



Community Voice



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Town Hall Christmas Tree



What would Christmas be without a Christmas tree ?

As if to oblige, a Christmas tree was placed outside Southall Town Hall by Ealing Council recently and on Friday 9th December many people appeared at the building to help decorate it in the afternoon.

Cllr John Martin provided the inspiration for this 'Bring your Bauble' event and many people can in support.

Even the very cold weather did not deter people from coming and placing different types of decorations on the Christmas tree which hopefully should be fully lit soon.

It was nice to see local people enjoying some festivity in an enjoyable atmosphere.

Community Awards 2022

Our Southall Community Awards 2022 evening took place on Saturday 3rd December at Featherstone High School.

This is the second annual awards evening we have arranged and it was packed to the rafters as we had a number of individuals, teams and groups who had been nominated for community awards.

The evening began with some opening remarks by Virendra Sharma MP and Councillor Jasbir Anand.

There were many worthy awards winners including the Heston Lions Club (pictured). The evening was excellently hosted by Kamaljeet Sembhi and awards were handed out by Virendra Sharma, Evelyn Gloyn, Monica Jaswal, Cllr Jasbir Anand and Harsev Bains, the Chair of SCA.



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Queens Award for SCA



SCA was presented with the Queens Award for Voluntary Service at the Tower of London on 18th November.

We received the award for our work in the community, particularly during the Covid period where we helped people with food support and other assistance. SCA was one of 17 organisations in London who received the award.

The award was presented by The Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE.

This is a great honour for our charity and Janpal and Harsev Bains, the SCA Chair, were delighted to attend and receive this very prestigious

Arts Classes at Town Hall

SCA, working with Mahenderpal Sorya, have started weekly arts and craft classes at the Town Hall. The classes aim to involve Southall residents in creative activities that bring people together in a fun and innovative way.

The participants on 11th November worked with Mahenderpal and produced a beautiful mural and will be working on designing and creating art works over the next few weeks.

Many of the participants are from the Voice of Women group and they thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to be creative and produce pieces of art.

This lovely project is funded by the People's Health Trust.



Community Clean Up on Western Road



SCA and LAGER Can worked at our Western Road site on Saturday 10th December on a clean up event.

We started at 10 am and the temperature was -3. However, the freeze did not deter the few committed volunteers who came and supported the activity and many thanks to the colleagues from LAGER Can.

Thanks also to Paul Carter, Jags Sanghera and Arif Hussain for putting in a real shift and working so hard.

The urban garden is really taking shape and will have lots of features that will attract and involve residents in the New Year and beyond. The project is funded by the GLA.

Touchdown Southall

SCA will soon be starting a new project with young people in Southall called Touchdown Southall. This is a project to teach non-contact American Football, called NFL Flag, to young people in our area.

This is a great opportunity to promote new sporting activity to school children and we welcome great support of the NFL Foundation to make this possible.

On 5th October Janpal and Kamaljeet visited The Tottenham Stadium for a NFL promotional event. It was a beautiful stadium with many activities involving young people from North London. We also met a number of partner organisations delivering this activity across London.



Afternoon tea at Greenford Hall



Ealing Council arranged the Ealing Together afternoon tea at the Greenford Hall on Saturday 15th October.

The event remembered the great contribution made by voluntary sector groups during the pandemic to help local residents and communities. It was really nice to meet so many colleagues face-to-face after so long and for the work of community organisations to be applauded openly.

There were speeches by the Mayor of Ealing, Cllr Mohinder Midha, the Deputy Lieutenant for Ealing, Richard Kornicki and Cllr Peter Mason.

The afternoon ended with a fantastic Bhangra session that involved the whole audience.

Workshop at UWL

SCA supported an event at the University of West London working with a group of young people on 19th November.

The group who consisted of a number of students from Featherstone High School heard about some of our main work areas including: anti-poverty/cost of living, local history at schools and environmental improvement.

We had really perceptive questions about anti-racism, local history and the kind of problems and issues affecting our communities.

Many thanks to Gagandeep Chaggar and UWL colleagues for providing this opportunity to engage with young people.



World Diabetes Day

On Tuesday 15th November we worked with the local NHS DICE team and arranged a diabetes health check session at the Town Hall as part of World Diabetes Day.

Unfortunately, most of the day was affected by persistent rainy weather but we still had a reasonable number of people attending as the conditions improved in the afternoon.

As well as the diabetes nurses we also had podiatrists, dieticians, social prescribers and the TB awareness team.

Many thanks to Adamma and Grace from the diabetes team and all colleagues who attended on the day.



SCA Community Forum



We arranged one of our monthly SCA Community Forums on 27th October.

In spite of considerable attempted disruption the meeting took place and we had the Leader of Ealing Council, Cllr Peter Mason, as our guest speaker.

Cllr Mason spoke of the need to change Southall but acknowledged the problems and barriers in effecting that change at a pace sought by Southall residents.

Community forums provide an opportunity to hear about important local issues and developments in Southall. They also provide a platform for local people and groups to come and learn and influence about what is happening locally,

London Challenge Poverty Week

As part of our commitment to tackling poverty, SCA had arranged five consecutive days of poverty related talks from 17th to 21st October.

Each day had a different theme and we started on Monday 17th discussing cost of living followed by housing and homelessness on Tuesday.

The event was opened by the Mayor Councillor Mohinder Midha and Councillor Jasbir Anand. We have had some excellent speakers over the first two days and hope to have many more for the remainder of the week.

Well done to Kamaljeet Sembhi, our Anti-Poverty Support Officer, for arranging this week of activity. The week was funded by the City Bridge Trust and 4 in 10 organisation.



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