

#### ...STOP PRESS...

Kensington Regeneration has been recognised as one of the top New Deal partnerships in the country.

As part of its annual review process the Audit Commission graded 'Kensington' as an 'excellent' partnership this year, improving on the 'good' assessment achieved in 2006. Chief Executive Lynn Spencer says this year's grading reflects the effort and commitment of everyone involved with Kensington Regeneration over the past 12 months.

...STOP PRESS...

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Kensington Regeneration Chief Executive Lynn Spencer pictured with two of the youngest Community Awards nominees, Lesley Justin and Jake Evason.

## Awards for local heroes

Kensington's community heroes were honoured recently at a glittering gala dinner at the Devonshire House Hotel on Edge Lane.

More than 150 guests attended the fourth Kensington Regeneration Community Awards presentation ceremony at which eight neighbourhood 'Oscars' were up for grabs.

They heard compere Dean Sullivan - alias Jimmy Corkhill from Brookside - describe the evening as 'a showcase to celebrate all the positive things that are happening in the local community'.

He added: "Tonight is about saying well done and thank you to individuals but it's also about saying well done to and thank you to a community that is working together to create a better Kensington."

The main award at the event -Kensington's 2007 Resident of the Year - went to Norma Lee who has worked tirelessly in support of the Edge Hill community for many years. Other award winners ranged from nine-year-old Lesley Justin, who collected the Black and Minority Ethnic Award, to 83-year-old Evelyn Oldcorn from Fairfield who was honoured with the Good Neighbour Award.

Kensington Regeneration Chair Norma Williams, who was a guest speaker at the event, commented: "Many people in Kensington devote a lot of time and effort to helping others and the Community Awards are a way of recognising and saluting what they do.

"We had lots of entries this year and every single one of them demonstrated how kind-hearted individuals are improving the lives of people in their communities.

"The awards ceremony was a fantastic evening and I would like to congratulate everyone who was nominated as well as the winners. They're all heroes to me."

You can read more about this year's Community Awards in a special four-page pullout section inside this issue of Kensington News.



Chips with everything — guests enjoyed their own Casino Royale at the James Bond-themed event.



Pat Dermott is pictured with husband Harry (right), Treasurer Henry Massam and other guests at the celebration event.

### Community garden opens

After months of hard work, the new St Sebastian's community garden is now officially open.

A special celebration event was held recently to launch the garden attended by local residents and representatives of the organisations that have helped to make the scheme a reality.

The garden project has involved the transformation of an overgrown area of land behind the parish hall. Paths, ramps and raised flower beds have been

created, and a number of benches installed.

Community Garden Chair, Pat Dermott, said: "The celebration event was a great way to launch the garden and to thank everyone who has contributed to this exciting new facility for our area."

Funding for the garden came from Kensington Regeneration, Operation Eden, Awards for All and Liverpool City Council's Empowering Neighbourhoods Scheme. Page 2 Kensington News June 2007 Issue 25

# WELCOME TO KENSINGTON NEWS

This month's Guest Editor of Kensington News, Kensington Regeneration Board Member Ola Laoye, writes:

I would like to wish you a warm welcome to the latest issue of Kensington News, the community newspaper for the New Deal area.

As you will see in the following pages this is another packed issue, reflecting the many positive developments that are in progress with the aim of improving life in our area.

Clearly one of the highlights of the year for Kensington Regeneration is the Community Awards, and inside this issue you will find a special four-page supplement focusing on the achievements of all the 2007 winners.

We are also entering the busiest period of the year for festivals and events and articles in this newspaper look ahead to the first Edge Hill International Festival on Saturday June 9th, the African Kensington Festival on June 23rd and 24th and the Kensington Summer Fun Day on July 7th.

These free events will offer a wide range of fun activities for local people of all ages so do try and attend them if you can.

And remember, if you would like to promote your local community

group or voluntary organisation at the Summer Fun Day there is still time to get in touch and register your interest.

On the subject of local groups, in this issue of the newspaper we are launching a regular new feature focusing on the excellent work that is being done by Kensington's community organisations.

The first group in the spotlight is G.E.A.R.S. and its youth spin-off, E.A.G.E.R.S. If you would like your group to be featured in a similar way in one of our future issues, please let us know.

I do hope you find this issue of Kensington News both interesting and informative. As ever, we welcome any comments you have on its contents and any suggestions for topics you'd like to see in future issues.

You can get in touch with us via the contact details on the back page.

With best wishes





Pictured left to right - Adam Hughes, Joey Phinnigan and Liam Harrison get down to work on another recycling project.

## TRIO LAND 'GREEN' JOBS

Three unemployed young men from Kensington have landed full-time jobs with a company offering an innovative 'green' service to the building industry.

Adam Hughes, Liam Harrison and Joey Phinnigan have joined Circle which provides a commercially viable way of recycling up to 90 per cent of construction waste that would normally be taken to landfill.

Circle stands for Construction Industry Recycling Centre for the Local Environment.

The men were taken on after completing a 12-week work placement with Liverpool City Council's Transitional Employment Programme funded by Kensington Regeneration.

These placements are designed as a stepping stone back to work for jobless residents.

Commenting on his new role, 20-year-old Liam Harrison said: "Enrolling with the Transitional Employment Programme was one of the best moves I've ever made.

"Six months ago I wasn't working and I was in a bit of a rut. Now I've got this job which has really changed my life. I am earning a wage and have made some great new friends whilst doing something good for the

environment — and I don't even mind the early starts!"

George Allen, Kensington
Regeneration's Lifelong Learning,
Employment and Enterprise
Manager, commented: "We have
developed a number of joint
Transitional Employment
Programme projects with the council
and this is another very good
example of just how successful they
can prove to be for local residents."

Circle is a joint venture between social housing providers the Riverside Group and the Plus Group and North West construction company the Seddon Group.

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



# Eggstra special people recognised

More than 100 eggstra special people were treated to a real Easter gift thanks to Kensington Regeneration.

Local people who went 'that eggstra mile' to help their neighbours and friends were rewarded with a special delivery during the Easter weekend.

A team from Kensington



Laura is pictured handing over eggs to Mark Harris (centre) and Rae Lee at L'Arche Liverpool in Lockerby Road.

Regeneration, headed by Laura Pover, delivered the eggs to surprised residents.

Said Laura: "So many people were shocked to find out that they had been nominated. It was really nice to be able to tell them how much their friends and neighbours appreciated their support."

# Health Fair is hailed a success

A recent Health Fair in Kensington has been hailed as a major success.

The event at the Life Bank, which was organised by Kensington Regeneration and Step Closer 2 Work, offered people the chance to try a range of free therapies, food and exercise classes. These included taster sessions of yoga, tai chi, salsa and creative movement.

Head and shoulder massages, mini health checks by GPs and healthy eating recipes were also on the menu at the event which also featured language translation services and a money

Kensington Regeneration Board Member, Enid Bristow, commented: "It was great to see people of all ages enjoying the activities on offer. I do hope that the day inspired people to make small improvements in their lifestyle for the benefit of their health."

For more information on healthy living, or on overcoming health problems to get back into work or training, ring Kensington Regeneration on 0151-233 6116 or Step Closer 2 Work on 0800 023 4068.



Kensington Regeneration Board Member Enid Bristow promotes the healthy eating message

### Home ownership scheme in Kensington

A major Government-backed scheme to encourage home ownership and help first-time buyers is now available in Kensington.

The free Access to Home Ownership service, operated by



housing and regeneration organisation Regenda, is designed to provide people with all the information and support they need to help them get on the property ladder.

It can give first-time buyers oneto-one information and advice about the benefits of home ownership and the way to buy a home on the open market. It can also help and support them throughout the homebuying process.

Access to Home Ownership also has links with banks, mortgage advisors and solicitors who can provide friendly and easy to understand advice.

The service can even pay mortgage

arrangement fees, valuation costs and legal fees in certain cases.

Ross Cope of Regenda commented: "If you need to know where to start when it comes to buying a property then get in touch with Access to Home Ownership.

"We can make sure you get the right advice from the very beginning and help you to make informed financial decisions. We want to help as many potential first-time buyers in Kensington to become homeowners as we can."

For more information contact Ross Cope on 0151-482 5325 or 07917 234596 or email him at ross.cope@regenda.org.uk.

## Green light for Neighbourhood Centre

Kensington's new £10-million neighbourhood centre at the corner of Beech Street and Prescot Road has been given the green light by planners.

Liverpool City Council has formally approved the scheme and now work could start on site by the

end of the year.

apartments on Prescot Road and nearby Lister Road are also part of the scheme.

In addition, the centre will area's ageing Low Hill premises.

majority of the funding will come Limited. Other partners in the

Council and Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service.

Commenting on the plans, Norma Williams said: "This neighbourhood.

"By improving the local

make a really positive statement

throughout the consultation has the scheme going ahead.

News: "I think the plans are great. As well as providing a range of new a key junction used by thousands of motorists every day, helping to

opportunity for years so it's good is finally getting under way."



Neighbourhood Centre will look.

### LIVERPOOL ON THE UP SAYS COUNCIL LEADER

Liverpool's confidence is growing and its view of itself is changing, City Council Chief **Executive Colin Hilton told a** meeting of business leaders in Kensington recently.

Mr Hilton said that progress on numerous major projects such as King's Dock, Liverpool One in Paradise Street and the new Pier Head museum have helped to create an exciting new atmosphere in the city.

He said: "The negativity that has

been felt in the past is going. There is massive investment by the private sector as well as the public agencies and confidence is growing. Liverpool now has a huge opportunity to position itself once again as a major international city."

Mr Hilton was speaking to a gathering of around 50 people, hosted by Gardner Systems at Wavertree Technology Park and organised by Business Liverpool and the Business Leaders Group in the Kensington Regeneration area.



Experiencing the flight of an asylum seeker - pictured left to right are Tom McGuire of Community Seven, Kensington Regeneration Project Officer Cath Taylor and Lila Khodja from the Refugee Awareness project.

### **Exhibition focuses on the** experiences of asylum seekers

A unique exhibition has given people in Kensington the opportunity to experience the difficulties of life as an asylum seeker.

Local residents and children at the Academy of St Francis of Assisi had the opportunity to visit Escape to Safety, a series of interactive rooms in a 40-foot trailer, showing the various stages of an asylum seeker's journey from danger to safety in another country.

The exhibition was funded by City Safe and organised by Refugee

Action, Kensington Regeneration and Time Together at Asylum Link.

Visitors to the exhibition were given discount vouchers to the highlyacclaimed production of Kindertransport at the Liverpool Playhouse Theatre. This play focuses on the arrival of young Jewish refugees from Germany before the Second World War.

An exhibition of artwork produced by young people based on their perceptions of asylum seekers before and after they visited the trailer was also on display at the Playhouse.

Colin Hilton is pictured (second left) with (left to right) Tony O'Neill of Business Liverpool, Chief Executive of Kensington Regeneration Lynn Spencer and Graham Knott of Gardner Systems and the Business Leaders Group.

### BIG CROWDS EXPECTED AT FESTIVAL

More than 1,000 people are expected to attend the first Edge Hill International Festival on Saturday, June 9th.

The event, which has been called Truck Stop, will be held at Edge Hill railway station on the approach to platforms three and four and will feature local, national and international talent. Award-winning

scriptwriter Jimmy McGovern will launch the festival, which has been organised by Metal Liverpool in conjunction with a group of local residents called Creative Edge.

It is one of a number of events being organised in relation to Edge Hill station. Activities on the day will include Victorian games, film screenings, poetry sessions, dancing,

portrait painting and live action drawing, car painting, Kensington FM radio, a speakers' corner, walking tours, kids workshops, performances, food and much more.

Ceri Hand, Director of Metal, said: "This will be a fantastic day with activities for all the family. It will be the first public event at the historic landmark site of Edge Hill station

and a taster for a bumper festival during 2008."

Buildings at the station are going to be developed into an arts centre, to be launched in April 2008, so organisers are hoping to stage an even bigger festival next year.

The event takes place from 10am until 6pm and Jimmy McGovern will say a few words at 12 noon.

# **NEWS**

### Top apprentice

Kensington trainee plasterer Danielle McGivern has been honoured as the best apprentice in the national Danielle scored the highest marks ever recorded on her training course run by Fusion 21. She has now found work with

#### Sweet success

Sweet firm Tangerine, which has a by its new management team. Thanks to new products and million mark, making Tangerine

#### Free detectors

Up to 500 homes in Fairfield are Regeneration has joined forces with Merseyside Fire Service to launch the scheme which, if successful, could be extended to

#### Notable award

Music for Life - a partnership Philharmonic Orchestra, Kensington Regeneration and of best practice by Renew

#### Caribbean event

#### Comic Relief

Comic Relief is making money

- Old people;Mental health issues;
- Refugees and asylum seekers;
- further information at www.comicrelief.com

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# **Community Seven opens** its new local office

Community-based housing association Community Seven has officially opened its new offices on Prescot Road.

The Bishop of Liverpool, the Rt Rev James Jones, was the VIP guest at the opening of the new Kensington Regeneration supported facility which provides more spacious and comfortable accommodation with better disabled access.

Community Seven Director, Tom McGuire, commented: "We are delighted with our new office which, because of its location, makes a big impact, reinforcing the message that Kensington is a place to invest in.

"With all our staff now under one roof we believe we will be able to offer an even better service to our tenants and other customers."

Bishop Jones added: "It is vital to have such good links with the community so that tenants can have immediate access to advice about their housing needs."

The new office, at 1-5 Prescot Road, is open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

Residents can drop in to discuss rents, repairs, housing applications, benefits advice and issues linked to the environment and anti-social behaviour.



Bishop Jones is pictured with Tom McGuire and other guests at the opening of

## Grant to help Field of Dreams

Youngsters at the Field of Dreams day nursery can now play even more safely thanks to Kensington Regeneration.

A grant of £22,000 was awarded to the nursery to improve an outside play area and to provide a soft surface and shelter that can be used at all times.

The funding has also gone towards the provision of a secure buggy park to improve health and safety.

Dennis Hardiman, Head of St. Sebastian's School and a member of the nursery's management team, said: "The whole idea of the buggy park is to encourage people to walk with their buggies and not to drive. It's also about improving safety so that people aren't tripping over them all the time.

"I would like to pay tribute to Sue Jeffcoate who sadly died recently. She was instrumental in making the Field of Dreams what it is today and in effect making the dream a reality. She made the new play area and buggy park happen and was involved in many different initiatives at St. Sebastian's and other schools in Kensington."

Work on the play area will be completed soon when the sheltered area and landscaping work is finished.



Children enjoy the facilties on offer at the Field of Dreams.



Children at Sacred Heart RC Primary School in Kensington are pictured with story-teller James Robinson.

# Storytelling raises awareness of different cultures

Schoolchildren in Kensington have been learning how to tell stories as part of a project aimed at raising awareness of different cultures.

Story-teller and Kensington resident James Robinson visited the area's four junior schools to help children work together to produce stories which will lead to

performances at school assemblies.

The 'Am I Nearly There? Project', funded by City Safe and supported by Kensington Regeneration and Liverpool Reads, focused on the experience of arriving in a new country.

All the children taking part were presented with copies of the book 'Refugee Boy' by Liverpool Reads.

# NEW COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS FOR KENSINGTON

Policing in Kensington has been strengthened with the recruitment of four new Community Support Officers.

The four are working alongside the existing officers in the area's own police team, spending most of their time patrolling the area.

The CSOs can be distinguished from police officers by the blue epaulettes on their white shirts, blue cravats or ties and a blue band on their hats.

While they can deal with many traffic offences and other common crimes, their most important role is their involvement with the local community.

They will be advising on crime prevention, attending public meetings and improving links

between residents and the police. Sgt Simon Joyce of the Kensington Police Team commented: "We are delighted to have these extra resources for the area. The CSOs will be a frequent presence on the streets and will help communication between us and local people."

The new CSOs will work in Kensington, Clubmoor, Fairfield and Tuebrook.



The new Community Support Officers take to the streets - Lyn Weir with (left to right) Craig Spicer, Rob Moore and Neil Morris.

# Summer Fun Day to be bigger and better

The Kensington Summer Fun Day will be back, bigger and even better, on Saturday July 7th.

The free event, one of the highlights of the Kensington Regeneration calendar, will be held at Fairfield Police Club from 11am until 4pm.

The New Deal area's fourth Fun Day will be opened by actress Emma Rigby, best known as
Hannah Ashworth in the hit TV series Hollyoaks. The event - which attracted a crowd of more than 2000 local residents last year - will be compered by popular Radio Merseyside presenter Alan Jackson.

Visitors will be able to enjoy a wide range of stalls, display stands, workshops and exhibitions focusing on subjects as diverse as cartoon drawing and organic gardening.

Other highlights of the day will include a wide variety of musical performances, a mini farm, fun fair rides, sports taster sessions and a community games event.

This year's Fun Day is being organised by Kensington

Regeneration Communications Officer, Kris Waite, who

said: "Planning for the Fun Day is now well advanced and this year's programme has been developed in light of the comments and suggestions that local residents made at last year's event.

"Our aim has been to provide as wide a variety of entertainment as possible and also to ensure that there's something on offer for people of all ages.

"It's also worth stressing again that the Fun Day is a great opportunity for community groups



and voluntary organisations to showcase their work. There's still time for groups to get involved, but I would urge anyone interested to get in touch with me as soon as possible to ensure that we can allocate space for them at the event."

For more information about the Kensington Summer Fun Day, or to book a slot at the event, ring Kris Waite on 0151-233 6136.

# celebrating your heroes



kensington community awards 07

Special Souvenir Pull Out

Dancing the night away - the awards evening

finished with a disco.



Award winner Elizabeth Harris (right) with friend Vi Flynn

Dean Sullivan engages in some light-hearted banter

with a member of the audience.



In this special four-page Kensington News supplement we look back at one of the highlights of the Kensington Regeneration calendar – the annual Community Awards ceremony. This year's event proved to be even bigger and better than the three previous occasions. The words and photos on the following pages tell the story of a memorable evening and some remarkable individual achievements.

Siddi Masubah and Jenny Tucker



The fourth Kensington Regeneration Community Awards presentation evening proved to be the biggest and best yet.

More than 150 people attended the glittering event in the Marquee Suite of the Devonshire House Hotel on Edge Lane.

Kensington Regeneration had chosen a James Bond theme for the evening, and guests took advantage of the opportunity to dress up to the nines in a style of which 007 himself would be proud.

Each table was named after a different Bond film and every guest was allocated the name of a well-known character.

In addition, the walls were decorated with posters of all the Bond films, and after the ceremony guests were able to try their hand at the gaming tables in their own Casino Royale ...playing with Monopoly-style money of course!

of course!
After an introduction by Kensington
Regeneration Chief Executive Lynn Spencer,
the host for the evening was Dean Sullivan,
the Merseyside actor best known for his role
as Jimmy Corkhill in the long-running
Channel 4 series Brookside.

He proved to be an excellent choice, capturing the tone of the evening perfectly and ensuring that the presentations ran very smoothly.

As Dean pointed out, despite the glittering setting, the evening was all about the day-to-day commitment and kindness demonstrated by members of the local community.

As in previous years, the finalists revealed some remarkable stories of the ways that individuals in Kensington devote so much time and effort to helping and improving the lives of their neighbours and friends.

For example, one woman had welcomed a neighbour's son who had learning difficulties into her home for morning coffee and a chat every day for more than 20 years.

Another finalist shops regularly for elderly housebound neighbours, despite being 80 years old and battling cancer herself.

The Community Awards are all about recognising, and saying thank you, to people like this.

Looking back at the 2007 awards, Lynn Spencer said: "We had a bumper entry this year and, as ever, choosing a winner in each category was an exceptionally difficult job.

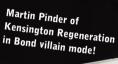
"However, the eight award winners add up to a remarkable roll of honour that reflects just how strong the community spirit is here in Kensington.

"As for the awards evening itself all the feedback we've had has been excellent so now we've got another difficult job - making it even bigger and better for 2008."















# your kensington heroes...

Here are the remarkable stories of the individuals honoured in the 2007 Kensington **Regeneration Community Awards:** 

# Good Neighbour Award

## Evelyn Oldcorn The winner of the Good Neighbour Award

Was Evelyn Oldcorn of Rawlins Street Describing her as an 'exceptional' person the

neighbour who nominated her said: "Evelyn, in Fairfield. Who is 83 years old and not in good health, is always on hand to help her neighbours. She has been a volunteer at the Thursday Club at St John's Community

Volunteer at the Thursday Club at St John's Community

Output

Description of the Social State of the Social St Wording out with dinners for the pensioners and the social club. years, rieiping our with airmers for the pensioners and the social cit.
"She is always there to help neighbours who are housebound."

shopping, calling on them every day to make sure they are all right. I would like to thank her for her help and support at all times." The other finalists were Laura Cooper of Romulus Street, whose neighbour said she didn't know what she would so without her, and Irene Power of Gannock Street, described in her nomination as 'a

neighbour in a million'.





## Mark Corrigan

The winner of the Young Citizen Award was Mark Corrigan of Greesley Close who received a clutch of nominations for his work at Edge

One nomination said: "He always has time for others and is always the first to offer help whenever

Another described Mark as: "Honest and trustworthy - an excellent role model. He never asks for anything himself and puts others first. He has a good rapport with young people and a sense of humour that young people

The other finalists in this category included Steven McDonald of Hughes Close who was described as 'a special young man who makes Kensington a happier place' and Lee Grimes of Greesley Close, praised for helping young people to overcome problems linked to bullying. Jake Evason, a pupil at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, was also recognised for his work with the School Council of which he is currently the Chair. The fifth finalist, Liam Hussey, was recognised for his work as Chair of EAGERS. One nomination said that he is 'an excellent example of a young person who has displayed a



## Shelagh Hale

This year's Heart of Gold Award went to 79-year-old Shelagh Hale of Beech Street.

Shelagh was praised for her work at St John's Community Centre and for the help she provides to individual friends and neighbours.

The nomination said: "Nothing is ever too much trouble for Shelagh. She is generous to a fault and always makes time

"Not only is Shelagh a godsend to Kensington, she is an inspiration to the whole of Liverpool."

The other finalists in the Heart of Gold category were Shaun Hodgers of Gresham Street, nominated for his work with the GEARS Residents' Association and Alan Grace of Royston Street, recognised for his work with the Prospect 2000 charity and helping young people through the



# Older Volunteer of the Year

## **Elizabeth Harris**

Kensington's Older Volunteer of the Year for 2007 is Elizabeth Harris who has lived in Laburnum Road in Fairfield for more than

Elizabeth - usually known as Betty - was 40 years. nominated for the award by three different people. One nomination said: "Betty has worked as a volunteer in the Cancer Research shop for more than 10 years. When she is not working in the charity shop she is helping other pensioners and disabled people.

"Betty goes to the bank and post office for pensioners who are unable to get out of their homes due to bad health. She picks up pensions and pays bills for these people, as well as doing shopping for them. The other nominations praised Betty's work as the Treasurer of the

Fairfield Area Residents' Association.

The two other finalists in this category were Nancy Rix of Connaught Road, described as 'a strong community leader and well respected by all', and Bill Mills of Lathom Court, praised for his 'tireless fundraising' and his 'commitment to doing his best for all'.



## your heroes continued...

# Black, Minority Ethnic Volunteer of the Year

## **Lesley Justin**

The winner of the Black and Minority Ethnic Volunteer of the Year Award was nine-yearold Lesley Justin of Sacred Heart Catholic

Lesley was one of the first Indian children to Primary School. arrive at the school three years ago. Since then she has worked hard to welcome other children to the

Her nomination said: "Lesley really goes out of her way to help other school who are new to this country. children and I know she is also very active in her church. She is a very

special girl and this award would be well deserved." The other finalists in this category were Laurence Mbombo of Cotswold Street, praised for her work with the Liverpool African Association, and Siddi Malubun of Fell Street who has worked hard to unite different groups by organising sporting activities.

# Resident of the Year



## Norma Lee

Kensington's 2007 Resident of the Year is Norma Lee of Janet Street who received many nominations from local people of all ages who wanted her support for the local community to be formally recognised.

One nomination mentioned her 'more than 10 years of tireless devotion to Edge Hill' and the fact that 'she is always ready to listen and help'. Another highlighted her efforts to keep people fully informed about all the latest regeneration developments in the

Yet another mentioned the fact that she had taken in a mother and her two young children following a fire in their house nearby. The nomination said: "She didn't know them before that night but she offered them a room and restored that mum's faith in human nature."

Norma received the Tony Cross Memorial Award which was created in memory of Kensington Regeneration's former Communications Officer who died at a tragically early age.

The other finalists in this category were Bernie Hunt of Leopold Road, who was recognised for his community work in the Kensington Fields neighbourhood, and Elaine Ball of Hughes Close who was described as 'a wonderful caring person' who offers friendship and support to people when they most need it, and does not ask for anything in return.



## Carer of the Year

### Tracey Mills

The 2007 Kensington Carer of the Year is Tracey Mills of Arnside Road.

Tracey was nominated by her daughter who said her mum had helped several people through serious illness and bereavement. The nomination read: "What she did was very good and I think she should have the award

The other finalists were Pat Ricky of Stanley Street, described as 'one in a million' for helping Andrew who uses a wheelchair, and Arthur Ellison of Adelaide Road who was nominated as 'a true star' for helping his neighbours as well as looking after his wife who is in ill health.



## **Community Learning** Award

## **Musarat Parveen**

The winner of the 2007 Community Learning Award was Musarat Parveen of Prescot Road.

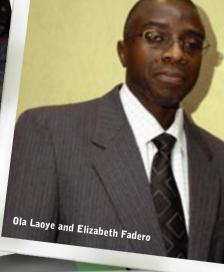
Musarat registered with Kensington Community Learning Centre in November 2005 after deciding she needed to learn to use a computer.

Since then she has successfully achieved 11 nationally accredited qualifications in a wide range of IT applications and has also started working at the centre on a voluntary basis, helping other students. Her nomination said: "Musarat wanted to give something back to the centre where she had acquired so many new skills. She is very supportive and encouraging to other students and is a real ambassador for

The other finalists in this category were Nicholas Lewis of Laburnum Road, who works with young people at Kensington Community Sports Kensington." Centre and is currently training to be a teacher, and Ann Hodgers of Gresham Street who has acquired a range of new skills which have helped

her in her role as Secretary of the GEARS Residents' Association.







#### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



























## elebrating Africa

This year's third African **Kensington Festival promises** to be bigger and better than ever with a wide range of events already planned.

The festival, supported by Kensington Regeneration, takes place over the weekend of June 23rd and 24th with activities promoting African culture taking place at Kensington Community Sports Centre and the Life Bank.

The event is being organised by Liverpool African Association, which aims to bring people together to celebrate African culture, build relationships in the community and tackle racist attitudes.

The festival will feature music, dance, art, drama, textiles, fashion, jewellery, mask and costume making, sports, social history, storytelling and food.

Kenneth Ndingindwayo, Chair of Liverpool African Association, said: "Now the festival is in its third year we expect the event to be bigger than ever before and to attract a lot more people from different communities.

"This year we also have more youth groups taking part and a lot more stalls and food demonstrations as well as a fashion show. It really will be a great weekend and we look forward to welcoming all residents of Kensington." It is expected that the African Kensington Festival will attract more than 1,500 people during the two days from throughout Merseyside and organisers are keen to hear from anyone wishing to take part.

On Saturday there will be a multi-cultural event at Kensington Sports Centre with a five-a-side football tournament in two categories for the under and over 17s. There will also be activities for families including face painting, music and arts and a presentation of awards at the end of the day.

On Sunday there will be a showcase of African talent at the Life Bank in Quorn Street with

bands, DJs, drumming and workshops, performances from local youngsters, a fashion show, a children's area with face painting, jewellery and mask making and an African clown. There will also be hair braiding, cookery demonstrations and African food and refreshments will be available.

The festival will conclude with an evening celebration event and party for the organisers and participants at the police club in Fairfield

For further information or for anyone wishing to join in the celebrations telephone Kenneth on 07861 233226, 0151-703 0200, 07710 425558 or Garrick Prayogg 07878 915864

### Community Games ideas are welcome

A community sports co-ordinator is asking Kensington News readers for ideas for new activities in the area.

Rhiannon Brown of Nacro writes: "Liverpool Community Games is a registered charity that has been running in the city since 1998. Its aim is to provide opportunities for children and young people to experience and participate in different sports, art and cultural activities in a safe environment, removing as many barriers to participation as possible.

"Kensington was asked to organise a fun day to launch the Liverpool Community Games in the area. This was followed by a six-week programme of activities in various venues.

"I would now like to set up a

multi-sport activity session in each of the five Kensington neighbourhoods to continue these activities. The young people from these sessions could then take part in a Community Games event as part of the Kensington Summer Fun Day

Page 9

"Any ideas you have on moving this forward will be greatly appreciated. We would like each area of Kensington to be represented and to have a local input into the sessions and the venues that are used.

"Please get in touch and let me know if you would like to be involved. Whatever your view, I would like to hear it," she concluded.

To contact Rhiannon Brown ring her on 0151-233 6142 or 07919 598471 or e-mail her at rhiannon.brown@liverpool.gov.uk





Enid Bristow is pictured (second right) with Barbara Bradshaw, Silvia May, Brenda Miello and Dot Blackburn boarding the minibus before picking up other pensioners around the area.

### Pensioners enjoy trip

Pensioners from the Needham Road area recently enjoyed a trip to Southport thanks to the support of the New Communities Fund.

36 pensioners visited the resort in three separate parties for a three-course lunch at the Prince of Wales Hotel.

Enid Bristow, Kensington

Regeneration Board Member and Chair of Needham Road Residents, said: "They were lovely trips for the pensioners as there are some people who rarely get out.

"They really enjoyed chatting with each other and we really had a laugh on the coach. I was also able to point out things of interest on the journey."

Join

**today** for

## **FAMILY LEARNING BOOST FOR SCHOOLS**

**Kensington Regeneration has** given a major boost to family learning in local primary schools.

The organisation has allocated a total of £73,000 to the area's five primary schools for projects which will see mums and dads working alongside their children.

At Kensington Juniors, year 6 children and their families are working together on a video project, making short films

about life at home and at school using new cameras and laptops bought with Kensington Regeneration funding.

Phoenix Primary is developing a parents room and running classes for parents. Families at St Sebastian's School will be building a nature trail and enjoying classes in aerobics, cookery, first aid and genealogy.

Sacred Heart School is creating a suite of Apple Mac

computers where parents will be able to work alongside children, and Kensington Infants School is opening a parents room and launching

a home lending scheme of resources in different languages.

Kensington Juniors Head Teacher, Bryn Gorry, commented: "We hope our video project will hold the attention of the year 6 pupils beyond the end of term, after their

Kensington Regeneration Community Board Member John Caton said: "Learning never stops, whatever your age. We are very keen to promote the idea of families learning together and I hope that everyone taking part in the new activities will be inspired to carry on long after the projects finish."

> John Caton of Kensinaton Regeneration is pictured at Kensington Juniors with pupils Eve Plant (with camera) and Harry Malone, Teacher Cherith Boyd (right) and mums Karen Plant (standing) and Phillipa Malone.



**FREE and** access all this:

- Top quality sport facilities
- Price discounts
- Access the Fitness Suite with your Weekly Taster Ticket, your Monthly Ticket or you can choose to Pay As You Go with each visit
- Your induction to the fitness suite is free when you purchase either our weekly taster or Monthly Tickets
- Aerobics and Exercise classes
- Fully Qualified Instructors
- Indoor Facilities
- Outside Astro-Turf Five-a-side pitches
- Free 'Young at Heart' sessions
- Martial Arts Clubs
- Gymnastic Club
- Easy Access to facilities for disabled people

#### **HOW TO CONTACT US:**

Kensington Community Sports Centre, Jubilee Drive, Kensington, Liverpool L7 8SJ. Tel: 0151 261 9598 Fax: 0151 261 9849 Telephone users add prefix 18001 to access BT Typetalk Email:kcsc@btconnect.com

# Website relaunched

Kensington Regeneration has re-launched its website to give it more of a community focus.

The revamped website www.kensingtonregeneration.com went live on Monday June 4th and features more information on neighbourhood events.

Kris Waite, Communications
Officer for Kensington Regeneration,
said: "The feeling was that the
existing site concentrated in the main
on the activities of Kensington
Regeneration. We now want it to be
more community focused and
community driven."

The launch of the new website links in with the announcement of a series of taster sessions at Kensington Community Learning Centre where local people can view the new website and, at the same time, sign up for one of the different courses taking place there.

KCLC is currently working in partnership with Learn Direct to provide local residents with access to a host of courses previously unavailable at the centre including



the European Computer Driving Licence.

Students can also find out how to quickly secure nationally-recognised English and maths qualifications.

KCLC has just achieved another important success with five students gaining a CLAIT (Computer Literacy And Information Technology) diploma for various IT skills including word processing.

They are Samwin Banienuba, Patricia Hughes, Margaret McTaggert, Tida Bojang-Bah and Yolande Bobongo.

This is a qualification designed to recognise the skills, knowledge and understanding of IT users whether in employment, education or training.

For more information on the taster sessions or other courses at Kensington Community Learning Centre telephone 0151-260 1006.

## Liverpool Land Development Company

EDGE LANE PROJECT UPDATE

Good progress is being made with many elements of the Edge Lane Project which is being implemented by Liverpool Land Development Company and its partners.

As this newsletter went to press contractors were putting the finishing touches to the improvements on Edge Lane Drive and work on upgrading Edge Lane Central - from Rathbone Road to Botanic Road - remains on target for completion in late summer.

The work in this area includes highway resurfacing, new kerbs and paving, junction improvements, improved pedestrian crossing facilities, new feature lighting and tree planting.

A new junction is also being created to provide access to the new business park that will be built on the former MTL bus depot site.

This new development - on which infrastructure work is now under

way - is aimed at high-tech companies and could eventually attract more than 1,000 jobs to the area from businesses in the technology, ICT, digital and creative sectors.

Nearby, developers Urban Splash are finalising details of their redevelopment of the former Littlewoods/JCM building.

The company is set to transform the landmark building into apartments, commercial space and a hotel and will be submitting a planning application to Liverpool City Council shortly.

Meanwhile, a second Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) is expected to be made in the near future in the Edge Lane West area.

This will aim to bring 370 mostly empty and derelict properties on 24 acres of land into public ownership to enable regeneration work to get under way.

Many local people who want this work to start as soon as possible

were disappointed when the High Court quashed the first CPO last November due to an error in the way it had been processed.

Liverpool Land Development Company Chief Executive, Ian Hassall, said: "We know the plans for Edge Lane West are supported by the great majority of the local community.

"They helped to develop the proposals and will see major change for the better when the work takes place."



The Littlewoods/JCM building

# New round of grants for community groups

Kensington Regeneration has relaunched its New Communities Fund giving groups based and working in the area the chance to apply for grants of £250 to £2,000 for a wide range of community development activities which will support the wider regeneration of the area.

Karen Harold, from the New Communities Team, said: "We have relaunched the New Communities Fund following the last round of grants which enabled us to support some great projects.

"Community participation is key to the success of this scheme as local

people know what the priorities are in their own neighbourhood. Successful regeneration depends on local people having the opportunities and tools they need."



For further information and an application pack contact the New Communities Team on 0151-233 6189. All applications will be considered by a panel of local residents.



Tony McNulty (third right) and local MP Jane Kennedy 'on the beat' with the Kensington Community Wardens.

### **Crime Minister visits**

Crime Minister Tony McNulty visited Kensington recently to find out how anti-social behaviour is being tackled in the area.

He met with representatives of housing association Community Seven who demonstrated their commitment to stamping out the problem when they secured the largest-ever number of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) in a single case by a housing association.

The minister also spent time with the Kensington Regeneration funded

Community Wardens whose work on the streets is designed to make Kensington a safer and cleaner place for everyone who lives and works in the area.

Kensington Regeneration Chief Executive, Lynn Spencer, commented: "We were very pleased that the Minister saw at first hand the good work that the Community Wardens are doing and the important contribution they are making to the regeneration of the New Deal area."

### JOB SCHEME WINS AWARD

An initiative which found construction jobs on the Edge Lane Project for five Kensington residents has won a national award.

The five men had been long-term unemployed before being helped by JET Eastern Link and Kensington Regeneration to secure training and jobs with Alfred McAlpine on the improvement works which are being co-ordinated by Liverpool Land Development Company.

A year after they started work, the five have been declared national winners in Alfred McAlpine's Corporate Responsibility Awards and have collected a prize of £1,000 plus £1,000 for a charity of their choice.

The men - who were trained as dumper truck drivers - are Mick Kewley, Ian Stokes, Steve Morgan, Tommy McGregor and George Hart.

Steve Morgan said: "If it wasn't for the training and the help in

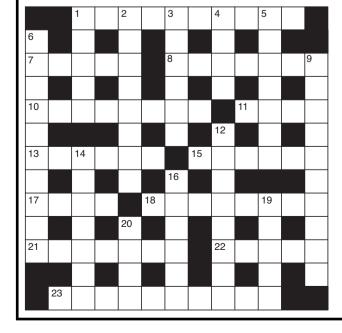
getting the qualifications, we wouldn't have got these jobs. Now we've got both the skills and the experience which means that after the Edge Lane Project, we'll have a good chance of finding more construction work."

Alfred McAlpine's Edge Lane Project Manager Julian Wilson said: "It was great to get the award for our commitment to local recruitment but it is all down to the work of the men – they deserve it."



The award-winning employees pictured at Alfred McAlpine's Edge Lane site, with representatives of Kensington Regeneration, JET and Liverpool Land Development Company.

### **KENSINGTON NEWS CROSSWORD**



#### ACROSS

- 1. Conducive (10)
- 7. Weak (5)
- 8. Break up (7)
- 10. Fully (8)
- 11. Prejudice (4)
- 13. Angry (6)
- 15. Peril (6)
- 15. Peril (6)
- 17. Declare (4)18. Dig (8)
- 21. Building (7)
- 22. Gruesome fiend (5)
- 23. Blockade (10)

#### DOWN

- 1. Festival (5)
- 2. Intrepid (8)
- 3. Excessively (6)
- 4. Additionally (4)
- 5. Chief (7)
- 6. Unmanly (10)
- 9. Lawless (10)12. Pompous address
- (8)
- 14. Feeling (7)
- 16. Highly skilled (6)19. Approximately (5)
- 20. Sage (4)

#### SOLUTION ON PAGE 12

© Central Press Features

# Gearing up for major new improvements in the area

G.E.A.R.S, one of the most active residents' associations in Kensington, has made a major contribution to the area since it was formed six years ago.

The association was set up by local people after concerns were raised about the amount of antisocial behaviour, litter and fly tipping in its operating area which is focused on nine roads in Fairfield.

The group was originally set up as a Home Watch in 2000 but it soon became clear that the residents wanted to do a lot more than just keep an eye on each other's homes.

That's when the G.E.A.R.S
Residents' Association came into being and since then meetings have been held on a monthly or six-weekly basis and regular newsletters are issued. The group has never been a 'talking shop' and strongly believes that the association has to take action to make a difference to people's lives.

At the beginning members focused on the issue of litter and fly

tipping as this was the key problem for local people, particularly around the back entries where it resulted in other hazards including rats and fires.

A clean-up was organised through the City Council's community skips programme and residents of all ages turned out in force with brushes and bin bags to give the area a facelift.

Patience Jones, the association's Vice Chair, said: "As an organisation we always take part in events when we are invited and we regularly have a stand at the Kensington Fun Day.

"We have good links with the police, the community wardens, Kensington Regeneration, Community Seven and Christine Flood and the Clean Team and always keep on top of local problems."

Although the association has achieved a great deal, anti-social behaviour unfortunately remains a problem and is on the agenda of almost every meeting.

Members work closely with the community wardens and the police to address the problem and many positive activities have been organised for the young people including street parties, Christmas parties, mural painting, flower planting and trips out to attractions including Gulliver's World, Deeside Ice Rink, Blackpool lights and Chester Zoo.

Members of the G.E.A.R.S committee were so keen to engage the local children in its activities that it was suggested that they should be asked their views. And so E.A.G.E.R.S, a junior group, was formed 18 months ago (see panel).

Ann Hodgers, Secretary of the association for the last three years, said: "We now have so much going on. The area is a lot better for it and there is far less anti-social behaviour. Personally I have found the experience great. I'm doing things I never did before like face painting and mosaic work. It's given me a lot more confidence."



hildren enjoy a trip organised by the group.

# Eager to make a difference

E.A.G.E.R.S was formed 18 months ago to give young people in the area a say on what goes on within the main G.E.A.R.S association.

Members also attend the regular meeting where they have a slot on the agenda to update older members on the various activities they are organising.

16-year-old Liam Hussey has taken on the role of Chair of the group, which has the slogan 'always eager to make a difference.'

The group has already been involved in a number of community activities including a clean-up of Birchfield Community Park.

E.A.G.E.R.S also received a grant of £1,900 from Kensington Regeneration's New Communities

Fund to pay for a range of activities including trips to Camelot and Gulliver's World, paintballing and ice skating, which were attended by 70 children and parents.

Liam commented: "We want to organise a lot of trips this summer and, looking ahead to 2008, we want to arrange something really special for Capital of Culture year."

Shaun Hodgers, E.A.G.E.R.S Support Officer, added "Since the junior group was formed crime has dropped by 20 per cent. I'd like to stick my neck out and say that kids are actually stopping others causing trouble. If they see kids smashing a window, for example, they now report it. In my view that's really, really good."



### PENNY RENCH

One of the most successful projects G.E.A.R.S has been involved with is the Penny Bench, which now has pride of place in Birchfield Park.

The association was awarded £48,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the project and the bench was the result of more than 14 months of work by members and arts organisation Safe Productions.

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 spectacular mosaic sculpture was created with the help of residents and local schoolchildren who took part in a series of workshops.



#### NHS Jobs Open Day

## Come and discover how you can step up into a career within the NHS

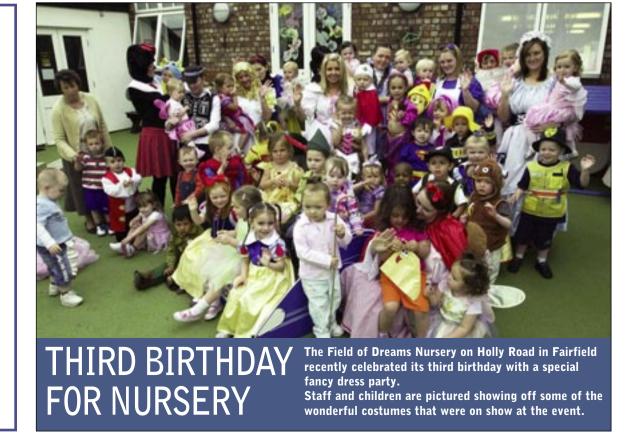
Thursday 28 June, 10am-4pm at the Job Bank, 4 Tunnel Road, Kensington L7 6QD

Kensington Regeneration is working with the NHS to help its residents access all of this...

- Hundreds of job opportunities
- Training initiatives to help match up your skills
- Advice on your best route into the NHS
- Free benefit check to ensure you don't lose out
- Free health check and free refreshments







# **Tunnel Road** housing – work set to begin

Work is set to begin on the Tunnel Road housing scheme in Edge Hill.

Bellway Homes are moving forward with the 126-property development.

The homes, which range from one-bedroom apartments to threebedroom family homes, are mainly intended for private ownership although some will be available for rent

Local people have been involved in the design of the scheme and residents within the local CPO

areas have been offered a priority purchasing period.

Kensington Regeneration Chief Executive, Lynn Spencer, commented: "It's excellent news that the Tunnel Road housing development is under way.

It will provide high-quality accommodation for Kensington residents, many of whom have been living in unsatisfactory conditions for some time."

Kensington Regeneration's investment means that the homes are affordable for local people.

### notice board

Upcoming dates for your diary:

#### AFRICAN KENSINGTON **FESTIVAL**

Kensington Community Sports Centre Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 June 10am – 4pm

#### **NHS CAREERS EVENT**

The Job Bank Thursday 28th June 10am – 4pm

#### KENSINGTON SUMMER FUN DAY

Fairfield Police Club Saturday 7th July 11am – 4pm

Are you organising an upcoming community event or residents meeting in Kensington?

If so, you could use this column to publicise it as Kensington News is delivered to every home in the area. Send information about the event to Laura Pover using the contact details below.

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



FA Cup final ticket winner Kevin Hughes.

## Video lands top BBC award

Young people at Kensington's Central Youth Club recently won a national BBC competition to recreate a memorable moment from FA Cup history on film.

The nine boys involved produced a 30-second video re-creating the bizarre own goal scored by Liverpool player Djimi Traore in a cup tie against Burnley in 2005.

The BBC were said to be 'bowled over' by the standard of the production.

The prize was two tickets for the recent FA Cup final between

Manchester United and Chelsea and the chance to have the video screened as part of the BBC's coverage of the event.

Central Youth Club organised a prize draw for the tickets amongst the lads who made the film with the winner being 14-year-old Kevin Hughes.

Youth Club Manager, Marie Wallenfang, said: "It's really great for kids from Kensington to win a prestigious national competition like this."

### we're all ears

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 News is for you.

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

We look forward to hearing from you!

## other languages

Young people in Kensington have been expressing their concerns about community safety by producing a series of banners on the subject.

BANNER PROJECT

at Edge Hill Youth Club, Kensington Fields Community Centre and St John's Community Centre as part of a project backed by Kensington Regeneration.

The banners have been produced 
The banners illustrate a number of issues that impact on community safety in the area including drug and alcohol misuse and the lack of facilities to keep local young people off the streets.



Some of the young Kensington residents involved with the project are pictured with their banners watched by local police officers, community wardens and youth club staff.

للمزيد من المطومات ، فضلا أتصل مشروع إعادة إنعاش كزينجتون على هاتف رقم 6136 233.

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

بۇ زائىيارى زيائىر ئاكايە پەيپوەندى بكە بە كىسىنگىتۇن جەنەرەيىشىن لەسەر ۋمارە 2336136

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ند ومعلومات كيك كلنسكان راجزياتي (Kensington Regeneration) سيرة ن لير 2336136 رايلة المركزي

#### KENSINGTON CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Across: 1 Favourable; 7 Frail; 8 Disband; 10 Entirely; 11 Bias; 13 Ireful; 15 Danger; 17 Avow; 18 Excavate; 21 Edifice; 22 Ghoul; 23 Investment

Down: 1 Feast; 2 Valorous; 3 Unduly; 4 Also; 5 Leading; 6 Effeminate; 9 Disorderly; 12 Harangue; 14 Emotion; 16 Expert; 19 About; 20 Wise.



**JOB BANK** 4 TUNNEL ROAD LIVERPOOL L7 6QD

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