

IN FOCUS PLAISTOW

September 2011



PLANS FOR PLAISTOW PARK

A BMX track and a new wildlife area are two ideas for Plaistow Park that have been suggested by residents who responded to a consultation asking how they'd like to see the popular green space enhanced.

Over the last few months people living nearby the park, which is bordered by Dongola Road and Greengate Street, have been asked what features they would ideally like to see.

Bell Fischer Landscape Architects have been liaising with the council to create a masterplan for the site, which is due to be ready shortly before Christmas. Once this is complete, the council and its partners from the voluntary sectors can begin to apply for funding so the project to upgrade the park can go ahead.

Other ideas that have arisen from the consultation include the provision of an adventure playground and a kiosk.

A third of respondents to the consultation requested a BMX track, while more than half would like to see a climbing wall at the new-look park.



Community lead councillor Rohima Rahman, who has been closely following the project to improve the park, said: "It's good to see the plans that reflect what residents want as it is important that their ideas are heard. I've been working with volunteers to encourage people to respond to the plans and we've had a good response so far and we're

hoping to build on that. Once the masterplan is delivered the hard work of finding funding can begin."

The final masterplan will be published in In Focus and will be available on the council's website. To have your say on the plans, email parcs@newham.gov.uk and for more information visit www.newham.gov.uk/parcs

CONTACT US

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



Let's get the party started



Newham Council is hosting an event to help residents from the Green Street community forum area get into the party spirit and be part of the celebrations for the 2012 Games.

The event at the Old Town Hall, Broadway, Stratford, on Saturday 8 October is open to anyone who has big ideas for bringing the community together or who wants help in arranging their own celebration.

Mayor Sir Robin Wales said: "We are organising an exciting programme of events for the whole community next year. We want people to be part of our events or organise their own.

"Hosting an event is the perfect way to bring the whole community together, so if we like your idea we could support you with funding. We will show the world we know how to party."

There are two sessions on 8 October from 10.30am-12.30pm or 2-4pm. To reserve your place at either email 2012party@newham.gov.uk or call 020 3373 3793.



CELEBRATION ON THE GREEN

Parents and children were joined by Councillor Neil Wilson at a celebration to mark the arrival of new play equipment at New City Green.

New equipment includes an embankment slide, swings, climbing ropes and nets. Around 300 residents attended the play day, which was a free event run by Newham Council.

A live owl display had children spellbound and there was also face-painting for the youngest as well as a bouncy castle.

Plaistow South ward councillor Neil Wilson said: "Newham Council is continuing to invest in parks and play areas across the borough. I'm delighted this new equipment has arrived and I'm sure it will lead to more people using the park."

Burglar caged after break-in bust

Information from the local community has helped to jail a prolific would-be burglar who targeted people's homes in Newham.

George Fisher of North Street, Plaistow E13, was jailed for 31 months and handed a five-year Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO).

The ASBO prevents him from being in any part of Newham at night, entering private property without permission and being in possession of drug-using equipment.



Fisher, aged 42, admitted five attempted burglaries along with driving a stolen vehicle while disqualified at Inner London Crown Court in August.

Newham Police's crime squad had been tracking Fisher over a number of months prior to his arrest.

Plaistow lead councillor Rohima Rahman said:

"This successful prosecution shows that anti-social behaviour will never be tolerated and those who participate in criminality will be brought to justice."

LEARNING TO LOVE LANGUAGES

A lucky pupil from Portway Primary School has scooped a special award for speaking a second language.

Miriam Ribeiro Barbosa, 8, from Plaistow, received the Award for Modern Foreign Languages as a result of her excellence in Spanish and Portuguese.

The award, which is sponsored by London City Airport, recognises and encourages the employment and life advantages students achieve through learning a new language.

Headteacher Maggie Van Loan said: "Our link with London City Airport provides real encouragement for our young people and supports their enthusiasm for language learning. The presentation of the annual LCA Award for Modern Foreign Languages at Portway is one of the high points of the school year in recognising our children's achievements, and is eagerly looked forward to by the whole school community."



Miriam shows Kellie Heath from London City Airport her awards

GCSE RESULTS IMPROVE YEAR ON YEAR



Plaistow'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.

Across Newham, 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. The level of

achievement has exceeded this year's local authority target of 55 per cent.

Results at Lister Community School leaped from 38 per cent last year to 52 per cent in 2011.

Plaistow South Ward councillor Neil Wilson 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."

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 PLAISTOW

Homework Club

All young people aged seven to 14 can get free study support at their local library, during school term only. For more information visit Plaistow Library or call 020 3373 0859

OPA Netball Club

Saturdays, Lister Community School, St Mary's Road, Plaistow. For details contact Lesley Jones on 07717 281 529 or email opa_netball_club@hotmail.com

Free Trampolining sessions

Fridays, 4 - 8pm
Saturday, 12.30 - 2.30pm
Newham Leisure Centre
For more information contact Zahra at GLL on 020 7511 4477

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 1804 or email shamilla.kumari@newham.gov.uk
To email your local councillor write firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk e.g. alan.griffiths@newham.gov.uk



Alan Griffiths



Forhad Hussain



Joy Laguda

Plaistow North Ward

Cllr Griffiths
First and third Saturday of the month 10.30-11.30am
Plaistow Library, North Street, Plaistow E13
Cllr Hussain
Second and fourth Saturday of the month, 10.30-11.30am
Plaistow Library, North Street, Plaistow, E13
Cllr Laguda
Third Saturday of the month, 10am-12.00noon
Curwen School, Atlas Road, Plaistow, E13



Charity Fiberesima



Neil Wilson



Sheila Thomas

Plaistow South Ward

Every Monday and Wednesday (alternating)
6-7pm
Newham African Caribbean Resource Centre,
627 Barking Road, E13

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.