

E16 News

Latest regeneration news for Canning Town and Custom House residents | Sept 2011 |



Canning Town and Custom House festival continues to Thrive



Left to Right: Rathbone Market development is named. Rokeby School wins award. E16 meets Richard Cherry, deputy chairman of Countryside Properties

Inside View



It's been a busy couple of months in Canning Town since the last issue of E16. The landscape of the area seems to be changing every week, with the new developments starting to take shape.

Next month will see the official launch of Vermilion, the residential building at the centre of Rathbone Market. Work started on the building late last year and is expected to be finished in 2012.

The highways improvement works along Silvertown Way and Barking Road are now entering the final stages. The public space has been improved and once all the work is complete, it will be easier to move around the area and also provide a covered place for events and activities.

In this issue we look at the work of the Town Centre Design Group which is incredibly important to the regeneration of Canning Town. We need residents involved at every stage to gain feedback about the changes that are happening in their community. We want them to share their ideas with the developers to ensure they are happy with the work that is going on.

The annual Thrive event took place in July and was a big success. Hundreds of residents came along to Memorial Park to take part in the entertainment which was on offer. It was great to see so many people, young and old, enjoying the various activities which included karate, performances by the Chinese Lion Dancers and an egg and spoon race. Mayor Sir Robin Wales also joined in the fun and even took part in the tug of war!

Councillor Conor McAuley

Executive Member for Regeneration and Strategic Planning

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Canning Town and Custom House

Regeneration programme

The Place, 2 Silvertown Way E16 1ED
020 3373 1443

Newham housing team

Customer Service Centre, Beckton Road E16 5JQ.
Or you can contact your housing officer on
020 8430 4096

Pinnacle

Nelson Street Studios, Nelson Street E16 1DS
020 7540 9880

Name announced for first phase of new development

The first phase of the Rathbone Market redevelopment has been named Vermilion.

English Cities Fund (ECF), a joint venture between Muse Developments, Legal and General Property and Homes and Communities Agency working in partnership with Newham Council is behind the scheme which is set to be completed in summer 2012. Sisk, one of the largest construction companies in the country, has been appointed to carry out the work, which started in November 2010.

David Caught, residential sales and marketing director for ECF said: "The fact that Vermilion is situated at the heart of East London, minutes from London City Airport, the Olympic Sites, Canary Wharf and the O2 Arena, means it is a very attractive scheme.

"We have already had a large number of enquiries about the development even though work is still in the primary stages. We are very excited about this development and after months of research feel we have come up with a name which really illustrates the vibrancy of the building."

The name came from a working group that consisted of representation from the regeneration team, Pinnacle and residents and was inspired by the building's vibrant and colourful exterior which will span 21 floors.



Artist's vision of Vermilion



Work progressing on the Vermilion site

For more information on the scheme visit www.vermilionlondon.co.uk or www.rathbonemarket.com



Highways improvements creating a great space

The highways improvement works in Canning Town are progressing well and are now entering the final stages.

As a result of the work, the public space has been improved and high quality paving has been provided along Silvertown Way and Barking Road.

Once the work is complete a new space will be created under the flyover which will link Barking Road with the future town centre development south of the A13. This space has been declared one of the Mayor of London's Great Spaces in recognition of its design excellence and the enormous potential it creates. It will provide a comfortable pedestrian environment making it easier for people to move around the area and also provide a covered place for events and activities. Planting will also be undertaken to make it greener.

The majority of resurfacing work is now complete along the affected stretch of Barking



Highways works on Rathbone Street

Road up to and including the Barking Road/Beckton Road junction. In addition, works to Rathbone Street, the new slip road off the A13, are nearing completion and should be finished by the end of September allowing it to open by November.

The roundabout area will now be the main focus with work taking place in and around the roundabout. It is anticipated that the switch to the junction will happen by the end of 2011.

Marketing suite opens soon

The marketing suite and show apartment within the Fife Road development will soon be open showcasing the properties available.



Vision of the Fife Road development

Work by Countryside Properties on the Fife Road site started earlier this summer and residents will be able to visit the suite from early October. Information will be offered on the apartments, townhouses and maisonettes which will be available to buy for the first time.

Visitors will be able to see the show apartment which has been designed so buyers can move straight in.

As part of the development, shared equity units will be

available where you can own 100 per cent of your home for 80 per cent of the cost starting from a deposit of £6,800. This is subject to various terms and conditions.

Opening times for the suite will be 1pm – 5pm Thursday to Sunday and 1pm to 5pm on Monday. The suite will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday.

For further information about the development visit www.east-city.co.uk

Shaping the future



What Canning Town centre may look like

Residents with an interest in the regeneration of Canning Town are getting involved through a consultation group.

The Town Centre Design Group is made up of community members who are passionate about the regeneration of the area. Newham Council is currently working in partnership with Bouygues Development and One Housing Group to redevelop the key town centre site at Canning Town opposite the station. The design group has been involved at key stages throughout the development of proposals.

Regular meetings are held to discuss a range of issues from shopping provision to public spaces, environmental sustainability and long term

management of the area. Those involved want to make a positive contribution to shaping the future of the town centre and have been happy to share their ideas with developers.

Keith Smith, consultation manager said: "The whole community has the opportunity to find out what is going on, give their views and get feedback but we also want to provide opportunities for those with a deeper interest to make a positive contribution. It gives local community members the chance to give their ideas directly to the developers."

Earlier this year members of the group went on a site visit to the Westway at Ladbroke Grove to gather ideas about how the soon to be expanded pedestrian space under the A13 could be used for activities and events.

The group will continue to meet as the town centre development progresses and will look at all aspects of the scheme such as housing, leisure and benefits to the community.

For more information on the design group and how to join or to find out more about the town centre development please contact Keith Smith by phone on **020 3373 1443** or by email at keith.smith@newham.gov.uk



Gardeners' Question Time comes to GreEn16

The GreEn16 Food Growing Project recently hosted Radio 4's Gardeners' Question Time.

The recording of the BBC programme was organised in partnership with Rokeby School where the recording took place. Residents turned out to welcome Bunny Guinness and

the production team and to tell them about the project. They also got the chance to have their gardening questions discussed by panel member Bob Flowerdew.

For anyone who missed the programme, which aired on Friday 19 August at 3pm, there is an opportunity to listen again by visiting the BBC Radio 4 Gardeners' Question Time website at www.bbc.co.uk



Life's a beach in Canning Town

An urban beach set up by the regeneration team in Canning Town has been a big success.

During June and July more than 250 residents paid a visit to the sandy dunes set up in the Community Events Space on Silvertown Way. The aim was to give residents the chance to try something new and encourage active healthy lifestyles. Activities on offer included Zumba, boules, Tai Chi, Yoga and Karate.



Sam Clark, neighbourhood participation officer said: "We would like to say a big thank you to all residents who

took part in our activities. It was a massive success and we've had excellent feedback from local people."

Changes to Canning Town Library and Local Service Centre

The council is transforming the way it delivers services to ensure it provides the best quality and value for money to our residents.

We will be offering improved access to services by providing new ways to do business with the council. This will allow us to make savings by operating from fewer buildings.

As part of these changes some of the council services currently provided at Canning Town Local Service Centre will become available at Canning Town Library. This forms part of our commitment to providing better facilities for you.

Refurbishment work has recently taken place at Canning Town Library and it will be re-opening this month.

Canning Town Local Service Centre will no longer be available for customer enquiries from 1 October onwards.

Although straightforward council transactions can be accessed through the service points in place at the newly refurbished library, the council's remaining Local Service Centres will continue to deal with council enquiries that traditionally take longer or may be more complex.

One facility that will no longer be available will be the council's cash office in Canning Town. Paying your council bills at a cash office costs the council more to process than any other method of payment. Each payment taken over the counter at a cash office costs approximately £1.80. This compares to 2p for a direct debit payment.

The council is working with residents who use a council cash office to make payments - offering guidance and support within our Local Service Centres on alternative payment methods.

There are now many other ways to pay your rent, Council Tax and other charges, including by Direct Debit, standing order, online and by telephone. To find out more visit www.newham.gov.uk/cashless or pick up a leaflet in your LSC.



Update on Residents' Charter

Tenants, leaseholders and freeholders living in one of the regeneration sites will eventually need to move out of their homes to enable the regeneration to proceed.

The Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Programme Residents' Charter sets out the council's commitments to residents directly affected. Recently the charter has been under review to see if any changes, improvements or clarifications need to be made.

Solon, the independent residents' adviser, ran some focus groups as part of the review and residents' views from these groups have been considered in proposing changes to the charter. These changes include providing an annual report to residents after they requested a yearly update on the programme and also looking at how the community can be involved throughout the regeneration process.

The fundamental rights of residents have always been set out in the charter and will remain. Some of our key commitments are set out below:

Council tenants

- the right to stay in or return to Canning Town and Custom House
- the right to be rehoused in a council property and remain a council tenant
- the right to be rehoused in a property with the same number of bedrooms



- higher priority to bid for properties under the Choice Based Lettings scheme
- home loss payment of £4,700 and a disturbance payment
- your removal and other reasonable costs connected with moving covered.

Freeholders and Leaseholders

If you are a homeowner and the council has to acquire your home you will receive:

- the market value for your home plus 10% if you live there
- your removal costs and disturbance expenses
- any reasonable legal and surveying fees when you buy a new home
- first refusal to buy a new property in the regeneration area.

Have your say

All residents directly affected by the regeneration will receive a copy of the proposed revised charter and will be consulted on this so look out for more information coming your way. For more information please contact Keith Smith on **020 3373 1443** or by email at **keith.smith@newham.gov.uk**

T Cribb Open Day

Visiting a funeral home is something we usually do at a time of sadness but local undertaker T Cribb & Sons is inviting the community to an open day.

The open day will take place between 10.30am and 4.30pm at their Victoria House Funeral Home, Woolwich Manor Way, Beckton, on Sunday 25

September, to celebrate 130 years of service in Newham.

Three generations of the family will be on hand to explain how they have adapted to the changes in society since Thomas Cribb founded the business in 1881. Their Belgian Black horses will be on display together with the immaculate vintage vehicles and Rolls Royce fleet which are a familiar sight on the streets

of East London. There will also be advice available on bereavement support, exhibitions of green funeral options and information on Cribb's premises in Ghana amongst many other features.

The first 100 visitors on the day will receive a tree to plant, a complimentary copy of Dr Bill Websters book and the opportunity to save £100 on a Golden Charter funeral plan.



Exhibition moves from Covent Garden to Canning Town

A photography exhibition which was first shown in Covent Garden will be moving to a gallery in Canning Town

Capture is a collection of work produced by photography students at the Rosetta Arts Centre in Stratford. From 16 September, it will be available to view at the Rosetta Windows Gallery in Canning Town.

The exhibition was previously shown at Café Eterno on Neal Street, Covent Garden, and marks the culmination of the students' work studies in photography at the Rosetta Centre. The photography course at the centre is specially designed for adults and allows students to explore digital photography techniques and manipulation through Photoshop as well as traditional black



and white techniques using a darkroom. The students showing their work in the exhibition have been studying either AS levels or ABC awards in photography, whilst the art centre, based in Stratford, also offers the full A Level as well as non-accredited short courses in photography.

The exhibition will be available to view until Wednesday 15 October. The gallery is open 10am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday

For more information visit our website www.RosettaArts.org

Residents thrive at summer event



Sir Robin Wales with Canning Town ward councillors and residents



Thrive visitors enjoying the show

There was fun in the sun for residents of Custom House and Canning Town at the annual Thrive festival.

Mayor Sir Robin Wales joined local people at the event, held in Memorial Park. Visitors had a ball at the football tournament, stood tall to watch the marching band and pulled their weight in the tug of war. Other traditional games included sack and egg and spoon races. There were also the staple kiddies' favourites, a bouncy castle and face painting. Audiences were wowed with performances from around the world, from Chinese Lion Dancers and Zumba to line dancing and ballet.

ACT UP! Newham performed a play around discrimination faced by disabled people and popular Talent Quest winner Hayden Lawrence came back and performed for his home supporters.

Residents at the event also stepped back in time to discover the fascinating history of Custom House and Canning Town in a special exhibition of photos. People got

their vital stats checked on the health MOT bus, enjoyed needlework at the patchwork workshop and packed a punch at the karate demonstration led by the Okinawan Karate School.

Ward councillors mingled with the crowds at the event, which also featured stalls providing information about council services, the Fire Brigade and updates on the regeneration programme taking place across Custom House and Canning Town.



Sir Robin Wales and Cllr Paul Schafer take part in the tug of war

You said, we did

As a resident living in Canning Town and Custom House, neighbourhood meetings are the perfect place for you to come and speak to representatives from Newham Council about issues of concern.

At these meetings you can get updates about what's going on in the area and help on any issues you might have.

Information about the dates of neighbourhood meetings can be found in E16, the In Focus supplement of the Newham Mag and notice boards in the area.

Below were some of the key issues concerning residents at the last round of neighbourhood meetings:

You said...

There have been safety concerns from residents that people are entering the old working men's club opposite Rokeby School on Barking Road.

We did...

Thanks to the persistence of the council's community safety team, the private owner of this site has now secured the building. It has been boarded up which should prevent people entering. If residents still have concerns, they can contact the Community Safety Team on 0800 731 3300.

You said...

Residents have been raising concerns about the number of empty properties in the area and are worried they are vulnerable to squatters.

We did...

The majority of the empty houses and flats in the area are now being brought up to a liveable standard and will soon be in use. New residents have already moved into most of the empty properties on Beckton Road and Mona Street.

You said...

Residents were invited on a walkabout previously to raise concerns about the fence surrounding the new play area in Keir Hardie recreation ground. An officer from the Parks Service attended.

We did...

A sturdy rigid metal fence has now been put up which marks the perimeter of the play area. There will also be signage up soon to prevent the entry of dogs and discourage anti-social behaviour.

To find out more about the meetings including which one is closest to you, please contact Sam Clark on **020 3373 3538** or email sam.clark@newham.gov.uk





Rathbone Market Employment Open Day

Contractors working on Rathbone Market will be holding an open day next month offering information about upcoming work and training opportunities on the site.

Over the last few months, the Rathbone Market redevelopment has started to take shape on Canning Town's skyline. Sisk, the main contractors working on the project are now looking to double their workforce to 300. They already employ a large number of residents, in a range of entry level and skilled positions and are looking for more members of the local community to apply for these new construction jobs.

At the open day, residents will get the opportunity to meet the contractors involved

in the regeneration and find out more about the positions available.

No appointment is necessary. Anyone who thinks they have the skills to work on developing Rathbone Market is welcome to come along on the day.

The event will be held on Saturday 15 October between 10am and 2pm at Rathbone Market. Entry is via the site office on Barking Road.

To find out more please contact
Anthony Greene on **07423464422** or
email **Anthony.greene@sisk.co.uk**

For more information about the redevelopment
of Rathbone Market please contact
Simon Lawrence on **0845 262 0138** or email
simon.lawrence@localdialogue.com

E16 Meets...

Richard Cherry is the deputy chairman of Countryside Properties who are working with Newham Council on the Fife Road development.

What has been your biggest success so far?

Getting the regeneration of Canning Town and Custom House under way at Fife Road has been a major achievement for all the partners in the current economic climate. Many regeneration schemes are stalled at present in London and the wider UK because of this.

Since we started work on site a few months ago we are making good progress and will shortly be launching the first new homes for sale. So these are exciting times.

Why did you choose to invest in the area?

There is great potential to transform the area into a sustainable and mixed community through making use of the opportunities created by Canning Town's excellent transport links. Ultimately we want to create a place where new and existing residents will choose to live, work and stay.

What makes Countryside Properties a great partner for Newham Council

I believe Newham chose to work with us because we are highly experienced in estate regeneration. We have now undertaken more than 35 estate regeneration schemes with local authorities and housing associations and these projects have brought new life and vitality to run-down urban areas.

We recognise that estate regeneration is challenging and requires considerable expertise and resources to ensure success. It also requires a commitment to working with local people - helping them to create successful communities. These are qualities we are bringing to Canning Town.



Richard Cherry, Deputy Chairman of Countryside Properties

What benefits will this particular development bring to the residents of Canning Town?

It will bring a wide range of environmentally friendly new homes from apartments and maisonettes to family houses. The homes will be available across a number of tenures so that those people who can afford to buy will be able to and those who cannot will be able to speak to affordable housing provider Affinity Sutton about the homes for affordable rent. At the heart of the Fife Road development there will be a new Keir Hardie school which will also have community space as part of it. It will be a high quality living environment.

How does it fit in with all the regeneration projects also going on in the area?

It is an integral part of the regeneration of Canning Town and Custom House which is providing high quality new homes, environments and amenities to local residents.

What is your experience of Canning Town so far?

It's great to be on-site and making good progress after all the preparation work that has to go into a scheme of this nature. There is real partnership working here – long may it continue!

Waitrose and Workplace partnership success story

Workplace was developed to ensure local people benefited from local regeneration. It's a one stop shop where Newham residents can receive advice about their employment options or guidance about starting a business and where employers across London can advertise their vacancies to recruit quality staff.

Canning Town resident Joanne Southee has now found a role

on the fresh food counter at the new Waitrose store at Westfield. Since starting with the store, she's been training at other stores across the capital in preparation for the Stratford site opening in September.

She said: "I'm very excited to be able to work for such a reputable company that looks after their staff.

Workplace helped me a great deal. I was out of work for six months and never imagined I would be back in work so quickly. I'd applied for over a hundred jobs before I found



Joanne Southee

this one. I wouldn't have had this opportunity if it wasn't for them and I would recommend anyone who is struggling to find work to go to them for help."

For further information call **020 3373 1101** or visit www.newhamworkplace.co.uk



Outstanding Rokeby School wins prestigious award

Rokeby School has won a highly sought after TES award following its partnerships with East London businesses.

Working in collaboration with the East London Business Alliance (ELBA) the school was awarded the Outstanding Community Business Partnership Award.

Rokeby was competing against schools from all over the country but headteacher Charlotte Robinson was awarded the prize at a ceremony held at the London Park Lane Hilton.

She said: "At Rokeby we have had an amazing year, coming third in the borough for GCSE attainment, being graded outstanding by OFSTED and now winning this national award. We are all so proud of the achievements of students, staff, parents and carers. We would not have won this award without the huge

amount of support we have received from the East London Business Alliance (ELBA)."

Rokeby School was chosen due to its links with businesses which were described as "a genuine two-way alliance". The judges added: "They have yielded remarkable benefits in respect of the school's achievements, its relations with the local community and the aspirations of its pupils."



Right to left: Anna France from ELBA, comedian Rory Bremner, Charlotte Robinson and Ian Richard, deputy chair of governors at Rokeby School

New link is a rail boost

Residents from the E16 area now have a direct rail link with the new Westfield Stratford City development and Stratford International station.

The £211m Docklands Light Railway from Canning Town to Stratford International opened on 31 August, almost a year before the 2012 Games. It includes four new fully accessible stations, including one at Star Lane.

The new DLR extension offers regenerative benefits to the area and travel opportunities to communities that have previously had limited public transport options. Services operate



New station open as part of the DLR extension at Star Lane

between Stratford International and Woolwich Arsenal via Canning Town during peak hours. Outside of peak times, trains will operate via Canning Town through to Beckton.

Trains run approximately every eight minutes.

Star Lane station will use an island platform, accessed from Star Lane and Stephenson Street via a fully accessible footbridge.

Top class exam results



Rokeby School students share their results

Pupils at secondary schools in E16 performed well in this year's GCSE exams which saw Newham overall record an improved performance for the eighth year in a row.

The percentage of young people achieving the Government's gold standard of five or more A* to C grade GCSEs or equivalent, including English and Maths, rose by 20 percentage points at Eastlea School from 29% to 49%. It was the most improved school in the borough.

Despite the disruption caused by its move from Stratford into new buildings in Barking Road, Canning Town, Rokeby School had 63% of its pupils receive grades A* to C. Royal Docks School in Prince Regent Lane rose from 36% to 40%.

Councillor Quintin Peppiatt, executive member for children and young people, saw Rokeby School students receive their results. He said: "It is a testament to the hard work of pupils, head teachers and staff."

What's ON!

Meet your local councillors

Canning Town North - Marie Collier, Clive Furness and Paul Schafer-

Cllr Collier and Cllr Schafer surgery times

Every Monday (alternating) 10am
7a Avondale Court, Avondale Road, Canning Town E16

Cllr Furness surgery times

First and third Friday of the month 6 - 7pm
Helping Hands, 42 Balaam Street E13

Canning Town South - Bryan Collier, Michael Nicholas and Alan Taylor

Cllr Collier surgery times

Second and fourth Monday of the month 10am – 12noon
Canning Town Local Service Centre, 3 Beckton Road E16

Cllr Nicholas surgery times

First and third Thursday of the month 10.30am – 12.30pm
Keir Hardie Methodist Church, 14 Plymouth Road E16

Cllr Taylor surgery times

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

Custom House - Patricia Holland, Gavin Pearson and Conor McAuley

Cllr Holland

First Saturday of the month, 10 – 11am
St Joachim's Catholic School, Shipman Road
Custom House E16

Cllr Pearson

Second Saturday of the month, 10 – 11am
St Joachim's Catholic School, Shipman Road,
Custom House E16

Cllr McAuley

Third Saturday of the month, 10 – 11am
St Joachim's Catholic School, Shipman Road,
Custom House E16

Independent advice for residents

Independent advice and support is available to residents living in the Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration area.

If you have any questions about how the proposed plan will affect you contact:

Solon Community Network free of charge on:

0800 884 0800

9am - 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Email: info@yoursolon.com

or visit: www.yoursolon.com

All queries will be dealt with in confidence.

Pinnacle walkabout

Every Friday at 2pm.
Meeting point at
St. Luke's Church,
Tarlton Road E16.



Drop-in surgeries

Every Wednesday between 10-11.30am at The Place, 2 Silvertown Way.

Surgeries will be attended by a Neighbourhood Services Manager who will aim to answer queries you may have relating to housing issues such as anti-social behaviour, supporting tenants and any tenancy management issues.



For more information please ring the freephone number 0800 952 9000.

Trinity Lunch Club

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9.30am – 1pm

Trinity Community Centre, Bothwell Close, London, E16

£3 for two courses, tea and coffee.

Neighbourhood group dates

For people living and working in the Canning Town and Custom House area, your local neighbourhood meeting is the ideal place to come to speak to council officers and community police about issues concerning you.

The meetings focus on providing local information, problem solving and residents and council officers working in partnership to set up creative projects.

The details for our next round of meetings are as follows:

Freemasons Road Neighbourhood Meeting

Thursday 6 October, 6.30pm
The Cundy Centre, Hartington Road.

Canning Town Centre Neighbourhood Meeting

Wednesday 12 October, 6.30pm.
The Hub, Star Lane.

Fife Road Neighbourhood Meeting

Tuesday 18 October, 6.30pm,
Keir Hardie Church, Fife Road.

Keir Hardie Neighbourhood Meeting

Tuesday 25 October, 6.30pm
River Christian Centre, Vincent Street.

To find out more about the meetings including which one is closest to you, please contact Sam Clark on 020 3373 3538 or email sam.clark@newham.gov.uk.



Let's get the party started!

Do you want to organise your own community event or be part of one of our events? Help us show the world that Newham will be the place to party in 2012. Whatever your ideas, we want to know!

Come along to our special event and find out how we can help you make it happen – we could even provide funding.

Saturday 8 October – Old Town Hall Stratford, 29 The Broadway Stratford, E15. Session one: **10.30am-12.30pm**. Session two: **2-4pm**.

To reserve your place at the event email 2012party@newham.gov.uk call Natalie Osei-Owusu on **020 3373 3793**, or visit www.newham.gov.uk/letsgetthepartystarted