

E16 NEWS



Welcome to the latest edition of the E16 News.

As we expected we have had a busy summer with lots of consultation on the proposed changes to the masterplan. Close to 300 of you came along to the roadshow and told us how you would like to see things change in your area. We received lots of positive feedback and suggestions on all aspects of the proposals, from the creation of a vibrant town centre in Canning Town to the improved shopping facilities on Freemasons Road, as well as all the proposed housing improvements. A big thank you to you all for coming along and sharing your views. There are more details on this inside.

Designs have now been prepared for the redevelopment of Rathbone Market, these can be viewed in the Regeneration Offices on Freemasons Road – see inside for more details.

As well as the consultation over the summer, there was lots of fun to be had too with local young people getting involved in various sports and arts activities.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Eastlea Community School on being classified as outstanding in their recent Ofsted report.

Helen Fisher
Project Director
Canning Town and Custom House
Regeneration Project

Contacts

Newham Homes
Kieran McCloskey
Community Housing Team
20 Freemasons Road
London E16 3NA
020 8430 4706

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

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





School celebrates 'outstanding' OFSTED report

Eastlea was officially classified as being an 'Outstanding School' during their OFSTED school inspection in September. Eastlea School, in Canning Town, is already recognised nationally as one of the best-achieving secondary schools in the country, achieving grade 1s throughout its school inspection, the highest level that is rarely given to any school.

The report acknowledged that 'staff are highly effective in helping students to meet the aim of Being Successful and Feeling Successful'. Inspectors found students to be 'articulate, friendly, polite and energetic'. 'Their enjoyment is reflected in their keenness to learn, their excellent behaviour and above average attendance.'

GCSE results have improved significantly since the last inspection and inspectors recognised that more able students are entered for exams early, with significant successes.

Ann Palmer, the school's head teacher for the past four years said: "I'm just incredibly excited about the achievements of Eastlea and about the results of the inspection. I knew that the school could do it. We have excellent staff at Eastlea and the inspectors recognised that teamwork and innovation were key drivers for the work we do in the school. We have a very special harmonious and multi cultural environment. The inspectors were impressed with this."

The school, which already has a number of awards, has added quality marks for study support, financial standards and Artsmark Gold since the start of the year.

While the school is recognised for its successes nationally, this is not always the case locally. As one student said: "This school is great. It has improved so much over the last few years, but it is sad that it still has a reputation locally based on its past." Staff and students are determined that this will change and that the school should be recognised by all for the outstanding education it provides.

Ms Palmer said: "This report is what the school deserves and is an accurate reflection of what Eastlea Community School is about."

Rummage and Recycle

Community Recycling organisation THE WOMBLES recently had a rummage about on the site of the former Local Employment and Training Scheme (LETS).

Former factory units and industrial training workshops had to be cleared to make way for the new residential development, St Luke's Square, which will provide 162 new units of housing close to Canning Town Centre.

Demolition on the site started during the summer and it will take an estimated 24 months to complete construction. St Luke's Square will include new one and two bedroom flats which will be built around a public square with offices, restaurants and shops at ground level.

The private development is being led by Galliard Homes and Mizen Homes, who saw the wisdom of working with the WOMBLES so that any furniture or equipment discarded on-site can be recycled prior to the demolition. This way the WOMBLES ensure that valuable items can be reused rather than waste destined for a landfill site or an incinerator.

The Newham Community Recycling Project, better known as the WOMBLES, has a mission to 'make good use of the things that they find'. In their five years of operation, they have donated computers, bicycles, furniture and clothes to hundreds of community groups, schools and youth projects across East London.

For more information contact Cliff Schafer on 07941 227404.



Above: Councillor Paul Schafer and Cliff Schafer (centre) with site managers from Mizen Homes Ltd

Students get involved in mosaic project

Over the summer students from Keir Hardie School created a mosaic plaque for the school as part of a project which uses art and creativity to address a range of issues including bullying, citizenship, cultural awareness and life skills.

For the summer project the students chose a peacock design for its connotations of pride and multi-faith, as well as its vibrant colours. As part of their research the students looked at the environment, history of the local area and Keir Hardie himself.



Following on from this the students took part in an interactive workshop on 26 September, run by artist Yvette Rawson, where each of them created their own mosaic design. Pebbles, glass nuggets and old mosaic tiles were used to create a series of new tiles which will be unveiled during a special assembly in October. The students also got to take some of their work home.

This project is coordinated by Ed-Art, a London based community creative agency, and is funded by Newham Council, William Sutton Housing Association and Countryside Properties.



Focusing on youth

Anna France has just started working for East London Business Alliance (ELBA) as their Youth and Education Co-ordinator for Canning Town and Custom House.



ELBA acts as a channel for business skills and experience to contribute to the social regeneration of East London.

She will be working with schools and youth groups, and providing them with support from companies in the City and Canary Wharf. This support can come in many different forms and ranges from providing governors to schools, to companies coming in and completing a team challenge project. Already a team of employees from FTSE have helped paint part of Keir Hardie School and a team from London City Airport did some gardening at Scott Wilkie.

Anna has worked in Custom House for the past five years with the Ascension Eagles Cheerleaders and Ascension Community Trust and before that as a primary school teacher.

She is really excited about her new role and getting the chance to work with so many schools and youth projects at such an exciting time for Canning Town and Custom House.



For more information contact Anna on 020 7068 6960.

Taking the life challenge

Fourteen young people from the Canning Town Youth Inclusion Project (YIP) spent a week with Plaistow Fire Brigade on a Life Course challenge.

The group of young men and women participated in a range of exercises that developed life skills, team work and fitness. The group were trained to navigate a smoke filled building and extinguish fires as well as learning health and safety and first aid.

Having completed an exercise in a fast time Micciah Wood, one of the group, was invited to compete in the London's fittest fire fighter competition. The competition



was held in Covent Garden on the 1 September.

Micciah had to complete a circuit which comprised of rowing, leg curls, putting on the uniform and apparatus, connecting the hose and running it through obstacles, taking it up three flights of stairs and back down again. She then moved six water filled containers, climbed through a cage to rescue a dummy, removed her apparatus and ran to hit the stop button.

Micciah and her competitor, from Dagenham, were neck and neck until they reached the stairs where Micciah took the lead and eventually won her race. It was a fantastic performance and achievement by Micciah who had the second fastest time in the women's life course event.

Congratulations to all those who completed the life course and Micciah for her amazing performance.

Constructing a future

Jouo lives at Anchor House, a homeless centre in Canning Town. Despite having ten years site experience in various general trade occupations in Portugal, Jouo had found it difficult to get work in this country and had been unemployed for over a year. Jouo was referred by East London into Training & Employment (Elite) to the 'Open Door' construction taster awareness sessions which help local residents enter the construction field.

As part of the awareness package, Colin Dodd, the Construction Labour Initiatives Adviser accompanied Jouo on various live construction sites. This developed Jouo's confidence and his technique in selling his experience and skills to sub-contractors.

On a visit to Oakbridge Construction near the Excel Centre in Custom House, the Contracts Manager explained that he was looking for an industrial cleaner to make sure areas were dust free after the plasterers and carpenters had finished their work, and before the painting contractors began their work. Jouo was pleased with the opportunity, he agreed a self-employed hourly rate, and started his contract in May.

Working closely with other borough wide initiatives, Colin has been able to help many local residents enter into their chosen field of work within construction. For more information, come along to the Construction Open Doors session held at Keir Hardie Methodist Church on Wednesdays starting at 10.30 for approximately two hours.

For more information and to book a place at one of the sessions contact Elite on 020 7055 3570.



Ready to move on Area 3



Plans to build 588 new homes and rebuild Keir Hardie School look set to move forward following the recent signing of the Development Agreement between Newham Council, Countryside Properties and William Sutton Housing Association. This follows the demolition earlier this year of Harvey, Wood and Pattinson Points.

Over the coming months the architects will be finalising the drawings which will be submitted for a planning application. We will be working closely with local residents and the school community to get their input on the designs. If you would like to get involved at this stage please contact Keith Smith on 020 8430 3261 or email keith.smith@newham.gov.uk

As with all phases of the Canning Town and Custom House regeneration programme, once work starts on site there will be opportunities for local residents to find construction jobs through our construction initiative. Find out more about this scheme in the What's On section on the back page.

For more information on the Area 3 development contact Karen Barke on 020 8430 3139 or email karen.barke@newham.gov.uk

Brightening up the area

Is there an area on your street or estate in the Canning Town and Custom House regeneration area that you would like to see brightened up? The neighbourhood team are putting together a list of sites that could be improved. We will also be organising some walkabouts with the neighbourhood groups to try and identify some sites.

We want to hear from you. Please let us know of any sites that you want to nominate and possible ideas on how we can improve them.

Please contact Sam Clark on 0208 430-5450 or email sam.clark@newham.gov.uk

Please note that the telephone number for Sutherland Housing Association in the July/August E16 News is incorrect. Anyone interested in shared ownership in the St Luke's Square development should ring their sales and marketing office on 0845 600 4663.

Masterplan Consultation 2007



There are proposals for two new road connections between Canning Town and Custom House.

Residents have their day

Around 300 people attended a roadshow exhibition during the summer as part of the consultation on the proposed changes to the masterplan. Residents were able to talk to members of the regeneration team and complete a survey. Below the proposed key changes to the masterplan are summarised along with the survey responses.

New hearts for Canning Town and Custom House

Proposals include making Canning Town a vibrant town centre by expanding shopping, leisure and other activities. They also include creating more space around the town centre by removing the two slip roads on and off the A13 and replacing the roundabout with a junction. The masterplan also contains proposals for Freemasons Road to be revitalised as a shopping area. Those taking part in the survey had plenty of ideas for what they would like to see in the shopping areas. The biggest demand by far was for banks with post offices and supermarkets the next most popular choices followed by grocers, chemists and market stalls. Cafes and restaurants, a children's activity centre and a library were the most requested leisure facilities.

Making new connections

The proposals aim to create simpler routes through the area by creating two new streets linking Canning Town and Custom House. These will link together existing routes and make it easier for people to move around the area. One route will be a centre of activity and health and education facilities were the most preferred facilities to be provided along this 'activity street'. Educational facilities, a youth club, parks and play areas were also popular.

Create distinct and unique residential areas

The masterplan proposes to give each area its own personality as the redevelopment progresses on an

area by area basis. For example properties near to the town centre would be different to those by parks. A significant majority of those surveyed liked this approach. The masterplan also proposes a mix of property types with a significant amount of family accommodation, as well as high quality landscaping. This will enable people to stay in the area as their circumstances and needs change.

Create appropriate scale

The masterplan recognises the potential to increase the total number of properties in the area. This allows us to strengthen our commitment to meeting local housing needs by ensuring there will be no net loss of socially rented housing. It is proposed that the highest concentration of properties would be in the centres at Canning Town and Custom House stations, and the lower concentration of properties in the mainly residential areas. This approach has been widely supported.

Making the most of landscape potential

High quality landscaping will take place around proposed developments and where possible around existing ones as well. A major new park in Custom House is planned to run along part of the activity street that will link the town centres providing much needed green space for Custom House.

There has been overwhelming support for the idea of a new park and open spaces.

When asked what they would like to see in a new park, cafes, public toilets and sports facilities were the most popular features followed by flowerbeds, walking routes, play areas and nature and wildlife features.

Make water accessible and enjoyable

With the continuing development of the Lea Valley, wherever possible we will promote better use of the waterways near to Canning Town through the development of parks, environmental areas and housing.

Look out for more updates on the masterplan in future issues of this newsletter.

For more information contact Keith Smith on 020 8430 3781 or email: keith.smith@newham.gov.uk



A view of the possible heart of Canning Town.

Ferrier Point

Residents get involved!

Following a well attended drop-in earlier in the summer, a residents' Design Group was formed to look at the planned improvements for Ferrier Point in detail. The volunteers who came forward have met three times so far to discuss, comment on, and have their questions answered about the improvements which include:

- new bathrooms and kitchens
- new front doors and windows
- external cladding and solar panels
- landscaping
- and improvements to the ground floor.



Councillor Conor McAuley, Newham's executive advisor on regeneration and chair of the Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Board said: "The Design Group has been a real opportunity for the people who live in Ferrier to work directly with the architects. They have been able to make practical suggestions and it has been great to see residents taking a keen interest and getting involved. After all they are the ones who will be affected by the works."

The Design Group will meet again to get feedback on their ideas and they will also be involved in the process of selecting a contractor to carry out the works.

If you would like to know more about the plans for Ferrier Point please contact Keith Smith on 020 8430 3261 or email keith.smith@newham.gov.uk

Rathbone Market

The designs for the development of Rathbone Market are currently being progressed.

The proposals for the market are likely to include:

- a new market square, with improved facilities for the market
- new shops and cafes
- about 500 new homes
- attractive open spaces
- a new amphitheatre style entrance to the A13 underpass
- improved links between Canning town station and the underpass
- improved links between Canning Town station and the market
- new community, health and education buildings

You can view the designs at the Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Office, 20 Freemasons Road any Thursday or call Keith Smith on 020 8430 3781 to make an appointment. Alternatively, to find out more about the proposals call the consultation hotline on 0845 262 0138.

The Neighbourhood Groups are now officially one year old!

Thanks to the commitment of more than 200 local residents the neighbourhood group meetings are proving to be a very effective way of working with a wide range of people in the local area.

After a successful first year we are now looking at ways in which we can improve the work we do with residents. We are particularly interested in making sure that the views of those who attend the meetings represent the views of residents in the wider area.

At the moment we are getting far more women attending the meetings than men, so we are keen to hear from men of all ages on how we can make the meetings more appealing to them too.

We hope you agree that since the neighbourhood groups came into existence, local residents have had a far greater say in the way services are provided in the local area. Many of you are now on first name terms with the council officers involved and we hope many more of you will be by the end of the second year. After all, we are all working towards the same aim, to make Canning Town and Custom House a better place to live and work.

For those of you who don't know much about the neighbourhood



groups, we have recently released a booklet entitled "Your Guide to Canning Town & Custom House Neighbourhood Groups". These can be picked up at the Regeneration Offices on Freemasons Road or at various places throughout the area. Please feel free to come along to the next round of meetings on the following dates:

Fife Road Meeting

Tuesday 16 October, 6.30pm
Keir Hardie Church, Fife Road

Canning Town Centre Meeting

Tuesday 23 October, 6.30pm
St Luke's Primary School,
Rusco Road

Freemasons Road Meeting

Tuesday 30 October, 6.30pm
Regeneration Project Offices,
20 Freemasons Road

For more information please contact Sam Clark on 020 8430 5450 or email sam.clark@newham.gov.uk

Tackling Crime in Canning Town North



The Canning Town North Safer Neighbourhood Team arrested two young people for possession of an imitation firearm in June.

Two Police Community Support Officer's (PCSO) acted quickly to diffuse a situation in which one of the youths was brandishing what appeared to be a real gun on Barking Road. Thankfully the supposed gun turned out to be an imitation firearm. The youngsters involved have been referred to the Youth Offending Team.

Sergeant Lisa Butterfield said: "The PCSO's vigilance has resulted in these items being taken off the streets. Although they were thankfully not real guns and not capable of harming anyone, this incident has shown that police will take a tough stance on people possessing imitation firearms."

She added, "There is no need for teenagers to play with pretend guns. We will remain committed to removing them from the streets and arresting those found possessing them. In the wrong hands even a toy can be used to threaten someone and contribute to fear of crime in the area."

You can contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Team on:

Canning Town North
020 8721 2038

Canning Town South
020 8721 2840

Custom House
020 8721 2039

Community embraces sports challenges



Community Lead Councillor for Canning Town and Custom House Patricia Holland with some of the players.

More than 150 local people got involved in the Custom House and Canning Town Community Forum five-a-side football and athletics challenges.

The young people's competition was held on Monday 13 August with the adults event on Tuesday 4 September.

16-year-old Jack Kerr, a boxer for the Newham Academy said: "My mates asked me to come and I like to get involved with anything – I thought it would be a bit of fun. We had such a great time!"

Sam Clark, 34, works in Custom House and Canning Town and took to the field with a team of friends and colleagues. He said: "I was surprised how well we did. It was hard work but we had a brilliant time."

The competitions were part of an inter-Community Forum challenge with the football final held on Saturday 8 September at City of London West Ham Park.

With some 300 players emblazoned in vibrant T-shirts and music cranking from DJ Blizzard, the energy was overflowing.

Newham Mayor Sir Robin Wales said: "The atmosphere was simply amazing. It was great to see so many people brimming with such passion and enthusiasm for the game and also for representing their Community Forum area."

It was a high-intensity, nail biting finish for two Custom House and Canning Town Community Forum teams that made it to the grand final.

In the 8-11 age group, King Street Boys were narrowly defeated 1-0 and in the 15-17 year-old category Canning Town Yip were pipped at the post 8-7 on penalties.

Congratulations to both teams for their fantastic performances.

How to start up a Tenants and Residents Association

Have you and your neighbours ever complained to each other about the services provided by Newham Homes and the Council?

Ever said to each other that you wish you had the person responsible in front of you so you can tell them what is wrong with your street? Then how about starting up a Tenants & Residents Association (TRA)?

It is not as daunting as you might expect and there is a lot of help available from other TRAs and the REACT team at Newham Homes. You can also receive a grant of up to £400 per year to cover the cost of telephone calls, travelling expenses, hall hire etc. By working as a group you will be surprised how much you can do to improve your area.

For further information on how to set up a TRA contact Christine Sandford at REACT on 020 8430 4693. Alternatively go along to the South Canning Town and Custom House Area Tenants Liaison Committee meeting on Thursday 8 November at 6.30pm at the Cundy Centre in Hartington Road.

This article was provided by Sylvie Cronin, chair of the CTCH ATLC.

what's on

An Open Door to the Construction Industry

Come along to our information, advice and guidance sessions running weekly at Keir Hardie Methodist Church, 14 Plymouth Road, Canning Town E16

Wednesdays at 10.30 - 12.30

To book contact Elite on 0207 055 3570

This project is funded by the London Borough of Newham. It is a partnership between West Ham and Plaistow New Deal for Communities programme and Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Programme.

Neighbourhood Group Meetings

Fife Road Meeting

Tuesday 16 October, 6.30pm
Keir Hardie Church, Fife Road

Canning Town Centre Meeting

Tuesday 23 October, 6.30pm
St Luke's Primary School,
Rusco Road

Freemasons Road Meeting

Tuesday 30 October, 6.30pm
Regeneration Project Offices,
20 Freemasons Road

Jobs and Careers in Construction Event

Find out more about how to get into work in the construction industry and key local developments planned for Newham such as Stratford City and the Canning Town and Custom House Regeneration Project.

The event will take place from 4-7pm on Tuesday 16 October at Royal Docks Community School, Prince Regent Lane E16

If you are thinking of starting a business, or you are running a small business in East London... WE CAN HELP YOU!

We can help support your business venture with the following:

- Free Business Training
- Free Business Counselling services
- Access to Finance
- Start up premises

We are at the Hub, 123 Star Lane on alternate Wednesdays 2-4pm or Canning Town Job Centre, Freemasons Road on every 2nd and 4th Thursday 2-4pm.

For bookings/additional information:

Please contact Claudia/Simeon on: 0207 377 8821/ 07851 738885

Email: claudiac@goeast.org / simeonb@goeast.org



Citizen's Advice Bureau

71a Coolfin Road

ADVICE ON:

- Welfare benefit decisions and appeals
- Applications for Disability Living Allowance
- Applications for Attendance Allowance
- Debt Advice

This is an appointment only service, but you can make an appointment by dropping in during opening hours – 9.30am -5.30pm, Monday-Friday.

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm



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