

**December 2021**

**Page 7**  
Residents design Grenfell  
Projects Fund 2

**Page 8**  
Beatbox, rap and grime  
courses come to North  
Kensington

**Page 10**  
A survey on  
North Ken News



**Pupils  
enjoy first  
term at  
Kensington  
Queensmill**

page 9

# About your North Ken News

**North Ken News is a dedicated newsletter for North Kensington communities produced by Kensington and Chelsea Council.**

## Have you got news for us?

We are always on the lookout for good news stories, whether they are about an event you are running, a local hero who is working wonders in your community or a programme or course that local residents could benefit from.

If you would like to get in touch with an idea or story, please email [northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk) and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

## Tell us what you think

We're interested in hearing your feedback about North Ken News. We want to produce a newsletter which you enjoy reading and you find useful, so please let us know what you'd like to see more of. Email us at [northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk)

## Covid-19

Information on Coronavirus is correct at the time of going to press. For the latest updates, visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/coronavirus)

## Staying in touch

There are other ways to keep up to date with borough-wide news as well as news and announcements from Kensington and Chelsea Council.

 [@RBKC](https://twitter.com/RBKC)  [www.facebook.com/royalborough](https://www.facebook.com/royalborough)


 [www.nextdoor.co.uk](http://www.nextdoor.co.uk)

 [www.instagram.com/kensingtonandchelseacouncil](https://www.instagram.com/kensingtonandchelseacouncil)

For updates on Grenfell

 [@GrenfellUpdates](https://twitter.com/GrenfellUpdates)

 [www.rbkc.gov.uk/grenfell](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/grenfell)

 To stay up to date with the latest news and events sign up to our newsletter mailing list, visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and search K&C Life

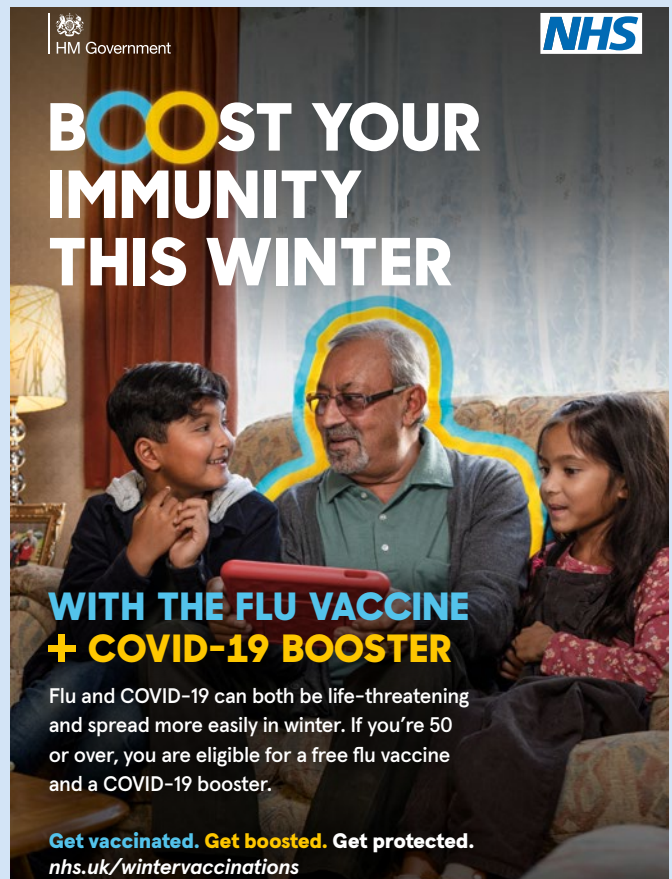
If you would like to opt out of receiving North Ken News or would prefer to read it online, please let us know at [northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:northkennews@rbkc.gov.uk)


# Boost your immunity this winter

Flu and Covid-19 can both be life-threatening and spread more easily in winter when people tend to be more crowded together inside. Why not boost your immunity this winter with the free NHS flu vaccination?

Having a vaccine is the most effective way to boost our natural immunity and protect ourselves and our loved ones from the harmful effects of flu and Covid-19. Find out more about the flu vaccination by going to [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and searching Flu.

**Find out more about the Covid-19 booster by going to [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and searching Covid FAQs.**



HM Government 

## BOOST YOUR IMMUNITY THIS WINTER

**WITH THE FLU VACCINE + COVID-19 BOOSTER**

Flu and COVID-19 can both be life-threatening and spread more easily in winter. If you're 50 or over, you are eligible for a free flu vaccine and a COVID-19 booster.

**Get vaccinated. Get boosted. Get protected.**  
[nhs.uk/wintervaccinations](https://nhs.uk/wintervaccinations)

# Celebrate your local area with K&C Christmas

As the borough gears up for the festive season, the Council is working with local businesses and cultural organisations to spread joy and cheer through K&C Christmas.

Whether you're out shopping for Christmas gifts, meeting friends for that annual festive get-together, or you're simply looking to explore all the seasonal fun that the local area has to offer, K&C Christmas will help you make the most of the borough.

An online advent calendar with all of the wonderful events happening throughout December will be available to view, sharing festive things to do and promotions available in shops, restaurants, museums, leisure venues and more.

To ramp up the spirits of the holidays, Christmas at Portobello is back this year with special Sunday markets running from 28 November to 19 December.

Stop by throughout December to pick up delicious foodie goodies and unique gifts with an extra day to shop at Portobello and Golborne Market.

To find out the latest, take a look at the K&C Christmas Advent Calendar at: [www.rbkc.gov.uk/christmas](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/christmas)



## Portobello Market goes car-free permanently

Portobello Road will be closed to traffic during market operating hours, from 10am to 4pm Monday to Saturday. The road closure, which was put in place by the Council in April 2020 on an experimental basis during the pandemic, will now be in place permanently. This will provide greater mobility and space for shoppers as well as reducing local carbon emissions.

The decision was made following consultation with and support from residents, businesses, traders and the local community.

Vehicles will not be allowed access to the road between Westbourne Grove and Cambridge Gardens Monday to Thursday and between Cambridge Gardens and Golborne Road on Fridays and Saturdays.

The closure will not impact Blue Badge holders and those with disabilities will be able to access the road for pick up and drop off. Residents who can only get into their homes via Portobello Road will also

be allowed access and emergency services will be allowed access to the road at all times.

This will provide greater mobility and space for shoppers as well as reducing local carbon emissions.



Keep up to date with Portobello news at [visitportobello.com](http://visitportobello.com) or follow @VisitPortobello on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook.

# Get tested for Coronavirus this winter

**Since lockdown ended, the Government has been encouraging people to get tested twice a week for Covid-19 regardless of whether they have symptoms. This is because many people can have the virus but show no symptoms, and testing can help keep transmission as low as possible.**

You can order a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) to be sent to your home by calling 119 or going to [www.NHS.uk](http://www.NHS.uk) to book a delivery of asymptomatic tests.

Alternatively, you can go to Kensington Town Hall during the week to collect home tests, or to be tested while you are there, if you have no symptoms.

**Just drop-into Kensington Town Hall Customer Service Centre, Hornton Street, W8 7NX on**

Monday from 8am to 4pm

Tuesday to Friday from 10am to 4pm

The testing site is closed on Saturday and Sunday

Rapid community testing can help to identify people who might be carrying the virus and be contagious, but not have any symptoms. This means you can then self-isolate and limit the spread to protect those who are more vulnerable.

**You can also collect home testing kits from the following locations in North Kensington:**

The Curve, 10 Bard Road, W10 6TP

Al Manaar, 244 Acklam Road, W10 5YG

Venture Centre, 103a Wornington Road, W10 5YB

Bay20 Community Centre, 71 St Marks Road, W10 6JG

Dalgarno Community Centre, Dalgarno Way, W10 5LE

**For more information go to [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and search for 'testing'.**



## Grenfell community update from DLUHC

**The secretary of state for the department, Michael Gove MP, has confirmed that no decision has been taken on the future of Grenfell Tower and that he is determined to hear from the community before a decision is taken. He has written with his reflections to bereaved families and survivors, and representative groups, after meeting them to hear their views.**

For more information on the Tower site, and to ask questions and share concerns, come to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) 'drop-ins' from 10am to 1pm on Wednesday 8 and 15 December and Thursday 9 and 16 December.

For joining details, please email [GrenfellTowerSite@communities.gov.uk](mailto:GrenfellTowerSite@communities.gov.uk) or call 0303 444 001

Or dial in on 020 3795 5763 and enter conference ID: 956 853 245

### Social value

**Would you like to shape the opportunities that DUK, the Grenfell Tower site contractor, provides to the local community? If so please email [GrenfellTowerSite@communities.gov.uk](mailto:GrenfellTowerSite@communities.gov.uk) or call 0303 444 0011.**

# Health and Wellbeing Survey underway in North Kensington

**An annual survey that aims to understand the health and wellbeing of residents across North Kensington and the Edward Woods Estate, including the impact of the Grenfell tragedy, is underway.**

The North Kensington Health and Wellbeing Survey, which was launched by Kensington and Chelsea Council in November, is being held for the third of five years following its launch in 2019. The anonymous survey of 2,000 residents is being conducted face-to-face by independent research company Social & Market Research (SMSR) Ltd and the results will help to inform health services on trends and needs in the community and to develop local services.

**If you have any queries about the survey, or are interested in the findings, please contact the Public Health Intelligence department on [publichealthdepartment@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:publichealthdepartment@westminster.gov.uk) or via 020 7361 3013.**



## Christmas joy for elderly and vulnerable residents

**A Grenfell Projects Fund supported initiative is bringing Christmas spirit to vulnerable and elderly residents in North Kensington this festive season.**

The CHUMS project, based out of Henry Dickens Court Estate, will be delivering a pre-Christmas dinner party for some of the most isolated members of the community, with local community providers and Notting Dale police officers all helping out.

With the help of a local corner shop, Christmas Hampers will be provided to elderly and isolated residents to ensure they too have a present to open over Christmas.

The Council has agreed to provide a Christmas Tree for the communal garden at Henry Dickens Court Estate to spread even more festive cheer. The tree will be installed and the gardens decorated on Thursday 9 December, with mince pies, hot soup and carol singers for residents' enjoyment.

**If you or someone you know would like to find out more about CHUMS and be involved in their future events and activities, contact Jill Brownjack by emailing [jill.brownjack@gmail.com](mailto:jill.brownjack@gmail.com) or calling 07407 258738.**

# Discussions on improved community church and new homes

**The Council is in discussions with Latymer Community Church and the charity Livability about providing a brand new and improved community church on its existing site on Bramley Road alongside new homes and community improvements.**

The idea stemmed from the Latymer Community Church who are the long-term tenants, and Livability, which owns the Bramley Road site, who were both interested in providing an enhanced new facility on the site together with the Council.

The land is currently owned by Livability with the adjoining land owned by the Council. The proposal is for the Council to purchase the land from Livability and provide an improved community facility.

Alongside proposals for a new church facility, the slightly enlarged site could provide other local benefits including homes for social rent and key workers, as well as a permanent 'Stay and Play' nursery for local children, to house the former Grenfell Nursery which is temporarily located at The Curve.

Other opportunities include potential improvements to the existing green spaces, garden and public outdoor areas adjacent to Westway and Whitstable House.

Simon Blanchflower, Chair of Latymer Christian Fellowship Trustees who are responsible for the management of the church, said:

**“We want to continue to play our part at the heart of the North Kensington community and look forward to working with local stakeholders and the Council to design a new facility that benefits the area.”**

Local residents and community stakeholders will be able to have their say on the proposals and provide any ideas they may have. Formal consultation will start later this year.



# Residents design Grenfell Projects Fund 2

Members of our new Residents-led Panel are in the final stages of co-designing the Grenfell Projects Fund main application stage. With the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire deadline coming to an end on 1 December, the Panel has been working hard to make sure the language used in the main application is user-friendly and accessible ahead of its distribution in January next year.

The Residents-led Panel was assembled as part of the Council's commitment to facilitate a community-led recovery to ensure North Kensington residents were shaping the Fund. So far, this has included discussions on streamlining the project categories to focus on key areas of improvement, promoting the Fund more effectively to potential applicants and improving inclusivity throughout the selection process.

Resident-led panellist Leearna Oliffe said:

*"There were some fantastic projects that got through the first round of the Grenfell Projects Fund that have done great work in the community. However, due to quite a number of projects withdrawing that, in my view, would have received the much-needed funding, this sadly resulted in projects that wouldn't necessarily have gained the public vote being funded.*

*This is why I felt it was important to become part of the Residents-led Panel for the second round, as after following the process closely, I feel that as residents, we are best placed to ensure that the funds allocated go towards the best and most sustainable projects that come forward."*

Speaking about what she hopes to achieve on the Panel, Leearna said:

*"I've lived in the borough for 40 years so it's really important to me that the Fund invests in projects and initiatives that intend to support long-term independent growth in North Kensington aimed specifically at resident well-being. We know what will help the community to maintain its strength moving forward and we've already had a positive impact on the Fund so far."*



## Grenfell Projects Fund

Update



If you'd like to find out more, visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and search 'Grenfell Projects Fund'.

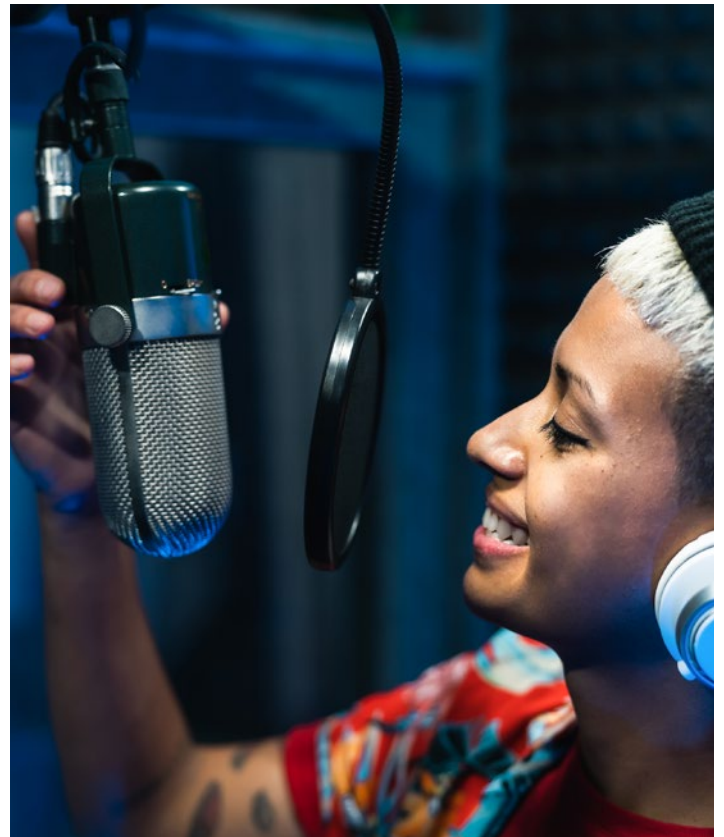
# Rap, grime and beatbox courses come to North Ken in UK first

**North Kensington's Morley College is bringing a range of pioneering new music courses to your doorstep from January next year, being the first college in the UK to offer short courses in beatbox, rap and grime. This comes as the college undergoes a £13m redevelopment to unlock its potential as a dynamic and diverse community learning hub.**

The new courses have been developed by the college's Subject Lead for Music and Creative Arts, Emmanuel Vass, whose experience has seen him perform in front of European royalty and on Britain's Got Talent.

Having announced the exciting new courses, Emmanuel said:

*"I'm so excited to offer courses in beatboxing, rap and grime here at Morley's North Kensington Centre. Music education is traditionally based upon Western Classical traditions, but we should absolutely embrace diversity. Rappers are modern poets; beatboxing requires just as much skill as playing the flute or piano and I want more recognition for this for artists, learners, tutors and in supporting links with the industry as a whole."*



**Open days are taking place at the college on Thursday 2 December and Saturday 4 December. To find out more about the courses and open days, visit [www.morleycollege.ac.uk/events](http://www.morleycollege.ac.uk/events)**

## Advice to help with rising energy costs

With news of fuel costs increasing, we understand this may be a concern for residents and want to provide information and guidance to help you reduce the impact of these price rises and access support where needed.

We are reminding tenants to ask their landlords to check their homes meet the minimum energy efficiency standards.

**We have a range of schemes for those on low incomes to improve the energy efficiency of homes.**



**For more information visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk) and search 'Greener Housing'.**





Find out more about the school at [www.kensingtonqueensmill.com](http://www.kensingtonqueensmill.com)

# Pupils enjoy first term at Kensington Queensmill

**Students and staff are settling into their purpose-built new surroundings as the borough's first dedicated school for children with autism and additional needs nears the end of its first term.**

Kensington Queensmill opened in September as part of a £40 million investment from Kensington and Chelsea Council that also provided new premises for neighbouring Barlby Primary School.

The premises enable specialist in-borough education for 52 pupils up to the age of 19 and include facilities such as wet play, soft play, audio-visual and sensory integration rooms as well as a host of outdoor spaces.



**Head of School Andy Nowak said:** *"It has been an honour and privilege to lead this brand-new provision in North Kensington and we could not have hoped for a warmer welcome from the community. For a long time, local residents in need of a specialist school have had to travel long distances and I am so pleased that we are now able to offer an outstanding local provision."*

*"We are incredibly lucky to have been gifted purpose-built premises from the Council."*

*The transition for our families and young people has gone superbly and already it feels like we have been on Barlby Road for years.*

*"It is a unique and wonderful opportunity to be partnered with a community primary school on the same site. Already the leadership teams at both Barlby Primary and Kensington Queensmill are working well together and planning for how we can create opportunities for our students to work collaboratively to truly reflect the community they reside in."*

# ACAVA launches phase three of mosaic dedicated to Grenfell



**The Grenfell Memorial Community Mosaic is a project that began in May 2018 by ACAVA in partnership with Al Manaar Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre.**

Now, in the new third phase of the project, a number of mosaic stepping stones will be co-created with local residents in artist-led workshops and installed at intervals along the route of the Silent Walk, in the neighbourhood of the tower, where members of the Grenfell community and others walk silently on the fourteenth of every month.

The pieces will be circular, feature a green mosaic heart – a symbol now synonymous with Grenfell – and depict the word 'Justice' in the various languages that were spoken by residents who lived in Grenfell Tower.

The project aims to commemorate and help to memorialise the Grenfell tragedy by documenting the Silent Walk and its significance to the local and wider community and history of North Kensington.

The third and final phase of the project will be installed on the fifth anniversary of the Grenfell Tower tragedy, in June 2022.

Would you like to participate in the project? ACAVA are looking for more local residents to help create the mosaics. Everyone is welcome and no previous experience of arts or crafts is needed.

**For more information and to register your interest, visit [www.acava.org](http://www.acava.org) and search Community Mosaic.**



Photo by Zute Lightfoot on behalf of ACAVA

## A survey on North Ken News

**You will have received a printed survey alongside this edition of North Ken News to find out how often you read North Ken News and to seek views on the type of content you enjoy reading most.**

Next year, we will be reducing the frequency of the newsletter to once every two months. As we make this change, we want to make sure you find the content we include interesting and informative.

You can fill out the paper survey in and send it back to us in the supplied prepaid envelope, or you can

fill out the survey online <https://consult.rbkc.gov.uk/communications/north-ken-news>. It will help us make sure the newsletter we produce serves the North Kensington community.

As a thanks, those who fill out the survey can be entered into a draw to win a **£50 One4All voucher** that you can spend in a number of local high street shops.

**We look forward to hearing from you.**



# Residents steer Curve Legacy Fund

**Grenfell-affected residents will get to decide how a new Curve Legacy Fund, designed to fund projects that serve the North Kensington community will be spent.**

The news comes following a consultation about the future of The Curve with the community earlier this year, in which North Kensington residents opted to set up a new Fund and Community Trust to ensure a lasting legacy for years to come.

This **£1.3m** Curve Legacy Fund, originally allocated for Curve services delivered out of Bard Road, will be overseen by the Community Trust. The new Community Trust will comprise members of the North Kensington community.

Earlier this year a 'Community Conversation' took place to discuss the future of The Curve after confirmation that the lease for the current Curve building on Bard Road ends in July 2022. The conversation asked how the community wanted the Curve's remaining budget to be spent after 2022.

**We are grateful to everyone who contributed their time and views participating in:**

- A range of in person and online workshops and
- Community events like the Lancaster West Future Neighbourhood Community Day and the Grenfell Community Assembly

**An online survey was also launched with paper copies posted out to households across North Kensington.**



**218**

residents took part in the consultation



**167**

responses received to the survey



**30%**

of respondents preferred a Curve Legacy Fund creation



**22%**

votes for the Curve Board Community Trust

**Following discussions with the Curve's Board of Governors, we will form a resident-led Steering Group to support the implementation of the consultation results.**



# Rubbish and recycling collections over the festive period

**There will be no recycling and rubbish collections on Monday 27 December, Tuesday 28 December, or Monday 3 January 2022.**

If you normally receive a rubbish and recycling collection on Monday 27 December and Monday 3 January 2022, your next collections will be on Thursday 30 December and Thursday 6 January 2022.

If you normally receive a rubbish and recycling collection on Tuesday 28 December, your next collection will be on Friday 31 December.

All other rubbish and recycling collection days will remain the same.

**For more information about collections, please visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk/collections](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/collections)**

## Estates, mansion blocks and flats

If you live on an estate or in a mansion block or flat, your rubbish and recycling is collected from communal bins and mixed recycling banks as normal.

## Food waste collections

If you receive a food waste collection, there will be no changes to your scheduled food waste collections.

For more information about our food waste collection service, visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk/foodrecycling](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/foodrecycling)

## Garden waste collections

If you are signed up to our garden waste collection service, please note there will be no changes to your scheduled collections.

For more information, and to check your garden waste collection days, please visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/gardenwaste)

## Changes to Too Big for the Bin collections

There will be no bulky household waste collections (Too Big for the Bin) on:

- Monday 27 December
- Tuesday 28 December
- Saturday 1 January 2022
- Monday 3 January 2022.

## Don't forget to recycle your real Christmas tree!

Do your bit for the environment over the festive period by taking advantage of our free real Christmas tree composting scheme.

Last year residents recycled over **80 tonnes** of real Christmas trees for composting, and from Sunday 2 to Sunday 23 January 2022 you can drop off your real Christmas tree, to be recycled, at locations across the borough.

To check where you can drop off your real tree for composting, please visit [www.rbkc.gov.uk/christmascollections](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/christmascollections)



 Kensington and Chelsea recycles

