

Case study

Green for Grenfell at the North Kensington Centre



Morley College London's North Kensington Centre sits at the epicentre of the local community and takes an active role in supporting local residents and those who work in the area in the aftermath of the Grenfell Tower tragedy in 2017.

It is a vital part of our ongoing commitment to our community that Grenfell features not only in activity relating to the memory of those lost, but to the story of our future.

In commemorating the third anniversary of the tragedy - during the height of Lockdown 1.0 in June 2020 - our staff and students designed and took part in a **Green for Grenfell art and photography project**.

Creating their own symbolic Grenfell green heart using whatever creative means available in their homes and gardens, images were combined in an online commemorative mural, creating a moment of solidarity with those in our community perhaps most adversely affected by the ongoing pandemic.



During the same period, we **donated Covid-safe space for Grenfell United to create green scarves**, which were tied to gates, fence and lampposts in the local area during the commemorative period in summer 2020. The facility also produced Green for Grenfell face coverings for the local community.

And [Morley Radio published two Grenfell Stories](#), capturing the perspectives of two members of the Grenfell community.



Our work to support the community during the course of the first phase of the pandemic climaxed with a six-week project during the summer to work with local community members, students present and future and local business start-up initiative Grow2Know to create **Morley Heart Gardens**.

This has resulted in a permanent reflective garden for students and staff to spend time in before and after college and during breaks from learning and teaching. The garden design, renovation and planting project was part of a range of young person and community engagement activities resulting in a permanent commemoration including a human-sized trellis green heart, which will eventually sit at the front of the newly renovated and extended college site, for all college and local community members to see as they arrive or pass.

The college's broader role within the community was recognised in Grenfell United's documentary "**REMEMBER GRENFELL**", which was broadcast in June 2020. Local activist [Toby Lauren-Belson](#) [talked about the importance of the college as "a really valuable community asset"](#).



Craig Hanlon-Smith
Centre Principal
North Kensington Centre
Morley College London