

If you would like to invite the Mayor to your event please contact the Mayor's office on:
Tel: 020 7974 5725 / 5130
Fax: 020 7974 5881

Or write to: Mayor's parlour,
town hall, Judd Street,
London WC1H 9JE
mayor@camden.gov.uk
camden.gov.uk/mayor

Produced by Communications (design, print & copy) 10/11 7.53 t. 020 7974 1985



Councillor Jonathan Simpson



Celebrating Camden's music heritage **Your Mayor Your Camden**

May 2010 - May 2011





The Mayor's biography

Jonathan Simpson was born in Chester in 1974.

He moved to Camden in 1992 when he went to University College London, living on Cartwright Gardens in King's Cross ward, a very short distance from the town hall.



He first became involved in politics through the campaigning organisation Stonewall around the time of the introduction of Section 28. This made him believe strongly in the need to tackle injustice and strive for equality in all

walks of life. He was a board member of Stonewall from 2000 to 2002. He was also a special constable in the Metropolitan Police service from 1998 to 2002. Jonathan now works in public affairs, advising on regeneration projects throughout the UK.

He was first elected to the Council in 2002 to represent Fortune Green ward and was subsequently elected to King's Cross in 2006 and 2010. He is passionate about King's Cross and is involved in a number of organisations in the area such as the Calthorpe Project on Gray's Inn Road, the Friends of Argyle Square and the Friends of St. George's Gardens. He also sits as a board member of the Drill Hall Theatre in Bloomsbury.

He is particularly proud of his work with Councillor Abdul Hai and the

Cromer Street Mosque in setting up the King's Cross Mela, which has now become an annual event.



He joined other residents in King's Cross and Bloomsbury in campaigning for a blue plaque to commemorate comic actor Kenneth

Williams. The plaque can now be seen on Marchmont Street following a ceremony last year and the support of the Heritage Foundation.

He is a passionate about live music and believes that Camden has some of the best venues in London and the world. He intends to promote Camden's rich cultural and historical heritage as his Mayoral theme for the next year.

His chosen charity will be the Roundhouse Trust.

His Mayoress will be his friend Amy Lamé.

His Mayoral escorts will be Henry Conlon, Anne Sutherland, Harun Kaji, Lucy Anderson, Theo Cresser, Sam McBratney, Dee Plume, Sue Denim, Sabrina Francis, Councillor Tulip Siddiq, Councillor Phil Jones and Councillor Mike Katz.

The Mayor's role

The Mayor represents every section of the community. The Mayor is the Borough's First Citizen and represents Camden at some 500 engagements during the year in addition to chairing the Council. The role of the Mayor is to reflect the aims and strategies of the Council. The Mayor's role is non-political.

The Mayor's theme

Celebrating Camden's music heritage



Madonna's first UK performance at Koko

These artists all have Camden roots; Madness, Blondie, Amy Winehouse, Elvis Costello, Van Morrison, The Ramones

I had no problem choosing a theme for my Mayoral year. Camden's music heritage is something that I have been involved in and very proud of for many years.

Camden is famous around the world for its music venues, artists and its diverse range of annual music celebrations like the Camden Crawl, Return to Camden Town and the Camden Bangladesh Mela. Camden is home to a number of famous venues, pubs and clubs on the London music scene, that are well known across the world for their link with famous artists and bands.

Prince owned a boutique in Camden Town in 1990s

Bob Marley lived in WC1

**Camden Town was the birthplace of Britpop
Blur, Pulp and Oasis all have roots in Camden**

As your Mayor I want to celebrate our music heritage with residents and visitors to Camden. I want to encourage more people to enjoy Camden's musical reputation. I will work with The Roundhouse to support their vision to provide an environment and facilities where young people can engage with artists, industry professionals and their peers to further their creative aspirations, vocational opportunities and personal development.

The Doors held their only UK gig at the Roundhouse

Pink Floyd, Jimi Hendrix and The Doors were some of the first bands to play at the Roundhouse





The Mayor's chosen charity: **The Roundhouse**

"Help us provide a hub of creation and learning.

We are thrilled that the Roundhouse has been

chosen as the Mayor's charity for 2010. From modest Victorian beginnings, the Roundhouse has an impressive legacy as an iconic London building representing Camden's vibrant cultural heritage.

Our aim at the Roundhouse is to nurture, develop and present the best in contemporary arts, especially the performing arts, and encourage cross-art collaborations. Genres include theatre, dance, circus and comedy as well as music ranging from popular music, folk, indie and rock. Since re-opening in 2006, we have enjoyed audiences of over one million people.

At our heart is our passion to enable young people (11-25 years) to engage with artists, creative industry professionals and their peers. This is to develop their skills, confidence

and open doors into further education and employment. Many of these young people have been excluded, marginalised or disadvantaged by society. Since 2006 we have provided over 13,000 learning opportunities for young people with over 800 creative projects on offer.

We need to raise £2.8m annually to maintain our artistic and creative programmes. Ticket sales and venue hires alone aren't enough to help us operate.

We very much look forward to working with the Mayor to continue the Roundhouse's cultural legacy. But most especially, to provide a hub of creation and learning, and to develop the talents, skills, creativity and ambition of young people who are the next generation.

Thank you for your support."

Marcus Davey
CEO and Artistic Director



Registered charity no: 1071487

The Deputy Mayor Councillor Abdul Quadir

Abdul Quadir, an accountant by profession, has lived in Camden since 1966. He was born in Bangladesh and educated in both Bangladesh and Britain.

Abdul is married to Sophie, a lecturer at a local college, and has three children. They all went to local state schools, with the youngest currently at university while the other two have previously graduated.

Alongside his professional career Abdul has been actively involved in education and community affairs. The Deputy Mayor was instrumental in setting up numerous national and local voluntary organisations and served as chair and committee member on many of them.

In 1985 Abdul was founder and chair of The Bengali Education Centre, which has been hugely successful in its work with local schools and Camden Council in raising achievement.

His current positions include being a governor of Working Men's College and a director at both Castlehaven Community Association and Camden Central Mosque and Community Centre.

Abdul served as a Camden Councillor from 2002 to 2006. On top of being Deputy Mayor in 2005 to 2006, he spent two years on the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and also served on many scrutiny panels.

Abdul's escorts during his term of office will be his wife Sophie (Begum Sophia Françoise Quadir), his daughter Yasmin Quadir, his sons Mohammed Shamim Quadir and Mohammed Omar Sharif Quadir and Councillor Samata Khatoun, Councillor Lorraine Revah and Councillor Awale Olad.

