

CONNECT SK

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South Kilburn 'alive with opportunity!'

Welcome



South Kilburn has so much going for it such as a culturally diverse community, excellent transport links and plenty of local amenities.

Just like many urban areas, South Kilburn has many challenges but it also has huge potential to be an even better place and it is this which motivates me to volunteer my time as a resident board member and trustee.

Although the financial climate is tough, South Kilburn Neighbourhood Trust has been forward thinking by investing in a Public Art Programme being led by Sarah Butler. When I first mentioned this to one resident his response was "people want jobs, not art – what's the point?" Well, I hardly took a breath as I pointed out that the creative industries is one of the UK's fastest growing parts of the economy, creating many jobs; the arts have a proven track record of regenerating towns and cities; they make a major contribution to bringing various communities and cultures together; the arts are central to tourism in London (the next time you're walking past the lovely Art Deco Kilburn Park tube station look out for the tourist taking a picture of it); and we're surrounded by the arts which improves the quality of our everyday lives.

Our area will not only have an opportunity to be a part of London's global reputation for creativity, innovation and excellence, it will also hopefully allow us to be well placed to take advantage of the forthcoming London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. There's no doubt those who appreciate the arts are prepared to travel and at times, pay to experience them first hand and with our wonderful transport links South Kilburn is very well placed.

Whether you get inspired to take part, discover or develop your creativity or just appreciate what others have created, I hope that you will get involved in this exciting opportunity. Art does make a difference to our lives and with the right vision can make a big difference to South Kilburn.

Linett Kamala

*Resident Chair, Children and Families Sub Committee Group
Trustee, South Kilburn Neighbourhood Trust*

French

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Farsi

'ايس كچه پي كميونيكيشنز' نيم سيرايطه كرين - رايطه كا پته: اگر 'كنكث ايس كچه' كو پزهنه ميين مشكل پيش آئه تو برائيه مهرباني 020 7328 1199 فون نمبر info@skpartnership.net William Dunbar House, Albert Road, Kilburn NW6 5BD

Urdu

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Bloc Party II



Cecilia and her fabric stall at the Bloc Party

The second annual Bloc Party was held in early September – turning Chippenham Gardens and Masefield House into a colourful scene that celebrated the cultural diversity of South Kilburn.

Balloons and bunting covered the area for a day while the streets were packed with people enjoying the mix of dance, music, spoken word, children's activities and a fantastic array of foods from around the world.

The event was paid for by Awards for All and the South Kilburn Partnership, and organised by Concrete Canvas Arts (CCA), the South Kilburn-based charity that offers learning for children and young people.

It was managed by CCA's Events Management Course, a group of young people who are getting qualifications and experience through taking real responsibility. The young people brought together local community and youth organisations CCA, the OK Club, Kilburn Youth Centre (KYC), the Tabot Centre and local resident volunteers.

One of the organising team, Sabina Kaleem, says of the experience: "Being able to take ownership of an actual event really inspired me and built my confidence."

Feka Samakuva, CCA's Programme Manager, says this is key to their work. He says: "Giving young people real experience and the opportunity to develop their skills in a professional context are the cornerstones of our courses."

The event, which is a successor to the South Kilburn Festival, showcased lots of local and visiting talent. Highlights included Madame Pepper, fresh from filming her first music video and East End rising talent Michaela the Poet. There were outstanding displays by Tabot dance crews 'Angels' and 'Kronik', proudly parading their UDO World Street Dance Champions trophy, and the OK Club's Tae Kwon Do and Laway Dance groups. DJs, meanwhile, were spinning everything from hip-hop to soul and rock 'n' roll.

For the kids there was a penalty-shoot-out, bucking bronco, bouncy castle and bungee run to enjoy, along with face-painting, body sculpture, giant chess and a street art workshop. The food menu included taste sensations from the Caribbean, Spain, Somalia, Sierra Leone and China.

Information stands were run by Concrete Canvas Arts, Brent Housing Partnership, South Kilburn Safer Neighbourhoods Team, London Sports Trust, Kilburn Youth Centre, the OK Club, Friends of Chippenham Gardens, Victim Support and Northwick Park Hospital.

Dignitaries present included Glenda Jackson, MP for Hampstead and Kilburn, Councillor Harbhajan Singh, Mayor of Brent, and Councillor Mary Arnold.

Mary says of the event: "Bloc Party this year was great fun for everyone. It was also a great statement of community organisations working together to showcase local talent and inspire."

Employment News

REACH for Help



REACH West London is a free, voluntary Ingeus service for people across several West London boroughs who have been out of work for 12 months or more, and are on health benefits or income support as a single parent or parents in low income households. It offers a whole package of support from help with child care to work on interview techniques and confidence building.

See pages 12 and 13 for more information on how it works and what other help is available for the unemployed in South Kilburn.

Protect Your Ideas

The Intellectual Property Office (IPO) is holding free seminars in November and December at London venues. The first event the IPO is hosting is "Protecting Your Ideas and Inventions" on 24th November from 5 to 9pm at the British Library near Kings Cross. This looks at how businesses can get their products patented and how they can prevent their ideas being ripped-off. The evening will also be a good opportunity to meet business leaders, intellectual property practitioners and inventors.

The next event is "Creating Brand Value for Your Business" on 8th December from 5 to 9pm at the Museum of Brands in Notting Hill W11. There will be talks and practical advice on how to get trademarks and Registered Designs for your brand along with time for networking.

The third event is "Creative Collaborations: The Legal Perspective" which takes place from 6 to 9pm at the London College of Communication in Elephant & Castle on 8th December. This looks at intellectual property rights with regard to creative works, for example how creators of music can avoid getting into legal wrangles over their material. For full details go to www.ipo.gov.uk or call the IPO Information Centre on 0300 300 2000.

Construction Contracts Offered to Local Companies

There was a good turn-out of local companies to a recent event where the main construction firms behind South Kilburn's regeneration schemes showed them how they could get involved in these major projects.

Around 35% of firms attending a Buyers' Fair called 'Build South Kilburn' in September were from the NW6 and NW10 postcode areas.

The event, held at the Quality Maitrise Hotel on Kilburn High Road, was organised by Supply London, which provided events management free of charge, and South Kilburn Partnership.

It was paid for by Supply London with a contribution from Stadium Housing Association, part of Network Housing Group, which is redeveloping the Gordon House site.

Denne Construction, which is building the Albert Road Phase 1 and Carlton Vale roundabout developments, and Willmott Dixon, which is responsible for the Texaco site, were at the event to meet potential sub-contractors.

Around 40 different contracts were on offer, ranging from carpentry and electricals to bricklaying, plumbing and decorating.

On the day there were talks, one-to-one meetings at which the small firms could meet representatives of Denne and Willmott Dixon and a Supply London workshop on tips for tendering.

Companies from the NW6 area that meet the requirements for a particular contract will now automatically be invited to tender for that work. People there felt that the event was a hit, and the main construction firms have confirmed there will be follow-ups.

Steve Skuse, head of technical at Willmott Dixon, says: "We certainly have some new potential suppliers and sub-contractors as a result." Nicholas Fowler, business improvement manager at Denne Construction, says: "I would be expecting a number of companies will be receiving enquiries."

Work with Denne



The Albert Road site, with work under way

Denne, which is working with London & Quadrant on building the Albert Road Phase 1 development, has a number of employment and training initiatives, including work with local schools and colleges. To support this Denne has set up a Skills Centre at the site and appointed Angela Asforis as Project Skills Coordinator.

Denne is also targeting local people for various jobs which could be created on the project. Twenty residents attended a briefing session held at the Skills Centre at the end of October at which Denne outlined the possible opportunities for labouring and specialist skills work on the site.

Catalyst Takes on Local Youngsters

Five young jobseekers from the South Kilburn area are being given a valuable taste of employment by Catalyst Housing Group. The company has been taking part in the national 'Future Jobs Fund' programme which has been creating temporary jobs for unemployed people aged 18 to 25 years – in some cases these lead to permanent positions.

Catalyst has been employing people from across West London but more recently decided to offer several opportunities only to young people from South Kilburn – where Fortunegate, part of Catalyst, is re-developing the former Texaco site.

Five young people from the South Kilburn area are now in the programme which provides 25 hours of work a week for six months. They are working in various departments with Catalyst including development, finance, leasing and the contact centre.

One of them is 21-year old Yasmin Bourbour of Carlton Vale who recently started work as an income officer. Having graduated from university with a degree in accounting and finance in the summer she was having little success with job hunting. Now she says: "I feel really lucky."

Children & Education Research

The current "Children & Education Strategy" is coming to an end after a three year period, so South Kilburn Partnership (SKP) is doing some research to see what progress has been made.

The research will help SKP work out the future direction for its work in this area, and see how it can best work with partners. This is particularly important now, as SKP is changing from being mainly a funding and management body into a support agency.

The work with children & families so far has been focussed on addressing un-met local needs.

This is a very important piece of research for SKP, so we want to talk to as many people as we can over the coming weeks. All the interviews will be conducted by Helen Rice, who specialises in research with stakeholder groups for public and third sector bodies. We hope to finish the research by the end of November.

If you have any questions or want to know more about the background to the research please contact Gursharn Rait at South Kilburn Partnership on 020 7328 1199 or g.rait@skpartnership.net.

Farewell to Sweeney



The former Robert Peel Pub, where Anne was landlady for nearly 30 yrs

Popular pub landlady Anne Sweeney closed the door on The Sir Robert Peel pub in Peel Precinct for the last time in September.

Anne ran the pub for nearly 30 years with her husband Frank, also raising their family of three sons and a daughter there. Anne lost her husband in 2008, and following the purchase of the pub by Brent Council she has now been found a new home by South Kilburn Partnership. She is getting used to life in her new flat in Kensal Green and is preparing to celebrate her 70th birthday in December. She has taken away with her many happy memories of life at the pub.

"It was always more of a community pub," she says, recalling the day a man came into the pub in need of a needle and cotton to sew his shirt – an important repair as he was on his way to his wedding! The farewell party was held in July and Anne enjoyed seeing many familiar faces at the event – people who had celebrated 18th and 21st birthdays at the pub – and stag nights and christenings for their children. And that night she was thrilled to see the same people back with their grown up families.

Soap Online

Young people in South Kilburn have created an interactive online soap opera called YouChoose.

Members of Granville Plus Youth Centre's drama group have worked with the borough's youth website www.bmyvoice.org.uk to create a series of videos in which young characters face difficult choices.

Users can then vote on what they think the character should do and the next episode will be guided by the most popular choice. The first video will go live on 19th November. You can vote at www.bmyvoice.org.uk/youchoose

Waste Not Want Not



South Kilburn Partnership's move into new, smaller offices at William Dunbar House meant it found itself with too much office equipment.

So the organisation set about distributing the computers, scanners, printers, desks, chairs and stationery that it could no longer accommodate to other groups. In total 10 local groups were given valuable resources that will help them provide better and more efficient services. Amongst the giveaways were 33 computers, 12 printers, eight desks and 47 chairs! And this is who benefited:

- Community Careers Centre
- Concrete Canvas Arts
- Elders Voice
- Granville Plus Children's Centre
- Kilburn Park School
- Oxford Kilburn Youth Trust
- P3KYC (Kilburn Youth Club)
- Seed of Hope Family Organisation
- Stairs Services Ltd
- Talented Artists International

Feka Samakuva, Programme and Development Manager of Concrete Canvas Arts and Blue Canvas says "This has increased the resources available to the community, for example additional IT equipment for young people and residents without access to a computer." Elizabeth Spring, Director of Elders Voice, says: "This enables our invaluable database entry volunteer John to keep information confidential and up to date."

Gillian Thompson, Community Development Officer of Granville Plus Children's Centre, says: "This will mean we can provide extra resources for the parents and carers to use in the GPCC Parent's Room." It wasn't only local outfits that gained as the charity Computers4Africa also received a large consignment of IT equipment, including 18 computers, to be distributed across Tanzania, South Africa, Cameroon, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone and Namibia. A future issue of Connect SK will report on where SKP's computers went! Lowri Turner, Marketing Officer at Computers 4 Africa says: "A BIG thank you from Computers 4 Africa. By donating redundant IT you have made a real difference. Each computer helps teach 20+ African children."

Children's Mural Unveiled



The mural painted by local children now on display at Albert Road

Children attending the OK Club's half term art programme gathered at the unveiling of their work at the Denne site in Albert Road.

Eight young people aged from 7 to 11 years had worked on the mural depicting what they thought houses would look like in the future. Stuart McTurk of the OK Club led the

project which kicked-off with a visit by the children to the Denne Skills Centre at Albert Road. Here they found out about the project first hand from Project Manager Mike Green.

They then started work on their designs. Work on painting the 8x4 foot mural was carried out at the OK Club over the course of the week.

Community Events Diary

Alpha Learning Club

Saturdays, 10.00 -11.00 and 11.30 to 12.30
Community Hall, Gorefield House, Alpha Place,
Kilburn NW6

ALC gives additional support in English & Maths to children aged 5-13. Classes £10.00 for 1st child, £5.00 for each sibling. For more information contact Dehan on 07944592584 or Rose on 07903894651.

Safe Practice Workshop for Community Group Leaders

Saturday November 13, 11am – 1pm
The OK Club. Child protection, CRB checks, insurance, legal requirements, health & safety.

Brent Community NHS Public & Patient Open Forum

Thursday, 18th November 2010, 1pm to 4pm
Main Hall, The Stonebridge Centre
6 Hillside, London, NW10 8BN

Roller Disco for 10 – 17 year olds

Friday 26th November
Charteris Sports Centre, 24 - 30 Charteris Road,
Kilburn, NW6 7ET. Skates & Pads provided. £5 per session

Meet the funders

Tuesday 30 November, 9.30 am – 4.30 pm
Sattavis Patidar Centre, Forty Avenue, Wembley Park
HA9 9PE. Helps community organisations meet people who can provide funding.

Launch of Brent Obesity Strategy

Tuesday 30th November 2010, 12noon to 2pm
Committee Rooms 1, 2 & 3, Brent Town Hall, Forty Lane,
Wembley, Middlesex, HA9 9HD

This event is intended for representatives of community & voluntary groups, the NHS, Council and other statutory services, and has speakers including Cllr Ann John (London Borough of Brent) and Sarah Teather, (MP, Minister Children and Families).

Places must be booked with Anne Airebamen on 020 8795 6231, or on anne.airebamen@brentpct.nhs.uk.

Roller Disco for 7 – 70 year olds

Friday 17th December
Charteris Sports Centre, 24 - 30 Charteris Road,
Kilburn, NW6 7ET. Skates & Pads provided. £5 per session

“Creative hub” for Peel Precinct

Sarah Butler, South Kilburn’s Creative Co-ordinator, has been spending the last couple of months talking to local residents, organisations and key people involved with the first phase of the physical regeneration of the area to identify possible public art projects.

Sarah is confident the programme is shaping up to be an exciting mix of permanent and temporary projects, with community involvement at the heart of each. Here she explains one of the first things to happen.

“Inspired by the use of empty shops as creative spaces across the UK and beyond, we are in the early stages of turning Unit 24 in Peel Precinct into a creative community hub,” she says. “There will be opportunities for local artists to get involved, and local residents to gain creative skills, as well as have fun!”

There are also discussions with the Architecture Foundation, a national body, about turning the former South Kilburn Partnership offices into a new community space until the Healthy Living Centre planned for the site arrives. The Foundation has run a number of similar projects using derelict spaces, including Southwark Lido, the Urban Bankside Orchard and



Visual Art Improves the Look of Wembley

Oikos, a temporary theatre space made from recycled materials.

Other proposals include a text and public art project, creating temporary and permanent installations that express aspects of South Kilburn. Also a possibility is a project in the south of the area, building on the success of Chippenham Gardens, that addresses concerns about safety, crime and lighting.

One of the aims of the public art programme is to create opportunities for local people to develop their

skills. To that end Sarah explains: “We will be building mentoring and information sharing opportunities into the programme.”

If anyone is interested in these opportunities, e-mail Sarah Butler (s.butler@skpartnership.net) and tell her about your experience and interests.

Also look out for regular updates that Sarah will be posting on the homepage of South Kilburn Partnership’s website: www.skpartnership.net.

Granville Showing the Way



Granville New Homes

The University of East London is pursuing a study to determine the energy efficiency of Granville New Homes.

This will involve fitting sensors to between six and eight properties to measure the internal and external temperature and relative humidity. The project, which is due to start in the near future, will run for

six months. It will assess whether energy efficiency predictions for the building are being achieved and what more would need to be done to meet government carbon emission reduction targets of 80% by the year 2050.

For further information, please contact Nigel Moore on 020 8937 2263

ASB Update



The Dispersal Area

Since 16th August this year a “Dispersal Area” has been in place around the South Kilburn Estate to combat Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). This runs until 16th November.

The Kilburn Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) still patrols the area and uses the new “dispersal powers” to move people on where necessary. Since the Dispersal Area was introduced there has been a big decrease in ASB related calls to the SNT and the general feedback from the SK community has been positive.

The SNT has also been helped by other police teams. While there have been no arrests for not moving on, there have been several arrests for various offences including Possession of Controlled Drugs, Public Order and Criminal Damage which have been directly linked to dispersing large groups in the area.

The team has also been working with Brent Council Anti-Social Behaviour Team and the various social landlords to deal with the problem. The social landlords have been serving notices to take possession of the properties where those identified live. This means that if the anti-social behaviour continues, the parents and families of those involved may be evicted from their homes.

If you have concerns around ASB or any other issues please contact the Kilburn Safer Neighbourhood Team on 020 8721 2020 or 07843 291 102 or e-mail BrentKilburn.snt@met.police.uk.

In an emergency always call 999.

SK Community Views on the Dispersal Zone

Here’s a selection of views on the new dispersal zone.

Stephanie Barrett
South Kilburn Resident

“The dispersal zone has been fantastic. It is a real blessing for people that were afraid to come out of their house; they can now come out and feel a lot safer. I think it has made a big difference and it should happen in more places.”

Eric Cunliffe
Chair of Granville New Homes Residents’ Association

“The idea is brilliant. If it’s making the area safer then it’s a good thing. However, I think it will take a lot longer to convince vulnerable people that it’s safer to come out, I think they have had too many bad experiences in the past.”

Paul Nugent, aged 17
member of BHP’s Youth Editorial Board

“Well, just like ASBOs, it is a bad idea as you are taking away ones freedom of assembling, which I am pretty sure is a human right. So it firstly breaks that and it also will mean nothing except that young people will find another place to hang out. It’s as simple as that, money that funds methods like this should simply be used towards organising activities that the youths will want to do.”

Daisy Farci, aged 14
member of BHP’s Youth Editorial Board

“I think it is a good and bad idea. I think that it is ok to hang around in a public area during the day but not after it gets dark as it scares people. Also if they are making loud noises and causing trouble I think they should be told to move.”

What do you think? Let us know by writing to the Editor at South Kilburn Partnership, William Dunbar House, Albert Road, Kilburn NW6 5BD, or text us on 07783 948950. Remember to include your name if texting!

SK meets the New Landlords



Catalyst employees at the 'Meet the Landlords' event

South Kilburn residents are beginning to learn more about the new developments that could be their future homes and the organisations that might be their landlords.

On 7th October a 'Meet the Landlords Open Day' took place at the Salvation Army in Chichester Road, organised by Brent Council. This was the first real opportunity for tenants who are likely to be offered new homes over the next two years to meet the registered social landlords (RSLs) developing the schemes – Network Housing Group, London & Quadrant (L&Q) and Catalyst Housing Group. **Around 160 people attended** for the drop in session which ran from 2pm-7pm.

Each RSL had a display with a range of material about the new developments – architects drawings, internal layouts, electronic models, 3D layouts and information leaflets about the companies themselves. Arlene Daly, project manager for L&Q, which is developing two sites – Albert Road Phase 1 and Carlton Vale roundabout – says: "From our end we were trying to introduce L&Q as a new landlord. We are not necessarily an organisation that people in the Brent area will have heard of before so it was a case of us selling ourselves and our experience and letting people know what we have done elsewhere."

She says they wanted to explain how they deal with important issues such as maintenance responsibilities and anti-social behaviour problems. "We also wanted them to know we are clear and transparent about service charges

and rents," she says. She says residents were particularly keen to learn what the schemes would look like – both internal layouts and what kind of outside amenity space they would have.

Tell us about the kitchens

Network – which through its member company Stadium – is developing the site of Gordon House in Malvern Road, also found residents particularly interested in detailed matters such as **kitchen design** and the **level of parking**.

Eusebio Barata, director of customer services for Stadium, says once residents have been chosen for the development – which in future will be called **McDonald House** - they will then sit down with them to discuss the details of the management of the complex.

"That will be the next step," he explains. "That's when we will say to people 'what would you like to see?'. 'Would you like to see more cleaning, more security or to be in the warden scheme?' and so on."

In contrast to L&Q, Stadium is a long established social landlord in the Brent area and Barata describes it as its "heartland". One of its best known purpose built developments is **Airco Close** in Kingsbury. Barata says residents can expect to see a "sensible approach to management" that will involve them working closely with other landlords.

Choosing the colour schemes

Catalyst, whose member company Fortunegate is developing the former **Texaco site** in Carlton Vale, told people about its **Group Residents Federation** which helps to shape the way they consult. Lena McManus, senior project manager with Catalyst, says once their residents have been chosen they will be invited to vote, for example, on colour schemes that will be applied throughout the properties and have consultations over landscaping. Meanwhile, literature about Fortunegate told prospective residents about its '**right first time' approach to repairs** which has had a 99.5% success rate in its other schemes. Information about the new scheme confirmed kitchens would include a fridge/freezer, washing machine/drier and electric hob/oven.

All three landlords summed up the mood of the open day as "positive". And Brent Council confirms there was a "**feel good factor**" amongst the tenants. Brent Council will be making an assessment of who will live at each development based on preferences and needs. Decisions should start to be made early in 2011.

And now, the next crop

Meanwhile, the council has an on-going programme of consultation with tenants about the next crop of new homes that will come through as later stages of the regeneration process.

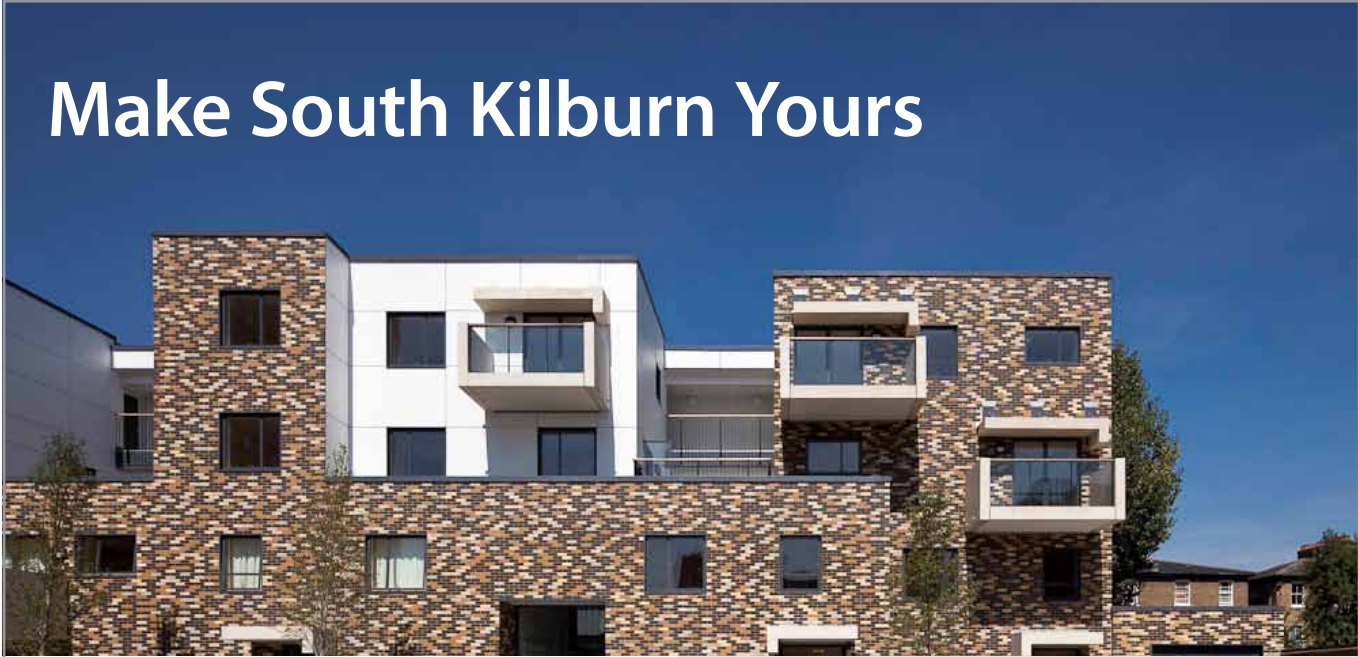
At the last New Homes exhibition – which took place on 30th September – the architects working on the **Ely Court, Cambridge and Wells Court** and **Bond House, Hicks Bolton House** and **Wood House** projects put on show their proposals. They all follow the same principles of re-building the historic street frontage with new and improved open greens at each site. Each project plans a series of enhancements to pedestrian areas, investment in landscaping and a heavy emphasis on high quality new accommodation.

The next **Residents Design Group** meeting took place on 11th November and the next New Homes Exhibition happens on 25th November. On the agenda will be several key issues that are clearly very important to people says

the council – car parking, public open space and, in terms of buildings, detail about balconies, internal layouts and windows.

Activity on site

On the ground there is now activity to be seen at the various development sites. Most advanced is the redevelopment of Gordon House, where pile foundations have been installed, a crane is now active and a concrete frame has been taken up to first floor level. The £3.4m construction project is due to complete in September 2011. Albert Road Phase 1 started on site in September and L&Q says so far it is going according to plan. The site has been prepared for piling works which are due to start in early November. Concrete frame works are programmed to start in January. It is also hoping to start on site with its project at Carlton Vale roundabout in March 2011, following demolition works by the council. Catalyst received planning consent in mid-October for minor amendments to its scheme at the Texaco site and the company says things are beginning to take shape there.



Make South Kilburn Yours

We are looking for people across the South Kilburn area to discuss their ideas about how the next new homes in South Kilburn should look.



We need your help! Residents Design Groups meet regularly.

If you are not able to come to the residents' design group but want to know more about the new developments then please come to the New Homes exhibition where you can see the latest designs from the architects, and can give us your comments:

South Kilburn New Homes Public Exhibition
25th November 2pm - 7 pm at the Salvation Army

For further information please contact Beth Kay on 020 8937 1038, beth.kay@brent.gov.uk

South Kilburn 'alive with opportunity!'

Help Finding Work



Finding employment in these difficult economic times can itself be a tough job. Despite the gloom, however, there is still plenty of help on hand for South Kilburn jobseekers.

REACH West London

A newly launched programme is called REACH West London, run by Ingeus, a leading welfare-to-work provider. Ingeus has been helping Brent residents into work for a while, but its latest initiative is being particularly targeted at **South Kilburn**, identified by Brent Council as one of its “priority neighbourhoods”. It’s a free, voluntary service for people who have been **out of work for 12 months** or longer and are on health benefits or income support as a single parent, or are parents in low income households. Joining REACH West London **won’t affect your benefits**, stress the organisers. And when you join you will work with a personal advisor who will be able to provide you with the following kinds of support:

- In-work benefits calculations - to work out how much better off you will be in work
- Help to find childcare
- Access to workshops covering CV writing, confidence building and interview technique
- Expert job-hunting advice;
- Access to well-equipped job stations, including PCs and internet
- Money for travel expenses, work equipment and interview clothing
- Support for up to six months after you get work

There is also a dedicated team of recruitment specialists who work closely with employers. To find out more about REACH West London, call 0800 321 3150 (free from landlines), or 020 8634 4060, or text REACH1 to 60777.

Help for those with Mental Health problems

A programme that aims to bring help to those with mild to moderate mental health problems to get back into work is the “Improving Access to Psychological Therapies” (IAPT) programme. It’s run by the College of North West London on behalf of NHS Brent. The college is working with several other organisations – JobCentre Plus, the Richmond Fellowship, Reed in Partnership and the Brent User Group.

It is a pilot project, but is expected to continue as a permanent scheme. It has been particularly successful helping people in South Kilburn, after the South Kilburn Partnership helped introduce it to local GPs and made its offices available for the organisers to meet with people they could potentially help.

Clients can be **referred** to IAPT by their GP or they can **sign up on their own** – or “self-refer”. Leaflets explaining the programme and self-referral are available at GP surgeries.

Once on the programme, depending on what kind of benefits they are receiving and their individual circumstances people are introduced to the partner organisations for help. For example, if someone is in employment but being signed off because of problems



they would be referred to the Richmond Partnership. They provide one-to-one support and can talk to the employer and discuss what support will enable the person back into work.

“Much of it is confidence building,” says May Soronnadi, from the College. “It’s about getting people out of the thing that is making them feel depressed.”

Chance for Five Youngsters

A new programme in South Kilburn “Supporting Vulnerable Young People” is looking to recruit **five young people** aged 19 to 25, with learning disabilities or difficulties (which were not stated while they were at school) or who are experiencing mental ill health. They will receive intensive support based around life skills and personal development with the long term aim of sustainable employment or training. For more details, contact Sandria Mcintosh on 0208 863 1196 or e-mail: sandria.mcintosh@ldosensory.co.uk

Health Trainers

Health Trainer, Beverley Barr, has joined the team at the Blessing Medical Centre to support local people who are looking to make healthier lifestyle choices. Beverley, a South Kilburn resident, is one of 30 Health Trainers working across Brent helping people to change behaviours known to cause ill health and premature death such as smoking, unhealthy eating habits, physical inactivity and drugs and alcohol misuse.

Health Trainers are not clinicians and do not provide detailed health advice, so they add to rather than replace services provided by doctors and other health professionals. What they do is help people to identify a health goal and work with them over to help them achieve it by offering support, motivation, very basic health advice and signposting them to other relevant services including employment.

The pilot scheme, jointly funded by NHS Brent and LB Brent, will run for a period of six months.

Jobs with the Builders

Companies involved in the regeneration process in South Kilburn are also supporting programmes that provide jobs for local people. Catalyst Housing Group, for example, has been involved with the national ‘Future Jobs Fund’ programme, which offers **six months of work** to young, unemployed people aged 18 to 25. It currently still has 29 people on the programme – five from the South Kilburn area. “We decided to ring-fence opportunities for young people from South Kilburn,” explains Kerry Starling, regeneration investment manager, who says they worked closely with JobCentre Plus on this. The young people are working in various departments including development, leasing, finance and the contact centre.

Catalyst soon plans to offer **construction related jobs** to South Kilburn residents on its Texaco site development.

Yasmin Bourbour (21) of Carlton Vale, graduated from university with a degree in accounting and finance in the summer but her early attempts to gain employment were not proving successful. JobCentre Plus put her in touch with Catalyst as a candidate for their scheme and she is now working with them as an income officer.

“I don’t have much work experience so this really good for me and good to put on my CV,” she says. “This opens up a lot of doors especially in the current climate.” *Yasmin Bourbour*

Sophia Kasmi, of Alpha House, is a 24-year old graduate with a degree in criminology and journalism. But since leaving university in summer 2009 her attempts to get a job had been unsuccessful.

“I really wanted to work in immigration,” she explains, “but it was very difficult.”

She had applied for countless jobs until JobCentre Plus put her in touch with Catalyst and she is now working for them as a customer services officer for the Fortunegate part of the group.

“It’s giving me the experience that I need and it’s given me back my motivation.” *Sophia Kasmi*

Fusion Events

Fusion has run two recent events in South Kilburn about social enterprise and communication.



The popular Fusion events focussed on social enterprise and communication issues

Brighter Social Enterprise

Social enterprises are community businesses where profits are reinvested into services and activities that benefit the community.

Fusion held an event on 23rd September to highlight how social enterprise can offer innovation solutions in times of tight expenditure in the public and voluntary sectors. In South Kilburn there are already a number of successful social enterprises. There are also many other community organisations that can consider how they can become more entrepreneurial both in order to deliver their services more effectively and improve their financial sustainability.

Communication, PR & Marketing

The aims of this event, held on 19th October, were:

- To help strengthen the way organisations in South Kilburn market themselves
- To identify ways to improve how groups communicate with each other in South Kilburn

Over 20 representatives from local groups and organisations attended. There were presentations and a workshop on how to write a marketing plan. Local resident and member of Community Consultants (South Kilburn) Nilufer Karakaya said, "It was very useful and educational and could inspire new or current local entrepreneurs to get motivated about their capabilities to start new businesses in the community."

For more information on the work of Fusion contact Mike Butler 07866 289 940

Funds for Community Groups



Funding of up to £5,000 is available to voluntary and community groups in South Kilburn from the "Fusion Fund".

Groups have until 17th November to apply for support from the latest round of funding. The Fusion Fund is supported by the South Kilburn Partnership and the South Kilburn Neighbourhood Trust.

It aims to help develop sustainable groups over the next few years. It is particularly interested in projects which engage new members of the community, projects promoting community cohesion and an understanding of cultural diversity and those with new ideas.

Who can get funding?

- Community and Voluntary sector groups and social enterprises operating for SK residents (no statutory agencies)
- Groups that are formally constituted as a charities, companies or similar with all appropriate policies and CRB checks in place. The only exception is bids from local consortia with constitutions
- Groups who have been operating for more than a year (unless they are already working with Fusion)
- Organisations with South Kilburn residents involved in their management will get preference.

In order to apply to the Fusion Fund organisations must

- Be established in South Kilburn
- Have a constitution
- Have a governing body or management committee
- Have a Child Protection Policy/Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy/CRB checks
- Have (or applied for) at least 50% matched funding
- Show that 80% of the beneficiaries will be South Kilburn residents
- Have a bank account
- Have insurance for their activities
- Have a recent financial statement

Application forms and full guidance notes can be downloaded at www.skpartnership.net/join-fusion, and must be received no later than 5 pm on Wednesday 17th November by Allon Leever at Fusion, 9 Sanderson Close, London NW5 1TS.

If you need more information, call Allon on 07906 565614. If you need help completing your application contact:

Young People and Refugees Projects

Keith Lunn: 07775 761657 or 020 76246292

Elderly groups and anyone using the Vale Centre

Paul Bragman: 07887 721825 or 020 84422379

Creative & Media Projects and Marion Centre organisations

Mike Butler: 07866 289940

Residents News & Views

Are you getting your copy of Connect SK? You should be receiving Connect SK every 2 months, either directly through your letterbox or from local community outlets.

If not, or if you know of South Kilburn residents who are missing out, then email the contact details to media_ccsk@yahoo.co.uk and we will follow it up.

In the last edition of the Community Pages of Connect SK we asked you what you want to see in the magazine. We are open to ideas for what YOU want in YOUR magazine. So, if you know of an event that is coming up or you run a project in the local area or you have a story to tell, let us know at media_ccsk@yahoo.co.uk and we will get it published in Connect SK.

Meet the Funders

The free Annual Brent Funders' Fair is organised by Brent Association for Voluntary Action (BrAVA) in partnership with Brent Council to help local groups in Brent kick-start their fundraising for the new financial year and beyond.

The fair focuses on bringing Local, National and European Funders and Grant awarding bodies together under one roof to meet local groups and organisations in Brent. The event takes place from 9.30 am – 4.30 pm on Tuesday 30 November at the Sattavis Patidar Centre on Forty Avenue in Wembley.

Further details, including free registration, are available from www.brava.org.uk. Or phone Amy Curling on 020 8438 1520 or email her at amy.curling@brava.org.uk.

Paddington Green Campus Nearly Ready



The new £102million City of Westminster College campus at Paddington Green is nearly finished, and due to open its doors in January next year.

A striking seven-storey building, it has been designed by the award winning Danish architects Schmidt Hammer Lassen.

It should provide an outstanding teaching and learning environment with an open plan layout that encourages studying anytime and anywhere.

A large open space is at the heart of the building. Above it is an airy learning centre and a refectory on the third floor that links into a large roof terrace where students will be able to either study or relax outside.

Other facilities include a sports hall, specialist science labs, engineering and construction workshops, theatre and a public cafe overlooking St Mary's Gardens.

Many of the facilities will be available to the public when not in use for teaching, and the college will also use the new campus to build relationships with employers from across London and the South East.

Courses

A wide range of vocational and technical full-time and part-time courses will be offered at the new campus including:

- Art & Design
- Building Services & Construction
- Computing & ICT
- Digital Media
- Electrical Installation
- Engineering
- Health & Social Care
- Languages including ESOL
- Media Communication & Production
- Medical Technology
- Motor Vehicle
- Performing Arts, TV & Video
- Photography
- Plumbing
- Science
- Sound & Music
- Sport & Leisure
- Travel & Tourism

For course information contact the InfoPoint team or course advisors on: 020 7723 8826 or customer.services@cw.ac.uk or go to www.cw.ac.uk



South Kilburn Partnership

www.skpartnership.net

Tel: 020 7328 1199, Text: 07783 948 950

Next Issue

In January – look out for it.

If you've got anything to tell the rest of the Estate about, or if you want to write a letter, get in touch with the Editor, Mike Wilson, on 020 7328 1199, or at m.wilson@skpartnership.net

We also have a text number which you can use – **07783 948950** - get in touch!