



Community Voice

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International Women's Day



We had a great Holi and International Women's Day event at the Town Hall on 8th March.

This is a combination that we have never tried before and we had a very entertaining and colourful event on a cold and wet day. All the participants enjoyed themselves and it was almost therapeutic to contribute towards colourful art works being produced.

The event was opened by Cllr Faduma Mohamed, who kindly shared some opening remarks and we had two excellent artists, Mahenderpal and Sheila, who kept all attendees fully involved. It is clear that art and creative activities bring together people in an unparalleled way.

Community Clean Up

We arranged the second day of our weekend clean up at The Western Road Urban Garden on 19th March and it was great fun.

Our amazing volunteers worked tirelessly to pick up huge amounts of rubbish and waste and then planted over 150 trees as hedging.

Colleagues from Good Gym re-joined us for a second day and it was fantastic how the whole team has helped in transforming the site. We hope to arrange many similar events in the near future.

Our vision is develop the site as an environmental hub for leisure and food growing.



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Voice of Women 'Maa Boli' event



The Voice of Women group run weekly sessions for their users at Christchurch, off Al-lenby Road in Southall.

The group meets a few times each week to provide socialisation, exercise, learning activities and meals, all that bring together women facing isolation.

Voice of Women arranged a very successful Punjabi Maa Boli event at the church hall and, as usual, their event was attended by a large group of women who enjoyed the welcoming and friendly approach of Surinder Kenth and her volunteer team.

SCA Community Forum

We arranged a SCA Community Forum meeting on Thursday 23rd February and had guests speakers from Citizens UK and the Canal & River Trust.

We had a good turnout of people who heard two excellent presentations from Diana Fitz-William and Hilal Yazan.

There were also many questions and issues raised with Councillor John Martin during the discussion.

Forum meetings take place on the last Thursday of each month at Southall Town Hall and allow for local issues to be heard and discussed.



NFL Flag at Dormers Wells



As part of our NFL American football project working with young people, we have started new sessions at Dormers Wells High School on Thursdays.

We are working with the school to arrange these weekly sessions and introduce the pupils to a new and engaging sport. These sessions are delivered after school on Thursdays at Dormers Wells Sports Centre.

The project is called 'Touchdown Southall' and is funded by the NFL Foundation UK.

Kamaljeet from SCA and Joel Kenyon from the high school are pictured.

Tree Planting at Western Road

As part of our Urban Garden project on Western Road we will be planting over 500 trees and hedges on the 2 acre site.

On Wednesday 22nd February our team went to Horsenden Farm to pick up some trees to take back and plant in Southall.

We picked up over 500 trees and hedges that we began planting in March.

Well done to Mani, Paul and Ashok, as well as the Park Rangers, Jamie and Carl helping us choose and transport the plants back to Southall.



Food for the needy



Between January—March we used funding from the Council's Household Support Fund to help local households in need.

We had a busy day sharing food to distribute for households in Dormers Wells and provided two pallets of food to Dormers Wells High School for 100 families.

Many thanks to the excellent staff who helped us including Stacy Fleary and Jas Rana. We hope the parcels of rice, sugar, oil, lentils, pasta, tinned foods etc will go some way to helping families facing food hardship.

Thanks, again, to colleagues from Sira's who delivered the food.

English Classes at Town Hall

SCA has started weekly English classes for residents at Southall Town Hall.

We are keen to maximise the use of our room for the benefit of local residents and we had been aware of a demand for ESOL or English classes.

The class takes place every Friday morning and has been arranged with the valuable support of the Ealing Adult Learning Team.

The classes are going well and the participants are very involved in the sessions. We hope to arrange some related IT classes in the near future.



Health workshop at Town Hall

SCA hosted a health workshop on Tuesday 21st February at the Town Hall.

It was arranged with the Institute for Development Studies and we had a good mix of colleagues from the health sector who contributed to the discussions about the issue of health equity.

Given the high and persistent levels of health problems in our area this was a very topical debate.

As ever, Megan, Tabitha and Santi from IDS arranged a very professional and helpful event.



HADEA advice sessions



The Horn of Africa Disability Elderly Association (HADEA) has been active in Ealing for many years and now provide a weekly advice session at Southall Town Hall on Tuesdays.

HADEA have a base in West Ealing but have been arranging drop in advice for some time, in recognition of the large demand for advice and advocacy in Southall. Yuusuf Guuled and Fathia Diriye from HADEA are pictured.

This is all part of our Southall wide community connections project called 'Southall Connect'.

Support for Southall households

Since January SCA has been working with a number of schools in Southall to provide food for households facing food difficulties.

On 30th March we worked with a local business, Sira's, to deliver food to two schools: Hambrough Primary and Beaconsfield Primary. There were a large number of families who benefitted and the staff at both schools were very helpful.

Pictured are Louise Singleton, the headteacher at Hambrough School and Sarah Jay from Ealing Council, with Janpal, as we distributed the food in rather unsettled weather.



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