

IN FOCUS

CUSTOM HOUSE & CANNING TOWN

June 2011



COMMUNITY MUST BE HEARD

Custom House and Canning Town councillors are determined that the views of forum residents and businesses will be taken into account when decisions are made about what roads and routes will be affected by the 2012 Games.

Transport for London (TfL) have published plans for the Olympic and Paralympic Route Networks, with key roads closed to general traffic to ensure athletes, officials and the media get to sporting events on time.

The plans will not just impact on residents and businesses around the Games venues, but on people across the rest of the borough as well as on the council in delivering vital services.

“The Olympic and Paralympic Games are a once in a lifetime opportunity and we know there will be challenges in hosting them, but we feel let down by TfL over the way they have involved residents and businesses.”

The ORN will mean diversions



Community lead councillor Paul Schafer said: “The Olympic and Paralympic Games are a once in a lifetime opportunity and we know there will be challenges in hosting them, but we feel let down by TfL over the way they have involved residents and businesses.

“We have asked for lots more information about how Custom House and Canning Town will be affected. With little more than a year to go, we need a picture of the road impacts so

that we can begin to plan our daily lives and business continuity in good time and at minimal cost. We want to enjoy rather than endure the 2012 Games.”

Council officers have been dealing with TfL staff for many months but have become increasingly frustrated by the absence of detail.

Councillors are demanding a public meeting in each of the nine community forum areas. Details will be published in future editions of In Focus and the Newham Mag.

FIND OUT MORE

Go to www.newham.gov.uk/orn



Fancy footwork at forum finals



Newham Rangaz (green) tackle a Cage player

More than 900 active adults and energetic under-16s let their feet do the talking at community forum football and sprint competitions.

Tournaments were held across the borough with the finals for both sprints and football taking place at Memorial Park, E15.

The free competitions, run with support from Leyton Orient Football Club, West Ham Community Sport Trust and Newham and Essex Beagles, offered guidance for runners and players.

At the under-14 male football finals, Newham Rangaz, representing Custom House and Canning Town, beat Cage, representing East Ham, with a final score of 3-1. All finalists received trophies, presented by Newham Young Mayor Ali Mohamed, with the winners receiving a tour of Wembley Stadium.

To find out more about football, sprint and running sessions in the borough turn to the What's On pages of the Newham Mag or email getactive@newham.gov.uk

BEACHCOMBING IN CANNING TOWN



Playing boules on Canning Town beach

Love the feel of the sand between your toes? Then Canning Town is the place to be this summer!

Until 15 July, the Community Events Space on Silvertown Way, next to Clarkson Road (opposite Canning Town Station) will be transformed into an urban beach featuring fun activities for all the family to keep fit and healthy!

Local ward councillors have teamed up with the Canning Town & Custom House Regeneration Team for the Month of Vitality. You'll have the chance to try out heaps of different activities including zumba, beach soccer, circuit training, karate, boxing and much, much more. All events are available on a first come, first served basis, so please turn up on time to ensure your place.

It's not just about exercise: the Month of Vitality is also about sourcing and cooking healthy food. Residents can take advantage of the new community garden at Canning Town Rec to plant their veggies and soon, the patch at Ravenscroft Road will be ready for sowing too (see below). We're also continuing to collect some yummy recipes from residents.

For more information on a Day at the Beach, contact Sam Clark on 020 3373 3538 or email sam.clark@newham.gov.uk. Sumala Hassan can give you more information about the Month of Vitality, call 020 3373 7893 or email sumala.hassan@newham.gov.uk

PUMPKIN PATCH

Plans are moving ahead to develop the Ravenscroft Road community garden. The garden should be ready for local residents to enjoy by the middle of July, which also leaves time to sow seeds to ensure a bumper crop of autumn veggies.

If you would like to be involved in the upcoming clearing and planting day contact Sumala Hassan on 020 3373 7893 or email sumala.hassan@newham.gov.uk



Thrive in Canning Town

Summer is here and it's Thrive time again! Make a note in your diaries, Thrive will be held in Memorial Park on 23 July and this year promises to be the biggest and best yet!

There will be heaps of cool things to do for the whole family in addition to the usual favourites. There will be a classic car exhibition, five-a-side football matches and even a marching band. There will also be a bouncy castle and face painting for your little ones.

Lead ward councillor Paul Schafer commented: "If you want to find out



Enjoying a day out at Thrive 2010

about what's going on in your local community, Thrive is the place to be. It's all about having a great day out with your family and friends in your local community."

All the ward councillors will be available at the event, which will also feature stalls providing information about council services, other local services such as the Fire Brigade (we hear they're bringing a fire engine!) and updates on the

regeneration programme.

There will be local entertainers with dance performances and singing, including a performance by Hayden Lawrence, winner of the Spring Festival Talent Quest. You'll also be able to support your local schools in a mini talent quest.

For more information about Thrive, contact Sumala Hassan on 020 3373 7893 or email sumala.hassan@newham.gov.uk



The Mayor and ward councillors looking at local regeneration plans at Thrive 2010

TRANSFORMING SERVICES IN CANNING TOWN

The council is transforming the way we deliver services to ensure we provide the best quality and value for money for our residents. We will be offering better access to services by giving you new ways to do business with the council, allowing us to make savings by operating from fewer buildings.

As part of these changes the customer services provided at Canning Town Local Service Centre (LSC) will be moving to Canning Town Library later this summer. The library will be fully refurbished to provide these services through enhanced self-service points where customers can deal

with the council quickly and easily (the library will be temporarily closed from 15 July to mid September while improvements takes place). You can also access many council facilities by visiting www.newham.gov.uk, either from the comfort of your own home, or by using the internet for free in any of the borough's libraries.

One facility that will no longer be available is the council's cash office in Canning Town. There are now many other ways to pay your rent, council tax and other charges, including by Direct Debit, standing order, online and by telephone. Guidance will be available

locally, including money management advice sessions, to help you access these other payment methods. Collecting cash payments in council offices costs the council, and you as a tax payer, a large amount of money each year. You can still pay your rent and council tax using Allpay cards in the nearby Post Office, as well as at many other shops in the area.

To find out about alternative payment methods visit www.newham.gov.uk/payit or pick up a leaflet in your LSC.

Keep reading your In Focus for updates.

Spotlight on... Grow your own for the Mayor's Town Show

If you missed the merriment of the Sunday Fun Day, mark Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 July in your diary now for the event of the year - the Mayor's Newham Show.

The two-day extravaganza plans to top last year's event, which saw around 50,000 people flock to East Ham's Central Park to enjoy sun, sand and superb entertainment.

Making a welcome return this year is the Grow Your Own competition where the borough's best gardeners battle it out to see who has the greenest fingers.

The competition categories are:

- > biggest lettuce
- > biggest rhubarb
- > biggest strawberry.

Competitions will be held on both days of the Show. Entries



will be judged by Mayor Sir Robin Wales, with the best producer walking away with a rosette. Produce must be your own. To register your interest email competitions@newham.gov.uk

Gardening tips to help you come top

> For lovely lettuce, crush eggshells and place them around the base of your plants to keep slugs at bay.

> Cover your rhubarb plant with a bucket to create humid conditions. The trapped heat will accelerate growth and the lack of light will create slender, tasty stems.

> For big juicy strawberries add a feed high in potassium, like tomato feed, to the base of your plants at least once a week when in bloom. You can buy this from any good gardening store.

To turn your fingers green, help maintain the Growing PlacE16 community garden on Clarkson Road, every Tuesday from 10am-4pm. For more information call Matt Machouki on 07957 141825.

WHAT'S ON CUSTOM HOUSE AND CANNING TOWN

Patchwork workshops

25 June, 2 and 16 July
1pm-4pm

The Grassroots Centre,
Memorial Park,
Memorial Avenue,
London E15

Patchwork made during the workshops will be showcased at the Thrive event on Saturday 23 July. Workshops are for Custom House and Canning Town residents only and are available on a first come, first served basis.

To register, contact Sumala Hassan on 020 3373 7893 or email sumala.hassan@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 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

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



Bryan Collier



Michael Nicholas



Alan Taylor

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



Patricia Holland



Gavin Pearson



Conor McAuley

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.