

IN FOCUS CUSTOM HOUSE & CANNING TOWN

May 2011



PUPILS GET PLANTING AT CANNING TOWN RECREATION GROUND

Pupils from Edith Kerrison Nursery, Rosetta Primary and Cumberland Secondary schools recently took part in a school planting day at the newly completed sensory garden in Canning Town Recreation Ground. The sensory garden aims to provide an area for residents to sit and relax as well as creating new and stimulating sensory opportunities for children.

The designs for the sensory garden and improvements to the play area were based on residents' votes at the Thrive event hosted last summer and workshops held with Rosetta school children. A new sand and water play feature has also been created in the existing play area.

Councillors Pat Holland, Bryan Collier, Marie Collier, Alan Taylor and

Children from Edith Kerrison Nursery enjoying the plants in the sensory garden



Conor McAuley all came along to support the day.

The school children had a fun-filled morning helped by Serco apprentices and council staff, while the young people from Cumberland School worked hard alongside the apprentices in the afternoon.

The day was a great opportunity for the school children and young

people to learn about the plants and their different uses and benefits. The pupils also found out more about how to become an apprentice with ground maintenance contractor Serco.

You can find out more about apprenticeships in horticulture and grounds maintenance by visiting www.newhamworkplace.co.uk or calling 020 3373 1101.



Rosetta pupils get stuck in

CONTACT US

If your group has an activity to promote please contact us on: 020 3373 2684 or email infocus@newham.gov.uk



Don't be out for the count



Census collectors are going door-to-door in Custom House and Canning Town to offer help with completing the forms and ensuring the questionnaires are returned.

The census is important for Newham in making sure that the borough receives a fair allocation of funding from central Government. It means the council can deliver the essential services that residents say are important, such as cleaner streets, better healthcare, community protection and education.

Each census form is worth at least £6,000 from the Government over the next ten years. In previous years a census undercount of at least 20,000 has meant Newham has lost out on millions of pounds in funding.

The census collectors are warning people that they face the risk of a fine or prosecution should a form not be returned.

Posters are also going up around the borough explicitly warning that residents risk a £1,000 fine and a criminal record if the form is not completed.



Caramel Rock fashion show

PARIS, NEW YORK, CANNING TOWN

Caramel Rock is a fashion label and an outreach programme run by youth volunteers in Canning Town.

Founded by local girl, Petra Johnson, the label works with young people, underprivileged adults and homeless organisations. Its aim is to engage young people with fashion while drawing them away from crime or unemployment and equipping them with the skills and knowledge to help them take their steps to getting work, particularly in the fashion industry.

While Caramel Rock runs a number of programmes, the focus is on fashion and printing. It hosts regular fashion shows to showcase

the students' work, which are also modelled by students from their model programme.

Classes, held in the Caramel Rock Studios, Cooper Street, Canning Town, include pattern cutting, sewing, styling and fashion designing. Classes for young people (age 17 and under) run three days a week Wednesday – Friday from 4.30pm and cost £3 per person. Adult classes (age 18 and up) are twice a week Monday and Tuesday 10am – 4pm, £5 per person.

To find out more please contact Petra Johnson on 07706 727 161 or email director@caramelrock.com

VITALITY MONTH

Don't forget, Vitality Month starts on 15 June. Our mouths are already watering with the tasty recipes which we're receiving from residents, but we want more! Whether you're an individual resident or part of a school or community group, we want you to send us your favourite recipes which we will be compiling, along with a nutritionist, into a super-healthy recipe collection with an international flavour.

It will be launched at the Custom House and Canning Town Summer Festival, which will be held at Memorial Park on 23 July and will be freely available to residents as part of our Vitality Month activities.

But Vitality Month isn't just about healthy eating; the Canning Town and Custom House ACT volunteers and councillors behind the project are also keen to encourage residents to take up an active lifestyle!

During the month you will be able to try free taster exercise sessions, such as line dancing, yoga, hip-hop and karate, whatever your age or level of fitness. Keep reading In Focus to find out more.

For more information please email Stella Hales at stella.hales@newham.gov.uk, write to her at Newham Council, Third Floor Westside, Newham Dockside, 1000 Dockside Road, E16 2QU or call 020 3373 4008.

SPRING WAS IN THE AIR

Cycle powered smoothies and the sound of the Caribbean calypso drew almost 800 people to Custom House and Canning Town's Spring Festival at Rokeby School.

Community lead councillor, Paul Schafer, was joined by Newham Young Mayor Ali Mohamed and ward councillors who welcomed residents to a fun filled day with free activities and workshops.

Music was provided by Newham Steel Band and Accordion Melodies, who sang traditional English songs. There were Capoeira performances and a piece by the Hallsville School of Ballet, who also ran a ballet workshop.



Young Mayor Ali Mohamed and Custom House and Canning Town councillors congratulate talent contest winner Hayden Lawrence

One highlight of the day was the Talent Quest, which showcased a variety of gifted acts including Intelligent Minds, a dance act from Rokeby School, Falcon from the Swift Centre, who performed hip hop, and a solo guitarist from

Eastlea Community School.

Singer Hayden Lawrence, 19, was crowned winner. Hayden will represent Custom House and Canning Town at the Newham Talent Quest at the Mayor's Newham Show in July.

Keep in touch with neighbourhood meetings

If you want to keep in touch with what's going on in the area, or you have some concerns that you want to raise, your local neighbourhood meetings are the place for you. Find your nearest one below - we look forward to seeing you there.

- Freemasons Road Neighbourhood Meeting
6.30pm-8pm, Wednesday 15 June
The Cundy Centre, Hartington Road.
- Fife Road Neighbourhood Meeting
6.30pm-8pm, Tuesday 21 June
Keir Hardie Methodist Church, Fife Road.
- Canning Town Centre Neighbourhood Meeting
6.30pm-8pm, Wednesday 13 July
The Hub, Star Lane.
- Keir Hardie Neighbourhood Meeting
6.30pm-8pm, Tuesday 19 July
The River Christian Centre, Vincent Street.

Please contact Sam Clark for more information via email at sam.clark@newham.gov.uk or by phone on 020 3373 3538.



Cllrs Marie Collier and Pat Holland with members of the Hallsville School of Ballet

SOWING SEEDS FOR A COMMUNITY GARDEN

Councillors and residents are keen to develop an unused piece of land behind Ravenscroft Road into a community garden, with an area put aside to grow fruit and vegetables.

A clearing and a planting day will be arranged in the next few weeks. If you're keen to get your hands dirty please contact Stella Hales on 020 3373 34008 or email stella.hales@newham.gov.uk

Spotlight on... new look Newham.com

If you don't already know about Newham.com, it is worth a click – and now even more than before, as we've given it a makeover.

Newham.com is the website that's all about the borough, minus the council business. It's a handy hub for all things Newham, and now it's even handier.

No longer will you need to wade through loads of search results for things to do in your area, or remember individual web addresses for local hotspots – you can just add Newham.com to your favourites and it's all been done for you. If you've just moved to the borough it's a great way to get an overview of what's on.

The new-look site has been divided into easy-to-use sections: live, visit, work, invest and business. Under each of these you can find lots

of sub-sites, each of them packed with information about your area.

We've launched a new community page under the 'Live' section where local groups can

promote their activities. If you run a local group, get in touch using the details below.

We're also helping visitors out with information on the tourist offer in the borough, detailing where to stay, things to see, where to eat out and shop.



If you're looking for work we have some information on writing a good CV, job search dos and don'ts and how volunteering can help you.

Local businesses should also keep an eye on the site as we will be adding more and more to this section over the coming months.

If you've got something to add to Newham.com, get in touch by emailing info@newham.com or calling 020 3373 2752.

WHAT'S ON CUSTOM HOUSE AND CANNING TOWN

Storytelling

Custom House Library
Prince Regent Lane, E16
For under fives with their parents or carers
Tuesdays, 10.30-11.30am

Games Club

Custom House Library
Prince Regent Lane, E16
For children aged 5-12 years
PS2 and Xbox games, music, board games and many more activities
Tuesdays, 3.30-5.30pm

For even more things to do check out the What's On in Newham calendar, where you'll find listings for more than 6,000 events visit www.newham.com

If your group has an activity to promote please contact us on: 020 3373 2684 or email: infocus@newham.gov.uk

MEET YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Councillors out and about: If you would like a councillor to visit your community organisation, school, place of worship, meeting or event please call 020 3373 4008 or email stella.hales@newham.gov.uk
To email your local councillor write firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk e.g. marie.collier@newham.gov.uk



Marie Collier



Clive Furness



Paul Schafer



Bryan Collier



Michael Nicholas



Alan Taylor



Patricia Holland



Gavin Pearson



Conor McAuley

Canning Town North Ward

Cllr Collier and Cllr Schafer
Every Monday (alternating), 10am
7a Avondale Court, Avondale Road
Canning Town, E16

Cllr Furness
First and third Friday of the month, 6-7pm
Helping Hands, 42 Balaam Street, E13

Canning Town South Ward

Cllr Collier
Second and fourth Monday of the month, 10am-12pm
Canning Town Local Service Centre, 3 Beckton Road, E16

Cllr Nicholas
First and third Thursday of the month, 10.30am-12.30pm
Keir Hardie Methodist Church, 14 Plymouth Road, E16

Cllr Taylor
First and third Thursday of the month, 6-7.30pm
Trinity Community Centre, Bothwell Close, E16

Custom House Ward

Cllr Holland
First Saturday of the month
Cllr Pearson
Second Saturday of the month
Cllr McAuley
Third Saturday of the month, 10-11am
St Joachim's Catholic School
Shipman Road
Custom House, E16

Need to talk to Mayor Sir Robin Wales? Being an elected mayor, Sir Robin is directly accountable to you. Look out for Question Time times and dates in the Newham Mag, visit www.newham.gov.uk/mayor or call 020 3373 0437.