

# YOUR BRENT

SPRING 2026  
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The magazine about life in Brent, published by Brent Council



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# THINK BIG.

## STUDY STEM AT NORTH BRENT SCHOOL SIXTH FORM

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 2026.

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, including state of the art laboratories.
- A unique STEM-focused A Level offer taught by expert subject specialist teachers.
- An outstanding personal development and extra-curricular programme.
- Opportunities to develop student leadership skills.



Students can study a unique STEM A Level offer of Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics/Geography. This is **perfect** for aspiring medics and engineers. 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, scan the QR code to apply.*



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



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



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



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

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**INVESTING IN PEOPLE AND PLACES**

Brent is a borough that never stands still. Change is taking place on our streets, in our parks and libraries and with the everyday services that so many of us rely on.

Over the past year, we've delivered some of the biggest upgrades to public spaces in years. Our award-winning parks will be in full bloom this spring as we spend a further £811,000 to improve allotments, add benches and bins, and enhance much-loved parks including Preston Park, Woodcock Park and One Tree Hill.

Young people are benefitting too. A £4 million refurbishment programme is transforming five youth centres, with designs shaped by local young people to create safer and more inspiring spaces to learn, connect and grow.

We are investing in the basics that matter too: more than 21 km of roads resurfaced, 4,481 potholes repaired in just 12 months and 41 km of pavements upgraded to make walking safer and easier. More than 600 street lighting columns have been replaced to improve visibility and safety across the borough.

We're also raising standards. Our *Don't Mess with Brent* campaign is strengthening, with more fines issued to the selfish people who think it's ok to dump their rubbish on our streets. New AI-powered CCTV cameras and a bigger enforcement team are making a difference.

And there's more to come. Green corridors in Kingsbury and Church End will bring new trees, safer walking routes and vibrant community spaces. Nearly 300 new affordable homes in Wembley are now ready for local families. Our digital inclusion programme has provided more than 1,700 laptops to children, carers and young people leaving care, helping to close the digital divide.

Together, these investments are shaping a Brent that is greener, safer and full of opportunity. But the real strength of our borough comes from the people who live and work here. Thank you for everything you do. By building on the progress we've made we can keep creating a borough that lifts everyone up and reflects the very best of our community.



**Councillor Muhammed Butt**  
Leader of the Council

# Class act as new Wembley Manor school opens

**Smiles, applause and a freshly cut ribbon marked the official opening of the new Wembley Manor School on London Road. Councillors, partners and staff gathered to celebrate Brent's landmark new SEND secondary school, now welcoming pupils since September.**

The £22 million, three-storey campus – funded by the council and delivered with Reds10 and The Rise Partnership Trust – offers 150 specialist places. Designed with calm, modern spaces to boost wellbeing and independence, the school also sets new standards for sustainability across Brent. Cllr Gwen Grahl, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools, said: "It's wonderful to see pupils settling into such an inspiring new school building. The opening of this school means we can offer further local specialist provisions that will support our children to thrive."



Councillors and school staff come together to cut the ribbon and officially open Wembley Manor School, celebrating a major new milestone for specialist education in Brent

# Rogue landlords caught out in £564K rent rip-off

**A greedy rogue landlord couple who milked more than half a million pounds from illegal 'shoebbox' flats have been hit with a massive court order after years of defying the law.**

Inderjeet and Jasvinder Chokkar illegally carved up a three-bedroom family home into six cramped, substandard flats and rented them out without planning permission. Despite being ordered by Brent Council to put things right, they ignored enforcement notices and continued cashing in.

The courts have now ordered the couple to repay £564,367 – every pound they made from the illegal scheme. On top of that, they were fined £65,000 and ordered to pay nearly £50,000 in council costs. They face prison if they fail to pay. Councillor Krupa Sheth said: "Exploit tenants in Brent and you will pay the price."

# Hundreds of families set to move into new affordable homes in Wembley Park

**Nearly 300 brand-new affordable homes are now ready for local families, thanks to the Fulton & Fifth development in Wembley.**

It marks a major milestone in the council's push to increase high-quality, affordable housing for local people.

Delivered by Arada London at the Fulton & Fifth development in Wembley, the 294 new homes represent 40% of the entire development and will be allocated directly to residents on Brent's housing waiting list.

The flats, ranging from one to three bedrooms are finished to a high standard and come with private balconies or terraces. Families are already moving in and making these modern spaces their own.

Fulton & Fifth has transformed from a previously underused site

into a new waterside neighbourhood of 876 homes. Alongside the homes, there are new landscaped public spaces, improved walking and cycling routes, children's play areas, and a new green corridor along the Wealdstone Brook.



Brent Council councillors alongside Arada London colleagues

# Register to vote ahead of May local elections

**As the countdown begins to the local elections in May, Brent Council is encouraging all eligible voters to ensure they are registered to vote.**

With all 57 Brent Council seats being contested at the poll on Thursday 7 May 2026, the elections will play a significant role in shaping the future direction of the borough. Residents who

are not currently on the electoral register, or who have recently moved or changed their personal details, are advised to complete their registration as soon as possible.

Kim Wright, Chief Executive of Brent Council, emphasised the importance of timely registration, stating: "These local elections are an important opportunity for every eligible

voter to have their say on the issues that matter most to them. This is your chance to help shape Brent's future. If you're not registered, you won't be able to vote – so please take a moment, check today, and make sure you are able to make your voice heard in these elections."

The deadline to register to vote in this year's local elections is Monday 20 April and it takes just five minutes at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote). For further information, including details of the council's voter registration days and how to register for a postal vote visit [www.brent.gov.uk/elections](http://www.brent.gov.uk/elections).



Kim Wright, Chief Executive of Brent Council

# Litterers beware - Rain or shine, you'll get a fine!

Enforcement officers are out no matter the weather keeping the streets of Brent clean and inspecting fly-tips for evidence. Those responsible can expect fines in the post.

Residents can quickly report fly-tips and other issues using the Fix My Street app. Report now [report.brent.gov.uk](http://report.brent.gov.uk)



Brent officer inspecting fly-tipping site.

# Unlicensed landlords face prosecution and hefty fines as Brent tightens the net

**Brent has moved to give private renters more protection and landlords who fail to follow the rules are now firmly in the council's sights.**

All privately rented homes in Brent must now be licensed. The council is stepping up enforcement action and landlords operating without a licence risk prosecution and significant financial penalties.

Earlier this year, the Additional HMO Licensing Scheme brought all HMOs, including smaller shared homes (with three or four people from two or more households) into regulation. With schemes also in place for single-let and larger shared homes, with five or more people, all landlords in Brent are now legally required to hold a licence.

The only exception is single-household homes in Wembley Park, which are exempt due to the high proportion of new properties in the ward and low levels of antisocial behaviour.

Cllr Fleur Donnelly-Jackson, Cabinet Member for Housing, said: "Licensing ensures homes are safe, well managed and meet legal standards. Landlords without a licence are breaking the law, and our enforcement team is taking firm action. Make sure your property is licensed today."

Get licensed now: [www.brent.gov.uk/getlicensed](http://www.brent.gov.uk/getlicensed).



Cllr Fleur Donnelly-Jackson

## Arch rivals enjoy a grass act

Schoolchildren from eight Brent schools scored the ultimate VIP experience at Wembley Stadium, racing onto the world-famous pitch for football fun and behind-the-scenes magic. The authorised pitch invaders even met freestyle star Billy Wingrove (centre) and England mascots Rory, Mane and Paws in a day designed by The FA to celebrate and inspire the local community.



Billy Wingrove with school children at Wembley Stadium

# Youth Centres to get massive £4 million upgrade

**Young people across Brent are in for a major boost as the council signs off a £4 million overhaul of five much-loved youth centres – one of the biggest upgrades to community spaces the borough has seen in years.**

The cash will breathe new life into Cricklewood Boxing Club in Dollis Hill, The Jason Roberts Foundation gym and sports hall in Stonebridge, The OK Club in Kilburn, Roundwood School and Community Centre, and the Young Brent Foundation's Anchor Youth Hub in Roundwood. The projects were hand-picked by a panel of local young people.

Cllr Gwen Grahl, Cabinet Member for

Children, Young People and Schools, said the investment is about giving young people “the spaces they need to thrive and feel supported”, helping them build confidence, learn new skills and feel part of their community.

The upgrades will deliver refurbished meeting rooms, new kitchens, sports hall floors, toilets and changing areas – creating safer, more welcoming places for young people to learn, connect and grow.

The cash boost is part of Brent Council's ongoing Investing in Brent commitment to enhancing everyday life, delivering the biggest upgrade to public spaces in years.



Cllr Gwen Grahl joined the action at Cricklewood Boxing Club, skipping alongside young boxers and showing her support for the next generation of talent

# Vale Farm Sports Centre set for major overhaul

**From March, Brent Council will have greater oversight over the services and facilities at Vale Farm Sports Centre, with Everyone Active continuing to deliver day-to-day services.**

The new partnership gives the council more control over pricing, programming, income and investment decisions. It enables planned council investment in the facility, strengthens local accountability, and supports the council's wider aims of helping people in the borough stay fit and healthy.



## Litterers beware

Most residents love their local spaces and wouldn't dream of trashing their streets. That is why the council's community skips are back, touring every ward in the borough, and giving locals the chance to get rid of bulky waste for FREE.

Find out when and where the community skips are taking place.



## Don't leaf it – sign up for garden waste collections

Give your garden a break and yourself one too! Let the council collect your garden waste right from your home. Sign up for garden waste collections by 16 March 2026 and you'll be entered into our prize draw, where three lucky residents will win a full refund on their 2026/27 garden waste subscription plus a £50 Royal Horticultural Society voucher to help their garden flourish.



## New funding must stay local council argues

Wembley attracts millions of visitors each year, boosting the national economy. Brent Council has argued that new funding from a visitor levy, should be reinvested locally to support services and communities hosting global events.



# Funding boost puts West London Orbital on Fast Track

**Brent has been handed a major transport boost after the Mayor of London confirmed £400,000 for the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation to drive forward the West London Orbital (WLO) rail line.**

The much anticipated Overground link would convert underused freight tracks into a fast orbital route connecting Brent, Barnet, Ealing, Hounslow and the new superhub at Old Oak Common, where HS2 and the Elizabeth Line will meet.

Brent has already put its money where its mouth is – signing off £615,516 last April to push the project into the next stage. Independent analysis shows the line could unlock 11,500 jobs and enable 6,700 new homes across west London. New stations are planned for Cricklewood, Neasden and Harlesden, areas where more than half of households don't own a car.

Councillor Teo Benea, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Planning and Property, said: “This new train line will give residents fast, affordable and clean public transport, cutting congestion and emissions in communities with the poorest air quality. The West London Orbital shows how we can grow our economy and tackle inequalities at the same time and Brent is proud to back it.”

TfL is expected to launch a public consultation on next steps this summer.



# Local traders move to join Climate Charter

**A wave of local climate ambition is sweeping through the borough as the Climate Charter celebrates its 100th sign-up.**

Two years after launch, the Charter has become a driving force behind real, practical climate action – giving businesses the tools to shrink their carbon footprint and support Brent’s mission to become carbon neutral by 2030.

Signing up gives local traders practical tools, including the Climate Essentials Carbon Management Platform, funding through the Energy Resilience Fund and Community Builders Fund, and opportunities to showcase their green achievements. Signatories track progress and share successes to inspire others. Sonalisa Bose, owner of Kulkumry Coffee, said: “We are thrilled to be the 100th organisation to sign up, putting sustainability first and contributing to Brent’s carbon neutrality goals.”

Cllr Jake Rubin, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, added: “Reaching 100 signatories shows climate action rooted in local, practical steps. I encourage more businesses to join this growing movement.”

Brent also launched the Green Business Directory, connecting residents with local eco-friendly businesses: [www.brent.gov.uk/greendirectory](http://www.brent.gov.uk/greendirectory)



## Root cause of pavement hazards removed

More than 400 tree stumps have been removed over the past 12 months in a council blitz to make streets cleaner, safer and easier to navigate.

Council crews cleared overgrown spaces and cut back stumps that risked creating trip hazards and uneven pavements, replacing cluttered patches with smoother, level surfaces. Report an issue with a tree by scanning the QR code.



## New AI cameras target fly-tippers

Fly-tippers in Brent are running out of places to hide as the council rolls out cutting-edge AI CCTV cameras across key hotspots.

The state-of-the-art units instantly detect suspicious activity and alert the council's rapidly expanding enforcement team, which is now three times larger than in 2024. The smart cams, alongside new recruits, will help to add to more than 7,500 fines handed out to those responsible for ruining Brent's streets this year, which is over double the number of fines dished out last year. Residents can also help in the battle against the selfish dumpers. If you spot a fly-tip, report it now so the council can investigate and clear it promptly: [www.brent.gov.uk/report](http://www.brent.gov.uk/report)



## Butterfly wings of change

A burst of colour and community spirit arrived in Wembley Park with WE RESTART's striking second 'Saving Butterflies' sculpture. Created through hands-on workshops with children and adults, the piece weaves together powerful stories of climate change and migration, using art to explore

how environmental crises and human movement are deeply connected. Working side by side, participants transformed ideas and experiences into art that celebrates collective action, and the strength of the community in raising awareness of the most urgent issue of our time.

# Greener, safer neighbourhoods for Kingsbury and Church End

Major climate-positive investment is transforming Kingsbury and Church End as part of Brent Council's borough-wide *Investing in Brent* programme, bringing greener streets, safer travel and improved public spaces.



In Church End, a £1.8 million investment is delivering the Green Corridors Project, upgrading Church Path and Longstone Avenue by Spring 2026. Improvements include resurfaced walking and cycling routes, new lighting and CCTV, rain gardens, pocket parks, community-designed murals, and more.

Meanwhile, Kingsbury is getting a further £280,000 to extend its Green Corridors, with tree planting, street greening, murals and much more too.

Cllr Jake Rubin, Cabinet Member for Climate Action and Community Power, said: "These investments will bring more trees, better walking routes, greener public spaces and beautiful community art. They show how Investing in Brent is delivering real, positive change while tackling the climate emergency locally."



Brownlow Road junction with Church Path includes planting, community art and lockable bollards

## New health and wellbeing hub set to benefit residents

Residents across Cricklewood, Mapesbury and beyond are set for a major boost after Brent Council signed off plans for a brand-new Health and Wellbeing Hub.

The state-of-the-art centre will offer expanded GP and primary care facilities, a fully equipped community pharmacy, and flexible spaces designed for everything from group activities to local events. Construction is expected to begin later this year, with the new hub opening in late 2027. The new hub will cost over £8 million with Brent contributing just under £3 million.



The current Gladstone Park Youth and Community Centre



## Strictly Come age-friendly

Energy and laughter filled Elders Voice in Kensal Green as London's Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, paid a special visit to celebrate Brent's progress in becoming an age-friendly borough.

Welcomed by Cllr Muhammed Butt, Leader of Brent Council, and local partners, she met older residents, volunteers and staff, heard their priorities for ageing well, and joined the much-loved Dance for Dementia session.

## Bulb planting sparks spring spectacle

Amazing volunteers planted hundreds of trees and flowering bulbs in Dollis Hill Copse, which are starting to bloom in the once forgotten corner of Gladstone Park. Seven years ago, a group of wildlife enthusiasts joined together to rescue the woodland. Weekly conservation sessions have helped the trees, plants and animals flourish.



## Wembley's gonna be so golden with Styles

Global superstar Harry Styles is set to take the Wembley Stadium stage this summer with a record-breaking 12-night run.

The pop singer's long awaited return for his Together, Together tour will mark the most performances by any artist in a single year at the iconic venue, surpassing Coldplay's ten-night run last summer and Taylor Swift's eight-night run in 2024.

A spokesperson for Wembley Stadium said: "We are incredibly proud to welcome Harry Styles back to Wembley Stadium for what will be a truly historic run of shows. The 12 nights will be among the most special in our stadium's long history." For more information and a full list of dates, visit:



## Watt a win! Sports Centres go solar

Brent Council has completed major green upgrades at two flagship leisure sites through Sport England's Swimming Pool Support Fund.

At Willesden Sports Centre, new solar panels and LED lighting installed in 2025 are already helping to cut energy use and emissions. At Vale Farm Sports Centre, solar panels were installed in late 2025 and are now in place, with the system expected to become fully operational in early 2026. These improvements will reduce carbon footprints, lower long-term running costs and support Brent's wider sustainability goals, strengthening the future of local leisure facilities.



New solar panels at Willesden Sports Centre

**FREE event for parents, carers & young people!**

Join us for an afternoon of talks, workshops, and activities for you and your children to learn more about:

- Youth Mental Health
- Self-confidence
- Parental Wellbeing
- Digital Life & Online Safety
- Education
- Post-Year 11 Job Market
- Healthy Relationships
- Tackling Violence Against Girls & Misogyny
- Experiences of Young Carers
- Puberty and Periods
- Family Relationships
- Local Family Services
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DATE:  
**THURSDAY 2ND APRIL 2026**  
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TIME:  
**12.30 PM - 6 PM**

**FREE**

**CALLING ALL PARENTS AND CARERS OF 10-19 YEAR OLDS IN BRENT!**

THIS ONE-DAY EVENT INCLUDES:

- ✓ **KEYNOTES**  
TALKS AND WORKSHOPS FROM 15 SPEAKERS, RESEARCHERS AND YOUTH SPECIALISTS.
- ✓ **WORKSHOPS**  
ART AND WELLBEING ACTIVITIES + A YOUTH DANCE PERFORMANCE
- ✓ **Q&A CLINICS**  
ONE-TO-ONE DROP IN SESSIONS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS.

# New chapter for revamped Kilburn Library

**Kilburn Library is gearing up for a blockbuster comeback as it unveils its fresh new look with a jam-packed celebration planned for Saturday 28 February.**

The much-loved local library, which has undergone a major council funded revamp, will welcome residents from 11am to 4pm for a full day of music, storytelling and hands-on

activities designed to pull the whole community together.

The transformation, funded by £783,000 from Brent Council and £231,500 from Arts Council England, has reimaged the historic library blending contemporary design with the character of its 130-year-old Victorian architecture.



The grand opening will feature a packed programme of free activities for all ages, including African storytelling, live music performances, creative printmaking, circus skills and hands-on activities exploring science, technology, engineering and maths. Visitors can also browse community stalls and enjoy refreshments throughout the day. Save the date! Everyone is welcome.



Brent Council and library staff together in Kilburn Library

# Holocaust Memorial Day remembers victims of genocide

**In commemoration of the millions of people murdered through Nazi persecution and subsequent genocides, a Holocaust Memorial Day event was held at Brent Civic Centre in January.**

The evening consisted of a testimony from John Hajdu, a survivor of the Holocaust in Hungary. The London Cantorial Singers and Jewish Free School performed a repertoire of traditional and contemporary Jewish music and there was a candle lighting as well as time for reflection.

The day also recognises the victims and survivors of more recent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur.

This broader remembrance reinforces the ongoing need to challenge hatred, discrimination, and identity-based violence wherever it occurs.

Antoinette Mutabazi, a child survivor of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda said: "This is our responsibility, regardless of your background, your nationality, your family history, memory is not owned by those who suffered alone, it belongs to us all."



The London Cantorial Singers performing Enosh, composed by Louis Lewandowski



# A new hub for Brent's young creatives

**Brent's art scene is bustling with new opportunities for creatives to showcase their talent.**

What's Your Art a new agency for local creatives has launched as a hub for networking, idea-sharing and driving cultural impact across the community. The January launch event featured appearances from comedians and global dance ambassadors, bringing young people together to learn, collaborate and gain practical tools to pursue their creative ambitions.

# Hire an affordable space with Brent Libraries today!

Our meeting rooms and community spaces are perfect for hosting events, workshops, meetings, or activities in a convenient, welcoming setting.

Spaces include rooms at The Library at Willesden Green, Wembley, Kilburn, and Harlesden Libraries, with flexible layouts to suit your needs.

Spaces from £32 per hour, plus all rooms come with free Wi-Fi and access to onsite facilities.

## Kilburn Library – Studio 42

Discover our stunning new hireable space at the beautifully refurbished Kilburn Library - perfect for your next event or meeting.

Studio 42 is 48m sq room with capacity for 30-50 people depending on layout.



Scan for more details:





### Mayor of Brent awards Harte's Irish Meat Market

Mayor of Brent, Councillor Ryan Hack presented Alan Harte a Mayor's Recognition Award to acknowledge his significant contribution to life in Brent through business leadership. Harte is the owner family run Irish Meat Market on Park Parade in Harlesden which has served the community for many years.

## Bin there, tag that

Recycling across Brent is getting a major boost as council crews add bright pink tags to bins to help residents recycle better as part of the 'Shake it Out' campaign.

The tags remind everyone to put recycling in loose – never in bags – so collection crews can clearly see what's inside the bin and avoid contamination that leads to rejected loads. Keep an eye out in your street....have you spotted one yet?



## Volunteers and £900k funding brings library back

Preston Community Library officially reopened in January, marking a major milestone for the volunteer-run service.

The new space was delivered as part of the redevelopment of the former Preston Library site on Carlton Avenue East and supported by Brent Council, including nearly £900k to help fit out the new community library. With volunteers at its heart and council funding for the building, the library is once again open to the community.



Council Leader, Cabinet Members and Ward Councillors with Brent Council Staff and Volunteers at Preston Community Library

# Eighty new stars shine at The Kiln

**Kilburn is buzzing as eighty locals – from schoolkids to great-grandparents – take to the Kiln Theatre stage in a blockbuster community production that’s already being tipped as the pride of NW6.**

Rehearsals are warming up as the cast, which includes a 7-year-old and a 91-year-old, proves that age is nothing but a number when it comes to passion, pride and pure talent. The show dives into the real lives, heritage and heart of the area – told through colourful characters like The Kilburners, a community fighting for the place they call home.

Written by playwright Sonia Jalaly and directed by Kane Husbands and Izzy Rabey, with design by Jida Akil, it’s a celebration of creativity, belonging and the powerful stories that shape one of London’s most diverse neighbourhoods. This summer’s performances, running across July and August, will light up the Kiln’s main stage as part of a two-week festival. The production forms a major milestone in the three-year Kilburn High Road Project: Celebrating our Stories, proudly supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund.



People from 7-91 years old rehearsing for a community play

# South Kilburn homes set for lower energy bills

**Hundreds of South Kilburn families are set to see their energy bills plummet as Brent Council signs off a £36 million heating overhaul that is set to slash costs and cut carbon emissions.**

A brand-new District Heat Network will replace ageing, inefficient systems with a modern set-up piping low-carbon heat directly into homes. The scheme is expected to save residents hundreds of pounds a year, while trimming around 980 tonnes of carbon annually – more than 39,000 tonnes over the project’s 40-year lifespan.

Brent Council says the new network will shield residents from volatile energy prices by keeping tariffs fair, transparent and affordable. Cllr Jake Rubin, Cabinet Member for Climate Action and Community Power, said: “This project is about fairness, security and dignity. By investing in modern, efficient infrastructure, we’re not only cutting carbon emissions and improving air quality – we are helping families keep more money in their pockets.”

Construction is expected to begin from late 2026, with the main build phase running through to 2028. The first homes are anticipated to connect to the network in 2028, with full rollout continuing into 2029.

The South Kilburn District Heat Network forms part of Brent’s wider commitment to tackling the climate emergency while ensuring that the transition to cleaner energy delivers real, tangible benefits for local people, such as Brent’s investments into the Church End and Kingsbury Green Neighbourhood pilots.



People living in South Kilburn set to see energy bills fall from 2029

# Building skills and futures

Wembley has unveiled a major new boost for the local workforce as the London School of Science & Technology (LSST) opens its £1m Construction Training Centre – a state-of-the-art hub built to tackle the capital-wide shortage of skilled workers.

With training bays buzzing and adult learners already rolling up their sleeves, the centre on Wembley High Road promises fresh routes into well paid jobs into a fast-growing sector.



The Mayor of Brent, Cllr Ryan Hack and Council Deputy Leader, Cllr Mili Patel, meet dignitaries and learners from the London School of Science & Technology (LSST)

# Laptop lifeline opens digital doors

Thousands of families across Brent have been given a vital lifeline after the council handed out more than 1,700 brand-new laptops to children, foster carers and young people leaving care in a major push to close the digital divide.

Through the council's digital inclusion programme, over 4,500 devices and 400 free data SIM cards have helped residents get online, learn, work and stay connected.

The initiative is transforming access to education and essential services.

Cllr Jake Rubin, Cabinet Member for Climate Action and Community Power, said: "I'm proud that we're leading the way on closing the digital divide in Brent."

# Bring your wear and tear to a Repair Café

Turn your old or well-loved belongings into treasures again at Brent's buzzing Repair Cafés. Recently, St Gabriel's Church in Cricklewood came alive as neighbours gathered to revive worn-out clothes, give small electricals a new lease of life and get bikes back on the road – all completely FREE of charge. Want to join the next one? Simply scan the QR code to check Eventbrite and see when the next community repair session is happening.



# Antisocial behaviour top of the agenda

Antisocial behaviour took centre stage at Brent's annual public Safer Neighbourhood Board (SNB) meeting. Around 150 attendees reflected the widespread interest in putting community safety firmly at the top of the agenda at the meeting on 26 January at the Civic Centre.

Residents heard directly from senior council officers and the borough's police commander, Luke Williams, about current action and future plans. They asked questions and were also given clear information on how to report issues more effectively. The meeting underlined the importance of partnership working between communities, the council and police, and reinforced a shared commitment to tackling antisocial behaviour and making neighbourhoods across Brent safer.



Community and police join forces at Brent SNB meeting on antisocial behaviour

UNITED COLLEGES GROUP

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**25 APRIL 2026**  
10am - 1pm



City of Westminster College  
**PADDINGTON GREEN CAMPUS**

[CWC.AC.UK/OPEN-DAYS](http://CWC.AC.UK/OPEN-DAYS)

**9 MAY 2026**  
10am - 1pm



College of North West London  
**WILLEDEN CAMPUS**

[CNWL.AC.UK/OPEN-DAYS](http://CNWL.AC.UK/OPEN-DAYS)

**BOOK NOW**




**cleaner and greener**

# Blooming brilliant

**As the days get brighter and longer, Brent's award-winning parks and open spaces are starting to bloom and a major council investment is making local public spaces even better places to enjoy.**

**H**aving won three Green Flag Awards in 2025 as well seven Gold Awards and four Silver Gilt awards, local parks and public spaces are now enjoying another boost in the form of a £811,000 cash injection from the council's Investing in Brent programme.

The extra cash is paying for things that matter to residents most, like repairs to allotments, by clearing overgrown plots, repairing broken fences and any other structural damage to make more plots available to residents.

New fencing has been installed in Woodcock Park, between the park and the river and protect the wildlife habitat behind it. Preston Park will see new trees, bins and benches. Woodheyes Park will have enhanced planting and a resurfaced Multi-Use Games Area.

Playground equipment in Gladstone Park, Abbey Estate Open Space and Roe Green Park will be replaced to be as accessible as possible. Pathways in Gladstone Park, Roundwood Park and Longstone Avenue will be repaired in the coming months too.

One Tree Hill has already undergone a transformation to make the area more vibrant, inclusive, and family-friendly. A mural has been painted at the entrance to provide a warm welcome to visitors into the revamped park. The observation point at the top of park has also been improved.

Councillor Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Public Realm and Enforcement, said: "It's about pride in our environment and the natural spaces we share. By putting cash where it counts, we're investing in our award-winning parks so they can thrive as places for nature to flourish and for residents to meet friends, get active and feel part of a healthier, stronger community."

Find a park or open space near you at [www.brent.gov.uk/parks](http://www.brent.gov.uk/parks)



School children digging and placing plants at the site

cleaner and greener

# parks boost



Pupil planting a small plant on site

**This isn't just about prettier parks, it's about pride. We are putting cash where it counts and investing further in our award-winning parks.**

Councillor Krupa Sheth,  
Cabinet Member for  
Public Realm and  
Enforcement



# Pave new

**Brent's streets are being transformed thanks to the council's 11 million pound Investing in Brent programme.**

**Thousands of potholes have been patched, brighter lighting rolled out and old tree stumps ripped out as part of a huge council blitz to make neighbourhoods safer, smoother and easier to get around.**

**“These improvements are part of our ongoing commitment to create a borough that works for everyone, whether you're walking, cycling, or driving. And we're not stopping here. We'll continue to do thousands more repairs in the coming year.”**

Councillor Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Public Realm and Enforcement



## Resurfaced roads

Over the past two years, Brent resurfaced over 11 km of roads, tackling wear and tear and making journeys safer for drivers and cyclists alike. Alongside this, teams repaired 4,481 potholes in 12 months and carried out 4,099 road patch repairs in 2025, averaging around 340 per month to keep our roads smooth and safe.



## Smoother pavements and cycling

The council has invested heavily in footways, reconstructing 41 km of pavements across the borough to make walking safer and more accessible. This forms part of an £11 million investment in footway reconstruction between 2022–26, ensuring long-term improvements for pedestrians. Cycle lanes have also been improved on key routes, supporting greener travel and healthier lifestyles.



# world



## Scrapped stumps

Brent cleared obstacles from pavements by removing hundreds of old tree stumps, including 358 hard-to-access sites, with hundreds more scheduled for removal, to make paths safer for everyone.



## Safer streets

The council has replaced 622 outdated lighting columns that were due an upgrade, keeping the borough safer and brighter, with more replacements planned this year.



## The numbers...



21 km of roads resurfaced



41 km of pavements improved



622 lighting columns replaced and updated



4,481 potholes fixed in 12 months



4,099 road patch repairs



358 tree stumps scrapped with hundreds more scheduled for removal

# Hubs here

**For ten years now, Brent Hubs have been the place residents turn when life goes sideways. No complicated phone lines, no endless referrals, just a warm welcome and someone ready to listen.**

**L**aunched in 2016, the Brent Hubs were designed to give people a friendly place to walk in, sit down and speak to a real human being. And in a cost-of-living crisis that's pushed families to breaking point, they've become nothing short of a lifeline.

The idea is simple: you show up with a problem – money, housing, bills, benefits, debt, official letters you can't make sense of – and staff help you sort it there and then. Since August 2021, 65,143 people have walked through the door and back out with their issue fully resolved.

Different services work together under one roof, so residents can deal with more than one issue in a single visit. Whether it's money worries, housing questions, benefits, debt or rising energy bills, support is joined-up, effective and easy to access.

A key focus is helping people get the money they are entitled to. Across Brent, an estimated £124 million in benefits goes unclaimed each year. Brent Hubs help residents check entitlements, fill in forms and understand official letters, putting much-needed income back into household budgets. TJ Agard, Brent Hubs service manager, said: "From the start, Brent Hubs have been about reaching people with urgent needs where they are, offering support, encouragement, and guidance in a warm and welcoming way, and helping residents with additional needs achieve better outcomes."

Cllr Promise Knight, Cabinet Member for Customer Experience, Resident Support and Culture, said: "Brent Hubs are doing amazing work. Other boroughs come to see how we do it, but what really matters is the difference they make to people's lives, right when help is needed most."



Launch of Brent Hubs Kilburn – the second community Hub – in 2019

# to help



Godfather of British Hip Hop, Rodney P, and renowned DJ, Daddy Skitz, attend the launch of Brent Hubs in Kilburn in 2019. Rodney is in a black, sweater, wearing shades, and Daddy Skitz stands at the back in front of the speaker

**Brent Hubs are doing amazing work. Other boroughs come to see how we do it, but what really matters is the difference they make to people's lives, right when help is needed most.**



Cllr Promise Knight, Cabinet Member for Customer Experience, Resident Support and Culture

## Brent Hubs can help you to:



Check if you are missing out on benefits or discounts



Get help with rent, Council Tax or energy bills



Bring letters or forms you don't understand



Speak to more than one service in one visit

# Investing in your priorities

Every year, Brent Council sets a budget with a simple test: does it protect the frontline services people rely on? At a time when public services remain under real pressure, the council's priorities are clear: protecting the services that matter most, investing in Brent's future, and supporting people in their hour of need.

In 2026/27 residents are set to see investment in cleaner streets, better public spaces, improved parks, safer neighbourhoods and more new council homes. The council's budget also lays out plans to protect the vital services that hold Brent together, services that are often unseen, such as caring for older residents and people with disabilities, safeguarding children and young people and supporting families through difficult times.

To balance the budget, the council must find around £10 million in savings. Like most councils, Brent will need to increase council tax by 4.99%, to safeguard essential services. Support is available through the Council Tax Support Scheme and the Residents' Support Fund.

At the same time, the council is accelerating change behind the scenes so that every pound spent delivers more value. Data and technology are being used to work smarter, improve online access, secure better deals from suppliers and make more efficient use of council buildings.

Councillor Muhammed Butt, Leader of Brent Council said: "This budget is about protecting the services that matter most to local people – from keeping our streets clean and safe, to supporting vulnerable residents, and investing in opportunities for our young people. We have had to make some very difficult choices, and none of these decisions have been taken lightly. But our priority is to safeguard frontline services while ensuring the

council remains on a sustainable financial footing.

"Despite the challenges, we remain ambitious for our borough. We are committed to working with our communities so that Brent continues to be a place where everyone can thrive. I want to thank residents for engaging with us throughout the consultation. Your feedback has helped shape this budget." Brent Council's Cabinet approved the budget at its meeting on 9 February and it will now be considered at the Full Council meeting on 23 February 2026.

**This budget is about protecting the services that matter most to local people – from keeping our streets clean and safe, to supporting vulnerable residents, and investing in opportunities for our young people. We are committed to working with our communities so that Brent continues to be a place where everyone can thrive.**

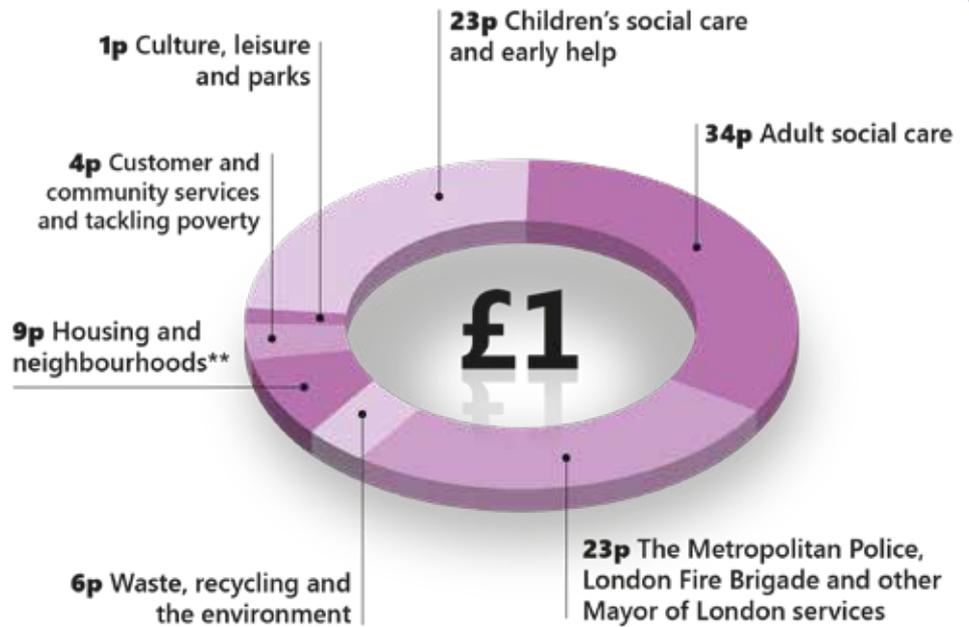
Councillor Muhammed Butt, Leader of Brent Council



The average council tax for 2026/27 is **£42.99 per week\***.

This is how each **£1** will be spent on services residents rely on, subject to Full Council agreement.

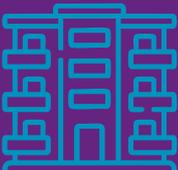
\*Based on a Band D property.  
 \*\*This does not include social housing. The council will spend £36.1 million towards delivering 1,957 new safe and secure homes by 2028.



This means the council will spend the following amounts on each service:

<p><b>£182.8 million</b> Adult social care</p> 	<p><b>£122.5 million</b> Children's social care and early help</p> 	<p><b>£50.8 million</b> Housing and neighbourhoods</p> 
<p><b>£29.2 million</b> Waste, recycling and the environment</p> 	<p><b>£17.4 million</b> Customer and community services and tackling poverty</p> 	<p><b>£6.4 million</b> Culture, leisure and parks</p> 

The Capital Programme has delivered crucial projects to improve the lives of local people. Here are just a few of them:

<p><b>£139.5 million</b> on the Housing Capital Programme, delivering 418 new affordable homes with up to 303 more expected by the end of March 2026</p> 	<p><b>£73.5 million</b> on the Wembley Housing Zone project to deliver 291 new homes including 141 affordable homes, new commercial spaces and a community garden on Wembley High Road by autumn 2026</p> 	<p><b>£22.8 million</b> in 2025/26 on Highways and Safer Streets to improve roads and cycling infrastructure</p> 	<p><b>£2.9 million</b> in 2025/26 on improving parks and landscaping across the Borough including £430,000 on playground refurbishments</p> 
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# Healthy returns

**A life-changing health drive is sweeping through Brent as a council grant fuels a wave of free community wellness programmes with residents saying it's already transforming their bodies, minds and daily lives.**

**T**he Brent Health Matters Community Grant Fund, now in its fifth year, is delivering results and is now bigger than ever. The latest £400,000 funding pot, released in January, is helping local groups turbo-charge efforts to tackle long-standing health inequalities across the borough.

One of last year's winners, BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha, secured £10,000 to deliver a wellness programme offering sessions led by experts from within the local community. The sessions covered things like nutrition, exercise, stress management, sleep and emotional wellbeing.

Local resident Nimisha Patel, 45, joined the 12-week programme. "The physio sessions were particularly useful, showing us how to strengthen specific muscle groups and support our bones. I could feel the difference in my energy, posture and overall wellness week by week."

Psychologists worked on issues such as anger management and self-awareness. "It helped me respond better to challenges, manage stress and reinforced the importance of pausing and resetting regularly," Nimisha explained.

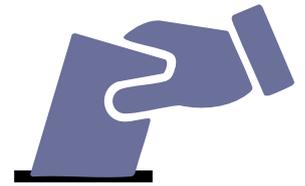
There was also a focus on nutrition. "I learned simple strategies and recipes that fit my dietary needs and lifestyle, and I can implement them every day. It was eye-opening and very practical," she said.

The current round of grants will be rolling out programmes across the borough over the coming months. For more information visit: [www.brent.gov.uk/brethealthmatters](http://www.brent.gov.uk/brethealthmatters)



Nimisha Patel learned simple strategies, responded better to challenges and felt the difference in her overall wellness week by week

# Brent Elects



## What you need to know about the local elections on 7 May.

On Thursday 7 May, local elections will be held in the borough with voters deciding who represents their ward on Brent Council.

Voting rules in the UK have changed, so it is important to make sure you are fully prepared before polling day.



### 1 Register to vote by 20 April



You can vote if you are 18 years old, and:

- A UK or Irish citizen
- A qualifying Commonwealth citizen living in the UK – that is, someone who either has leave to enter or remain in the UK, or who doesn't require that leave.
- A qualifying EU citizen living in the UK

[www.gov.uk/register tovote](http://www.gov.uk/register tovote)

**Did you know? If you are a Commonwealth or EU citizen, there's a good chance you're eligible to vote in these elections – find out at [www.electoralcommission.org.uk/who-can-vote](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/who-can-vote)**



### 2 Apply for a postal vote



Did you know you can vote from home, at a time that suits you, without needing to travel to a polling station?

This is especially helpful for people who are going to be on holiday or who may have trouble getting to-and-from the polling station.

Apply for your postal vote by 5pm on 21 April, and you will be sent a ballot to return.

[www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote](http://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote)

**Remember! New national rules mean that if you applied to vote by post before October 2023, you need to reapply.**



### 3 Remember your photo ID on polling day



Polling stations will open 7am – 10pm. If you are voting in person, you must bring one form of valid photo ID to the polling station on 7 May.

It needs to be the original version, not a photocopy or photograph.

You have a wide range of options to choose from, including passports, photocard driving licences, Blue Badges, Freedom Passes, and e-visas.

For a full list of accepted photo ID or to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate, please visit the Government website.

[www.gov.uk/how-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/how-to-vote)

**If you do not have any of the documents on the list, you can apply for a free alternative – known as a “Voter Authority Certificate”**

# A renting

In one of the biggest shake-ups to renting in years, new nationwide laws will hand power back to renters slamming the brakes on dodgy landlords, scrapping unfair evictions, and putting an end to bidding wars that have pushed renters to the brink. From 1 May 2026, the Renters' Rights Act will bring stronger protections, fairer rules and greater security.

With almost half of all homes in Brent privately rented, these reforms are hugely important and will give thousands of residents the security and protection they deserve. At the same time, we're working hard to raise standards for renters, through landlord licensing and cracking down on rogue landlords, making sure homes are safe and well-maintained. If your landlord isn't playing by the rules, please let us know so we can take action.

Councillor Fleur Donnelly-Jackson, Cabinet Member for Housing



Read about all the changes coming into effect on 1 May 2026: [www.bit.ly/rentersrightsact](http://www.bit.ly/rentersrightsact)



©: Renters' Reform Coalition / Gus Campbell Photography

# revolution

## Know your rights: **5** big wins for renters



### No more 'no-fault' evictions

Landlords cannot evict you for no reason. Now they can only evict you on specific legal grounds, such as unpaid rent or damage to the property.



### No more big rent payments upfront

Landlords can no longer demand large lump sums of rent in advance to secure a tenancy.



### Bidding wars banned

Landlords and agents must list a set asking rent and cannot accept offers above it.



### Tenancies go rolling

Whether your lease is 6 or 12 months, it'll automatically switch to a month-to-month agreement. You can leave anytime with two months' notice or stay longer if you want.



### Rent rises only once a year

No more surprise rent hikes. Rent can only increase once a year and it must reflect the current market.

**Know a dodgy landlord who's breaking the rules?  
Report them from 1 May 2026: [www.bit.ly/rentersrightsact](http://www.bit.ly/rentersrightsact)**

# Major move,

**The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra has rocked up in Wembley Park and they are not here to play it safe.**

**A**fter officially moving in last autumn, the world-famous musicians are gearing up to unleash a year of bold, brilliant, and downright surprising live music across Brent.

We caught up with Chris Stones, Director of Community and Education at the RPO to find out what we can expect in 2026. “We’re a major international touring orchestra, so having a visible programme in Brent is a really important part of what we do,” says Chris.

## What’s coming up?

**Relaxed Performances** – A specially designed concert for audiences who may find traditional performances challenging, including people with learning disabilities, sensory impairments, autism, dementia, and other conditions.

**Lunchtime Chamber Music Series** – Free, publicly accessible concerts at Willesden Green Library, bringing music to local spaces.

And that’s just the beginning! The RPO’s work in Brent is all about creating bespoke experiences. They’ll continue their long-standing partnership with Brent Music Academy, giving young people the chance to get involved in exciting projects throughout the year. Plus, they’re working with Brent Music Service to support special schools and delivering Sound Sanctuary, a music-for-mental-health programme in partnership with Mencap. The Brent Membership Scheme is a great way for locals to enjoy discounted tickets to RPO performances. So, what’s next for the RPO in Brent? Chris sums it up perfectly: “We wanted to do two things: make sure there was a real community impact and find ways to make the orchestra more present in the borough. Going forward, we’ll pop up in places you might not expect and that’s part of the fun. Expect the unexpected.”

To find out more about the RPO and find tickets visit: [www.rpo.co.uk/](http://www.rpo.co.uk/)



Children enjoy a playful, interactive introduction to orchestral music



Orchestral musicians perform a range of music



The Relaxed Performance performance supported by The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust, The Marchus Trust, and Arts Council England

# minor gasp



# Refuse to

A Brent man who feared he was slipping through the cracks has turned his life around after landing a stable job with Veolia, thanks to a game-changing partnership with Big Issue Recruit. Now he's back on his feet, working in the borough he loves – and giving hope to others who feel shut out of work.



Kalen Letts speaking at the House of Lords

Kalen Letts

# lose hope

**B**rent Council's recycling and waste partner, Veolia, don't just collect the bins – they collect untapped potential. Through a growing partnership with Big Issue Recruit, the company is helping residents on the edge of homelessness or long-term unemployment get into secure, good-quality work.

One of those people is Kalen Letts, who, after struggling to find permanent work, spotted a refuse loader role with Veolia through Big Issue Recruit. "Things were getting a bit rough," he says. "I was on Universal Credit and couldn't find full-time permanent positions. I decided to give the application a try, and it felt right."

Big Issue Recruit supports people every step of the way, from opening the door to employment to providing ongoing guidance once successful applicants are in work. That wrap-around support helps people like Kalen build confidence, security and a future they can believe in. They supported Kalen at every step, from explaining the role to arranging his induction and checking in once he started. "Even now, I know I could still call them up if I ever needed anything," he says. The impact has been life-changing. "I just feel very lucky," Kalen explains. "The hours give you your afternoons back, there's flexibility if you want extra money, and I've even helped out at events at Wembley."

For Kalen, working in Brent was personal. Kalen's ambitions don't stop here. "This is only the start," he says. "With a secure job, I can start planning for the future."

**"I was born in Brent. When I go out with my crew, I see people I know. I like being a familiar face. It's so important to be able to give back to Brent."**



Kalen in front of Veolia truck

**cleaner and greener**

# Paan-ishment: £100 fines for street spitters

**Brent's hard-hitting crackdown on paan – the chewed mixture linked to cancer and red stains on streets — is making headlines across the world.**

**U**nder its Don't Mess with Brent campaign, the council launched a joint public health and enforcement approach to tackle this harmful habit head-on last year.

Paan, made from betel leaf, herbs and spices and often mixed with tobacco or betel nut, is chewed for its narcotic effect. People who then spit it out on local streets leave bright red stains behind them that costs taxpayers thousands a year to clean. Worse still, the borough suffers one of the highest rates of head and neck cancer in England, with chewing paan a major contributor.

Now the council is fighting back with more officers patrolling hotspots and dishing out £100 fines to anyone caught spitting paan in public. Targeted jet washing is also making affected areas cleaner. The council is also offering support with free, confidential

stop-paan chewing sessions to help people to quit.

The campaign has exploded globally, with coverage from BBC News, the Evening Standard, and international outlets, plus millions of views on social media, but local action can only go so far. That's why the council is calling for a national ban on paan products containing tobacco or betel nut. These substances are recognised carcinogens by the World Health Organization and fuel illegal supply chains.

Councillor Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Public Realm and Enforcement, said: "This isn't about targeting communities – it's about stopping behaviours that harm us all. If you want to quit paan or smoking, help is here. But for those who continue to spit: we will catch you, and you will be fined. Together, let's keep Brent clean, safe and healthy."



Brent Council's enforcement and cleanup up team

**This isn't about targeting communities – it's about stopping behaviours that harm us all. If you want to quit paan or smoking, help is here. But if you continue to spit: we will catch you, and you will be fined.**

Councillor Krupa Sheth,  
Cabinet Member for  
Public Realm and  
Enforcement



**DON'T  
MESS  
WITH  
BRENT**



Build up of paan on a local street

# Fight against

**With 28,000 new green food waste caddies delivered to flats across the borough and with 5,700 tonnes of food recycled last year – the same weight as 300 London buses – the fight against food waste is officially on.**

**B**y using your green outdoor caddy or communal food bin, food scraps are recycled into green energy and fertilisers – a far better alternative than putting it in general rubbish bins.

Before thinking about recycling your food waste, you might want to consider replanting and making food for yourself. Local resident TJ, who has lived in Alperton for over 60 years does just that. She is passionate about reducing waste and teaching the next generation about sustainability, which she does on behalf of her charity Justice for Litigants in Person, where she runs workshops with local schools.

TJ shows children how to grow their own food in small spaces, replanting potatoes, strawberries, and even chillies. “If you grow your own food, you only grow what you need. No packaging, no excess, and less waste” TJ explains. “And if you do have food waste, make sure it goes into your green caddy or compost bin.”

TJ’s message is simple: “Don’t throw food away if you can reuse it and if you can’t reuse it put it in your green food waste caddy.”

Councillor Krupa Sheth, Cabinet Member for Public Realm and Enforcement, said: “By separating food waste from general rubbish, we can significantly reduce the amount sent for disposal, cut harmful emissions, and turn waste into valuable resources like compost and energy. Together, we’re building a cleaner, greener Brent and helping to protect our environment for future generations.”

Find out more about food waste and recycling on our website: [www.brent.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.brent.gov.uk/recycling)



Pupils regrow food



TJ in her studio

**By separating food waste from general rubbish, we can significantly reduce the amount sent for disposal, cut harmful emissions, and turn waste into valuable resources like compost and energy.**

Councillor Krupa Sheth,  
Cabinet Member for  
Public Realm and  
Enforcement



# food waste



Classroom learns about regrowing food

# Music'sCool

**Brent's young musicians are hitting the right note and turning up the volume as a home-grown music programme has just bagged a national award nomination.**

**M**usic'sCool, which is already a hit with pupils and teachers, is striking a chord after transforming lessons into full-on musical magic and being shortlisted for a national Music and Drama Education Award.

Music'sCool is the borough's specialist-led primary music programme, with singing at its core, which delivers hands-on music-making to children from nursery through to Year 6. The programme ensures every child experiences the joy of making music, not just learning about it.

Each week, highly trained music specialists work in partnership with teachers, building musical skills that are reinforced beyond the lesson.

Every class performs live at least once a year and records regular video performances, helping pupils and teachers reflect on progress and celebrate achievement.

Now running in 21 Brent primary schools and three Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) settings, Music'sCool has a long and proud history. First launched under its current name around 25 years ago, the programme has grown far beyond its original roots to include singing, tuned percussion, recorder, ukulele and more. Sarah Marsh, Head of Curriculum at Brent Music Service, said: "What makes Music'sCool so special is its inclusive ethos. Children explore diverse musical styles and cultures,

compose their own music, and perform regularly, all without families needing to invest in costly instruments or lessons." This inspiring work has now received national recognition. Music'sCool is a finalist in the Music and Drama Education Awards 2026, shortlisted for Excellence in Primary/Early Years (Music and Drama).

Cllr Gwen Grahl, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools, said: "From first songs in nursery to confident performances on stage, Music'sCool is helping Brent's children find their voice and putting the borough firmly on the music education map." Find out more about Music'sCool [www.brent.gov.uk/musicscool](http://www.brent.gov.uk/musicscool)

# in school



From first songs in nursery to confident performances on stage, Music'sCool is helping Brent's children find their voice and putting the borough firmly on the music education map.



Councillor Gwen Grahl, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools



Sarah Marsh, Head of Curriculum, leads a Music'sCool session with inspiring young musicians at Saint Joseph's Infant and Junior School

## Calling all young musicians!

Brent's evening centres are free to young music lovers who can join beginner orchestras, steel pan groups and junior choirs. Join a choir from Year 3, or an orchestra from Year 2, and experience the joy of making music together!



# Brent creates

Forget fancy West End stages – Brent’s cultural boom is exploding right under residents’ noses. From bustling high streets to local libraries, parks, places of worship and community centres, Brent’s cultural life is everywhere you look.

**B**rent has always been a place shaped by makers and movers, writers, musicians, filmmakers, athletes and community leaders who turn ideas into action.

Now a new Culture Strategy, which was agreed in February, aims to build on that legacy by embedding culture into everyday life, removing barriers, investing in creative skills, and linking arts with health, education and regeneration. The new strategy makes it clear that culture isn’t confined to big stages or gallery walls. It is alive in everyday spaces, powered by the people who make this borough what it is.

Philharmonic Orchestra in Wembley, and Punchdrunk, the internationally renowned immersive theatre company. Their arrival reflects Brent’s audiences, talent, and creative potential, bringing world-class creativity into our neighbourhoods. This momentum builds on, rather than replaces, Brent’s thriving local venues, from The Kiln and Lexi Cinema to independent theatres, music spaces, and community hubs. Brent’s approach is about partnership, long-term presence, and shared ownership.

“This spring, whether you’re heading to a major event, discovering a local venue or enjoying creativity right on your doorstep, Brent invites you to join in. Our culture isn’t just something to watch from the sidelines, it’s something that everyone is a part of!”

To find out more at [www.brentcreates.com](http://www.brentcreates.com) or turn to the arts & culture section on page 42.

Wembley Stadium hosts moments that echo around the world but Brent’s cultural heartbeat is closer to home. From the Caribbean kitchens in Harlesden which come alive with flavour; jewellery shops shining along Ealing Road; spoken-word nights, park festivals and hands-on creative workshops happening in the places you already know. Not to mention the iconic Neasden Temple, recognised for its cultural significance last year with a visit from The King and Queen. Culture here is local, lived and welcoming.

As Chris Stones, Director of Community and Education at the RPO says: “We’re thrilled to bring our work to Brent, where culture is alive in every street, park, and community space.”

Cllr Promise Knight, Cabinet Member for Customer Experience, Resident Support and Culture, said: “Brent’s culture belongs to everyone. It’s found in our streets, our stories and our shared spaces, and it has the power to bring people together, support wellbeing and open doors to opportunity.”

**Brent’s culture belongs to everyone. It’s found in our streets, our stories and our shared spaces, and it has the power to bring people together.**



Cllr Promise Knight, Cabinet Member for Customer Experience, Resident Support and Culture

# creates

# BRNT.

THIS IS THE BOROUGH OF CULTURES



Neasden Temple



Wembley Stadium



Gaumont State Kilburn



Punchdrunk



Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

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## Current Opportunities:

**Social Worker  
(Children with Disabilities)**  
Salary: £44,685 - £51,138 per year, plus 'Golden Hello' and retention payment  
**Contract: Full-time, permanent**  
**Job ID: 2583**

Plan and deliver care that helps children overcome challenges and achieve the best outcomes.

**Social Worker  
(Child Protection & Court Work)**  
Salary: £44,685 - £51,138 per year, plus 'Golden Hello' and retention payment  
**Contract: Full-time, permanent**  
**Job ID: 2584**

Help families stay together and children stay safe in a role where your voice and values matter.

**Principal S106 & CIL Officer  
(Infrastructure Planning)**  
Salary: £52,194 - £55,323 per year  
**Contract: Full-time, permanent**  
**Job ID: 2401**

Turn developer funding into real improvements for Brent's families, businesses and neighbourhoods.

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Enjoy generous leave, flexible working, a strong pension, support for your family, travel savings, wellbeing help and staff discounts with My Brent Rewards.

### Foster with Brent

Brent is looking for more foster carers to give local children a safe, loving and stable home.

Whether you're single, married, working or retired, you can make a life-changing difference.

We offer generous allowances, full training, round-the-clock support and a friendly community of carers.

Visit [www.brent.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.brent.gov.uk/fostering) to learn more.

Contact us today: [fostering@brent.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@brent.gov.uk) or 0800 001 4041.



### Become a Shared Lives Carer

A warm home and a kind heart can change everything. Brent needs Shared Lives carers to support adults with disabilities or care needs. Choose short breaks or longer stays. Training, support and payments up to £531 per week provided.

Visit [www.brent.gov.uk](http://www.brent.gov.uk) and search 'Shared Lives Carers' to learn more.

Contact us today: [sharedlives@brent.gov.uk](mailto:sharedlives@brent.gov.uk) or 0208 937 4538.



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[www.brent.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-skills](http://www.brent.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-skills)

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# WHAT'S ON: ARTS AND CULTURE

## NATIONAL YEAR OF READING

In 2026, the National Year of Reading is reconnecting reading with the things that already inspire us – from playlists and football matches to films, food and family time. It's reading that fits how we live, not the other way around. Look out for Brent Libraries wide range of events promoting and celebrating the joy of reading.



### LIBRARIES

#### Empower to Achieve

Until 30 April

Harlesden Library

11 May–30 September

The Library at Willesden Green

Produced by the Jason Roberts Foundation, the Empower to Achieve project explored the history of Women in Sport of Caribbean, Indian, and Somali Heritage.

#### The Brent Records

##### Album Cover Exhibition

1 June–31 July

Harlesden Library

Curated by music historian Kwaku, this exhibition provides an opportunity to see a range of Reggae album covers photographed in locations across Brent.

#### Celebrating Brent's

##### Somali community

Until 27 April 2026

Kingsbury Library

Discover the Somali community in Brent and see work by Local school pupils in response to these artefacts.

#### Learning Through The

##### Arts presents: Flourish

8–25 June

Wembley Library

'Flourish' is an ongoing project in partnership with Brent libraries that provides free creative STEM workshops for children and families. This exhibition displays art created by the children, in response to STEM themes.

#### Portraits of Brent

2 March–30 April

The Library at Willesden Green

This exhibition explores the stories of people from Southwest Asian and North African (SWANA) backgrounds in Brent, rooted in real experiences, identity, heritage, belonging and brought to life through personal storytelling, and portraiture.

#### Free Low Impact Exercise Classes

##### Term time only

Willesden Green Library

Yoga & Stretch

Mondays

2.30–3.30pm 3.30–4.30pm

Kingsbury Library

Stretch Exercise

Tuesdays

2–3pm (2 x 30 min sessions)

Harlesden Library

Strength Exercise

Fridays

2–3pm

Ealing Road Library

Stretch Exercise

Saturdays

11am–12noon

Wembley Library

Stretch Exercise

Thursdays

10.30–11.30am (2 x 30 min sessions)

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

Book at [Ourparks.org.uk/brent](http://Ourparks.org.uk/brent)

#### Under 5s BookTrust

##### Story and Rhyme Times

Kingsbury Library

Wednesdays

10.45–11.15am

The Library at Willesden Green

Wednesdays

11–11.30am

#### Ealing Road Library

Thursdays

11–11.30am

#### Harlesden Library

Thursdays

11–11.30am

#### Wembley Library

Fridays

11–11.30am

All sessions take place at these times, unless otherwise stated. All sessions are unless advanced booking stated.

#### Under 5s BookTrust Story and

##### Rhyme Times Saturday sessions

Ealing Road Library

First Saturday of each month

2 May, 6 June, 4 July

11–11.30am

#### Kilburn Library

Every third Saturday of the month

18 April, 16 May, 20 June, 18 July

11–11.30am

#### The Library at Willesden Green

Every third Saturday of the month

25 April, 30 May, 27 June, 25 July

11–11.30am

#### Spring Arts and Crafts

Ealing Road Library

Wembley Library

The Library at Willesden Green:

Tuesday 7 April

2.30–3.30pm

Kilburn Library

Wednesday 8 April

11am–12noon

Harlesden Library

Thursday 9 April

2.30–3.30pm

Make spring-themed bunny and bonnet crafts. For ages 5–11.

#### Spring Creative art workshops

The Library at Willesden Green

Monday 30 March

11am–12noon

2–3pm

Harlesden Library

Tuesday 31 March

11am–12noon

2–3pm

Tuesday 7 April

11am–12noon

2–3pm

Wembley Library

Thursday 2 April

11am–12noon

2–3pm

Thursday 9 April

11am–12noon

2–3pm

Ealing Road Library

Friday 10 April

11am–12noon

2–3pm

Kingsbury Library

Saturday 11 April

11am–12noon

1–2pm

#### The Story Detectives with Katie

Green

Wednesday 1 April

Wembley Library

11am–12noon

The Library at Willesden Green

2.30–3.30pm

#### Somali craft workshop

Kingsbury Library

Wednesday 7 April

2.30–4.30pm

Wembley Library

Friday 10 April

2.30–4.30pm

Make your own section of an alool, a traditional nomadic Somali fireguard, which is a craft used in nomadic homes. For ages 3+, .

### The Shaw Trust Employment Support

#### Wembley Library

##### 2nd Monday of the month

9 March, 13 April, 11 May, 8 June, 11am-1pm

#### Harlesden Library

##### 3rd Tuesday of the month

17 March, 21 April, 19 May, 16 June, 3-5pm

#### Kilburn Library

##### 4th Wednesday of the month

22 April, 27 May, 24 June 2-4pm

#### The Library at Willesden Green

##### 1st Thursday of the month

5 March, 2 April, 7 May, 4 June 3-5pm

Connect to Work is a government funded programme to help people find and keep a job.

### Half Term Fun: Dinosaur Pop Up Book

#### Ealing Road Library

#### Wembley Library

#### Kingsbury Library

##### Tuesday 26 May

2.30-3.30pm

#### Kilburn Library

#### The Library at Willesden Green

##### Wednesday 27 May

11am-12noon

#### Harlesden Library

##### Tuesday 28 May

2.30-3.30pm

Create your own story telling pop up dinosaur book, will your book roar with fun? For ages 5-11.

### Summer creative art workshops

#### Harlesden Library

##### Tuesday 26 May

11am-12noon

2-3pm

#### Kingsbury Library

##### Thursday 28 May

11am-12noon

2-3pm

#### Wembley Library

##### Friday 29 May

11am-12noon

2-3pm

#### Ealing Road Library

##### Saturday 30 May

11am-12noon | 1-2pm

Get crafty and creative with Learning Through The Arts. For ages 5-11.

### STEM Club

#### Ealing Road Library

##### Wednesdays

25 March, 29 April, 27 May, 24 June,

29 July

4-5.30pm

Science, Technology, engineering and mathematics workshops for

children aged 8-11. Advanced

booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

### Family Learning gardening

#### workshop

#### Ealing Road Library

##### Wednesday 1 April

##### Friday 29 April

11am-1pm | 6.30pm-7.30pm

Learn fun garden techniques and help develop Ealing Road Library's garden into a green space for the local community. For children aged 5-11 and carers.

### Give to Gain – Challenging bias through language and lived experience

#### Tuesday 10 March

#### Harlesden Library

2-3pm

Join author Monique Pennie for an inspiring International Women's Day event. Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

### Talk and workshop:

#### Writing the Trees of Harlesden

#### Tuesday 12 May

#### Harlesden Library

2-3pm

Join local author and poet Rose Rouse for poetry and a chance to write your own Harlesden tree poem. Part of the National Year of Reading 2026.

Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

### Kilburn Library (Salisbury Road)

#### Grand Opening

#### February 28 Saturday

11am-4pm

Celebrate the reopening with African storytelling, live music, face painting, circus skills, creative printmaking,

### Ealing Road Film Club

#### Thursdays

#### Ealing Road Library

2 April, 9 April and 28 May

2.30-4.30pm

Animated film screenings for children aged 5-11.

STEAM activities and nature-inspired green workshops.

Community information stalls and family activities will run throughout the day, with Brazilian food available from midday.

Join us to explore the newly refurbished library and enjoy a fun, welcoming day for the whole community!

### Spectra: Health & Community

#### Outreach Stall

#### Wednesdays

#### 18 March, 15 April, 13 May

#### Kilburn Library

11am-2pm

Spectra, the London based Mental and Sexual Health charity will provide access to resources such as condoms, period products, and at home STI testing kits. Plus, free rapid and private HIV testing is available on site between 1pm-2pm.

### Kilburn Creative Writing Club

#### Thursdays

#### 12 March, 9 April, 14 May

#### Kilburn Library

5.30-7pm

Whatever your writing experiences or capabilities, all are welcome to come and get creative. Advanced booking required at

[www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

### Book Launch: Balkan Music from the Danube with Ottoman Influences

#### Thursday 23 April

#### Kilburn Library

6.30-8pm

For World Book Night discover an extraordinary collection of 29 instrumental pieces from Hungary to the Black Sea. Advanced booking required at

[www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

### Kilburn Coffee Morning

#### Compost Clinic: Making Gardeners' Black Gold

#### Tuesday 5 May

#### Kilburn Library

2-3.30pm

Come and learn the power of compost and get tips to get the best out of yours for Compost Awareness Week.

Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

### Coffee Morning: Pension Advice

#### Thursday 14 May

#### Kilburn Library

11am-12noon

Learn how to maximise your pension pot with Brent Community Hub. Advanced booking required at

[www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

### Weavers of Grass: An Evening of Jazz, Storytelling, and Poetry

#### Tuesday 19 May

#### Kilburn Library

6.30-7.30pm

Discover the story of Hebridean crofter Angus MacPhee with award winning poet Chrys Salt MBE and internationally regarded saxophonist Richard Ingham to explore the elemental pull of the land. Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

### Kilburn Coffee Morning

#### Flourish: Queer

#### Ecology in the Garden

#### Thursday 4 June

#### Kilburn Library

11am-12.30pm

This Pride Month workshop explores gender fluidity across the natural world, from plants that change sex to worms, snails, and other animals that blur biological binaries. Includes a practical gardening activity. Advanced booking required at

[www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

### Virginia Woolf and the Camden Artists

#### Tuesday 16 June

#### Kilburn Library

6.30-7.30pm

Discover the link between Virginia Woolf and the Camden Group of Artists, headed by the charismatic ex-actor Walter Sickert at this talk. Advanced booking required at

[www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)



# WHAT'S ON: ARTS AND CULTURE

## **Kitchen Lithography with DoraHouse**

**Thursday 25 June**

**Kilburn Library**

11.30am-1pm

This free printmaking workshop takes you on a whistlestop tour of the history of printmaking with the opportunity to create your own masterpiece from materials already in your home! Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

## **Coffee Morning:**

### **The General Strike 1926**

**Tuesday 23 March**

**Kingsbury Library**

11am-12noon

At one minute to midnight on 3 May 1926, Britain came to a standstill for nine days when the Trades Union Congress called a National Strike. Discover its story and impact one hundred years on. Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

## **Coffee Morning: Memoir From Mugsborough**

**12 May**

**Kingsbury Library**

11am-12noon

In The National Year of Reading 2026 explore the real town behind The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists, with local historian Philip Grant. Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

## **Coffee morning:**

### **Libraries Change lives**

**Tell me About It – In conversation with author Frances Mensah Williams**

**Tuesday 2 June**

**Kingsbury Library**

11am-12noon

Tell Me About It is a witty, wise, and heartfelt story of redemption, self-discovery, and the courage it takes to confront the truth about your own heart. Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

## **Coffee Morning: Come talk rubbish with the Waste and Recycling team**

**Wednesday 8 April**

**Kingsbury Library**

11am-12noon

Ever wondered what really happens to your recycling once it's collected? Join Brent's Waste and Recycling Team to discover what happens next! Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

## **Autism-friendly early opening**

**Friday 10 April**

**Kingsbury Library**

9.30-10.30am

Enjoy an early opening of Wembley Library for a limited number of children aged 3-15 years with their siblings, parents and carers. Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

## **Under 5s BookTrust Story and Rhyme Time: Maggie the Dragon with Brent's Dental Team**

**Friday 17 April**

**Kingsbury Library**

11-11.30am

Come and meet Brent's dental team and learn about keeping your child's teeth healthy while enjoying songs and stories.

## **Coffee Morning: Arthur Elvin - Mister Wembley**

**Tuesday 9 June**

**Kingsbury Library**

11am-12noon

Discover the story of the young, unemployed ex-serviceman who went on to own the Stadium and spent his life making Wembley a world-famous venue. Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

## **Coffee Morning: Board Games and Mindful Colouring**

**Thursday 19 May**

**The Library at Willesden Green**

11am-12noon

Enjoy an hour playing classic board and card games or mindful colouring with tea or coffee provided. Adults only.

## **Empathy Day: Create an Empathy Comic Superhero**

**Thursday 4 June**

**The Library at Willesden Green**

4-5pm

Create your own superhero character! After school fun for children aged 4-11.

## **Empathy Day Festival**

**Saturday 6 June**

**The Library at Willesden Green**

12noon-4pm

Join us for a day celebrating and exploring empathy. Featuring under 5s fun, storytelling, crafts, facepainting and raffle prizes! For children, families and adults.

## **Summertime and the living is easy...**

### **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra summer lunch time concert**

**Thursday 25 June**

**The Library at Willesden Green**

12noon-1pm

Celebrate Summer with a quintet of gifted musicians from the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Advanced booking required at [www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs](http://www.tinyurl.com/jjhjrzs)

## **Dress to Remember: An intergenerational discussion on dementia**

**Thursday 26 February**

**Conference Room,**

**Brent Civic Centre**

**Engineers Way, Wembley Park, HA9 0FJ**

11am-1.30pm

This forum will include interactive discussions, video screenings and a monologue performed by Marsha Millar (Top Boy). The forum is aimed at Families and Carers, Young People, Community Leaders and Councillors, Dementia care organisations, Brent residents and the wider community



## **Intergen Company Workshops**

**Every Monday and Thursday from September 2025 – July 2026**

**Kiln Theatre**

Celebrating Our Stories is an intergenerational project for participants of all ages, who will collaborate with a professional creative team to stage a full-length community play at Kiln Theatre. Participants will work with a playwright to tell local heritage stories that have been gathered over the course of the project, passing knowledge between generations to help promote connection and collaboration between residents of all ages. To sign up to hear more about the project email Stella Taljaard (Participation Producer) on [stellataljaard@kilntheatre.com](mailto:stellataljaard@kilntheatre.com), or call 07375532006.

## **ArtVentures Club**

**Every Saturday**

**Wembley Creative Community Hub**

11am-12noon

Art & Crafts activities for children 6yrs+ [contact@werest.art](mailto:contact@werest.art)

## **Art Class**

**Every Thursday**

**Wembley Creative Community Hub**

6.30-7.30pm

Art classes, from drawing to painting 16+ | [contact@werest.art](mailto:contact@werest.art)

## **Dance & Movement**

**Thursdays**

**Autumn Term**

**113 Chalkhill Rd, Wembley Park, Wembley HA9 9FX**

5-6pm

Inclusive dance, fitness & movement classes led by professional dance facilitators. Sessions for 7-11 years old and 11-14 years old.

## **Definitely Youth Theatre**

**Fortnightly workshops**

**Until 21 February 2026**

**Old Diorama Arts Centre and other various London locations**

11am-4pm

Definitely Youth Theatre is an exciting FREE opportunity for deaf, hard of hearing, CODA or BSL signers aged 14-21 years old to take part in drama activities, meet other deaf young people and get involved in theatre.

## **The Parent-Teen Summit**

**Thursday April 2**

**BOXPARK, Wembley**

12.30pm

Join us for a day of insightful talks, discussions, activities, and bonding opportunities at BOXPARK Wembley. The Parent-Teen Summit 2026 will provide parents, carers, adolescents, researcher and practitioners in the field with information and practical tools to help with navigating adolescence. <https://nuknow.co.uk>



## **Knitting Club**

**Every Thursday (in Terms)**

**Wembley Creative Community Hub,**

**Unit 17, 2 Station Grove, HA0 4AH**

11.30am-12.30pm

Let's create together - open to all, needles and wool provided 16+ | [contact@werest.art](mailto:contact@werest.art)

## **Market Square: Kiln Neighbours**

**Programme**

**Fortnightly**

**On Wednesdays**

**25 March 2026 - 15 July 2026**

**Sign up deadline:**

**Wednesday 25 February**

Kiln Theatre is looking for people

to take part in our Kiln Neighbours Programme!  
The Neighbours will attend upskilling and insight workshops and socials. For more information on the specifics of these workshops, please see the contact information below.

**Email:** [ellakennedy@kilntheatre.com](mailto:ellakennedy@kilntheatre.com)  
**https://kilntheatre.com**

**How to Overcome Trauma,  
with Dr Gwen Adshead**  
**Tuesday 24 February**  
**Kiln Cinema**

7pm  
Dr Gwen Adshead is one of Britain's leading forensic psychiatrists. She is the author of The Sunday Times bestseller, The Devil You Know, which inspired her series of BBC Reith Lectures in 2024.  
[www.kilntheatre.com](http://www.kilntheatre.com)

**Manic Street Creature**

**Thursday 5 March to  
Saturday 28 March**  
**Kiln Theatre**

2.30pm | 7.30pm  
This soaring piece of gig theatre from Olivier Award winner Maimuna Memon brings a raw and powerful insight into first love, co-dependence and mental health care – but most of all, how music can help us start again. 14+

**Exhibition on Screen:**

**Turner & Constable**

**Tuesday 10 March to  
Thursday 26 March**  
**Kiln Cinema**

8pm  
Celebrating the 250th anniversary of their births, this unmissable new documentary explores Turner and Constable's intertwined lives and legacies alongside the groundbreaking Tate exhibition.

# Wembley to serve up table tennis drama

Table tennis is coming home as Wembley gears up to host the centenary World Championships – 100 years after staging the very first edition in 1926.

A record 64 men's and 64 women's teams will battle for global supremacy as the tournament reaches its decisive stages at the OVO Arena Wembley in May.

England's men face a tough draw against China, Sweden and South Korea, while the women take on Japan, Germany and France, all fighting for prime seeding positions in the last 32. Expect blistering rallies and fierce drama. Tickets are on sale now at [www.london-2026.com](http://www.london-2026.com)



## USEFUL CONTACTS

### FOR HELP WITH COST OF LIVING

[www.brent.gov.uk/costofliving](http://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](http://www.nhs.uk/Service-Search/GP/LocationSearch/4)

If you want to help someone sleeping rough go to [www.streetlink.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.brent.gov.uk/stayconnected)

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

#### February 2026

23 Full Council

24 Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny

26 Schools Forum

#### March 2026

4 Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny

5 Trading Standards Joint Advisory Board

9 General Purposes Committee

9 Cabinet

11 Planning Committee

17 Joint Boroughs IT Committee Brent,

Lewisham and Southwark

19 Welsh Harp Joint Consultative Committee

23 Pension Board

24 Audit and Standards Advisory Committee

#### April 2026

1 Health & Wellbeing Board

2 Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny

7 Cabinet

7 Corporate Parenting

8 Planning Committee

9 Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny

### ACCESS SERVICE ONLINE

Pay council tax online  
[www.brent.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.brent.gov.uk/counciltax)

Make a claim for housing benefit  
[www.brent.gov.uk/housingbenefit](http://www.brent.gov.uk/housingbenefit)

Apply for a parking permit  
[www.brent.gov.uk/parking](http://www.brent.gov.uk/parking)

The  
Electoral  
Commission

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Register to vote today.  
It's quick and easy, just go to  
[gov.uk/register-to-vote](https://gov.uk/register-to-vote)



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