

# IN FOCUS PLAISTOW

June 2011



## Plaistow Summer Festival returns

Summer is fast approaching and so is the massive Plaistow Summer Festival - an afternoon of fun activities for the family at Plaistow Park on Sunday 3 July.

From 12noon-4pm, if you relish a challenge, try walking on water with Aqua Zorbing (pictured) or compete in traditional egg and spoon races. Culinary enthusiasts can try out their cake decorating skills.

If you want to look fabulous, head for the Beauty Zone for a make-over. Have your hair styled, enjoy massage therapies or decorate your body with henna art. Whatever your musical tastes, don't miss live jazz, Bollywood dancing and capoeira (Brazilian martial art) displays.

Visitors can meet Mr Binbot, a giant recycled robot, as well as decorate wheelie bins.

Children can have their faces painted, get jumping in the bouncy castle, ride a pony, rev-up for go-karting or burn off energy with other fantastic activities. The festival will combine a mini play day to celebrate the new play equipment in the park.

The winners of the first Plaistow



Walking on water: plunge yourself into an array of fun activities at this year's festival

Front Garden Competition will be revealed. The contest closes on Friday 24 June, so you still have time to enter (see the May edition of Plaistow In Focus for more details). And if you're into flora, flower arranging is also on the table at the festival.

As well as all this take advantage of health MOT check-ups and a Nordic walking taster.

Community lead councillor Rohima Rahman said: "I'd like to thank everyone involved in organising the Plaistow Summer Festival. They have worked hard to pull together a great range of activities, so we

encourage the whole community to come along and experience this fantastic event."

The main entrance to the park will be on Greengate Street.

**For further information, email [shamilla.kumari@newham.gov.uk](mailto:shamilla.kumari@newham.gov.uk) or call 020 3373 1267.**

**Plaistow Summer Festival  
Sunday 3 July  
12noon-4pm  
Plaistow Park  
Greengate Street, E13**

### 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)



# Beware of Council Tax scam



Bogus telephone callers claiming to be from the council are fooling residents into handing over their bank details.

The scammers have been informing people that they are due a Council Tax rebate and need bank details to deposit the funds.

Customers who are legitimately due a rebate are informed in writing. The council would never ask for bank details over the phone and residents are urged not to provide this information to callers requesting it.

If you receive a call you're unsure about asking for bank details note down as much detail as possible and call Newham Council on 020 8430 2000 or contact the police on 0300 123 1212.

# COMMUNITY FAITHS JOIN HANDS



Enthusiastic residents join hands at the Faith and Neighbours walk

More than 70 religious and non religious residents joined together for a Faith and Neighbours walk around Plaistow.

The group stopped at five places of worship to learn more about different faiths in the community. Venues included St Mary's Church of England and the Ramgharia Sikh Gurdwara in Neville Road.

One of the walkers, Bharat Dadlani from the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, said: "Thanks to the visits prejudices

and misconceptions were cleared." He added that the knowledge gained "will result in better bonding amongst the neighbours taking part".

Councillors Joy Laguda and Forhad Hussain attended the walk, which was organised by E13 People United, part of the E13 Learning Community.

**For more information about E13 People United, visit [www.e13LC.org](http://www.e13LC.org) or call Simon Vincent on 020 8548 5620.**

## Royal Wedding celebrations

More than 100 Plaistow residents gathered in Salmen Road to celebrate the Royal Wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton.

The party-goers were treated to food prepared by local residents, music, dancing and karaoke. A bouncy castle and a magician added to the festive atmosphere.

This event was an opportunity for local people from different backgrounds to get to know each other. Salmen Road resident Nicky Barrett, said: "Everyone got out, and it was great to meet people who had recently moved to the area, as well as see old faces. There was a real community spirit."

Dev Patel of This and That Newsagent in High Street Plaistow donated toys for the children on the day.

Local councillors Joy Laguda, Ellie

Robinson and Forhad Hussain went along to the party, which was just one of many held across the borough to mark the royal occasion.



It's party time: residents revel at the Royal Wedding party in Salmen Road

# NEW DEMENTIA CAFÉ OPENS DOORS

If you suffer from dementia or are worried about your memory, you can now come down to the new Memory Lane Café in New City Road to share your experiences over lunch.

Set up by the Alzheimer's Society and supported by the council, Memory Lane Café runs the first Friday of every month, 1-3pm, at New City Primary School's Outreach Centre.

Professionals will be on hand to provide information to carers and people affected by dementia.

Carer Valerie Dawson said: "The atmosphere at the café is relaxed and informal, and the staff are very



Cllrs Joy Laguda (far left), Charity Fibresima (centre) and Rohima Rahman (front second right) join the organisers and visitors at the launch

welcoming and warm from the moment you step in the café. It's like you landed in the kitchen of a really good friend."

This initiative follows the success of the first dementia café in the borough at the Well Community Centre in Vicarage Lane, East Ham.

**To find out more about Memory Lane Café, contact 0208 472 0658 or 07512 365116**

Some of the people who went along to the Memory Lane café launch enjoy a cup of tea together



## Talent Show results revealed

Young people from Plaistow celebrated their diverse talents at the Hot Spot Talent Show at Newham Town Hall.

Following a string of auditions open to all young people living in Newham, the event showcased 18 dance, music and spoken word acts. Other young people dressed to impress for a fashion show in between the performances.

Choosing a winner was tough, but in the end the top prize went to Flavio Gamma of Rokeby School for his outstanding cover of Michael Jackson's You Are Not Alone.

The second and third prizes were awarded to Istakar Younes aka Eneme of Plaistow's Cumberland School and Desmond Twi-Yeborah aka Phayme from the University

of East London. The winners will perform at the Mayor's Town Show on Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 July.

The talent show was put together by Newham-based performing arts project Youthenicity. The group is run by young people and funded by a council Go For It grant.

Youthenicity coordinator Joshua Senyonjo said: "The talent show was a great opportunity for Newham's young people to get a chance to showcase their performing abilities."

**To get involved in the Youthenicity Academy, email [contactus@b2si.co.uk](mailto:contactus@b2si.co.uk). For more information about Go For It grants, call Stephen Collins on 020 3373 6019.**



The winner Flavio Gamma in action

## 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 offers 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](mailto:info@newham.com) or calling 020 3373 2752.**

## WHAT'S ON PLAISTOW

### Click On - computer sessions for over-50s

Plaistow Library,  
North Street, E13  
Fridays, 10am-12noon and  
2-4pm  
Call 020 3373 0857 to book  
your space

### Handball, Newham Flames

Tuesdays  
Newham Leisure Centre, E13,  
multi sports hub  
Under 15s, 3.30-5pm, under 18s,  
5.30-6.30pm  
Call Ari on 020 8430 2484 for  
details and costs

**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 1804 or email [shamilla.kumari@newham.gov.uk](mailto:shamilla.kumari@newham.gov.uk)  
To email your local councillor write [firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk) e.g. [alan.griffiths@newham.gov.uk](mailto:alan.griffiths@newham.gov.uk)



Alan Griffiths



Forhad Hussain



Joy Laguda

### Plaistow North Ward

Cllr Griffiths  
First and third Saturday of the month 10.30-11.30am  
Plaistow Library, North Street, Plaistow E13  
Cllr Hussain  
Second and fourth Saturday of the month, 10.30-11.30am  
Plaistow Library, North Street, Plaistow, E13  
Cllr Laguda  
Third Saturday of the month, 10am-12.00noon  
Curwen School, Atlas Road, Plaistow, E13



Charity Fiberesima



Neil Wilson



Sheila Thomas

### Plaistow South Ward

Every Monday and Wednesday (alternating)  
6-7pm  
Newham African Caribbean Resource Centre,  
627 Barking Road, E13

**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.