

The Brickworks Newsletter



August/September 2023

Number 19

Happy birthday: Our 50th anniversary party, which took place on July 8, was a remarkable occasion - a chance to look back over Brickworks history, and forward at the challenges coming our way.

Around 150 people gathered in the main hall, where a series of speakers, from Keith Edwards to Deborah Livingstone, Catherine Powloski and the celebrated broadcaster Alex Pascall, spoke movingly about their connections with Hanley Crouch. An exhibition of photographs stirred up happy memories of life at the Laundry, where it all began; while Brickworks staff members brought us up to date with work that's going on at the moment.

The entertainment included a flamenco display from the Sadler's Wells group and, after some excellent food, a rousing finale when Gabriela Montgomery-Solano got us all on our feet and dancing.

A big thank you to our amazing and hard-working staff and everyone who has worked so closely with us over the past 50 years.

Cost of living: On August 23 there'll be a major cost-of-living event at the Whittington Park Community Association, Yerbury Road, N19. We'll be there, along with Age Concern, Help on your Doorstep and other local community groups. A similar event will take place at Brickworks on October 21.

Nutrition: As well as providing basic foods, the Brickworks Food Bank now offers help and advice on nutrition. It is open every Wednesday between 12 noon and 3pm. Vanessa Freeman, who runs the food bank, also has a list of local cafes and restaurants offering reasonably priced meals over the summer holidays.

Friends united: Friends of Brickworks, which was launched officially at our 50th anniversary, are pleased to announce their first two events: an informal get-together on August 16 to discuss ideas and plans for the next few months; and a talk on income inequality and the damage that it does.

If you fancy coming along on the 16th, we'll be at reception at 6.30pm. If you'd like to become a Friend, or to help out in any way, please join us. Membership costs £10 a year and you can find out more by following the links on the website or emailing us at friends@hanleycrouch.org.uk.

Brickworks Community Centre

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The talk takes place on August 24 and is entitled 'The Enemy Within'. The speaker, Martin Wilkinson of the Equality Trust, will be discussing the link between income inequality and rising rates of crime, ill health, poverty and environmental collapse - and outlining a way out of our current crisis. Martin's brother, Richard, co-authored the highly influential book *The Spirit Level*. The event is free (donations welcome)

Social media: If you'd like to keep up to date with our latest news and events, take a look at the Brickworks, Hanley Crouch Facebook page, which we will be updating regularly - or follow us on Twitter. All news and photos welcome.

Holiday hints: Stuck for things to do this summer? Try the online magazine *Islington Life*, which has a full list kids' holiday activities ranging from sport to theatre, art, gardening, reading projects and nutrition.

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