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About your North Ken News

North Ken News is a dedicated newsletter for North Kensington communities produced by Kensington and Chelsea Council.

Have you got news for us?

We are always on the lookout for good news stories, whether they are about an event you are running, a local hero who is working wonders in your community or a programme or course that local residents could benefit from.

If you would like to get in touch with an idea or story, please email northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

Tell us what you think

We're interested in hearing your feedback about North Ken News. We want to produce a newsletter which you enjoy reading and find useful, so please let us know what you'd like to see more of. Email us at northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk

Staying in touch

There are other ways to keep up to date with borough-wide news as well as news and announcements from Kensington and Chelsea Council.



@RBKC



www.facebook.com/royalborough



www.nextdoor.co.uk



www.instagram.com/kensingtonandchelseacouncil

For updates on Grenfell



@GrenfellUpdates



www.rbkc.gov.uk/grenfell



To stay up to date with the latest news and events sign up to our enewsletter mailing list, visit www.rbkc.gov.uk and search K&C Life.

If you would like to opt out of receiving North Ken News or would prefer to read it online, please let us know at northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk

Financial support as cost of living rises

Help is available for Kensington and Chelsea residents struggling with the rising cost of living. We have launched a new cost of living support hub where you can find out what extra support is available. You can find our benefits calculator, get money advice, learn if you are eligible for Council funds and access our employment services.

You'll also find out more information about the Household Support Fund and external organisations that can help and offer financial advice and support such as Citizen's Advice and Age UK.



**Cost of Living
SUPPORT**

Search "**cost of living**" at www.rbkc.gov.uk for details about the support available from the Council and other organisations.

Notting Hill Carnival takes over Glastonbury

Carnival regulars Mangrove Steelband took to the stage at Glastonbury Festival, giving revellers a taste of Carnival far away from the streets of Notting Hill.

Established on All Saints Road, Notting Hill in 1980 by Trinidadian migrants determined to have an outlet for their cultural heritage, Mangrove Steelband are one of the longest standing steelbands in Europe.

Matthew Phillip, CEO of Notting Hill Carnival, said:

"This is a collaboration we have been working on for a while now and are delighted to finally be making it happen. The heritage and history of Notting Hill Carnival is hugely important to the British cultural landscape in many of the same ways as Glastonbury Festival is, and they hold many of the same beliefs and represent the country on a global scale."

Glastonbury organiser **Emily Eavis** said:

"I've always loved Notting Hill Carnival and there have been so many connections with Glastonbury over the years. It's a dream to finally bring some of the crew here to the festival."

As the borough prepares for the return of Carnival over the August bank holiday weekend, residents are encouraged to look out for the event booklet that provides information about the event and its local impacts, including parking and traffic restrictions, and will hit doorsteps in early August.



Building a local legacy from the Grenfell tragedy

Bereaved, survivors and local people have challenged us to make sure that the lessons from Grenfell are never forgotten. We have heard clearly that they want us to use the learning from the tragedy to make Kensington and Chelsea the best Council and one which is led by its communities.

We want to hear your ideas about what this means in practice so that together we can build a shared vision for the future.

We are launching a conversation with bereaved, survivors and local residents at the end of July and there will be many opportunities for you to give your views over the next few months. Look out for more information about this.



To find out more, please email GrenfellLegacy@rbkc.gov.uk

Help shape the improvement of Kensington Memorial Park

The Council is currently working on the Kensington Memorial Park masterplan which will see the park updated and improvements to the facilities.

The plans involve new buildings for changing rooms, a food and

drink retail unit, wider paths, and new planting.

Please have your say on plans for the building and landscaping in the park, including the option of artwork on the changing rooms.

Go to www.rbkc.gov.uk/kensington-memorial-park for more details.



Festival reimagines the borough through art

The Kensington and Chelsea Festival will celebrate creativity and culture for everyone around the borough until Sunday 31 August, showcasing a range of breath-taking shows and performances. From daring circus to bold theatre and opera, there will be unmissable dance performances, outdoor arts, talks and family shows.

With over a third of shows free or pay-what-you-can, come and see exciting ideas brought to life this summer as Kensington and Chelsea Festival re-imagines the borough's iconic locations in a display of exceptional talent and creativity.

For more information visit www.kcfestival.co.uk



Report finds 2021 flooding was a one-in-185 year event

In July last year, 340 properties in the borough were affected by flooding after extreme and sudden rainfall.

On the evening we supported 120 residents into temporary accommodation. Now we have developed a new independent forecasting system so we can have a more accurate picture of local weather events to help residents be prepared.

We have consulted with residents on installing new sustainable drainage systems in the Portobello Road area and will be looking for other opportunities to introduce these systems, which use greenery and nature to help capture excess rain water.



For the full report and helpful tips, go to www.rbkc.gov.uk and search for "July 2021 flooding".

Summer fun at Lancaster Youth Hub

Lancaster Youth Hub is opening the doors for local young people aged 11 to 19 this summer with a free programme of holiday activities.

Young people can take part in a wide range of activities including sports, fitness, music production, cooking and trips, organised by Fit for Life Youth and London Sports Trust, as well as professional photography workshops.

Free sessions take place Mondays to Fridays, 5pm to 9pm, from Monday 25 July to Friday 19 August at Lancaster Youth Hub, 128A Lancaster Road, W11 1QS, with healthy and nutritious meals and snacks available (including vegetarian options).

The programme at Lancaster Youth Hub is part of the Council's Holiday Activities and Food programme,

which provides free activities and food for hundreds of children and young people who are eligible for free school meals throughout the borough.



To find out more and see opportunities for young people near to you, visit www.ourcity.org.uk

Upcoming Grenfell Projects Fund 2 projects

With the second round of the Grenfell Projects Fund well underway, we wanted to let you know which projects are up and running, and which ones will be launching over the next few months so you can get involved.

Currently up and running:

Fit for Life Youth

Youth fitness training

HearWomen Foundation's

Cook and Talk

Social wellbeing meetings

LWCCN Toy Library Play Project

Play sessions and toy loans

Abundance Arts' 'Connecting

Community' Arts and

Community Wellbeing Project

Creative wellbeing sessions

Cuban Boxing Academy:

A Holistic Approach

Boxing training

Coming up in August:

Common Ground's Grenfell Truths and Fire Safe Homes

Raising awareness and fire safety training

CatherineMHT

Mental health training

Progressay's EEE Hub (Exercise, Employability, Education)

Football sessions, tuition, and employability workshops

24 Hearts Summer Arts

Public art installation

Coming up in September:

Swimunity

Swimming lessons

Kensington Dragons Football Club

Youth football teams

BME Health Forum

A mental health service

Neighbourhood Doula's CIC

Pregnancy and birth support

We also held an event in July for residents to meet the project providers face-to-face, visit information stalls and find out more about each of the projects.

For more information, please visit rbkc.gov.uk and search 'Grenfell Projects Fund' or email GrenfellCommunityTeam@rbkc.gov.uk



Scan the QR code to watch a video from June's GPF2-funded Youth and Community Festival, attended by more than 3,000 residents.

Grenfell
**Projects
Fund 2**

Help to co-design the second round of the Community Leadership Programme

As part of the Grenfell Recovery Strategy, the first round of the Community Leadership Programme saw the Council partner with a selection of organisations to provide a free programme of workshops that helped residents strengthen their knowledge and gain new skills.

With £200k now dedicated to the second round of the Community

Leadership Programme, we're looking for North Kensington residents to join our existing Resident-led Panel to help decide how we can best use this budget and ensure the programme is as effective as possible.

If you would like to register your interest or find out more about joining the panel, please email **GrenfellCommunityTeam@rbkc.gov.uk** or call Sami on **07739 314338**.

For more information, visit **www.rbkc.gov.uk** and search "Community Leadership Programme".



Curve Community Centre closes its doors

The Curve Community Centre in Bard Road has now permanently closed its doors.

The Curve was set up as a response and recovery centre following the Grenfell tragedy in June 2017, and has provided classes, group activities, private functions, education, recreation, leisure and community events for the residents of North Kensington over the past five years.

We have been working closely and sensitively with organisations who were based at The Curve to find suitable alternative locations and to offer the right level of support. A nine-month transition plan that includes financial assistance and advice for them

to run their programmes at alternative locations, fundraising support and access to organisational development guidance has been put in place. Curve services and activities have been relocated to the following alternative venues:

Fit for Life, 151 Freston Road

Kidzbox with Tyrone
Salsa with Antonio
Zumba with Ana
Fit for Life fitness classes
Albanian Dance Youth Group sessions
Jaguar Taekwondo

If you would like a copy of the timetable, please email Fit for Life Youth at **info@fitforlifeyouth.co.uk**

The SPACE, 214 Freston Road

Fouzia's Sewing Class
Dehlia's Healthy Cooking



Major milestone for new Council homes

Our first Council-built homes in years came one step closer to completion as we celebrated placing the final beam at the top of the new buildings at the Kensal Road and Hewan Street sites in North Kensington.

These are two significant milestones in our New Homes Delivery Programme which aims to build 600 new homes across the borough, 300 of which will be for social rent.

Kensal Road and Hewan Street are two of four of our Phase 1 new homes sites, which will see us deliver 98 homes in total.

At the Kensal Road site we are providing 38 new homes – 28 at social rent and 10 for key workers with four of those homes being accessible. There will also be a shared garden area for residents, with flexible community space and a retail unit at ground floor.

Hewan Street will provide 20 new homes to rent – 10 of which will be offered to key workers and 10 open market. This site offers two accessible homes.

These new homes will also use energy efficient technology and improved levels of insulation to reduce fuel bills while ensuring that quality of build and safety remain paramount. In addition, all areas of the buildings will have sprinklers as well as incorporating other design features to focus on fire safety measures.

We'll be handing over the new homes at Hewan Street to local people towards the end of the year before Kensal Road welcomes its first residents early next year.



Hewan Street



Kensal Road

A new church and homes at Latymer

Residents can have their say on proposals to build a new Latymer Community Church and homes for social rent and key workers on Bramley Road.



We've launched the second round of consultation into the plans after receiving support in the first round last year.

The plans include a brand new and improved community church on its existing site on Bramley Road alongside 25 new homes and community improvements such as a permanent children's drop-in stay and play facility.

Residents have until **Monday 15 August** to have their say and complete the feedback form. Find out more and have your say:

www.rbkc.gov.uk/new-homes-latymer

Grenfell Tower update

from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)

The future of Grenfell Tower

Greg Clark MP has replaced Michael Gove MP as Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. Conversations are continuing with bereaved families, survivors and residents before any decision is made on the future of Grenfell Tower. DLUHC and ministers know how important and sensitive a decision on the tower is, and a decision about its future has not been taken.

To share your thoughts about the future of the tower:

Complete the contact form at www.gov.uk/grenfell-community-updates

Phone **0303 444 0011**

Email grenfelltowersite@levellingup.gov.uk

Updates on the Grenfell Tower site

To find out more about activity at the Grenfell Tower site, please join the next monthly community online meeting on Tuesday 2 August from 6pm to 7pm. Join with:

Weblink: msteams.link/ANT7 (using Microsoft Teams)

Or phone: dial 020 3795 5763 and enter conference ID 164 865 623#



New funding for North Ken community projects

Funding is being made available to North Kensington communities to lead and organise events of cultural significance as well as events that commemorate the Grenfell tragedy.

Residents can apply for up to £1,500 per event and these can include:

- cultural events
- events that raise awareness of issues that affect the community
- events that pay respect or honour bereaved and survivors of the Grenfell tragedy
- events that bring communities together for collective reflection

A number of these events were previously held at The Curve Community Centre.

For more information email GrenfellCommunityTeam@rbkc.gov.uk or call Sami on **07739 314338**.

You can find more information about everything related to The Curve on our website www.rbkc.gov.uk/the-curve



Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission

The independent Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission's mission is to create a fitting memorial to remember those who lost their lives through the Grenfell Tower tragedy.

It has been having conversations and meetings with bereaved families and former residents of Grenfell Tower and Grenfell Walk, Lancaster West Estate residents and the local community. Read more in the Memorial Commission report, which includes views from more than 2,000 people, at

www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/report

Share your thoughts on a memorial at Memorial Commission community online meetings and informal drop-ins. Please go to www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk for details, or use the contact details below.

How to get in touch

To contact a community representative, visit

www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact, or scan the QR code below and click the 'contact' tab.

For regular updates, follow the Memorial Commission on Twitter [@GrenfellTowerMC](https://twitter.com/GrenfellTowerMC) and Instagram www.instagram.com/grenfelltowermc

To contact the Memorial Commission directly:

Email GTMCSecretariat@levellingup.gov.uk

Call **0303 444 4831**

Grenfell Tower
Memorial Commission



Curve residents' working group

A residents' working group is being established and will appoint a new independent Community Trust to oversee the remaining £1.3m Curve budget now that the centre has closed. The new Community Trust will be made up of members of the North Kensington community.

This means Grenfell-affected residents will get to decide how this new £1.3m Curve Legacy Fund, designed to fund projects that serve the North Kensington community, will be spent.

Expressions of interest to join the working group have now closed and we are looking to set up a meeting for interested residents.