

E16 News



Putting down roots
in Fords Park.
See page 5

Building careers
for the future.
See page 7



LATEST REGENERATION NEWS FOR CANNING TOWN AND CUSTOM HOUSE RESIDENTS



Above: Dame Kelly Holmes and friends in jubilant mood in Canning Town





INSIDE VIEW

As we have decided to revamp E16 News, I thought this might be a good opportunity to introduce myself to you all.

In 2007 I took on the role of Project Director at the Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Project following 16 years working on a number of regeneration schemes across London. As one of the largest projects of its kind in the UK, I knew this was going to be an interesting and challenging role, and it has certainly proved to be both so far. I am very lucky to have a fantastic team with a wealth of regeneration experience who all play their part in making sure that the end result will be a new Canning Town and Custom House that we can all be proud of.

Over the past few years much of what we have been doing is preparing the groundwork to allow the actual developments to begin. This has included drawing up and obtaining agreement on the masterplan which sets out the principles for the regeneration of the area. We are in the process of selecting the developers and have had lots of interest which shows just how important this project is regarded by those in the industry. We are also dealing with rehousing issues with local residents. All of these are very detailed and lengthy processes.

I am pleased to say there are now some real signs of the regeneration across the area. Extensive demolition and site preparation is now happening on some sites. One of these, opposite Canning Town Station, will house The Place*, a temporary building that will be the new base for the regeneration team from May. Workplace, Newham's new employment and training service, will also have its second base in this building.

As you will see inside this issue we are doing lots of consultation with you to get your views on various aspects of the regeneration project (see pages 2 and 3). This is something we will continue throughout the life of the project and I would encourage you to take these opportunities to have your say and influence how the area is transformed.

I will continue to update you with progress in each issue of E16 News, making sure you know what is happening in your area.

I hope you like the new design and enjoy the read.

Best wishes

Helen Fisher
Project Director,
Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Project

**The Place has been funded by London Thames Gateway Development Corporation and the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund.*



Area 3

– your thoughts

Newham Council, Countryside Properties and William Sutton Housing Association are working in partnership to redevelop Area 3 around Fife Road. In March local residents were able to come along to a public drop-in at Keir Hardie Church to find out more about the plans that include a new Keir Hardie Primary School, 650 new homes as well areas of public space for the community to enjoy.

You can find out how residents ideas and comments have influenced the plans in a future edition of E16 News, and we will let you know when the final plans are available to view at the Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Project offices. Countryside intend to submit a planning application in the summer and you will then have an opportunity to comment on this during the Council's statutory consultation period.

Town Centre

As reported in the last issue we are currently selecting developers to get involved in the regeneration project. This should be completed by June. Shortly afterwards we will be asking for our refreshed developer panel to come up with detailed proposals for the new town centre area. These will include the creation of a new civic heart for the area focused around two public squares.

As with all phases of the regeneration project we will be carrying out consultation with the local community in the coming months. Look out for further details in future issues of E16 News.

Masterplan Consultation Supplementary Planning Document

Have Your Say



Last summer we consulted with residents about proposed changes to the Canning Town and Custom House masterplan setting out the principles for the redevelopment of the area.

This updated vision will mean significant change for the area including new homes, new shopping, an improved environment and easier ways to get around the area.

The principles of the masterplan have now been converted into guidance to ensure any new developments:

- make a positive contribution to the local community
- improve the area
- fit in with the local neighbourhood
- meet required standards

This guidance will be set out in a special document called a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), and we are now consulting on a draft of this.

Until 7 May you will have the opportunity to have your say on the draft SPD. The input of the local community at this stage will be really valuable – informing us about the issues directly affecting the community. You can see copies of the draft SPD and give us your comments by:

- Visiting local service centres and libraries
- Going on line at www.newham.gov.uk
- Attending the weekly drop-in sessions at the Regeneration Office, 20 Freemasons Road E16 on Thursdays (10am- 4pm)

The final Supplementary Planning Document will be published on the Council's website, in the summer.

For more information contact Keith Smith on 020 8430 3781.

Canning Town Regeneration Project demonstrates Mixed Communities in action

The Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Project recently played host to a number of top-level civil servants and council officers who are all engaged in regenerating deprived areas.

The two day event, which was jointly organised with the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), was attended by over 50 people from other similar projects across the country. Councillor Conor McAuley, executive adviser on regeneration welcomed the group with an after-dinner speech that focused on making Newham a borough to "live, work and play in".

The following day the guests went on a tour of the regeneration area which also took in the sights of Stratford, East Ham and Green Street.

The group particularly enjoyed the panoramic views of the Olympic site from the viewing platform at the top of Holden Point.

The event ended with a presentation at THE hub on Star Lane, about physical regeneration and the buildings that make new communities come alive. The awarding winning community centre was chosen as the venue, to highlight the successes West Ham and Plaistow New Deal for Communities has achieved in regenerating their area.



Cllr Conor McAuley (centre) with members of the regeneration team and guests.

CONTACTS

Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Project
Gemma Allen
20 Freemasons Road E16 3NA
020 8430 2408

Newham Homes Community Housing Team
Local Service Centre
Beckton Road E16 5JQ
Or you can contact your housing officer on
020 8430 4096

Pinnacle
Beverley Varney
Nelson Street Studios
Nelson Street E16 1DS
020 7540 9880



Sport and physical activity have an amazing and positive impact on young people and this project will bring sporting activity and fun to the youth of Canning Town which can only be a good thing."



Zuhayb Ahmed, Young Mayor of Newham said:

"The HEARTS project is an excellent way to engage with young people in the Canning Town and Custom House regeneration area and provides improved access to sports activities. Since we introduced a community sports coach into the area, he has been instrumental in encouraging young people to become active. As they are getting the taste for sports and fitness activities, youngsters are now telling us they want to see more taking place. This project and the new sports container will hopefully go some way in meeting their needs."



The project followed a consultation process with the local community to ensure it was a facility that was needed, wanted and one that would be put to good use.

The programme will operate sessions from 5.30-9.00pm Monday-Friday with sessions on Saturdays and Sundays during daytime hours. The newly improved Fords Park and the multi use games area will be used extensively as part of the project facilitating evening and winter activities.

East London Business Alliance (ELBA) members Man Group, Jack Petchey Foundation and Wilson James provided funding for the project alongside the Metropolitan Police and the National Sports Foundation managed by Sport England.

The refurbished shipping container is designed to bring sports and activity to young people in Canning Town to tackle inactivity, ill health and boredom. It will be fully staffed by youth workers from Youth House (South Canning Town Detached Youth Project) who will organise exciting and tailored sessions covering traditional, novel and dynamic sporting activities in addition to more informal use.

Dame Kelly Holmes said:

"We need to engage young people, particularly those in deprived areas to avoid them becoming a future statistic.



Dame Kelly Holmes launches Canning Town's pioneering HEARTS project

Fords Park is now home to an unusual and quirky facility – a shipping container full of sports equipment. This innovative venture, known as Hearts (Health, Exercise, Activity, Recognition, Training, Sport), was officially opened by Dame Kelly Holmes and Young Mayor of Newham Zuhayb Ahmed with the help of some young people from the area. The container is part of a wider range of improvements planned for the park as part of the Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Fords Park Masterplan.

Branching out

In preparation for the launch of the shipping container young people from Youth House (South Canning Town Detached Youth Project) planted four silver birch trees as part of the HEARTS project and the wider improvements planned for Fords Park.

The improvement works will also include removal of a perimeter fence bordering the park and removal of a site that was used for frequent fly tipping and had become a real eye sore. A masterplan has been put together that sets out other plans including improved planting and seating so that the park is more welcoming and accessible for local people to enjoy.

Lynne Steer Senior Youth Worker at Youth House commented: "The tree planting has given young people the opportunity to get involved with improvements to the park and will provide valuable shade for children and young people during the summer months. We are delighted to have an ongoing involvement with not just the delivery of the HEARTS Project, but also wider involvement with the park improvements".



School children take the green challenge

Hundreds of children in schools across the Canning Town and Custom House area placed environmental issues at the top of their agenda when this year's Citizenship Week went a vivid shade of green. From tackling carbon footprints, improving air quality to demanding better recycling facilities and guidelines – the 'Going Green' theme was an inspirational challenge for all those involved.

30 pupils from St Joachim's Year 6 decided to look at how carbon foot printing can damage the planet.



Some of Rosetta's winning designs

An educational team from The Old Vic ran a series of workshops aimed at developing the children's knowledge, skills, understanding and values when participating in decisions on local and global issues. The workshops were run in collaboration with educational specialists from Adventure Ecology, a leading environment education association.

Pupils at St Luke's took part in workshops with experts from London Zoo designing and making clothes and fashion accessories from recycled materials. They even produced the schools very own eco bag and wrote letters to persuade Newham Council to embrace Fairtrade principles.

Meanwhile pupils from Rosetta wanted to prove what rubbish talent they have when it comes to art! Pupils were set a task to create a piece of art by reusing and recycling material. Their fabulous designs were put up for sale during the school's Trash 'n' Fashion week where the whole school got involved in running a jumble sale. The event raised more than £580 for the NSPCC, not only from the sales of jumble and art, but through children choosing to donate their change once they had finished shopping.

Citizenship Week, now in its sixth year, was organised by the South West Newham Education Action Zone Schools in partnership with Newham Education Business Partnership, and offers pupils the chance to gain insight and hands-on experience on a range of issues.



19 contemporary one and two bedroom apartments available for sale on a part-buy, part-rent basis with priority given to first time buyers living in Newham.



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A sense of achievement for Pinnacle

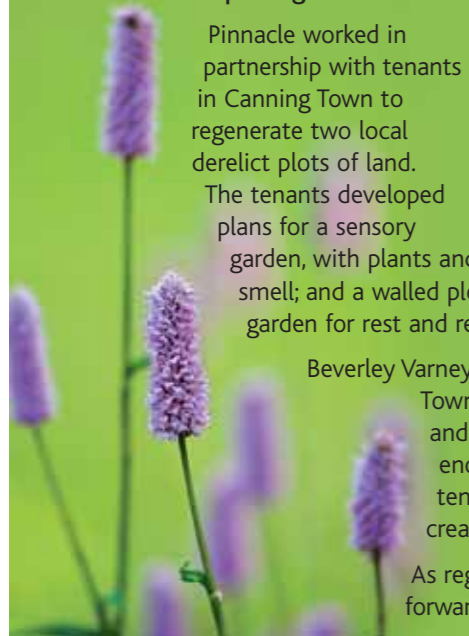
Pinnacle has won the Best Green Project/Initiative in the Community in this year's Tenant Participation Advisory Service (TPAS) Connecting People Regional Awards.

Pinnacle worked in partnership with tenants in Canning Town to regenerate two local derelict plots of land.

The tenants developed plans for a sensory garden, with plants and features for sight, sound, touch and smell; and a walled plot where they wanted to create a 'secret' garden for rest and reflection.

Beverley Varney, Pinnacle Contract Manager in Canning Town said: "This is a wonderful achievement and an important recognition for the enormous amount of effort both the tenants and the Pinnacle team put into creating these gardens."

As regional winner, the project will now go forward to the National TPAS awards in August.



New Interim Chief Executive for Newham Homes

It is probably a sign of how well Newham Homes is regarded elsewhere, that their chief executive, Charlotte Graves has been poached by the London Borough of Hackney!

On stepping in as Interim Chief Executive, Michael Irvine was thrown in at the deep end when his first job was overseeing the rescue operation at a fire in Queensland House, a tower block in North Woolwich. Since then he has met with members of both the borough-wide Tenants Liaison Committee and Newham Black and Minorities Group.

Newham Homes achieved a two star rating at their last audit commission inspection in December 2006, and this brought with it an allocation of £240 million to spend on bringing properties up to a 'Modern Homes' standard. Michael will be picking up where Charlotte left off, working with staff and residents to improve Newham Homes' services still further, ready for a voluntary inspection by the Audit Commission in June 2008 and a full inspection in May 2009, when Newham Homes will be aiming for three stars!



Building careers for the future

Workplace are working closely with developers in the Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration project area to ensure local people access the job opportunities arising from the regeneration.

David Reynolds, an 18 year old from Stratford is an example of someone who has benefited from this link. For the past two years David had been working towards an intermediate construction award at college. After completing his course he was keen to find work in the construction industry, as well as continue his education at advanced stage.



David first discovered Workplace whilst reading the Newham Mag. He said: "A few weeks after visiting Workplace I had a call offering me an interview with construction company Higgins and

managed to get the job. I'm now on a 13-week contract working in Canning Town helping with the regeneration of the area, which will hopefully lead to an apprenticeship with Higgins."

For more information about training and jobs in construction, come along to Workplace's weekly drop in information sessions at the Keir Hardie Methodist Church in Plymouth Road every Wednesday starting at 10am.

Workplace's second base will be opening at The Place in Canning Town in June.

David perfecting his bricklaying skills

TAKING NOTICE

In response to requests from residents through the local neighbourhood group meetings and in an attempt to further improve the way information is distributed to the local community, residents will be happy to see that we have installed two new noticeboards, one near Freemasons Road shops and one near Fife Road shops.

Up to date information about council activities, events, consultation activities and more will be posted on these boards as and when they happen.



A secure move

Residents in Lawrence Street will have noticed improvements to the communal front doors to various blocks in the street. Canning Town & Custom House Regeneration Project was approached by Newham Homes to fund this project and the doors were fitted at the end of 2007. Newham Homes will be talking to residents living in the blocks over the next few weeks to see whether the improvements have had a positive impact on their quality of life.

what's on

Food Co-op at Keir Hardie School

Good quality fruit and vegetables at affordable prices.



NEW TO

Keir Hardie School
Edwin Street E16
Every Tuesday
3-4pm



An open door to the construction industry

Are you looking for training or a job in the construction industry?

Come along to our information, advice and guidance sessions running weekly at Keir Hardie Methodist Church.

14 Plymouth Road E16
 Every Wednesday 10am-12pm

Contact Workplace on 0208 430 4331
 or Chris Collings on 07817 391 773
 or Ash Miah on 07971 995 203



workplace
 Creating a better future



Neighbourhood Group Meetings

Fife Road Neighbourhood Meeting
 Tuesday 15 April 2008 at 6.30pm
 Keir Hardie Methodist Church, Fife Road

Keir Hardie Neighbourhood Meeting
 Tuesday 22 April 2008 at 6.30pm
 Hallsville Primary School, Radland Road

Freemasons Road Neighbourhood Meeting
 Tuesday 29 April 2008 at 6.30pm
 Canning Town & Custom House
 Regeneration Offices,
 20 Freemasons Road

Canning Town Centre Neighbourhood Meeting
 Tuesday 6 May 2008 at 6.30pm
 'The Place', Silvertown Way
 Opposite Canning Town Station

Please note the venue for the Canning Town Centre Neighbourhood Group meeting will be changing from 6 May. The new venue will be the colourful new building opposite Canning Town Station on Silvertown Way otherwise known as 'The Place'.

Custom House and South Canning Town Area Tenants' Liaison Committee Meetings

Thursday 15 May, 7-8.30pm
 Trinity Centre, Bothwell Close E16

Thursday 3 July, 7-8.30pm AGM
 Cundy Centre, Hartington Road E16

Thursday 11 or 18 September, 7-8.30pm
 Trinity Centre, Bothwell Close E16

Thursday 6 November, 7-8.30pm
 Cundy Centre, Hartington Road E16

Please confirm times and venues closer to the date by calling Christine Sandford at Newham Homes on 020 8430 4693.

RPMN/08/3

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm



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