

The Brent Magazine

Issue no.158

Winter 2018/2019

Free for people who live and work in Brent

This is the large print edition of
The Brent Magazine produced for
people with visual impairment.

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Large print edition

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Celebrating and supporting our community

As we get into December, many of us start to think about the festive season and hopefully look forward to some well-earned time off with friends and family. It's also a time when we look back on some of the achievements and think about the opportunities and challenges in the year ahead. I hope you were able to catch some of the amazing Bonfire Night and Diwali celebrations in November. More than 30,000 people visited Wembley to enjoy the amazing free fireworks display and parade.

We also celebrated Black History Month in October and the Windrush generation through the Windrush 70 exhibition (see page 57). Both events made me very proud of Brent's diverse communities and even more confident as our preparations to be London Borough of Culture in 2020 gather pace in 2019.

As well as spending time with our families over the festive season, many of us will be looking to support the wider community as well. We have some great small

businesses in Brent so think about paying one of them a visit when you are doing your shopping (see page 11). We are providing free parking in 11 council car parks to help (see page 15).

Sadly, foodbank usage is also on the rise across the UK (see page 22) and I know many of us will be donating food to one of the various centres in the borough. Not everyone has a safe and warm place to stay over the winter months and the council is doing its bit to help rough sleepers by setting up a new shelter with St Mungo's (See page 30).

Finally, the Pride of Brent Awards took place last month. It was a pleasure to see so many dedicated people get rewarded for their efforts which benefit the lives of fellow Brent residents (see page 40-41).

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a great New Year!

Councillor Muhammed Butt
Leader of Brent Council

News Update

£200 million to build new affordable homes in Brent

817 new homes for social rent are set to be built in Brent after the council put in £135m and the Mayor of London £65m to a new housing build programme.

Brent is receiving the fifth highest amount of money from the Mayor out of 26 boroughs in London, as part of the Mayor's £1bn programme to build 'a new generation of council homes'.

The total cost to build the new homes in Brent is more than £200m.

Cllr Eleanor Southwood, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform, said: "This is fantastic news from the Mayor. Brent is committed to tackling homelessness and providing suitable and affordable homes to those who are most in need, so any opportunity to help us with this is greatly welcomed.

"The nationwide housing crisis has been decades in the making and it won't be easy to solve but this is definitely a very welcome

announcement from the Mayor. We now need the government to match the ambition of local councils such as ours and help us to get housebuilding again."

War dead remembered 100 years after WW1

The Mayor of Brent, Cllr Arshad Mahmood, led tributes to the servicemen and servicewomen who gave their lives for their country at two remembrance services on Sunday 11 November.

The morning service was held at the St John the Evangelist Church in Wembley and the afternoon service took place at the Queen Elizabeth Gardens in Sudbury. Both services commemorated 100 years since the end of the First World War.

Diwali Celebration

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan celebrated the Hindu New Year at the Shree Sanatan Hindu Mandir in Wembley.

Stonebridge foodbank launches new van appeal

Donations to help pay for a new van are being requested by Suffra foodbank after its five-year-old motor suffered a 'fatal electric failure'.

Staff from the popular foodbank in Pitfield Way are currently renting a vehicle, costing more than £800 a month, to collect and distribute meals to people in need.

Rajesh Makwana, from Sufra, said: "We have to raise £20,000 to buy a new van. The foodbank simply cannot operate without reliable and efficient transport to collect food donations from across north west London."

Donate at #vanappeal or by calling 020 3441 1335.

Wembley pupils hit the right note to scoop music prize

Park Lane Primary School in Wembley has been awarded a new digital piano to use in music lessons after beating 41 other schools in the nationwide Classical 100 competition organised by the charity ABRSM (Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music).

In May 2018, ABRSM set a challenge for all UK primary schools

to submit an original idea for a musical activity to support Carl Orff's 'O Fortuna' from Carmina Burana.

The piano was presented to the school during a special assembly where music teacher, Cecilia Kovacs, and 360 pupils conducted their winning challenge.

Dementia garden opens in Kilburn after Chelsea Flower Show move

A garden specifically designed for people living with dementia has opened in Kilburn – the first of its kind in Brent.

The 'Life Without Walls' garden is designed as a haven for people with dementia and their carers, as a way to help reduce social isolation, and is now brightening up an old plot in Watling Gardens.

Designed by Naomi Ferret Cohen, the garden was first launched at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show where it won a silver-gilt award.

Local residents and councillors joined the Mayor of Brent, Councillor Arshad Mahmood, at the official opening. The Mayor said: "This is a great example of what can happen when the community comes together to improve the local area. The resulting garden is a beautiful place for everyone to enjoy."

National spotlight shines on local charity in BBC programme

Local charity, United Borders was featured during BBC Inside Out's expose into government cuts and the rise in youth violence.

United Borders, a music outreach programme, was set up by Justin Finlayson in 2017 with one simple aim: to break the cycle of youth violence and gang culture by encouraging creativity through music.

Tackling gang culture and youth violence has no simple solution but it is clear that it needs to be a group effort. Last month, Brent Council hosted two community safety meetings to encourage open and honest discussions about how crime and violence can be tackled in Brent.

Website gets young people in the zone

A new mobile friendly website is enabling young people in Brent to search for activities and services relevant to them in one place.

Brent Youth Zone is jam-packed full of things to do for young

people to do locally, as well as information pages about health, personal safety and employment advice.

Many of the activities and services are inclusive, welcoming young people with special educational needs.

Young people were key in the development of the website and their feedback was vital as the council developed the site. The Brent Youth Zone logo was inspired by Doyle Bona's design. Doyle is a year 7 pupil from Capital City Academy who entered a borough wide competition to brand the Brent Youth Zone.

To find out more, visit www.brentyouthzone.org.uk

Children's takeover day

Last month young people from Brent took part in the Children's Commissioner Takeover Day.

Working alongside council officers, children were able to provide their views on some of the current consultations in Brent, such as the recently launched Local Plan consultation which asks residents what they would like Brent to look like in 2040.

Disability power list reveals double for Brent locals

Two of the most inspirational disabled people in the UK are from Brent, according to the influential disability power list.

Cllr Eleanor Southwood, Brent's Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform, and Asif Iqbal MBE, President of the Harrow and Brent United Deaf Club, featured prominently in the #disabilitypower100 list which is produced by the Shaw Trust.

Cllr Southwood has been a Brent Councillor since 2014. She was also elected as RNIB's youngest ever chair in November 2017 – the first woman to hold the role in RNIB's 150-year history.

"Unacceptable inequalities still exist for too many people," said Cllr Southwood who was born with no useful sight, due to a condition called Leber's congenital amaurosis. "I'm incredibly fortunate to be in positions that give me the chance to challenge this, through fighting to level the playing field for people with sight loss and championing local services that improve communities.

"I think the most powerful way to change outdated perceptions about disability is for people to see more

disabled people in all aspects of life: in community groups, at work and in public life."

Asif Iqbal MBE is the president of the Harrow and Brent United Deaf Club as well as the chair of Hearing Loss Professionals UK Network, a network of representatives working with sensory teams and services within adult social care.

He has been an ambassador for the Government Equalities Office and has sat on advisory boards for the British Council, the Runnymede Trust, the Department of Transport and the Department for Work and Pensions.

"It is important to achieve higher," said Asif, who was born deaf. "If I can do it, you can do it too."

The Disability Power List is an annual publication of the 100 most influential and inspirational disabled people in the UK.

Our 'Enry honoured with blue plaque

Boxing champion Sir Henry Cooper, who fought Muhammed Ali for the World Title in 1966, has been honoured with a blue plaque.

It was installed at the site of his greengrocers on Ealing Road in November. The plaque was suggested by local resident Tony Royden.

New Millennium Day Care Centre reopens after refurbishment

Willesden's New Millennium Day Centre has re-opened after a £72,000 refurbishment.

Based in Robson Avenue, the centre, which had been closed for refurbishment over the summer, is purpose built for adults with physical and learning disabilities. The renovated centre boasts an IT suite, dining area with fresh meals prepared daily, a fully equipped bathroom to meet the needs of clients who require specialised equipment, multi-purpose areas and much more.

A time to remember

Holocaust Memorial Day is the day for everyone to remember the millions of people murdered in the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution, and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Darfur and elsewhere. This is an open event and will take place at Brent Civic Centre on Thursday 24 January from 7pm.

Anti-knife crime campaign launched

Carrying a knife could destroy your life is the resounding message from Brent's new anti-knife crime campaign.

The #BrentNeedsYouAlive campaign highlights the devastating consequences of knife crime and urges young people to think twice before carrying a blade.

In January 2017, 15 year old Quamari Serunkuma-Barnes was stabbed by another teenager on his way home from school and later died of his injuries. Quamari's mum and dad are supporting the anti-knife crime campaign and have recorded a video message with other parents of young people who have been murdered in an effort to spread the anti-knife crime message.

Lillian Serunkuma, Quamari's mum, said: "Knife crime is becoming such an issue 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."

Watch and share the video online using the hashtag #BrentNeedsYouAlive www.brent.gov/needsyou

Outstanding Brent small businesses honoured

The second Brent's Small Business Saturday awards saw a diverse range of local businesses step forward and showcase what makes them stand out from the crowd.

This year's winners ranged from new micro-businesses to established family firms, and with over 60 entries, all of them had to fight off stiff competition to win the first place in their category. Winners included Rubio for the 'Best Business Interior', Classic Brent Autos for 'Best marketing initiative' and La Bottega di Anna for the 'Best Shop Front'. Tamariz Deli, who was awarded 'Friendliest Business', previously won 'Best Shop Font', and is the only business to be awarded a second time.

CLLr Shama Tatler, Lead Member for Regeneration, Highways, and Planning, said:

"It was fantastic to see so many strong entries this year from both new and established businesses in Brent. Through these Small Business Saturday Awards, we want to recognise and showcase the great range of independent businesses and retailers that we have in the borough.

"I'd encourage all residents to get out to your local high street this December and see for yourself what's on offer."

Small Business Saturday, a national campaign aimed at encouraging people to shop locally, took place on Saturday 1 December.

To see the full list of winners, go to www.brent.gov.uk/sbs

Richard Hay leads the way

Richard Hay, Brent Council employee of the year 2017, was recognised for all the hard work he has done to help people living with mental health issues at a ceremony this autumn.

Richard won Community Project of the Year at the 2018 Middlesex Grassroots Football Awards for his Hendon Football Club's Mental Health Project.

In partnership with Hendon FC, this project is designed to support Brent Mental Health service users to increase their engagement in physical activity, develop a greater sense of belonging within their community and reduce the stigma linked to mental health, whilst also establishing a successful community football team.

Brexit: EU Settlement Scheme arrangements revealed

EU citizens who do not have indefinite leave to remain in the UK should apply to stay in the UK by 30 June 2021, the government is warning.

The EU Settlement Scheme allows eligible EU citizens to continue to live and work in the UK.

Successful applicants will remain eligible for public services, such as healthcare and schools, and public funds such as pensions.

The fee for each application is £65 for adults and £32.50 for children. Irish citizens do not need to apply and can continue to enjoy their current rights. Rights for citizens of Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Switzerland are still being negotiated by the government.

The scheme is being phased in from December and will gradually open more widely until it is fully open by the end of March 2019.

Wembley switches on for Christmas

Shoppers watched Spurs football legend and former World Cup winner Ossie Ardiles turn on Wembley high street's Christmas

lights and mark the start of the festive season.

Ossie was joined by pupils from the Ark Elvin Academy for some carol singing and members of the Wembley traders association who put on a great event in Central Square to officially start the countdown to Christmas.

Leader of the Council, Cllr Muhammed Butt, said: "It's wonderful that we are able to come together to celebrate the Christmas lights here. It's a welcome addition to the bright and vibrant atmosphere of Wembley and I thank our partners for helping to make this possible."

Ossie also supported the new plastic free Wembley initiative (see page 28) which is hoping to reduce plastic use dramatically on one of Brent's busiest high streets.

High-flying Dragons

Seymour Zajota, a Brent Council employee, was part of a bronze medal winning team of Dragon Boat racers who represented Great Britain in two international Dragon Boat events this year.

GB came third in the European Nations Championships in Germany and ninth in the Dragon Boat World Cup in Chongqing, China this October. Dragon Boat racing is similar to canoe racing.

The London Living Wage has risen to £10.55

A £10.55 an hour London Living Wage will help ensure a "fair day's work leads to a fair day's pay", according to the council's cabinet member for employment.

The London Living Wage has increased by 35p an hour with the rise based on evidence about everyday living costs and how much anyone living in the capital needs to earn to get by. It is different to the government's National Living Wage – which is a new name given to the old Minimum Wage – which is currently £7.33 an hour.

Cllr Amer Agha, Brent Council's Cabinet Member for Schools, Employment and Skills, said: "We have long been a champion for the London Living Wage, ensuring that all employees on our payroll are paid it as a minimum. We were also the first council in the country to offer business rates discounts for those employers in the borough who do the same.

"The fact is many hardworking people on low wages struggle to make ends meet and it is the responsibility of all employers to do everything possible to ensure that a fair day's work leads to a fair day's pay. I welcome this increase which will help those on lower incomes with rising living costs."

Young footballers tackle Brazilian 'Invincible' Gilberto Silva

Former Brazilian international footballer, Gilberto Silva, popped into the Jason Roberts Foundation for a kick about with Brent's footy starts of the future in October.

The ex-Arsenal star put the youngsters through their paces as he visited the Jason Roberts Foundation's new Bridgestone Arena home in Stonebridge.

In addition to showing off their ball skills, the young people had a chance to quiz defensive midfield specialist Silva about sport and education – including his rise from a poor neighbourhood in Brazil to the top of the Premier League as part of Arsenal's 'Invincibles'.

The Jason Roberts Foundation runs weekly sessions on football and multi sports and delivers sessions during half-term for children with disabilities and is funded by Sport England and the John Lyon Trust.

The Bridgestone Arena on Hillside, NW10, boasts a new 3G pitch, indoor hall and cafe, as well as basketball, tennis and five-a-side pitches.

For bookings and enquiries, call **020 8838 5442** or email **info@jasonrobertsfoundation.org**

St Raphael's residents among first in London to consider a ballot on estate renewal

Residents on St Raphael's Estate could be among the first in London to be balloted on proposals to build new homes and community facilities in their neighbourhood.

This is a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity for the community of St Raphael's Estate, local partners and Brent Council to shape the area for future generations after the council's Cabinet gave the go ahead for a full resident-led master planning process last month.

Two options have been identified as a starting point to be refined and developed by residents. One option would see the existing buildings refurbished with possibly limited new build on green space. If this is the final preference there would be no requirement for a ballot.

The second option is for a comprehensive redevelopment of the whole estate with local people designing the area including the number of new homes, what community facilities are needed and

where, and the layout of the roads. This plan would be put to a public vote on the estate, which would make Brent one of the first boroughs to action the Mayor of London's ballot policy on regeneration.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan's new policy requires major estate regeneration schemes to have residents' backing before they can receive City Hall funding, a policy which Brent fully supports.

Cllr Muhammed Butt, Leader of Brent Council, said: "We are committed to putting residents in the driving seat, making decisions about where they live. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for residents to redesign the estate they love."

James Murray, London's Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, said: "We very much welcome Brent Council's clear commitment to giving residents at St Raph's a vote on their plans and look forward to continuing to work together to build more of the council homes that Londoners so desperately need."

Government introduces Universal Credit to Brent

After a number of delays the government's new 'Universal Credit' benefits system is being rolled out in Brent.

The changes are already in place at Harlesden Job Centre and will come into force in Wembley Job Centre from 5 December.

This means that existing residents with a change in circumstances or those moving into Brent making a claim for the first time will have to apply for Universal Credit.

All Universal Credit applications need to be made directly to the Department for Work and Pensions through their website www.gov.uk/apply-universal-credit

Visit www.brent.gov.uk/universalcredit for more information or call the helpline if you need extra support: **0800 328 5644**.

Care leavers on the ball in close game

Care leavers and council officers pitched their football skills against each other in a thrilling match during Care Leaver's Week.

The care leavers won the game, although the council officers like to think it was a close match! Many of the staff members suffered from aches and pains for days after the event. The match was part of a programme to combat isolation which is one of the biggest challenges faced by care leavers.

Free parking for Christmas shoppers in 11 local car parks

Festive shoppers will be able to park for free in 11 council run car parks over four weekends in December.

Council car parks on Elm Road, Barnham Park, Disraeli Road, Kingsbury Road, Preston Road, Salusbury Road, Lonsdale Avenue, Neasden Town Centre, St Johns Road, Wendover Road and Northwick Park will be open to motorists to park for free in the lead up to Christmas. The council also supported Small Business Saturday, on 1 December, which encourages bargain hunters to 'shop local' and support local small businesses.

Lewis Hamilton makes pitstop at Alperton School

Five-time F1 world champion Lewis Hamilton visited It's time to talk Brexit Alperton Community School in November. He was invited to the school by Mrs Andria Zafirakou who won Varkey Foundation Global Teacher Prize, 2018.

The lucky students were thrilled to meet Lewis and had the chance to ask him questions and play basketball with him.

Lewis posted a video on social media and said :“Still buzzing from the love and energy from the kids at Alperton Community School. Keep working hard guys and stay focused on your goals. The struggle you are facing individually will make you stronger – I promise you...Thank you Andria for taking the time for me today. I wish I had a teacher like you when I was growing up. You inspire me.”

Light up the night-time sky

More than 30,000 people visited Wembley Park on 5 November to watch a magical display of fireworks, Diwali lights, fire breathers, dancers, performance artists and a large mechanical elephant parade in front of the Civic Centre.

This year the free 'Light Up The Night' festival celebrated Brent's cultural diversity with a joint Bonfire Night and Diwali event.

Bloomin' wonderful award for Roe Green Walled Garden

Hard work has paid off for local residents who love where they live, after winning a top accolade in this year's London in Bloom Awards.

Roe Green Walled Garden, which is looked after by the Barnhill Conservation Society, was awarded gold and won best small conservation area in the prestigious awards. Barnhill Conservation Society member, Bernard Altman, said: “It's a great tribute to the work of our volunteers who have put in a lot of time over the last 20 years at the Walled Garden. We've planted hundreds of trees and wild flowers, we have regular litter picks with local residents and we all work hard to keep the garden open for everyone to enjoy, even in winter.

“We're not just a group of volunteers, but a community and we always welcome new members to join us and help us to continue making a difference.”



Deal or no deal? It's time to talk Brexit

Brexit is likely to affect the many European Citizens who live in Brent and have far reaching implications for all local residents.

Brent Council is holding a Time to Talk Brexit event to discuss the issues and concerns facing local communities and explore ways the council can help support people affected by Brexit.

The free event is part of the council's wider Time to Talk campaign which aims to empower residents and community leaders to talk about tough issues such as this and work together with partners to tackle them.

Time to Talk Brexit takes place at Brent Civic Centre on Monday 14 December 2018 from 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

NEWS IN BRIEF

HAVE YOUR SAY ON NEW KILBURN COMMUNITY HUB

Dedicated community hubs which will assist vulnerable residents to access services are set to benefit communities across Brent.

Over the next two years, the community hubs will be rolled out in a phased approach with Kilburn being first. The council is keen for residents to help shape the services the hubs offer. Have your say at: www.brent.gov.uk/communityhubs

FREE TREES FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS

Local community groups are being encouraged to apply for free tree packs to brighten up their local area. 25,000 trees are available for community groups, free of charge, to plant in neighbourhoods across London. Find out more at www.london.gov.uk/community-trees

ARE WE OK BRENT?

Following on from the Mayor of London's 'Are we OK London?' campaign, Brent hosted its first mental health wellbeing event earlier in the autumn.

The event gave visitors more information about how they can improve their mental health and wellbeing. Find out more about mental health services at: www.brent.gov.uk/mentalhealth

HIGH-SPEED BROADBAND FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

The council has given broadband provider Hyperoptic the go ahead to roll out high-speed broadband to an estimated 14,500 council homes and a number of businesses in the borough by 2020. Surveys are under way and installation will start with two pilot schemes in South Kilburn and Kilburn Square.

Correction – Exam results

There were a few mistakes in the Autumn issue of *The Brent Magazine*. Please see the correct information below:

Juliette Graham, Queen's Park Community School. Achieved two A*s and an A.

Alka Vimarkant, Alperton Community School, is currently studying Chemistry, Biology and Maths at A-level after successful GCSE results

Prakruti Pindolia, Alperton Community School, is currently studying Art, Maths, Further Maths and Economics at A-Level after successful GCSE results.

We apologise to all pupils involved.

My council

#OurDay 2018

#OurDay is an annual tweetathon to give you a look into the work of local government on a typical day in November. It gives you an insight into all the services that you get for the tax you pay

@BrentCulture

As the years go on the smoke gets worse. We continue to fight this air pollution curse. We need everyone in #Brent to take a stand. Use sustainable travel and let's tackle the issue at hand #rhymeoftheday #OurDay [youtube.com/watch?v=KF6kat...](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KF6kat...)

@Brent_Council

Meeting with housing staff this afternoon with Cllrs and the @mayorofbrent – thanks for all the excellent work you do #OurDay2018 @brenthousing

@Brent_Council

While residents are sleeping, with over 200 cameras our CCTV is recording 24/7 to keep an eye on dangerous situations and working with @MPSBrent to keep you safe #OurDay @TomMillerUK

@Brent_Council

Amazing pics of the South Kilburn #Regeneration Project by local #artist Amelia Lancaster #OurDay

@Brent_Council

Great to be out meeting some of our award winning businesses. @Brent_Council recognising the value of SMEs in the borough #OurDay #OurDay2018

@Brent_Council

Going above and beyond to get the little ones interested in reading by donning rather uncomfortable costumes

OurDay #BrentCulture

@Brent_Council

Love has certainly been flying high in the air. We now offer drone filming at the weddings held at #Brent Civic Centre #OurDay

@Brent_Council

Say hello to our newest resident baby Nikita who came to be registered today #OurDay

@Brent_Council

Come rain or shine, our officers from Environmental Enforcement are out searching waste found illegally dumped #loveBrent #OurDay

@Brent_Council

Officers and @kkrupas have been out searching through illegally dumped rubbish for clues. If it's your waste, you can be expecting a visit from us soon. #OurDay #loveBrent @VeoliaUK

@Brent_Council

Estates' Regeneration Officers meeting some peculiar residents on St Raphael's Estate #OurDay

@Brent_Council

Meet Richard Hay. Our 2017 Employee of the year who also won Community Project of the Year at the 2018 Middlesex Grassroots Football Awards for his @HendonFC Mental Health Project. #OurDay

@Brent_Council

Wembley Library are now all ready for the festive season. Best Xmas tree ever! @Brent_Council #OurDay

@Brent_Council

We have funded new services to tackle homelessness in Brent. Cllr @EllieSouthwood, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform, visited a new rough sleeper hub in #Willesden run by @StMungos

@Brent_Council

When it comes to litter, it's simple – take it or bin it. When you drop it someone has to pick it up after you. Litter doesn't magically disappear. #OurDay #loveBrent ow.ly/T0Dh30mFRMh

@Brent_Council

It isn't just our day today, but everyday. Just a few captures of the things we do at John Billam on a daily basis. We support our customers to learn new skills, and to integrate and be part of our vibrant borough. #johnbillam #OurDay

@Brent_Council

#Onthisday junior Brent Ballroom Championships which took place at Brent Town Hall – taken from Willesden Chronicle on 20 Nov 1963 @BrentMusArch #Archives #OurDay

@Brent_Council

A whopping 106 parks and open spaces are maintained for all residents in Brent and beyond to enjoy. This year we worked with schools, the local community and @VeoliaUK to win 10 London in Bloom Awards #OurDay

@Brent_Council

Alex, our Funeral Director, has helped to carry out 66 funerals since our new service was launched. He says the most important part of the job is to provide support for families who are struggling with rising costs of funerals on top of their grief. #OurDay ow.ly/NHz730mFRMI

@Brent_Council

Brent pupils enjoying our outdoor education facility in Hampshire and our furriest members of the team at the Gordon Brown Centre. #OurDay

@Brent_Council

Councils work on behalf of their communities, providing a huge variety of services, many hidden, every day, to support people and make lives better. Today we celebrate them! #OurDay

@Brent_Council

The street cleansing team works all year long to keep the streets in Brent clean and accessible to all residents. With the arrival of Autumn, this also means leaf clearance with 221 tonnes cleared last year! Great team work in partnership with #VeoliaUK #OurDay

@Brent_Council

We've been shortlisted for the UN Awards! The lboc2020 team at @Brent_Council has been shortlisted for their #BackBrentsBid campaign in the best social media category, in this year's Comms 2.0 UNAWARDS. Find out more about what we're doing lboc2020.com #OurDay #lboc2020

@Brent_Council

Proud to work with young people of Brent to launch the inspirational #YouthStoriesofBrent documentary film. Watch this dynamic documentary created by young people about growing up & living in #Brent @Brent_Council @WatesGroup #brent2020 #OurDay

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My community

Food for thought

The use of food banks has increased across the country

According to stats from The Trussell Trust, three day emergency food supplies to people in crisis went up by 13% between April 2017-March 2018 compared to the previous year. Of the 1,332,952 supplies distributed, 484,026 of these went to children.

Sufra North West London

Sufra North West London's foodbank in Stonebridge provides emergency supplies of essential food and toiletries to individuals and families experiencing acute crisis. Around 4,000 people in need of food pass through its doors every year.

Rajesh Makwana, Sufra North West London's capacity building manager, says that this number is expected to rise in 2019. "It's always a struggle when demand outstrips supply," Rajesh said. "There has been a steady increase in people coming to Food for thought us, and what with winter coming, there's always extra demand on our services because we see a lot of homeless people."

Sufra NW London can issue a maximum of four foodbank

vouchers a year to those in need, and can assist people with referrals in order to obtain those vouchers. The size of food parcels vary depending on the size of the family they are designed to support, but typically they last for five to seven days.

Anyone wishing to help is welcome to donate food parcels to the foodbank in Pitfield Way, or enquire about volunteering by phoning 020 3441 1335.

Brent Foodbank

Brent Foodbank relaunched in February 2016 after moving into its first permanent home in The Vestry Hall in Neasden Lane. With refurbishments funded by The Trussell Trust, the new space allows Brent Foodbank to introduce a variety of 'More than food' services aimed at tackling the root causes of a person's visit to the foodbank.

Brent Foodbank is a project founded by local churches and community groups, working together towards stopping hunger in the borough.

Need help with food or want to donate food?

Please visit:

Sufra North West London
www.sufra-nwlondon.org.uk

Brent Foodbank
www.brent.foodbank.org.uk

St Laurence's Larder and Open Kitchen
www.brent.gov.uk/your-community/communitydirectory/st-laurences-larder-and-open-kitchen

Granville Community Kitchen:
www.granvillecommunitykitchen.wordpress.com

Advertisement

Do something

AMAZING!

Keep a family together and foster today
www.brent.gov.uk/fostering

020 8937 4538



**FOSTER IN
BRENT**



Strictly Danny

Kensal Rise resident Danny John-Jules has spent his Saturday nights dancing his way into our hearts this winter so we went to find out more about the man under the bowler hat

The multitalented entertainer has been using the Moberly Sports Centre close to his home to practise his *Strictly Come Dancing* routines with his dance partner, Amy Dowden, who lives in Wembley.

58 year-old Danny is no stranger to the glitz and glamour of *Strictly*. He has been in the world of entertainment for 40 years, working on projects across TV, music, theatre, and film. He is best known for playing Cat from the classic 1980s TV series *Red Dwarf* and has also starred in *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, *Blade II*, and loads more.

Yet, Danny doesn't label himself as a celebrity: "It's not changed me. I'm still in the same area, still know the same people. I'm here with the people who I grew up with. I walk freely in my slippers, eating lamb chops in a local café. I'm not looking over my shoulder, I'm in my community," says Danny casually.

Before the limelight, Danny did his 9-5 in a building site, hospital, warehouse and hair salon. He

pursued drama classes after school before starting his career as a dancer in West End productions.

Asked if he'd always wanted to be in show business, Danny smiles as he recalls: "I didn't know what I wanted to do, I was just doing a hobby. I never thought this was going to be a career... but if you excel in something, someone will always ask you to do it and pay you. And that's what happened. I went to an audition just like everyone else. I put my 'product' in the show and someone bought it."

Danny and his dance partner Amy have brought *Strictly* to Brent with regular rehearsals at the Moberly on Chamberlayne Road, Kensal Rise.

"If you're a true community person, you will try to lift up all of your community, not just your own," says Danny.

When not recording, Danny supports a number of charities, including the African Caribbean Leukaemia Trust, Prostate Cancer UK, and The Willow Foundation. A keen motorcyclist, he travelled 1,250

miles on his bike from the UK to Valencia in Spain to raise awareness for Riders for Health, which uses motorbikes to deliver healthcare supplies to remote communities in Africa. One of his current projects, the TV show *Two Wheels, One Love*, brings together his love for bikes and charity work.

There is no end to Danny's life resumé but, to him, it all comes down to being true to yourself and your community. "If you've got no truth in your life, you'll have no truth in your heart, and you'll have no truth in your art," says Danny.

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)**



Wild things

Brent's diversity isn't just saved for its vibrant communities but also its flourishing wildlife, as Brent's photo competition and London In Bloom Awards 2018 wins show

Local residents got out their smart phones and long lenses to embrace the wealth of nature in the borough as part of the recent wildlife photography competition, organised by Brent Council.

Residents of all ages entered the competition and the judging panel looked at more than 100 entries across the two categories, from butterflies and bumblebees, to squirrels and swans.

Kerry Slack won the Over 18s category with a magnificent photo of a fox hiding among blooming flowers, while 15 year old Alex Alvanis took the gold in the Under 18s category with a close up shot of a stunning Ruby Tiger moth.

In addition to the two winners, the judges selected a number of other photos as 'Highly Commended' and all of the brilliant photos are available to view online at www.brent.gov.uk/wildlife.

In addition to exploring the variety of wildlife flourishing in the borough, Brent is also celebrating winning four gold awards and four silver awards at the prestigious London in Bloom Awards 2018.

The awards celebrate the efforts of local authorities, community groups and schools across London who work tirelessly to improve their local environment.

Roe Green Walled Garden was awarded gold and won best small conservation area, while Alperton Cemetery was awarded silver gilt and cemetery of the year.

Cllr Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Environment, said: "We received so many brilliant entries to our wildlife competition and I'm amazed at the breadth of beautiful wildlife we've got in the borough. Brent's green spaces are home to a multitude of plants and animals and we want to make sure that we continue to conserve and enhance biodiversity in the borough for our future generations.

"I'm also delighted that we've done so well in the prestigious London in Bloom Awards again this year and would like to thank residents, communities and our contractor Veolia, who have all worked so hard to help make Brent a greener and brighter place to live."

LONDON IN BLOOM AWARDS 2018

Overall, Brent scooped a silver award; an excellent achievement that recognises the hard work residents and the council put in to making our local areas cleaner, greener and brighter.

Here is the full list of awards:

- **The London Borough of Brent**
– Silver Award
- **Alperton Cemetery**
– Silver Gilt and category winner in 'Cemetery of the Year 2018'
- **Gladstone Park Walled Garden**
– Gold Award
- **Mapesbury Dell**
– Gold Award
- **Fryent Country Park**
– Gold Award
- **Roe Green Walled Garden**
– Gold and category winner in 'Small Conservation Area of the Year 2018'
- **Roundwood Park**
– Silver Gilt
- **Barham Park Walled Garden**
– Silver Gilt

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

- The Under 18s winner went to Alex Alvanis, aged 15, with his incredible shot of a Ruby Tiger moth
- John Rayner scooped a Highly Commended for his incredible shot of a Ring Necked Parakeet basking in the sun
- Magnus Andersson received Highly Commended by the judges for his close up of a Broad-bodied Chaser dragonfly
- 5 year old Khadija Asif received Highly Commended for her snap of a snail
- Nelly Loriaux wowed the judges with a photo of a cheeky squirrel and was awarded Highly Commended



Cleaner & greener

Plastics in the environment

A campaign to rid Wembley town centre of plastic shopping bags and plastic cups is up and running

The aim is to reduce plastic use in Brent's most visited area by at least 15 % by 2020, in time for the European Championships and the celebration of Brent as the London Borough of Culture.

The project is run in partnership with Wembley Traders Association and in Your Face Advertising and through it the council hopes to encourage all businesses to commit to eliminating single plastic use, which for Plastics environment in the Wembley's green grocers is a staggering 100,000 plastic bags a week.

Poly Lactic Acid (PLA) cups, Vegetable Starch refuse sacks and ecoMEDIABox's – which is an alternative to carrier bag – are being handed out free of charge to greengrocers and bars currently piloting the scheme.

It is hoped that these compostable and 100 per cent biodegradable items, made from plants such as corn, cassava and sugar cane, are taken up by all retailers and businesses across the town centre.

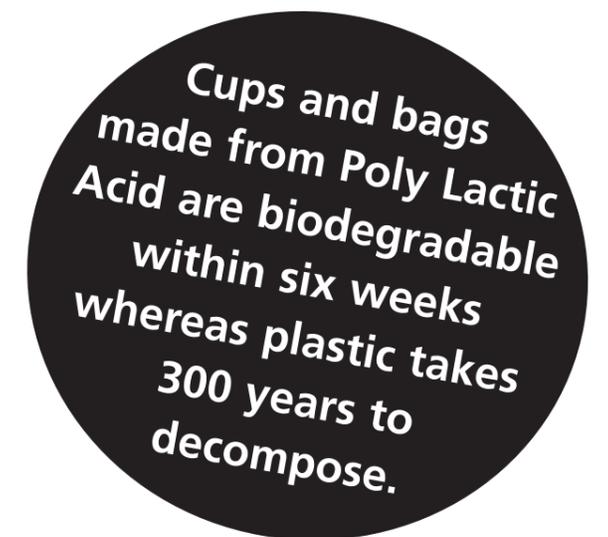
Cllr Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Environment, said: "This is a new approach that could help us reduce plastic waste greatly in this lively area and we are hoping to get the full support of all the Wembley business community and our residents."

More than 20 businesses have signed up including Best Foods, Fruity Fresh, Ganapathy, Al Pasha, Wembley Tavern, Double 6 Sports Bar and Blue Check who have all trialled and enjoyed using the biodegradable items in their stores and pubs.

Cllr Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, said: "Wembley is a lively area with many consumers enjoying its array of cafes, restaurants and shops. So it's really important that we work with local businesses to promote the benefits of this scheme, both to the environment and to their bottom line. We look forward to more Wembley businesses coming on board with this project to reduce the amount of

plastic that they are using."

Support the campaign on Instagram: pfwembley, Twitter: @pfwembley and Facebook: Plastic Free Wembley using hashtag #PlasticFreeWembley For more details visit: www.iyfa.co.uk



Advertisement

CINDERELLA

A tale of Kindness

A Winter Play For ALL The Family

Free Admission Approx. 90-minute performance

Online booking essential www.wintershow.org

Saturday 8 December 3.00pm

Saturday 8 December 6.00pm

Sunday 9 December 3.00pm

Sunday 9 December 6.00pm

Wednesday 12 December 7.30pm

For more information:

info@wintershow.org

For directions to venue:

020 8727 3350

BRAHMA KUMARIS

WORLD SPIRITUAL UNIVERSITY (UK)

Global Co-operation House 65-69 Pound Lane, London, NW10 2HH

Showing homelessness the door

A hub offering shelter to rough sleepers is one of three ground-breaking services helping to tackle homelessness after Brent successfully secured a £359,000 grant from the nationwide Rough Sleeper Initiative

There are three elements covered by the grant: a social worker and six flats to house single, long-term rough sleepers and the rough sleeper hub which is run by leading homeless charity, St Mungo's.

The rough sleeper hub in Willesden opened in October and is able to house up to 11 people at any one time with two bed spaces for women. It provides seven-days-a-week support from professionals working with the Brent Outreach Team. Clients may be people who are sleeping on the streets, people due for discharge from hospital but have nowhere to go, or people coming out of prison.

"If there is space in the hub, we aim to have a person brought in the same day," said Laretta O'Sullivan, St Mungo's service development manager.

"All our clients must be over 18, and there are two bed spaces for women, which are separate from the main hub to ensure that they

feel as safe as possible when coming into this service.

"We also have four allocated spaces for people with no recourse to public funds; people who are not from the UK. The aim is to support these people into employment, or to reconnect with their home country if they so wish, and if that is the best option available to them."

The six flats across the borough have been allocated to people who may have experienced a complicated mix of poor mental and physical health, alcohol and drug problems, and childhood trauma.

People in these six flats will be given a 12 month introductory tenancy that could be extended to five years. The properties provide long-term safe and stable accommodation for people who are working towards their recovery from homelessness.

"These new services have already helped nine people off the streets between August and November this

year," said Cllr Eleanor Southwood, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform. "The flats and the hub are providing practical ways to help rough sleepers in Brent and support people who find themselves without a roof over the head to improve their health and long-term opportunities."

The council has also recruited a social worker to work closely with the Brent Outreach Team, going out on the streets to meet people sleeping rough and offering them mental health assessments.

London stats

Of the people seen sleeping rough in London in 2017-18:

- 50% were tackling mental health problems,
- 43% were tackling alcohol problems
- 40% were tackling drug problems

If you spot someone sleeping rough in Brent ...

... you can help by contacting the national referral service StreetLink at www.streetlink.org.uk and leaving details. These will then be passed on to the Brent outreach team, who refer into this hub.

Community cashback

With cranes dotting the Brent skyline, regeneration projects are continuing to help pay for community benefits across the borough through the Community Infrastructure Levy

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge that local authorities can set on new developments to raise cash to help pay for infrastructure, or anything else that will address the demands that development places on an area, and has community support.

Thanks to the money received from developers, the council has so far awarded around £3million to more than 80 community projects to improve local neighbourhoods.

Cllr Tatler, Brent Council's Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, said: "These neighbourhood projects are all meeting the needs of their area and it's great that we have been able to support them. The 15% of the levy from developers that we give to neighbourhood projects is proving valuable in helping us continue to improve Brent for everyone and help support development in the area. Our approach was highly commended in the Place West London Awards earlier this year."

£36,500 Elders Voice

Elders Voice works to improve the lives of older people in Brent. They run three day centres a week, a dementia cafe and a range of classes for around 200 users who come to relax, socialise and take part in healthy living activities.

The funding received will go towards the refurbishment of the two main rooms, the kitchen and the hallway.

Jenny Davison, Chief Executive, said: "The grant will go towards new flooring, wall coverings, and new chairs and tables in order that we may offer a homely yet modern space for older people. We will be relaunching the new spaces early in 2019." The CIL funding has enabled an upgrade to a community facility.

£30,000 Caritas SEIDS

SEIDS (Social Enterprise Ideas Development) is a social enterprise that helps people turn their business ideas into reality.

They provide advice, resources and

collaboration opportunities and offer decent jobs through their property service enterprise.

Their CIL grant has been used to assist with the refurbishment of the premises, provide furniture and fittings and landscape the front of the new SEIDS Hub site on Empire Way. Part of the grant will also go towards developing workshop studios on the lower ground floor.

'The CIL grant was a real boost to this project and has helped make it a reality' said Elena Bologna, Hub Manager.

£18,000 Ultra Education

Through Ultra Education Julian Hall and his team help harness the creativity of the borough's growing number of younger residents and budding entrepreneurs. The team work with 7-18 year-olds to improve their confidence and life skills.

Ultra Education's Brent base is at the Granville Centre in South Kilburn.

Julian Hall, CEO, who was born and raised in Brent, said: "We're really pleased to have received this funding. Offering a free community club means a lot to me. There are no barriers to attending which means that anyone can take part." He added: There's a demand in Brent and we are happy that they are supporting that need through CIL funding."

The grant will go towards running the weekly club, hosting the annual kids' business fair and making sure that there is enough support in place.

£12,000 Salusbury World Film Club /Lexi

The Lexi is an independent cinema which relies on around 50 local people who volunteer every two weeks to put on a fantastic line-up of movies for visitors.

CIL funding was given to Salusbury World and Lexi to run Salusbury World Film Club, a joint project to help refugee and asylum seeking women learn English and integrate into the community. The Salusbury World Film Club group attend language sessions and come together once per month to watch and discuss a movie that they have been learning about as a group.

Rosie Greatorex, Cinema and Programme Director, said: "We were all over the moon when the money came through. We couldn't have run the Salusbury World Film Club without the funding."

If you have a great community project in mind, funding rounds take place twice a year, in Spring and Autumn
Go to www.brent.gov.uk/cil for more information. For help applying email: support@cvsbrent.org.uk

Regeneration

Shaping Brent's Future Together

Brent Council is planning 20 years into the future with a new Local Plan and you can help shape the borough

Brent has changed tremendously over the last two decades and has attracted loads of new residents, jobs, investment and visitors. By 2041, there will be around 65,000 more people living here and around 30,000 new jobs will be needed – so the council is keen to make sure it's a place where local people, current and new, and their families can live well into the future.

The Local Plan helps make this happen. It is the document that will set out a long term vision for the borough, improving places that could be better, while protecting those bits that are special. The Local Plan will be used to guide planning applications, including what can be built, where, how, for what use, where restrictions apply and why.

Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways and Planning, Councillor Shama Tatler: "We are grateful for all the responses we received from the consultation previously which has resulted in this draft Plan. We're asking local people again to get

involved because we want residents' voices in shaping how Brent will look and meet the needs of the communities that live here.

"The Local Plan will be a powerful document that will set out Brent's policies towards new homes, town centres, open space, employment, community facilities, the built and natural environment and transport – all of which contribute to making Brent a vibrant place to live and work.

"I hope everyone will take part in shaping the future growth of Brent and how it will look and feel for the next 20 years."

Visit www.brent.gov.uk/shapbrent to read the draft Local Plan and give us your views by 5pm on Thursday 3 January 2019. Copies of the draft Local Plan and supporting documents are also available at the following libraries: Ealing Road, Harlesden, Kilburn, Kingsbury, Wembley, Willesden.

Some of the things you'll find the draft Local Plan

Over 24,000 new homes need to be built in Brent over the next 10 years – do you agree with the locations suggested in the draft Local Plan for these?

Should parts of town centres that are in decline be used for leisure, workspace, community facilities and new homes?

Should we allow new homes and employment space on underused industrial sites?

Do you support the proposal for a new passenger railway line called the 'West London Orbital' with stops linking around Harlesden, Neasden and Staples Corner/ Brent Cross and West London?

Have your say on what you would like Brent to look like by 2040.

-
- New Homes • More jobs • Community Facilities • Culture
 - Leisure • Shops • Heritage • Environment • Better transport
-



HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL POLICING TEAM!



Neighbourhood policing officers play a vital role in keeping London's communities safe, whether they're working face to face with the general public or patrolling the streets preventing crime. You can contact your Safer Neighbourhood Team via telephone or email. Their focus is on crime and antisocial behaviour within the community.

Alperton

Alperton.SNT@met.police.uk
0207 161 8330
@MPSAlperton

Barnhill

BrentBarnhill.SNT@met.police.uk
07920 233 755
@MPSBarnhill

Brondesbury

BrondesburyPark.SNT@met.police.uk
0207 161 8704
@MPSBrondesbury

Dollis Hill

DollisHill.SNT@met.police.uk
0207 161 8438

Dudden Hill

DuddenHill.SNT@met.police.uk
07747 634 416
@MPSDuddenHill

Fryent

Fryent.SNT@met.police.uk
0208 904 7472
@MPSFryent

Harlesden

Harlesden.SNT@met.police.uk
0207 161 8303
@MPSHarlesden

Kensal Green

KensalGreen.SNT@met.police.uk
07747 638 489

Kenton

Kenton.SNT@met.police.uk
0208 721 2970
@MPSKentonQK

Kilburn

BrentKilburn.SNT@met.police.uk
0208 733 3396
@MPSKilburn

Mapesbury

Mapesbury.SNT@met.police.uk
0207 161 8705
@MPSMapesbury

Northwick Park

NorthwickPark.SNT@met.police.uk
0208 721 2969

Preston

Preston.SNT@met.police.uk
0208 721 3128
@MPSPreston

Queensbury

Queensbury.SNT@met.police.uk
0207 1618531
@MPSQueensbury

Queens Park

BrentQueensPark.SNT@met.police.uk
0208 246 2111
@MPSQueensPark

Stonebridge

Stonebridge.SNT@met.police.uk
07747 476 168

Sudbury

Sudbury.SNT@met.police.uk
07920 233 756
@MPSSudbury

Tokyington

Tokyington.SNT@met.police.uk
07920 233 749
@MPSTokyington

Welsh Harp

WelshHarp.SNT@met.police.uk
0208 908 9567
@MPSWelshHarp

Wembley Central

WembleyCentral.SNT@met.police.uk
0207 161 8027
@MPSWembleyCentl

Willesden Green

WillesdenGreen.SNT@met.police.uk
0207 161 8704
@MPSWillesden



Brent

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL POLICING TEAM!



**SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS
LOCAL POLICE LOCAL KNOWLEDGE**

Cleaner & greener

Hop, skip and a no dump to a cleaner Brent

Residents have been putting on high-vis jackets and getting their hands dirty as part of a new community skip trial which aims to help make Brent cleaner and greener

The community skips pilot, which was championed and led by Kingsbury residents, gave local people another way to get rid of unwanted household items.

Kingsbury resident of 40 years and member of Kingsbury Neighbourhood Watch, Nicole Aearn, championed the project from the beginning and played an important role in bringing the local community together to drive the trial forward.

Nicole said: "A lot of hard work went into making this project happen between Kingsbury Neighbourhood Watch and Brent Council and it was a brilliant showcase of residents who love where they live.

"It would be fantastic to put an end to the blight of fly-tipping and there is a real appetite in the community to help make this happen. Let's all support this and see it grow."

Cllr Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Environment, said: "This was a great initiative. Thank you to the residents who gave up their time to man the skips. Although this is just a trial, I'm really pleased to see the community getting together to show their love for their local areas and encouraging others to do the same.

"We are serious about tackling illegal rubbish dumping in the borough and we are as frustrated as residents are with the selfish minority who blight our streets and parks with rubbish. This is why we've stepped up our activities and enforcement, including using tailored and innovative approaches to tackling the issue in different areas of the borough, with some good results.

"We will continue to come down hard on those who illegally dump rubbish but we all need to pull together to tackle this.

"As well as using the Cleaner Brent app, encourage your friends and neighbours to get rid of their waste properly. Let us know if you see anything suspicious by speaking to your local Neighbourhood Manager."

There are many ways for residents to get rid of their unwanted household items, including using the council's bulky waste service or taking items to the Reuse and Recycling Centre on Abbey Road, NW10 7TJ.

To book a special collection, visit www.brent.gov.uk/specialcollections



Brent resident, Jose Santana said: "I think this is great and will hopefully remind people that there are lots of easy ways to get rid of your stuff, without leaving it on the streets

1,910 Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued for illegal rubbish dumping and littering in the borough by the council this year

A project in Chapter Road and Deacon Road in Willesden resulted in more than a 90% decrease in reports of illegal rubbish dumping

If you would like to help with our campaign, speak to your local neighbourhood manager.



Celebrating the Pride of Brent

Community heroes from Brent were celebrated at a glittering awards ceremony which took place at the Brent Civic Centre last month

The Pride of Brent Awards recognises and commends selfless individuals, community groups, local businesses and council workers who go that extra mile to make Brent a better place to live and work.

All of the Pride of Brent winners were invited to receive their award by members of the judging panel including Councillor Arshad Mahmood, the Mayor of Brent and Councillor McLennan, Willesden, Deputy Leader of Brent Council.

The winners have helped Brent's diverse community in a variety of ways from volunteering for the home library service and working with people living with dementia to helping people recover from substance misuse.

They all have something in common which is dedicating their time to working for the benefit of their fellow residents, communities and neighbours.

The event was sponsored by Quintain.



Pride of Brent Awards Winners 2018

Community group of the year

London Basketball Association (LBA)

Community champion of the year

Harlesden

Dulcie Joseph

Kilburn

Emma Betty Hammond

Cross

Helen Goodsell

Kingsbury and Kenton

Debbie Nyman

Across Brent

Radha Allen

Willesden

Ian Rouse

Wembley

Ezra Thomas.

Ezra has worked with boys and young men (and from 2008, girls and young women) for around 51 years as a leader of the Boy's Brigade/ Girls Association. He has guided them to develop "discipline and self-respect" through activities, exercise and working towards badges in a wide range of arts, crafts and community responsibility.

Volunteer of the year

Cross Locality

Tina Wooderson Iman Hamid

Kingsbury and Kenton

Suryakant Jadvva

Wembley

Paul Woodford

Willesden George Branch,

Leonard Richards, Paul Sugrue and Prashant Shah

These amazing volunteers have been working with Brent's Home Library Service to bring the library to the homes of Brent's residents who are unable to come to the library due to health reasons. Many of these residents are living in isolation with little or no contact with the outside world. The work of Library Service's volunteers is making a huge difference in alleviating this situation. They are a selfless and dedicated team.

Inspirational young person of the year

Issa Abdulayeba

Issa is 17 years-old and is a volunteer who works with the Islamic Cultural Centre (Wembley). He has helped bring other young people into community-based activities. He now manages a group of 20-30 young people who are all interested in volunteering as a result of his positive influence.

Apprenticeship Employer of the Year

The Village School

Sharpe Mechanical

SME of the Year

Ultra Education

Ultra-Education is an education provider, founded by Julian Hall, that teaches entrepreneurship to children. Ultra-Education has worked on several projects including a successful art exhibition for entrepreneurs in Willesden Library as well as working to develop young people in the lead up to Brent 2020.

Community Apprentice of the Year

Dan Rayner

Dan is an apprentice at the Village School in Kingsbury. The Village School supports students with special education needs. Dan has really developed and matured in his role as Site Technician; he has built up his confidence and provided a great deal of support to the school when they were facing some difficult times.

Responsible business of the year

In your Face Advertising

Community project of the year

B3 – Service User Council

B3 is the Brent Service User group for those engaged in substance misuse and for those in recovery. It is run entirely for and by Brent residents. This year B3 will celebrate its tenth birthday. It has played a huge role in improving the quality of life for Brent's most excluded and vulnerable residents.

Arts & culture

To 2020 and beyond

Hundreds of people attended a two day culture summit in September to start shaping Brent's year as London Borough of Culture 2020

The two-day get together at South Kilburn's Granville Centre brought together cultural organisations, artists and residents who had their say on how London Borough of Culture (LBOC) 2020 will impact their community.

There was loads of energy in the room and it was inspiring to hear everyone's ideas and aspirations for 2020. Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Brent's Cabinet Member for Public Health, Culture and Leisure, said: "Brent is brimming with creativity, talent and energy and it was great to see this demonstrated in the room as we started discussing some of the emerging ideas for Brent 2020 as a 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 in London.

Earlier this year, Brent won the bid to be named London Borough of Culture 2020, beating stiff competition from 22 other London boroughs, and now Brent is giving it

back to the people.

Brent has been more culturally diverse, for longer, than all other London boroughs. From the classroom, to the high roads and the arenas, LBOC 2020 is about creating moments of wonder, joy and celebration that will bring communities together.

Cllr Hirani adds: "It's a great honour to be chosen by the Mayor of London 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."

There's plenty of ways to get involved and make LBOC 2020 happen, from volunteering to getting involved in different projects. To keep informed of news and opportunities, visit www.lboc2020.com and sign up for the LBOC2020 Newsletter, or follow @LBOC2020 on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

A taste of what's to come

London Borough of Culture 2020 fund

£500,000 for local cultural groups, artists, creatives, schools and organisations to apply for grants to put on cultural activities over 2020 as part of the Borough of Culture programme.

Young Ambassadors programme

To support young people to help shape the Borough of Culture and develop their own social impact projects.

An artwork in every library

10 artists will create new artworks in all 10 of Brent's libraries, developed with and in response to Brent's communities, stories and history.

A mile-long street party

The biggest public event of 2020 will see a mile of the Kilburn High Road shut down in a day long family friendly celebration of migration in the borough.

See more at www.lboc2020.com/programme

My council

Balancing the council's books

As the council's budget consultation draws to a close, *The Brent Magazine* looks at why it's important to have your say before the deadline on 31 January

Like other councils across the country, Brent is facing significant financial challenges due to sustained and ongoing central government funding cuts.

Brent Council needs to save around £40 million over the next four years. Since October, the council has been asking local residents for their views on seventy individual budget proposals, of which around £20m need to be agreed to balance the books for the next two years.

The council wants to know what you think about the proposals and what choices you would like to be made.

"Since 2010 the council has saved £164million and by 2020 the money we receive directly from government will have been slashed by 79%," says Cllr Muhammed Butt, Leader of the council.

"At the same time, demand for council services is increasing as we

have more elderly, more vulnerable people, and more young children in the borough. We are committed to delivering the services that matter most to people but the challenges are real and we need to find big savings on top of the ones we have already found. Inevitably, this means making some tough choices and this consultation is about understanding what choices residents want us to make."

The proposals have been arranged into four categories. The first category, which includes savings of £10.3m, which is more than half the total amount that need to be agreed, are 'recommended' as the council believes they would have a comparatively minor impact on residents.

The other three categories are considered progressively more difficult and the consultation is designed to gauge residents' views on all four categories and the

proposals they contain so that the council can chose between them.

“I’m asking everyone who works or lives in Brent to give us their views and ideas on these proposals and help us make an informed decision later for a balanced budget,” adds Cllr Butt.

The online budget consultation will close on 31 January 2019 so don’t miss the chance to have your say. Cabinet will recommend a final budget for consideration at Full Council in February 2019.

For the full list of proposals and to take part in the consultation, visit www.brent.gov.uk/budgetconsultation

Advertisement



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Keep Brent sparkling during the holidays



With three bank holidays over Christmas and New Year, there will be some changes to the days your bins are collected

IF YOUR BIN IS DUE TO BE COLLECTED ON...	IT WILL NOW BE COLLECTED ON...
Tuesday 25 December	Thursday 27 December
Wednesday 26 December	Friday 28 December
Thursday 27 December	Saturday 29 December
Friday 28 December	Sunday 30 December
Monday 31 December	Monday 31 December
Tuesday 1 January	Saturday 5 January

Go online and use the 'Find Your Collection Day' search at www.brent.gov.uk/recycling if you're unsure what dates apply to you.

Normal collections will resume from Wednesday 2 January. The Reuse and Recycling Centre will be closed on 25 December, 26 December and 1 January.

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY REAL CHRISTMAS TREE?

Getting rid of your Christmas tree after the festive season has ended can be a headache, but there are a few ways that it can be done:

- Take it to a drop off point in a local park or green space from the 31 December-13 January. Visit www.brent.gov.uk/christmastrees for exact locations and dates.
- Cut your tree into pieces and put in your green garden waste bin
- Take it to the Reuse and Recycling Centre on Abbey Road, NW10 7TJ, but keep in mind that it will be closed on 25 and 26 December and 1 January
- Arrange for it to be taken as part of our bulky waste service which costs £35 for up to five items.

Visit www.brent.gov.uk/specialcollections to book a collection



**JINGLE ALL THE WAY...
... TO YOUR RECYCLING BIN**

Find out which bin to use when all of your food has been eaten and presents are unwrapped by visiting www.brent.gov.uk/recycleopedia





GET 2019 OFF TO A GREEN START

From Wednesday 2 January you can renew or sign up to receive the garden waste service. The service costs £60 for the entire year. Visit www.brent.gov.uk/gardenwaste

My community

True Grit

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

With all the gritters fully serviced, more than 326 grit bins on the streets filled with salt, and 1,100 tonnes of salt in stock, the council is ready for the onset of winter.

Officers monitor road conditions and weather forecasts 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to ensure readiness for any cold weather that comes our way over the winter months.

During wintery weather when snow and ice becomes a problem, gritting Brent's main roads is done on a priority basis to ensure the most important roads are clear for residents, emergency vehicles and public transport.

Residents can use any of the grit bins located around the borough to grit their local roads and pavements too.

You can find out more about gritting in the borough by visiting www.brent.gov.uk/gritting

Cllr Shama Tatler, Cabinet Member responsible for Transport and

Highways at Brent Council, said: "Residents can be assured that we are prepared to deal with any cold snaps or extended periods of cold weather that might come our way this winter.

"We have good stock piles of salt and our gritting teams will be working tirelessly to make sure we provide the best quality service during times of bad weather. We've also got a comprehensive plan in place to tackle an increase in potholes due to any cold snaps.

"I would also like to encourage people to look out for older and vulnerable friends, neighbours and relatives to make sure they are safe and well through the colder months ahead."

For more information and advice about keeping safe and warm this winter, visit www.brent.gov.uk/winter or search for #BrentAlerts on Twitter.

Tackling potholes this winter

As the weather gets colder, we often see more potholes emerging on the roads all over the country. This year, to prevent the conditions of our roads worsening, the council has the following plans in place:

- **Targeted patching programme along the A roads:** targeting locations that have been identified as 'at risk' of fast deterioration due to cold weather
- **Find and fix:** responding to serious potholes that have appeared on the roads

- **Injection patching:** a new and faster method for repairing potholes along unclassified resident roads

To report a pothole in the borough, use the Cleaner Brent smartphone app. Visit www.brent.gov.uk/cleanerbrent to download the app now.

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Arts & Culture

>> Theatre >> Music >> Dance >> Comedy >> Exhibitions
>> Cinema >> Talks >> Tours

AUGUST - MARCH

BUSINESS IN KINGSBURY

Display of photographs tracing the development of businesses from the early 20th century until the present day. Kingsbury Library. 10am-8pm Monday and Thursday, 10am-6pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10am-5pm Saturday, 12noon-5pm Sunday. Free. museum.archives@brent.gov.uk 020 8937 3600.

OCTOBER - JANUARY

BRENT AT WAR

A display of art work from students at Edith Kay School inspired by Brent Museum and Archives' military collections. Community Space, The Library at Willesden Green. 9am-8pm Monday to Friday, 10am-5pm Saturday and Sunday. Free. museum.archives@brent.gov.uk 020 8937 3600.

OCTOBER - JANUARY

SOMALIS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Exhibition exploring the involvement of Somalis in the First

World War. Created by SAAFI, Brent Museums and Archives and The Somaliland Scouts Association. Community Wall, The Library at Willesden Green. 9am- 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am- 5pm Saturday and Sunday. Free. 020 8937 3600. museum.archives@brent.gov.uk

NOVEMBER

TIMELESS WORLD MUSIC

Explore the musical world! A journey through an engaging world map to discover and experience different musical instruments, cultures, people and tribes. The Yellow. 4-5pm. Age 5-10 and parents. £4. Contact Alex: 07943 223 034.

NOVEMBER - MARCH

WINDRUSH 70 – BRENT'S PIONEERING WINDRUSH GENERATION

Exhibition exploring Brent's Caribbean heritage with photographs of Harlesden residents. Harlesden Library Plus. 10am-8pm Monday to Thursday, 10am-6pm Friday, 10am-5pm Saturday, 12noon-5pm Sunday. Free. museum.archives@brent.gov.uk 020 8937 3600.

NOVEMBER - APRIL

A THOUSAND HANDS: LEGACIES AND FUTURES OF CARE IN BRENT

Exhibition commissioned by Kiln Theatre celebrating the history of care and migration in Brent. www.kilntheatre.com/creativelearning/ Exhibition Space, The Library at Willesden Green. 9am- 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am- 5pm Saturday and Sunday. Free. museum.archives@brent.gov.uk 020 8937 3600.

26 OCTOBER - 22 DECEMBER

WHITE TEETH

Rosie Jones, the Iqbal twins, their parents, their grandparents, Mad Mary and an avalanche of other characters who make up the everyday chaos of Kilburn High Road come together in an extraordinary revelry of NW6. Zadie Smith's breakthrough 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 2.30 matinees on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 November. £10-£32.50. www.kilntheatre.com/whatson/white-teeth.

TUESDAY 4 DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE - THE JOURNEY OF THE LOST FIVE AND THE MONSTER OF EMOTIONS

Have you ever felt as if you are lost in your own mind with no way out? Like you have no control over your feelings? What would you do if the only way out of this tangled web was to come face to - face with the cause of all your troubles, a monster that goes by the name.. Mmmmbop? Join our talented cast this December for their scratch performance of this emotional adventure. The Yellow. 6.30pm. Free.

THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER

NATIVITY PLAY

A free community play from our toddlers at 'Daniels Den'. Lunch will be provided for toddlers, parents and pensioners. The Yellow. Thursday 7 December. 10.30-12.30pm. Free. Contact Jo 07984 042777.

SATURDAY 8 DECEMBER

OPEN BOOK THEATRE PRESENTS: A CHRISTMAS CAROL

On Christmas Eve, Ebenezer Scrooge, a bitter old miser, is visited by three ghosts who lead him through his past, present and future to show him the error of his ways!

In Open Book style, the show will be family friendly, engaging and full of laughs.

Kingsbury Library. 12noon-1pm.
Free. libraries@brent.gov.uk.
020 8937 3400.

MONDAY 10 DECEMBER

JOURNEY TO JUSTICE: A MUSICAL EVENING

Starting with conversations around combating injustices, plus music from the Reggae Choir and Brent Music Services. The Library at Willesden Green. 5-7pm. Free.
museum.archives@brent.gov.uk.
020 8937 3600

TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NHS AND WINDRUSH - ACCORDING TO VI

Miss Vinice Thomas (known as Vi), is a nurse, children's author, blogger and speaker. She will be sharing her insight into the Windrush generation and how she and her colleagues from Caribbean heritage have built on that legacy. Kingsbury Library. 11am-12noon. Free.
libraries@brent.gov.uk.
020 8937 3400.

FRIDAY 14 DECEMBER

LAUREL AND HARDY: ANOTHER NICE MESS

Will Bird returns with a sequel to last year's talk on Hollywood's favourite double act. Enjoy a trip down memory lane with rare behind the scenes film footage and a showing of the hilarious 1935 festive short: *The Fixer Uppers*. Book via www.brent.gov.uk/events
The Library at Willesden Green. 6.30-8pm. £2. libraries@brent.gov.uk
020 8937 3400.

SATURDAY 15 DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Sung by a Romanian choir. Brent Civic Centre. 12noon-1pm. Free.

9 JAN - 2 FEB

APPROACHING EMPTY

Set in the North of England, in the aftermath of Margaret Thatcher's death, this compelling drama by award-winning playwright Ishy Din (Snookered, Best New Play at Manchester Theatre Awards), lays bare the everyday struggles of a post-industrial generation of British men. The Kiln Theatre. Evenings: 7.30pm. Wednesday & Saturday matinees (from 12 January) 2.30pm. £10-£32.50.
kilntheatre.com/whats-on/approaching-empty.

SUNDAY 13 JAN

MET OPERA ENCORE: ADRIANA LECOUVREUR

Anna Netrebko in a new David McVicar production. The Lexi Cinema. 2pm. £30.

TUE 15 JAN

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE:

The Tragedy of King Richard the Second, live from the Almeida Theatre. The Lexi Cinema. 7pm. £17.

SUN 3 FEB

MET OPERA ENCORE: CARMEN

Richard Eyre's dynamic production of Bizet's beloved classic. The Lexi Cinema. 2pm. £30.

FRIDAY 15 FEBRUARY

COME MEK WE LARF: VALENTINE COMEDY SPECIAL

Hot, hot, hot stella comedy line up curated by Brent's very own Mr Cee. Book at brent.gov.uk/events
The Library at Willesden Green. 8pm-late. £15 in advance £20 on the door. 020 8937 3600.
museum.archives@brent.gov.uk

SUN 17 FEB

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: I'M NOT RUNNING

A new play from playwright David Hare. The Lexi Cinema. 2pm. £17.

WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY

OPEN BOOK THEATRE PRESENTS: SHERLOCK HOLMES

Fun theatre performance for kids. The Library at Willesden Green. 11.30am-12.30pm. Free.
libraries@brent.gov.uk.
020 8937 3400.

20 FEB - 23 MAR

THE SON

The highly anticipated UK premiere of *The Son* follows the sold out Olivier Award-winning *The Father* (Theatre Royal Bath, Tricycle Theatre, West End, National Tour) and the critically acclaimed *The Mother* by Moliere Award-winning playwright Florian Zeller, directed by Michael Longhurst. The Kiln Theatre. Evenings: 7.30pm, Wednesday & Saturday matinees (from 2 March): 2.30pm. £10-£32.50.
kilntheatre.com/whats-on/approaching-empty/

SUN 3 MAR

MET OPERA ENCORE: LA FILLE DU REGIMENT

A hilarious staging of Donizetti's opera. The Lexi Cinema. 2pm. £30.

SUN 3 MAR

MET OPERA ENCORE: DIE WALKURE

The second opera of Wagner's Ring Cycle. The Lexi Cinema. 5pm. £30.

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

Arts & culture

The Black British legacy

2018 was the 70th anniversary of the docking of the Windrush. As Brent is such a diverse borough with a large Caribbean community, Brent Council applied for and received funding from the Arts Council England to put on a five month event programme under the umbrella 'Windrush 70'.

Windrush 70 – Brent's Pioneering Windrush Generation traces the historic journey and explores Brent's Caribbean Heritage through the eyes of its residents. Using a mixture of photographic portraits, stories collected from residents, historic objects and unique artist commissions it celebrates 70 years of the United Kingdom's Caribbean diaspora.

In the past few months, residents have been able to attend comedy events, family craft workshops, exhibitions and talks. The council worked closely with local schools and interviewed local people from the Windrush Generation.

One of the flagship exhibitions was an installation of a traditional 'West Indian' living room which represented many of the homes of

the West Indians who settled in Brent in the 1950s, 60s and 70s.

Zerritha Brown, Cultural Operations Manager and Project Lead for Windrush 70 said: "It was important to mark the 70th anniversary particularly as Brent has a large Caribbean community. The Caribbean diaspora is present in modern life, with influences evident in fashion, music, dance as well as the world of entertainment, sport and politics, yet still the story of Windrush is not widely known. I wanted the exhibition to provide a platform to showcase the stories of the Windrush generation.

"It has been an honour developing Windrush 70. We have met some inspirational people and uncovered some truly emotional stories which has highlighted the resilience, pride and courage of the Windrush community who came here to strive for a better life."

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATIONS

Brent Civic Centre was buzzing as hundreds of guests enjoyed an evening of entertainment in October to celebrate Black History Month.

The event celebrated black history and culture as well as looking at some of the issues still faced within the community. There was a lively panel discussion and debate, music, a dance show from Impact Dance Group and a performance from Lady Paulette.

Cllr Margaret McLennan, Deputy Leader of Brent Council, said: "This year was a special year for celebrating Black History in the UK as it was the 70th anniversary of Windrush. As one of the most diverse boroughs in London, we have a vibrant black community in Brent and I'm glad we were able to put on such a great show highlighting black excellence in the borough."

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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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Arts and culture

What's on

Your guide to what's on in Brent during Winter 2018/2019. 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. Masons House, 13 Valley Drive, Kingsbury. Mondays-Fridays, see website for further details, www.regentskillstraining.com/creative-courses/pottery info@regentskillstraining.com

STONE CARVING CLASSES, KINGSBURY

For beginners and those who would like to improve their skills. Masons House, 13 Valley Drive, Kingsbury. Thursdays. 9.45- 12.45pm, 1.15-4.15pm. info@regentskillstraining.com

CHILDREN

YOUNGER YOUTH THEATRE

Learn to build a website, create an app or game, and explore technology in a creative, and social place. For young aged 9-13. Wembley Library. Saturday, 1 December 2018. 1-2.30pm. Free.

CODE CLUB

Learn how to code. For children aged 8-11. Kingsbury Library, 522-524 Kingsbury Road, NW9 9HE. Thursday, 6 December 2018. 4-5pm. Free. The Library at Willesden Green, 95 High Rd, NW10 2SF. Wednesday, 12 December 2018. 4-5pm. Free. Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, HA9 0FJ. Thursday, 13 December 2018. 4-5pm. Free.

JINGLE BELLS BABY DISCO

Day time fun for little ones at music and dance session with a festive twist, come in your festive costume! Suitable for 1-4 years, book via www.brent.gov.uk/events The Library at Willesden Green, 95 High Road, Willesden, London, NW10 2SF. Friday 14 December. 11.30am- 12.30pm. Adults and children £2.50 each in advance and £3.50 each on the door.

CREATIVE PERFORMANCE WORKSHOPS

Creative performing and visual arts based activities for children aged 5-11. School term times only. Free. Wembley Park United Reformed Church, The Kingsland Hall, The Broadway, East Lane. Saturdays in December. 10am-12.30pm. creative.performance@yahoo.co.uk

EXPLORE LEARNING: FUN WITH PHONICS

Children investigate rhyming words. The Library at Willesden Green, 95 High Road, Willesden NW10 2SF. Wednesday, 2 January 2019. 11.30am-12.30pm.

FOOD ACADEMY

Free AQA accredited course which teaches children and young people aged 11-18 how to cook nutritious meals. See website for further details and dates. Sufra North West London, 160 Pitfield Way, Stonebridge, NW10 0PW. Saturdays term time. 10am-2pm. **020 3441 1335.**

ARTISANAL WORKSHOP

Children under 12 can engage in creative activities like candle and soap making. St. Raphael's Edible Garden, adjacent to Sufra's main building, 160 Pitfield Way, NW10 0PW. Thursdays term time. 4.30- 5.30pm. **020 3441 1335.**

HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework Club for refugee children aged 7-16. 160 Pitfield Way, Stonebridge, NW10 0PW. Tuesdays during term time. 5-7pm. **020 3441 1335.**

COMMUNITY

FOSTERING AND ADOPTION INFORMATION EVENINGS

Talk to a member of staff and find out more about the process. Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, HA90FJ. Thursday, 6 December 2018. 6-8.30pm.

DIVA OPERA PRESENTS AT HOME FOR CHRISTMAS IN AID OF ST LUKES HOSPICE

A show with a Christmas theme and period costumes. Popular arias, songs and carols. Tickets from £26 including a mince pie and mulled wine. St Andrews Church, 956 Harrow Road, Sudbury. Saturday, 8 December 2018. 7-10pm. clubalicehair@gmail.com

REGGAE CHOIR: AUTUMN COURSE

Join the Reggae Choir Autumn Course for lively, uplifting, lyrical fun! Amateur, no audition, non religious and open to all. The Library at Willesden Green, 95 High Road, Willesden, London, NW10 2SF. Monday, 10 December 2018. 7-9pm. £10 drop in class. emmanuel.adanlawo@brent.gov.uk

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Romanian choir perform carols. Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley HA90FJ. Saturday, 15 December 2018. 12noon-1pm.

FOSTERING AND ADOPTION INFORMATION EVENINGS

Talk to a member of staff and find out more. Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, HA9 0FJ. Thursday 3 January 2019. 6-8.30pm.

ENGLISH CLASS ENROLMENT Sign up for our free English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes. Wembley Library, Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley, HA9 0FJ. Sunday, 7 January 2018. 10.30am-12.30pm.

ENGLISH CLASS ENROLMENT Sign up for free English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes. Ealing Road Library, Coronet Parade, Ealing Road, Middlesex, HA0 4BA. Tuesday, 9 January 2018. Harlesden Library Plus, Craven Park Road, London, NW10 8SE. Tuesday, 8 January 2019. 10.30am-12.30pm. Kingsbury Library, 522-524 Kingsbury Road, NW9 9HE. Wednesday, 10 January 2018. 10.30-12.30pm. Kilburn Library, 42 Salusbury Road, London, NW6 6NN. Saturday, 12 January 2019. 10.30am-12.30pm.

HEALTHY CHOCOLATE WORKSHOP

Join us for a fun, informal workshop where you will learn all about the benefits of raw chocolate. The Library at Willesden Green, 95 High Road, Willesden, London, NW10 2SF. Friday, 6 December 2019. 6.15-7.30pm.

CINDERELLA - A TALE OF KINDNESS

Cinderella - A Tale of Kindness, a winter play for all the family, Free. 65 Pound Lane, Willesden Green, NW10 2HH. 8 and 9 Dec at 3pm and 6pm. 12 December at 7.30pm. info@wintershow.org

COMMUNITY YOGA CLASS

All abilities welcome! Yoga Class for all. Preston Community Library, Carlton Avenue East, Wembley HA9 8PL. Sundays and Wednesdays. Sundays 9.30-10.30am and 7.30-9pm and Wednesdays 7.30-9pm. samantha.warrington.yoga@gmail.com

PARENT & CHILD MEETINGS

Mums need a break. Mugs N Muffins, 441 High Road, Church End & Roundwood, London NW10 2JJ. Tuesdays. 10.30 - 11.30pm. ginster368@gmail.com

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

HEARING VOICES PEER SUPPORT GROUP

Peer Support Group for people living with hearing voices and unusual beliefs on the second and fourth Tuesday of month. Top floor, Ashford Place, 60 Ashford Road, London. 1.30-3.30pm.
engagementbrent@hestia.org

PARENTS AND TODDLERS PILATES AND NUTRITION CLASS

Discover healthy nutritious advice and bond with your child while doing gentle relaxing pilates. Yellow Pavilion, Wembley HA9 OEG. Wednesdays. 9.30-12.30am. £2.50 per session.
christineandmelissa@gmail.com

OVER 50s

ELDERS VOICE YOGA CONNECTS

Gentle yoga and relaxation for people over 50. Elders Voice, 181 Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5TN. Thursdays. 1.30-2.30pm.
annas@eldersvoice.org.uk

EXERCISE FOR THE OLDER ADULT

A free exercise class for older adults. Willesden Sports Centre, Donnington Rd, NW10 3QX. Thursdays. 12.45-1.45pm. £4 on the day, or pay for 12 weeks or 6 weeks in advance and receive a discount (£3.50 per class).
jennyjthomas@gmail.com

ELDERS VOICE DANCE MOVEMENT THERAPY

Improve physical fitness, emotional wellbeing and cognitive function. Elders Voice, 181 Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5TN. Tuesday 4 and 11 December. 2-3pm. £4 on 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 and laughter along the way. Elders Voice, 181 Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5TN. Tuesdays. 11.30am-12.30pm. £4 per class.
annas@eldersvoice.org.uk

HOP-IT! COMPUTER CLASSES

Free weekly computer classes for older people in Brent. Participants can learn how to set-up an email, browse on the web, create documents, use social media and Skype & Instant Messenger stay in touch with loved ones. Laptops provided. Elders Voice, 181 Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5TN. Wednesdays from 2 Jan. 1pm. annas@eldersvoice.org.uk

LATIN DANCE

Latin dance sessions for people age over 50! Everyone welcome, whether recovering from a long-term health related issue, living with a dementia or just want to keep fit. Elders Voice, 181 Mortimer Road, Kensal Green, NW10 5TN. Wednesdays. 11am-12noon.
annas@eldersvoice.org.uk

SPORT

QIGONG WORKSHOP

Qigong is an easy to learn sequence of movements performed in time with the breath. It is similar to Tai Chi and much easier to learn. Beginners Welcome!
The Dojo 2a Doyle Gardens, London NW10 3DA.
Saturday, 1 December 2018.
10.30am-12noon.

BOOTCAMP

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
Queen's Park Kilburn London NW6 6SG. Thursdays. 1-11am.
www.ourparks.org.uk
Roe Green Park. Saturdays. 9:30 - 10:30am. www.ourparks.org.uk

QUEENS 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

MAMBO CITY TUESDAY SALSA

Mambo City Presents Tuesday Salsa. Fun, friendly and everyone welcome. salsa classes @7.30pm to 8.30pm beginners & improvers intermediates. Ark Academy, Bridge Rd, Wembley, Middlesex. Tuesdays. 7.30-8.30pm.
salsa@mambocity.co.uk

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MARKET RENT SCHEME

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Jobs and skills

Super-fast connections to career success

18-year-old Juan Franco came to Brent Works for help starting his career

Within a few weeks the Neasden resident had landed an interview with Hyperoptic, the internet service provider, and secured a position on their training programme.

"College wasn't practical enough for me. I needed something more practical and wanted to work and make my own money." explains Juan. "The interview process was easy. My Brent Works employment advisor helped me a lot. She encouraged me to apply and helped with the application form and interview. The interview took place at the Civic Centre. It went really smoothly and they were really welcoming."

Juan will be helping to bring the fastest internet access speeds to 100,000 homes and businesses in Brent. He added: "Hyperoptic is great. They have one of the fastest broadband speeds and I want to build a successful career with this growing company. I see a lot of opportunities with them. I never

thought of engineering but I've opened my eyes to something new."

Brent Works helps residents to secure apprenticeship and employment opportunities across London. They connect organisations with local people who are keen to add real value to a business.

Cllr Amer Agha, Cabinet Member for Employment and Skills for Brent Council, said: "Through Brent Works we are able to offer a dedicated recruitment services to help all residents. We are focused on more than just getting people into a job, we are determine to help launch successful careers. This partnership with Hyperoptic is a great example of us working with an organisation to enhance the borough's connectivity and at the same time secure the best career opportunities for residents."

Brent has some of the biggest and most exciting developments in the UK and Brent Works makes sure that residents can access the benefits that this brings, including

career and training opportunities in IT, engineering and the creative sectors.

If you are looking to recruit someone keen to learn and grow with your company get in touch with Brent Work at www.brent.gov.uk/brent-works

Wembley apprentice scoops top award

A Brent Council employee who lives in Wembley has won London Council's 'Best progression made by an apprentice' Award.

Bijal Bhudia beat five other London borough entrants to scoop the top award.

Bijal joined Brent Council's apprenticeship programme in 2016 and quickly learned about housing, and the skills needed to do her job well, including delivering great customer service.

"I didn't have much when I started, but I've gained lots of skills and I've become more confident," said Bijal. "It came as a big surprise to find out I was being nominated and a bigger surprise to realise that I had won."

You can read more about great Brent residents who won Pride of Brent Awards on pages 40 and 41.

Together Brent's employment support services will have supported around 1,000 Brent residents into jobs and apprenticeships by April 2019.

You could be one of them! Visit www.brent.gov.uk/brent-works to find out more about apprenticeship and career opportunities including the Hyperoptic training programme which has more than 100 opportunities for local people.

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