

# Neighbourhood News



from the Bell Tower Community Association

Issue 76 - June 2024

[www.bell-tower.org.uk](http://www.bell-tower.org.uk)



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## NEWPORT ROAD STREET PARTY



Food courtesy of the Moderation  
Children's activities Quiz  
Live music...and much more!

Join us for an afternoon of fun for  
all the family

### Saturday 8 June 2024

### 1.00pm onwards

All welcome - bring your friends!

Organised by the Bell Tower Community Association with New Hope and Newport Road residents.

### News in brief

• Our committee for the next year is: Liz Hobbs (chair), Jonathan Dart (vice-chair), David Neale (secretary) Jake Marin-Hanson (treasurer), Sandie Gill, Barbara Kendall, Mark Ralph and Bob Murrant. Len Middleton and Andy Ellis will continue to help as membership secretaries.

• The next Newport Road street party is on Saturday 8 June - come and join us for an afternoon of fun, food and entertainment. If you are interested in helping please email us at [info@bell-tower.org.uk](mailto:info@bell-tower.org.uk).

• The council is launching a legal challenge to the government's decision to approve planning permission for flats on the Vastern Road Retail Park site. Site owner Aviva Life & Pensions had appealed on the grounds of the council delaying its decision on their application.

• We have concerns that councillors' surgeries are not being well advertised and hear that there is insufficient budget to print enough leaflets to cover the whole area. With this in mind please look out for adverts on our noticeboard for future surgeries.



## Miles & Daughters Funeral Directors



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# Lights! Camera! Gridlock!



**THE BENDS:** the obstacles that would have faced all traffic to the industrial estate

The Bell Tower Community Association managed to minimise the effects on the area of the planned closure of Tessa Road for filming. The makers of "Greenland: Migration" originally wanted to divert all traffic, including articulated lorries, via Randolph, Addison and Cardiff Roads, with the Milford Road bollards being removed.

Bell Tower only found out about the plan when it was told by a friendly business, which shared our concern about the ability of lorries to negotiate Addison Road due to the sharp curve between it and Randolph Road and in particular the bend further along.

We contacted the Thames Ward councillors to voice our opposition to the closure and the alternative route which had been proposed on the advice of council officials.

We also suggested that if the closure was really necessary it would be better to take out the bollards in

Cardiff and Milford Roads temporarily. This route would minimise the number of residents affected and would be much easier for large vehicles to travel along.

We managed to persuade the council to opt for the Cardiff-Milford Road option. The film company's assistant location manager, Joel Punchard, emailed us to say: "My team and I wanted to email to formally apologise for not getting in touch with you about our project ... If we had been passed your contact information sooner, we would have reached out with the filming and road closure when we first approached the council about our intention."

They are now aware of our existence. We have also made it plain to ward councillor Adele Barnet-Ward that we were unhappy that the council did not consult residents, and are grateful to the business that tipped us off.

*Jonathan Dart*

## Ready, steady, grow!



Our gardening competition is back, for the first time since the Covid pandemic, with a chance to win a garden centre voucher.

All you need to do is start cultivating your front garden and tell us that you are interested in entering the competition. Judging will take place

in July, and the winner will be awarded a £30 voucher for Richfield Garden Centre.

To enter please contact Richard Chandler at 61 Cardiff Road, email [richard@bell-tower.org.uk](mailto:richard@bell-tower.org.uk) or leave a message with your address and contact details on 0118 950 8761.

## Sowing the seeds

You may have noticed a big change in the patch beside New Hope Church.

Sajjad Zalaki and his team have been working hard over the past few weeks to transform this unused land into a community garden. They are growing a variety of seasonal vegetables to share with the local community during harvest time.



In the raised beds you'll soon see potatoes, tomatoes, broad beans, and beetroot sprouting and growing strong. Keep an eye on the board next to the raised beds in Newport Road for updates.

If you'd like to be involved in the project, please contact Sajjad at [nhcc.communitygarden@gmail.com](mailto:nhcc.communitygarden@gmail.com).

## JOIN US NOW

for only £2 per person per year and support your community!

You can join at any of our events or by contacting Len & Andy at 89 Addison Road.