

# CONNECT SK



## MERLE BARRITEAU CELEBRATED

New housing scheme bears both the name and the thoughts of well-known local resident Merle Barriteau

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## Regeneration Update

A round up of redevelopment activity in South Kilburn | Page 9

## Welcome to the September Edition of ConnectSK!



It's hard to believe that my daughter was just four when we first arrived in South Kilburn. She happily played with the other toddlers at the Salvation Army playgroup. Now a teenager, she's as tall as me and, as this edition of ConnectSK is coming through your door, she will be starting a whole new world of learning at secondary school!

Learning never stops... we have a fantastic, diverse community here in South Kilburn and I'm discovering that what we learn from one another

is as valuable as anything I ever learnt in the classroom! At the back of the Salvation Army hall is a huge world map and I've learnt more in conversation there than any geography lesson at school. I can now say hello in over 40 languages and can cook some amazing dishes from all around the globe!

Learning also goes far deeper – respecting one another for who we are! Last year a series of Intergenerational projects organised by the Kilburn Older People's Consortium brought young and old together to exchange skills. At the Salvation Army we have several homeless guys that call in each week and I've learnt a good deal about being streetwise! Take a look at this edition of ConnectSK and make the most of the learning opportunities – visit a group near you, get involved in community activities, call in at the BACES Open Day and discover for yourself that learning is indeed lifelong!

**Phil Howe**  
SKNT Trustee

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### Urdu

اگر کنکٹ ایس کے کے / کو پڑھنے میں مشکل پیش آئے تو براہ مہربانی "ایس کے کے کمیونیکیشنز" ٹیم سے رابطہ کریں۔ رابطہ کا پتہ: 020 7328 1199 فون نمبر [connect@sknt.co.uk](mailto:connect@sknt.co.uk) یا شمارہ تلفن 020 7328 1199۔ لندن، بنگلور،

### Farsi

William Dunbar House, Albert Road, Kilburn NW6 5DE SKNT اگر مشکلی در خواندن Connect SK دارید، لطفاً با گروه ارتباطات یا شماره تلفن 020 7328 1199 - لندن، بنگلور، [connect@sknt.co.uk](mailto:connect@sknt.co.uk) یا پست الکترونیکی NW6 5DE

## Design Award for Cambridge & Wells

**The new look planned for Cambridge Court and Wells Court – part of the continuing process of regeneration in South Kilburn – has won a prestigious Housing Design Award.**

The scheme was one of twelve to be chosen for the 2011 awards out of 144 from all over the UK. The designers – architects Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands (LDS), working with Brent Council – collected their award at a ceremony held in Westminster in July.

This followed complementary comments made by the judges who congratulated them for their use of traditional architecture and the generous private outdoor space.

The judges said: “Although it is instantly recognisable as London streetscape it has something the original never had – outdoor private space on the upper floors.”

They were impressed by the design of Cambridge and Wells Courts which will feature four-storey semi-detached villas linked with core areas to create a continuous street frontage.

The new Cambridge and Wells Courts will contain 101 homes – one to four bedroom flats and two to four

bedroom duplexes. The architects submitted a planning application for the scheme last December and got full planning permission in March this year.

LDS has also been working closely with another firm, Alison Brooks Architects, which has been designing nearby Ely Court. A key feature of the two new developments is a link along Alpha Mews. This will restore a nineteenth century route and contain play areas, gardens, private and public space and generally prioritise pedestrian use through traffic calming ‘homezones’.

In fact, a central approach of the whole scheme, say LDS, is the aim of creating more “friendly streets”.

LDS’s Douglas Inglis, who is project architect on the scheme, says the judges were happy with the architectural response and the generous amount of amenity space: “They told us they did not see that very often.”

They also liked the modest density levels within the scheme, and he says: “Brent Council deserves a lot of credit for that. They did not want to dense out the development too much.”

Councillor George Crane, Lead Member for Regeneration at the council and SKNT Trustee, confirms that the local authority’s aim is to work with the highest calibre architects to replace old high rise blocks with “excellent new housing”.



## Merle Celebrated



The new housing scheme that is taking shape on the former Texaco site in Carlton Vale now bears both the name and the thoughts of well-known local resident Merle Barriteau.

Developer Catalyst Housing Group has named the scheme Merle's Court, after the lady who was among the first residents to move into the blocks that are now making way for new developments. Lena McManus, senior project director for Catalyst, explains: "When we started to ask around for suggestions for an appropriate name for our scheme, one stood out - Merle Barriteau. We heard all about her work in South Kilburn and her famous cooking! Fortunately Merle and the Council gave us permission to use her name. It's a real privilege to name the scheme after her."

"...he presented me with two keys on my birthday. Two futures shining, in each hand's clasp. Two doors in the building she watched grow from nothing. A choice of two numbers – the days of the week or the lives of a cat. I picked number 9."

The Watercycle (extract) by Niall O'Sullivan

### South Kilburn Speaks

Artworks designed by local artist Andy Edwards appear on hoardings at the Carlton Vale, Albert Road and Merle's Court developments and incorporates poetry produced by local people.

'South Kilburn Speaks' commissioned by South Kilburn Neighbourhood Trust and run by the Poetry School with Brent Council, involved three writers working with local people creating works that will be placed on temporary installations such as the hoardings but also permanent pieces to be installed in the Autumn. The hoardings at Peel Precinct carry work based on Merle's reflections of life in South Kilburn. In July, a special ceremony saw the Mayor, Cllr Aslam Choudry, unveil both the artwork and the new name to a crowd of 50 invited guests including many of the students from local schools and centres who had been involved with the scheme.

He told them: "The project embodies the community ethos which exists in South Kilburn and we are grateful to Willmott Dixon and Catalyst for the assistance they have provided." Representatives from construction firm Willmott Dixon and Catalyst Housing Group, who will manage Merle's Court on completion, were also present.

Look out for more South Kilburn inspired poetry in future editions.

## Housing Allocation Gathers Momentum

The process of allocating South Kilburn residents to new homes in the current crop of regeneration developments is now gathering momentum.

Following the completion of allocations to McDonald House, which is also due to finish construction shortly, Brent Housing Regeneration Team is concentrating on offering new homes to people in the Albert Road and Merle's Court (formerly the Texaco site) developments.

Allocations began in June and will continue through to November. By the beginning of August, 33 units had been allocated at Merle's Court and the process was due to finish there later in the month.

At Albert Road, there had been 42 units allocated at that time out of a total of 110 properties. All tenants are being contacted with an appointment date and time, leading to a pre-allocation interview and offer of accommodation. However, Linda Beasley, the council's project manager for re-housing, says: "I appreciate that some tenants have not received their appointments as yet. Please do not worry." The allocation of the Albert Road site is on a phased basis so this means that not all the property will be ready at the same time. This gives the team the opportunity to meet with tenants over the months to come."

### Tenant's Choice

Once an offer of accommodation has been accepted tenants will be invited to take part in the 'Tenants Choice' programme. This makes a selection of three kitchen ranges and floorings available from which tenants can make a choice for their new home. It covers kitchen units, worktops, floor coverings, door handles and tiles.

There is also a choice of bathroom floorings and tiles, and a choice of wall colours and carpets throughout. Tenants with disabilities are offered flooring in their bathroom to suit disability standards. Tenants who do not attend their interview miss the opportunity of these choices and they receive a default choice which is usually the most popular selection made by the majority of other tenants.

## TSG Seeks New Chair

The Tenants Steering Group, which holds monthly meetings about the regeneration process and regular meetings with the Council and First Call advisory service, is looking for a new chairperson.

They will receive support and advice from First Call including assistance in running meetings. Anyone interested or who has any other queries about the regeneration should contact Louis or Chris at First Call on FREEPHONE 0300 365 7150 or email: southkilburn@first-call-housing.com

## Argo Business Centre Re-Development



An exhibition to show local residents and businesses the proposed redevelopment of Argo House in Kilburn Park Road was held at the Marian Community Centre on 21st July.

The developers – Starprop – say it was well attended and the feedback they received from it was "generally positive". The new development will contain 116 homes, a mix of affordable and market-price units.

On the ground floor there will be commercial space, a shop and basement parking. The new commercial floorspace will be made available to the existing tenants, as well as encouraging new tenants and businesses into South Kilburn.

If you would like to discuss the proposals further or find out more about them call 0800 458 6976 or email [argohouse@yourshout.org](mailto:argohouse@yourshout.org)

South Kilburn 'alive with opportunity!'

### Builders Bring Jobs

A year ago Sharif Said of Kilburn, having previously worked for a succession of big name retailers, had just lost his job at a cinema.

Today, life could not be more different as the 24-year old settles into a full time job with Catalyst Housing Group, one of the companies building new homes in South Kilburn.

The about turn in his fortunes resulted from a poster he spotted when signing on for work. It was advertising the temporary work opportunities available at Catalyst under the 'Future Jobs Fund' programme. After series of interviews he started a six month work period last September during which he gained experience in the development department, the contact centre and going out to residents living in Catalyst accommodation.

"This has been a really good opportunity," says Sharif. "I do not think I would have got this job without the Future Job Fund."

"That was my favourite part," he says. "You get to go out and meet new people. And if someone is not happy you know you can make a difference." Sharif also gained a housing qualification during that time.

When his six months came to an end resources were not available to offer a full time job but Catalyst was keen to keep Sharif on its bank staff – and just two months later the company was able to offer him a permanent job. He is currently a new build officer, working in development, where a key part of his role is undertaking a survey of residents who have been in their new homes for 12 months.

"This is to see how the accommodation is working out for them," he explains. "I send out the letters, input the feedback into the system and will be doing a report based on the findings."

"This has been a really good opportunity," says Sharif. "I do not think I would have got this job without the Future Job Fund."

### Green Fingered?



The gardener at Kilburn Salvation Army (55 Chichester Road) has had to retire and the garden is missing his regular care and attention.

They are looking for one or two volunteers who would be willing to provide a few hours each week to help make the garden happy again with some weeding, mowing and some TLC! All the tools you need are provided along with a regular supply of tea and coffee!

If you think you may be able to help, please phone 020 7328 1312 or 020 7625 4861 and speak to one of the team.

### BACES Autumn Term

Brent Adult and Community Education Service (BACES) offer a huge and varied selection of courses.

Whether you want to stimulate the mind, exercise the body or develop new skills, the wide range of courses available at the local Carlton Centre will have something for you.

The affordable fees - some courses from only £18 and many free for people receiving benefits – means that you can enroll whether it is for your own enjoyment or to improve your skills to get a new or better job.

For information on courses starting in September visit BACES website at [www.brent.gov.uk/adulteducation](http://www.brent.gov.uk/adulteducation), or attend the Adult Education Open Day at the Carlton Centre on Carlton Vale Wednesday September 14 from 10 am to 4 pm.

# Trigirl Settles In At SK Studios



**It's not surprising that sportswear designer Patrizia Victor was quick to spot the possibility of taking space at the new South Kilburn Studios in Canterbury Road.**

As Patrizia lives just around the corner – in Princess Road – and had a daily routine of walking past the studios to the nearby post office she was already well acquainted with the emerging development.

Also, running her business from home was far from perfect so when the promotional posters and flyers appeared in search of prospective tenants for the studios they naturally caught her eye.

**"It's given me an opportunity to break out ... it's all pluses as far as I'm concerned"**

But there was a nagging doubt in her mind about her suitability. Patrizia runs Trigirl, which sells her own designs of sportswear for female triathletes, who can wear the same outfit for all three of their sports - swimming, cycling and running.

She explains: "Initially, I was hesitant because the studios came across as being more for artists and so on. I thought because I had a bit of a commercial business I may not fit in there. But when I looked into it and realised it was more about helping new businesses like myself to find their feet I decided to apply." Patrizia managed to secure one of the 13 spaces at the studios which tenants rent free of charge in return for

mentoring a trainee. She transferred her office there from early April and once a week she has 23-year old Sarah Namsamba from Chichester Road working alongside her.

Patrizia is happy about the difference the studio has made to her business. "Because my business has not broken even yet I couldn't afford office space so I had to work from home. That wasn't always easy – when I had meetings with suppliers, for example, I had to arrange to meet them in central London somewhere. Now with this office I have the opportunity to hold meetings here. It's made it a lot easier to operate the business."

Trigirl sells mainly to retailers but there is also an online service for direct customer sales. The office is also used for processing orders, on-going marketing and product sales and consideration of fabrics and designs for her next collection.

"It's given me an opportunity to break out and not be working from home – it's all pluses as far as I'm concerned."

Sarah, who graduated from Nottingham University in 2009, wants a job in marketing or the fashion industry. So working with Patrizia, she says, has enabled her to see how a small company is run.

"That has been the most interesting thing – seeing Patrizia do it all by herself," says Sarah.

Sarah helps with marketing the ranges, in-putting material into the website and preparing for exhibitions – Trigirl was recently at the Dextrol Energy Triathlon in Hyde Park.

"I'm enjoying it," she says. "It's a great opportunity."



# Know Your Representatives

Your councillors for the Kilburn ward are your local representatives, elected by you to represent your interests. Here is a brief introduction to each one, and a guide to when and where you can see them.



**Tayo Oladapo**

There are a lot of vulnerable and disadvantaged people who need a voice and a helping hand, particularly so in Brent. It is with this awareness that I decided to

become a councillor, after doing a lot of voluntary work in Kilburn with young people.

Being a councillor helps me help some of our most disadvantaged groups, the young and elderly, and anyone in the community with a need. Apart from providing support to constituents who approach me for help, I have been a loud voice on khat use.

“There are a lot of vulnerable and disadvantaged people out there who need a voice and a helping hand”

Keen to provide financial, political and moral support for local organisations involved in trying to stem its use, I have continued to solicit the help of colleagues in challenging the problems faced by khat usage in local communities.

**Mary Arnold**



I enjoy working with lots of people in the community to improve people's lives, and have been a councillor for over 12 years following careers in education and community development. I am a keen ambassador of young people

and work to support young people's activities and support, especially those at risk of offending.

I also work locally to support families around schools places, training and employment opportunities, reducing overcrowding and supporting older people with health issues.

“I am a keen ambassador of young people and work to support young people's activities”

**Benjamin Ogunro**

I am a resident of South Kilburn and have enjoyed supporting my local community since my retirement. Being a councillor can be a daunting task but I do enjoy helping people to achieve their goals. My career in the



health sector has made health issues very important to me. I work to support residents on these issues, as well as support for older people.

I try to help with housing problems that residents bring to me at my surgery, overcrowding is a common complaint. I am also involved in the Granville Plus Children's Centre and the Brent Housing Partnership Board.

“My previous career in the health sector has made health issues very important to me”

## Surgeries

The surgeries are times you can drop in to see your councillors to talk about anything that is concerning you about South Kilburn.

2nd Tuesday of each month, 9.30am to 10.30am, at the Community Resource Centre, William Dunbar House, Albert Road, NW6 5DE

3rd Thursday of each month, 6pm to 7pm at the office of the Brent Private Tenants Rights Group, 38-42 Willesden Lane, NW6 7RF (020 7624 4327)

4th Saturday of each month, 11am to 12.30pm at the Community Resource Centre, William Dunbar House Albert Road NW6 5DE

# Online Soap Gathers Momentum



Following the success of the first two episodes of *YouChoose*; "Beginning with no End" - Brent's interactive online youth drama series (which engaged over 600 young people across the borough), the third episode is now live and open for votes on the Council's youth website: [www.bmyvoice.org.uk](http://www.bmyvoice.org.uk)

*YouChoose* is a series of short films which highlight issues faced by young people - the project is youth led and influenced by voters through the *bmyvoice* website. Each episode features a character in a difficult scenario and faced with a complex choice, ending with a dilemma or a cliff hanger. The audience is then invited to vote for how they would like the series to evolve.

"Beginning with no End" is created by and stars young people from Granville Plus Youth Arts Centre and directed by Hiphology. The third episode can be viewed on [www.bmyvoice.org.uk/youchoose](http://www.bmyvoice.org.uk/youchoose) and the most popular choice will be made into the next episode.

Young people aged 11-25yrs are also welcome to feature in the series by joining the weekly drama sessions at Granville Plus Youth Arts Centre every Tuesday evening: 6pm – 9pm.

## Events Diary

### Granville Plus Youth Arts Centre

Free creative learning activities for young people aged 11-25yrs available at: 80 Granville Road, Kilburn, NW6 5RA. Tel: 020 8937 3612

#### **Mondays:**

Guitar 5:30 – 7pm, Taekwondo 6 – 8pm, Vocal Training 6 – 9pm, Magazine / Journalism project 7 - 8pm.

#### **Tuesdays:**

Street dance 6 – 8pm, Art/illustration 6 – 8pm, Online Drama Project 6 – 8pm, Fashion as a business 6 - 8pm.

All programmes are FREE – just turn up and join in.

### Open Day at BACES

#### **Wednesday 14th September.**

10 am – 4 pm. Carlton Centre, Carlton Vale, London, NW6 5RA. Tel: 020 8937 3950

### Kilburn Safer Neighbourhood Team Panel

#### **Wednesday 21st September.**

7:00 – 8.30 pm. Granville Centre  
80 Granville Road NW6 5RA

### Women Only Dance

#### **Every Monday.**

Women Only African Dance. 10:30am – 12pm.

#### **Every Tuesday.**

Women Only Belly Dance. 6pm – 7pm.

£3 (£1.50 for students, pensioners & unemployed). All women over 16 welcome. For more information contact Faith on [healthierlife4you@gmail.com](mailto:healthierlife4you@gmail.com), or 07826 253 786.

Or just drop in at Healthier Life 4 You at the Enterprise Centre, 21-23 Peel Precinct, every Monday/Tuesday.

### Tai Chi

#### **Every Saturday in September.**

11am – 12.30pm. Free Tai Chi classes.  
Chippenham Gardens.

### Got an event to publicise?

Tell ConnectSK about it – send us the details for inclusion in the next issue by e-mail to [info@sknt.co.uk](mailto:info@sknt.co.uk), or phone them in to 020 7328 1199.

# Regeneration Update



**ConnectSK rounds up the redevelopment activity around South Kilburn.**

### Developments on site

The works at **McDonald House** – the first of the current crop of developments due for completion – are now on the home straight. Developer Network Stadium says scaffolding is being removed, windows are being cleaned and vents and lifts are being installed. Interior decoration is also being undertaken and outdoor areas are being prepared for landscaping.

Speaking about **Merle's Court** (formerly known as the Texaco site), Lena McManus, senior project manager with Catalyst Housing Group, says: "We are making good progress." She reports that the sixth floor of the concrete frame is being prepared for casting. Scaffolding is up around the site to first floor level and brickwork and other trades were due to resume their activities on site by the middle of August.

Mike Green, project manager at Denne – London & Quadrant's construction partner on its two sites – reports that at the **Albert Road** Phase 1 development all concrete frameworks have completed while roof coverings are progressing. Meanwhile, at its **Carlton Vale** roundabout site the piling works have been completed, incoming roads and car parking areas have been formed and tarmac groundworks have started.

### The next stages

As reported in the previous edition of Connect SK, planning permission for 208 new homes has been secured at Wells Court, Cambridge Court, Ely Court, Bond House, Hicks Bolton House and Wood House sites. Of the 208 new homes being delivered, 122 will be for South Kilburn residents.

The council is looking to appoint one developer partner to build and manage the new homes out of a shortlist of six. A selection panel will choose the partner in late 2011. If any residents are interested in joining the panel, please contact Alexander Hearn [alexander.hearn@brent.gov.uk](mailto:alexander.hearn@brent.gov.uk) or t 020 8937 1048.

Brent Council is particularly interested in hearing from residents living in Masefield House, Wordsworth House, Cullen House, Durham Court and Gloucester House as current tenants of these blocks are likely to be offered new homes here. You must be able to give up about a week of your time to be part of the process.

### Future stages

Three leading architecture practices were appointed in June 2011 to design new homes at two new sites in South Kilburn: Bronte House and Fielding House, and the Queen's Park Station Area (including Premier House, Keniston Press, the Falcon Pub, Cullen House and the

London Transport offices). The first exhibition and consultation event for Bronte and Fielding House was held on 27th July and 60 people came along to the event. Residents were shown some early ideas about how the new homes could look and were asked for their design ideas.

Overall, the council received nearly 40 responses, mainly commenting on safety and other specific aspects of design such as windows, storage, house layout and car parking. Two further events for each site will be held throughout the design process from July 2011 to February 2012.

The events will provide updates for residents on the design progress, give them information about the wider regeneration plans and answer any housing related queries. For more information contact Alexander Hearn [alexander.hearn@brent.gov.uk](mailto:alexander.hearn@brent.gov.uk) or telephone: 020 8937 1048.

## See The Future Plans

A permanent exhibition for the regeneration proposals has been launched at the Community Resource Centre in South Kilburn which is based at William Dunbar House in Albert Road.

The exhibition is aimed at providing residents with updates on regeneration and keep them informed about progress with allocation of new homes. The exhibition space will be open for people to view on Mondays. Residents wishing to come along should make an appointment with Alexander Hearn: [alexander.hearn@brent.gov.uk](mailto:alexander.hearn@brent.gov.uk) or telephone 020 8937 1048.

## Tenants Steering Group

First Call Housing are the Independent Tenants Advisor for tenants and leaseholders in South Kilburn. In addition to providing one to one advice to residents, they organise a monthly Tenants Steering Group (TSG) where tenants can get updates on the regeneration and question Council Officers on progress and issues.

The next meeting is on Thursday 22nd Sept at 7.15pm at The Vale Community Centre in Pentland Road. Anyone requiring more information should contact Louis or Chris at First Call FREEPHONE 0300 365 7150 or email [southkilburn@first-call-housing.com](mailto:southkilburn@first-call-housing.com)

## Consultation Events

See how the designs are progressing for the new homes, see and comment on the detailed designs before the planning application is submitted, speak to a housing officer and learn more about the wider regeneration proposals for South Kilburn.

### Bronte House and Fielding

Marian Centre, Stafford Road, NW6

5th October, 3pm – 7pm

30th November, 3pm -7pm

### Queen's Park Station Area

St. Luke's Church, Fernhead Road, W9

16th November, 3pm – 7pm

29th February, 3pm -7pm

## Why Architects Love South Kilburn

**Many top name architects are getting involved in the regeneration process that is already transforming areas of South Kilburn. There is a prevailing view amongst them about one essential ingredient that will make it a success – the need to harness the area’s historic architecture.**

There is much talk of restoring traditional mansion style housing that was commonplace before the Second World War and of re-discovering old street patterns. The architects believe a return to some of the old principles of urban living – delivered, of course, in a modern style – will improve housing standards for local residents.

Their overriding aim is to eradicate post-war developments that led to housing that was too dense and too remote from the street edge and has, in some situations, resulted in a lack of community feeling. Alison Brooks, who runs Alison Brooks Architects (ABA), has a particular interest in the area as she had lived in Kilburn for 16 years. She explains a number of other reasons have led her firm to become so actively involved in South Kilburn.

“As a practice we have been seriously pursuing work in regeneration and housing for many years because I feel these are hugely important aspects of our cities which have an impact on people’s daily lives,” she says.

“Some people, unfortunately, live in low quality housing built after the war. We want to turn these unsuccessful pieces of new cities into successes. It’s going back to straightforward ideas – streets, lower scale buildings and front doors leading onto streets.”

She says many local authorities share their ambitions and one of them is Brent Council. “I think one thing everybody working in the area finds satisfying is the local authority which, as the client, has a very enlightened approach to trying to achieve architectural quality.”

Brent Council is releasing the re-development sites gradually – selecting different architects for each one. Alison says this will lead to the richness and diversity that should be expected in a city. Her company was chosen to undertake the design of Ely Court.

The aim is to replace the existing building which she says “turns its back on the street” with a development comprising two-storey maisonettes with two storeys of flats above. Alison says the new development will be inspired by traditional mansion blocks. It will also reflect original street patterns and one feature will be the re-instatement of a historic street - Alpha Mews – complete with small mews houses.

ABA is now working on early designs for Bronte House and Fielding House, which will follow the mansion block idea but to an even greater degree. Large communal gardens where children can play safely and events can be held will also be a feature as will lots of front doors, front gardens and generous internal spaces.

A new boulevard of trees in Kilburn Park Road and the re-introduction of streets lost to post-war development are other key features. The latter, says Alison, is intended to reduce a lack of access into that part of the South Kilburn Estate.



ABA is working with another high profile and award winning architect Liftschutz Davidson Sandilands (LDS) on the Bronte House and Fielding House project.

The pair are already well accustomed to working together in South Kilburn, having collaborated on other projects that were in close proximity to each other – ABA's Ely Court and, in the case of LDS, Cambridge Court and Wells Court along with the linking Alpha Mews development.

LDS's Douglas Inglis, project architect, similarly stresses that a key feature of all these projects is the use of more traditional architectural styles of development which replace buildings that are currently remote from the street edge. This is coupled with a generous mix of private outdoor and public spaces – all designed to bring life and activity into the area.

In doing all this, Douglas says: "The great thing about South Kilburn is there are pockets of very nice architecture already there and we have an opportunity to work within that."

Another firm, Rick Mather Architects (RMA), first got involved in South Kilburn through its work on the scheme at Carlton Vale roundabout. Tim Paul, an associate with the company, says this was amongst the early projects to kickstart the regeneration process and establish a benchmark for design standards.

Now RMA is working on designs for Hicks Bolton House and Bond House. Tim says features will mirror those being introduced at Carlton Vale roundabout scheme –

spacious, quality dwellings with private outdoor space. There will also be an emphasis on bringing new developments closer to the street edge, encouraging better surveillance, security and more activity.

Nearby Wood House, meanwhile, is set to be replaced by large green space. Tim has another view on just why so many top architects are getting involved in South Kilburn.

"A project of this scale so close to central London does not happen very often and it is a major opportunity to improve such an area," he says.

Other practices actively involved in the area include PRP Architects which designed what is now known as McDonald House and Maccreanor Lavington, which is handling the redevelopment of the Queens Park station area.

### **So what challenges do they all face?**

In terms of practicalities, it's car parking that gets people most animated, says Alison Brooks. Fellow architects agree.

As for the bigger picture, Tim Paul says understanding the aspirations of the area is a major challenge.

"You cannot come into an area and expect to make grand scale changes and not expect to hear what people are thinking. People are very passionate and you get strong views. We take that as a plus point."

'alive with opportunity!'



## Developing Careers and Enterprise in South Kilburn



Community Careers Centre (CCC) launched their move to new premises on Friday 29th July by having a celebration. Brent's Mayor, Councillor Alsam Choudry, was present to inaugurate the new "Enterprise Suite" by cutting the ribbon. Mayor Choudry emphasised the importance of community businesses, and working with local organisations to support the community.

Councillor Mary Arnold gave a speech that empathised the valuable role that organisations like CCC play in the locality while Elcena Jeffers MBE spoke about the Centre's history. David Johnson, of Route Consultancy, talked about the services and achievements of CCC and Lenoard Johnson also spoke about the South Kilburn Community Alliance. The event concluded with a light buffet and networking event.

The Community Careers Centre is located at The Enterprise Suite, 21-23 Peel Precinct, NW6 5BS and further information is available by calling 020 7372 3613, emailing [info@communitycareers.org.uk](mailto:info@communitycareers.org.uk) or going to [www.communitycareers.org.uk](http://www.communitycareers.org.uk)



## South Kilburn Celebrates African Heritage



**Drums were beating, people danced and the crowd celebrated, as Granville Plus Centre gave a warm welcome to African culture on Friday 5 August.**

The African Heritage and The Diaspora event is a diversity programme organised by Genesis Housing Association. It showcased the unseen African culture, bringing people of different ethnicities, faith, and ages together, to build a better understanding of the various cultures of people in the community.

Young models flaunted their African attire round the room as local residents watched in delight. Food, talking drums, music, dance, arts and an exhibition inspired by African culture provided the entertainment.

In his speech, The Mayor of Brent, Councillor Aslam Choudry said "We are fortunate that we have a variety of backgrounds and cultures in Brent. The Communities are determined to work together and accept each other,

which makes me proud to be from Brent."

Special guests on the day included the High Commissioner of Sierra Leone and the mayors of Lambeth, Enfield and Brent."

## Residents News and Views

**Is Connect SK interesting for you? Are there items and articles you would like to see in the magazine? Are we missing things that are relevant to you?**

If you know of an event that is coming up or you run a project in the local area or you simply have a story to share, email CCSK at [info@communityconsultants.org](mailto:info@communityconsultants.org), uk or phone/text CCSK on 07940 395 708.

## International Junior Taekwondo Winners



Two local youngsters have been enjoying a run of successes in the sport of Taekwondo, the Korean Martial Art. Sami (10) and Sana (8) Ullah Khalil, who live in Fielding House, South Kilburn, won several medals at a Junior Taekwondo competition earlier this year to claim champion's titles at national and international levels.

Both attend Kilburn Park Foundation School. Sami is in Year 5 and brother Sana in Year 3. They are doing well there, too, with good grades in their studies. Sami hopes to be a doctor when he is older and he plans to continue following his hobby of Taekwondo. Sana aims

to be a pilot one day and, from their performance to-date, the sky's the limit for these rising young stars!

They are keen to acknowledge the support they have received from their family and, in particular, their uncle Wais Ramzi. Sami said, "Without Uncle's support I would not have come to this point; also my parents, Hamid and Ramzia. My whole family has been very supportive." And the whole family are really happy with these young boys' achievements.

The brothers also wanted to acknowledge the hard work of their Taekwondo teacher, Master Farzad.

### Next Issue

**Published November – look out for it.**

If you've got anything to tell the rest of South Kilburn about, or if you want to write a letter, get in touch on 020 7328 1199, or at [Connect@sknt.co.uk](mailto:Connect@sknt.co.uk) We also have a text number which you can use: 07783 948950 - get in touch!



**South Kilburn Neighbourhood Trust**

For more local news and information log on to [www.skpartnership.net](http://www.skpartnership.net)

South Kilburn 'alive with opportunity!'