

IN FOCUS BECKTON

May 2011

Cleaner, greener, safer Beckton

Large areas of woodland growth are being thinned out and cut back near Cyprus Docklands Light Railway (DLR) station to act as a deterrent to crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB).

Members of the Trader Road Neighbourhood Watch group complained to their local councillors about ASB activity in an area that roughly runs from Cyprus DLR to Gallions roundabout. Woodland growth has become thick along this strip. The cover was acting as a magnet for ASB such as drug dealing and rubbish dumping.

As a result, the council has enlisted the help of the same five trainees that cleared the site across from ASDA in Tollgate Road to cut back and thin out the shrubs along the above mentioned strip, as well as Ferndale Road and underneath the Egg Bridge (also known as the bridge that goes to nowhere) and the walkway that leads into Winsor Estate.

In addition, ten new lights will be installed along the alleyway that leads from Cyprus Place to Gallions roundabout.

Cllrs Ayesha Chowdhury and Alec Kellaway help trainee Paige Hoadley clear shrubs and trees along Cyprus Place



Community lead councillor, Ayesha Chowdhury, said: "Thanks to the Trader Road Neighbourhood Watch group this issue was brought to my attention. I strongly urge all those who care about their community to join a neighbourhood watch group if you want to keep your area safe." You can read more about Neighbourhood Watch on p16 of the Newham Mag.

The council is working in partnership with Groundwork London and Serco to allow ten unemployed residents to gain

valuable work experience as part of an NVQ qualification in gardening and horticulture.

Paige Hoadley, 20, is the second woman to join the scheme via her local job centre. She said: "I've learnt lots of things like how to cut down trees and about health and safety."

If you would like to join a Neighbourhood Watch group in your area or set one up contact the Beckton Safer Neighbourhoods Team on 020 8721 2040 or email beckton.snt@met.police.uk

STOP PRESS:

Read your next In Focus for a Royal visit clean up special.

Newham London

Go green with your garden waste



Green fingered gardener or eco warrior – whatever your reasons, make sure you recycle your green garden waste.

The council offers a FREE green garden waste collection to all residents. The service accepts grass cuttings, weeds, hedge trimmings, leaves, small branches and flowers.

All you need to do is place them in a black bag, leave them at the front of your property and call to arrange a collection. The waste will be picked up within five working days.

All garden waste is turned into compost at Jenkins Lane Reuse and Recycling Centre instead of being sent to landfill sites. So if you want to do your bit for the environment, make the most of this council service.

To arrange a collection or for more information, call 020 8430 2000 or book the collection online at www.newham.gov.uk and search for 'green waste'.



RELEASING FIRE HYDRANTS HAS DIRE CONSEQUENCES

Thames Water and Newham Council are appealing to young people to stop letting fire hydrants off during the summer months. Youngsters are opening fire hydrants and releasing water for fun, but this has serious consequences for people living nearby.

The huge loss of water means that water pressure drops to a dangerously low level, meaning that residents cannot flush their toilet or take a shower for days afterwards.

It also means that if there is an emergency in the area, the fire brigade may not have enough water to tackle the problem.

“Fire hydrants are there specifically for the fire brigade to use and letting them off has serious implications,” said Thames Water’s man in charge of fire hydrants, Paul Witton-Dauris. “Not only does it waste a huge amount of water, it diverts our engineers away from dealing with more urgent issues and causes a hazard for drivers and passers-by,” he said.

To report any suspicious behaviour call your Beckton Safer Neighbourhoods Team on 020 8721 2040 or email beckton.snt@met.police.uk

DON'T BE OUT FOR THE COUNT

Census collectors are going door-to-door in Beckton 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.



A right royal knees-up at Beckton Primary School

Children and staff at North Beckton Primary School in Harrier Way got in the Royal Wedding party mood last month when they had a right royal knees-up in their school.

The party was the idea of assistant head teacher, Barry Barnard. "Originally, it was just going to be a party for Year 6 but then it snowballed into a party for the whole school.

"All the teachers and staff got involved in the lead-up to it and did something in each class related to the Royal Wedding," he said.

The party was funded by a Newham Council Go For It grant and children and staff brought in £1



North Beckton Primary pupils fly the flag for the Royal Wedding

each, which went towards a royal feast on the day.

Bouncy castles and face and henna painting were just some of the fun activities on the day, as well as a fashion show and a Royal Wedding march around the school.

Children went to great efforts to dress up for the occasion with the theme centred on the Royal Wedding.



Reece goes all out for the Royal Wedding party at his school



NETWORK AND CONNECT

If you want to have a say in shaping Beckton's future while meeting others in your community then make sure you don't miss an upcoming networking event.

This is a follow-up event from the last one to touch base with your local councillors, Ayesha Chowdhury, Alec Kellaway and David Christie, and find out what issues are being worked on and what's going on in your community.

If you haven't been before, then come along and meet your councillors, who will be on hand to discuss any issues or ideas you may have for the future of Beckton.

It's also a chance to find out what your councillors are planning for the coming year and how you can help or get involved.

Beckton Networking Event, Monday 23 May, 6-7.30pm, Gallions Primary School, Warwall, E6. To confirm your attendance and to find out more call Nadine Ford on 020 3373 1705 or email Nadine.ford@newham.gov.uk

Spotlight on... What's on in Newham

From the Newham London Run to four spectacular nights of free entertainment under the stars at Central Park – Newham is the best place to be for top FREE events.

Don't be caught crying into your cup of tea when you've found out you've missed one – note down the dates and keep your eyes peeled on your In Focus, the Newham Mag and www.newham.gov.uk/whatson for the latest up-to-date listings.

To you give you a taster of what's on the menu for this summer here are some important dates.



Boogie nights at last years Under the Stars in Central Park

Forget it and regret it – dates for your diary

- Sunday Fun Day, Sunday 29 May, 12noon-6pm – fun for all the family at Stratford Park, around the town centre and in the Old Town Hall
- Mayor's Newham Show and Carnival - Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 July – this annual event kicks off with a colourful carnival that'll make its way around East Ham and yes – the beach is back again this year
- Under the Stars, Thursday 25 to Sunday 28 August, Central Park, East Ham – four nights of top live entertainment
- Guy Fawkes Night, Saturday 5 November, live entertainment and fireworks on Wanstead Flats

WHAT'S ON BECKTON

Beckton networking event Monday 23 May

6-7.30pm
Gallions Primary School
Warwall, E6
(read p3 for more details)

Supervised play sessions for 6-14 year olds – messy play, arts and crafts and outdoor sports

Friday 3 June
10am-1pm and 1.30-4.30pm
New Beckton Park
Savage Gardens, E6
For more information contact the Family Information Service on 020 8430 2000 or email customer.services@newham.gov.uk

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 1705 or email nadine.ford@newham.gov.uk
To email your local councillor write firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk e.g. marie.collier@newham.gov.uk



Ayesha Chowdhury



David Christie



Alec Kellaway

Beckton Ward

First Friday of the month, w6 - 7pm (alternating)
Beckton Globe, 1 Kingsford Way, Beckton, E6

Every Saturday, 10- 11am (alternating)
Beckton Library

Beckton Globe, 1 Kingsford Way Beckton, E6

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.