

# IN FOCUS BECKTON

August 2011

## GALLIONS SCHOOL PUPILS PERFORM FOR HOLLYWOOD DIRECTOR

Oscar winning director Danny Boyle recently visited Gallions Primary School to listen to a special performance from pupils taking part in Every Child a Musician (ECaM).

The director, who is best known for *Slumdog Millionaire* and *Trainspotting*, is also responsible for the Olympic opening and closing ceremonies and was visiting Newham to look at how local schoolchildren could be involved.

Children at the school who have been learning to play instruments for the last year, treated the director to a performance demonstrating the musical skills they had gained so far.



ECaM pupils at Gallions School with head teacher Paul Jackson, Sir Robin Wales, music tutors and Danny Boyle

Mayor Sir Robin Wales said: "It was a privilege to have Danny Boyle as a visitor to Gallions School and the musical performance by the pupils demonstrated the wealth of talented young people we have living in the borough. It is important that Newham schoolchildren are made to feel they are part of the Olympics and I want to ensure they have the opportunity to showcase their talents to the rest of the world."

Every Child a Musician (ECaM) is one of the Mayor of Newham's promises to residents. The scheme

works by offering all Newham children who are currently in Year 5 the opportunity to learn how to play an instrument at no cost to parents. Children will receive weekly instrumental tuition for two years and have their own instrument which they will be able to keep as a gift if they complete the full two years. The scheme is now run in 62 Newham schools.

**For further information about the ECaM scheme go to [www.newham.gov.uk](http://www.newham.gov.uk)**



Danny Boyle speaks to pupils at the school

### CONTACT US

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



# Newham's got talent

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Talented songstress Paisleigh Bi did Beckton community forum proud when she competed in front of thousands of people at the Mayor's Newham Show.

The singer took to the main performance stage at East Ham's Central Park to represent Beckton in the final of the Newham Talent Quest, the culmination of talent contests held in each of the nine community forums.

The winners from each area went on to battle it out to become the borough's hottest talent. Newham's Young Mayor Ali Mohamed supported the quest and he and fellow Youth Council members had the tough choice of choosing an overall winner.

While Paisleigh missed out on the big prize she did receive an engraved glass trophy to reward her efforts. Community lead councillor Ayesha Chowdhury said: "Paisleigh did a great job in representing us and her performance on the day was superb. She is a real talent."

The diverse range of food on offer at Beckton Festival



## Tastes from around the world at Beckton Summer Festival

Visitors to Beckton Summer Festival were able to sample dishes from every corner of the world as part of an international food day.

Dishes from China, Lithuania, Bangladesh, India and the Caribbean were all offered and enjoyed by hundreds of residents who attended the festival.

The food was cooked by a diverse group of women from Beckton who have recently joined an international food group organised by Cllr Ayesha Chowdhury to help them develop different skills. Training was given to the group on food hygiene and they

also produced a recipe book which was on sale on the day.

Cllr Chowdhury said: "This project helped to develop skills and confidence for a number of women who are not in employment. It also brought together diverse communities, creating an opportunity to come together and be stronger. It does not stop here and the group is looking for ways to build on the success of this event."

**For further information about the group contact Chris Bennett, Community Leaders and Engagement Officer for Beckton on 020 3373 2920**

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## END OF THE ROAD FOR RACERS

Newham Council and the Metropolitan Police are continuing to crack down on racers driving around Royal Albert Way.

Following a joint operation, a dispersal notice has now been introduced, giving Police Constables and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) the power to disperse groups of more than two people, as well as those who do not live in the area, to leave and not return for up to 24 hours. Anyone who refuses or breaches

the notice can be arrested. It is punishable on conviction of a custodial sentence of up to three months and/or a fine of up to £2,500.

If residents in the area continue to experience any problems with people racing in the area, they are asked to call the crime and anti-social behaviour hotline on 0800 731 3300 or contact the Beckton Safer Neighbourhood Team on 020 8721 2040 or email [beckton.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:beckton.snt@met.police.uk)

# FAMILIES HAVE A BLAST AT BECKTON FESTIVAL

Beckton Festival returned last month bigger and better than ever.

The family day out which took place in New Beckton Park offered musical entertainment, food from around the world and much, much more. Mayor Sir Robin Wales was in attendance as well as the ward councillors.

Lead councillor for Beckton Ayesha Chowdhury said: "This was a great event with so many families coming along and participating in the wide range of activities on offer. I am already looking forward to next year's event. One of my highlights of the day was the international food festival and I will be trying out some of the recipes in the booklet at home."



Cllr Alec Kellaway, Sir Robin Wales and Cllr Ayesha Chowdhury at Beckton Festival



Line dancing performances by Beckton kids

## Residents needed to help look after Beckton Pond

Community lead councillor Ayesha Chowdhury is encouraging local residents to help look after Beckton Pond.

Following a successful clean-up project in July to improve the park for residents and wildlife, Cllr Chowdhury is now appealing for residents to form a new group to ensure the area stays clean and is kept free of litter and anti-social behaviour.

She said: "Clean-ups take place on a regular basis to help improve the area for residents and wildlife living there. This has been a good project and improvements have been made. However we want to get more local residents involved in looking after Beckton Pond. This is a beautiful part of Newham and it is important it is kept clean. Residents can help us to keep the area clean and also highlight any incidences of anti-social behaviour."

The clean-up days are organised in partnership with Thames21, an environmental charity who work to bring London's waterways back to life and local neighbourhood watch group.

The next Beckton Park clean-up day will take place



Cllr Chowdhury with volunteers from Thames21 and local residents who took part in the Beckton Pond clean-up Thames21 and local residents who took part in the Beckton Pond clean-up

on Wednesday 14 September between 10am and 1pm. This is an open event and anyone wanting to take part is asked to meet at Andrews Gardens in Beckton. For further information please contact Rita Serra on 07554 402 772.

If anyone witnesses anti-social behaviour in Beckton Park, they are asked to call the crime and anti-social behaviour hotline on 0800 731 3300. For further information about getting involved in and becoming a friend of Beckton Pond please contact Chris Bennett, Community Leaders and Engagement Officer for Beckton on 020 3373 2920

## Spotlight on... Under the Stars

The sand from the beach at the Mayor's Newham Show may have been swept away but we're already gearing up for Newham's next free extravaganza - the musical spectacle that is **Under the Stars**.

If you enjoy jazz, eastern influenced beats, rock or classical melodies, look no further than Central Park, East Ham, where every night from Thursday 25 August to Sunday 28 August, you can enjoy four nights of music that's guaranteed to get your hands in the air.

What has become the Glastonbury of Newham opens with the cool, laid-back sounds of jazz provided by the world renowned saxophonist Courtney Pine and a host of other amazing headline acts.

The sound of the dhol drum takes over on Friday as BBC Radio 1 DJ Nihal presents a night of Eastern Beats. Bhangra sensation H Dhama is back by popular demand and this time he's joined by his father's legendary Bhangra group, Heera, who will be headlining the night.

On Saturday, we will rock you with performances from the Queen tribute band, Queen on Fire, who'll be joined



by twelve piece live band, MIB who, at the Royal Wedding, entertained more than 300,000 revellers in London's Hyde Park.

As always, on Sunday, Under the Stars ends on a high note, with the relaxing sounds of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. As well as classical renditions the audience will be treated to a dazzling firework finale.

**Under the Stars**  
Thursday 25-Sunday  
28 August, 7-10.30pm  
Central Park,  
High Street South, E6  
All Under the Stars events are  
FREE. For the full line-up visit  
[www.newham.com/summer](http://www.newham.com/summer)

## WHAT'S ON BECKTON

### The Pamper Sessions

Saturday 13 August, 12pm – 6pm  
Winsor House, 1 Woolwich Manor  
Way, Beckton, E6

Health and beauty event – advice and tasters at the launch. From pedicures, facials and eyebrow threading to reflexology and various forms of massage.  
Free entry.

### Help create a wildflower meadow

Sunday 14 August  
Ham Creek Wood, next to Calverton  
Primary School  
Organised by Newham Conservation  
Volunteers. Shrub clearance, path  
wedding and signage restoration.  
For more information call Len Pringle  
on 07790 299 525

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](http://www.newham.com)

If your group has an activity to promote please contact us on: 020 3373 2684 or email: [infocus@newham.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:nadine.ford@newham.gov.uk)  
To email your local councillor write [firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk) e.g. [marie.collier@newham.gov.uk](mailto:marie.collier@newham.gov.uk)



Ayesha Chowdhury



David Christie



Alec Kellaway

### Beckton Ward

First Friday of the month, 6 - 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](http://www.newham.gov.uk/mayor) or call 020 3373 0437.