

IN FOCUS MANOR PARK

October 2011



Cllrs Nekiwala and Alexander join volunteers, Kensington teachers and pupils

SIBLEY GROVE TO GET A MAKEOVER FROM KENSINGTON PUPILS

Following concerns from residents regarding their safety when using Sibley Grove Bridge, CCTV cameras and safety mirrors were installed in the area. Now the footbridge that runs between Southend Road and Sibley Grove will benefit from a major makeover after pupils from Kensington Primary's after school club decided to brighten up the bridge.

East Ham North councillors, Firoza Nekiwala and Jose Alexander, initiated this project as a number of pupils at Kensington Primary School use the footbridge on their way to school. The youngsters have been working with local artist Debbie Scott, their art teachers Keti Cross and Serin Patel and local volunteers.

A number of design templates for glass mosaics have been created and the first phase of the art project is due to be complete by mid November, making the crossing brighter and attractive which will make people feel safer when using the bridge.

A number of clean up activities are also planned to clear rubbish and fly-tipping from the area.

Cllr Jose Alexander said: "The children at Kensington School carried

out research and identified the pedestrian bridge was a source of anti-social behaviour.

"They care a lot about the school and the area they live in and they want their community to be a safe one where every one is proud of where they live, work and study.

"The works will help to improve the appearance of the bridge but we also need people to stop dropping rubbish by the bridge and support children to look after the environment."

CONTACT US

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



Cash is no longer king



Newham Council is introducing less expensive, quicker and more convenient ways for people to interact with it. As part of this, the council is proposing to remove all council cash offices by the end of the year.

If you usually pay by cash, the council is providing guidance and support on alternative ways to pay. These include telephone and internet banking by debit or credit card or standing order. Free internet access is available in all Newham's libraries.

Customers who use Allpay cards will still be able to make cash payments for rent and Council Tax at any post office or retail outlet that displays the PayPoint symbol.

Easy to use self-serve kiosks which make payment transactions easier and quicker have been installed in the newly refurbished Canning Town Library, with Manor Park, North Woolwich, Green Street and The Gate Library next in line for the new technology later this year.

Visit <http://www.newham.gov.uk/cashless> for more information.

CAN YOU ACT UP?



Cllr Alexander, second left, talks to prospective volunteers

Councillors Jose Alexander, Amarjit Singh and Kay Scoresby joined Manor Park's Active Community Team at a stall on High Street North to spread the word about the work they do.

The ACT team work with local councillors to organise events, community projects and tackle problems in their neighbourhoods such as anti-social behaviour and fly-tipping. Anyone who lives or works in Newham can sign up as an ACT volunteer. As a result of the event,

fourteen people expressed an interest in joining the Manor Park Community Forum ACT team.

As well as volunteering, the group promoted Let's Get the Party Started, the council's campaign for residents to hold or support local events next year. Keep reading In Focus for details about how you can get involved or visit www.newham.gov.uk/letsgetthepartystarted

To find out how you can become an ACT volunteer call on 020 3373 8382.



The group outside Newham Town Hall with Cllr Kay Scoresby (centre)

ESSEX SCHOOL'S AFRICAN EXCHANGE

Visitors from South Africa visited Essex Primary School in Sheridan Road as part of the school's teacher exchange programme.

The initiative provides exchange opportunities for staff at the school to trade positions with colleagues in South Africa to enhance their skills and share knowledge, good practice and their perspectives on teaching in their respective countries.

The teachers also visited Newham Town Hall, East Ham, with community lead councillor for Manor Park, Kay Scoresby, and enjoyed a bird's-eye-view of the Olympic Park.

Cllr Scoresby said: "This programme is helping to develop our teachers both professionally and personally. Teachers sharing teaching methods enhances the learning experience for our children and helps them develop new skills."

HOBBY AND HANDICRAFTS FOR ALL

If you've ever wanted to learn to draw or paint or try your hand at crafts then head for an East London Textiles workshop.

Embroidery, patchwork, appliqué and textile paintings are among the low cost techniques that will be explored. As well as this, the classes will focus on drawing and painting for novices and those with experience. Learn how to knit, improve your technique or find out how to create your own woollen clothing.

All sessions will be based around "celebrating life in Newham".

An exhibition of the projects will be held in local community centres.

Come along and make new friends while you learn. Classes are:
> Textiles: 1-3pm, Mondays at St Barnabas Church, Browning Road

> Textiles: 10am-12noon, Wednesdays at Little Ilford Church, Sheringham Avenue

> Textiles: 1.30-3.30pm, Fridays at Hathaway Centre, Hathaway Crescent

> Knitting: 10-12noon, Wednesdays at St Barnabas Church, Browning Road

The courses run until 2 December and will then resume after Christmas from 9 January.

For more information call Celia on 020 8471 2656.

Learn patchwork and knitting with East London Textiles



PLASHET PARK UPDATE

Last year we asked you what improvements you'd like to see take place in Plashet Park. After coming up with a proposed plan, known as a masterplan, Newham Council has received a grant from the Heritage Lottery of £66,000 to work up the designs in more detail.

Once this stage is complete Newham Council will apply for a grant of £1.1m to begin work on improving

the park. You can find out more by visiting www.newham.gov.uk/plashetpark, where you can also share your comments on the proposals by completing an online form.

Keep reading In Focus to find out how you can get involved in the next phase of masterplanning for Plashet Park.

Spotlight on...Get ready to vote - Young Mayor elections 2011

There's been a record-breaking number of applicants competing for the chance to become Newham's next Young Mayor.

Fifty-one candidates are perfecting their public speaking and are canvassing their electorate to vote for them in elections taking place in secondary schools and colleges on Wednesday 2 November.

The hopefuls are out promoting what they stand for and, if elected, how they would improve the borough for young people.

Go online to meet this year's candidates and watch their video manifestoes by visiting www.newham.gov.uk/elections

This year's Young Mayor and Deputy Young Mayor will be announced



on Thursday 3 November; runners-up will become youth councillors. They represent all 11 to 18-year-olds who live or study in the borough voicing major issues and an opportunity to influence big decisions.

If you're aged 11 to 18 and live or study in Newham then vote in the election

on Wednesday 2 November. Polling stations will be located at secondary schools and colleges. Residents who study outside the borough can vote at Old Town Hall, Stratford, Broadway, E15, and Newham Town Hall, Barking Road, E6, by bringing proof of their name age and address.

Visit www.newham.gov.uk/elections to find out all you need to know about this year's campaign. Follow the Young Mayor on Twitter; [ym_newham](https://twitter.com/ym_newham)

WHAT'S ON MANOR PARK

East London Textile Art

Creative embroidery sessions at Hathaway Community Centre, Hathaway Crescent, E12. Fridays, 1-3pm Free

Non contact boxing sessions

Aged eight to 19 Hathaway Community Centre, Hathaway Crescent. Wednesdays from 7pm Hosted by West Ham Amateur Boxing Club. Call Carl Barton on 0203 373 6034.

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 8382 or email glennette.bowles-dove@newham.gov.uk
To email your local councillor write firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk e.g. jose.alexander@newham.gov.uk



Jose Alexander



Firoza Nekiwala



Paul Sathianesan



Kay Scoresby



Amarjit Singh



Salim Patel



Andrew Baikie



Farah Nazeer



Khalil Kazi

East Ham North Ward

Every Saturday (alternating)
10.30 - 11.30am
Kensington School,
Kensington Avenue,
Manor Park, E12

Manor Park Ward

Every Saturday (alternating)
10 - 11.30am
Manor Park Local Service Centre,
685-689 Romford Road,
Manor Park, E12

Little Ilford Ward

Every Saturday (alternating)
10 - 11am
Jack Cornwell Community Centre,
Jack Cornwell Street,
Manor Park, E12

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.