has in place to support tenants."

Find out more about the community champion programme by visiting www.brent.gov.uk/prscommunitychampions

A home from home

Brent has been working with the Home Office's Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement programme since 2017. Syrian farmer Jamal Al Khaled explains how it has helped him to thrive here

Jamal has been living in Neasden since March 2017 with his wife and two children aged seven and four.

"My home country had many problems," says Jamal. "Every day there were bombs."

Before arriving in Brent as part of the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme run by the council, Jamal and his family lived as refugees in Lebanon for five years where Jamal worked as a plumber and builder. His family struggled to live a normal life.

"In Lebanon, the children couldn't go to school and we couldn't access doctors and hospitals," Jamal explains. "But here, my children are going to school and we have a GP and can do normal things like go to the park."

Jamal's family is the first to have benefitted from the resettlement programme which works to make sure Syrian refugees in Brent can do 'normal things' and build a good life in their new home country.

The programme provides holistic support to refugee families so that they can access appropriate

accommodation, healthcare, education, benefits, English courses, and so much more.

The aim is not just to adapt to a new life and culture but to build their confidence, self-esteem and independence so that they feel integrated into their local community.

"I like fixing things," Jamal says with a big smile. "So I have been helping other Syrian families with things that need fixing in their homes. I'm good at it so I help because I like to."

Jamal has done more than depend on the support provided to him. He came to London with basic level schooling and speaking no English but after starting his ESOL course, he progressed rapidly in just a couple of months. He was awarded by the City of Westminster College for his outstanding achievement and dedication.

Jamal said: "My dream is to one day continue to work as a plumber or builder here so that I can make a better future for me and my family."

An affordable and dignified send-off

With funeral costs rising by more than 70% in the past 10 years, Brent Council has launched a service to help residents give their loved ones an affordable, yet dignified send-off

The service has only been up and running since June, but already we've had some extremely positive testimonials from the families we've served," says Alex Kerr, Brent Council's funeral director.

Rising costs of burying or cremating loved ones had led to increases in the number of people seeking parish funerals – a very basic funeral, usually for people who pass away without any family.

Brent's new low-cost funeral service however gives bereaved friends and family the opportunity to bury or cremate their loved one at a fraction of the cost of a standard funeral.

Alex says it's not just the price that is attracting people, it's also the personal service he likes to offer.

"For me it starts on the phone when a family first gets in touch" Alex says. "They are grieving and it's a very difficult time for them, so I like to make sure they get the time

and attention they need to give their loved one the kind of send-off they really want.

"I'm always very clear and transparent about our prices, but I assure families that dignity, care and respect are central to our service."

David Bounds had praise for the way Alex dealt with his cousin's funeral.

"From the beginning, I found Alex to be very professional, very efficient and extremely approachable.

"Nothing seemed to be too much trouble for him and he was quickly instrumental in the lifting of the huge pressure I felt to be on my shoulders in organising my cousin's funeral.

"Alex proved to be a great asset to me and, in my opinion, this has reflected impressively on Brent Council in its desire to offer these services to the public."

Cllr Krupa Sheth, Brent Council's Cabinet Member for Environment, said: "We were concerned about the high cost of funerals and so introduced this new service, which caters to all faiths, as well as those of no faith.

"The actual send-off can be kept dignified and relatively basic, but there is also the option of adding more services if the family should want it.

"I'm really pleased we've found a way of helping our residents in what can be a very difficult time for them."

CREMATION COSTS

A recent *Cost Of Dying* report put the average cost of a cremation in London at around £4,591.

A cremation through Brent's new funeral service costs £1,500.

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Arts & Culture

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21 JUNE - 30 OCTOBER

BRENT'S PIONEERING WINDRUSH GENERATION

Exhibition exploring Brent's Caribbean heritage with portrait photographs. Experience a traditional West Indian 'front room' with our installation highlighting items from the local community and Brent Museum. The Library at Willesden Green. 9am-8pm Monday to Friday, 10am-5pm Saturday and Sunday. Free.

10 AUGUST - 28 SEPTEMBER

CNWL ARTS IN HEALTH

An exhibition of art work produced by NHS patients inspiration from pieces in the Wellcome Collection and Brent Museum and Archives. The Library at Willesden Green. 9am-8pm Monday to Friday, 10am-5pm Saturday and Sunday. Free.



8 AUGUST - 30 OCTOBER

2018 CELEBRATION SUFFRAGETTE BANNERS

Inspired by suffragettes, such as local woman Mary Blake, young people from Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College created this exhibition. Project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to commemorate the centenary of the Representation of the People Act. Community Wall, Brent Civic Centre. Civic Centre opening times. Free. The Library at Willesden Green. 9am-8pm Monday to Friday, 10am-5pm Saturday and Sunday. Free.

AUGUST - MARCH

THE EVOLUTION OF BUSINESS IN KINGSBURY

This fascinating photographic exhibition charts the growth of businesses in Kingsbury from the 1930s until the present day. Kingsbury Library. 10am-8pm Monday and Thursday, 10am-6pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10am-5pm Saturday, 12noon to 5pm Sunday. Free.

**WEDNESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER -
SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER**

HOLY SH!T

Simone and Sam will do anything to get their daughter into the local Church of England school. Juliet and Nick agree to show them the ropes. The bonds of family, faith and friendship are stretched to breaking-point as four forty-somethings wrestle for school places. The Kiln Theatre. 7.30pm (except 10 and 12 September, at 7.00), plus 2.30pm matinees on Wednesdays and Saturdays. £10-£32.50.

THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

NT LIVE: JULIE (12A)

This new version of August Strinberg's play Miss Julie is broadcast live from the National Theatre. The Kiln Theatre. 7pm. £15/£13 concessions.

TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

CARIBBEAN CONNECTIONS

Listen to multiple award winning poet Hannah Lowe discuss Caribbean immigration and what it means to be British. The Library at Willesden Green. 6.30-7.30pm. Free

TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

**THE ICE MIGRATION WITH
AUTHOR JACQUELINE CROOKS**

Gather with author Jacqueline Crooks as she reads from her new book The Ice Migration, a collection of linked short stories which draw on the migration of her Jamaican, Indian and German ancestors. The Library at Willesden Green. 11am. Free.

**19 SEPTEMBER, 17 OCTOBER,
21 NOVEMBER**

POETRY OF MANY WORLDS

A place to read your own poetry. To share poems that you love. Or just to come and listen. Rumi's Cave, 26 Willesden Lane, Kilburn, London. 7-9pm.8

WEDNESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

ARTIST NETWORKING

An opportunity to network with other artists and creative professionals as well hear from previous artists who have exhibited at the gallery. The Library at Willesden Green. 6-8pm.

THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

NT LIVE: KING LEAR (12A)

Broadcast live from London's West End, see Ian McKellen's 'extraordinarily moving portrayal' (Independent) of King Lear in cinemas. The Kiln Theatre. 7pm. £15/£13 concessions.

29 SEPTEMBER - 27 OCTOBER

FAMILY LEARNING FESTIVAL

Free events in all Brent libraries including: puppetry workshops, cooking classes, and arts and craft events. Various venues. Various times. Free.

OCTOBER - JANUARY

**SOMALIS IN THE FIRST WORLD
WAR**

An exciting collection of interviews, photos and objects exploring the involvement of Somalis in the First World War. The Library at Willesden Green. 9am-8pm Monday to Friday, 10am-5pm Saturday and Sunday. Free.

MONDAY 1 OCTOBER

**WINDRUSH 70: STORIES FROM
THE FRONT ROOM**

An afternoon of conversation with Brent Museum and Archives as we celebrate the impact of the Windrush generation in Brent, using the West Indian Front Room as a reference point. Bridge Park Community Leisure Centre. 12noon-2.30pm. Free.

MONDAY 1 OCTOBER

**LEXI FILM SCHOOL: THE
VANISHING + LIVE
INTRODUCTION**

Lexi Film School resumes on with 6 curated film choices, each hosted by someone working in the film industry. This perennially intriguing film will be presented by New Statesman film critic Ryan Gilbey. The Lexi Cinema. 6.30pm. £8.

FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER

AFTER THE STORM

It is 1918. Okoli Madu, a returnee Soldier returns from the Western Front with hopes and aspirations, but his hopes are dashed and his resettlement plans become dishevelled. Produced by Learning Through The Arts; part of The Back from The Western Front Project. The Library at Willesden Green. 6pm. £12, book via www.brent.gov.uk.

MONDAY 8 OCTOBER

GOODNIGHT BOOKSTART BEAR

PJ fun for all little ones. Come in your PJs, enjoy the charming bedtime story of Lulu reads to Zeki by Anna McQuinn, plus make a crown of dreams before waving good night to the Bookstart Bear. Kilburn Library. 10.30-11am. Free.

TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER

ANCIENT LIBRARIES UNCOVERED

Here's another chance to see Will Bird's illustrated talk that travels the ancient world – from Mesopotamia to Alexandria and beyond – exploring some of the most famous libraries in history, the people who created them and the fate of their priceless collections of knowledge. The Library at Willesden Green. 6.30-7.45pm. Free.

THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER

SONGS AND STORIES FROM A PIONEERING GENERATION

Join us for an evening of conversation as we reflect on the impact of Windrush 70 years on. With guest curators from the British Library. The Library at Willesden Green. 6.30-8pm. Free.

FRIDAY 12 OCTOBER

FROM ASPHALT TO MAPLEWOOD FLOOR...

Namron OBE travelled from Jamaica to Brent joining the Willesden Jazz Ballet in 1961 and was the first black dancer to be employed by a British dance company. Spend an evening with him sharing his dance/life journey through storytelling, audio visuals and live solo dance work. The Library at Willesden Green. 7-8.30pm. £8 in advance (booking fees apply) £12 on the door. 2 for 1 for over 65s.

SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER

THE HARDER THEY COME

Cult 1973 film starring Jimmy Cliff, the film that brought reggae to the world. Each ticket includes a delicious Caribbean meal. The Lexi Cinema. 8pm. £15.

MONDAY 15 OCTOBER

THE WIFE - CARERS AND BABIES BIRTHDAY BRUNCH

Our carers and babies screening will include cake and Bucks Fizz, to celebrate 10 years. The Lexi Cinema. 11am. £7.

TUESDAY 16 OCTOBER

THE PUNKAWALLAH'S ROPE

Join award-winning poet Chrys Salt for a spicy Indian takeaway. Gods, The Raj, viscous monkeys vie with Hindu funerals, sacred cows and rickshaws in a performance that explores the colour of India. The Library at Willesden Green. 6.30-7.30pm.

FRIDAY 19 OCTOBER

COME MEK WE LARF: BLACK HISTORY MONTH SPECIAL

An evening of side splitting comedy hosted by Mr Cee. The Library at Willesden Green. 8pm-Late. £15 (plus booking fee) in advance, £20 on the door. Book via www.brent.gov.uk/events

THURSDAY 25 OCTOBER

VIEWERS' CHOICE GALA SCREENING

An audience poll will decide the Lexi's Top Title, and we provide fizz and cake to help the evening go with a bang. The Lexi Cinema. 6.20pm. £10.50.

FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER - SATURDAY 22 DECEMBER

WHITE TEETH

Rosie Jones, the Iqbal twins, their parents, their grandparents, Mad Mary and others who make up the everyday chaos of Kilburn High Road come together in an extraordinary revelry of NW6. Zadie Smith's novel is adapted for stage by acclaimed playwright Stephen Sharkey and directed by Artistic Director Indhu Rubasingham in a major world premiere. The Kiln Theatre. 7.30pm (except 5 November), plus 2.30pm matinees on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 November. £10-£32.50.

TUESDAY 30 OCTOBER

BLACK GENEALOGY: WHEN BLACK HISTORY MEETS BLACK ANCESTRY

Trailblazing author and family historian Paul Crooks captivates his audience with an account of how he traced his African forebears enslaved on a sugar plantation in Jamaica, 200 years ago. Find out how to start exploring your family history. The Library at Willesden Green. 6.15-7.45pm. Free.

THURSDAY 1 NOVEMBER

LAUNCH OF HARLESDEN LIBRARY CULTURAL SPACE

Join us for the unveiling of the new commissioned artwork at Harlesden Library. Harlesden Library Plus. 6.30pm.

FRIDAY 2 NOVEMBER

COME MEK WE LARF: FIREWORKS SPECIAL

An evening of side splitting comedy hosted by Mr Cee. The Library at Willesden Green. 8pm-Late. £15 (plus booking fee) in advance, £20 on the door. Book via www.brent.gov.uk/events



TUESDAY 6 NOVEMBER

HISTORY TALK: RAF HENDON

The story of the historic site at Hendon from the days of aviation pioneer Claude Grahame-White through the Hendon air shows of the twenties and thirties, RAF Hendon's role in both World Wars and the development of the RAF Museum. The Library at Willesden Green. 6.30-7.45pm.

SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER

TABLETOP WARGAMING

Be a general and fight a battle in the Napoleonic Wars or command an army in WW2. Booking essential. Reserve your place at the library. The Library at Willesden Green. 1.30-4.30pm. Free.

SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER

INTERNATIONAL GAMES DAY

A day of fun playing traditional indoor games; Chess, Draughts, Scrabble, Connect 4 and more. Suitable for ages 5 plus. Booking recommended. Reserve your place at the library. The Library at Willesden Green. 11am-4pm. Free.

TUESDAY 20 NOVEMBER

NT LIVE: THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III (12A)

Multi-award-winning drama *The Madness of George III* will be broadcast live to cinemas, in National Theatre Live's first ever broadcast from Nottingham Playhouse. The Kiln Theatre. 7pm. £15/£13 concessions.

THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER

ARCHIVE WEEK

71 years since the NHS was founded we are celebrating Archive week by exploring the history of caring in Brent. The Library at Willesden Green. 7-8pm (drop-in). Free.



VENUES

Ace Cafe

Ace Corner, North Circular road, Stonebridge, London NW10 7UD
020 8961 1000,
www.london.acecafe.com

Brent Civic Centre

Engineers Way, Wembley HA9 0FJ

Harlesden Library Plus

Craven Park Road,
Harlesden NW10 8SE

Kingsbury Library

522-524 Kingsbury Road,
Kingsbury NW9 9HE

Kilburn Library

42 Salusbury Road,
Kilburn NW6 6NN

Lexi Cinema

194B Chamberlayne Rd,
London NW10 3JU
020 3011 5523
www.thelexicinema.co.uk

The Library at Willesden Green

95 High Road, Willesden,
London NW10 2SF.
020 8937 3400
www.brent.gov.uk/lwg

Tricycle Theatre

269 Kilburn High Rd,
London NW6 7JR 020 7328 1000
www.tricycle.co.uk

Wembley Library

Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way,
Wembley HA9 0FJ

STADIUM EVENTS

SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

England v Spain

SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

Joshua v Povetkin

SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER

Seattle Seahawks v Oakland Raiders

SUNDAY 21 OCTOBER

Tennessee Titans v Los Angeles
Chargers

SUNDAY 28 OCTOBER

Philadelphia Eagles v Jacksonville
Jaguars

THURSDAY 15 NOVEMBER

England v USA

SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER

England v Croatia

For more information on
stadium events visit
wembleystadium.com

White Teeth comes to the Kiln Theatre



Kilburn's Kiln Theatre premieres the first ever stage adaptation of Zadie Smith's novel *White Teeth* this autumn. We caught up with Stephen Starkey who adapted the novel, set in the heart of Brent, to find out more.

What drew you to wanting to adapt *White Teeth* for the stage?

I realised I wanted to work on a play set in London, about Londoners, as I've lived in the city since the early nineties. I'd read all of Smith's work except this one – as soon as I started reading *White Teeth* I knew I wanted to see it on stage.

Could you tell us how you'd sum up the essence of the novel?

Smith packs so much in to her wondrous novel. I try to do justice to the breadth of it, while focusing on the essential messiness of family, of relationships, and what it means to belong to a place, a country, a religion, or another person. An epic celebration of the chaos we make while we're all trying so very hard to live, love and be loved.

What were the main challenges of adapting the book?

The biggest challenge was honestly the day I heard that I'd been given permission to adapt *White Teeth*. I was thrilled – then terrified. How am I going to do this? The main challenge of the work itself has been leaving behind some scenes and characters I'd grown very fond of, for the sake of dramatic economy.

How important was the setting of Brent in your adaptation?

The story of *White Teeth* is anchored, rooted in its NW locations, there's an infectious joy in the way Smith revels in writing about her neighbourhoods. The play does its best to follow suit.

White Teeth is on at the Kiln Theatre from 26 October–22 December 2018

What's on

Your guide to what's on in Brent during Spring 2018. If you would like your event included on these pages, submit the details at www.brent.gov.uk/events

ARTS & CRAFTS

POTTERY CLASSES FOR ALL ABILITIES AT KINGSBURY

Pottery classes suitable for all abilities, from students who are fairly new to ceramics, to those more experienced. Masons House, 13 Valley Drive, Kingsbury. Mondays-Fridays. See www.regentskillstraining.com/creative-courses/pottery or contact info@regentskillstraining.com

STONE CARVING CLASSES AT KINGSBURY

Teaches the historic practice of stone carving and skills required to become a competent carver. For beginners and those who want to improve their skills. Masons House, 13 Valley Drive, Kingsbury. Thursdays. 9.45am-12.45pm, 1.15pm-4.15pm. info@regentskillstraining.com

CARIBBEAN TAPESTRY FUN FAMILY SEWING CLASS

Have a go at tapestry, with designs inspired by the Windrush era. Suitable for all. The Library at Willesden Green, 95 High Rd, London NW10 2SF. Tuesday 23 October. 2.30-4pm. Free but arrive early as spaces are limited.

CHILDREN

YOUNGER YOUTH THEATRE

Brent Youth Theatre invites young people to enhance their performing arts skills this September. Participants will think of characters, develop storylines and design set, props and costume. Ages 7-12. Yellow Pavilion. Tuesdays. 4.30-5.30pm. £30 per term, £15 concessions. nataliya.kharina@uniquecommunity.org

CODE CLUB

For children aged 8-11. Learn how to code. Reserve your place at the library now as space is limited. Kingsbury Library, 522-524 Kingsbury Road, Kingsbury, NW9 9HE. Fortnightly, 13 September to 6 December. 4-5pm. Free.

FIT FOR SPORT

Our Camps are designed to engage all children through multi-sports, games, arts and crafts, to make friends and keep active throughout the holiday! Vale Farm Sports Centre, Watford Road, North Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 3HG. Monday 22 to Friday 26 October. www.fitforsport.co.uk or call **0845 456 3233**.

UNDER 16S SWIM FREE

Under 16s Swim Free during the school holidays. Vale Farm and Willesden Sports Centres. Monday 22-Friday 26 October.

STEM CLUB

Fun learning workshops for children aged 8-11 in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Space limited so reserve your place. Harlesden Library Plus, Craven Park Road, Harlesden, London, NW10 8SE. 24 October and 7 November.

KNIGHTS AND DRAGONS

Craft event for children. Ealing Road Library. Tuesday 23 October. 2.30-3.30pm. Free.

CODERDOJO CLUB

Learn how to build a website, create an app or a game, and explore technology in an informal, creative, and social environment. For young people aged 9-13. Wembley Library. First Saturday of each month September to December. 1-2pm. Free.

COMMUNITY

KINGSBURY DEMENTIA CAFÉ

The dementia café is a friendly meeting place for anyone affected by memory loss, dementia or forgetfulness and are free to drop-in. Elder's Voice Dementia Cafe, Father O'Callaghan Hall, St Sebastian and St Pancras R.C. Church, Hay Lane, Kingsbury Green NW9 0NG. Wednesdays. 2-4pm. **020 8968 8170** or email lynnb@eldersvoice.org.uk

CRICKLEWOOD DEMENTIA CAFE

The dementia café is run by the charity Ashford Place and if you are affected by memory loss, dementia or forgetfulness and you are free to drop-in. Ashford Place, 60 Ashford Road, Cricklewood, London NW2 6TU. Tuesdays. 3-4pm. **07595 631 167** or email danny.maher@ashfordplace.org.uk

FOSTERING AND ADOPTION INFORMATION EVENINGS

Our fostering and adoption information evenings are in a relaxed atmosphere where you can talk to a member of staff and find out more about the process. Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley HA9 0FJ. Thursday 6 September, Thursday 4 October. 5.45-8.30pm.

ROUNDWOOD PARK HALLOWEEN ULTIMATE FUNFAIR

Get ready for the spooky thrills and spills of Roundwood Park's Ultimate Halloween Funfair! Harlesden Road, London. Friday 19-Sunday 28 October. 1-9pm. Entrance £1 per person. Venue ticket hotline: **020 8795 4282**.

DEMENTIA CAFE - WILLESDEN SPORTS CENTRE

The Dementia Cafe is a place for people with dementia and their carers to relax, socialise, do activities and get support. All ages are welcome. Willesden Sports Centre, Donnington Road, Willesden, London NW10 3QX. Tuesdays. 1-3pm. HPAwillesden@1life.co.uk

NORTH WEST LONDON WOMENS INSTITUTE

Local branch of the National Federation of Womens Institutes - a group of women with wide ranging interests, who meet regularly for socialising and an interesting talk or activity. Upstairs at: The Masons Arms, 665 Harrow Road, Kensal Green, London. Second Wednesday of the month. 7.30-9.30pm. Guests £5, first meeting is free. Full membership £41. nwlondonwi@gmail.com

ANIMAL BLESSING & THANKSGIVING SERVICE FOR PETS

The event provides an opportunity for pet owners to come together and celebrate the special relationship we have with the animals who share our lives. St.Martin's Anglican Church, Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5SN. Saturday 6 October. 2-3pm. **07778 453 578** or email animalblessinguk@gmail.com

FREE BIKE SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE CHECK

Free Dr Bike session. Bring your bike and get a FREE safety check and service.

Outside Kensal Green Station, College Road, London. Saturday 1 September. 10am-2pm.

Outside Willesden Green Station, Walm Lane, London. Saturday 8 September. 10am-2pm.

Outside Kingsbury Station, Hool Close, London. Sunday 16 September. 10am-2pm.

Salisbury Farmers Market, Salisbury School, Salisbury Road, London. Sunday 30 September. 10am-2pm.

Willesden Sports Centre, Donnington Road, London. Saturday 22 September. 10 am-2pm.

BRENT2020 LONDON BOROUGH OF CULTURE SUMMIT

Join us to hear about progress so far and opportunities for Brent residents to get involved and shape the London Borough of Culture 2020. The Granville, 140 Carlton Vale, London NW6 5HE. Saturday 8 September. 2-4pm.
culture@brent.gov.uk

WILLEDEN JEWISH CEMETERY OPEN DAY

Explore, walk and share memories, voice ideas, and discuss the past and future of this magnificent cemetery. Willesden Jewish Cemetery, Beaconsfield Road, London. Sunday 16 September. 10am-4pm.
vproctor@theus.org.uk

GLOBALGIVING CROWDFUNDING WORKSHOP

Do you want to raise money online for your charity or community group, or improve your knowledge and skills in crowdfunding and online fundraising to raise more funds for your projects? CVS Brent Training Suite, 7 Rutherford Way, Wembley HA9 0BP. Thursday 13 September. 2-5pm. £10- £25.
020 3011 1690 or email
info@cvsbrent.org.uk

GARDENING

GREEN CLUB @ HARLESDEN TOWN GARDEN

Green Club Members get stuck in with making Harlesden Town Garden a better place. They also learn how to grow their own fruit and vegetables. Harlesden Town Garden, Challenge Close, St Mary's Road, Harlesden. Saturdays. 10am-2pm.
info@harlesdentowngarden.co.uk

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

PEER SUPPORT GROUP BIWEEKLY

This is a biweekly peer support group, set up by people with lived experience, to offer support and wellbeing to each other-everyone is welcome. Ashford Place, 60 Ashford Road, Cricklewood, London NW2 6TU. Tuesdays. 1.30-3.30pm.
Engagementbrent@hestia.org

PARENTS AND TODDLERS PILATES AND NUTRITION CLASS

Discover healthy advice and bond with your child while doing gentle relaxing pilates. Yellow Pavilion, Wembley HA9 OEG. Wednesdays. 9.30-11.30am.
christineandmelissa@gmail.com

VITAMIN D TALK

Learn how to boost your vitamin D levels. Harlesden Library Plus. Thursday 18 October. 6.30-7.30pm. Free.

OVER 50s

ELDERS VOICE YOGA CONNECTS

Gentle yoga and relaxation class for people aged 50+ who want to stay fit and sharp. Elders Voice, 181 Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5TN. Thursdays. 1.30-2.30pm. £4 on the day, or pay for 12 weeks or 6 weeks in advance and get a discount (£3.50 per class).
annas@eldersvoice.org.uk

ELDERS VOICE DANCE MOVEMENT THERAPY

Improve your physical fitness, emotional wellbeing and mind through free expressive movement to music. Elders Voice, 181 Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5TN. Tuesdays. 2-3pm. £4 on the day, or pay for 12 weeks or 6 weeks in advance and receive a discount (£3.50 per class).
annas@eldersvoice.org.uk

ELDERS VOICE DRAMA AND SINGING CLASS

Join Jenny every Tuesday for an hour of singing and drama! We will be learning new songs, remembering old songs, bringing our memories to life and having lots of fun. Elders Voice, 181 Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5TN. Tuesdays. 11.30am-12.30pm. £4 on the day, or pay for 12 weeks or 6 weeks in advance and receive a discount (£3.50 per class).
annas@eldersvoice.org.uk

ELDERS VOICE WALKING CLUB

Join Sherita on the 3rd Saturday of every month for an hour of walking in the great outdoors! Elders Voice, 181 Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5TN. Saturdays. 10.30-11.30am. £2.50 per session.
annas@eldersvoice.org.uk

LATIN DANCE

Join Meg on Wednesdays for Latin dance sessions for people age 50+! Everyone welcome, whether you are recovering from a long-term health issue, living with dementia or just want to keep fit. Elders Voice, 181 Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5TN. Wednesdays. 11am to 12pm. £4 per class.
annas@eldersvoice.org.uk

SPORT

BOOTCAMP IN ROUNDWOOD PARK

A fitness boot camp session that mixes traditional calisthenic and body weight exercises, with interval and strength training. Roundwood Park, Harlesden Road, London NW10. Wednesdays. 6.30 -7.30pm.
www.ourparks.org.uk

PILATES IN BARHAM PARK

Pilates is a system of controlled exercises that engage the mind and condition the total body. Barham Park. Wednesdays. 6.30 -7.30pm.
www.ourparks.org.uk

BOOTCAMP IN ROE GREEN PARK

A fitness boot camp class that mixes traditional calisthenic and body weight exercises, with interval and strength training. Roe Green Park. Saturdays. 9:30-10:30am.

www.ourparks.org.uk

BOOTCAMP AT STONEBRIDGE REC

A fitness boot camp session that mixes traditional calisthenic and body weight exercises, with interval and strength training. Stonebridge Rec. Saturdays. 10-11am.

www.ourparks.org.uk

BHANGRABLAZE FITNESS CLASS

An amazing fun calorie blazing workout which uses basic but powerful moves of the bhangra dance style. Suitable for all ages and levels. Oakington Manor Primary School, Oakington Manor Drive, Wembley HA9 6NF. Wednesdays. 7-8pm. £5 pay as you go or £40 to book the 10 week block.

Genna Panchani 07949 648 867.

genna.panchani@bhangrablaze.com

RUN WITH ANDY - ONE TREE HILL

My aim is to get people out and show them running can be fun and enjoyable! Group runs and walking sessions that are fun, friendly and free for adults, guys and girls twice a week. One Tree Hill Park, Norton Road, Alperton, HA0 4QN. Tuesdays and Thursdays. 6.45-8pm.

runwithandy@gmail.com

HIPHOP WITH ELAN ARTS

Join us at Élan Arts for free of charge dance sessions every Saturday. Yellow Pavilion, Wembley Retail, Park Engineers Way, HA9 0EG. Saturdays. 5.30-9pm.

office@elanarts.org.uk

BRENT DOLPHINS SWIMMING CLUB

Brent Dolphins Swimming Club aims to promote the teaching and coaching of all aspects of swimming, including teacher training and lifesaving, for those aged 5 and over. Vale Farm and Willesden Sports Centres.

info@brentdolphins.org.uk

WOMENS ONLY SWIMMING - WEMBLEY LEISURE CENTRE

Womens Only Swim, sauna and steam every Saturday at Wembley Leisure Centre. Wembley Leisure Centre, Empire Way Wembley HA9 0EF. Saturdays. 4.15-5.15pm.

wembley.leisurecentre@gll.org

BOOTCAMP IN ONE TREE HILL RECREATION GROUND

A fitness boot camp session that mixes traditional calisthenic and body weight exercises, with interval and strength training. One Tree Hill Rec Ground, Norton Rd, London HA0 4QR. Thursdays. 6.45-7.45pm.

www.ourparks.org.uk

BOOTCAMP AT QUEENS PARK

Classes involve power walking, non-compulsory jogging and resistance exercises. Queen's Park Kilburn London NW6 6SG. Thursdays.

10-11am. www.ourparks.org.uk

QUEEN'S PARK BOX FIT

A fun way to get fit through a high intensity full body work-out. The class incorporates solid boxing pad work with body conditioning.

Queen's Park Kilburn London NW6 6SG. Sundays. 10-11am.

www.ourparks.org.uk

FREE AMERICAN FOOTBALL WOMEN'S TEAM TASTER SESSION

Wembley Stallions American Football Club Women's Team are running a FREE taster session. Try out a new sport and have fun!. London Post Office Sports Fields, Hussain Close, off 136 Greenford Road, Sudbury Hill. Saturday 8 September.

10am-1pm. teammanager@wembleystallions.com

wembleystallions.com

LINE DANCE CLASSES FOR ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS- FIRST CLASS FREE!

These 11 week courses offer a clear introduction into line dancing using a tried and tested programme which is fun and great to improve fitness. No partner needed. Kenton Methodist Church. Fridays and Saturdays. 10.30am-12.30pm. First class FREE then £6 per class.

nadia.stewart@hotmail.co.uk or tanyahawk44@gmail.com

WALKING FOOTBALL

Walking Football is a sociable, fun and safe environment to help you be a little more active. The rules are the same as football, with only one difference – you can only WALK,. Vale Farm Sports Centre, Watford Road, North Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 3HG. Mondays September to November. 7-8pm. £4.

NO STRINGS BADMINTON

The low cost way to play badminton for relaxed, social game-play for adult (16+) players of all abilities. Vale Farm Sports Centre, Watford Road, North Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 3HG. Every Wednesday September to November.

11am-1pm. £4.70 per session.

Arts & culture

Free firework celebrations

Sunday 4 November Wembley Park

Thousands of revellers will be coming to the free celebrations at Wembley Park fireworks and light parade this year

On Sunday 4 November, Wembley Park will light up for a spectacular fireworks and light parade for all the family to celebrate both Diwali and Bonfire Night.

Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Lights, will be marked with an animated community light parade through the streets featuring music, dance and thrilling fire displays. The night will conclude with a captivating firework display typical of Bonfire Night celebrations.

The event is one of only a handful of free major firework events in London over the weekend of celebrations. Both British and South Asian food and drink will be available, along with entertainment celebrating the fusion of culture.

Food stalls will be available from midday with activities such as lantern making ongoing throughout the weekend.

The day will start around 4pm, the light parade will then kick-off at 6pm and the day will conclude with the firework display at 7pm.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Muhammed Butt, said: "I am delighted that we are once again able to provide one of the few free fireworks events in London for all the family to enjoy. We've got a whole afternoon of fun activities for all the family planned as well as the iconic backdrop of Wembley Stadium for the fireworks finale."



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WEMBLEY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

WEMBLEY HIGH TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE • EAST LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL
• NORTH BRENT SCHOOL TBC

EAST LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAY

Thursday, 22nd November 2018

Prospective parents are warmly invited to visit our brand new school. We will be running tours of the school every hour from 8.30am to 10.30am and from 5.00pm to 7.00pm. Each tour will take about 30 minutes.

Outstanding Achievements in 2018:

Reception: Good Level of Development – 92%

Year 1: Phonics: 97% with 81% achieving 38+ out of 40

Year 2: Reading: 93% at expected level; 52% at greater depth

Writing: 89% at expected level; 50% at greater depth

Mathematics: 91% at expected level; 59% at greater depth

Science: 96% at expected level

*We provide a structured, disciplined working environment in which **every student** receives high-quality teaching and achieves his or her full potential.*

*Teachers are highly qualified and have a relentless focus on high expectations, high aspirations and **excellent academic outcomes** for their pupils.*

*We have created a happy and caring environment, so that our students are well-rounded young people, and have a **passion and love of learning**.*

*Our 12 million pound, **state-of-the-art brand new** primary school has purpose built classrooms and facilities, learning resource centres for each key stage, Science Laboratories and a Multi-use Games Area.*

East Lane Primary School, East Lane, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 3NT

Executive Headteacher: Ms Gill Bal OBE Tel: 020 8289 4600

Web: www.whtc.co.uk or www.elps.co.uk E: admin@whtc.co.uk