

Crack and guns found in dawn raids

SOUTHWARK: Half a kilo of suspected crack cocaine and ingredients for making crystal meth were discovered in dawn raids ahead of the Notting Hill Carnival this weekend.

The Class A discoveries in Southwark came as doors were battered down across London in an effort to crack down on troublemakers before the event kicks off.

Overall, 126 people were arrested, £78,000 was seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act, and four firearms were discovered – believed to be a MAC10 machine gun, a STEN machine gun, a handgun and a BB gun. The crack was found in Nelson Square in Borough, and the crystal meth kit was discovered in Upper Ground, South Bank. A further kilo of suspected cocaine was recovered from an address in Bexley, and 40 suspected rocks of crack cocaine seized from an address in Westminster. Many of those arrested and bailed pending further enquiries will have bail conditions imposed on them, prohibiting them from attending carnival.

Concern raised over £64m funding gap

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE: A funding gap of £64million, to fund improvements to the Elephant and Castle area, has been identified in a Southwark Council report.

The document was submitted to central government as part of an application to get funding for developments to the infrastructure of the area, like upgrades to the mainline and Northern line stations and the northern roundabout improvements.

In order to secure the funding, the council had to show where there were ‘funding gaps’ in their planned works around the Elephant. The ‘gaps’ are described as “Elephantine” by local campaign group ‘35percent’, who claim developers “aren’t paying enough towards the improvements” in the area.

Cllr Mark Williams, cabinet member for regeneration at Southwark Council said they have plenty of time to raise the funds needed to build-up the services and facilities in the area, as well as fulfilling their pledge to build 11,000 new homes. “We had to demonstrate where we needed to raise money - or where we had a funding gap..... This does not mean we think we will not be able to raise funds as new homes aren’t being built overnight but will be built over the next ten to fifteen years, which gives us plenty of time to find other areas of funding,” he said.

DULWICH

KEEP US AT HEART OF PARK PLANS - HAMLET FANS



Photo: Laraine Bateman

Supporters Trust: club should be considered in proposal

By Hannah Skellern

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DULWICH HAMLET FC must be at the heart of plans for the large-scale revamp of the land surrounding their club, say fans.

Greendale Playing Fields, which backs onto Hamlet’s grounds, has been earmarked by the council to be transformed into a public park, the *News* revealed last week.

Meanwhile, developers Hadley Property Group, who lease the site from the council, have launched their own consultation to decide the future of the Champion Hill grounds.

Hadley has confirmed they hope to construct a stadium, 4G AstroTurf pitch, and ‘mixed use’ development at Hamlet’s grounds – but have said they have no plans to build on the undeveloped land at Greendale.

Duncan Hart from the Dulwich Hamlet Supporters’ Trust (DHST) has voiced concerns that there is no mention of the football club in the proposals Southwark Council has put forward for public consultation.



“We want to make sure Dulwich Hamlet Football Club remains at heart of the projects,” he said.

“The club needs to stay a central part of the community and what is best for the future of the club needs to be considered.

“We want to see the council working closely with Hadley, and with us, rather than two separate consultations being run.”

James Masini from DHFC said he hoped to see more specific plans from both the council and Hadley.

“It will be good to see more detail and a greater amount of interaction and we want to play an active role in their development.”

A spokesperson for Hadley said: “Hadley Property Group is committed to creating a financially sustainable football club at the heart of the local



Hamlet fans (top); and how the *News* reported the story last week (above); and the council’s plans for Greendales

area alongside an improved and fully accessible Greendale Fields used by local residents.

“We are working on bringing forward more detailed proposals for consultation with local residents and Southwark Council which will achieve this.”

The council last week confirmed that consultation would help to decide the ‘long term future of the site’ and that proposals were still in the early stages.

Book launch stuffed full of events

By Michael Staples

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BEST-SELLING author Kate Mosse will be launching her new novel, *The Taxidermist’s Daughter*, amongst the stuffed animals of Forest Hill’s Horniman Museum.

The event, in conjunction with Orion publishing and Dulwich Books, will feature taxidermy tutorials, special guests such as Sandi Toksvig and is

accompanied with live music.

Mosse will be in conversation with Danish born writer and broadcaster Toksvig at the event, which will also include a live taxidermy demonstrations. Signed copies of *The Taxidermist’s Daughter* will be available to buy as well as a courtesy glass of wine upon arrival.

Director of the Horniman Museum and gardens Janet Vitmayer said: “We’re delighted that Kate Mosse has chosen to launch *The Taxidermist’s Daughter* at

the Horniman. We’re planning a night to remember for Kate, her readers, and fans of taxidermy.”

Tickets are now available for the September 11 event £10 at

www.horniman.ac.uk

Author Kate Mosse and one of the Horniman’s taxidermied Kakapos, a flightless parrot native to New Zealand

