



This is us: Residents of Hertford Road gathered for this wonderful group photo at their Coronation street party. Photo Arron Armstrong.

# The day our whole street came together

Maxine Klein tells the story of how one street party got off the ground and what it meant to her and her neighbours in Hertford Road, N2.

I am not a Royalist nor are many of my neighbours in Hertford Road but I am a party girl, any excuse for a celebration. And it has been a long time since the last Coronation when

Whatsapp? The committee of three identified a face painter, someone who could borrow some tables and someone, me, who would apply to get the road closed (that



Cuppa: PCSO Jan Lovell drops into Park Hall Road

in any case I was too young to raise a glass.

So my neighbour Milly and I decided to have a street party to celebrate, but more importantly to meet up with our lovely neighbours. Having convened an initial meeting to which only two other people came along we decided to go ahead anyway. Who needs a meeting when there is a street

was my only job and I managed to apply for the wrong day!)

Milly, the very organised member of our team, WhatSapped all the neighbours, gave them the date, asked them to move their cars on the morning of the party and to bring food and drink. Someone offered to put up bunting, someone else organised some music and that was it.



Crowned: A right royal teddy bear

## Meeting, greeting and eating

Came the Sunday after the Coronation, the sun shone, the cars were moved, the tables



Woof: King Charles (Spaniel)

went up and the food and drink arrived. It was a wonderful event. Everyone chatted to everyone else, greeted old friends and made new ones.

Neighbours who had just moved in were welcomed; long standing residents competed for how long they had lived in the street. I am, apparently, a relative new comer at 40 years compared to the neighbours who have been here for 60 years. Everyone was labelled so we could learn their names, which I am trying to remember.

Our resident musician sat on his wall and played his violin and the children had their faces painted and drew on the pavement with chalks. The older children played games and the cooler teenagers wandered around being cool.

The day after the party I

saw someone in the street whom I had not known before and I greeted her by name. Success! I wonder what will be our excuse for our next street party?



Made up: Face-painted friends



Where to donate your unwanted household items for recycling

- Batteries to EF Electricals and Sainsbury's, High Road
- Bicycle inner tubes to Bike & Run, High Road
- Blister packs to Oakdale Pharmacy, High Road, and Links Pharmacy, East End Road
- Bras to Aliya J Boutique, High Road
- Cables and small electrical items to EF Electricals, High Road
- Crisp packets to Cherry Tree Café, Cherry Tree Wood
- Dental products (toothbrushes

and heads) to Cavendish Dental Practice, East End Road

- Electrical cables to Everything Electrical, High Road
- Ink jet cartridges to UOE, High Road
- Lightbulbs to Amy's or EF Electricals, High Road
- Make-up to Oakdale Pharmacy, High Road.
- Paper, cork, ribbon, foil, wood off-cuts, buttons, stationery, sequins, carpet samples to Amy's, High Road
- Spectacles to Stewart Duncan Opticians and David Hillel Opticians, High Road

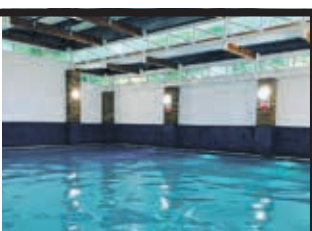


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