A Highgate Christmas

Highgate Neighbourhood Forum

The HNF provides an opportunity for everyone in Highgate to get involved in local issues and have a say. We want to hear your ideas and here are some ways for you to join in;

- Join the HNF committee - only four meetings a year to discuss key issues
- Nature North London - get involved with our network creating wildlife corridors connecting our green spaces
- Traffic/transport group - help us develop a community-led vision of what the future of travel in the area might be
- Highgate Festival - offer your skills or organise part of the programme or an event

Contact us on info@forhighgate.org.uk

Haringey and TfL action on Highgate road safety

Haringey Council has launched a new webpage to provide a progress update on the actions that it and TfL have agreed to take in the North Road/North Hill area. This includes a safety review, traffic monitoring, new signage and recruitment of school crossing patrol officers. Meanwhile TfL is reviewing the 214 bus turnaround and the frequency of the 603 bus. Check out the webpage, which we are assured will be updated to track progress.

Christmas events calendar

- **20-22 Novembe**r, **Handmade in Highgate Winter Fair** at HLSi, South Grove. More here.
- **26 November**, 4-5pm, **Highgate Lights Switch On** in Pond Square with Dame Meera Syal and Highgate Brass Ensemble + 3-4pm **Santa's Grotto** in The Crown (High Street). More info here.
- **27 November**, 7pm, **Whittington Health Charity Christmas Concert** in Pond Square Chapel, including Highgate's own Musical Theatre Choir. Tickets
- **1 Dec-3 Jan, Jacksons Lane Christmas Cracker** - six shows for the season. Book here
- **1& 4 December 7-9pm Rewild Flowers Wreath Workshop** at Lauderdale House. Book here.
- **5 December**, 10am-2pm, **Harington Winter Sale**, 54 Cholmeley Park. More info here.
- **5 December**, 10.30am-3.30pm **Friends of Waterlow Park Christmas Wreath Sale**, Lauderdale House
- **6 December, 10am-3pm Festive Market at Omved Gardens** (1Townsend Yard). Book here
- **6 December, 7.30pm Yoruba, Konkani and Columbian Christmas** by The Inner Vision Trio, Lauderdale Houses. Book here.
- **9 December, 6.30pm, Carols in Pond Square** with Channing and Highgate School's brass ensembles
- **10 December, 7.30pm, A Christmas Carol** at Highgate Cemetery. Book here
- **12&13 December, Duck Pond Artisan Market**, Lauderdale House. More here
- **15 December, 1.15pm, Stephen Hose Free Lunchtime Christmas Concert**, Lauderdale House. Book here
- **15 December**, 7.15pm: **Christmas Cinema & Favourite Christmas Carols** at Lauderdale House, tickets
- **Book by 5 January 2027, North London Hospice Christmas Tree Recycling scheme**. Book here for collection between 9 and 14 January.

Help shape Lauderdale House at 50





Lauderdale House will celebrate 50 years as an independent registered charity in 2028. Since 1978, an unloved, fire-damaged historic house has been transformed into a vibrant

place for arts, culture and community activity. As they think about how to mark this milestone, they want to hear from you about what you value about Lauderdale House, who and what they should celebrate and what you'd like their 50th year to achieve. Fill in their survey here and enter their prize draw.

Harington exhibition celebrates nature and creativity



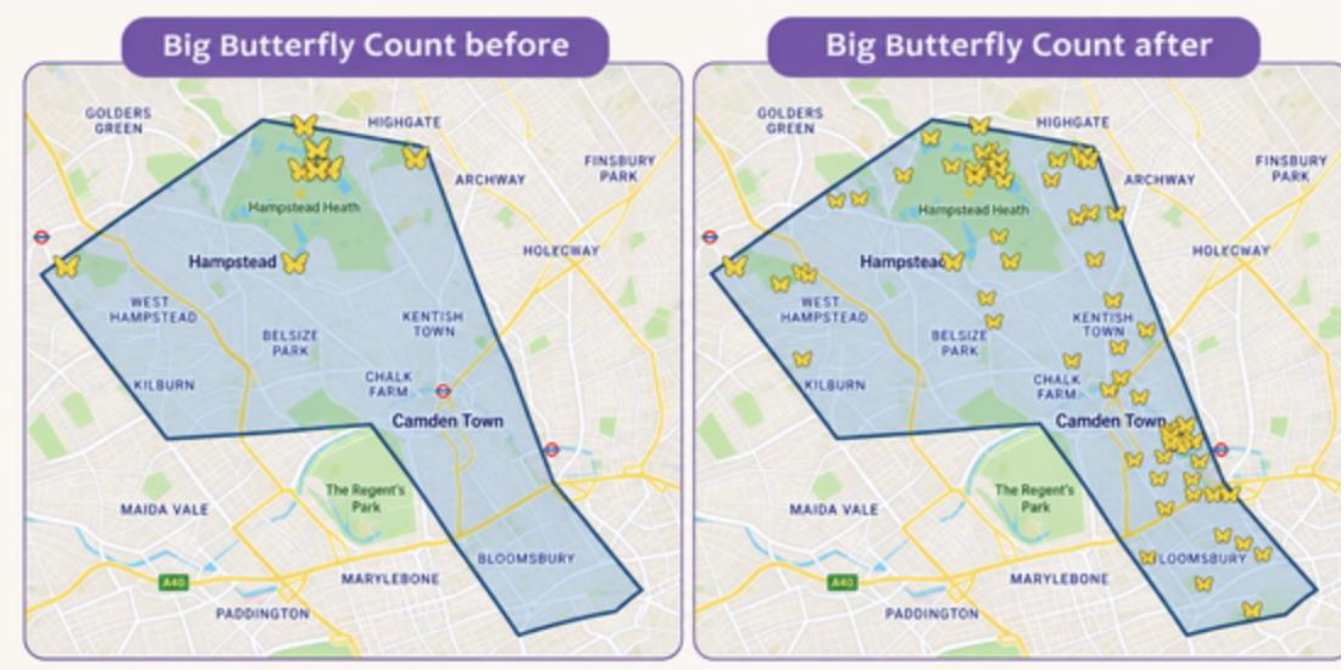
Lauderdale House is hosting an exhibition of artwork by Harington students **until Thursday 3 December.** It celebrates the diversity of the natural world, as well as the creativity and diverse perspectives of the young people training at Harington. Find out more here.

Camden Right to Grow launch

Everyone is invited to the launch of the Camden Right to Grow (RtG) group on **Wednesday 2 December from 6-8.30pm** in the Devas Garden Room at Castlehaven Community Centre & Hub (21-23 Castlehaven Road, NW1 8RU).

A speaker from the Tower Hamlets RtG group will explain the campaign to transform unused and underutilised public land for growing and nature projects. Camden RtG will be calling on Camden Council to adopt a Right to Grow motion and make suitable public land available for cultivation by community organisations. Join Camden RtG Chat on WhatsApp here.

Butterflies in Camden and National Tree Week



Camden Nature News reports that this year's Big Butterfly Count saw spectacular results this year. The five most commonly spotted butterflies in the UK were the Small White, Gatekeeper, Large White, Red Admiral and Meadow Brown, while Painted Ladies sightings increased by an impressive 335% compared with last year. While the hot dry summer provided favourable conditions for spotting butterflies, the extreme weather also caused many of the plants that caterpillars depend on to wither and die before they had finished feeding. The full impact on butterfly and moth populations may not become apparent until 2027. You can read the full results and discover how you can help butterflies during heatwaves here.

And this month, the focus in on trees. National Tree Week runs from Saturday 21 November until Sunday 29 November. Find out more and join a tree walk near you here.

Hampstead Heath Climate Champions



Our friends at Heath Hands have launched a Crowdfunder for a new project - Hampstead Heath Climate Champions - to create opportunities in for young people in the conservation sector through school work experience programmes. It will also provide resources for visitors to the Heath to help them understand how climate change is affecting Hampstead Heath and what they can do to create a more resilient urban environment. All donations will be match-funded by the Aviva Community Fund and you can donate here..

London Tree Ring project launched



CPRE London launched their London Tree Ring project last month.This ambitious project aims to connect existing green spaces along the Greater London boundary with a mixture of new habitats, including woodland, orchards, hedgerows and street trees. Further radial routes will connect the Ring to central London boroughs via key walking and cycling routes. Find out more and get involved here.

Nature North London corridor groups established



A second Nature North London event earlier this month brought together individuals and groups from across our area. Working in neighbouring area groups, they shared news from their projects, talked about how they could work together and how they might link up our green spaces for nature. As work on these continues, NNL are also developing an interactive website with the help of UCL students. Check out the current website here and sign up for the NNL newsletter here.

Camden High Street pedestrianisation to be permanent



Following a consultation in the summer, Camden Council have decided to make the pedestrianisation of Camden High Street between the main junction at the Underground station and the junction with Hawley Crescent and Jamestown Road permanent. Find out more here.

Changes to Camden and Haringey Local Plans

The new Camden Local Plan was submitted for public examination by an independent Inspector in October 2025. The Inspector has identified a series of Modifications to ensure the Plan is in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework. You can comment on these here until **Monday 23 November.**

Meanwhile, over in Haringey, the new Green Party administration has made changes to its own draft Local Plan. These include removing Rowans Bowling Alley in Finsbury Park as a site for redevelopment, safeguarding Pinkham Way as an open space for nature and strengthening biodiversity requirements for new developments across the borough. Subject to Full Council approval on 23 November, the Plan will launched for final consultation before independent examination. Find out more here.

How to report street issues in Camden and Haringey

Finally, following the tragic accident reported in our last newsletter and amidst vital campaigns to improve road safety in Highgate, it seems timely to list again the ways we can all report street problems like traffic incidents, potholes, faulty traffic signals, flooding etc to the relevant authorities.

- Camden: report a street problem
- Haringey: report problems with a street or road
- Met Police: reporting a road traffic incident
- Our MP Tulip Siddiq's Highgate road safety survey

Alicia Pivaro

Chair, Highgate Neighbourhood Forum