

For further information contact Kensington  
Regeneration on 0151 233 6136.

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edgehill fairfield hollyroad holtroad kensington fields

September 2008 Issue 30

# kensington news

Local views, local issues

## ...STOP PRESS...

### Awards Success

Kensington Regeneration  
has been nominated for  
two prestigious honours in  
the national Regeneration  
and Renewal Awards.  
Kensington Community  
Learning Centre has been  
shortlisted in the Social  
Regeneration Project of  
the Year category.

Board Member Norma Lee  
has been nominated for the  
Award for Volunteering in  
Regeneration.

The results will be  
announced at a ceremony  
in London later  
this month.

## ...STOP PRESS...



### New York firefighters visit Kensington

A team of New York firefighters took time out of the recent World Firefighter Games in Liverpool to visit youngsters in Kensington.

They were keen to thank staff and children involved with local education charity Prospects 2000 who sponsored five members of the Big Apple team as part of their fire awareness project. **For more details see page 7.**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE



**2008 fun day  
is the best ever**  
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**Festival focus is  
on African culture**  
PAGE 7

# Residents invited to 2008 public meeting

**Kensington residents have  
the chance to find out more  
about the progress of  
regeneration work in the  
area at a special event later  
this month.**

Kensington Regeneration's Annual  
Public Meeting takes place in a new  
venue this year - the Life Bank on  
Quorn Street - between 6-8pm on  
Thursday September 25th.

There will be an opportunity to  
hear about the organisation's  
achievements over the last 12  
months and its plans for the future.

The annual report document  
included with this issue of  
Kensington News provides a  
summary of the information which  
will be covered in more detail at the  
Annual Public Meeting.

The event will also feature displays  
from Kensington Regeneration's key  
partners and projects, round table  
discussions and free refreshments.

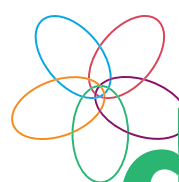
Norma Williams, Chair of  
Kensington Regeneration,  
commented: "The Annual Public  
Meeting is one of the key events in  
our calendar and we're hoping for a  
very good turnout at the event.

"We want people to come along  
and have their say on what we've  
done over the past year and let us  
have their views on our future plans.

"This year's meeting will be

slightly different than previous  
occasions because local people will  
have received the annual report  
included with this newsletter in  
advance of the event.

"We hope that residents will find  
this useful and that, as a result,  
the discussions at the meeting  
will be particularly wide ranging  
and lively.



## deliverington

**If the Kensington Regeneration annual report is not attached here  
please ring 0151-233 6136 and a copy will be posted out to you.**



# WELCOME TO KENSINGTON NEWS

This issue of Kensington News is introduced by Enid Bristow, Kensington Regeneration.

## I am very pleased to welcome you to the September issue of Kensington News.

It's been the busiest time of the year for events in our area and you can read all about our Summer Fun Day, the African Festival and the Botanic Park Fun Day in the following pages.

They were all great successes, with our Fun Day once again attracting thousands of local people to Fairfield Police Club to enjoy the wide variety of entertainment and activities on offer.

This event just gets bigger and better every year and plans are now in the pipeline to make our final Fun Day in 2009 the best ever, so watch this space!

Another important event - the Kensington Regeneration Annual Public Meeting - will take place later this month at the Life Bank.

This is your chance to find out more about the progress we've made over the last year, and the plans we've got for the next 12 months. So come along and have your say - the views of local residents are at the heart of our regeneration programme for the area.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll be able to read about a

wide range of local developments, from a visit by a group of New York firefighters to a special event looking back at the Holocaust and similar tragedies from a Kensington perspective.

One article of particular interest is an interview with the Chief Executive of the Royal Liverpool Hospital, Tony Bell. He is very positive about the benefits for Kensington of the planned new hospital - especially in terms of jobs - so it's well worth reading.

I hope you enjoy this issue of Kensington News. As always, 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  
**Enid Bristow**  
Kensington Regeneration



## Kensington centre triumphs in national awards scheme

### Kensington Community Learning Centre recently landed two top honours in the prestigious UK Online Centres Awards.

The facility itself won an Outstanding Centre Award, recognising it as one of the best in the country.

Meanwhile, student Roy Pearman won the top individual award in the Outstanding Achievement category, recognising his progress in using his new IT skills to change his life for the better.

Alan Tapp, Centre Manager at Kensington Community Learning Centre, said "I'm delighted at Roy's success because he thoroughly

deserves it. He's never given up and he's worked incredibly hard. He's living proof that learning and technology can change lives."

Alan and Roy collected their awards at a ceremony at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London at which the VIP guest presenters were Digital Inclusion Minister Paul Murphy and GMTV's Andrea McLean.

Paul Murphy commented: "Kensington Community Learning Centre has done wonderful things in the local community to help people like Roy use technology to overcome their barriers and achieve their goals."

Alan Tapp (left) and Roy Pearman receive their awards from Andrea McLean.



Cllr Fielding (front) helps to get work under way with (left to right) Norma Lee, Liverpool's Assistant Executive Director Community Services Cath Green, Cllr Laurence Sidorcuk and Norma Williams.

## Work begins on Edge Hill redevelopment programme

### Plans for a major redevelopment programme in Edge Hill have taken an important step forward.

Work has begun on the first phase of the demolition of older terraced properties in the area as part of Merseyside's NewHeartlands Housing Market Renewal programme.

These houses will be replaced with 300 brand new family homes with gardens, safe routes to schools, green streets to local parks, a community hub and space for shops and businesses.

Local residents who have been displaced by the programme were given first option on new housing developments in the area at Tunnel Road, Gilead Street

and Lomond Road.

Norma Lee, Chair of the Edge Hill Housing and Issues Focus Group, and Norma Williams, Chair of Kensington Regeneration, have both worked tirelessly to represent the views of local people in recent years.

Norma Lee commented: "We realised that drastic changes were necessary in the area, and this is the real beginning of them. The start of demolition has taken us one step closer to it all becoming a reality.

"I have lived in Edge Hill all my life and in my present home for the last 49 years. Leaving it will be a very emotional time, but I am looking forward to making a new start. It's been a long process, but it will

be worth it."

Marilyn Fielding, Liverpool City Council Executive Member for Safer, Stronger Communities and a NewHeartlands Board Member, said: "We are delighted that the transformation of Edge Hill is now becoming a reality.

"To get to this stage a lot of hard work has been done by Liverpool City Council, by Kensington Regeneration, by the Housing Market Renewal team, by residents and by other partners.

"By continuing to pull together we can build on the existing strengths of this community to make it a fantastic place to live," added Councillor Fielding.

## MINISTER'S FACT-FINDING VISIT TO NEW DEAL AREA

### A leading Government Minister recently made a fact-finding visit to Kensington.

Baroness Andrews, Under Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, was the guest of Kensington Regeneration as she visited a number of local facilities including Kensington Community Learning Centre, the Life Bank, HEAT and the Academy of St Francis of Assisi.

Other ports of call included Kensington Community Sports Centre and the new housing development at Gilead Street.

At the Learning Centre the Minister was told that more than 2,500 students have registered with the facility - including 950 from black and ethnic minority backgrounds - and that they have gained a total of 2,000 qualifications.

Baroness Andrews said: "This

must be one of the proudest success stories for Kensington Regeneration, with local people receiving free training and hundreds going into further training or into jobs as a result.

"This New Deal for Communities initiative has had a very real impact on the local community and this centre is just one of the projects that will form Kensington Regeneration's legacy, long into the future."



From left, Baroness Andrews learns more from student Stephanie Chean and KCLC Tutor Kathy Low.



# New welcome pack for refugees and asylum seekers

**A new welcome pack is now available for refugees and asylum seekers who want to live in Kensington.**

Kensington Regeneration recently launched the publication which is based on research into the needs of black and ethnic minority residents and is available in nine languages.

The pack includes a wide range of useful information including sections on jobs and training, education, finance, housing, health, crime prevention and keeping safe, fire safety, transport and local authority and community services.

The new pack has been welcomed by local resident Aime-Claude Ndongezi who came to Liverpool eight years ago from war-torn Rwanda with just ten pounds in his pocket and no idea

where to turn for help. Aime-Claude, who now runs a consultancy dealing with asylum issues, said: "When I arrived in Kensington I felt really isolated. Not having any information was a big problem and it is especially hard for people who cannot speak English. "Everything is very different from countries such as Rwanda but this pack explains how everything is done here, which is exactly what is needed." Kensington Regeneration Board Member, John Caton, commented: "Most of us don't realise the practical difficulties facing people arriving in this country. "I am delighted that we are now able to offer some real support to help individuals and families settle in Kensington as easily as possible."



**Pictured at the launch of the pack (from left) Kensington Regeneration Board Members Doreen Morris and John Caton, Project Co-ordinator Paula Murawski and Aime-Claude Ndongezi.**

# KENSINGTON REGENERATION STAGES ITS MOST SUCCESSFUL JOBS FAIR EVER

**Kensington Regeneration recently organised the most successful jobs fair in its eight-year history.** Around 250 local residents attended the event to find out more about vacancies in city centre shops, construction, seafaring, security, the NHS and other sectors. A team from Liverpool's Shop for Jobs recruitment agency signed up 120 local residents keen to take up opportunities in Liverpool One and elsewhere in the city. Joanne Furlong from the agency

explained: "It was brilliant - I have never seen so many people at a jobs fair. I only took 30 forms to the event and had to send out for a lot more. "I also lost my voice after talking non-stop for four hours to people who wanted to know about the retail vacancies," she said. Kensington Regeneration Board Member, John Caton, added: "There was an amazing response to this event. We had more than double the number attending than our previously best-attended fair. I hope it results in lots of new jobs for local residents."



# Residents go back in time on day trip

**Residents at the Lathom Court sheltered accommodation complex in Laurel Road went back in time on a recent day trip.** They visited Rivington Hall Barn, a listed building with a genuine Anglo Saxon design, in the village of Rivington on the West Pennine Moors. The village and the surrounding countryside is a conservation area and a place of stunning beauty. During the day the trippers enjoyed a meal, bingo and other entertainment. They are pictured setting off from Kensington with organiser Bill Mills, Chair of Lathom Court Tenants' Association.



# Grants available to Kensington community groups

**Local groups are being reminded that they can apply for small grants from Kensington's Community Fund.** The fund – managed by Kensington Regeneration Community Interest Company - will provide up to 100 per cent of the cost of community projects and initiatives that can make a contribution towards achieving the wider aims of the New Deal programme. Applications are being accepted from community organisations and from social enterprises that are based in the Kensington Regeneration area. Grants of up to £5,000 are available to:

- Community and voluntary organisations looking to develop new activities.
- Charitable organisations such as youth clubs or play groups.

Apart from a good idea, all that groups need to apply for a grant is access to a bank account and a constitution or a set of rules. Alan Grace, a local resident who chairs the Community Fund grants panel, commented: "Many community organisations are doing a great job in the Kensington NDC area. "The Community Fund is designed to support their work and to help them develop new activities that will contribute towards the regeneration of the area."

**For more information about the Community Fund contact Anne-Marie Turner on 0151-233 6133.**

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Spanish success** Congratulations to St Sebastian's Primary in Fairfield which was named as the best Spanish-speaking school in the country. The school landed the award after impressing judges from the London office of the Spanish Ministry for Education. Pupils dressed up in flamenco outfits and Spanish football kits at a special event to mark the success.

**Community award** Kensington housing association Community Seven has been shortlisted in the Community-led Organisation of the Year category in the prestigious Regeneration and Renewal Awards. The results were due to be announced as this issue of Kensington News went to press.

**Attendance prize** Six pupils at Phoenix Primary in Kensington were recently rewarded for their 100 per cent attendance record during the school year. The youngsters were given a limousine ride round Liverpool as a prize in a competition to boost school attendance organised by Liverpool City Council Education Department and Radio City 96.7.

**Positive poster** There was a good turnout for the official launch of the new Fairfield Community Poster recently with more than 60 residents and representatives of local organisations attending the event. The poster - created as part of the Credheadz community initiative - is designed to highlight all the positive aspects of life in the area.

**Health grants** Grants of up to £5,000 are now available from Liverpool Primary Care Trust to help community groups in Kensington promote health in the area. The Community Health Grants Scheme is open to not-for-profit organisations, children's centres and schools. Ring 0151-296 7422 for an application form.

**Clean sweep** The Kensington Clean Team has taken delivery of a new £30,000 street cleaning machine which will bring a shine to every road in the area. The machine will enable the ten-man team to offer a new service in addition to clearing rubbish and grotspots and maintaining green spaces and community gardens.







VIP guest Emma Rigby shares a joke with compere Alan Jackson.



Hat trick - PC Gaynor Corrie helps two young Kensington residents to try on some police headgear

"The event was enjoyed by thousands of people during the course of the day."



Lucky dip - Sue Robinson (left) and another woman invite youngsters to have a go at the tombola.

"The challenge now is to make the event even bigger and better in 2009."

Kensington Regeneration's 2008 Summer Fun Day beat the British weather and turned out to be another spectacular success.

# Summer Fun Day is a spectacular



Fashionable four - local youngsters pictured in their Kensington Regeneration T-shirts.



Put your back into it - one of the tug of war teams in action.

Liver birdy song - Linda Farrell and Jeff Jackson from Home Grown Music.



As in 2007, heavy downpours had been a real concern for the organisers in the days leading up to the event at Fairfield Police Club on July 12th.

However, the rain cleared and the sun shone for long periods on the Fun Day itself and thousands of Kensington residents turned out to enjoy the wide variety of activities and entertainment on offer.

The event - supported by housing association Community Seven - was officially opened by actress Emma Rigby, alias Hannah Ashworth in the hit TV series Hollyoaks.

Emma - who was making her third visit to the event - is currently riding on the crest of a wave having been honoured as Best Actress in the British Soap Awards 2008. As a result, she proved an incredibly popular choice with local people.

## DRAMATIC

After launching the day with a dramatic drum roll she spent several hours signing autographs, chatting with fans and having photos taken with them.

She also gamely volunteered to have a go at the egg and spoon race!

Another familiar face making a return visit to the Fun Day was compere Alan Jackson one of Radio Merseyside's leading presenters.

As in previous years he kept people fully informed about what was going on throughout the day and also conducted a series of lively interviews with the organisers,

entertainers and stall holders.

One key feature of the Fun Day that was new for 2008 was the layout, with the event arranged around a central performance area for the first time.

The feedback on this change was very positive, with the general view being that it provided more of a focus for a programme that was as wide ranging as ever.

## PERFORMANCES

Attractions included a climbing wall, an animal petting zoo, Silky Skills football coaching sessions, a fun fair, more than 40 community stalls and displays and performances by children from local schools.

There was Indian dancing, salsa dancing and a breakdancing workshop led by Siddi Majubah.

Meanwhile music ranged from the bagpipes of the Queens Own Highlanders to the strident rhythms of percussion troupe Global Pulse.

A particular highlight of this year's event was a series of fun contests which saw local people being invited to show off their skills in the egg and spoon race, the sack race, tug of war and the three-legged race.

It all added up to a very successful fifth Fun Day for Kensington Regeneration as Enid Bristow, Chair of the organisation's Communications Committee, explained: "It was an excellent event, enjoyed by thousands of local people over the course of the day.

"There were some amazing attractions and stalls provided



On the beat - residents get involved in a drumming performance.

by local community groups - I think the event just gets better every year," added Enid.

Kensington Regeneration Chief Executive, Lynn Spencer, said: "Everyone involved in the organisation of the Fun Day was delighted that it once again proved to be so popular with local people.

"The challenge for us now is to make the event even bigger, better and more popular in 2009!"

Emma Rigby - alias Hannah from Hollyoaks - signs autographs for her young fans.





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the day."



and Maureen Hunt  
the tombola.



Kensington Regeneration's George Allen hands out  
some of the Partnership's popular giveaways.



Going up in the world - children have a go at the very popular  
climbing wall.

# Success



workshop.



## SUMMER FUN DAY PRIZEWINNERS

**Winners of Kensington  
Regeneration prize draws at the  
Fun Day and at the Newsham  
Park Festival recently collected  
their prizes from the  
organisation's Job Bank HQ.**

They included a digital camera,  
an ipod and miniature versions of  
the Kennylambanana.

Pictured with Kensington  
Regeneration Operations and  
Finance Manager Anne-Marie  
Turner (centre) are (left to right)  
Mathew Johnson,  
Clare Fletcher, Chloe Dickson,  
Limya Martin, Diane Best  
and Joanne Hogg.

### THE BIG INTERVIEW

## Right royal plans for city's new hospital

**As a three-month period of consultation on a new city hospital for  
Liverpool continues, Kensington News talks about the current proposals  
to Tony Bell, Chief Executive of the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen  
University Hospitals NHS Trust.**



Few subjects generate such a  
passionate response as healthcare  
changes, so it's hardly surprising  
that there is huge interest in the  
current proposals to create a new  
Royal Liverpool Hospital for the  
21st century.

For this reason when  
Kensington News met Tony Bell,  
the man who heads up the project  
that could eventually cost close to  
£500 million, he was keen to  
share his excitement about the  
future of the Royal.



**Change is in the air for the Royal.**

"Our new hospital is going to  
be stunning," said Tony. "We have  
the opportunity to design a  
building in which all patients will  
be in single rooms and in which  
we will provide treatment with the  
latest technology.

### LANDMARK

"It will make a huge difference  
to the morale of both patients and  
staff and it will also be a  
landmark we can be proud of on  
the doorstep of the city centre and  
Kensington."

The Royal Liverpool and  
Broadgreen University Hospitals  
NHS Trust is proposing to build  
the new hospital on part of its  
existing site, at the junction of the  
planned Hall Lane bypass and  
West Derby Street.

The possibility of refurbishing  
the current hospital was rejected  
after studies found that it would  
be much more expensive and take  
far longer - and the end result  
would not be much different.

When the new hospital is  
completed, hopefully by 2015, the

old buildings will be demolished  
and parkland established in its  
place, with the possibility of  
limited health-related  
development along the Prescott  
Street end of the site. The Linda  
McCartney Centre and the Dental  
Hospital will remain.

The new building will be more  
accessible, spacious and flexible,  
with larger clinical areas and  
corridors, while all patient beds  
will be in single rooms with en-  
suite facilities.

"This is important because  
research shows that people  
recover more quickly in single  
rooms," says Tony Bell. "This is  
because it makes the whole  
hospital experience less stressful  
and more comfortable.

"It will also help to reduce  
hospital infections because it is  
more difficult for them to  
spread," adds the Royal boss.

Wards will have their own  
shared education facilities, rooms  
for private meetings with  
patients and relatives and more  
storage space.

### CONSULTATION

Tony Bell continues: "We're  
currently involved in an extensive  
consultation exercise about how  
we plan to improve the services  
we provide and also how the new  
hospital fits in with wider changes  
in health services in Liverpool.

"It is Liverpool Primary Care  
Trust who are leading the  
consultation, because a new Royal  
is part of their overall plans to  
improve the city's health service."

Up to £100 million is being  
invested by Liverpool PCT in new  
and improved community health  
facilities, more staff and an  
expansion of community-based  
health care. This will enable more  
services to be delivered closer to  
people's homes and ensure that  
services continue to meet the  
needs of the city.

The plan also involves further  
development of Broadgreen

Hospital as a centre for planned  
treatment, with the Royal focusing  
on specialist and emergency care.

A series of public meetings has  
taken place and thousands of  
letters and information documents  
have been distributed to generate  
interest and feedback about the  
proposals. The public consultation  
comes to an end on October 20th  
and the results will then be  
evaluated by Liverpool PCT.

"For people living in  
Kensington, our new hospital will  
have a huge impact. It will look  
so much better; it will have  
landscaped grounds to walk  
through, and it will tie in with the  
massive regeneration programme  
going on in the area," says the  
Royal chief.

### OPPORTUNITIES

"Also, the building work will  
involve recruiting lots of people  
and we will make sure our  
contractors target local people  
with the job opportunities.

"This is something we already  
do, as we have a very successful  
partnership with Kensington  
Regeneration and JET. We have  
around 5,000 staff which means  
there are regularly vacancies in all  
areas, not just patient care but  
also in support functions such as  
admin and IT."

Tony Bell continues: "Our aim  
is to provide services which are  
equal to the best in the world,  
in a hospital built to  
world-class standards.

"We have consulted closely  
with our clinicians and with staff  
in all areas to make sure we get  
the plans right. And now we are  
asking patients and local people  
what they think. This isn't a  
cosmetic consultation exercise -  
we really want to involve as  
many people as possible in  
making the most of this once-in-  
a-lifetime opportunity.

### OUTSTANDING

"At the end of the day our  
key objective is to provide  
outstanding care for our patients,  
and we believe this option will  
create the new hospital that local  
people deserve."

After the project is approved by  
Liverpool PCT and by the  
Strategic Health Authority, the  
tendering and design process will  
take at least until 2010.

If work then begins on site in  
2011, the new hospital could open  
its doors some time in late 2015.

"It will be a massive project,  
and a long one," says Tony Bell.  
"However, the benefits for the  
city when it is complete will  
be enormous."

**For more information about  
the remaining public meetings  
and other ways to have your  
say visit the Trust's website at  
[www.rlbuh.nhs.uk](http://www.rlbuh.nhs.uk).**



**The new hospital would be located at the junction of the planned Hall  
Lane bypass and West Derby Street.**



NEWS  
IN BRIEF

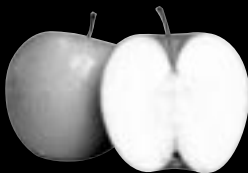
New-look park

Liverpool City Council has unveiled plans to lobby the heritage Lottery Fund for £4.5 million to breathe new life into Newsham Park. The cash would be spent on a new play area, a fitness trail, upgraded entrances, signs and lighting and lake improvements. The bandstand would also be refurbished and thousands of trees and shrubs planted.



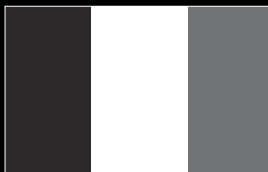
Bearing fruit

The Academy of St Francis of Assisi is one of seven city secondary schools now providing fruit vending machines for pupils. The machines - which offer apples, oranges, pears, grapes, plums and strawberries - are proving incredibly popular and have to be refilled three times a day. The City Council and Liverpool PCT are behind the healthy eating initiative.



Directors' visit

Community Seven and Riverside Housing recently played host to a group of French housing directors on a fact-finding tour of regeneration projects in the area. The visitors from Normandy were keen to pick up ideas that could be used in France, and to pass on their good practice from across the English Channel.



Walking record

Pupils at St Anne's Catholic Primary in Edge Hill recently took part in a record-breaking walk to school. 130 youngsters were amongst the 12,193 children in the North West who took part in the national Buckle My Shoe Walking Bus event organised by road safety charity Brake. The aim was to encourage drivers to slow down around schools.

Music festival

One of the most popular events in the Kensington music calendar was set to take place as this issue of Kensington News went to press. The Home Grown Music Festival in Botanic Park was scheduled to feature bands, DJs and a dance competition as well as displays, craft stalls and a range of children's activities.



Kensington gets in on the Superlambanana act



Kenny is introduced to the New Deal area by artist Barbara Galt (front) and pupils from Sacred Heart Primary School.

Kensington has been getting in on the Superlambanana act in spectacular style.

Youngsters at the Nacro Kensington Youth Inclusion Project were the first to get involved, creating a Superfiveadaybanana for display at the Walker Art Gallery.

They decorated the Liverpool icon with five fruits, highlighting the five-a-day healthy eating campaign.

More local children were then involved in creating Kenny, another addition to the city's expanding flock of artworks which was sited on the corner of Hall Lane.

Working with local artist Barbara Galt of arts organisation METAL, they covered their lambanana in a range of eye-catching illustrations of mythical beasts.

The children taking part were from the Academy of St Francis of Assisi, Sacred Heart Primary, Kensington Sure Start, Kensington Fields Community Centre, Edge Hill Youth Club and Venture Housing's Good Neighbours Day event.

KENSINGTON EVENT REMEMBERS THE HOLOCAUST

Around 80 Kensington residents attended a recent event which looked at the Holocaust from a local perspective.

The day included a lunch at which a number of local people spoke about their personal experiences of genocide and ethnic cleansing, not only in the Second World War but also in places such as Kosovo, Rwanda, Darfur and the Congo.

Guests were also shown a short film called Safe Haven which featured pupils from Kensington's Academy of St Francis of Assisi.

This was followed by a visit to the RESPECTacles exhibition at the World Museum in Liverpool, a remarkable display inspired by

photographs of the mounds of spectacles stolen from victims during the Holocaust.

Martin Pinder, who heads up Kensington Regeneration's BME Support Team, said he was pleased with the support for the event and the positive feedback he had received from people who attended.

"We now hope to organise a community event in Kensington next January commemorating the Holocaust and other similar tragedies," he explained.



Guests view the moving RESPECTacles exhibition.

Author speaks to Kensington Family Support Group

A noted author whose two sons were serious drug abusers recently shared her experiences with a group of Kensington women who have suffered similar problems.

Elizabeth Burton-Philips has written movingly about the emotional turmoil caused by her sons' drug abuse, and the death of one of them at the age of just 27.

She now campaigns for more support for the families of drug abusers.

She spoke to Kensington Family Support Group, some of whose members have lost children through drug abuse.

The event was also attended by representatives of agencies working in the local community including

Kensington Regeneration, housing association Community Seven, the police and health and social care professionals.

Paula Nolan of Kensington's Health Energy and Advice Team (HEAT) who organised the event, said: "It was a very moving presentation and I am sure it will have helped to improve

understanding about the devastating effect of drug abuse on families.

"It's important to remember that drug abuse happens in normal families in all parts of the country and that

the people concerned need to know that there is support available and they should not feel the need to hide away and isolate themselves."



Author Elizabeth Burton-Philips (holding book) pictured with members of Kensington Family Support Group and Paula Nolan of HEAT (front left).



# Fourth African festival honours Nelson Mandela

**Kensington staged its fourth African Festival in July.**

This year's free event - organised by Liverpool African Association and sponsored by Kensington Regeneration - was particularly special as it honoured the 90th birthday of former South African leader, Nelson Mandela.

Kensington Community Sports Centre was again the venue for the festival which



**Drumming up business at one of the festival workshops.**



**A display of silky football skills.**

featured a wide range of activities for adults and children. These included a workshop on apartheid and the life of Mandela, an African talent showcase, a fashion show and African food, music and dance.

The children's area included face painting, jewellery and mask making and entertainment from an African clown.

While all this was going on

junior and senior multicultural football tournaments were taking place at the Sports Centre and Botanic Park.

Martin Pinder, Kensington Regeneration's BME Officer, commented: "The Partnership has been pleased to support this event for the past four years. "It has the twin aims of raising awareness of African culture and providing an interesting and entertaining free day out for local residents."



**A fashion show featuring a range of eye-catching African clothes was one of the festival highlights.**

## Mayor is medal winner



Siddi Majubah (holding medals) is pictured (from left) with Pat and Jimmy Reil, Shirley Mashiane-Talbot, David Evans, Lord Mayor Steve Rotheram and his wife Sandra.

**The Lord Mayor of Liverpool was recently presented with a medal as a 'thank you' for his support for the Kensington African Festival.**

The Nelson Mandela Medal was created by organisers to commemorate the event, held on the African leader's birthday.

It was presented by festival organiser, Siddi Majubah of the Liverpool African Association, who said: "I would like to thank the Lord Mayor and his staff for all their kind support and friendship.

"The festival was a great success and showed that sport has the potential to bring different cultures together. I am very proud to live in Kensington, which can be seen as a model for community cohesion for the rest of Liverpool."

The medal was accepted on behalf of Lord Mayor Steve Rotheram by Liverpool resident Jimmy Reil, who won a charity competition to become Lord Mayor for the day.



Parrot fashion - Mark Mosely of the Friends of Botanic Park with feathered friend Charlie.

## 200 attend Botanic Park treasure hunt

**More than 200 people attended a recent summer fun day at Botanic Park in Kensington.**

The centrepiece of the event was a pirate-themed treasure hunt which involved children following a series of clues leading them to a secret stash of toys and sweets.

There was also entertainment from the Kensington Monarchs Majorettes and a delicious picnic spread as well as tours of the park

and its facilities by members of the Friends of Botanic Park.

Friends Chair Janet Kelly commented: "It was a fantastic day with a good turnout and everybody really seemed to enjoy themselves. We also hope that the event has helped to raise awareness of what the park has to offer."

## NEW YORK FIREFIGHTERS VISIT KENSINGTON

**New York firefighters took time out of the recent World Firefighter Games to drop in on a Kensington-based community organisation.**

They visited educational charity Prospects 2000 - to thank staff and children who had sponsored five of the New York team to come to the games as part of their fire awareness project. The visit was also supported by a grant from Kensington Community Interest Company.

And they compared Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service's Beacon Project with a youth engagement programme back in the Big Apple.

Ltn Mike Cacciola said: "We have a Fire Explorers programme for younger kids and then for older children we have the Fire Cadets and the New York City Fire High School. We believe it is vital to educate children from a young age so it is great to see the excellent work being

carried out by the Beacon Project on Merseyside."

18-year-old Kensington resident Rachel Cummins took part in the Beacon Project through Prospects 2000 and now hopes to forge a career as a firefighter.

"I'm going to go to college for two years and then hopefully I will join the Royal Navy fire service," said Rachel.

"Taking part in the Beacon Project has inspired me so much. And it has given me amazing opportunities such as a place on the Tall Ships Race and now as a volunteer at the World Firefighter Games."

The New York firefighters also took part in a 'PacePat' sports wall workout at Kensington's Life Bank, an activity for children run by Prospects 2000 with funding from Liverpool PCT, Liverpool Active City and Kensington Regeneration.



Members of Prospects 2000 also met the New York firefighters at the games opening ceremony.





Siddi (inset) entertains residents at the Summer Fun Day.

# Funny business is Siddi’s dream

**A well-known face in Kensington has embarked on a new career as a clown and entertainer.**

Siddi Majubah has set up his new operation with the help of local business support group Dream High and funding from Edge Hill Credit Union.

Siddi’s first booking was in front of thousands of local residents at the Kensington Summer Fun Day.

He also attended a meeting of Dream High advisors in costume to show them what he has to offer and to thank them for their support.

The organisation’s Enterprise Facilitator, Claire Chang, described

Siddi as an ‘inspiration’ as he has overcome a number of obstacles in order to set up in business by himself.

Dream High, which receives funding from Kensington Regeneration, operates via a panel of volunteers who provide confidential help and advice to people looking to establish a business or expand an existing operation.

The initiative is based on the principles of the Sirrolli Institute, a global organisation which aims to support and regenerate communities by helping entrepreneurs to grow their local economies from within.

## notice board

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**Upcoming dates for your diary:**

**Nugent Care Disco**  
EVERY THURSDAY  
COMMENCING 4TH SEPTEMBER  
from 12 noon  
At St. Philip & St. Davids Community Centre, Molyneux Road, Kensington  
Entry Fee £1.00 per person

**Metal At Edge Hill Station**  
Horse power exhibition of films, paintings & photographs  
12TH SEPTEMBER – 1ST NOVEMBER  
Wednesday – Saturday  
11am - 3pm

**Holt Road Neighbourhood Assembly**  
TUESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER  
The Life Bank  
6.30pm - 8.30pm

**Annual Public Meeting**  
THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER  
The Life Bank  
6pm - 8pm

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

## PROFESSIONAL TIPS FOR BUDDING NIGELLAS AND JAMIES

**Budding Nigella Lawsons and Jamie Olivers from Kensington recently had the opportunity to pick up tips from two professional chefs.**

Adam Pickett and Idris Caldora from the Academy of Culinary Arts presented a masterclass at the Life Bank to a group of ten children from the Nacro Kensington Junior Youth Inclusion Project.

The two experts focused on the health benefits of a varied and balanced diet and showed the children how to prepare a three-

course meal of minestrone soup, shepherd’s pie and apple crumble.

Idris Caldora said: “Our aim is to demonstrate that developing cooking as a life skill is important and that good food has the potential to bring people together.”

Maureen Veney, Nacro Project Worker, said: “It was a fantastic day and the children all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Idris and Adam were inspirational and their enthusiasm has certainly rubbed off on the kids.”



The youngsters prepare for their masterclass with chefs Idris Caldora and Adam Pickett.



**Find out more about the progress of regeneration work in Kensington at our 2008 Annual Public Meeting.**  
**The Life Bank, Quorn Street – 6-8pm Thursday September 25th – All welcome**

## 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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Now open on Jubilee Drive.  
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- Fully Qualified Instructors
- Outside Astro-Turf Five-a-side pitches
- Free ‘Young at Heart’ sessions
- Martial Arts Clubs
- Disabilities Sports Club
- Easy Access to facilities for disabled people

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## other languages

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For further information contact Kensington Regeneration on 0151 233 6136.

Kensington Regeneration للمزيد من المعلومات، الرجاء الاتصال على إعادة تعبئة كترانكتون 233 6136 على الرقم

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