

IN FOCUS CUSTOM HOUSE & CANNING TOWN

January 2012



Sir Robin, Mark and Ruth cut the ribbon

PLAY - WHATEVER THE WEATHER

New all-weather sporting facilities are up and running in Custom House.

West Ham United star Mark Noble cut the ribbon to open new all-weather sporting facilities at The Royal Docks Community School.

The opening of the multi-use games area signifies the completion of the second phase of a £2.2m Building Schools for the Future project at the school in Prince Regent Lane.

The money has paid for new facilities for students with profound and multiple learning difficulties, a new dining hall and drama studio and the all weather sports pitch. The London Marathon Charitable Trust also contributed to the latter.

The new sporting facilities will allow pupils to enjoy 11-a-side and 5-a-side

football, hockey and rugby. The pitch will also benefit the local community with lettings commencing from January.

Custom House and Canning Town community lead councillor, Paul Schafer said: "These facilities will mean a big boost for the local area in general and the school in particular.

"It is important for schools to have good facilities and Newham will continue to invest to make sure they are the learning environments our pupils deserve. Let's hope the school

can produce another player like Mark Noble for the Hammers."

Mark, a former pupil at the school, said: "We never had anything like this. All we had was a field which was a bit bumpy."

School head teacher Ruth Martin said: "We are proud of the facilities that will benefit both the school and local community."

If you want to hire the multi-use games area contact: David Oliver on 020 7540 2712.

CONTACT US

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



The site earmarked for improvement



NEW COMMUNITY SPACE

Green-fingered residents have secured a £1,000 from Newham Council grant to transform a barren wasteland into a communal garden.

The council is also urging other residents to come forward and highlight areas which could be used as potential food growing spaces.

The garden, off the A13, just

behind Ravenscroft Close, will be exclusively available to residents from Ravenscroft Close, Ravenscroft Road, Kildare Road, Douglas Road, Chandler Avenue and Hayday Road.

Twenty residents so far have expressed an interest in taking part in the Ravenscroft garden. The project

has been supported by councillors Paul Schafer and Bryan Collier.

Residents hope this will inspire similar projects elsewhere in the borough.

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

LIFEGUARD COACHING



Female residents aged 16 to 19 that can swim at least 50 metres are invited to a free course that could lead to a nationally recognised pool lifeguard qualification and a career in the leisure industry.

The course, which normally costs £270, is supported by Newham Council. Anyone who meets the minimum criteria will be invited to a short interview and pool test on Monday 30 January from 4-6pm at Newham Leisure Centre, Plaistow.

The course will take place during half-term week from 13 to 18 February. Places are available on a first come, first served basis. To book a place at the test evening email Sarah Ridgway at sarah.ridgway@gll.org or visit www.newham.gov.uk/swimming for more information.

DONOR DRIVE

A two-year partnership to promote blood and or organ donation is under way across Newham.

Canning Town North ward councillors Marie Collier and Clive Furness, executive member for health, joined NHS officials for the launch of the drive that aims to increase the number of donors in Newham.

Only 16 per cent of residents are in the organ donor register - the UK average is 30 per cent. Blood donation is even lower, with only 0.85 per cent of residents taking part in this life saving activity, which compares to an average of four per cent in England. Councillor Furness said: "The number of blood and organ donors in Newham is low in comparison to the rest of the country. This partnership is about raising awareness about donation



and promoting how simple it is to take part. Above all, blood and organ donation can save the lives of others and there's not many other things that can be that rewarding."

The scheme will be delivered by volunteers who will receive special training to become local ambassadors to promote the scheme within the community.

CABLE CAR REACHES FOR THE SKIES

The first steel tower which will enable the Emirates Air Line, the UK's first urban cable car, to 'fly' passengers across the Thames has been completed.

Stretching across the river Thames at a breathtaking height, the cable car will give passengers stunning aerial views as they travel between the two terminals at Emirates Greenwich Peninsula and Emirates Royal Docks in Canning Town South ward.

It will be able to carry up to 2,500 passengers per hour in each direction.

The new transport initiative will also directly link the O2 – Europe's biggest entertainment venue – and the ExCeL – Europe's biggest conferencing venue.

Located near the Royal Docks terminal, the North Intermediate Tower is the first of three soon-to-be iconic towers that has been fully erected. Standing at over 200ft tall and weighing 270 tonnes the tower is the smallest of the three main towers.



Spotlight on... Let's get the Party Started!

Make 2012 a year to remember with your chance to nominate someone for an Inspiring People Reward or celebrate by holding a community event - and it's all FREE!

If you want to celebrate the London 2012 Games or the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with your families, friends and neighbours we'll show you how easy it is to make it happen.

Newham Council is giving residents the opportunity to apply for grants of up to £250 to organise their own community event. This could be anything from a street party to a cake making competition, a talent show to a craft session. The sky's the limit so get your thinking caps on and contact 2012party@newham.gov.uk with your ideas.

And it doesn't stop there. Do you know someone who you believe deserves FREE tickets to the London 2012 Games?



This is your chance to make that special someone, feel really special. Have they done something really outstanding, have they made just a little difference to someone else's life, do they need a little boost to their own life, are they housebound and would benefit from this 'once in a lifetime' opportunity? Nominate them and turn a dream into reality. You can find out more by visiting www.newham.gov.uk/inspiringpeople or turn to page 15 of the Newham Mag to read about our latest winner.

WHAT'S ON CUSTOM HOUSE AND CANNING TOWN

Friends of Memorial Park and Grassroots AGM

Come along and help improve your local park
 Tuesday 31 January, 6.30-8pm
 Grassroots, Memorial Park,
 Memorial Avenue, E15

Neighbourhood meetings

Open to all, come and find out about projects in your area
 Fife Road meeting,
 Tuesday 24 January, 6.30pm
 Keir Hardie Methodist Church,
 Fife Road, E16
 Keir Hardie meeting,
 Tuesday 31 January, 6.30pm
 River Christian Centre,
 Vincent Street, E16

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



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 or call 020 8430 2000.