### HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II 1926-2022

**WE ARE** 

**SPECIAL EDITION** 



**AUTUMN 2022** 

# PROCLAIMING



#### A NEW DAWN: THE PROCLAMATION OF KING CHARLES III IN NEWHAM



On Sunday, 11 September 2022, Newham Council marked the official proclamation of King Charles III. The Monarch's representative in Newham, Deputy Lieutenant John Barber joined Chair of Council, Councillor Winston Vaughan, Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz OBE along with hundreds of residents and Council staff for the historic occasion at Old Town Hall Stratford.

The proclamation ceremony began with opening remarks by Deputy Lieutenant John Barber, followed by Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz reading the official proclamation, issued by the Privy Council, of King Charles' accession. It paid tribute to the late Queen and announced the reign of King Charles III as our new monarch. All in attendance then joined together to sing the national anthem, God Save The King, accompanied by the band for the 282 (East Ham) Squadron RAF Cadets. The Mayor then led the crowd in three cheers for the new King to round off a truly historic, and memorable occasion.





## REFLECTING



On the eve of Her Late Majesty's State Funeral residents, from across the borough, came together for the National Moment of Reflection to share tributes and observe the one minute silence.



In memory of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, following her sad death Deputy Lieutenant John Barber joined the Chair of Council, Councillor Winston Vaughan, myself, councillors,

#### residents and guests for a special event organised for Newham's Moment of Reflection, coordinated with events across the UK.

The event took place on Sunday 18 September, the eve of the State Funeral, at East Ham Town Hall where we heard wonderful multi-faith tributes about her life of duty and service; were moved by prayers and hymns in her memory and observed a one minute silence concluding with a majestic lighting display.

There is a profound loss felt by millions of people across our nation, the Commonwealth and around the world, Her Majesty's 70 years of unwavering duty and dedicated service to our country will forever be remembered, as well her grace and dignity.

Throughout the period of national mourning so many residents across our borough came together to both remember and celebrate the life of Her Late Majesty The Queen because, for so many of us, she has been a constant in our lives over the decades of hope and challenge.

Thousands of residents signed the books of condolence which we made available in libraries and venues across the borough. Many residents laid wreaths and flowers at the War Memorial in Central Park as well as the Stratford Martyrs Memorial in St. John's Church courtyard. All the books of condolence have been collated by the Council, with future displays planned as part of our heritage plans to showcase the historical records kept in our local archives.

Her Late Majesty's strong connections to our borough have also been remembered, reflecting an enduring fondness that she and the Royal Family had for Newham.

During her Golden Jubilee in 2002 she came to Green Street and was welcomed rapturously by thousands of local residents reflecting the beautiful diversity of Newham. Who'll ever forget her epic duo with Daniel Craig's James Bond screened at the Opening Ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games which delighted millions; and her 2016 visit to Lister Community School in Plaistow was a testament to The Queen's Trust's charitable efforts in supporting young people.

We are at an historic moment in our country's history as we say farewell to our longest serving monarch. With the accession of His Majesty King Charles III we are also at the dawn of a new reign and a new Carolean era.

The King has pledged to follow The Queen's inspiring example: to serve with loyalty, love and unstinting duty to our country. Our new monarch's passion for important causes that are critical to the future of our nation and our planet shows how influential he will be as a figure at home and on the world stage. His reign will undoubtedly bring hope to the people of this country during a time of profound sorrow and challenge as we embrace this new chapter in our country's history.

Rokhsana Fiaz OBE Mayor of Newham ♥ @rokhsanafiaz

## TOGETHER



#### BOOKS OF CONDOLENCE

Following the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II books of condolence were made available at venues across in Newham for residents to pay their respects. Hundreds of heartfelt and touching tributes were left for Her Majesty The Queen and the Royal Household.

### MESSAGES FROM RESIDENTS INCLUDED:

'For all you have given, and all you have done, you will be remembered and praised with gratitude.' 'Your passing away has left a big void in our lives, our dear Queen. You brought hope and love to many people and you were inspirational to many. You will be greatly missed.'

'Rest in peace Her Majesty. You will be missed by the whole country. You will always be remembered as Britain's well-loved and respected Queen.'

#### **REMINISCENCE COFFEE MORNINGS**

During the period of national mourning, Newham's libraries and their staff hosted reminiscence coffee mornings where residents gathered with others from the community and shared their experiences and memories of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The coffee mornings were filled with emotion and fond memories were shared by attendees who reflected on Her Majesty's unwavering duty and devoted service to our country.

#### **IRENE SELWYN, 107**



Mayor Fiaz with one of Newham's eldest residents, Irene Selwyn, who had only recently received a birthday card from Queen Elizabeth II for reaching her 107th birthday, paid her condolences. Cllr Alan Griffiths attended one of the coffee mornings at Custom House and Canning Town Community Neighbourhood Centre, where he gave a heartfelt and touching tribute.

Noreen Mukalazi, Community Neighbourhood Link Worker, explained what individual support she could

provide at a time of such grief. All this was filmed by Canadian Broadcasting Corporation for a piece they were doing about Newham in the aftermath of Her Majesty's death.





At Beckton Globe Library Sandra Mayusa, a local resident, said: 'I enjoyed meeting new people. In today's coffee morning, we discussed how The Queen was an icon and how she gave us a sense of pride. She will be missed. What a remarkable life.'

# RESPECTFUL



#### CARING QUEEN

In April 2022, Her Majesty formally opened the Queen Elizabeth Unit at the Royal London Hospital, part of the Barts NHS Health Trust and covers Newham and east London.

The Queen attended via a video link from Windsor Castle, speaking to hospital staff and patients.

Asef Hussain, a patient being treated for Covid-19 on the unit, was able to speak to The Queen. He said about their chat:

"It was an honour and a privilege. She was a very warm lady who was interested in my story – it was lovely."



### **IN MEMORY**

To honour the Queen's memory Newham residents came together for a Moment of Reflection on Sunday 18 September, which was the day before Her Majesty's funeral. The remembrance service was held outside East Ham Town Hall, at which prominent figures from across Newham's communities spoke passionately about what the Queen meant to them and the lessons we can take from her life of public service.

The assembled crowd heard speeches from Deputy Lieutenant John Barber, Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz OBE, Council Chair Cllr Winston Vaughan and various faith leaders. There were perfomances by young cellist Tyrone Msungi and St Anthony's Gospel Choir sang hymns and led attendees in a rendition of God Save The King.

#### **STATE FUNERAL**

Lorna Jackson MBE, Headteacher of Maryland School in Stratford, is the longest serving Newham headteacher. Lorna was one of only 183 civilians recognised in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Honours and was invited to attend the Queen's State Funeral on 19 September.

After receiving a call from the Cabinet Office on 10 September while at the hairdressers, Mrs Jackson received her invitation (with protocols and dress code) hand delivered by a member of the Royal Household to her home address.

There was feeling of wonder at the spectacular event, with unforgettable personal moments like witnessing the Royal Family being moved to tears. To be amongst foreign royalty and world leaders in the procession, honouring the Queen of England on her final journey was incredible.





**Top left:** Royal Albert Docks **Top right:** Queen & Mayor of Newham, Constance Bock





## HER MAJESTY IN NEWHAM



Above left: Holden Point, Stratford



Above right: London City Airport

Top left: East Ham Nature Reserve

Top right: Green Street, Golden Jubilee



### **THROUGHOUT THE YEARS**



Above left: Lister Community School Above right: Mayor Fiaz at a Platinum Jubilee party



HER MAJESTY'S 70 YEARS OF UNWAVERING DUTY AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY WILL FOREVER BE REMEMBERED, AS WILL HER DIGNITY AND GRACE.

> Rokhsana Fiaz OBE Mayor of Newham

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