

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Norma becomes our new Chair PAGE 2



New Dads Club is a big success PAGE 5



Good turnout for local Jobs Fair PAGE 6



Looking back at One World Month PAGE 7





The children from schools in Kensington are pictured with Colin Hilton (second right) and (left to right) Richie Keenan, John Caton and George Allen of Kensington Regeneration.

Children get on the case

Hundreds of children in Kensington will be given gifts to help them with their schoolwork.

Kensington Regeneration will present around 1,000 pupils in the area with pencil and desk sets, in a gesture aimed at encouraging enjoyment of school.

The first dozen sets were

presented to representatives from each school by the Chief Executive of Liverpool City Council, Colin Hilton.

The children, aged from four to 12, were from Sacred Heart Primary, Phoenix Primary, St Sebastian's Primary, Kensington Infants and Kensington Juniors and Year 7 at the Academy of St Francis of Assisi. Kensington Regeneration Vice Chair, Richie Keenan, explained: "Encouraging children to realise their full potential at school is an important part of the regeneration programme and I hope these gifts will help to get the message across that education matters."

Who's your hero?

The search is on for Kensington's community heroes for 2007

Kensington Regeneration is now inviting nominations for its annual Community Awards which recognise the achievements of local people who make a real difference to life in the area.

There are eight awards up for grabs including the top trophy honouring the Resident of the Year which was won last year by 72-year-old Arthur Bannon from Fairfield.

The other categories include Young Citizen of the Year, Carer of the Year, Older Volunteer of the Year and Black and Racial Minorities Volunteer of the Year.

The roll of honour is completed by the Heart of Gold Award, the Good Neighbour Award and the Community Learning Award.

All the awards will be presented at a glittering gala evening at the Devonshire House Hotel on March 8th which will have a James Bond theme.

Kensington Regeneration Chief Executive, Lynn Spencer, commented: "The

Community Awards are one of the highlights of our year and in 2006 we received more than 50 nominations from local residents.

"Many people in
Kensington devote a lot of
time and effort to helping
others and improving life in
the area and the Community
Awards are a way of
recognising and saluting
what they do.

"We're expecting a bumper entry this year with lots of examples of people who are making a difference in the community." You should have received a Community Awards nomination form with this newsletter.

Regeneration on 0151-233 6136. Completed forms need to be returned by February 12th 2007.



Send in your nomination on the special form included with this newsletter. Page 2 Kensington News January 2007 Issue 23

WELCOME TO KENSINGTON NEWS

A warm welcome to the first Kensington News of 2007 which is also my first issue as Chair of Kensington Regeneration.

The start of a new year is an ideal time both to look back and to look forward and that's just what we've decided to do in this issue of your local community newspaper.

So, in the following pages you'll be able to read about some of the major events of the final weeks of 2006 and the exciting plans in the pipeline for the next 12 months.

Recent highlights included Kensington Regeneration's annual public meeting at the Devonshire House Hotel which attracted a very good turnout of residents and representatives of partner organisations.

This event put the spotlight on some of the projects and initiatives that are helping to create real change for the better in our area.

One World Month was another highlight, back bigger and even better for 2006. You can read more about the huge variety of events in the festival in our special report on page seven.

Elsewhere in the newspaper you will find articles on other important events that took place at the end of the year including jobs and health fairs and events focusing on community safety and tackling anti-social behaviour in Kensington.

We also look back at some of the Kensington Regeneration-

funded initiatives that helped to bring some Christmas cheer to the more elderly and vulnerable members of our community.

Looking ahead now, you'll find more details about Kensington Regeneration's plans for 2007 on page five. As you will see, even though the organisation's budget will be smaller, a very busy year is in prospect with a number of exciting developments set to get under way and the successes of previous years continuing to benefit the area.

I hope you enjoy reading the January Kensington News. The Editorial Group would be delighted to hear any comments you have on its contents, or suggestions for topics for inclusion in future issues.

And don't forget there's still time to send in your nominations for this year's Community Awards. Help us to salute the achievements of local people who make a real difference to life in our area.

With best wishes





All change - Norma Williams is the new Chair of Kensington Regeneration and Richie Keenan has become Vice Chair.

KENSINGTON REGENERATION APPOINTS A NEW CHAIR

Board Members at Kensington Regeneration have selected local resident Norma Williams as the new Chair of the organisation.

Norma, Chair of Royston Residents Association and a longstanding Board Member and Chair of Kensington's Development, Housing, Environment & Neighbourhood Services Committee, takes over from Richie Keenan who now becomes Vice Chair.

She said: "The coming year is a crucial time for Kensington Regeneration across all areas of the programme – jobs, education, community safety, new homes and the environment.

"One of our key challenges is to help deliver high-quality housing in an improved environment for local residents and to support those who are living through the change that this brings with it.

"Everyone associated with the organisation will be working to achieve this aim and to make sure that 2007 is a year in which real improvements are evident throughout the area.

"We are all dedicated to the cause of delivering improved living conditions for people in Kensington and helping the area to be a key part of the overall renaissance of the city."

Commenting on his three years at the helm of the organisation Richie Keenan said:

"We can look back on a number of achievements such as reducing crime, delivering new job opportunities, improving the attainment of school children, transforming the main shopping areas and carrying out improvements to homes in Fairfield.

"Of course, sometimes things have not moved forward as quickly as I would have liked but that is often inevitable with large and complex projects that require extensive consultation with residents and a range of other organisations.

"I look forward to continue being of service to Kensington Regeneration in my new role and I will be supporting Norma in any way that I can over the coming important months for the organisation.

"I would also like to take this opportunity to thank David Lewis for all the support he has given me as Vice Chair over the past few years."

If you would like to register with us to receive up-to-date information on Kensington Regeneration events, meetings etc via your mobile, please contact us via text on 07976 383790



Christmas box from Kensington Fields

Users of Kensington Fields Community Centre helped to bring hope and happiness to children in deprived and war-torn areas of the world at Christmas.

For the third year the centre took part in the shoebox appeal organised by Chester-based 21st Century Child.

Children and students from the centre filled more than 80 shoe boxes with gifts including toiletries, toys, pencils, gloves and sweets, which were delivered to children in countries like Bosnia and Romania.

Students Eileen Kelly, Maureen Hunt, Jean Davies and Joan Crawley were behind the community centre's appeal.

Eileen said: "Everyone got involved. Nothing was too much trouble and people were really generous. We would like to thank everyone who helped."

T J Hughes provided the centre with the shoeboxes which helped to bring a little joy to needy children during the festive season.



Pictured delivering Christmas hampers in Kensington are Cath Taylor (left) and Laura Pover of Kensington Regeneration with resident Dorothy Blackburn in Toft Street.

Christmas cheer for elderly residents

Kensington Regeneration helped to bring some Christmas cheer to elderly and vulnerable residents in the area during the festive season.

More than 300 luxury hampers, funded with support from Community Seven, were hand delivered by staff to local homes.

The Kensington Regenerationfunded Health, Energy and Advice Team nominated residents for the hampers, from among their clients and from suggestions by local residents' associations.

Kensington Regeneration Vice Chair, Richie Keenan, said: "This is always one of the most enjoyable tasks of our year. The residents who receive these hampers are people who, for a variety of reasons, are unable to shop for the little extras that most of us take for granted. I hope it brought a little cheer to their Christmas."



RESIDENTS HAVE THEIR SAY

Kensington Regeneration's recent annual public meeting attracted a very good turnout from residents.

Around 150 local people attended the event which was held at the Devonshire House Hotel on Edge Lane.

The aim of the meeting was to provide residents with an opportunity to quiz Kensington Regeneration Board Members and staff about the progress of the organisation over the past year and its plans for the next 12 months.

The meeting began with an exhibition featuring displays from

almost 30 organisations, projects and community groups operating in the New Deal area.

This was followed by a presentation from Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service's Beacon Project which works with the Prospects 2000 charity in Kensington to raise awareness of fire safety and to give young people first-hand experience of the work of the service.

Kensington Regeneration's then Chair, Richie Keenan, provided the review of the year, highlighting the organisation's achievements in key areas including education, environmental improvements and community safety.

Guests at the event then took part in a number of themed roundtable discussions on issues including health, lifelong learning, employment and enterprise, housing and communications.

A lively question-and-answer session followed before the evening concluded with a buffet and a rousing performance from the Kensington Community Choir.

Richie Keenan commented:
"The event went very well and was
a good opportunity to hear the
views of local people which play a
vital role in shaping our work."



Stepping out for charity - some of the Sacred Heart pupils begin the sponsored walk.

Water way to raise funds for charity

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School organised a sponsored water walk to raise funds for the charity FoodAid which works to reduce hunger around the world.

Pupils walked from the school to

the River Mersey and back, a total of four miles – the distance that some young children have to walk to fetch water in the developing world.

The walk raised around £100 for the charity.

Festive fun for pensioners

The Devonshire House Hotel on Edge Lane was the venue for a Christmas party attended by around 300 pensioners from Kensington and the surrounding areas.

Kensington Regeneration were the main funders of the party which was organised with the help of the Kensington New Deal Police Team and Constables John Rooney and Paul Farrell from Tuebrook Police Station who have been involved in this event for a number of years.

The senior citizens enjoyed festive music from the Merseyside Police Band and a variety of other entertainment.

Officers also used the event to hand out crime prevention leaflets and to speak to residents about local issues.



New role for Kris

After five years with Kensington Regeneration Kris Waite has taken up a new role as Communications Officer.

Kris will deal with all communications issues, both internal and external, and will also be responsible for drawing up the organisation's communications strategy for the next few years.

He said: "Although I have a new role, with the challenges that brings, the great thing is that I will still be working with the local people I have got to know so well over the years. I am really looking forward to making sure that everyone is kept well informed about what is going on in the area."

Kris joined Kensington
Regeneration five years ago as
Admin Officer before being appointed
Neighbourhood Development Officer
with the New Communities Team.

In his new role Kris is keen to hear from local residents who have an interest in helping to organise events and in contributing to Kensington News. Anyone interested can contact him on 0151-233 6136.

Kris is pictured receiving a thank you gift from Kensington Board Member Pat Dermott and other Fairfield residents for his efforts in the neighbourhood over the past few years.



Cheers from three of the guests at the Christmas party.

SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL SAFETY

Popular Radio Merseyside personality Alan Jackson helped to put the spotlight on community safety at a recent event in Kensington.

Residents were asked for their views on a variety of crime and community safety issues at the consultation session at the Devonshire House Hotel.

The findings from the day will help Kensington Regeneration to plan future community safety initiatives in the area.



Alan Jackson is pictured at the event with local resident Emily Leigh.





In the bag, Kris (left) and Laura Pover from Kensington Regeneration are pictured with Harry Dermott outside the organisation's Job Bank offices.

SHOPS RECEIVE SPECIAL DELIVERY

A team from Kensington Regeneration took on the role of paperboys and papergirls recently to make a special delivery to shops in the area.

Members of the New Communities Team together with Communications Officer Kris Waite and Harry Dermott (husband of board member Pat) took to the road to distribute carrier bags and paper bags to local shops.

In just two hours they delivered 25,000 paper bags and 2,000 carrier bags to more than 50 traders to encourage residents to support Kensington businesses and shop locally.

The bags featured a heart and the wording 'Kensington My Home' and 'Shop Local, Spend Local' on one side and on the other 'Kensington is Delivering – New Training Places, New Jobs and New Childcare Places'.

Kris Waite, Kensington Regeneration Communications Officer, said: "We wanted to do something a little different to encourage residents to shop locally and thought this was a good way of getting the message across.

"The bags were really well received and some shops even wanted to know how they could get more."

Green light for bypass

Kensington Fields residents have been celebrating after the longawaited plans for a Hall Lane bypass were finally given the green light.

The Royal Liverpool University Hospital and Liverpool City Council have agreed a way forward that will enable the bypass to go ahead and a new, world-class hospital to be built

That means work could now start on the Hall Lane relief road later this year and that detailed plans for a new city hospital could be submitted within the next two to three years.

The announcement followed a series of technical assessments which showed that a new highway infrastructure linking Islington to West Derby Street can be delivered alongside the redevelopment of the city's new hospital.

Local residents will benefit from a range of environmental improvements as well as the facilities and job opportunities presented by a new state-of-the-art hospital.

Cllr Warren Bradley, City Council Leader, said: "We have always



The bypass will help to relieve the often bumper-to-bumper traffic congestion on Hall Lane.

wanted a situation where the Royal Hospital could stay within the city centre while the Hall Lane scheme could go ahead as well.

"The city needs a world-class hospital but it also needs first-rate gateways into the centre – that is a key part of our regeneration. The Hall Lane scheme not only removes a notorious bottleneck for motorists but will produce a much better

environment for local residents."

Kensington Regeneration Vice Chair Richie Keenan added: "This is really good news for people in Kensington. These long-awaited improvements to Hall Lane will benefit everyone living and working in that area. I am delighted that both schemes will now go ahead and I hope that local residents will be consulted throughout the process."



Heading for the lights

Blackpool was the destination for this group of trippers from Crossfield Tenants' and Residents' Association who were heading off to see the resort's famous illuminations.

The association received support from Kensington Regeneration's New Communities Fund for the trip which proved very popular with local people.

My Kenny

"Since the high-tech smoke screens and water sprays funded by Kensington Regeneration were introduced we've had no incidents at all. We're delighted as we had so many break-ins when we first moved into our new building in 2002."

Bryn Gorry Head Teacher, Kensington Junior School

SELL YOUR SPARE TIME

Kensington is playing a key role in a new Government-backed scheme which allows people to sell their spare working hours to employers via the Internet.

The Slivers of Time scheme which is now operating in the area involves people putting details of the hours they are available on a website which can be seen by prospective employers.

Successful candidates are then booked online and told the good news by text message.

Nick Hughes, Managing Director of South Liverpool Recruitment which is running the pilot project on Merseyside, said: "Thousands of hours go unsold in the Merseyside economy every day. Until now there has been no marketplace for these 'slivers of time' to be traded."

The system works by individuals running an online diary of the hours they are available for work. They can indicate the type of bookings they will accept, the distance they're willing to travel and the hourly rate

As people do jobs they build up an online track record of their work which reflects their reliability in much the same way as the feedback feature on e-Bay sellers.

Organisations input their needs and receive a list of people who can do their booking, ranked by hourly rate and reliability They can buy the hours immediately.

The great benefit of Slivers of Time for individuals is that it enables them to be flexible and work round other commitments.

For businesses it is an ideal way of coping with peak work periods or

covering holiday or sickness absences.

Nick Hughes concluded: "This really is a win-win situation in that workers get a chance to work when they want to while businesses get an opportunity to respond economically and flexibly to their customers' needs."

For more information ring South Liverpool Recruitment on 0845 1307448 or visit www.sliversoftime.com



Nick Hughes checks out the website with Helen Lee.

Free training to help you access online services

Kensington Community Learning Centre is offering dedicated e-government services workshops, to help local residents access the online services that are available to them free of charge. Even if you have no IT experience, there will be a tutor on hand to help you out.

From taxing your car online to searching for advice on benefits and allowances, it's all there on www.direct.gov.uk

Some of the services we'll help you access..

- Find a legal advisor
- Early learning, schools and adult learning
- Driver licensing
- Learners and driving tests
- Taxing and MOT of vehicles
- Benefits and tax credits
- Pensions and taxes
- National Insurance and council tax • Tackling anti-social behaviour problems
- Debt and managing money
- Looking for work

...and so much more.



So, if you are interested in attending these sessions or any of our other courses, just pop into the centre (opposite McDonald's) or call us on 260 1006.

What's in the pipeline for 2007? Kensington Regeneration starts the New Year with ambitious plans for the next 12 months.

And even though the organisation's budget for the 2007/8 financial year will be significantly less than in previous years, Chief Executive Lynn Spencer stresses that the projects in the pipeline still have the potential to create real change for the better in the area.

Lynn explained: "We were always aware that, because of the nature of the funding of New Deal programmes, our budget would be reduced for the next financial year.

However, there will still be a lot of exciting initiatives and let's not forget that the area will still benefit from the investment we have made in previous years in projects like the Academy of St Francis of Assisi, the Life Bank and the Sports Centre."

Kensington Regeneration's vision is 'to enable local people to create a



Housing and environmental improvements will continue during the year.



Kensington Regeneration will continue to fund the successful Community Warden scheme in the area.

new Kensington which will be a location of choice for people and business, managed by the community for the community.'

Projects for 2007 that will help the organisation to achieve this aim will include:

- Major new housing projects at sites including Gilead Street and Lomond Road/Grampian Road which will create significant numbers of new homes for the area.
- The creation of the new neighbourhood centre at the Corner of Beech Street and Prescot Road.

social behaviour via the Together As One initiative.

· A further drive to tackle anti-

- A relaunched Health Task Group overseeing a range of new health initiatives in the area.
- Ongoing education and training opportunities for local people at facilities including the Academy of St Francis of Assisi, the Life Bank, Kensington Community Learning Centre and Kensington Fields Community Association.
- Further financial support for students from the Kensington Bursary Project.
- A further drive to help local people into work via a whole raft of job initiatives including the

- Transitional Employment Programme, construction apprenticeships and the training programme.
- · More support for the work of local community groups and voluntary organisations via grants from the New Communities Fund.

Lynn Spencer added: "It's clear from this list which features just part of what we will be funding that - even on a reduced budget - there will be a huge amount of activity in the area over the next 12 months.

"I would urge everyone in the area to find out more about our projects and how they and their families can benefit from them this year."



Young people in Kensington will continue to benefit from the striking new Academy of St Francis of Assisi.

DADS CLUB IS A BIG HIT!

A new Dads Club at Kensington Children's Centre is proving a big hit with local families.

The club meets at the Life Bank every Saturday morning and offers a range of activities including cooking,

modelling, football and trips out. Organiser Alex Mufti says the group is designed to help men get more

their children: "There are lots of support groups for mums but sometimes dads get left out of the fun things that children and parents do."

Children's Centre Manager, Lyn Carey, added: "The Dads Club is playing an important part in our programme by trying to ensure that dads can play an active part in their

and development.

"The group offers a great support network for dads and lots of fun and enjoyment for the family. We welcome new dads all the time and feel sure that the club will go from strength to strength."

· Housing and environmental

Holly Road areas.

New Deal area. Continued funding for the

improvements in the Fairfield and

Major improvements to several

Community Wardens and the Clean Team who make such a big

difference to life in the area.

work with Kensington

and domestic violence.

Regeneration on targeted

campaigns against hate crimes

• Ongoing support for the expanded New Deal Police Team who will

important retail locations in the

For more information on Kensington Dads Club ring the Life



Cooking up some fun (left to right) Lucienne Mufti-Wright and Alex Mufti, Joseph and Mark Rollins and Abby and Richie Brewis.



Bearing up (left to right) - John Caton of Kensington Regeneration, Saud Bin Jawed and his son Maaz who designed the winning entry and Lewis Biggs of Liverpool Biennial.

Polar bear on the loose in Kensington

Winter nights in Kensington have been brightened up by a new neon light sculpture at the offices of housing association Community Seven.

The sculpture of a polar bear at the junction of Sheil Road and Kensington was created by artist

Ron Hasleden working with children from Phoenix Primary School.

The bear is part of a city-wide art project on an animal theme and was one of three sculptures launched simultaneously in November.

The others feature a cat in Vauxhall and a camel in Garston. Page 6 Kensington News January 2007 Issue 23



Tribute to Dennis

A special church service was held recently in memory of one of the leading figures in the Scout movement in Kensington.

Dennis Young, Leader of the 5th Fairfield Scouts, lost his battle against cancer at the age of 61 in August.

His funeral took place at St Sebastian's Church where the memorial service was also held in November attended by family, friends, parishioners, Scouts and Cubs.

Guests at both events were told that as well as being a great personal loss to colleagues, Dennis's death was a huge loss to Scouting in the area. Acting Scout Leader, Helen Hannigan, said: "Dennis epitomised many of Scouting's laws and values. He was loyal to his group and to the district, supporting the many camps and events that were held.

"He was loved by the Cubs for his quiet way and the programmes he produced and he knew every child in his group individually and they knew him."

Many of the youngsters attended the memorial service in uniform with the group flags. They helped to give a fitting send-off to a well-known and popular Kensington figure.

Some of the many guests who gathered to pay tribute to Scout Leader Dennis Young.



Jobs fair proves a major success

The recent Kensington Jobs Fair proved to be a big success with agencies and local businesses saying they were very pleased with the response from residents.

Almost 100 people attended the event to find out more about 280 jobs and training places available in the area.

Agencies represented on the day included Jobcentre Plus, JET, Reed, Connexions, Maatwerk, Streets Ahead and Step Closer 2 Work.

The Health Energy Advice Team (HEAT) provided advice on benefits and in-work financial calculations and Construction Apprenticeships, representing Bellway Homes, McAlpine, Jackson Lloyd and the Neighbourhood Services Company, had details of placements they had available.

Other companies with jobs and

training positions on offer included CTN Security, D Morgan Ltd, Creative Training, Green Apprentices and Merseyside Police with Community Support Officer posts. The NHS also had a stand focusing on vacancies and career opportunities in the health sector.

Jeff Hughes from Kensington Regeneration, which helps to fund many of the positions, said: "The day went really well. Everyone was happy with the number of people who attended and the Police were particularly pleased with the response for Community Support Officers.

"The whole event was positive and a great opportunity for Kensington residents and people further afield to find out more about the positions available. There was something on offer for everyone."



Many residents discussed job and training opportunities at the event.



RAISE THE BANNERS HIGH

Kensington residents are being encouraged to work together to improve life in the area with the launch of a series of new corporate banners.

Kensington Regeneration has joined forces with Community Seven and Liverpool City Council's Neighbourhood Services Team to place 32 banners throughout the area.

The double-sided banners highlight key messages including 'Be a Good Neighbour', 'Recycle More', 'Dispose of Your Waste Responsibly' and 'Take Pride in Your Area.'

Kris Waite, Kensington Regeneration's Communication's Officer, said: "The banners are now a permanent fixture in the New Deal area. They are striking and colourful and we hope they will drive home the message that everyone can make a difference to the regeneration of the Kensington area."

The new banners are a striking addition to the Kensington landscape.

Chinese New Year Fun Day

For the third year running, Merseyside Regional Chinese Association (MRCA) will hold a Chinese New Year Fun Day at Kensington Community Sports Centre on Sunday February 25th.

The celebration will open at 10.45am, kicking off with an exciting Lion Dance display. This will be followed by some wonderful singing, dancing and musical performances, a fashion show, Tai Chi and martial arts demonstrations, a free-for-all karaoke competition and much more.

This year, a raffle draw will also be held for the charity KIND (Kids In Need and Distress). There will be plenty of luxury prizes for the winning ticket holders.

Around the sports hall, there will also be face painting, Chinese food tasting, arts and crafts for children to try out, a Chinese calligraphy demonstration, stalls full of Chinese novelty goods to buy and displays by

many organisations and projects providing services in Kensington.

An under 16 multi-cultural football tournament will also take place on the same day. For tournament details, please contact Bobby Parry on 07986 382187.

The Fun Day is being supported by Kensington Regeneration, Community Seven, the Sports Action Zone, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service, St John's Ambulance, Liverpool Primary Care Trust and the Liverpool Chinese Students and Scholars Association.

Merseyside Regional Chinese
Association is inviting everyone
in Kensington to come along to the
event with their families and friends
to enjoy a great day out.

For further details please call Cathy on 0151-907 2912 or Wing on 07802 783219.



One World Month 2006 proved to be bigger and even better than in previous years.

The programme consisted of 15 major events, starting with a Latin salsa night at Kensington Fields Community Centre at the beginning of October and running right through to a spectacular finale evening at St Michael's Irish Centre at the end of November.

Highlights of the festival - which aims to celebrate Kensington's diversity - ranged from a Welsh evening and Indian story telling to African music and a workshop on Irish culture.

Here we focus on some of the other major events in the One World Month programme.



cheworld month

TASTE OF INDIA

Indian bridal wear, dance, henna painting and music were on the menu when the Hindu Cultural Centre opened its doors to women in Kensington.

The event – part of the area's One World Month – was organised by Radhika Shodan, a member of the United Colours of Kensington face painting group, in order to break down barriers and introduce local people to Indian culture.

Funded by Kensington Regeneration, the evening brought around 30 women into the centre,

many for the first time.

Kensington Regeneration Board Member Doreen Morris said: "I really enjoyed trying on the saris and jewellery, and taking part in Indian dancing. I think it was an eye opener for many of the women and hopefully it will help to improve understanding between different cultures in the local community."



Pictured trying on saris for size (left to right) Manuela Vittori, Doreen Morris, Laurence Mbombo (Vice Chair of the Liverpool African Association) and Radhika Shodan.

Polish

Kensington's Polish community got into the swing of One World Month with a party at Fairfield Police Club featuring football, dance and children's entertainment.

The highlights of the day included a performance by these young dancers in their eye-catching traditional Polish dress.



Dancers Emilia Binczycka (left) and

Alexandra Kacprzak.

My Kenny

"I received a Kensington Regeneration bursary in the second and third years of my degree course. It was brilliant. I used it to buy a computer and supplies like paper and ink - there was no way we could all get on the computers at college." Brenda Whinnett Kensington resident





Raising the roof - the Kensington Community Choir performing

UNITED IN SONG

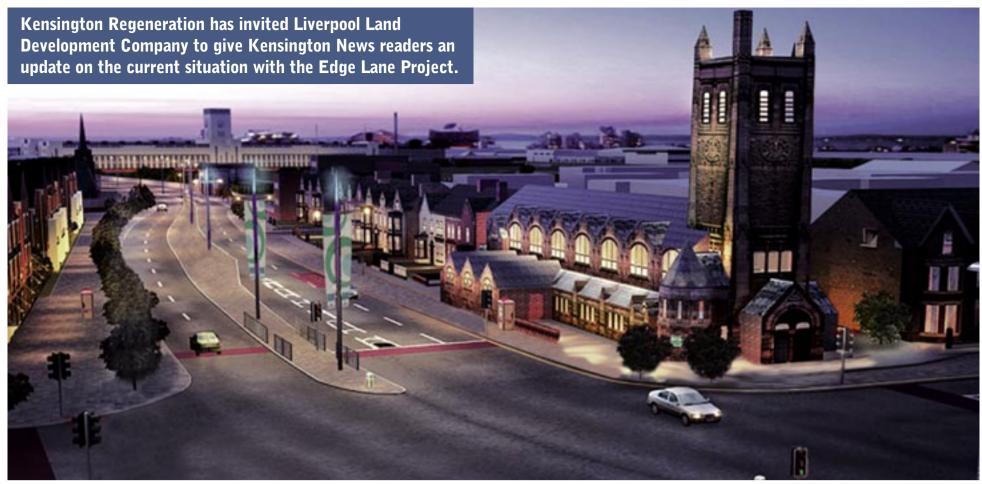
Performers at the event ranged from those in

Kensington Community Choir were amongst the stars of a multicultural choral evening organised as part of One World Month.

The Ephrata (Congolese) Church Choir and the Life Changers Empowering Ministries Choir were also on the bill at the event at the Life Bank in November.

African music workshops





An artist's impression of how Edge Lane West could look after the improvements.

LIVERPOOL LAND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY UPDATE

Liverpool Land Development
Company (LLDC) and its partners
are continuing to work towards
the regeneration of Edge Lane
West despite the Compulsory
Purchase Order (CPO)
being quashed.

The CPO, which was confirmed by the Government last February, was overturned due to a drafting error in the Secretary of State's decision letter. In quashing the CPO the judge clearly stated that English Partnership's CPO powers were entirely appropriate to deliver this kind of regeneration activity.

However, the CPO is just a small element of the process to clear the area so work can begin on the new homes, roadworks and the commercial and community facilities that are planned.

LLDC Chief Executive, David Waugh, said: "Obviously it is with considerable regret that the CPO decision was challenged and subsequently quashed which will result in some delay.

"Having said that, we are still continuing to buy properties and to progress the scheme and a new CPO will be in place soon to provide some certainty to the completion of the entire scheme."

Already, more than three quarters of the properties have been acquired and many other homeowners are agreeing evaluations. A demolition programme for the properties already owned by the Edge Lane partners is being developed and work is expected to start early in the New

Year to clear the unoccupied, unsightly and semi-derelict properties that continue to blight the area.

Meanwhile, work is also progressing well on the commercial quarter with Langtree as the preferred developer and discussions are taking place with Liverpool Primary Care Trust about a new community health facility on Edge Lane.

Bellway Homes is also continuing talks with residents regarding their needs and requirements for replacement housing at Edge Lane West and Central Edge Hill.

The funding is in place to deliver all the elements of the regeneration project in the Edge Lane West area and LLDC and its partners remain committed to working closely with the community to address its needs and to deliver a first-class scheme for the area.

Work is also progressing well on the highway improvements along central Edge Lane and Edge Lane Drive which are due for completion in stages through 2007.

PENNY BENCH UNVEILED IN BIRCHFIELD PARK

A spectacular new mosaic sculpture called the Penny Bench was officially unveiled in Birchfield Park recently.

The bench features a host of memories of Birchfield School – which used to occupy the site – as well as reflections on growing up in Kensington and the social history of Fairfield.

The sculpture – supported by a £48,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund – is the result of 14 months of hard work by the GEARS residents' association and arts organisation Safe Productions.

Residents and children from local schools helped artist Martin Joseph to create the bench at a series of workshops during the summer.





Jubilant Kensington Juniors celebrate winning the tournament at Birchfield Multi-Use Games Area.

Kicking racism out of football

Nearly 200 Kensington children and adults took part in a series of recent events which aimed to get the kick racism out of football message across in the area.

Coaching sessions and tournaments led by Liverpool Football Club coaches took place at Kensington Community Sports Centre, organised by Kensington United Community Football and Liverpool Sports Action Zone and supported by Kensington Regeneration and City Safe.

The events – part of national Kick It Out Week – involved local residents and groups from a range of ethnic backgrounds.

Cllr Frank Doran presented

prizes to the winners of the open age tournament with CIIr Richard Marbrow doing the honours for the under 16s event.

As part of the activities there was also an inter-schools tournament at Birchfield Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), which was won by Kensington Juniors. During this event Liverpool's Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service also gave a presentation on the evils of racism.

To mark the end of 'Kick it Out Week 17 young people representing Kensington United had the honour of carrying a Kick It Out flag onto the pitch at Anfield during the Liverpool v Aston Villa match.

Claire Bullen from Kensington Regeneration said: "Kensington United is going from strength to strength and is doing a fantastic job providing free football for young people from all backgrounds in Kensington."



Senior Warden Alan Ashworth (centre) receiving the award from Richard Lloyd-Mullen of Excellence North West watched by Susan Hall from Stockport Training and Resource Centre.

Wardens working towards excellence

Kensington Community Wardens have been celebrating after passing the first stage of a threestep process which leads to the Warden Excellence Award.

The Kensington scheme was recently assessed over a number of days and is one of only two in the North West to be awarded a certificate.

The award is designed to inspire and encourage warden schemes to adopt effective working practices and to look at ways to improve the service they provide to local communities.

Schemes are also encouraged to work together to resolve common

problems and share good practice on issues such as improving the local environment and reducing anti-social behaviour.

Peter Yoh, Neigbourhood Manager, said: "We are absolutely delighted to have received this certificate, and we are hoping to apply for step two of the award in the near future."

The award is currently being piloted across the country and is being developed in this region by Excellence North West and Stockport Training and Resource Centre, supported by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Birchfield Park benefits from Barclays support

Birchfield Park Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) has received a £750 boost from Barclays Bank.

As part of the bank's Spaces for Sport programme the Kensington facility has received a coaching pack complete with training bibs, cones, water bottles and a first aid kit which are all now being used regularly at football sessions run by Sports Development Worker Michael Salla.

Michael says that other sports groups in Kensington should check out if they could benefit from the same Barclays programme.



Michael Salla is pictured showing off the new equipment with Coach Suzanne Riley and some of the Birchfield budding Beckhams.



Dana Keating from Davey Chemists (part of the non-smoking campaign) tests Michelle Grace, pictured with four-monthold Katie. Looking on, left to right, are Public Health Neighbourhood Manager Tahir Quassim, Kensington Regeneration Neighbourhood Development Officer Jane Paton and Anne Gorton of HAPEL (Health Anti Poverty Eastern Link).

Event tackles health issues

Residents in Kensington had the chance to quiz a panel of experts about their health concerns recently.

The question and answer session was part of a special event at the Life Bank on preventing ill health organised by Kensington Regeneration's Health Task Group and the Health and Anti-Poverty Forum.

Visitors also had the chance to try therapies such as aromatherapy, Reiki and head massage and to pick up information from a range of organisations offering healthrelated services in the area. The event also featured a workshop on substance misuse.

Maria Barrington, Chair of the Health Task Group, commented: "Residents were encouraged to come along and put questions about any aspect of health they were concerned about.

"We also wanted to hear their ideas about ways we can improve the health of the wider community in Kensington, for example by encouraging healthier lifestyles."



Kensington Regeneration Board Member Enid Bristow tries needle-free acupuncture therapy with the help of Nurse Practitioner Rodney Robinson.



What could your organisation do with £2000 in 2007?

If your organisation has not yet applied for Kensington Regeneration's New Communities Fund you may be eligible for a grant of up to £2000.

For further information contact Janet Grimes on 0151 233 6189 or e-mail: janet.grimes@liverpool.gov.uk



Holly Road focus

In the final feature in our series focusing on what has been achieved in the five neighbourhoods that make up the Kensington Regeneration area we put the spotlight on Holly Road.

Over the last five years Kensington Regeneration has invested £2.94 million on projects in the Holly Road neighbourhood and wider schemes that also include this area.

This funding has had a neighbourhood and providing more opportunities and support for local

significant impact in the Holly Road area in terms of upgrading local facilities, starting to improve the appearance of the residents.

Key projects have included environmental improvements around the area and site assembly in preparation for the creation of the new Neighbourhood Centre on the corner of Beech Street and Prescot Road.

A new pre-nursery facility has been created at St Sebastian's Primary School and street lighting has been improved in Holly Road, Lockerby Road and Lilley Road.

In addition, more than £27,000 has been distributed to community groups and voluntary organisations in the area in the form of small grants from the New Communities Fund, formerly known as the Community Investment Fund.

Examples of Kensington-wide initiatives that are helping to improve the quality of life in Holly Road include alleygating, the introduction of Community Wardens, the installation of CCTV cameras and the work of the JET Service.

Holly Road residents also benefit from the availability of recruitment subsidies in the area, specialist winter advice and support for vulnerable people and support for young people who are at risk of offending. All schools in Kensington have also benefited from improved security facilities funded by Kensington Regeneration and

pupils have been able to take part in the innovative Music For Life education project.

And Holly Road residents can of course make use of 'flagship' Kensington projects like the Kensington Community Sports Centre and the Life Bank.

Kensington Regeneration's investment in the Holly Road neighbourhood has included:

PROJECT NAME ALL YEARS

NEW COMMUNITIES FUND £27,500

Provision of grants to Holly Road Community groups and organisations

NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE £1,435,005

Site assembly and development options for new

Neighbourhood Centre

HOLLY ROAD & FAIRFIELD ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS (PART)

£1,000,754

SMOKE & SMARTWATER (PART) £36,886

Provision of anti-theft devices at Kensington primary schools

KENSINGTON SCHOOLS SECURITY (PART) £66,000

Provision of security cover for Kensington primary sschools

ST SEBASTIAN'S £329,530

Provision of a pre-nursery facility at the school

WALKING TO ST SEBASTIANS SCHOOL £47,000

Installation of 47 new lighting columns in Holly, Lockerby and Lilley Roads

TOTAL £2,942,675



Garden is on target for an Easter opening

St Sebastian's community garden is on target to open at Easter, two years after the campaign started to transform the overgrown area of land behind the parish hall.

Local Solutions is building ramps, paths and raised flower beds so that members of St Sebastian's Garden Project can then invite local school children to help plant bulbs and shrubs.

Garden benches have also been donated by Community Seven and the 5th Fairfield Scouts, the latter in memory of Scout Leader Dennis Young who worked hard towards the creation of the garden.

Kensington Regeneration Board Member Pat Dermott, who heads up the project, said:

"I'll never forget when I first saw the site. A young girl was getting married. The hall was beautifully decorated and she looked so beautiful in white and gold with six little bridesmaids.

"It was a hot day so I opened the doors and when I saw the area outside I couldn't believe it as the grass and weeds were 12-feet high!

"Now, thanks to all the hard work of so many people and funding from Kensington Regeneration, Awards for All and Operation Eden, this community garden will be a great asset to local people, especially as it's such a great sun trap."

CHILDREN HEAR KEY POLICE MESSAGE

Kensington schoolchildren were told about the dangers of antisocial behaviour at a recent workshop event.

Around 130 children in year 6 in local primary schools attended the event which was organised with the help of the As One Group.

The workshop – a repeat of a similar successful event in 2005 - Community Learning Centre in Croxteth and backed by Kensington Regeneration, Merseytravel and the police, fire and ambulance services.

It dealt with a range of issues including vandalism and hoax calls, getting a hard-hitting message across about the dangerous consequences of bad behaviour.



Hamlet (left), PC Ian Burgess on Maverick and children from St Anne's School.

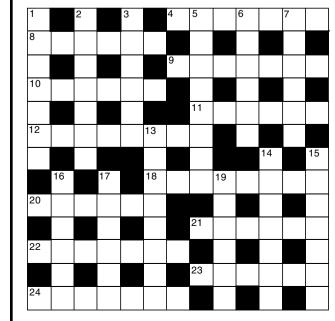
Kenny

"The Kensington Regeneration-funded environmental works have done wonders for the area. The scheme has absolutely transformed the outside of our houses and really added value to our homes."

Eric and Jackie Coates Residents of Middleton Road, Fairfield



KENSINGTON NEWS CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 4. Prisoner (7)
- 8. Yearly (6) 9. Courteous (7)
- 10. Option (6)
- 11. False (6)
- 12. Steadfast (8) 18. Recover (8)
- 20. Zodiac sign (6)
- 21. Demands (6)
- 22. Lay down (7)
- 23. Engraver (6)
- 24. Communication (7)

SOLUTION ON PAGE 12

- 1. Eye-lash make-up (7)
- 2. Approve (7)
- 3. Scamp (6)
- 5. Wealthy (8)
- 6. Characteristics
- (6)
- 7. Courage (6)
- 13. Rebellion (8)
- 14. High pleasure (7)
- 15. Fruit course (7)
- 16. Tranquil (6) 17. Guides (6)
- 19. Tell (6)

© Central Press Feature

?????????????????????????????????? Kensington quiz

Here's your chance to test your general knowledge in our regular Kensington News quiz. Check out the correct answers on page 12.

- 1. Who was the Liverpool grandfather who narrated **'Thomas The Tank** Engine'?
- Which song became a number one hit after it appeared in the film 'Four Weddings And A Funeral'?

n.

n.

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- Which road in London leads from Trafalgar Square to Buckingham Palace?
- 4. What do the letters 'AA' stand for in the name of the motoring organisation?
- Which ice dance duo were given the freedom of the city of Nottingham?
- 6. Which fruit gives the spirit Cointreau its unique taste?

- 7. What does a rattlesnake rattle when it is disturbed or annoyed?
- 8. Which Welsh comedian and singer was a member of the Goons?
- 9. What nationality was Agatha Christie's fictional detective Hercule Poirot?
- 10. According to the proverb, what is the sincerest form of flattery?
- 11. Who was jilted on her wedding day in the Dickens novel 'Great Expectations'?
- 12. Which well-known jockey's real first name is Lanfranco?
- 13. Which historical character was referred to as the 'Serpent of the Nile'?

- 14. Why do you have to roast cashew nuts before eating them?
- 15. What was the first name of Kate Winslet's character in the film 'Titanic'?
- 16. What do the initials DH stand for in DH Lawrence?
- 17. Of which constituency is Prime Minister Tony Blair the MP?
- 18. How many episodes were made of the famous comedy 'Fawlty Towers'?
- 19. Who was the first Phantom in the musical 'Phantom Of The Opera'?
- 20. What is the common name for inflamed sebaceous glands?

KIDS COLUMN

THE WORDPUZZLER



THE clues listed below describe different forms of transport. Can you find the answers in our grid?

YOUR CLUES Car hired with driver. 2. American long-distance

3. Road transport vehicle running on tracks. 4. Ship of the desert. 5. Floating platform. 6. Flying vehicle, common 7. Asian man-drawn

8. Locomotive-drawn line of 9. Venetian canal taxi.

10. Suspended cabin for

JUNIOR CROSSWORD



1. Sport in which swords are used (7) 7. In the open air (3) 8. River of Russia (5) 9. A soft heavy metal (4) 13. Obvious (5)

16. River in S.E. Africa (7) small part (5) 3. Small bay (4)

1. Nothing (3) 5. Gather (7) in South America (5) 12. Seize suddenly (4)

Period of history (3)

8

EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER FOR...



Underwater Street is a great new attraction in Liverpool city centre and now Kensington families can experience all the fun of its interactive exhibits at a special reduced price thanks to this Kensington News reader offer.

Underwater Street in the Cunard Building at the Pier Head is a hands-on experiential learning environment for children aged 2-10 and their families but the emphasis is on fun.

The attraction is divided into six themed zones, each one featuring exhibits designed to appeal to the different aspects of a child's

For example, in Imagination Village youngsters can star in their own TV chat show, pamper pets in the Pooch Parlour or dress up for any occasion at Mr Ben's.

Meanwhile, in the Physical Zone, children can test their bravery on the tricky rock wall or the wobbly balance beams.



Colourful fun is on offer in the Art Area where young visitors can create their own special designs and take them home afterwards at the 'make it and take it' craft tables.

The Lab gives children the chance to experiment with magnets, light and electronic circuits while budding engineers can show off their building skills in the Construction Area which features scaffolding and a wooden playhouse they can build from scratch.

In the final zone – the Sensory Area – children can crawl through the underground cave, pan for gold in the rock pool or listen to a story in the story tent and enjoy the light show.

Situated in the middle of the centre is the cafe area serving

healthy food and drinks.

Jeff Wallace, Managing Director of the attraction, commented: "Underwater Street has been designed to balance fun and education and to provide a place where families can play, laugh, learn and grow together in positive and stimulating surroundings. We think of ourselves as a cross between a modern museum and a play centre. The biggest challenge we have found is getting the children

"The feedback we have received to date has been fantastic and we hope many Kensington families will take advantage of this offer to experience the attraction for themselves."

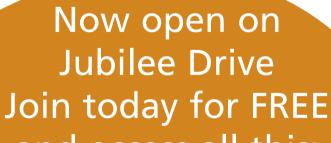
Underwater Street can be found in the Cunard Building on Water Street at the Pier Head. The attraction is open from 10am-6pm Tuesday-Sunday. They also do birthday parties and group visits. More information from www.underwaterstreet.com

UNDERWATER STREET READER OFFER

Valid from January 2nd 2007 to February 28th 2007. Peak period entry reduced to £5 per person or £18 for a family of four. (Normal peak entry £5.95 per person, £20 per family). Off-peak entry (Tuesday-Friday during school term time) children £3.95, adults go free. (Normal off-peak entry £3.95 children, £1.95 for adults). One voucher covers up to a family of four. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer.







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for disabled people

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Community Sports Centre, Jubilee Drive, Kensington, Liverpool L7 8SJ. Tel: 0151 261 9598 add prefix 18001 to

Survey finds positive changes



The attainment levels of older pupils in the area have improved significantly.

The work of Kensington Regeneration is having a really positive impact on life in the area, according to the results of a new report.

Kensington is one of 39 New Deal for Communities areas across the country and a survey was commissioned by the Government to evaluate the benefits of its investment in all these schemes.

The household survey of more than 400 residents living in the NDC area was conducted by MORI in the summer of 2006. It focused in particular on their views of the impact of Kensington Regeneration's efforts between 2004 and 2006 on the key areas of housing and the physical environment, crime, education, health and worklessness.

In terms of housing and the

environment, the number of people satisfied with Kensington as a place to live rose from 42 per cent in 2002 to 58 per cent in 2006 and the figure for those satisfied with the state of repair of their homes also rose by nine per cent to 72 per cent over this period.

FEELING SAFER

At the same time, the proportion of people experiencing crime in the previous 12 months dropped from 40 to 24 per cent and there was also a sharp 13-point reduction to 52 per cent in the number of people feeling unsafe after dark.

In terms of educational attainment, the number of pupils achieving five or more A-C GCSE grades at Key Stage 4 has risen nine points to 35.7 per cent.

And although there has not been a

similar rise in the number of pupils achieving Level 4 or above in English at Key Stage 2 this figure remains encouraging at 54.1 per cent.

According to those households quizzed in the survey, there has also been a pleasing increase in the local employment rate and the proportion of people living in households receiving out-of-work benefits has dropped.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Overall, the number of people who think that the NDC programme has improved the area has doubled to 50 per cent over the past four years and the findings also suggest that more people now feel part of the community and that neighbours are now looking out for each other more.

Commenting on the survey findings, Kensington Regeneration

Chief Executive Lynn Spencer said: "It is very pleasing that this report has highlighted some of the really positive benefits that our projects have helped to deliver in the area.

"Creating this change for the better is at the heart of the NDC programme and it is encouraging to read, for example, that many more people are happy to live in Kensington and that they also feel safer in their homes.

"Of course, although a lot has been achieved, a huge amount remains to be done in the second half of the programme.

"However, this report clearly shows that we are on the right track and that – with the help of local people – we can continue to improve life in Kensington over the next few years."

notice board

Upcoming dates for your diary:

STEP CLOSER 2 WORK EVENT

Thursday February 15th 9.30am - 4pm

CHINESE **NEW YEAR**

Kensington Community Sports Centre Sunday February 25th 10.45am – 4pm

NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSEMBLIES

will be taking place in your area in February. Notification of dates will be sent in the post.

SUMMER FUN DAY Fairfield Police Club

Saturday July 7th 10am – 4pm

Don't forget Kensington Regeneration also has a website where you can find information about the partnership and what's going on in the New Deal area as well as the latest from Kensington News. You can also have your say about the issues that affect you most.

The Kensington Regeneration website can be accessed at: www.kensingtonregeneration.com

we're

We want to hear from you about life in Kensington.

Whether you've got a news story you'd like us to cover, or you want to have your say by sending us a letter with your views on a local issue, Kensington

Please get in touch with us using the contact details below, clearly marking all submissions 'Kensington News'.

from you!



all ears

News is for you.

We look forward to hearing

A range of improvements have helped to make Kensington a more popular place to live.

other languages

For further information please contact Kensington Regeneration on 233 6136.

للمزيد من المعتومات ، فضلا اتصل مشروع إعادة إنعاش كزينجتون على هاتف رقم 6136 233.

Pro daliti informace, volejte prosim Kensington Regeneration na tel. čísle 233 6136

Pour plus d'information, veuillez contacter Kensington Regeneration au 233 6136.

بۇ زائىيارى زياتىر تكاپە پەيوەندى بكە بە كىسىگتۇن جەنەرەيشن نەسەر ۋمارە 2336136

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غَدِيرُ عَلَيْ الْمُسْتَكِنَانَ وَجَرَيْشَى (Kensington Regeneration) شِيغُ نِ لَهِر 233.6136 إِرَاطِيَاتُهُ كري

KENSINGTON QUIZ

- 1. Ringo Starr
- 2. Love Is All Around 3. The Mall
- 4. Automobile Association
- 5. Torvill and Dean
- 6. Orange 7. Its tail
- 8. Harry Secombe
- 9. Belgian
- 10. Imitation
- 11. Miss Havisham
- 12. Frankie Detorri 13. Cleopatra
- 14. They are poisonous raw

19. Michael Crawford

- 15. Rose 16. David Herbert
- 17. Sedgefield
- 18.12
- 20. Acne

JUNIOR CROSSWORD SOLUTION

10 Last; 13 Clear; 15 Dye; 16 Zambesi. Down: 2 Extra; 3 Cove; 4 Nil; 5 Collect; 6 Panther; 11 Andes; 12 Grab; 14 Era.

KENSINGTON CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Across: 4 Captive; 8 Annual; 9 Affable; 10 Choice; 11 Untrue; 12 Resolute; 18 Retrieve; 20 Gemini; 21 Claims; 22 Deposit; 23 Etcher; 24 Message. Down: 1 Mascara; 2 Endorse; 3 Rascal; 5 Affluent; 6 Traits; 7 Valour; 13 Uprising; 14 Delight; 15 Dessert; 16 Serene; 17 Pilots; 19 Relate.

WORD PUZZLER SOLUTION



- 2. Greyhound
- 3. Tram 4. Camel
- 5. Raft 6. Plane
- 7. Rickshaw 8. Train
- 9. Gondola 10. Cable car

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