

# IN FOCUS CUSTOM HOUSE & CANNING TOWN

November 2011



## PARK LIFE BENEFITS FROM £1M MAKEOVER

More than 400 people enjoyed a fun day at the Keir Hardie Recreation Ground to celebrate an array of improvements at the park.

Canning Town North ward councillor Marie Collier and Canning Town South ward members Bryan Collier and Alan Taylor joined local residents and children to try the new facilities. Newham Council worked with local people on ideas for the green space in Tarling Road, which has resulted in improvements worth around £1 million.

The work includes a new children's play area with water and sand play and a zip line and climbing ropes, new trees, shrubs and herbs



Cllrs Collier and Taylor, right, join Roshaur and Jeremiah at the swings



Youngster Syke enjoyed meeting the owls

to produce seasonal displays, improved paths, a 500m trim trail and outdoor gym equipment.

The council hosted a mini-playday for youngsters and their families to get them more active and using the new facilities. There were also Go Wild sessions where people learned about wildlife in the park and got to handle owls.

Many people took part in sports

activities, which culminated in a giant tug of war. Amongst various arts and crafts activities was Land Art where the park was created in miniature on a mound.

Councillor Bryan Collier said: "It was a tremendous day and we were delighted so many people attended. The park has great new facilities and we hope people enjoy using them."

### 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)



# ACT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



ACT volunteer Taskeen

Active Community Teams are a way for residents to get involved in what's going on in their neighbourhood and by becoming an ACT volunteer you can work with councillors and groups to arrange free, fun activities.

Taskeen Gilani has been an ACT Volunteer for 18 months after discovering the scheme when she and her son went to an event at Canning Town Recreation Ground.

She said: "I was spending a lot of money taking my son out. When I found out Newham Council had a lot of free events I decided I wanted to help organise them."

Taskeen's volunteering experience has developed her other skills. She said: "My confidence has been boosted because I enjoy meeting new people. I communicate with vulnerable people or those whose first language is not English, encouraging them to get involved."

Taskeen has taken her friends and neighbours to ACT planning meetings to inspire them. She added: "People should be a part of their community because the benefits are so great."

**To become an ACT volunteer for Custom House and Canning Town call 020 3373 7893 or email Sumala.Hassan@newham.gov.uk**



Councillors Marie Collier, Bryan Collier, Clive Furness, Pat Holland and Alan Taylor publicise the flu jab campaign

## PEOPLE URGED TO GET FLU JAB

Councillors from across the Custom House and Canning Town community forum area are urging people to take up the offer of a free flu jab if they are eligible for one.

Every year around 8,000 people in England and Wales die from flu and as winter approaches people are at risk of developing serious complications from the seasonal condition.

People being offered the seasonal flu vaccine are those aged 65 and over, pregnant women, adults and children from six months living with long term health conditions, people in residential or nursing homes, those who care for an older or disabled person and all frontline health and social care workers.

Councillor Clive Furness, Newham's executive member for health and Canning Town North ward member, said: "The best way to avoid flu is to get immunised and you can do this by making an appointment with your GP or antenatal clinic as appropriate."

**More information is available by visiting [www.nhs.uk/flu](http://www.nhs.uk/flu)**

## LET'S GET THE PARTY STARTED

Residents are invited to an open evening where they can learn more about organising the own celebrations for the 2012 Games and Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Newham Council is running a Let's Get the Party Started campaign aimed at ensuring people participate in the magic of the Olympic and Paralympic Games by helping them to stage their own events.

The council can help with a number of things to turn ideas into reality including how to hire a venue, licensing and promoting your event

and how you could get a £250 community grant to help with costs.

Custom House and Canning Town community lead councillor Paul Schafer said: "We had an overwhelming response from people during the Royal Wedding who wanted to throw their own parties. We're hoping for that to happen again next year."

**The open evening takes place at The Place in Silvertown Way on 24 November from 5.30-7.30pm. For details visit [www.newham.gov.uk/letsgetthepartystarted](http://www.newham.gov.uk/letsgetthepartystarted)**

# CHEER AS CRYSTAL SHINES FORTH

The topping out of the new £30m building in Canning Town known as The Crystal has been carried out by Mayor of Newham Sir Robin Wales and the Mayor of London Boris Johnson.

Built by technology company Siemens in two crystal-shaped sections, the project will open next summer in Royal Victoria Dock and will showcase everything from natural ventilation, which makes air conditioning unnecessary, to community gardens where fruit and vegetables can be grown by local residents.

It will also host state-of-the-art conference and education facilities as well as a restaurant, café and shop



Cllrs Collier, Taylor and Holland at the launch

Custom House and Canning Town community forum councillors Pat Holland, Marie Collier and Alan Taylor attended the topping out, which saw the first solar panel fitted on to the roof.

Councillor Taylor said: “This pioneering project will be a catalyst for more job-creating investment. The Crystal will inspire young people into careers within the high technological industries of tomorrow.”



## NEW FACILITIES ARE TOP CLASS

Cllrs Peppiatt and Holland, bottom left, watch a performance in the new drama studio

Pupils at The Royal Docks Community School in Prince Regent Lane, Custom House, are enjoying new dining hall and drama studio facilities thanks to money from the Building Schools for the Future programme.

School governor, Custom House ward member Councillor Pat Holland, attended the official opening, which

also marked the first meeting of stakeholders that form The Royal Docks Co-Operative Learning Trust.

Top restaurateur and TV food judge Oliver Peyton opened the dining hall while Councillor Quintin Peppiatt, Newham’s executive member for children and young people, opened the drama studio, which seats 80 people.

Councillor Holland said: “These are great facilities that will greatly benefit the whole school and wider community.”

The school is also getting refurbished classrooms and a multi-use all weather sports pitch, which will be available to hire. It will be opened on 24 November by West Ham United star Mark Noble.

## Spotlight on... Remembrance Sunday



**Councillors from the Custom House and Canning Town community forum will join residents and members of the Royal British Legion in commemorating Remembrance Sunday on 13 November.**

Canning Town South ward member and deputy chair of the council, Councillor Michael Nicholas, will lay a wreath on behalf of the people of Newham at St Luke's Memorial in Tarling Road, Canning Town. A service of remembrance, lead by the Rev David Wade, will begin at 10.30am.

Councillor Nicholas said: "We pay homage to all those that have died in the line of duty. We must never forget what they have done for us."

Elsewhere chair of the council, Councillor Amarjit Singh, will lay

a wreath at St Mark's Memorial, in the grounds of Brick Lane Music Hall, Factory Road, North Woolwich, at 10.55am. It will be preceded by a Royal British Legion parade at 10.30am from nearby Constance Street.

Mayor Sir Robin Wales will attend the cenotaph in Central Park, High Street South, East Ham, for a service at 10.55am. People are asked to gather at Newham Town Hall at 10.15am for a 10.35am procession with members of the Royal British Legion along High Street South.

There is also a service at All Saints West Ham Parish Church, Church Street, West Ham, at 10.45am, conducted by the Rev Stennett Kirby. A wreath will be laid by Deputy Mayor Councillor Andrew Baikie.

## WHAT'S ON CUSTOM HOUSE AND CANNING TOWN

**If you want to organise an event during the 2012 Games**, come to the Let's Get the Party Started event on 24 November, 5.30-7.30pm, at The Place, 2 Silvertown Way, Canning Town, E16. Contact 020 3373 7893 or email Sumala.Hassan@newham.gov.uk

### O'Farrells Stage and Theatre School

The school offers dance classes in ballet, tap, jazz and street as well as drama and singing classes for boys and girls. Different age groups meet on the following days:

- > 2.5 years to 7 years – Monday 4.15pm
- > 8 years upwards – Tuesday 4.30pm
- > 8 years upwards – Thursday 4.15pm
- > 5 years upwards – Saturday 10am.

For further information on the classes or to hire a room contact Linda on 020 7511 9444.

**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)**

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## 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](mailto:stella.hales@newham.gov.uk)  
To email your local councillor write firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk e.g. [marie.collier@newham.gov.uk](mailto:marie.collier@newham.gov.uk)



Marie Collier



Clive Furness



Paul Schafer



Bryan Collier



Michael Nicholas



Alan Taylor



Patricia Holland



Gavin Pearson



Conor McAuley

### 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

### Canning Town South Ward

Cllr Collier - Second and fourth Monday of the month,  
11am-12pm, Workplace Canning Town, The Place, 2  
Silvertown Way, Canning Town, E16 1EA

Cllr Nicholas - First and third Thursday of the  
month, 10.30am-12.30pm, Workplace Canning Town,  
The Place, 2 Silvertown Way, Canning Town, E16 1EA

Cllr Taylor  
First and third Thursday of the month, 6-7.30pm  
Trinity Community Centre, Bothwell Close, E16

### 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](http://www.newham.gov.uk/mayor) or call 020 3373 0437.