

FOREST GATE »» IN FOCUS

Covering Forest Gate
North and South

Listed building saved from ruins



Restored and resplendent

A listed building in Upton Lane was saved from ruins when Newham Council stepped in and forced the owners to take action.

Originally built in the early 1700s as a Dutch Merchant's house and reconstructed in 1870, the Red House - a grade II listed building fell into disrepair after the owners could not maintain the upkeep of the house.

As a result, the council issued a Section 215 notice to the owners, St Anthony's Catholic Club, because of the poor condition and appearance of the property, which was detrimental to the surroundings. The notice means that if the owners don't carry out the repairs in an allotted period of time, then the council will step in and bill the owners once the repairs have been done.

The works were paid for by the owners and English Heritage after the council assisted the owners in securing a grant.

English Heritage listed the building in 1998. Listing is a process which has been in place since 1950 to ensure that buildings of age, rarity, architectural merit or construction are preserved as part of our national heritage.

The Red House was deemed to be of special interest because of its age and architecture.

Community lead councillor, Kay Scoresby, said: "It's important that we don't forget our history and heritage and preserving buildings like these plays an influential part in our sense of national and regional identity."

Improvements carried out to the Red

A view of the back of the Red House in its heyday



House included repairs to the brick and stonework, reinstatement of decorative elements, repairs to windows, doors and the plasterwork.

The Red House isn't the only listed building in Forest Gate that has seen improvements. The council has been working with the owners of the former United Reform Church on Romford Road to protect and maintain the grade II listed building. Most recently, temporary hoardings have been removed and a second-hand yellow stock brick and metal fence, which is sympathetic to the original style of the building, has been erected after planning permission was granted.

To find out more about the history of Newham visit www.newhamstory.com

Ring in a green new year

Put recycling on the top of your New Year's resolution list and kick off 2011 with a green promise to make Newham a cleaner, greener place for everyone.

Thirty per cent more rubbish is produced over the Christmas holidays – here are some top tips to help you reduce your waste:

- put your wrapping paper, Christmas cards, plastic bottles, magazines and cans in your orange bag
- recycle your Christmas tree for free by calling the council to book a collection on 020 8430 2000
- take your empty glass bottles and jars to a recycling bank near you
- got a new piece of furniture for Christmas and want to get rid of the old one? The council can take up to six bulky items for free – book a collection by visiting www.newham.gov.uk or call 020 8430 2000.

For more information on recycling visit www.newham.gov.uk



(l-r) Cllr Kay Scoresby, Caroline Couzens and Ellen Kemp by the new notice board outside Forest Gate Hotel pub

Spread the word on the new community notice board

A new community notice board to advertise local events has been erected on the corner of Godwin and Tylney Roads on the front of the Forest Gate Hotel pub.

Neighbourhood Watch Group coordinators, Caroline Couzens, Ellen Kemp and others worked with their ward councillors to help erect the new notice board.

Community lead councillor, Kay Scoresby, said: "The aim of the notice board is to allow community groups to let people know what events are going on in their area.

"I would like to thank all those involved who have made this possible, especially the Forest Gate Hotel owner, who allowed us put the board on his property."

If you've got something that you'd like to put on the notice board please email Caroline Couzens at c.couzens@ntlworld.com, Ellen Kemp at e.kemp@tiscali.co.uk or Syed Haque at syed.haque@newham.gov.uk

Spring into ACTION

Don't say we didn't let you know in advance - Forest Gate is invited to Boost E7 on Saturday 19 February at Forest Gate Community School.

If you've put finding a new job, eating healthier or getting fit at the top of your New Year's resolution list, then don't miss this event. There will be top tips on healthy living and you can find out how to land that perfect job.

Dust off your trainers and make your way to the new Forest Gate Community School sports hall for a five-a-side football tournament for eight year-olds to 100 year-olds.

Just turn up before 1pm with your trainers and register on the day. The winners and runners-up will be presented with trophies and medals at 4pm, when the tournament ends.



Read your next In Focus to find out more about what's happening at the festival.

Boost E7
Saturday 19 February, 12.30-4pm
Five-a-side football, 1-4pm
Forest Gate Community School
Forest Street, E7
Call 0800 519 4015 or email community.forums@newham.gov.uk for more information

Look back at 2010

Each month, In Focus brings you news of people, improvements and events in your area. Here we look back on a choice few of your favourite stories.

1. A new creatively landscaped playground, a natural play area, nature trail and trim trail were all part of the improvements made to Forest Lane Park earlier last year

2. A whopping 4,000 turned out at Forest Gate Festival last year and for the first time community radio station NuSound 92FM broadcast live from the event – be sure not to miss this year's festivals



1. (l-r) Cllr Akbar Chaudhary, Sir Robin Wales, Cllrs Richard Crawford, Winston Vaughan and Kay Scoresby with local youngsters celebrating the new revamped Forest Lane Park

2. Shiver me timbers – pirates Ahoy at the Forest Gate Festival



3. Peacock Gymnasium boxers and councillors at Forest Gate Youth Zone



4. Walk this way – Barry (r) and staff are pleased that Earlham Grove has reopened



3. Hundreds enjoyed a free council-organised event at Forest Gate Youth Zone, while also picking up top employment tips

4. Earlham Grove was closed for almost two years, while a massive engineering project to prevent sewage flooding in Forest Gate was carried out. The road reopened last October and one business that is happy to have Earlham Grove back is Barry's Meat Market

Get in touch

If you have any news you want to tell In Focus, email infocus@newham.gov.uk or call 020 3373 2684

SPOTLIGHT ON...

NEWHAM YOUTH LINK

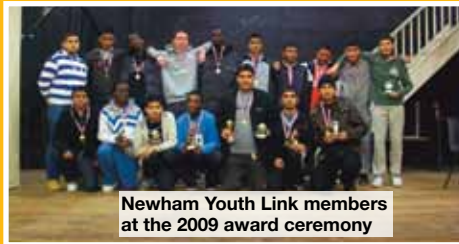
Newham Youth Link (NYL) is a charity set up by volunteers who saw the need for an organisation that catered for the needs of the disaffected youth in Forest Gate.

The organisation is run on a voluntary basis and is currently based in Clova Road.

NYL is all about: "creating opportunities for young people. Our motto is achieve," explains chairman Jakir Ahmed. NYL does this through running an annual football tournament where youngsters help raise money for charity.

It also helps young people gain qualifications via accredited courses such as first aid, refereeing and FA coaching badges. NYL creates volunteering opportunities so that youngsters can gain valuable life skills, which helps them getting into college and employment.

Jakir explains: "A lot of young people come to us and they're very angry at something, so we try to give them a positive outlook on life by showing them what they can achieve."



Newham Youth Link members at the 2009 award ceremony

One youngster, Hamza Bodiya, joined NYL because of his friends' encouragement. Hamza said: "My friends told me about what the organisation does to help us become better people and better footballers so I went along.

"I was nervous because I've never played for a football team before; as well as that, I never thought that I was that good at football."

Hamza goes on to explain that by the end of the league he was one of the football team's heroes because he played so well. He has gone on to achieve a FA level 1 coaching badge, completed his basic refereeing course and is currently taking his FA level 2 exams, while managing the under 16 football team.

To find out more about NYL visit www.nyl.org.uk or email jakir.ahmed@nyl.org.uk

WHAT'S ON FOREST GATE

Winter craft - Children aged five-12 years are invited to light up the New Year by working with Waste Watch to make lanterns from recycled items.

Tuesday 11 January
4-6pm

The Gate library
4-20 Woodgrange Road, E7
Call 020 3373 0856 for more information

Boost E7

Saturday 19 February
12.30-4pm

Five-a-side football, 1-4pm
Forest Gate Community School
Forest Street, E7

Call 0800 519 4015 or email community.forums@newham.gov.uk for more information

For even more things to do check out the What's On calendar on the Newham website, where you'll find listings for more than 6,000 events:
www.newham.gov.uk/whatson

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 1540 or email syed.haque@newham.gov.uk.

To email your local councillor write firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk e.g. shama.ahmad@newham.gov.uk



Shama Ahmad



Paul Brickell



Ellie Robinson



Akbar Chaudhary



Leanora Cameron



Winston Vaughan

Forest Gate North Ward

Every Saturday (alternating)
10.30 - 11.30am
Durning Hall
Earlham Grove
Forest Gate E7

Forest Gate South Ward

Every Saturday, except bank holiday weekends (alternating)
10.30 - 11.30am
The Gate 4 - 20 Woodgrange Road
Forest Gate E7

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.