

IN FOCUS ROYAL DOCKS

September 2011

VISION FOR PARK LIFE IS WELL RECEIVED

Amphitheatre-style seating, sculptures, fun new play and gym equipment and improved entrances were among a host of suggestions people would like to see at Royal Victoria Gardens in North Woolwich.

Newham Council has been asking residents what they would like to see for the park in Albert Road before drawing up a master plan that will set out a vision for improving, managing and developing the gardens in future.

Royal Docks community lead councillor Steve Brayshaw said: "We were pleased people came up with some really positive proposals for Royal Victoria Gardens. We are using the ideas and the feedback to finalise the master plan which everyone will be able to see and continue to comment on."

The council will use the plan to apply for grants to pay for the works. When the necessary funding is in place, detailed designs will be prepared and contractors appointed to do the work.

Included among the suggestions were new paths, a wider elevated river promenade, improved fencing and lighting and new park furniture. People also wanted new natural play areas, an art installation on the river wall and improved café area.

How the new entrance might look



The playground could be improved



Opinions were divided on whether to remove, lower or retain the park's boundary fence, though many people were keen to see some change in order to improve visibility. The council is looking at whether it is feasible to remove it for a trial period.

You can see the master plan and continue to comment by visiting www.newham.gov.uk/royalvictoriagardens or by emailing parks@newham.gov.uk or calling 020 8430 2000.

CONTACT US

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

Newham London

Reel of fortune takes to the water

A film reflected on to the water



An eyesore site beneath the Sir Steve Redgrave bridge at the Royal Albert Dock in North Woolwich has been transformed into an unusual space for film and the arts.

Royal Docks councillors have welcomed the Watching on Water project that will see films and artistic images from students at the University of East London and from the silent age of Hollywood beamed on to a screen and projected on to the water below.

Creator Leezac Robinson from The People's Republic Film Society has also installed an urban garden and a colourful mural wall. Selections of films, images and animation are set to be shown free during September and October.

Councillor Tony McAlmont, who attended the launch, said: "Hopefully it will encourage people to discover more about the diversity of film culture and art and engage in the regeneration of the Royal Docks area."



NEW LINK IS A RAIL BOOST

Residents from across the Royal Docks community forum area now have a direct rail link with the new Westfield Stratford City development and Stratford International station.

The £211m Docklands Light Railway Stratford International extension opened on 31 August, almost a year before the 2012 Games. Trains now travel directly between Woolwich Arsenal and Stratford via West Silvertown, Pontoon Dock, London City Airport and King George V stations.

Community lead councillor Steve

Brayshaw said: "This is a major boost to the regeneration of the Royal Docks and our efforts to attract international companies to the area.

"Local residents and businesses can also take advantage of one of the most accessible transport links to travel more easily to education, job and leisure opportunities."

The new link offers much faster and more frequent services than the former North London line it replaces, with a train arriving every eight minutes during peak periods.

POLICING BOOST FOR VILLAGE

Police and Newham Council have acted on concerns from residents at Silvertown's Britannia Village by increasing the number of police patrols around the area.

People had asked if more could be done to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour in the area. As a result meetings took place with residents to see what the priority concerns were.

Royal Docks community lead councillor Steve Brayshaw said: "Together we are committed to tackling the problems faced by local people. An action plan has been developed that

involves an increased police presence and our Safer Neighbourhood Team being more visible at times when residents say they are needed."

To increase the effectiveness of the work, residents are encouraged to report crimes and anti-social acts. Contact the police Safer Neighbourhood Team via email at royaldocks.snt@met.police.uk or call 07879 662147. For emergencies call 999 and non emergencies 101. You can also contact the council's anti-social behaviour hotline on 0800 7313300.

GUIDE TO JOBS TAKES OFF

Local councillors, employment advisers and education specialists gathered at Silvertown's London City Airport to help launch Airport Careers, a guide for local job seekers and students on roles at the airport.

More than 30 types of job are featured in the guide including roles in many of the 55 external companies based at the airport. It describes the tasks and duties involved, the qualities and skills desired and advice and tips when applying for each role.

Also launched was Airport Insights, a new resource for students and



Airfield operations - one of the careers offered

teachers offering eight short videos about life at the airport featuring interviews with staff across the site.

Airport chief executive officer Richard Gooding said: "We are pleased to be able to make our careers guide available to

local people of all ages and backgrounds. This shows the variety of interesting and accessible jobs at the airport."

To access the Airport Careers guide online visit www.londoncityairport.com/careers

SUCCESS FOR DISPERSAL ORDER

A dispersal order that allowed Newham Council and the police to remove rowdy groups of youths from the North Woolwich area has been hailed a success.

Public notices were displayed between the areas of Albert Road, Grenadier Street, Brixham Street and Claremont Close, including King George V Docklands Light Railway Station, warning youths of the consequences of their anti-social behaviour.

The dispersal order, in place from 21 February to 10 August, meant between 9pm and 6am youths under 16 could be escorted home if they stepped out of line.

Royal Docks community lead councillor Steve Brayshaw said: "We want residents to be able to go about their daily business without fear of being intimidated, harassed, alarmed or distressed by groups of youths.

"Police continue to have a visible presence in the area. We will continue to monitor the situation and will look to reintroduce the dispersal order if anti-social behaviour continues to be a significant and persistent problem."

GCSE RESULTS IMPROVE YEAR UPON YEAR

The borough's schools are celebrating their best ever GCSE results with the number of pupils achieving A*- C grades increasing for the eighth year in a row.

This year's results are the biggest annual rise since 2004 and the percentage of young people achieving five or more A* to C GCSEs or equivalent including English and maths rose from 52 per cent in 2010 to 58 per cent this year. This is an increase of six per cent and a figure which exceeds this year's local authority target of 55 per cent.

The Royal Docks Community School also improved on last year's GCSE results with 40 per cent of its pupils getting more than five or more A* to C GCSEs or equivalent.

Councillor Quintin Peppiatt, executive member for children and young people, said: "I'm delighted that our schools continue to show improvement in their results. It is a testament to the hard work of the borough's head teachers, teachers and staff.

"It is lovely seeing so many excited faces and knowing that our pupils will go on to do some excellent things in the future. This is the real face of young people in London."

Spotlight on... Safer Neighbourhood Teams



Safer Neighbourhoods Teams (SNTs) are about policing at a local level: residents working with police and partners to identify and tackle issues of concern in their neighbourhoods.

Following consultation with residents, from 30 September, your SNT will be changing. Under the changes SNTs will remain responsible for addressing local crime and safety concerns. There will be no reduction in the number of police constables (PCs) and police community support officers (PCSOs) within SNTs, so every ward

will still have at least five, some six.

However, SNTs can now share officers with their neighbouring wards in times of need. During these times, wards that are supporting their neighbours will have a minimum of one PC and one PCSO from its dedicated team to make sure there is still a permanent uniformed presence in every ward.

SNTs will also play a role in tackling anti-social behaviour in their neighbourhoods.

You can get involved with your local SNT by going to www.met.police.uk/teams/newham

WHAT'S ON ROYAL DOCKS

Beaded jewellery making classes

at Royal Docks Learning and Activity Centre, Albert Road, North Woolwich, E16, every Wednesday from 10.30-11.30am. Charge is £2 per session. Also learn to knit and crochet every Monday from 10-11.30am. Charge is £1 per session. Take your own wool and needles. For further information call 0207 476 9922 (Mon, Weds, Fri)

Free bowls coaching and taster sessions

for all ages and abilities are available at North Woolwich Phoenix Bowls Club, Thursdays 3-5pm, Royal Victoria Gardens, Pier Road, E16. No previous experience or special equipment is necessary just flat-soled shoes. Free membership for residents aged over 60. Contact 020 7511 6812.

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 1705 or email nadine.ford@newham.gov.uk
To email your local councillor write firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk e.g. steve.brayshaw@newham.gov.uk



Steve Brayshaw



Patrick Murphy



Anthony McAlmont

Royal Docks Ward surgeries

First and third Thursday of the month (alternating), 7pm
Britannia Village Hall
65 Evelyn Road, E16

Second and fourth Thursday of the month (alternating), 7pm
The Royal Docks Learning and Activity Centre, Albert Road, 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 3373 0437.