

For further information contact Kensington Regeneration on 0151 233 6136.

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June 2008 Issue 29

# kensington news

Local views, local issues

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Groundforce Kensington style – Resident of the Year Barbara Disley in the Cheviot Road community garden which was recently given a Wizard of Oz theme.

# Community heroes

**Kensington has once again been honouring the community heroes who make such a difference to life in the area.**

More than 150 guests attended the fifth Kensington Community Awards presentation ceremony, a glittering gala dinner with a horse racing theme held at the Devonshire House Hotel on Edge Lane.

The traditional eight neighbourhood 'Oscars' were up for grabs at the event, plus a special Culture Champion Award marking Liverpool's Capital of Culture year.

The trophies were designed by acclaimed sculptor Stephen Broadbent whose Sheppard Worlock memorial sculpture was unveiled recently on Hope Street in Liverpool city centre.

The event was hosted by corporate entertainer and fundraiser, John Nelson, who summed up the purpose of the awards: "It's an opportunity to celebrate all the positive things that are happening in Kensington and the great people who live in the area.

"So many residents are devoting time and effort to improving the lives of others, including children and young people and the older members of our community.

"The nominations also demonstrate how people are supporting their neighbours when they are most in need - when they are in trouble, sad,

or alone. It all goes to show that Kensington is a community that really cares," he said.

The main award at the event - Kensington's 2008 Resident of the Year - went to Barbara Disley for her tireless work on the Cheviot Road community garden project.

However, age was certainly no barrier to success on the night. Other residents who collected awards ranged from Young Citizen of the Year Sophie Hamlett, who is just 14, through to winners who are the best part of 60 years older!

Kensington Regeneration Chair Norma Williams, who was a guest speaker at the ceremony, commented: "Many kind-hearted people in Kensington are working to improve the lives of other residents and the Community Awards are a great way of recognising and saluting what they do.

"I would like to congratulate everyone who was nominated as well as the winners. They are all a credit to themselves, their families and to Kensington as a whole."

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



The world-famous Harlem Globetrotters were in Kensington recently as part of a visit to Liverpool to play the city's own professional team, the Everton Tigers.

New York's finest took time out to talk to youngsters at the Life Bank about the importance of fitness and healthy eating.

See page 10 for more photos from the visit.

One of Kensington Regeneration's key projects – the Tunnel Road housing development in Edge Hill - has landed a prestigious Merseyside award. See page 3 for more details.

# WELCOME TO KENSINGTON NEWS

This issue of Kensington News is introduced by Norma Williams, Chair of Kensington Regeneration.

I am very pleased to welcome you to the June issue of Kensington News. Once again it's been a very busy few weeks for our area so we've had a lot of stories to pack into this newsletter.

The most important event of recent weeks was, of course, the Community Awards presentation ceremony at the Devonshire House Hotel.

This was another fantastic evening and I would like to add my congratulations to all the winners who do such a great job for their local communities.

You can read all about their achievements in a special four-page section in the middle of this newsletter.

On the subject of awards, the Tunnel Road housing scheme was also honoured recently by the judges of the 2008 Strictly Regeneration! Awards. You can read about this on the opposite page.

Members of the Edge Hill Housing Focus Group, chaired by Norma Lee, have played a key role in moving this important project forward and it's great that their commitment and effort has been recognised in this way.

Elsewhere in this issue there are a real mixed bag of stories which range from the success of

a new local choir to a report on an exciting visit to Kensington by the legendary Harlem Globetrotters.

Also on a sporting theme, our local footballers have had a very successful few weeks.

St Sebastian's finished top of their league, Birchfield Youth Group won a tournament in Spain and a team from the Youth Inclusion Project was invited to take part in an event in Bosnia! You can read more about all this on page 12.

Looking ahead now, don't forget to put Saturday July 12th in your diary – that's the date of the Kensington Regeneration Summer Fun Day which will again be held at Fairfield Police Club.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of Kensington News. As ever, we welcome any comments you have on the subjects covered in it. Please get in touch using the contact details on the back page.

With best wishes  
**Norma Williams**  
Chair of  
Kensington  
Regeneration



Many local residents dressed up in authentic period costume to celebrate Victorian Day.

Photo courtesy of the Riverside Group

## Kensington Fields celebrates conservation area status

**Residents in Kensington Fields travelled back in time recently to celebrate the area being given conservation area status.**

A special Victorian Day was organised to mark the achievement which means that the neighbourhood's 1,200 terraced houses are now safe for future generations.

Local people – many of whom were dressed in authentic period costumes – enjoyed attractions

including horse drawn carriage rides, Punch and Judy shows, Victorian games and a delicious Dickensian cream tea.

Community Warden Sue Tracey commented: "We wanted to celebrate the conservation status and what better way to do it than with a historic Victorian Day!"

"The event was a great success and it was lovely for the children to see how life has changed since that

time. They all really enjoyed the Victorian games."

Local resident Bernie Hunt added: "We are really proud to have gained conservation status for the terraces and couldn't let the achievement go by without some sort of appropriate celebration.

"It was great to see everyone enjoying the day, especially the children learning about the history of the era."

**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**



## Green light for new hospital

**The redevelopment of the Royal Liverpool Hospital has been given the green light by planners.**

Liverpool City Council has agreed outline plans to rebuild the hospital on land at the south east corner of its current site, at the junction of the planned Hall Lane bypass and West Derby Street.

And now the search is on for developers to draw up the detailed design of the building which the Royal bosses say will be a world-class facility for the city.

Members of Liverpool's Planning Committee were told that there are a number of problems with the current hospital including its parking facilities, poor pedestrian links and a congested and unattractive entrance.

Refurbishment is not seen as a practical option because it would actually take longer and be more expensive than a new building.

The chosen site will allow the existing hospital to remain operational while construction work is in progress on the new complex.

Once the new building is complete



The replacement for the Royal should be ready by 2015.

the old hospital will be demolished, but the Linda McCartney Centre, Education Centre and Dental Hospital will be retained.

The plans show that the new hospital will have around the same floor space as the existing building, but that it will have greater clinical space, making it feel more light and airy.

New roads will be built through the site, bringing people closer to the building, and public open space will be created, including an area for dropping off and picking up patients.

Project Director Helen Jackson commented: "Our vision is to create

a sustainable, world-class hospital on an attractive, accessible site."

If everything goes according to plan, work on rebuilding the Royal would start in 2011 and would be complete by 2015. It would then take a further three years to demolish the existing building and clear the site.

According to the plans, the Royal would also make £100,000 available towards the cost of creating a residents-only parking zone for the Kensington Fields neighbourhood.



Chris Wormald is pictured with Anne-Marie Turner of Kensington Regeneration and local youngsters at the Field of Dreams Nursery.

## Kensington welcomes VIP guest

**One of the country's top civil servants recently made a fact-finding visit to Kensington.**

Chris Wormald, Director-General for Local Government and Regeneration in the Communities and Local Government Department, spent a morning in the area before speaking at a major conference at

the Liverpool Echo Arena.

Mr Wormald visited a number of projects funded by Kensington Regeneration including the Health Energy and Advice Team, Kensington Community Learning Centre, the Field of Dreams Nursery, Kensington Community Sports Centre and new housing developments in the area.

# Prestigious award for Kensington Regeneration housing project

**One of Kensington Regeneration's key projects has landed a prestigious Merseyside award.**

The Tunnel Road housing development in Edge Hill has been honoured in the Liverpool Champion category of the 2008 Strictly Regeneration! Awards which celebrate the best projects supported by Housing Market Renewal and Neighbourhood Renewal funding.

The judges said that the Tunnel Road scheme – which will provide new homes for people from the nearby Central Edge Hill clearance area – demonstrates best practice in a number of ways:

“Partnership working between local residents and agencies as part of the Edge Hill Housing Focus Group ensured that local people were fully engaged in the design and development process.

“This meant that the delivery partners were fully aware of the local

community's needs and aspirations.

“Kensington Regeneration funding was also used to subsidise the price of the new properties, enabling an increased number of local people to purchase a new home at a more affordable price.

“There was also close involvement with Bellway Homes throughout a pre-sale period which was agreed for local people facing clearance. Additional support from home advisors was also made available.

“Residents were also able to select homes that met their specific needs, including any necessary adaptations, and were able to choose their future neighbours,” added the judges.

Kensington Regeneration Chief Executive, Lynn Spencer, said: “We're thrilled to win this award which is a tribute to the work of all the local residents involved in the Edge Hill Housing Focus Group.

“By coincidence, the Strictly

Regeneration! event was held on the same night as our own awards presentation so it was very nice to receive this honour while we were actually in the process of saluting our own community heroes.”

Pauline Davis, who heads up Housing Market Renewal on Merseyside, added: “The awards are a wonderful way of rewarding all the excellent work that is going on in our area.

“We were very pleased with both

the quality and the quantity of the entries and would like to congratulate all the winners on their achievement.”

A second Kensington Regeneration project was also highly commended in the Excellence in Design and Quality Category of the awards.

The judges were impressed with the environmental improvements to Cheviot Road, Middleton Road and Lindale Road which have helped to raise property prices in the area.



An artist's impression of how homes on Bellway's Tunnel Road scheme will look.



The new homes take shape at Gilead Street.

## GOOD PROGRESS ON NEW HOMES DEVELOPMENTS

**Good progress is being made on Kensington's two major new housing developments.**

Residents can now see the new properties taking shape at Bellway's Joshua Place scheme on Tunnel Road in Edge Hill and at the Lovell development on Gilead Street.

Lynn Spencer, Chief Executive of Kensington Regeneration which has played a key role in both projects, commented: “It's good that the new homes at these two sites are now well advanced and that everyone in the area can see the progress that is being made.

“These superb developments will provide high-quality homes for local

people and it will be fantastic to see families move in later in the year.”

There are 43 homes in the first phase of the Joshua Place scheme. Eventually there will be 126 properties at the site, ranging from one-bedroom apartments to two-bedroom bungalows and three-bedroom family homes.

Meanwhile at Gilead Street 175 new homes are being created – 45 for rent, 24 for shared ownership and 106 for outright sale.

The first homes at both schemes are expected to be handed over in the summer.

## Roma band helps to promote Czech and Slovak culture

**A Kensington-based Roma band is helping to promote Czech and Slovak culture across the city.**

The five-piece Gypsy Brothers combo includes Jan Bendig Senior and his son, Jan Bendig Junior, who is a pupil at the Academy of St Francis of Assisi.

The band have played some prestigious gigs in recent weeks including the Philharmonic Hall and Liverpool Town Hall.

At the Town Hall they played for delegates of the Intercultural Cities

Conference organised by EUCLID which provides European and international information services to the culture sector.

Guest of honour at the event was the European Commission's Director for Culture, Communication and Multilingualism, Dr Vladimir Sucha from Slovakia.

Dr Sucha said he was delighted to see the Gypsy Brothers spreading Czech and Slovak culture in Liverpool.



The Gypsy Brothers with Jan Senior (far right) and Jan Junior (third right) are pictured with Dr Sucha (centre) and Geoffrey Brown of EUCLID.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Fitness and fun

The Life Bank has been trialling a new range of exercise equipment for children. The Pace Pat is designed to keep kids fit and healthy by combining the fun of a computer game and arcade-style dance platforms with a cardio vascular workout. The equipment, which has been funded by Liverpool Primary Care Trust, has been given the thumbs-up by Merseyside's world champion gymnast, Beth Tweddle.

### Railway art

Kensington arts organisation Metal is holding a special event next month on the theme of the impact of railways on art and creativity. The event will begin at the Walker Art Gallery's Art In The Age Of Steam exhibition before moving to Edge Hill Station where the activities will include a platform discussion and a specially selected programme of railway film. For more information or to book a place ring Metal on 0151-261 0514 or email info@metalculture.com.

### Top banana

Young people in Kensington have come up with an innovative new colour scheme for Liverpool's famous Superlambanana.



The Kensington Junior Youth Inclusion Project members have been working with local artist Vinnie Cleghorne on a design which aims to promote the healthy eating and healthy lifestyle. The result of their efforts, which they have called Superfiveadaybanana, is to go on show at Liverpool's Walker Art Gallery.

### Minister visits

The Kensington Police Team recently welcomed a VIP guest in the form of Home Office Minister Meg Hillier. The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State and Hackney South MP was in Kensington to highlight the success of neighbourhood policing in the area. Mrs Hillier's visit followed a new Government pledge to give every community a contactable and accountable police team.

### Awards honour

Two Kensington projects were recently shortlisted for major awards. As this newsletter went to press residents involved with Kensington Vision and the St Sebastian's Community Garden were waiting to hear if they had been successful in the 2008 Spirit of Merseyside Awards. These awards, organised by the Community Foundation for Merseyside, celebrate outstanding successes in Merseyside's vibrant voluntary and community sector.

## NEW HATE CRIME HELPLINE

**A new 24-hour hate crime helpline is now available in Kensington.**

The Stop Hate Line, which takes callers directly through to independent charity Stop Hate UK, wants people to report incidents when they have been made to suffer

because of their age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability.

The free and confidential service aims to raise awareness and understanding of hate crime, increase reporting of hate incidents, improve the quality of service

offered to residents who suffer hate crime and provide support to their communities.

The helpline – which is being funded by the Merseyside Criminal Justice Board – is available on **FREEPHONE 0800 138 1625**

# Edge Lane retailers in drive to win back lost business

**Businesses on Edge Lane joined forces recently to mount a major marketing drive to attract customers back to the area.**

For the past two years retailers and other local companies have been affected by an extensive programme of highway and infrastructure improvement works on the main eastern route into the city.

This caused traffic problems which made some customers reluctant to visit the area, unless strictly necessary. As a result, many businesses reported a significant drop in turnover.

However, with the road works and lane closures now at an end, companies are keen to win back the business they have lost.

Phil Linley of Business Liverpool, who co-ordinated the campaign, explained: "Although Edge Lane is now much improved, local businesses really suffered while the work was in progress.

"That's why we were able to obtain funding from Liverpool's Local Area

Agreement to mount a campaign telling people that Edge Lane is back to normal and that it's business as usual again for local companies.

"All the businesses in the area were invited to have their say on the format of the campaign which got under way in time for the important Easter trading period."

Companies involved in the initiative included the local stores of major national chains on Edge Lane Retail Park, smaller shops on Edge Lane itself and firms trading from units at Binns Road Industrial Estate.

The first phase of the campaign involved advertising on three local radio stations, press advertising and the distribution of a full-colour leaflet to 40,000 homes.

Phil Linley concluded: "Many people aren't aware of the wide variety of businesses in this area which is why we wanted to get the message across that there really is more to Edge Lane than meets the eye."



Phil Linley is pictured, right, with representatives of some of the Edge Lane businesses involved in the campaign.



Face painting proved very popular with children of all ages!

# Kensington celebrates International Women's Day

**Kensington marked International Women's Day in March with a multi-cultural event for all the family.**

More than 20 stalls and a variety of activities including dancing, face painting, storytelling and sports were on offer at Kensington Junior School.

Organised by the Liverpool African Association and funded by Kensington Regeneration, with support from Community Seven and the Sports Action Zone, the event was the first of its kind in the area.

Laurence Mbombo from the Liverpool African Association said: "The day was a lot of fun and also very useful in terms of providing information about services available to women in Liverpool and giving people the chance to learn about different cultures from around the world."

The celebrations continued in the evening with an invitation-only awards event at which ten special women were honoured for their skills, personal qualities and hard work.

The winners were: Caring Woman – Mamie Davies; Young Woman –

Nicolette Muzazi; Special Woman – Fatima Sharif Ali; Community Matters – Zahra Sabbagh; Health – Mabel Longla; Entrepreneur – Ilham Hamood; Special Woman (50+) – Lilian Wake; Education – Denise Armstrong; Sports and Arts – Di Christian; Voluntary Sector and Community Work – Julia Walimbwa.

Laurence Mbombo added: "It was fantastic to have women of all ages and from different backgrounds celebrating together without any

barriers. It was a great event, attended by many people from Liverpool and from outside the city, with some coming from as far as France and Africa.

"Most of the women who won awards were really surprised and very touched. We will definitely stage the event next year and will be looking to link up with other organisations to make it bigger and even better."



Visitors had the chance to sample tasty treats from around the world.

**NEWSHAM ARTS PARK FESTIVAL**  
**Saturday 28th June 11am - 5pm**  
 A day of performing & visual arts with something to suit all ages

Yellowhouse Art Stall - RiverNiger - Streetwaves  
 Superlambanana - Urban Strawberry Lunch  
 Local Primary Performances - Kof - MD Productions  
 Homegrown - Polish Dance Group - Boat Regatta  
 Ishtah-Belly Dancer - Adult Learning Bus - Tai Chi  
 Parkranger's Nature Trails - Urbeatz - DJ Workshops  
 Face Painting - Fitness Testing - Congolese Choir  
 Children's Story Telling - Circus Skills Classes  
 Academy Performances - Pilates - Art Exhibition

# TACKLING CARBON MONOXIDE

**Hundreds of Kensington residents have been receiving protection against an invisible and silent killer.**

Detectors have been installed in homes across the area to safeguard against leaks of carbon monoxide which can cause chronic illness and death.

The installations were funded by Kensington Regeneration, whose Community Safety Task Group is concerned at the risks to vulnerable residents from faulty gas appliances.

The detectors were installed by Merseyside Fire Support Network volunteers and staff from Kensington

Regeneration, community wardens and local Councillors Louise Baldock and Wendy Simon.

Kensington Regeneration Board Member Pat Doyle commented: "We have become aware of some tragic incidents involving local people who have died as a result of carbon monoxide poisoning, and we want to make sure this does not happen again.

"There are many people, often in rented accommodation, relying on very old gas heaters and these are the people most at risk who we want to protect."

Warning signs to look for in your home include gas flames that are normally blue burning yellow or orange and sooty stains on or above appliances.

Symptoms of low-level poisoning include tiredness, dizziness, severe headaches and nausea.



Maria Curran of Kensington Regeneration is pictured (centre) with Community Wardens Julie Ginley (left) and Michelle Hassan distributing detectors to residents in Lorne Street.

# kensington community awards '08

## who were your favourites?

In this special four-page supplement we look back at the 2008 Kensington Community Awards ceremony at the Devonshire House Hotel.

The words and pictures on the following pages tell the story of a memorable fifth awards evening which celebrated all that's best about community spirit in Kensington.



Left to right – Tony and Alison Smith with Older Volunteer of the Year finalists Deborah and Jim Huthwaite.



Ladies day – Maria Curran of Kensington Regeneration (right) with Community Warden Sue Tracey.



Jockeying for position – Kensington Regeneration's Martin Pinder gets in the racing mood.



Culture Champion Award finalist Siddi Majubah.



Community Warden Ray Condell keeps an eye on the progress of his horse.



Royal Ascot-style headgear for Kensington Regeneration Board Member Enid Bristow and daughter Jeanette.



Leading lights – Councillor Bradley (centre) with (left to right) Richie Keenan, Norma Williams, Anne-Marie Turner and Laura Pover of Kensington Regeneration.



Heart of Gold finalist Connie Wray (left) with Nancy Rix.

# It's a photo finish!

**Kensington Community Awards celebrated their fifth birthday in 2008 and they're still getting bigger and better every year!**

That was the verdict of the 150 guests who attended this year's presentation ceremony at the Devonshire House Hotel on Edge Lane.

Kensington Regeneration had chosen a horse racing theme for the evening, and many residents took this as their cue to dress up to the nines in a style that would have graced Grand National Saturday at Aintree.

No doubt they felt very much at home when they arrived in the Marquee Suite to find it decorated with a host of colourful racing memorabilia, and again later after the awards when they had the chance to take part in a race night featuring top attractions like the Fairfield Gallop and the Kensington Fields Chase!

The evening began with a drinks reception, during which guests had the opportunity to enjoy some spectacular close-up magic from Philip Partridge, and to have caricatures of themselves drawn by award-winning cartoonist John Roberts.

Following a three-course dinner, the awards ceremony was introduced by Kensington Regeneration Chief Executive Lynn Spencer who said: "Tonight is all about celebrating the amazing people who live in Kensington, and the way their kindness helps to improve the lives of others day after day, week after week."

"These awards are a token of our affection, our gratitude and our respect for what they do for their community."

The host for the evening was John Nelson, whose polished delivery and humorous tone reflected his impressive track record in corporate entertaining and compering charity fundraising events.

As John pointed out, the evening was about saying thank you to individuals and also to the community as a whole for working together to create a better Kensington.

This theme was taken up by one of the VIP guests at the event, the Leader of Liverpool City Council, Councillor Warren Bradley, who presented the Good Neighbour Award.

He said: "People in this city are the salt of the earth and these awards are all about celebrating what real people are doing to make a difference in their neighbourhoods."

"It's important to honour what these individuals have done, and also to recognise what Kensington Regeneration has achieved over the last few years in terms of improving life in the area. My message to everyone is keep going!"

Looking back at the 2008 Community Awards, Lynn Spencer said: "We had a large number of entries again this year and, as ever, choosing a winner in each category was a very difficult job."

"However, I believe the nine award winners show the wide variety of good work that is being done in Kensington by caring members of the local community."

"As for the awards evening itself there was a great atmosphere and the race night afterwards was really exciting. Our job now is to come up with a theme that will capture the imagination of guests in the same way for 2009!"



Kensington Police Team guests (l to r) Dave Charnock, Penny Harvey, Rob Moore, George Rees and Chris Milner.



A souvenir of the evening for Cllr Bradley and his wife Pauline.



High fashion from (l to r) Betty Harris, Violet Flynn and Gladwys Williamson.



Another caricature 'victim' for artist John Roberts.



Black and Racial Minorities Volunteer of the Year finalist Saul Marks with his guest Leanne Matalon.

Roll of honour - this year's winners and finalists.



Resident of the Year finalist Bernie Hunt and Maureen Hunt.



Community Learning Award finalist Benvinda Graham with daughter Orlinba.

# first past the post...

Nine awards were presented for 2008 – the eight traditional honours as on previous occasions plus a special award marking Liverpool's Capital of Culture Year. Here are the full details of the winners and the finalists who were literally 'pipped at the post'.



## Resident of the Year

**Kensington's Resident of the Year for 2008 is Barbara Disley of Cheviot Road.**

Barbara Disley collected the top honour at the 2008 Kensington Community Awards after receiving a clutch of nominations praising her work on the community garden at the end of Cheviot Road.

Described as a 'good neighbour who looks out for everyone' Barbara was praised for working tirelessly to bring local residents together and creating a community spirit in the area of which everyone can be proud.

Activities in the garden have included a street party, an Easter egg hunt, a summer feature including scarecrows and pixies and a special Christmas creation for local children.

The other local people shortlisted in the Resident of the Year category were Bernie Hunt for his work with the Kensington Fields community and Jan Kelly for her work as Chair of the Holt Road Housing Focus Group and with the Friends of Botanic Park.

**The Resident of the Year trophy was presented by Tim Slack of Appreciating People who sponsored the award**



## Culture Champion 2008 Award

**The winners of the Culture Champion 2008 Award are George and Gosia McKane of the Yellow House arts project in Marmaduke Street.**

Yellow House works with disaffected young people in Kensington, helping them to improve their lives and develop as individuals by taking part in a wide range of free arts activities including painting, theatre and film.

George and Gosia were nominated for this special award marking Liverpool's Capital of Culture year for running 'a brilliant youth theatre catering for young people usually ignored by the rest of society'.

The nomination also pointed out that the couple have 'done this for more than 20 years, despite all the struggles for funding'.

The other people shortlisted for this award were All Nations Cup organiser Siddi Majubah, for his work promoting cultural diversity and breaking down barriers between communities, and Steve Faragher and Wendy Miller for their work on the development of community radio in the area.

**The Culture Champion 2008 Award was presented by sculptor Stephen Broadbent and sponsored by Kaleidoscope Advertising Design and Marketing.**



## Black and Racial Minorities Volunteer of the Year

**Kensington's Black and Racial Minorities Volunteer of the Year is Ashton Gibiliru of Southbank Road.**

Ashton was recognised for being 'friendly, hardworking and committed to Kensington'. For his 'day job' he works as a trainee co-ordinating the activities of Kensington United Community Football, but working as a volunteer he has also organised football tournaments as part of the 2008 Chinese New Year celebrations and the 2007 Kick Racism Out Week.

The nomination said that 'like his grandad, the much-loved Ghanian boxing champion Sugar Gibiliru, Ashton is a committed sports person and a role model in the area'.

The other finalists in this category were Yvonne Marufu, described as a 'very helpful and enthusiastic young woman' who played a key role in Kensington's International Women's Day celebrations in March this year, and Saul Marks, nominated for his work over the last three years on the regeneration of the historic Jewish cemetery on Deane Road.

**The Black and Racial Minorities Volunteer of the Year trophy was presented by James Berry of Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service who sponsored the award.**



## Older Volunteer of the Year

**Marie McDonald was recognised for her work in support of the regeneration of the Edge Hill area. She attends all the local meetings, and was closely involved with the project to provide residents with carbon monoxide alarms.**

The nomination also praised the way she has helped friends and neighbours who are unwell and 'will drop everything to help them out'.

Marie was described as 'a supportive neighbour and a wonderful individual who will always go that extra mile'.

The other finalists in this category were Jim and Deborah Huthwaite of Holland Street.

This couple were recognised for the wide range of community activities they are involved in which include supporting Fairfield Residents' Association, tackling DIY-type jobs for neighbours and looking after refugees who are new to the area.

**The Older Volunteer of the Year trophy was presented by Robin Baynes of New Start who sponsored the award.**



Saying it with flowers – Kensington's Young Citizen of the Year Sophie Hamlett.



more winners...



## Community Learning Award

The winner of the 2008 Community Learning Award is Barbara Galt of Cotswold Street in Kensington.

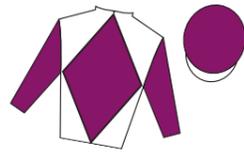
This category attracted a lot of entries this year with Barbara Galt being honoured both for her academic success and her commitment to give something back to the local community.

At the age of 65 Barbara graduated from Wirral Metropolitan College with a BA in Fine Arts after receiving support from the Kensington Community Bursary Project.

Since then, focusing on the theme that you're never too old to learn, she has set up a project giving older members of the community the opportunity to get involved in arts and crafts.

Residents aged from 50 to 90 attend the weekly sessions at Metal in Marmaduke Street. The other local people shortlisted for this award were Benvinda Graham, who has achieved a string of qualifications at Kensington Community Learning Centre despite mobility problems caused by rheumatoid arthritis, and Catherine Harrison who has also obtained many new skills at the Learning Centre and put them to good use working as a volunteer and supporting other students.

The Community Learning Award was presented by Tony Baines of Greater Merseyside Learning and Skills Council who sponsored this category.



## Carer of the Year

Kensington's Carer of the Year is Pat Rekhi of Stanley Street.

Pat Rekhi collected the 2008 Carer of the Year Award after receiving several nominations from grateful residents.

They all stressed that, despite the illnesses affecting members of her own family, she is always ready to offer a helping hand to her neighbours.

One said that she is 'honest, kind and willing to do anything for anyone'. Another observed that he had 'never seen anyone so dedicated to helping other people as Pat'. Yet another neighbour explained that it was only through Pat's help that he was able to get through a very difficult period following the death of his wife.

The other finalists in the Carer of the Year category were Irene Power, who provides ongoing help and support to her housebound neighbour, and husband-and-wife team Pat and Tommy Hobart who were described as 'wonderful people' when people are in need.

The Carer of the Year trophy was presented by Ann Keenan of Liverpool Primary Care Trust who sponsored the award.



## Heart of Gold Award

The winner of the 2008 Heart of Gold Award is Edna Towner of Hall Lane.

Edna, a pensioner who has lived in the Kensington area throughout her married life, was honoured for taking a keen interest in keeping her neighbourhood clean and tidy and for her vigilance in keeping a close eye on an elderly neighbour and friend.

The nomination said that Edna has 'more than a heart of gold - she is a nine carat diamond, a wonderful lady who really deserves to be nominated for this award'.

The other Heart of Gold finalists were Connie Wray, who runs a club providing a wide range of activities for pensioners in Kensington Fields, and Vi Healey, praised for her friendly, caring and generous personality and for her good humour, despite not enjoying the best of health herself.

The Heart of Gold Award was presented by Linda Raffae of HSBC Bank who sponsored this category.



## Young Citizen of the Year

The winner of the 2008 Young Citizen of the Year Award is 14-year-old Sophie Hamlett of Edge Hill Youth Club.

Sophie was nominated for this award for being 'a dynamic, quirky, funny, friendly and beautiful young person' who is always on hand to welcome new members to Edge Hill Youth Club and to get involved in both serious and fun activities at the centre.

The nomination also stressed her significant contribution to a local community safety project and her support for the wider regeneration of the area saying 'her enthusiasm in all she does to make Edge Hill a great place to be makes her an excellent youth advocate'.

The other young people shortlisted in this category were Stephanie Hackett, also recognised for her contribution to Edge Hill Youth Club in terms of drama and supporting younger members, and Liam Hussey, described as a 'great role model' for his work with EAGERS and Kensington Vision.

The Young Citizen of the Year trophy was presented by Pam Welford of Community Seven who sponsored the award.



## Good Neighbour Award

The winner of the 2008 Good Neighbour Award is Cath Pendleton of Old College Place.

This award also attracted a particularly large number of entries this year. Cath Pendleton - a pensioner herself - was honoured for her work looking after her elderly neighbours in a sheltered accommodation scheme.

The nomination described her as a 'caring, approachable and loving person who always puts others before herself'. It also said that 'her tireless dedication to others is commendable' and that 'without her many of the elderly residents would struggle'.

Remarkably, Cath also finds time to attend community safety meetings and get involved in other community activities in the area.

The other Good Neighbour Award finalists this year were Marie Hankin and Pat Moffitt of the Crosfield Estate who were praised for being helpful and friendly, going out of their way to help others and for organising events for residents, particularly children and pensioners.

The Good Neighbour Award was sponsored by Liverpool City Council and presented by Council Leader Warren Bradley.



Rob Moore will be spending a day at Aintree after romping home in first place in the race night competition.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



PROJECT FOCUS

# KENSINGTON COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTRE

## Outstanding few months for KCLC

**It's been a remarkable few months for Kensington Community Learning Centre and all the indications are that the best is yet to come.**

After being selected as the North West's flagship UK Online Centre in the autumn, and then landing an important Government contract to raise awareness of the new NHS Choices website in the region, KCLC has just been shortlisted in the Outstanding Centre category of the prestigious UK Online Centres Awards.

In addition the case histories of two centre users - Roy Pearman and Andrew Hudson - have also been shortlisted in the Outstanding Achievement category of the awards so Kensington could potentially be a winner three times over!

Understandably, Centre Manager Alan Tapp is delighted with the latest news: "We would love to win this award, but as there are more than 6,000 Online Centres across the country just being selected as one of the five finalists is a fantastic achievement in itself.

"We'll be travelling down to the awards ceremony at the historic Globe Theatre in London on 24 June with our fingers crossed for KCLC and of course for Roy and Andrew as well. Whatever the outcome, it will be a great opportunity to fly the flag for Kensington at a major national event."

The Learning Centre's latest run of success began in October when it was honoured with flagship status as part of Get Online Day celebrations, an initiative to encourage people to take advantage

of all the positive benefits the Internet has to offer. KCLC staff proved themselves more than worthy of this accolade - they got more people involved on the day than any other centre in the country!

They followed this success by winning the contract to promote the new NHS Choices website, a remarkable new resource featuring more than 80,000 pages of health-related information.

The Learning Centre's role is to 'teach the teachers' by recruiting other organisations from all over the North West and training them in the benefits of the site which they can then pass on to their clients and customers.

"The NHS site is the best Government site of its type I've ever seen," says Alan Tapp.

"It contains a fantastic amount of useful information and our job is

to get this message out across the region and to train organisations in how to get the best out of it."

As part of this training Alan will also be passing on some of the secrets of KCLC's success in engaging with local people.

When he arrived at the centre four years ago it was running four courses for just 15 people a week. Now it offers a range of around 30 courses which attract more than 250 students a week.

Understandably, other centres are keen to hear how this has been achieved and how they can follow in Kensington's footsteps.

"It's been a great few months for KCLC," says Alan Tapp. "The centre is now widely regarded as an example of best practice in our field and our job now is to maximise the benefits of this status for our clients and for Kensington as a whole."



More students are now using the centre than ever before.



## CENTRE LANDS NHS CONTRACT

**Kensington Community Learning Centre has been appointed by the Government to raise awareness of the NHS Choices website from Cheshire up to the Scottish border.**

However, Centre Manager Alan Tapp is quick to point out that this training is also available to groups and individuals in Kensington.

"Everyone can benefit from the wealth of information on the www.nhs.uk site which is presented in a logical and attractive way," he explains. "I would urge Kensington organisations and residents to get in touch with us and to arrange to come in and find out more about it."

The NHS Choices site is divided into three main areas. The Live Well section focuses on preventing ill health by looking at key topics such as diet, fitness, smoking, alcohol and drugs.

There are case histories of people affected by these issues, and tips on how to quit smoking, reduce your drinking and lose weight. The site also lists sources of local support for your postcode area, and provides information on how to obtain items such as nicotine patches and gum free of charge.

The second Health A-Z section currently features information on more than 700 conditions and this is expanding all the time.

Visitors to the site can find out more about everything from abscesses to yellow fever.

In each case NHS Choices explains the symptoms, what causes the condition, how it can be treated and how lifestyle changes can help to prevent it.

The third Find Services section enables site users to find out more about all the health services in their community. For example, they can find out which hospital offers a particular treatment and their track record in the procedure, the waiting time for treatment, how long they would be likely to spend in hospital and even comments from previous patients on the service they have received.

Add to all this a series of useful tools such as an interactive first aid kit and symptom checkers for conditions like asthma and diabetes, plus a section on sorting out the fact from the fiction in the health stories that appear in the newspapers, and it's clear that www.nhs.uk is an amazing resource for people of all ages.

"With a little bit of training we can really help people to get the best out of this site," says Alan Tapp. "Having said this, it's important to stress that we're not claiming to be health experts. Our job is to give people the information they need to make their own judgement on what's best for them."

\*For more information on NHS Choices website training ring Kensington Community Learning Centre on 0151-260 1006.



## Alicia has first novel published

**A former client of Kensington Community Learning Centre has just had her first novel published.**

Alicia Rose's book RIP is the story of a photographer who finds his desire to commit suicide leads him down a very dark path.

Alicia is on record as saying that the new skills she acquired at KCLC were vital in terms of helping her to embark on her new writing career.

Centre Manager Alan Tapp was invited to the launch of the novel and is pictured with Alicia at the 'grave' occasion!



Centre Manager Alan Tapp discusses the NHS contract with Tutor Debbie Derbyshire.

# Success for choir

**A group of Kensington youngsters who have only been singing together for a few months were invited to perform in a competition at London's Royal Albert Hall recently.**

The 22-strong ensemble from the Academy of St Francis of Assisi were among 10 schools taking part in the Opal Choir Project in front of an audience of more than 3,000 music lovers at the prestigious venue.

The choir finished a very respectable third in the contest which is designed to ignite young people's interest in music.

The judges at the event included Classic FM presenter and former Radio 1 DJ Simon Bates.

A spokesman for the event said: "The aim of the project is to provide each of the children taking part with a truly memorable experience and a wonderful sense of achievement."





## My Kenny

"The motto of EAGERS is 'always eager to make a difference' and that's what we try to do in Fairfield. We arrange activities and trips for young people with Kensington Regeneration funding and the response has been very encouraging."

Liam Hussey  
Chair of EAGERS



The Police Team were also honoured recently in the Merseyside Total Policing Awards.

# Starring role for the Kensington Police Team

**The Kensington Police Team has played a starring role in a new advertising campaign promoting the benefits of neighbourhood policing.**

A series of features in local newspapers has highlighted the successful way officers have broken down barriers between the police and local residents.

The team is praised for the effective way it has tackled crime and anti-social behaviour and for its involvement in local projects including

community safety strategies, hate crime reporting, youth inclusion and domestic violence campaigns.

Enid Bristow of Needham Road Residents' Association, and a Kensington Regeneration Board Member, is quoted in the campaign.

She said: "The officers have been brilliant in working with us on lots of different things. They have helped us to sort out anti-social behaviour in the area by making sure the community was told of what was happening."



Kensington Regeneration Board Member Enid Bristow receives some expert advice on ball skills.

# HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS NEW YORK TO NEW DEAL



Tall story – a young Kensington resident gets a close-up view of the benefits of eating all your greens!

**Sporting legends the Harlem Globetrotters visited Kensington recently as part of a whistlestop tour of Liverpool.**

Residents at the Life Bank welcomed four stars of the New York basketball team – Scooter Christensen, Hot Shot Branch, Moo Moo Evans and Stormin Norman.

The Globetrotters were in Liverpool to play the Everton Tigers, the city's own professional team.

During their visit to Kensington the players spoke to children about the importance of fitness and healthy eating and took part in an impromptu exercise session with local women. They also chatted to

families, signed autographs and offered basketball tips to residents of all ages.

Kensington Regeneration Chief Executive, Lynn Spencer, said: "The Harlem Globetrotters have been a legendary sporting institution for decades so we were absolutely delighted to welcome them to the area.

"They were a big hit with local people and helped us to get across a key message of our programme about the importance of healthy lifestyles.

"It clearly works for them, so we hope people will want to follow in their footsteps," added Lynn.

# Summer Fun Day to be held on July 12th

**Make a date in your diary – the Kensington Summer Fun Day will be back, bigger and better than ever, on Saturday July 12th.**

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

The fifth Fun Day in the New Deal area will be opened by actress Emma Rigby, alias Hannah Ashworth in the hit TV series Hollyoaks.

Emma is currently riding on the crest of a wave having been honoured as Best Actress in the British Soap Awards 2008 for her involvement in a hard-hitting storyline about the consequences of anorexia.

The Fun Day – which attracted around 6,000 local residents last year – will again be compered by popular BBC Radio Merseyside presenter Alan Jackson who has done such a good job in previous years.

Visitors will be able to enjoy a wide range of stalls, display stands, workshops and exhibitions as well as musical performances, a mini farm, amusement park rides, sports taster sessions, giveaways and much, much more.

The event is being organised by Kensington Regeneration Communications Officer, Kris Waite, who said: "Planning for the Fun Day is going very well



and this year's programme has been developed in the light of suggestions and comments we received from residents about last year's event.

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

Kris also pointed out that the Fun Day is a great way for community groups and voluntary organisations to showcase the work they do to an audience of Kensington residents.

"There's still time for groups to get involved in the event," he explained. "However, 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 showground."

\*For more information about the Kensington Summer Fun Day, or to book a slot at the event, ring Leisa Workman on 0151-706 9984.



Flashback to the 2007 event attended by around 6,000 local residents.



The new grant scheme will support groups working with local residents of all ages.

## Kensington Regeneration unveils new-look grants scheme

**Kensington Regeneration is inviting applications from local groups for small grants from its new-look Community Fund project.**

The Community Fund will provide up to 100 per cent of the cost of community-led projects and initiatives that can make a contribution towards achieving the aims of the New Deal programme.

In future, applications for funding will be accepted from community organisations and from social enterprises either based in Kensington NDC area, or based outside the area but working mainly with Kensington residents.

Grants of up to £5,000 will be available to:

- Community and voluntary organisations seeking to develop ideas or grow.
- Community and voluntary organisations looking to develop income-generating activities.

- Social enterprises seeking to develop or grow.
  - Charitable organisations such as youth groups and play groups.
- Apart from a good idea, all that groups will need to apply for a grant is access to a bank account, a constitution or a set of rules.

There will be four stages to the application process

1. Groups will be able to register their interest in the Community Fund by completing and returning an initial enquiry form which will be available soon.
2. If the project is eligible for support the Community Fund Co-ordinator will contact you within a week of receiving the form to discuss the level of funding you might receive.
3. The Fund Co-ordinator will then help you to develop the best-possible full application.
4. You application will then be considered by the grants panel

which will meet every two months and include community representatives, the Fund Co-ordinator and Community Development Officer, Maria Curran.

Kensington Regeneration will then provide further support to successful bids and help unsuccessful applicants to develop their applications further or signpost them in the direction of other sources of funds.

Local resident Alan Grace, who Chairs the Community Fund grants panel, commented: "Many community organisations and social enterprises are doing a great job in the Kensington NDC area. The Community Fund is designed to support this work and to help groups develop new activities that will contribute towards the regeneration of the area."

\*For more information about the Community Fund contact Maria Curran on 0151-233 6136.

## Photo memories for older local residents

**A recent exhibition at St George's Hall in Liverpool put the spotlight on the personal histories of a number of older Kensington residents.**

Their stories and photographs were used to illustrate the city's rich and diverse cultural heritage.

The Rites of Passage exhibition was created by artists Leila Romaya and Paul McCann and also involved children from St Anne's Primary School.

Photographer Leila explained: "Rites of Passage was an intergenerational arts project focusing on the personal stories of older people from a wide variety of cultural and social backgrounds.

"The aim was to celebrate the wealth of experience of older residents

and to integrate that with the hopes and fears of the next young generation to increase awareness of Liverpool's history.

"It's been a really interesting project. I've learned a lot about Liverpool and about its people and the way they all link in together."

Among those taking part were Armando Capaldi, whose southern Italian family opened an ice cream parlour in Kensington, and Edwin Chime from Nigeria who for many years was a lollipop man helping children from St Anne's Primary to cross busy Wavertree Road.

The Rites of Passage exhibition was created with the help of funding from Capital of Culture and Kensington Regeneration.



Armando Capaldi looks back at a photo of himself as a young man in the family ice cream parlour.



### My Kenny

"I've spent 66 years in Fairfield, 41 of them in my present home. I really like the area and I've been very pleased to see the improvements that have been made in recent years, such as the new street lighting."

Reg Hewer  
Holly Road resident



The Bootworks Theatre Collective were a popular attraction at the event.

## Edge Hill celebrates Pavilion launch

**Kensington has been celebrating the launch of an important Capital of Culture neighbourhood project in the area.**

The disused approach to Edge Hill station has been transformed as part of the Liverpool Pavilions scheme which is creating large-scale temporary creative spaces in three different parts of the city.

The Columbian father and son artists, Luis Fernando Pelaez and Juan Manuel Pelaez, have worked with Kensington arts organisation Metal to create a new work which has been inspired by the station's historic importance, and in particular by an area of listed wooden paving.

Nexus features a network of posts

that grow in stature as they cascade down towards the station, recalling the moorings of ships which suggest the idea of travel from the past.

The new Pavilion will play host to a wide variety of cultural gatherings, performances and events throughout 2008.

According to Metal the artwork, which will be lit at night, has been designed to be 'a beacon for the area, a visual statement of ambition and aspiration for the use of the station as a cultural resource'.

Many Kensington residents took advantage of the opportunity to look round the new Pavilion and the other parts of Edge Hill Station at a Platform Party on May 3rd which

featured music, dance, film and a range of other attractions for all the family.



# FOOTBALL FOCUS

## Youth Inclusion Project footballers head to Bosnia



Organising this successful futsal tournament was one of the reasons why the players were invited to play in Bosnia.

**Young footballers from Kensington Youth Inclusion Project recently jetted off to Bosnia to take part in a major football competition.**

They were one of just three UK teams chosen to take part in Foãa 08, the first European street football festival organised by FIFA, which involved 12 European sides and 12 Balkan teams.

The players from the Nacro-managed Youth Inclusion Project were chosen because of their success in achieving football coaching qualifications, their voluntary work as community coaches and for helping to run an under-14 futsal (indoor five-a-side) tournament.

At the festival the YIP players offered to set up a football art workshop, organise futsal coaching sessions and assist medical staff as some of them are qualified in emergency aid.

Commenting ahead of the tournament, Paul Hurford, Nacro's Football Development worker in Kensington, said: "This is an amazing opportunity for our team, but it is well deserved. All of the players chosen to take part in Foãa 08 have put a lot of time and effort into developing themselves through football and futsal.

"The tournament will be an opportunity for us to demonstrate the work that we do and also to learn about other cultures, as well as some of the history of the Balkan region.

"Our players may be too young to remember the great Yugoslavian teams of the past, but they do know that Croatia beat England last year. And that's how football can help young people learn about the wider world."

## SOCCER SUCCESS FOR ST SEBASTIAN'S

**It was celebrations all round last month for Fairfield football team St Sebastian's who finished the season as champions of Division 1 of the Liverpool Business Houses League.**

The achievement means that the 40-strong squad will compete in the Premier League of the competition next season and also take part in the National Sunday League Cup which involves clubs from all over the country.

St Sebastian's could in fact have had two trophies in their cabinet at the end of the 2007/8 season.

They also reached the final of the Liverpool County FA Junior Cup, a

tournament with an original entry of 400 teams, only to fall at the final hurdle.

Team Secretary John Milligan said: "It's been a brilliant season, with an impressive title run. The performance of the players has been outstanding.

"Winning the league and getting to the cup final is a major achievement and certainly something to be proud of.

"It has to be said though that we simply couldn't have done any of it without the support of Kensington Regeneration who have funded coaching and equipment which are two essentials for team success."



The successful team with their Spanish trophies.

## Majorca football success for Birchfield Youth Group

**Young footballers from Kensington's Birchfield Youth Group recently beat off the challenge of teams from as far afield as Argentina to win a five-a-side football tournament in Majorca.**

16 teams competed in the event which saw the Kensington lads winning all six of their games without conceding a goal.

According to Youth Development Worker Michael Salla, who co-

ordinated the Spanish trip, tournament organisers said that the Birchfield team were the most talented players to take part in the event in its five-year history.

Michael said the competition was also very useful in helping group members to relate to the people and cultures of other countries.

The Spanish tour was made possible thanks to funding from Kensington Regeneration, Community Seven and Elect.



St Sebastian's skipper James Hengler with his victorious squad.

**kensington community sports centre**

Now open on Jubilee Drive. Join today for FREE and access all this:

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- Price discounts
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Kensington Community Sports Centre, Jubilee Drive, Kensington, Liverpool L7 8SJ. Tel: 0151 261 9598 Fax: 0151 261 9849

## other languages

For further information contact Kensington Regeneration on 0151 233 6136.

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Po dalsze informacje należy skontaktować się z Kensington Regeneration pod numerem telefonu 233 6136.

## notice board

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**Upcoming dates for your diary:**

**Liverpool International Tennis Tournament 2008 – Calderstones Park**  
Tuesday 10th – Sunday 15th June

**Newsham Arts Festival**  
Saturday 28th June  
11am – 5pm

**Metal Pavilion Project at Edge Hill Station**  
3rd May – end of 2008

**Summer Fun Day**  
Saturday 12th July  
11am – 5pm

**Liverpool Hospitality – Tall Ships Race 2008**  
Friday 18th – Monday 21st July

The Kensington Regeneration website can be accessed at: [www.kensingtonregeneration.com](http://www.kensingtonregeneration.com)

## 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!**

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