

YOUR BRENT

SUMMER 2025

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The magazine about life in Brent, published by Brent Council



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COMMUNITY SPIRIT INSPIRES HOPE

Summer is here and there are lots of fun events and activities to enjoy with your friends and family right on your doorstep!

From free events in the council's libraries and activities in the great outdoors to major concerts from international superstars, there truly is something for everyone. Check out our guide to Summer in Brent from page 38 onwards.

Of-course in Brent, whatever the season, our strength has always come from the way that neighbours look out for one another. Through good times, and in times of challenge, this strength embodies the essence of a strong community.

One way that the council supports this community spirit is by funding your brilliant ideas – ideas for projects or events that bring neighbours together and improve the lives of local people. You can see some of the results on page 18 as eighty community-led environment projects have benefitted from the Together Towards Zero grant which help make neighbourhoods greener, cleaner and more environmentally friendly. Grants of between £1,000 and £15,000 are also open now through our Love where you live pot for community projects which help improve life locally (page 15). I can't wait to see what ideas you come up with in this round.

Finally, the council's Don't Mess with Brent campaign continues to go from strength to strength as we crush vehicles and fine more selfish people who fly-tip on our streets (page 20). If you have bulky waste to get rid of, the council's popular community skips have been touring the borough. Of course, it's a way to clear out clutter for free but more than that, we've seen neighbours connecting as they swap items and some groups litter-picking during the event. This is more evidence of Brent's brilliant community spirit!

Have a wonderful summer!



**Councillor
Muhammed Butt**
Leader of the Council

news

Brent backs plans for new Overground line

Plans for a new London Overground service from West Hampstead and Brent Cross to Hounslow could be a step closer following a £465,500 boost from Brent Council.

Councillor Teo Benea, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Planning and Property, said:

"By repurposing existing rail freight lines we have the opportunity to create a new London Overground service linking areas like Cricklewood and Neasden to Acton, Brentford and Hounslow."

The money is Brent's contribution to the next stage of developing the West London Orbital.

Councillor Benea continued, "Brent is making this investment because we see a host of benefits. This line will connect underserved communities to new job opportunities, accelerate homebuilding, and help cut congestion on London's roads."

The plan is backed by the West London Alliance – made up of the boroughs of Barnet, Brent, Ealing, Hounslow, alongside the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation, and Transport for London. TfL hopes to see the line carrying passengers by the early 2030s.



Celebrating 50 years of Willesden Temple

Shree Swaminarayan Temple – Willesden commemorates its 50th anniversary with the "Festival of Golden Hearts". Brent residents are invited to join the celebration, from 5-13 July, 2025. The festival will showcase local talent and the "Helping Hands" charitable initiative providing support to all.



Residents and invited guests attend a Shree Swaminarayan Temple Willesden ceremony at Brent Civic Centre



The Mayor of Brent Councillor Ryan Hack (2nd left), greets dignitaries and guests during ceremony at Brent Civic Centre

Life-saving skills

This May saw local young people get training in self-defence and life-saving, alongside hopeful conversations about a brighter knife-free future.

During a national week of action, Brent Council hosted a series of free workshops, walks and talks geared at reducing knife crime.

"We all have a role in protecting young people, supporting safer choices and tackling knife crime," said Councillor Harbi Farah, Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, Jobs and Skills.

As part of the wider efforts to tackle knife crime, the council is working with the Raheem Sterling Foundation and Word 4 Weapons to provide safe knife surrender points and to offer routes into education, employment and mentoring.

Last year, seven knife amnesty bins were installed across the borough, giving residents a secure and anonymous way to dispose of knives.

Find out more at www.brent.gov.uk/knifebins



Police joined council officers, Georgia Gould MP, and young people on an anti-knife crime awareness walk



Communities come together to raise awareness around knife crime



A boy surrendered a ninja sword at an anti-knife crime event held at Willesden Sports Centre

Supporting biodiversity at Willesden New Cemetery

Working closely with the Cemeteries Team, Climate Team, and Start Easy, residents planted wildflower areas, built bee and bug hotels, installed willow tunnels and benches with planting, to help bring people and nature closer together.

The activities form part of the Church End and Roundwood Green Neighbourhood Programme.

If you are interested in using the new biodiversity corner at Willesden New Cemetery, please email:

climateemergency@brent.gov.uk

If you want to start a project that benefits your local environment, check out the Together Towards Zero grant www.brent.gov.uk/grant-available-for-climate.



Review praises “well-performing” Brent Council

Brent has been recognised as a well-performing local authority, showcasing a strong organisational culture and a proven record of delivering essential services, according to a comprehensive review conducted by the Local Government Association.

The Corporate Peer Challenge, carried out in January, involved a team of experienced senior officers and members from councils across the country. This team engaged with over 130 individuals, including staff, councillors, partners, and residents, to gain a comprehensive understanding of the council's operations. Key outcomes of the review highlighted Brent's good track record of delivering vital services, underpinned by sound financial management, a solid record of housebuilding, and ambitious targets for increasing council and affordable housing to meet high demand in the borough.

The review also noted the impressive GCSE achievements of local children, which surpass the national average, and Brent's proactive measures to promote equity and diversity, such as its Anti-Racism Action Plan. Kim Wright (left), Chief Executive of Brent Council, said: “Inviting in a Corporate Peer Challenge is always a valuable opportunity to reflect on how we serve our communities, celebrate our successes, and identify ways to strengthen the way we work.”



Kim Wright

Majority of pupils offered top school choice

Families across Brent celebrated as the vast majority of children entering reception year in September 2025 have been offered a place at one of their top three preferred primary or infant schools.

96% percent of pupils were offered a top three preference with 86% offered their first choice. There were 3,250 applications for reception places in Brent.

Councillor Gwen Grahl, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools, said: “Parents receiving these offers can have confidence in the quality of Brent's schools which are consistently highly rated by Ofsted, giving their children the best start in life.”



Students battle £500k ‘clothes monsters’

Children from Mitchell Brook Primary School in Neasden, who are known for appearing on Channel 4's Big Fat Quiz, have teamed up with Brent Council to raise awareness of clothing waste.

Last year, over £500,000 was wasted on recycling that had to be redirected to general waste as incorrect items were found contaminating the blue-lidded recycling bins.

The students from Mitchell Brook devised a short play to illustrate the detrimental effects of putting a ‘clothes monster’ in your bin. Unwanted clothing can be easily recycled or reused by donating to charity banks or charity shops. Additionally, the council offers a complimentary small items collection. Scan QR code to see the video.



Monsters on the loose at Mitchell Brooke Primary School performance

Minister visits Harlesden to see influx of gambling venues

The Minister for Gambling has visited Brent to see for herself the influx of gambling sites, with the borough now having more places to bet than supermarkets and schools combined.

A coalition of 38 local authorities and mayors, led by Brent Council, has been lobbying the Government to give councils more powers to refuse gambling premise license applications that “threaten the community’s welfare and safety”.

The council is proposing a six-point plan to reform the Gambling Act, which covers planning, licensing, advertising and local control.

Brent has the second-highest number of betting premises out of all the London boroughs with 81 venues, which includes betting shops, bingo halls, and adult gaming centres. This is also one of the highest concentrations in the UK, and outnumbers essential services such as supermarkets, banks, job centres and GP surgeries.

Baroness Fiona Twycross, the UK’s Minister for Gambling, visited Brent in May to see the impact of gambling shops in areas like Harlesden. Councillor Muhammed Butt, Leader of Brent Council said: “I am proud that we have joined forces with 38 other councils and combined authorities, representing over 12 million people up and down the country impacted by outdated legislation on gambling. There’s too much on the line to ignore the harms of betting shops on Britain’s high streets, but our hands are effectively tied by a law no longer fit for purpose.”



Minister for Gambling, Baroness Fiona Twycross (third right) visits Harlesden with council officers, Dawn Butler MP, the Leader of Brent Council and Councillor Fleur Donnelly-Jackson

Meet Brent’s youngest ever Mayor

Councillor Ryan Hack has been elected as the new Mayor of Brent, becoming the borough’s First Citizen at the council’s Annual General Meeting held in May.

At 26 years old, Councillor Hack is the youngest Mayor in Brent’s history and succeeds Councillor Tariq Dar MBE.

Born and raised in Brent to Irish immigrants who settled in Harlesden during the 1970s. He co-developed the social hub ‘In the Mix’ with activist Matilda Veleitch, supporting refugee and asylum seeker families.

In his mayoral speech, Councillor Hack reflected on Brent’s history and future, he said: “60 years ago, Willesden and Wembley united to form Brent, the founding fathers and mothers of our borough – had big dreams, the belief that there are better days ahead.”

The Mayor’s chosen charity is the Brent Irish Advisory Service (BIAS), founded in 1978. Follow The Mayor’s updates on X at x.com/mayorofbrent



Youngest Brent Mayor: Councillor Ryan Hack

Free voucher for reusable nappies

A new partnership with Real Nappies for London is giving Brent families the chance to claim a £50 reusable nappy voucher.

By using reusable nappies Families can reduce their waste, protect the environment and save money.

Councillor Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Environment and Enforcement, said: “Small changes can make a huge difference and that is why I am delighted to be partnering on this, and giving families the chance to switch to a cheaper and more environmentally friendly option.”



New chapter for Kilburn library

Kilburn Library will close on Monday 7 July for a £1M refurbishment, reopening early 2026 with modernised facilities. The redevelopment is supported by Arts Council England and through the council’s Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy.

The upgrade will include a new digital area, a refreshed children’s library, more study spaces, flexible event areas, and a hireable community room.

During the refurbishment period, temporary alternative arrangements will be in place to continue serving the community and ensure access to key services. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/NewsInBrent>

Nearest open Brent Libraries during the redevelopment period are Harlesden and The Library at Willesden Green.

Rising stars of local democracy

Brent Youth Parliament shone at London's City Hall on 2 May, after being shortlisted for two major accolades at the London Youth Achievement Awards.

They were nominated for their work lobbying decision-makers to address issues like vaping and illegal substances, making representations to Brent's Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee. "It was an honour to be nominated and shortlisted!" said Chair Kenechi Ezeajughi, who was applauded for her environmental campaigning and nominated for the London Youth Achievement Award.



Brent's young leaders' political representation for young people was celebrated through their shortlisting for Best Initiative Award

Carers celebrated

More than 150 residents and carers attended Brent Council's event on 10 June to celebrate unpaid carers and provide updates on the Carers Strategy.

Partner organisations, including Shaw Trust, Brent Start, Citizen's Advice, and Brent Health Matters, offered advice and free NHS health checks during the event.

Jennifer, from Harlesden, who is an adult carer said: "This event has been helpful to me, I have learned so much. It has been a good event and eye-opening. Hearing about the challenges faced by young carers who miss out on school and being with their friends was heartbreaking." The event served as an opportunity to highlight the help and support available to individuals who care for a partner, child or family member often without recognising the huge amount of unpaid support they provide.



Residents and carers attending the Carers rights event

Brent backs Bakerloo Line upgrade and extension

There is overwhelming support in Brent for the proposed Bakerloo Line Upgrade and Extension, according to new independent polling. The research, conducted by Survation and Norstat, shows that 81% of Brent residents and an impressive 95% of local businesses back the transformative transport project.

Over 2,000 residents and businesses were surveyed from boroughs along the full proposed route of the project, stretching from Harrow in the north to Bromley in the south.

The proposals would see the Bakerloo Line upgraded and extended, unlocking thousands of homes and jobs, boosting connectivity across the capital, and helping drive London's transition to net zero.



Leaders of London councils from along the full length of the Bakerloo Line Upgrade & Extension support the project, from Harrow to Lewisham

Rogue landlord brothers fined £20,000

Brothers Vimal and Ravi Kanji Bhudia were fined £20,000 and added to the rogue landlord database after failing to get licenced.

Council officers found 15 people crammed in a seven-bedroom Kenton property, thanks to a tip-off from neighbours.

The tenants, all young students, were sleeping on mattresses with two to three per room. On inspection, Brent's enforcement team discovered covered smoke alarms and missing fire safety doors.

Councillor Fleur Donnelly-Jackson, Cabinet Member for Housing and Residents Services, said: "Every landlord in Brent is legally required to have a licence to rent out their property. This law exists to protect people from landlords who put them at risk by ignoring safety standards, cramming too many people into one home, or failing to carry out essential repairs."

Do you rent out a place in Brent? Apply for your licence today to avoid fines of up to £30,000. www.brent.gov.uk/getlicensed

FINED

Sofa, so good

Don't miss your chance to dispose of bulky waste for free with Brent's community skips, which will be available in your neighbourhood this summer. In the previous round of skips, residents recycled more than 12 tonnes of items. Please scan QR Code.



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Carpenders Park Lawn Cemetery graves reinstated following Islamophobic attack

A memorial service took place for the families of loved ones whose graves were desecrated in a hate crime attack.

Brent Council owns Carpenders Park Lawn Cemetery in Watford where 61 children's graves were vandalised back in April. Police investigated the incident as a hate crime.

Councillor Harbi Farah, Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, Jobs and Skills, said: "We promised that we would do everything we could to support the families. Now we are able to honour and respect them by reinstating the graves and signs.

"We continue to work with the police and the community to ensure that the cemetery is safe." Read more on page 28.



Councillors and community leaders paid their respects, honouring the families' loved ones, during the memorial ceremony

Community assessment same day results

New innovative technologies, like the ASKSARA App are changing the way Adult Social Care team help residents to live their best lives; particularly with to access social care services, making it easier for carers and individuals to get the right information and complete the right forms without duplication

In May, the council held another successful Community Assessment Day event at Church End and Roundwood Unity Centre after trialling last year.

These fast-track events help residents to access immediate care and support, to talk with social workers from across Brent Council to find out what they may be eligible for. On the day, over 120 people dropped in for free health and wellbeing checks from the Brent Health Matters team. Advisors from Citizens Advice were also on hand to support individuals worried about money.



Resident at same day community assessment event

'I don't think I love you anymore' noisy neighbour fined

One noisy neighbour in Alpertown was fined £8,665 after repeatedly playing loud music late at night and breaching a noise abatement notice.

FINED

Nearby residents gathered evidence of Ms A's antisocial behaviour via the council's Noise App, documenting some of the tracks that were blasted (which included the 2019 Alaina Castillo track I Don't Think I Love You Anymore!) and one incident where music played for over seven hours. Noise nuisance blighting your life? Report it via the Noise App: <https://bit.ly/4kiGBrc>



Singer Alaina Castillo

Have your say on proposed new canal bridge

A new pedestrian and cycle bridge across the Grand Union Canal in Alpertown is being proposed by the council to improve access. Have you say about the proposals and your ideas regarding local wildlife conservation and public art installations. You can also help choose a name for the new bridge.

For more information and to participate in the consultation, please complete the survey by Friday, 25 July before 5pm. Scan QR code



Family homelessness service finds new home

Families facing homelessness can now find the support they need at the New Horizons Centre in Roundwood.

The service relocated from the Civic Centre to make it easier for residents to access a wide range of extra support services, including Brent Hubs, immigration advice, and debt support – all under one roof.

Filling in an online form is the easiest way to schedule an appointment, but emergency drop-ins are also available on weekdays, 9am – 4pm, for families who have suddenly become homeless and have nowhere to stay that night.

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Brent's first hairdressing academy has opened in Harlesden town centre, the first of its kind in the borough developed by Brent Council and training provider Brent Start.

£5 million cash boost for Alperton Station

Residents and commuters using Alperton Underground Station will benefit from a major upgrade after Brent Council approved £5 million in funding for full step-free access and essential improvements.

This investment, supported by the

Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (SCIL) and matched by Transport for London (TfL), will enable a complete station renovation expected to finish by Summer 2027

Alperton Station currently serves over 3 million passengers every year. Planned

enhancements include new lifts, more ticket gates to reduce overcrowding, and upgraded accessible toilets with baby changing facilities. TfL's designs aim to blend modern features with the station's historic character.



Get on your bike

Help make Brent a greener and healthier place to live through the Revive and Ride scheme.

The scheme is all about reviving bikes that have been dumped at the Waste and Recycling Centre in Abbey Road, fixing them up and giving them a second life. The bikes are donated to local faith and community groups.

In partnership with Peddle My Wheels, the council is offering up to 10 free bikes per group, including cycle training and guided community cycle rides. Whether you're part of a church, mosque, temple, or local community group, you can help get your members cycling.

Faith and community groups in Brent can sign up by submitting a short application detailing how the bikes will be used, where they will be stored, and the group's commitment to safety and training. www.brent.gov.uk/reviveandride Scan QR code to apply:



Residents using recycled bicycles

New 24-hour helpline to report hate crimes

Report hate crimes anonymously and access support 24/7 with a new hotline.

Call 0800 138 1625 or visit www.stophateuk.org

A hate crime can range from verbal abuse to physical attacks or discrimination – but they target individuals based on their race, religion, sexual orientation, transgender identity or disability.

The new service was launched by partners Brent Council, Stop Hate UK and Protection Approaches.

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Just 1-2 hours a week can provide the stability, confidence, and encouragement they need to thrive. Full training is provided - no experience needed, just a listening ear and a desire to help.



e: grandmentors@volunteermatters.org.uk

Millions pave the way for Kilburn's road to success

Millions of pounds in funding is set to transform Kilburn High Street which will tackle its poor road safety record and provide a more inviting and accessible experience for everyone who visits the area.

Following a consultation, undertaken between July and August last year, residents had the opportunity to have their say and answer questions on their 'overall feelings about the proposed scheme'.

Over 82% of responses were positive with strong support for 'more trees, pocket parks and planting' and 'wider pavements, more pedestrian crossing and continuous pavements'.

Both Camden and Brent councils have already spent over £1.5 million on upgrading paving, lighting and street furniture in the upper section of Kilburn High Road, as an earlier phase of the overall scheme.

Councillor Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Environment and Enforcement, said:

"Residents have been crying out for investment here, so I am very excited to work closely with Camden and Westminster councils, and TfL." The next phase of construction is scheduled to start summer 2026.



Proposed developments to Kilburn High Road

Cool kids breathe easy with low emission

A new ground-breaking initiative, funded by Defra, has engaged over 6,200 students through 53 workshops, to map out a number of low emission walking routes for 93 schools across the borough.

A group of pupils from St Claudine's Catholic School in Harlesden, attended the launch of a new mural painted to

celebrate clean air and low emissions.

Councillor Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Environment and Enforcement, said: "Tackling polluted air is so important because it can have such a negative effect without us even noticing."



A new mural has been created celebrating clean air

Minister praises Brent Family Wellbeing Centres

Brent's eight Family Wellbeing Centres provide a wide range of support, including access to Citizens Advice Brent, food parcels and vouchers, information on feeding your family on a budget, activities and outings for children and families, and healthy lifestyles.

In May, the Minister of State for Employment, Alison McGovern, visited Brent's Family Wellbeing Centre in Harlesden and met with parents, children, and partners delivering vital services at the centre in Curzon Crescent. Partner organisations and representatives from the Jobcentre Plus, Citizens Advice, and charities providing essential items for babies and help for refugee and migrant families, told the ministerial delegation about the work they were doing to support families dealing with the cost-of-living crisis.

Councillor Harbi Farah, Cabinet Member for Safer Communities, Jobs and Skills, said: "The cost-of-living crisis is pricing families out of being able to meet basic needs, even in families where both parents are working. That's why the services on offer at Brent's Family Wellbeing Centres are so necessary."



Minister of State for Employment, Alison McGovern (left) visiting the Curzon Family Wellbeing Centre in Harlesden

Grants of up to £15,000 available now

Community-led projects that improve the lives of Brent residents could now benefit from grant funding.

The 'Love where you live' grant offers between £1,000 and £15,000 for community projects which help improve life locally. Brent Council is working in partnership with Wembley Stadium Foundation to offer the grants. Apply by 29 June.



MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

citizens
advice

Harrow

In partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support, Citizens Advice are offering Brent residents affected by cancer and their carers a free, independent, confidential 'financial health check'.

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Wembley Park, London, UK

More than 150 people gathered for a community vigil to honour the lives of Nusrat Usman and her children - Maryam, Musa, and Raees - who tragically died in a devastating house fire at their home at St Raphael's Estate on Saturday 24 May.

Neighbours, local leaders, and faith representatives offered prayers and paid tribute to the beloved family, leaving flowers and heartfelt messages of remembrance.



New affordable homes at Zephaniah House

Brent Council and Wates have begun construction at Zephaniah House in Wembley, starting with a ground-breaking ceremony. The old office building was demolished last year, and the new development will offer 54 affordable homes, workspace, and a cafe.

Meanwhile, at Cecil Avenue (the former Copland School site), work is ongoing to provide 237 homes, including 87 affordable homes. The development includes a public garden, play area, commercial spaces supporting local businesses, around 100 new job opportunities, and a community hall for events. Both projects are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2026.



Officers and Councillors from Brent Council with colleagues from developer Wates

Church End and Roundwood investment boost

Brent has committed a major investment for infrastructure improvements in Church End and Roundwood as part of the Green Neighbourhoods initiative.

The first phase will focus on Church Path and Longstone Avenue and will be completed by spring 2026. These improvements will focus on sustainable infrastructure, boosting biodiversity, and creating safer, more inclusive streets. Consultation events will take place in July. If you live, work or frequently visit Church End and Roundwood, this consultation is for you.

Please check the consultation webpage this July to have your say: <https://haveyoursay.brent.gov.uk>



Artist impression of the green neighbourhood improvements

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Green dreams

Eighty community-led environment projects have benefitted from a council grant which supports communities to make their neighbourhoods greener, cleaner and more environmentally friendly.



Brent Together
Towards Zero

The Together Towards Zero grant provides residents and organisations with up to £5,000 for one-off community-led projects which help address the climate emergency.

So far, £190,000 has been awarded by the council to successful applicants since the Together Towards Zero grants were launched in 2021.

Absolute Beginners Factory, in Park Royal Estate, received £4,960 to empower young people with practical skills in sustainable manufacturing with local young people learning how to produce carbon-neutral products. As part of the project discarded Nitrous Oxide canisters were transformed into beautifully crafted vases.

A £5,000 grant allowed The Central Mosque of Brent to run workshops,

plant flowers, and establish a free bike hire scheme for the local community. St Mark's Church in Kensal Rise created a community garden with the aid of a £3,500 grant.

Anyone walking along Princes Road in South Kilburn can now enjoy hanging baskets filled with flowers and herbs thanks to a £1,500 grant awarded to Princess Road Residents Association to make the street more colourful.

Over in St Raphael's Estate, a thriving wildlife pond is a delight for visitors to the community garden following a seven-month project led by Sufra NW London, which was supported by a £5,000 grant. Billie Beckley, Garden Manager at Sufra, said: "The grant allowed us to create a better living space for our fish and local birds and native plants. We've fostered a

sense of ownership and pride as everyone has worked together to create the pond."

Councillor Jake Rubin, Cabinet Member for Climate Action and Community Power, said: "Our Together Towards Net Zero Grant enables communities to really improve the look and feel of their local area, support biodiversity and offer a much-loved opportunity to connect with nature. We're excited to receive the next round of applications and look forward to seeing how we can support residents' climate-friendly plans over the next few months." The next round of Together Towards Zero grant is open now. Applications will be assessed on a regular basis as they come in. The deadline may close earlier than Spring 2026 if all of the funding is successfully allocated in advance. Apply now at: www.brent.gov.uk/togethertowardszero

Check out the amazing climate-action work going on in the borough in the "Roots of Brent" documentary. It's one to watch!



St Mark's Church in Kensal Rise used a £3,500 grant to create a beautiful community garden

Our Together Towards Net Zero Grant enables communities to really improve the look and feel of their local area.

Councillor Jake Rubin,
Cabinet Member for
Climate Action and
Community Power



come alive



On St Raphael's Estate, a thriving wildlife pond has become a highlight of the community garden. Billie Beckley, Garden Manager at Sufra (pictured), helped lead the project



Absolute Beginners Factory, a community inclusion company, was awarded £4,960 to empower young people with hands-on skills in sustainable manufacturing



The Princess Road Residents' Association has brightened up Princes Road in South Kilburn with planters and hanging baskets

cleaner & greener

Crushing fly-tippers



The *Don't Mess with Brent* campaign has been recognised by Central Government as they introduce new nationwide powers to crackdown on cowboy waste operators and make it easier to crush vehicles responsible for fly-tipping.

The *Don't Mess with Brent* campaign has been recognised by Central Government as they introduce new nationwide powers to crackdown on cowboy waste operators and make it easier to crush vehicles responsible for fly-tipping.

Councils such as Brent are being given greater powers to identify, seize and crush the vehicles of criminals who dump waste on streets.

The new powers enhance the council's Don't Mess with Brent zero-tolerance approach to fly-tipping with more enforcement officers and higher fines for criminals. Compared to the previous year, the council has issued 30% more fines to offenders who litter local streets while the number of reported fly-tips has been falling.

Anyone caught transporting or dealing with waste illegally now faces up to five years in prison under the new legislation.

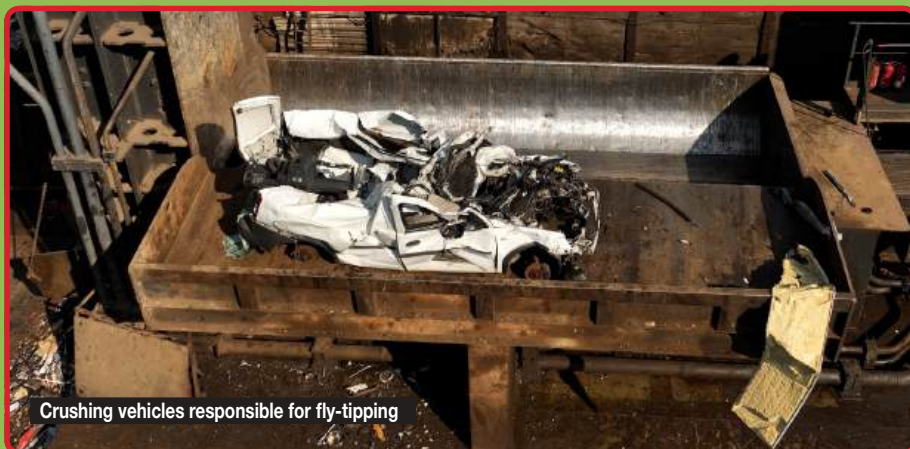
Councillor Muhammed Butt, Leader of Brent Council, said: "I cannot wait to crush more vehicles responsible for ruining our streets. Criminals who pollute our neighbourhoods with rubbish need to be stopped. These new powers will be a welcome addition to our arsenal, reinforcing our zero-tolerance stance on fly-tipping. "We're beginning to see the positive impact of our focused efforts, and I am determined to use every tool at our disposal, including seizing vehicles, to reclaim our streets." Scan QR Code to report fly-tipping in your area.



Inspecting fly tips, no matter the weather, no matter the time, those responsible will get a fine

I cannot wait to crush more vehicles responsible for ruining our streets, criminals who pollute our neighbourhoods with rubbish need to be stopped.

Councillor
Muhammed Butt,
Leader of Brent
Council



Crushing vehicles responsible for fly-tipping

cleaner & greener



Councillor Muhammed Butt, Leader of Brent Council, inspects the aftermath of a crushed car

Screening success

Around 1 in 2 people will develop some form of cancer during their lifetime, according to Cancer Research UK.

By organising regular events in the community to talk about the importance of bowel cancer screenings.

Councillor Neil Nerva,
Cabinet Member for
Community Health
and Wellbeing



Although this may sound scary, early diagnosis can significantly improve survival rates. For example, nine out of ten people survive bowel cancer when it is detected in the early stages.

This is one of the reasons why Brent's health inequalities programme, Brent Health Matters, has been working hard to encourage residents to get tested for signs of bowel cancer – starting with communities where testing rates are far lower than better off areas.

Brent Health Matters worked with doctors from nine GP surgeries in socially deprived areas with the lowest uptake screenings to get tested for bowel cancer. Each GP practice identified patients who had not returned their screening tests and made phone calls to over 2,000 patients to encourage them to get tested and address any concerns.

Raja Mohammad Khan, 58, from Willesden attended a bowel cancer screening session at the Central Mosque of Brent and subsequently ordered and completed the test kit. Raja said: "I learned that my age means it was time to get tested, and I probably should have done it a few years ago. Straight after the talk I ordered the kit and have done the process – it was quick and easy."

Councillor Neil Nerva, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health, and Leisure said, "By organising regular events in the community to talk about the importance of bowel cancer screenings, and delivering those sessions in different languages, we have managed to reach out to diverse groups and communities."

Raja Mohammad Khan, 58, from Willesden

Remote MRI scans a first for Wembley

Wembley Community Diagnostic Centre has extended its MRI scanning hours up until midnight thanks to use of the latest scanning technology that allows radiographers to operate the MRI remotely.

This is the first time the technology has been used for this purpose in the NHS and means the service can work more flexibly around times that suit patients.

In the first month, 306 extra patients were seen between 8pm and midnight which has reduced waiting times by over two-thirds and helped to improve early diagnosis rates.



Imperial College Healthcare staff responsible for the remote MRI scans at Wembley Community Diagnostic Centre

Protecting renters

More than 17,000 properties are now licensed, and conditions have improved in over 3,000 homes.

Property licensing has been a legal requirement across the borough since April 2024 with all landlords, except those in Wembley Park, requiring a licence to rent out properties.

The law aims to shield tenants from landlords who neglect safety standards, overcrowd homes, or fail to perform essential repairs.

Dodgy landlords with unlicensed rented properties can face severe financial penalties, including fines of up to £30,000, or an unlimited fine from the court if prosecuted and even a criminal record. In some cases, landlords may be banned from

managing rental properties altogether. In May, two brothers Vimal and Ravi Kanji Bhudia were fined £20,000 and added to the national rogue landlord database after failing to get licensed.

When council enforcement officers visited their seven-bedroom house on Ilmington Road, Kenton - following a tip-off from a concerned neighbour - they found 15 people living in unsafe and overcrowded conditions.

"Everyone deserves to live in a home that's safe and secure," says Councillor Fleur Donnelly-Jackson, Cabinet Member for Housing and Residents Services. "That's why we are stepping up enforcement patrols across Brent."

One year on from its introduction, Brent's boroughwide landlord licensing scheme is transforming the rental landscape locally.

If you're an unlicensed landlord, we will find you - and you will face serious consequences.

"This law exists to protect people from landlords who put them at risk by ignoring safety standards, cramming too many people into one home, or failing to carry out essential repairs."

Read more about how to get licensed before it's too late, or report an unlicensed property, at: www.brent.gov.uk/getlicensed



Councillor Fleur Donnelly-Jackson



Paan-demic

The hidden dangers of a silent killer linked to throat cancer and tuberculosis have been laid bare.

Doctors and health experts are warning that paan chewing is strongly linked to mouth and oral cancers.

Chewing paan is popular among South Asian and several other communities. It is betel leaf wrapped around the areca nut, slaked lime, and often tobacco. However, the habit carries serious health risks that are often overlooked.

Emerging research has also connected paan use with tuberculosis (TB), as the deadly habit compromises oral immunity, making users more vulnerable to infections.

In response, the council is focusing on providing education and support to help users understand the risks and encourage healthier choices.

A free six-week health programme and workshop are available for anyone hoping to kick the habit.

As well as the terrible health effects, the red-stained spittle from paan spat out stains pavements and buildings costing hard working taxpayers over £30,000 a year to clean up. The council's Don't Mess with Brent campaign, is taking a zero-tolerance approach to issuing fines for anyone caught paan spitting.

Councillor Neil Nerva, Cabinet Member for Community Health and Wellbeing, said: "Paan chewing is a major concern. Not only are the health risks severe, but the environmental impact and financial burden on taxpayers is substantial. We want to encourage communities to recognise that their health is a greater concern and that we respect their cultural traditions, while protecting public health and cleanliness."

To find out more about getting help and registering for a treatment programme scan the QR Code or telephone: **020 8937 5490**



Dr Shazia Siddiqui, Clinical Lead for Primary & Community Care (Brent) said:

Chewing paan is a cherished social tradition, often enjoyed at weddings and special occasions. The paan leaf itself isn't harmful – the concern, however, is what's regularly put inside it!

Additives like betel nut and tobacco, when eaten frequently in the paan can pose serious health risks.

The regular use of betel nut has been linked to oral and oesophageal cancers, while tobacco is highly addictive.

Both can cause recurrent mouth ulcers and bleeding gums and can also weaken the immune system and increase the risk of infections like tuberculosis.

Cutting back or stopping can make a real difference to your health – and help build a healthier Brent for everyone."



Dr Shazia Siddiqui, Clinical Lead for Primary & Community Care

Fast track

A fresh approach is seeing residents who need a care assessment seen and assessed faster.

Like many councils across the country, Brent has a waiting list for care assessments which is a process used to understand an individual's needs and potential eligibility for support. Care assessments usually involve a discussion with the person and potentially their advocate to determine what help they need and what can be offered to improve their wellbeing and independence.

In May, the council held another successful Community Assessment Day event at Church End and Roundwood Unity Centre. Social care teams, health professionals, and partner organisations were available to discuss individual care support needs

These fast-track events demonstrate the council's commitment to transforming services, providing responsive care swiftly to the community and reducing the time people wait for support, which is especially important for anyone struggling with everyday tasks. Social workers used AI technology, Magic Notes, to

automatically generate assessments and case notes, reducing the admin burden and freeing up time for face-to-face conversations. The council also introduced Ask Sara, a new digital assessment tool designed to support independent living

Councillor Neil Nerva, Cabinet Member for Community Health and Wellbeing, said: «We are taking a fresh approach to how we deliver adult social care in Brent. The community assessment day is a key part of our strategy to be more agile, reduce waiting times, improve accessibility and empower residents with the information and tools they need. The council is committed to providing high-quality services and transforming how we deliver adult social care to ensure it is responsive, accessible and sustainable for the future.»

For help and support scan QR code.



We are taking a fresh approach to how we deliver adult social care in Brent. The Community Assessment Day is a key part of our strategy to be more agile, reduce waiting times, improve accessibility and to empower our residents with the information and tools they need.

Councillor Neil Nerva, Cabinet Member for Community Health and Wellbeing

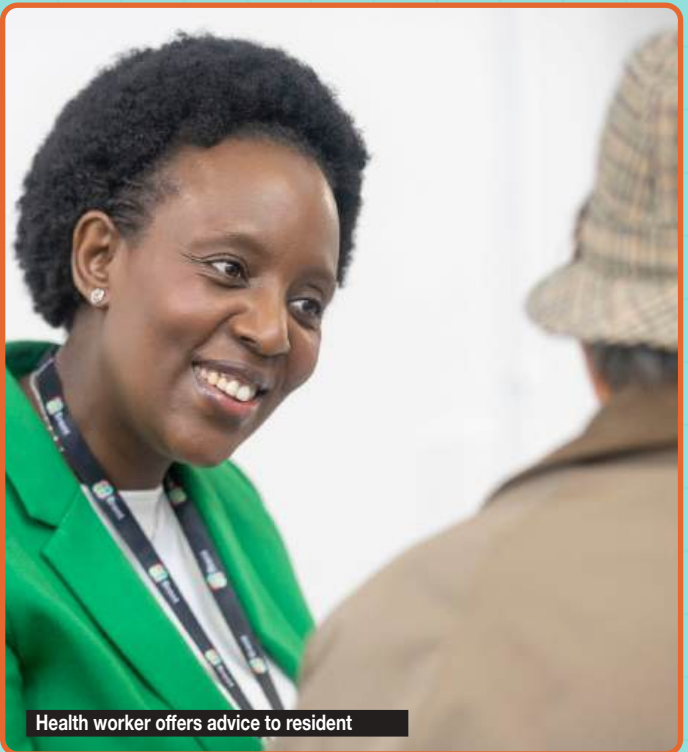


(l-r) Lynette Gbedze, Service Manager, Adult Social Care, Claudia Brown, Director Adult Social Services and Councillor Neil Nerva, Cabinet Member for Community Health and Wellbeing

care



Health Care worker discusses assessment results



Health worker offers advice to resident



Councillor Neil Nerva (right) talks to Social Care team



Resident gets hands-on support with online access to services



Resident attends assessment day



Residents get same day results at community event

A father's reflection

In April, sixty- one graves were desecrated at Carpenders Park Lawn Cemetery shocking communities in Brent and beyond. This horrific hate crime occurred in the Muslim children's section, causing more pain for the families who were grieving the loss of their loved ones.

Following the Police investigation, Brent Council acted immediately to restore Carpenders Park Lawn Cemetery to a peaceful and respectful place of remembrance. The area has now been cleaned and all the plaques that need replacing have been identified. The council has reached out to families to arrange replacements or permanent memorials.

Iqbal Khan, whose daughter Baraka was buried at Carpenders Park, wrote this heart-felt and moving reflection following the incident ►

For many of us who have loved and buried our dear ones there, the pain runs deep. For me, Carpenders Park is more than a cemetery. It is where my beloved 24-year-old daughter Baraka Khan chose as her resting place once she returned to her Creator.

Baraka was an exceptionally gifted soul. In 2013, at just 21 years of age, she was diagnosed with bilateral stage three small cell lung cancer. A bright and beloved graduate of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, she was told she had just three to six months to live.

In the face of this crushing prognosis, Baraka responded with grace and clarity that left even her doctors in awe. She began to bring order to her affairs – not with fear, but with foresight.

One afternoon, she asked me: "Dad, can you help me find some real estate in the UK?" I assumed she meant an apartment in Central London. But she smiled, almost mischievously, and said, "No, Baba, I mean a much more long-term real estate."

Baraka has begun researching cemeteries. When I explained the difference between Muslim-only burial grounds and multi-faith cemeteries, she paused, reflected, and said something I will never forget: "If Allah wanted me to be buried in a Muslim-only cemetery, I would have been born in an Islamic country. I've lived my whole life with friends of all faiths. Why should death separate what life joined together?"

She chose Carpenders Park, a place close to our home, a place she felt reflected both her British identity and her Muslim faith. When I showed her a map of the available plots, she chose one closest to the footpath. I asked her why she would choose this one in particular. With a twinkle in her eye, she said: "So that when my friends come to visit me, their shoes won't get muddy."

Baraka designed her own tombstone. She saw my tears and gently reassured me: "Hopefully I'll not need it for a long time to come."

In the end, Baraka lived another two years, eight months, and 22 days – far beyond the time she was given. She lived with courage, beauty, and faith, and returned to her Lord at peace with her journey.

As a Muslim father, every time I enter Carpenders Park, I read a prayer, not only for the Muslims buried there, but also for our Christian neighbours and friends. I ask for peace upon all of them, for they share this sacred earth together.

Baraka believed in that shared peace. She lived it. She died in it. She was proud to be both British and Muslim, deeply rooted in her identity, and deeply respectful of others. Carpenders Park Cemetery gave her that space, to be remembered with dignity, to be visited without division.

Today, as we grieve the recent violence that has shattered the serenity of this space, I urge our communities to return to what Baraka embodied, compassion, humility, and mutual respect.

Let Carpenders Park remain what it was always meant to be: a sanctuary of rest, a reflection of a Britain we can all be proud of – diverse, sacred, and united in our shared humanity.



Rebecca's road to wellbeing

When mum of three Rebecca Melbourne became the main carer for her toddler, Tamera, after a change in family circumstances she suddenly found herself feeling alone and isolated.

Rebecca, 39, from Wembley Park, has multiple sclerosis and uses a wheelchair. Her maternal grandmother had previously helped to look after two-year-old Tamera. However, after Rebecca's grandma suffered a stroke, she felt like she had no support.

"I didn't want my daughter to miss out on socialising with other children because of my disability," said Rebecca, who was struggling to get her energetic young child to the Family Wellbeing Centre activities she loves. On the advice of Brent Council's Children and Families Information Service, Rebecca contacted HomeStart in Brent – a local charity offering emotional and practical support to families with young children.

Home Start home support volunteer Paula began visiting Rebecca for about three hours a week to provide immediate help getting her to activities with her daughter. Home Start also provided practical support with accommodation adaptations to make Rebecca's home more wheelchair friendly. Rebecca, who also has a 19-year-old son and 17-year-old daughter, said

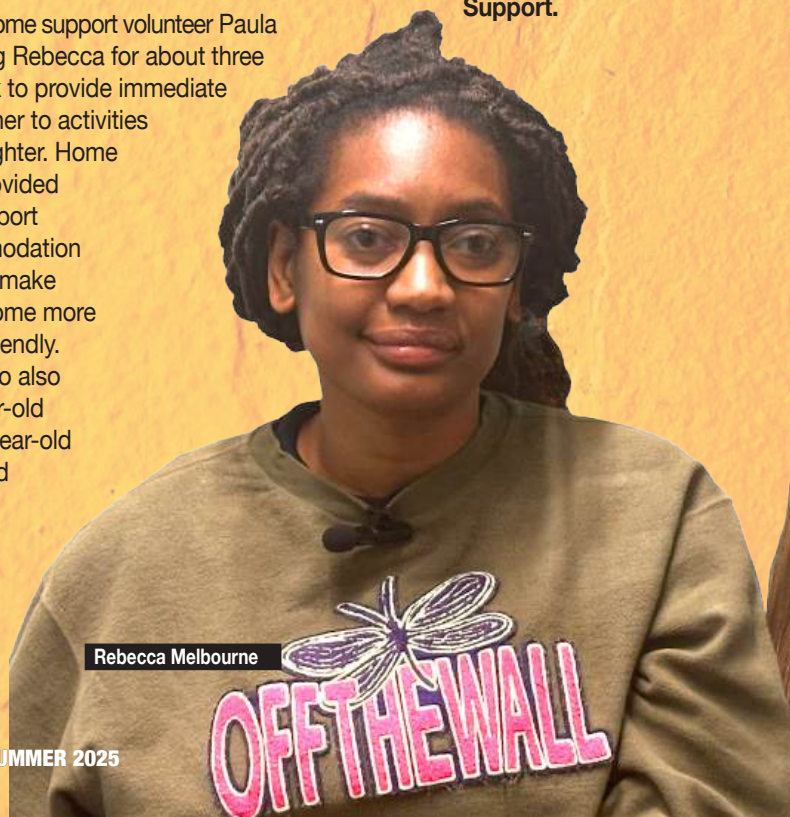
"Paula helped me emotionally and practically and supported us as a family. I recommend HomeStart to any Brent parent, they are there to offer emotional support for parents as well as your child." HomeStart is one of many services in Brent that support parents in their child's early years.

Learn more at: www.brent.gov.uk/newborn

Brent Council has also commissioned the Parent Infant Relationship Service (PAIRS), run by NHS specialists, to support bonding and emotional wellbeing for parents, caregivers, and babies up to 24 months old, usually meeting families at Family Wellbeing Centres. Contact: bit.ly/Parent-Infant-Support.



Rebecca and her daughter Tamera



Rebecca Melbourne



Adriana Simcok, Family Support Co-ordinator or HomeStart in Brent

Baby steps to big rewards



Caring for a child as a parent, family member, or foster carer can bring many rewards while offering the much-needed stability and loving home children need.

The life-changing role played by foster carers was recognised and celebrated during Foster Care Fortnight in May, as the council hosted The Power of Relationships event.

Joanne Gumm, 47, from North Wembley, has been a baby foster carer for 14 years. She started her fostering journey after going along to a winter fair hosted by Brent. Joanne said: "Fostering a baby is rewarding because you see them come to you as a newborn and then you hear them talking and see them start walking. You get to watch them grow."

As a foster carer you are required to attend training courses and meetings. Joanne has found that with the support of her family and wider network she has been able to easily balance her life as a foster carer with other responsibilities.

She continued: "Babies mould into your family and we love the fact that we get to watch them develop. Fostering has to be a family choice; it has to be something you all do together."

Over the years Joanne has had regular

contact with her social worker who has always been willing to give her advice, "I have one of the best social workers, she's amazing and she's always at the end of the phone for me," Joanne concluded.

Councillor Gwen Grahl, Brent's Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Schools, said: "Every child and young person in Brent deserves safety, nurture and the best start in life. This year we celebrate the power of relationships because it's through connections that foster carers can share their love and improve the lives of children and young people in Brent."

During Foster Care Fortnight, Brent social workers distributed information that explained the fostering process and its benefits. Brent foster carers now receive up to £495 per week, depending on the child's age and needs, and the carer's experience. These competitive allowances are complemented by an improved Fostering Offer, which includes local discounts and specialised support.

If you are interested in fostering in Brent visit:

www.brent.gov.uk/fostering



Guests at the Power of Relationships event in May



Joanne Gumm, baby foster carer from North Wembley

Steeling the

The Notting Hill Carnival is Europe's largest and one of the world's longest-running street parties. Each year, over two million people, including thousands of tourists, celebrate Caribbean culture - with steel pan music being an integral part of the experience.

Patrick McKay, 57, who was born in Trinidad & Tobago and raised in Stonebridge, has always been proud of his Caribbean roots. He started teaching steel pan to pass on traditions to future generations and to support the community.

He is the founder of Phoenix Rising, formerly known as St Michael and All Angels Steel Orchestra, a youth orchestra from Harlesden that performs at the carnival each year. The orchestra has previously won the prestigious Best Youth Band and Best Conventional Band titles. "It is a privilege to contribute to the Notting Hill Carnival, a world-renowned cultural event that celebrates Afro-Caribbean culture and to ensure we pass on the rich knowledge and skills," says Patrick. "Our programme offers activities for children, young people, and adults, especially from the Afro-Caribbean community."

"Young people volunteer their time, play music, and socialise with people that are elderly or have disabilities at residential care homes, day centres hospices and hospitals. They also tour the UK and abroad performing at events."

The steel band is currently recruiting players who would like to learn to play steel pan and take part in this year's Notting Hill Carnival.

Saturday morning sessions are open to all ages, starting at 9am at The Brent Hub, 6 Hillside, NW10 8BN.



Patrick McKay and Phoenix Rising at Notting Hill Carnival



Patrick and young players rehearsing for a show

show



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WEMBLEY

Victory in Europe 80



Thousands of people in Brent marked VE Day, on 8 May with street parties and Big Lunches, featuring bunting and Union Jack flags as neighbours shared food and music, and acknowledged war veterans.

The day served as a reminder of unity, resilience, and the significance of remembering the men, women, and Commonwealth troops who served in WWII.

Following the national two minutes silence, dignitaries honoured the veterans who contributed to peace and victory in Europe at a wreath laying ceremony at Brent Civic Centre.

Other events locally included a VE80 1940's themed Tea Party hosted by The Royal British Legion at Chalkhill Community Centre while Philip Grant from the Wembley History Society delivered an illustrated talk at Kingsbury Library. The talk highlighted the losses experienced by the people of Brent during WWII and the celebrations held in the borough on VE Day.

Additionally, the Library at Willesden Green held a lunchtime jazz concert showcasing popular music from the 1930s and 40s, featuring songs in French, Yiddish, Italian, German, and English. Each library had VE Day book displays for residents to explore stories and histories related to WWII, including BookTrust story and rhyme times for children under 5, introducing these themes to younger residents.



Guests and dignitaries celebrate VE Day 80, at Chalkhill community centre



Councillor Muhammed Butt, Leader of Brent Council, dignitaries and invited guests lay wreath to commemorate VE Day 80th anniversary

Shaping identity

Brent is proud to be the second most ethnically diverse borough in the country, and one of the most religious.

The Becoming Brent programme and exhibition is entering its final stages and will conclude in Autumn 2025.

It tackles the complicated and challenging legacy of the British Empire – 100 years after King George V opened the British Empire Exhibition in Wembley, which 27 million people visited during 1924 and 1925.

Funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and brought to life by Brent Council, the programme explores the connections between the north-west London borough's colonial past and its effect on the present community.

In May, as part of the Becoming Brent series, residents and guests attended a panel discussion, "Strangers in London: Art, Migration and the Shaping of Identity", inspired by Ismail Einashe's acclaimed book "Strangers", at The Library at Willesden Green. The book examines the profound impact of migration on London's vibrant cultural scene.

Three panellists, Ismail Einashe, a journalist and writer, Gilane Tawadros, the director of the Whitechapel Gallery Ornella Mutoni, an emerging documentary director and moderator Louise Benson, a writer and art critic, explored how migration is intertwined with art and influence's communities and identity. Understanding how a thriving community can benefit people from diverse backgrounds, usually starts with sharing arts, cultural heritage, and music – which ultimately fosters pride in where we live. The thought-provoking discussion illustrated how feelings of belonging evolve in diverse communities like Brent, and how the experiences of those who have crossed borders have shaped artistic practices and expressions in Brent.



Councillor Fleur Donnelly-Jackson, Cabinet Member for Resident Support and Culture, said: "The 'Strangers in London,' panel discussion, forms part of Becoming Brent series and highlights how art, migration, and identity are inextricably linked, shaping our borough's rich

cultural tapestry, and the powerful role migration plays in its ongoing evolution."

Find out more information about Becoming Brent events scan the QR Code.



The 'Strangers in London,' panel discussion, forms part of Becoming Brent series and highlights how art, migration, and identity are inextricably linked, shaping our borough's rich cultural tapestry.

Councillor Fleur Donnelly-Jackson, Cabinet Member for Resident Support and Culture





Louise Benson, writer and art critic,
panel moderator



Ornella Mutoni, documentary director



Ismail Einashe, writer of acclaimed book *Strangers*



Brent is a vibrant and culturally rich borough, bursting with free events, activities and live performances all summer long!

Here's your go-to guide to what's on this summer

Brent Libraries Summer Fun Festival 2025

Magical stories, brilliant books and activities for all ages - join the adventure at Brent Libraries.

This year's festival celebrates magical legends and folktales from Africa, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Children aged 3-12 can sign up at Brent Libraries from 28 June to take part in the reading challenge, craft activities, robotics, story performances and book review contest.

Volunteers aged 15-24 are needed to help run the festival, assisting with customer service, promoting library events and supporting activities. By taking part, you will gain valuable skills in event coordination, working with children and customer service. To apply, visit **www.brent.gov.uk/summerinbrent** or email **libraries@brent.gov.uk**.

26 July Robots, rhyme and a really good time



**The Library at Willesden Green, 12-1pm
Ealing Road Library, 2.30-3.30pm**

Join LeX, the world's first robot teacher, as she teams up with virtuoso poet Paul Lyalls to kick off the Brent Libraries Summer Fun Festival. For children and families.

29 July – 30 August Library takeover



Wembley Library

Young people aged 12-15 are invited to work with rap artist BREIS (pronounced breeze) to create and run a poetry and spoken word event to close the festival on 30 August. BREIS, is a rap artist of Nigerian heritage who blends Hip Hop, Jazz, Soul, and Afrobeats and inspires young people through music and poetry workshops. Participants will get hands on experience with all aspects of event planning. For more details or to register your child's interest email **libraries@brent.gov.uk**.

31 July Firebird fairy tales story performance and craft workshop



**The Library at Willesden Green,
11.30am-1pm
Wembley Library, 2.30-4pm**

Join storyteller and writer Sally Pomme Clayton as she tells thrilling fairytales of the Firebird and then create your own paper firebird in a craft workshop. For children aged 6+ and their families.

Throughout August Robotics workshops



Build LEGO robots from scratch and explore STEM skills. For children aged 8-11. Book your free space:
www.bit.ly/BrentLibrariesEventbrite

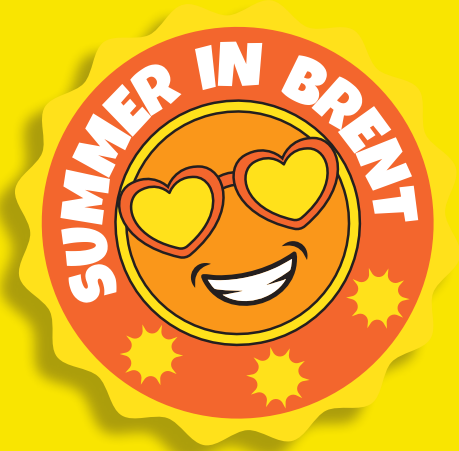
30 August Festival finale

**The Library at Willesden Green, 12-1pm
Wembley Library, 2.30-4pm**

Don't miss the fantastic grand finale of the festival - fun for the whole family! Celebrate the reading challenge winners with a prize-giving ceremony, then enjoy a lively story performance packed with fun and surprises.



Sun, fun and free days out



Make the most of the school holidays with sunshine, nature and plenty of activities. From clubs to outdoor adventures, read on for ways to keep the whole family entertained – and the best part is, most of it won't cost a penny.



1. Go bird watching



Did you know that Brent Reservoir, also known as the Welsh Harp, is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest? Its open water and surrounding habitats are home to an impressive variety of wetland birds and plants, especially rare for an inner-city area. It's a great spot for bird watching, sailing and soaking up nature.

4. Feed the ducks

With over 100 beautiful parks and open spaces, summer is the perfect time to get outside and explore exciting playgrounds, charming cafes and vibrant wildlife areas. Why not lean into park life and bring a picnic? Remember to take litter away with you, and please no BBQs!

2. Borrow a book



With thousands of books to choose from, completely free-of-charge, head to your nearest library and get lost in a great story or your next non-fiction read. Need more motivation? Brent's libraries team is running a reading challenge over the school holidays.

Pop into your nearest library to find out more.

As well as English language books, you'll find titles in Arabic, French, Gujarati, Hindi, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Spanish, Tamil, Urdu, and Ukrainian on the shelves.

Did you know?

There are no late fines on children's books!

5. Hire a pitch and get competitive

From football pitches to badminton courts, hire a sporty space near you and bring on the competition!

3. Kids swim for free

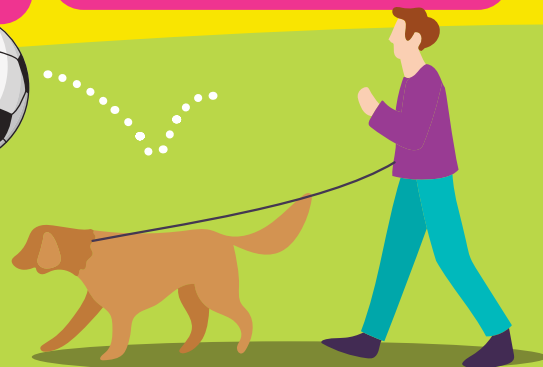


Children aged under 16 can swim for free at Vale Farm Sports Centre and Willesden Sports Centre during school holidays. The offer is available Monday to Friday, excluding bank holidays, session times apply and under 8s must be accompanied by an adult.

6. Free activities for all ages

Find all sorts of fun clubs, classes and activities for families of all ages on Brent Council's website – just search "Brent Council events". You'll find a few of our highlights in the What's On section of this magazine!

It's also worth checking out the timetable of activities at your local Family Wellbeing Centre – these centres are there to support you all the way through from pregnancy until your child turns 18. They run a fun-packed programme of events all year round.





For the best summer yet, head to www.brent.gov.uk/summerinbrent

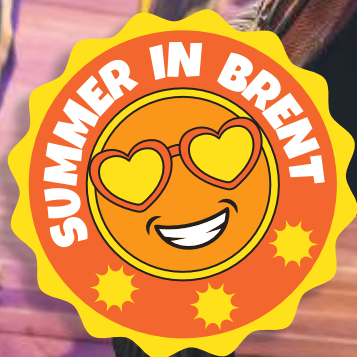
Wembley Rocks



Get ready for an unforgettable sizzling summer of fun in Wembley! Whether you're a music lover, a comedy fan, or just looking for a great time, Wembley is the place to be.

Oasis is back with their highly anticipated reunion tour, and if you missed out on tickets, don't worry – there are plenty of other world class concerts to enjoy.

Wembley isn't just about football; it's a hub for music, boxing, and so much more. So, grab your friends and family and dive into the fun-filled activities that Wembley has to offer!



WEMBLEY PARK
THEATRE



oasis



Throughout summer Theatre: Starlight Express

Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre

As a child's train set magically comes to life and the engines race to become the fastest in the world, Rusty the steam train has little hope of winning until he is inspired by the legend of the 'Starlight Express'.
All ages | £29.50 and up

3 and 4 July Lana Del Rey



Wembley Stadium

Following a series of sensational live shows in 2024 - including headline performances at festivals: Coachella, Reading & Leeds, Lana Del Rey returns with her first UK shows at Wembley Stadium

11 July Jimmy O. Yang

OVO Arena

Comedian and actor Jimmy O. Yang - best known for Silicon Valley, Crazy Rich Asians, Love Hard and Space Force - brings his stand-up comedy show to town as part of his 'Big & Tall' tour

18 July Bad Friends with Andrew Santino & Bobby Lee

OVO Arena

Bad Friends with comedians Andrew Santino and Bobby Lee bring the #1 comedy podcast in the world to the live stage for an evening of stand-up comedy, half-truths, social no-no's and animal behaviour!

15 and 16 August BLACKPINK



Wembley Stadium

Global K-pop sensations BLACKPINK will take the stage at Wembley this August as part of their world tour, becoming the first-ever K-pop girl group to headline the legendary venue

August and September Coldplay



Wembley Stadium

Coldplay's record-breaking 'Music of the Spheres' World Tour returns this summer with 10 spectacular shows.

Throughout summer Farmers Market



Wembley Park

Fresh produce and artisan goods, with over 25 traders selling everything from farm-reared and organic produce to vegan treats and home-grown plants

London Designer Outlet

Wembley Park

The outlet shops offer year-round savings on the biggest brands with up to 70% off the original prices. There are 21 restaurants, cafes and eateries located in the complex.

Box Park

Wembley Park

A vibrant hub of global street food, cultural events, crazy-golf, VR and high-energy vibes. It also doubles as a fan-park, with pre-show entertainment for your favourite bands - perfect whether you've got tickets or just want to soak up the atmosphere!

WHAT'S ON: YOUR SUMMER SORTED



Libraries



Wellbeing for everyone

Mondays - 23 June, 30 June, 7 July, 4-5pm
Harlesden Library

Join us for a hot drink while learning about topics such as healthy eating, diabetes and mental health and wellbeing, paired with gentle exercise. Suitable for adults and families.

Community health and fun day

Saturday 28 June, 12noon - 4pm
Kingsbury Library

Join us to celebrate a day of arts and culture, plus get important free NHS health checks. For children, families and adults.

Connect to work

The Library at Willesden Green:
Thursdays - 3 July, 7 August, 4 September, 2 October, 6 November, 4 December, 3-5pm

Wembley Library: Mondays - 14 July, 11 August, 8 September, 13 October, 10 November, 8 December, 11am-1pm

Harlesden Library: Tuesdays - 15 July, 19 August, 16 September, 21 October, 18 November, 16 December, 3-5pm

A government funded programme to help people find and keep a job.

Summer fun festival launch: robots, rhyme and a really good time!

Saturday 26 July
The Library at Willesden Green, 12noon - 1pm

Ealing Road Library, 2.30 - 3.30pm

Join LeX, the world's first robot teacher, as she teams up with virtuoso poet Paul Lyalls to kick off the Brent Libraries Summer Fun Festival. For children and families.

Craft workshops

Mondays
Creative Crafty Fun (ages 10+)

Ealing Road Library: 28 July, 4, 11, 18 Aug, 11:30am-1pm

Harlesden Library: 28 July, 4, 11, 18 Aug, 2:30-4pm

Myths & Legends (ages 5-11)
Willesden Green Library: 4, 11, 18 Aug, 11am-12 & 2-3pm

Tuesdays

Myths & Legends and Creative Crafty Fun (ages 5-11)

Harlesden Library: 5, 12, 19, 26 Aug, 11am-12noon & 2-3pm

Ealing Road, Kingsbury, Wembley & Willesden Green Libraries:

29 July, 5, 12, 19, 26 Aug, 2:30-3:30pm

Wednesdays

Creative Crafty Fun (ages 10+)

Wembley Library: 30 July; 6, 13, 20, 27 Aug, 2:30-4pm

Thursdays

Creative Crafty Fun (ages 5-11)

Wembley Library: 7, 14, 21, 28 Aug, 11am-12noon & 2-3pm

Fridays

Myths & Legends and Creative Crafty Fun (ages 5-11)

Harlesden Library: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Aug, 2:30-3:30pm

Ealing Road Library: 8, 15, 22, 29 Aug, 11am-12noon & 2-3pm

Saturdays

Creative Crafty Fun (ages 5-11)

Kingsbury Library: 16, 23 Aug, 11am-12noon

Legends on a plate - where every snack tells a story

Monday 28 July
Kingsbury Library, 11.30am - 1pm

Wembley Library, 2.30 - 4pm

Wednesday 30 July
Ealing Road Library, 11.30am - 12.30pm

The Library at Willesden Green, 2.30 - 4pm

Thursday 31 July

Harlesden Library, 2.30 - 4pm

A playful twist on the Eat Well Guide promises to be a fun and engaging experience. Enjoy delicious snacks and learn some wicked dance moves. Ages 5 - 11 years.

Film club

Ealing Road Library
Family film fun. Ages 5 - 11

Thursdays:

31 July - Moana 2
7 August - Dog Man
28 August - Mufasa: The Lion King

Firebird fairy tales story performance and craft workshop

Friday 31 July

The Library at Willesden Green, 11.30am-1pm

Wembley Library, 2.30-4pm

Join storyteller and writer Sally Pommé Clayton as she tells thrilling fairytales of the Firebird and then create your own fairytale and magical beast in a crafty workshop. For children aged 6+ and their families.

Words have wings: poetry and bird box craft workshop

Friday 1 August

Wembley Library, 12 noon - 1:30pm

Kingsbury Library, 2.30 - 4pm

Join brilliantly funny poet Paul Lyalls to celebrate all things nature, learn great poetry skills, write a fantastic poem, make a bird box and make friends. Booking required:
www.bit.ly/BrentLibrariesEventbrite

Build and code: robotics workshops

Brent libraries throughout August

Build LEGO robots from scratch and explore STEM skills. Ages 8 - 11.

Booking required:

www.bit.ly/BrentLibrariesEventbrite

Arts and Culture



Exhibition: Becoming Brent

Until 17 August

The Exhibition Space, Second Floor, The Library at Willesden Green

The Becoming Brent project aims to explore complicated and challenging histories to examine how local and global influences have shaped the borough and how Brent is coming to terms with the long-lasting impact of empire. **Free**
museum.archives@brent.gov.uk

The ministry of lesbian affairs

13 June - 12 July, 7.30pm (2.30pm matinees)

The Kiln

A musical comedy packed with laughs and heart. Back by popular demand after its sold-out Soho Theatre premiere. 14+ | £15-£40
kilntheatre.com

Refugee week

Friday 20 June, 4.30-7.30pm

Newman Catholic College

Celebrate Refugee Week with music, theatre, dance, visual art, and global cuisine. **Free.** contact@werest.art

Kiln theatre fundraiser

Sunday 22 June, 3.30pm

The Kiln

Join Jim Carter for a special fundraiser and screening of Good Luck to You, Leo Grande (2022), followed by a Q&A with Emma Thompson. 18+ | £50-£75.
www.kilntheatre.com

Neasden temple summer fair

Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 July, 11am-9.30pm

Opposite Neasden Temple, Brentfield Road. **Free.** **020 8838 8667**

Exercise



Women's only walking group

Join Wednesday walkers with Keisha. Socialise with other women, get active and enjoy the outdoors. Contact Keisha for more information on **07482709994**

Free low impact exercise classes

Sessions run during term time only

Join us for free low-impact exercise classes at Brent libraries. These sessions promote health and well-being in a supportive environment.

Yoga

Mondays
2:30-3:30pm

Willesden Green Library

Stretch exercise

Tuesdays
2-3pm
Kingsbury Library

Fridays

2-3pm
Harlesden Library

Saturdays

11am-12pm
Ealing Road Library



Bones, stones, and calling the four elements

22 June - 24 October
Borough-wide

This four-part public programme invites communal reflection through elemental 'rituals'—WATER, EARTH, FIRE, and AIR—across Brent's public spaces. Featuring 27 artists through workshops, talks, performances, and exhibitions. **Free.** www.metrolandcultures.com



Kiln community taster workshops

16, 19, 23 and 26 June

The Kiln is seeking performers (aged 7 – 107) for a big community theatre production. No experience necessary. **Free.** To get involved email stellataljaard@kilntheatre.com or call 07375532006.



USEFUL CONTACTS

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

www.brent.gov.uk/costofliving

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Call 999 for the police, fire brigade or ambulance services

Call 101 to report a crime that is not an emergency

Call 111 if you have a medical problem that is not an emergency

OTHER LOCAL SERVICES

Find your local GP using the NHS search tool www.nhs.uk/Service-Search/GP/LocationSearch/4

If you want to help someone sleeping rough go to www.streetlink.org.uk

If you are worried about domestic abuse call Advance Brent on 07398 454 898. Monday to Friday 10am to 6pm or email brent.admin@advancecharity.org.uk

If you are concerned about a child, call Brent Family Front Door on 020 8937 4300



COMMUNITY GRANTS AND FUNDING

www.brent.gov.uk/funding

STAY CONNECTED

Keep in touch with the latest news and service updates in Brent by signing up for e-alerts at:

www.brent.gov.uk/stayconnected

COUNCIL MEETINGS

June 2025

24 Brent Pension Fund Sub-Committee

July 2025

2 Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny

7 Full Council

8 Joint Boroughs IT Committee Brent, Lewisham and Southwark

9 Planning Committee

10 SACRE

16 Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny

21 Welsh Harp Joint Consultative Committee

22 Pension Board

23 Audit & Standards Advisory Committee

24 Health & Wellbeing Board

28 General Purposes Committee

28 Cabinet

August 2025

6 Planning Committee

September 2025

2 Barham Park Trust Committee

2 Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny

8 General Purposes Committee

8 Cabinet

10 Planning Committee

15 Full Council

17 Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny

25 Audit and Standards Advisory Committee & Audit & Standards Committee

ACCESS SERVICES ONLINE

Pay council tax online
www.brent.gov.uk/counciltax

Make a claim for housing benefit
www.brent.gov.uk/housingbenefit

Apply for a parking permit
www.brent.gov.uk/parking

Have you thought about working for Brent Council?

At Brent Council, we never stand still. We listen, adapt, and evolve by working closely with our community to understand what's needed not just today, but tomorrow and beyond. From championing Brent's diversity to pioneering housing, education, and employment strategies, we're shaping a borough where everyone truly belongs. Where our workforce reflects strength.

Ready to take the next step in your career?

Current Opportunities:

Area Tenancy Manager (Housing Officer)

As an Area Tenancy Manager (Housing Officer) you'll support residents to live safely and comfortably. You'll manage tenancies end-to-end, tackle issues like ASB and arrears, and work across services to support vulnerable tenants. This is a unique opportunity to build broad housing expertise, improve service quality, and uphold the Social Housing Regulation Act 2023, making a real difference in people's lives while advancing your career in a vital sector.

Salary: £40,755 - £46,512 p.a. inc. LW

Contract: Permanent

Closes: 6 July 2025

Job ID: 2402

QR Code:



Residential Child Care Worker

Join Ade Adepitan Short Break Centre, Brent's centre of excellence for children with complex needs. As a shift leader, you'll deliver high-quality care, support children with physical and learning disabilities, and help them achieve their goals. You'll manage care plans, lead on autism and complex physical care, and ensure compliance with Ofsted and Children's Homes Regulations. This is a rewarding opportunity to make a lasting impact in a nurturing, child-focused environment.

Salary: £33,912 - £35,982 p.a. incl. LW

Contract: Permanent

Closes: 22 June 2025

Job ID: 2297

QR Code:



Grants Processing Officer

As a Grants Processing Officer, you'll handle enquiries for disabled adaptations, hospital discharge support, and repairs, by liaising with customers, hospitals, and contractors. Your attention to detail and communication skills will support a busy, high-impact service helping elderly, vulnerable, and disabled residents live safely and independently. This is a rewarding opportunity to make a real difference in people's lives.

Salary: £33,912 - £35,982 p.a. inc. LW

Contract: Permanent

Closes: 26 June 2025

Job ID: 2395

QR Code:



Discover the benefits of working with Brent and apply today:
www.brent.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-skills

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SIXTH FORM AT NORTH BRENT SCHOOL

Wembley Multi-Academy Trust is delighted to announce the opening of its brand new Sixth Form at North Brent School, with places available for September 2025.

The Sixth Form at North Brent School is dedicated to turn learners into leaders and will build and add to the success of Wembley High Technology College's Sixth Form utilising the same outstanding teaching practises.

North Brent School's Sixth Form will offer:

- A bespoke programme for university support for Oxbridge, Russell Group and medical and dentistry university places.
- Outstanding teaching and curriculum resources.
- An outstanding personal development and extra-curricular programme.
- Opportunities to develop student leadership skills.



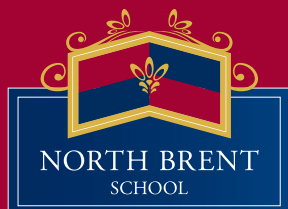
Students can choose from a wide range of AS and A-level subjects to study over two years. Our Sixth Form teachers are subject specialists and have the very highest academic qualifications. Through their expert teaching, guidance and support, our teachers equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful academically and in life.

Study takes place in a brand new, state-of-the-art Sixth Form centre within the grounds of North Brent School.

We have a limited number of places available, to apply complete the application form found at www.northbrentschool.co.uk/sixth-form



www.wmat.co.uk



www.northbrentschool.co.uk



www.elps.co.uk



www.whtc.co.uk