

1. Mayoral Engagements

The past few months has been extremely busy with Haringey bursting with activities as we move from early autumn into the winter period. It has been particularly pleasing to see and to visit so many events and activities organised by our own community groups within Haringey, some of which I mention below.

On **13 September 2014**, I attended the 'Blessing of the Waters' service and opening of the new school year at St Barnabas Greek and Sunday Schools at St Mary's Greek Orthodox Cathedral N22. This wonderful event was a reminder of the importance of children learning their mother tongue as well as the cultural life of their community. In the afternoon, I enjoyed the 'CHADAS 65th Annual Show' at Priory Road, N8, this was a tribute to the work of a small number of volunteers and allotment holders who organised the show beautifully.

The annual 'Giver Way Day' organised by the Grace Organisation at the Whitehall & Tenterden Community Centre, N17 on **20 September** was a powerful reminder of how we feel when we give to others; whether its gifts, food or just a compliment. The Community Festival at Lordship Rec attended by over thousand people showcased the talents and interests of many organisations and groups based in Tottenham.

The celebration of the 'National Older People's Day' at Wood Green shopping centre with live music on the **1 October** was wonderful. The 'MoneyWise Job Fair' at 639 High Road, N17 was supported by local many businesses and community organisations advertising employment and training opportunities in Haringey and beyond.

On **2 October**, I attended the '100th Birthday' party of a lovely lady called, Alice Wood, an amazing milestone. A few days later, I joined the 'live music and celebrations' at The Haven Day Centre along with all the residents and staff. It was enjoyed by all.

The opening of the 'World Mental Health Campaign' in Wood Green Shopping City on **9 October** was an opportunity to see the healing influence of paintings and art work for users of our mental health and social care services. The annual 'Education Achievement Awards' organised the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation for children who have been in care was wonderful. It was lovely to see so many of our children achieving in all kinds of areas and their pride in doing so.

On **10 October**, the Irish Advice and Support service celebrated their '25th Anniversary' in the presence of the Irish Ambassador. A day later, I attended the 'Tottenham Multicultural Festival' in Tottenham Green organised by EFIBA Arts. This was followed by 'Youth's Empowerment' event which took place at the Triangle and Young People Community Centre. It was a wonderful event.

The '5TH Anniversary Celebration' of The Highway House at Tottenham Town Hall on **18 October** was a very moving experience. I can only but praise to the work of Pastor Alex and his church in supporting vulnerable homeless men who are in need of food and shelter. The evening fundraiser organised by the indomitable Mrs May Richard's MBE and Haringey Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Project at Broadwater Farm was fabulous. It was lovely to see the whole community come out to support her.

I enjoyed the 'celebration of Black History Month' at the Park Lane Resource Centre organised by Living Under One Sun on **25 October**. The annual 'Hornsey Carnival Halloween party' on 1st of November was really fun and its great to see the group continue holding this event year on year.

I attended the 'Haringey Youth Arts Festival' at Haringey Sixth Form Centre with my mother. We both thought it was delightful and were impressed by all the groups who performed in the show. Joined by the Mayoress, we went to visit the Wood Green Animals Charity who was celebrating their '90th birthday'. They are increasingly focusing on preventative work and I am hoping to support them with this. Later, we went to the '125th Anniversary of Consecration Celebrations 1889-2014' at St Marks Church N22. It was lovely service and enjoyed by the whole congregation.

On **8th November** the Mayor of Enfield and I opened a new of Beauty Saloon called Etiquette Hair on Tottenham High Road. I went on to do a presentation of certificates for training and dedicated work to the Little Flame Cadets at Holy Trinity School.

On **Sunday 9 November**, the borough supported several important Remembrance Sunday Services from Wood Green to Tottenham. I attended two services, first at the Wood Green Civic Centre War Memorial followed by a later service at Alexandra Ward, St Saviours Church Cross. My Deputy laid a wreath at the Tottenham War Memorial and Cllr Griffith at Hornsey War Memorial. All the services were well attended by local people, dignitaries, faith groups and community groups.

On the **11 November**, I attended a wonderful exhibition called, 'Mum, Dementia and I' at Bernie Grant Centre organised by a up and coming photographer, Annemarie Anang. The 5E 'Award Ceremony 2014' at the Selby Centre (**12 November**) was so well attended by many people who have gone on to employment and training because of the dedicated support they received from this important employment organisation.

I really enjoyed meeting (**13 November**) new Brownies at All Saints Church Hall, N6. On **14 November** I attended the Studio 306 'Annual Open event'. This is a wonderful organisation which supports people struggling with mental health issues through practical activities such as jewellery making, painting and other creative skills. The displays of the work of the group's users were very professional and would make ideal Christmas / birthday presents. Please do support them.

The 'Nigerian UK Based Achiever Awards' at Tottenham Town Hall on the **15 November** was a reminder of the impact and contribution that this community is making to our borough. The 'Civic Service' held in the Muswell Hill Synagogue was very warm and welcoming and well attended by the leaders of all the main faith groups. It was a wonderful experience, one that I shall treasure and remember in many years to come.

On **17 November** I attended the 'Annual Celebrating Sport Awards' at Alexandra Palace. It was great to see the many groups and individuals receive recognition for their contributions to sports and training in the borough.

2. Future Activities

Over the next six months, I will focus on supporting groups from social care, health and young people groups to publicise their work and their fundraising efforts in addition to the charities I already support.

3. Mark of Respect for Former Mayor and Councillor, Ron Blanchard and Paul Head

The Death of Former Mayor and Councillor, Ron Blanchard

I am sorry to report the death of former Mayor and Councillor Ron Blanchard, who was a former Labour Councillor in the Harringay Ward from 1978 - 2006 (Mayor from 1996/97). He passed away on 22 August 2014 aged 84.

Ron Blanchard was an extremely committed Councillor who is remembered for serving the people of his ward and Haringey to the best of his ability. Our condolences go out to the family.

The Death of Paul Head

It is with great sadness I also report the death of Paul Head, the Principal and Chief Executive of the College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London. Paul passed away peacefully on Wednesday 17th September 2014.

Paul contributed enormously to Haringey, not just creating an outstanding college but also working across the community, particularly in Tottenham and was a tremendous champion for young people in the borough. He will be remembered for his passion for education and commitment to Haringey and Tottenham.

As a mark of respect to Ron and Paul, I would ask you all to stand please for one minute's silence.