

IN FOCUS PLAISTOW

October 2011



GETTING THE PARTY STARTED

Residents are invited to very special afternoon tea session next month where they can learn more about how Newham intends to celebrate next year's Olympic Games.

Last month the council launched its Let's Get the Party Started campaign at Old Town Hall, Stratford, where hundreds of residents shared their ideas for community celebrations next year. Dance and music festivals and world record attempts were a few ideas suggested by residents who attended the event.

The initiative is aimed at ensuring residents participate in the magic of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games by helping people to stage their own events across the borough. The afternoon tea session will take place at New City Outreach Centre, in New City



Plaistow resident Zhenreenah Muhxiga encourages residents to Get the Party Started

Road, on Friday 11 November from 1.30-3.30pm. The council can help with a number of things to turn your ideas into reality including how to hire a venue, licensing and promoting your event - you could also receive a £250 community grant to help with costs.

Plaistow community lead councillor Rohima Rahman said: "Historically, London's East End has a fantastic reputation for throwing the best parties - a tradition that goes back decades.

"We had an overwhelming response from people during the Royal Wedding who wanted to throw their own parties and we're hoping for that to happen again next year."

For more details visit www.newham.gov.uk/letsgetthepartystarted or pop into New City Outreach Centre, New City Road, E13, on Friday 11 November between 1.30 and 3.30pm



CONTACT US

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



ACT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

If you are one of the many people who want to get involved in their local community, work with local councillors, organise events and community projects, why not become an active community team (ACT) volunteer.

ACT volunteers are based in the council's nine community forum areas and bring our community together. They also work in their neighbourhoods to tackle problems such as littering, dog fouling and fly-tipping.

Anyone can become an ACT Volunteer as long as they live or work in one of the forum areas, you could even belong to a charity or attend a faith group in the area.

Once you've signed up, you'll be asked to attend a training programme which will help you understand the role of ACT volunteers. In addition, teams will hold workshops throughout the year to ensure that their programme of projects reflect the priorities of the area.

ACT volunteer Lorraine Franscisco said: "I have gained fantastic event-management experience as well as getting involved in the local community."



Volunteer Lorraine

For more information on becoming an ACT volunteer, please contact Shamilla Kumari on 020 3373 1540 or via email shamilla.kumari@newham.gov.uk



Cllrs Thomas, second right, Laguda and Wilson, right, join officials at the centre

IMPROVING CARE FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Care for older people across the borough has now become easier to access.

Three previously separate mental health teams responsible for care of the elderly are now based in one location at First Avenue Resource Centre.

Several teams will operate from the building, which means that

patients are no longer need to travel to Forest Gate and Green Street and enjoy modern fit for purpose accommodation.

Executive member for older people and adults, Councillor Joy Laguda, said: "I'm delighted with this new facility that will benefit both staff and patients."

Cllr Laguda was joined at the centre by fellow Plaistow councillors Sheila Thomas and Neil Wilson.

The new resource centre is also home to the local branch of the Alzheimer's Society.

If you need to contact the mental health care for older people team, call 0208 821 0900

ALI'S CALL FOR PEACE

Newham's Young Mayor and Plaistow student Ali Mohamed has visited New York as part of a delegation to appeal for world peace during the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

He was joined by former Newham resident Amber Charles, who helped to deliver London's bid in 2004, and Lord Coe, chair of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Together they lobbied the United Nations General Assembly calling for a global ceasefire while the Games are taking place. Their intervention was a great success,



Amber and Ali at the United Nations

as every UN member signed up to the Truce Resolution.

Ali, a student at Newham Sixth Form College in Prince Regent Lane, said: "The Truce encourages states worldwide to lay down their weapons and think about the things that unite

us – like sport – rather than what separates us.

"I'll be promoting it in my own community to ensure that young people in the host boroughs celebrate what binds us together, in sport, arts and other group activities."

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.

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 PLAISTOW

Female only box-fit classes

Improve your fitness and make new friends at these free sessions. Ages 16+ Mondays, 4.15-5.15pm Balaam Leisure Centre, Balaam Street, E13 For information call Carl Barton on 020 3373 6034

Women's gym sessions

Free supervised gym sessions for girls only. (induction must be completed first) Age 11-16 years Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3.30-5pm Newham Leisure Centre, Prince Regent Lane, E13 For information call 020 7511 4477

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 1804 or email shamilla.kumari@newham.gov.uk
To email your local councillor write firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk e.g. 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 or call 020 3373 0437.