



Community Voice

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ECN meeting



The most recent meeting of the Ealing Community Network (ECN) took place at St Andrew's Church in Ealing on 8th December. ECN is the voice of the voluntary sector in Ealing.

The meeting involved contributions from Kieran Read and Cllr Aysha Raza from the Council and there were discussions about a funding related report, community wealth building and the Ealing Compact.

This was actually the first face to face meeting of the network in almost two years and even though we had a virtual link, it was nice to meet in person.

Many thanks to Narinder Sian for his help in setting up the digital aspect of the meeting, which was, as ever, smoothly chaired by Simon Hall and very efficiently arranged by Angela Dodwell.

WLAS book launch

The West London Asian Society arranged an entertaining book launch at Southall Town Hall on 8/12/21.

We have been looking at ways of increasing usage of the room by community colleagues and the book launch was a great way to attract new users to the building.

We were all entertained by some singers, Ravi Sharma and Cllr Mohinder Midha, who reminded us all of the need to keep in touch with each other and maintain social connections.

Well done to Jaskaran Singh and volunteers who arranged the event. It is a timely reminder about the importance of cultural and arts activities as a way of bringing people together.



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Funded with the support of :



Southall Community Awards 2021



SCA arranged the first ever Southall Community Awards Evening on Friday 10th December at the Tudor Rose in Southall. We had a huge turnout at a fantastic venue, many thanks to Tudor Rose colleagues, Ursula, Velma and team.

The aim of the Awards Evening was to present awards to volunteers, individuals, businesses, community leaders, past and present and recognise the great work that people have been doing in Southall.

We sought nominations under five categories : Southall's Best, Young Southall Award, Team of the Year, Community Business Award and Leadership and Inspiration Award. The final category also allowed for nominations or people who had passed away but who had made a real difference in Southall.

We received well over 20 nominations and were really pleased that awards were presented to a broad range of people very much in keeping with our multicultural Southall, including :

Ealing Young Champions, Active Communities Team, DICE, Mael Gael, Clarence Baker, Anita Puri, Peter Sylvester, Dalawar Chaudhary Jean Brooker, Ben Nwokocha, Shukri Hanif, Rabia Cornelius, Alice Dunn, Gursharan Dhaliwal, Daljit Singh Grewal, Ragini Patel, T.P. Singh and so many more excellent and worthy nominees.

The evening started with a lovely contribution from year 6 pupils from Havelock Primary School who sang some festive songs for the audience and the schools staff team were later one of the successful nominees for an award, just showing how local schools were delivering excellent outcomes.



Many thanks to our guest presenters including:

- Cllr Munir Ahmed, Mayor of Ealing
- Paul Najsarek, Ealing Council Chief Executive
- Cllr Mohinder Midha Deputy Mayor of Ealing
- Velma Cooke, Tudor Rose
- Harsev Bains, SCA Chair

We also had an insightful contribution from Cllr Jasbir Anand. The Awards Evening was supported and/or sponsored by Tudor Rose, Catalyst Housing, Chana Chemist, Mehak Travel Club and MG Beers. It was a lovely evening and we have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from people attending. We hope that this can become an annual fixture in the community calendar, so that we can applaud Southall's great volunteers and activists on a regular basis

Visit to Chinatown

SCA were really pleased to be invited to an anti-racism rally in Chinatown arranged by The Monitoring Group.

Janpal accompanied Suresh Grover to the event and many colleagues braved the elements to attend. The rally was aimed at highlighting the racism and anti-Chinese sentiments that many members of the Chinese community had experienced in recent times. Some of the incidents have been truly appalling and we stand in solidarity with our Chinese colleagues.

It was nice to see former Ealing Councillor, Edmond Yeo, also present and in good spirits. Well done to Suresh and all TMG colleagues for arranging this rally.



'Smash It' Badminton Competition



Our 'Smash It' badminton mixed doubles competition took place on 28th November. Arranged at Greenford Sports Centre we had 13 pairs who entered and the badminton was fun and competitive. The competition was won by Aurore and Ateet (pictured) who were outstanding but we also had a play off for the 'wooden spoon' match, that was enjoyed by everyone.

We had a very good and diverse turnout for this doubles competition, with an encouraging number of female participants. We have received overwhelming feedback for another competition later in the year.

SCA would like to thank our partners DLC Renegades Badminton Club, with whom the competition was jointly arranged.

SCA Annual General Meeting

The SCA Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday 21st October at St John's Church Hall and was very well attended.

We had arranged a delayed AGM in February, that had related to the previous financial year but that had been arranged on zoom. Having a face-to-face meeting was welcomed by all.

Our guest speakers were Reverend Mark Poulson and Virendra Sharma MP and both delivered speeches that had the full attention of all people attending.

The meeting received reports about our work in 2020/21 and finances and we had excellent stalls from Let's Go Southall, Ealing Community Transport, Ealing Community Network and The West London Asian Society.



Save the Young Adults Centre

The campaign to save the Young Adults Centre from demolition and disposal took a new twist on Tuesday 19th October.

The Young Ealing Foundation presented a petition to Ealing Council and we were all part of a demonstration outside Ealing Town Hall.

The Council seem to have made a decision to dispose of the building so that housing can be built on the site and then somehow provide services for young people from the Golflinks and the Dominion Centre.

SCA and partners are absolutely opposed to this.

We need more new facilities for young people in Southall and not less.



Dr Bike in Southall Green



As part of the Let's Go Southall project the Dr Bike team were busy on Saturday 30th October in Southall Green.

People were able to bring their bikes for checks and repairs and it was busy throughout. The Active Communities Team were also present to encourage people to have cycle taster rides in the Manor House grounds.

Towards the end of the session some entertainment was provided by a nearby stall who were delivering some Bollywood dance !

Well done to Rajinder, Manjinder and all ACT colleagues. Dr Bike sessions take place

Near Neighbours anniversary

Near Neighbours arranged their anniversary event on 17th November at St John's Church in Southall Green.

The group has done amazing work in funding and supporting community groups and activities in Southall that have brought people together.

The church is also the home to the Southall Food Hub and many volunteers were present at the Near Neighbours event.

It is no coincidence that during a time of emergency local community and faith group have come together to help those who are less fortunate.

Well done to Mark Poulson, Elizabeth Fewkes and all colleagues as we all hope that Near Neighbours goes from strength to strength in coming years.



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