



Newham Voices

Community News and Views

FREE
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2012 legacy? Newham is still waiting

In an exclusive Newham Voices investigation **Noah Enahoro** looks at the legacy of the London Olympics for the people of Newham.

Ten years after the games Newham is home to a world-class sports district, up-market living space, a vast new London parkland and a gleaming cultural and business centre.

But have the Olympics had a positive impact on the lives of local residents?

Our report on pages 7 and 8, which is supported by the Centre for Investigative Journalism, suggests that in the wake of gentrification, broken promises over affordable homes and a lack of democracy in decision-making, more needs to be done to deliver on promises of providing opportunities for local people.

On page 10 the Mayor of Newham says the Council is planning to take back control of the Olympic Park area and the campaign to deliver a meaningful legacy for the people of Newham will continue.



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Community champion takes on violence in the home SEE PAGE 3

Smashing September! More summer events SEE PAGE 13



By local people, for local people

Our aim is to provide a voice for all of Newham's people. We are committed to helping you share your news, views and experiences with each other. We aim to be transparent, accountable and responsive to your needs.

We are a non-profit Community Interest Company (number 12790786). Our journalism is based on core values of accuracy, fairness, independence, humanity, accountability and transparency with a strong commitment to citizen journalism. More information is available on our website:

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On top of the world! Star award for Newham's leading children's nurse

Newham's community children's matron Rebecca Daniels reached new career heights this summer when she was presented with a major award for her work in supporting the Borough's children after a charity climb of Mount Snowdon.

In an impromptu ceremony Rebecca received the Cavell Star Award, from her friends after reaching the summit of Snowdon. She and her nursing colleagues took part in the climb to raise money for the Snowdon Challenge, an annual fundraiser to support nurses and midwives suffering financial hardship.

She is East London NHS Foundation Trust's Modern Matron and now she plans to extend her role nationally with the Queen's Nursing Institute.

The prestigious Cavell Star is a national award that recognises the outstanding work of nurses and midwives.



Rebecca Daniels

In the teeth of 50 mph winds, rain and hail, Rebecca received her award which recognises her role in the formation of the Children's Community Nurse national forum during the pandemic and for "going above and

beyond" for her colleagues at the East London NHS Foundation Trust.

The CCN forum's collective efforts helped to change legislation to enable children needing aerosol-generated procedures could get back to school with their peers.

This led to Rebecca's appointment by the Queen's Nursing Institute to lead their development of new Transition to Community Children's Nursing resources.

Rebecca said: "It was an absolutely fabulous challenge and we will be recruiting more people to join us next year to make the event bigger and raise even more essential money for nurses, HCA and midwives in need of financial and personal support.

"I'm delighted to have been awarded a Cavell Star - and made getting to the peak of Snowdon twice as memorable!" ●

Specialist support for people with symptoms of Long Covid

People in north east London are being urged to visit their GP if they suspect they may be suffering from Long Covid, so they can get the help and support they need.

Long Covid is defined as signs and symptoms that develop during or after an infection consistent with COVID-19, continue for more than 12 weeks and cannot be explained by an alternative diagnosis.

Since June 2021, the number of people living with ongoing signs or symptoms more than 12 weeks after contracting COVID-19 has grown from 700,000 to 1.7 million; and 19 percent of those asked report significant limits on their activity, according to the Office for National Statistics.

Specialist NHS help is available for people with Long Covid in Barking and Dagenham, City of London, Hackney, Havering, Newham, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest. The first step is discussing your symptoms with your GP.

Dr Adam Ainley, Consultant Respiratory Physician at Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust (BHRUT) and Long Covid lead for north east London, said:

"If you have symptoms, you may

find there is an impact on your day-to-day activities, including the ability to work, resulting in a reduced quality of life. Therefore, it's important to get the support you need.

"My advice for anyone who suspects they may have Long Covid would be to go and see your GP so you can be checked out. They will do a range of tests to see if the symptoms can be explained by any other illnesses or conditions.

"If these can be ruled out, you may be referred to one of our Long Covid services where you can get the right physical and mental health support."

Symptoms can vary from person to person and may fluctuate over time. They include:

- Extreme tiredness
- Shortness of breath
- Muscle ache
- Difficulty concentrating/memory loss/confusion
- Loss of smell or taste
- Headache
- Trouble sleeping
- Worry/anxiety
- Fast heart rate

Three patient information videos have been produced to help patients in north east London:

- Long Covid symptoms - when should I get help:
[youtube.com/watch?v=f-w6QwEtcSEY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f-w6QwEtcSEY)
- The Long Covid clinic referral process and services offered:
[youtube.com/watch?v=bq-j52w38uV4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bq-j52w38uV4)
- The difference Long Covid services made to my care:
[youtube.com/watch?v=BQT54h-h6h5Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQT54h-h6h5Q)

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Community champion calling out violence in the home

AIDAN WHITE

A community leader at the forefront of Newham's three-year strategy to combat domestic abuse says people need to rethink how they imagine the problem of violence in the home.

"Many people think that this is a problem for women alone," says Tee Fabukin, community lead for the campaign, "domestic violence happens on both sides. Sometimes the woman is the perpetrator and a lot of men are too ashamed to say 'my wife is abusing me'.

"I remember once when a man, a big man, came to see me. He sat down and started to cry. He was desperate. 'Look,' he said, 'who's going to believe me?'"

Tee worked with the couple. They separated, but she says they now live decent lives without conflict and bitterness between them. Tee realised that this man was just as vulnerable to abuse as anyone else.

Tee's work is part of the three-year campaign announced by the Council in July. The plan of action follows a year in which police recorded 6,700 cases of domestic abuse in Newham.

But it's women who remain by far the prime victims. During the lockdown the problem has got worse and she has talked to many women who are victims or survivors of violence.

She is especially concerned about the impact of domestic abuse on children. "It can have a long-lasting effect on them," she said.

She says more will be done. Safe houses are already available in the

Borough and she pledges that her base at the Carpenters Estate in Stratford will become "a hub for the protection of women right across Newham."



Tee Fabukin ©Andrew Baker

Author's love trilogy shines a light on domestic abuse

NEANDRA ETIENNE

Newham author Pamela R. Haynes landed a three-book deal with Hear Our Voice publishers to write a trilogy about domestic abuse from a Black British perspective.

They gave her the opportunity to rewrite her first book *Loving The Brothers* for which she was awarded Author of the Year and Author of Colour in 2018 and was shortlisted for a Bright Lights Awards Ceremony Best Writer award in 2020.

In the first book *Loving The Brothers* life gets complicated when Patti, a busy senior probation officer, Charmaine, a stressed out mum of twin toddlers, and Rose, a pastor's wife with five daughters, meet three Morgan brothers. Set in London and Jamaica, the story tells how the women meet to plan their escape from abusive relationships.

The story continues in *Loving The Sisters*. Patti, Charmaine and Rose form an alliance in Jamaica and agree to support each other when they return to the UK.

Author Pamela, a retired senior probation officer who was born and educated in Newham, previously worked as a domestic abuse programme facilitator and with survivors of domestic violence.

After the release of *Loving the Brothers*

Pamela was inundated with messages from men and women who related to the subject of domestic abuse raised in the book. Many were still experiencing domestic abuse from a current or ex-partner. Some were in hiding and others were still in recovery.

Pamela told *Newham Voices*: "The



Pamela R. Haynes

riskiest time for any woman in a violent relationship is when she decides to leave. I have been able to signpost survivors to services in the Borough, like Hestia who runs domestic abuse interventions on behalf of Newham Council and the London Black Women's Project. I am a supporter of Sistah Space based in Hackney who provide specialist care for Black women and I am an Ambassador for a charity called Advocates Against Domestic Abuse based in Barbados."

Pamela is writing her third book *Loving The Children*, which will be published next year.

Pamela's books are available online at Amazon and Waterstones.

On International Women's Day, Pamela launched the Author 2 Author Podcast, which was nominated for a Quill Podcast Award 2021 in 4 categories. The podcast is available on Spotify.

[@lovingtheauthor](#)
[@prhaynes](#)
[@PamPamHaynes](#)

Domestic violence support

- www.hestia.org/
- www.lbwp.co.uk/
- www.sistahspace.org/
- newham.gov.uk/health-adult-social-care/domestic-violence-support

The new campaign, co-ordinated by the support group Hestia, will create a digital inclusion programme for domestic violence survivors. There are also plans for a survivors' forum that will raise awareness and provide practical help.

Tee's work is part of the first phase of the three-year campaign announced by the Council in July. The Council acted following a year in which police recorded 6,700 cases of domestic abuse across the Borough.

Tee is already a well-known community leader on the estate where she led the Tenant Management Organisation (TMO) until 2014.

Today she's at the centre of the Carpenters and Docklands and TMO Food Bank, one of the largest distribution centres of food for families in the Borough. She is also a health campaigner and is a public governor with the East London NHS Foundation Trust.

She believes domestic violence doesn't just come from individual behaviour, it also emerges when social conditions and economic circumstances deteriorate. She fears the situation will get worse with a jobs and poverty crisis in the area likely to worsen during this year.

She said: "The time to do something is now. I'm glad the council has launched this campaign. Anyone who feels under pressure, women or men, must be able to reach out and get support without putting themselves at further risk." ●

Newham's community based domestic and sexual abuse service is supported by Hestia. For assistance call 0808 196 1482 Email: InfoNewhamDSV@hestia.org



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Bin strike looms as workers protest over pay gap

Last-minute talks were being held to try to avoid a week-long strike by Newham bin staff as *Newham Voices* went to press.

The waste and recycling staff members of the Unite union voted almost unanimously – 99 per cent in favour – to hold a week-long strike from Saturday 27 August 2022.

Unite is calling for a ‘significant’ pay increase for its Newham members who they say are paid almost £2,000 less than workers in neighbouring councils.

However, the council says it has made an offer that covers improved conditions but it is not able to make pay awards in isolation at Newham because it is bound by national negotiations.

Steve Edwards, Unite regional officer, says that Newham Council still has time to avoid a bin strike and both sides were holding ongoing talks with the help of ACAS – the national body that works to resolve workplace disputes.

The Council says their salary negotiation offer would increase the salary of bin staff by 9.7 percent to £25,212 and for drivers by 7.6 percent to £31,731, but this would not bridge the current gap between Newham workers and others doing similar work elsewhere. ●

Top class exam results for Newham students

Newham school students put the woes of the pandemic behind them in their summer exams – scoring marks that keep the Borough in the top flight of schools and colleges in London and around the country.

More than 2000 young people sat national A level, T Level and BTEC exams this year for the first time since 2019.

The provisional results released on 18 August show that Newham continues to perform above the averages for England and London.

Councillor Joshua Garfield, Council Lead for Education, paid a special visit to celebrate the results at the London Academy of Excellence in Stratford, where they predict as many as one in eight students are bound for Oxford and Cambridge universities.

He said: “Newham’s young people have impressed me again, just as they always do, with their ambition and incredible achievements,”

he said. “This year’s results demonstrate that our students continue to be among the best in Britain for academic achievement.”

Also celebrating was New Vic Principal Mandeep Gill who hosted a visit from the Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz. “At NewVic we continue to demonstrate that with the right support and

opportunity, students from all walks of life can truly achieve what they want,” he said.

“I’d like to congratulate all the students progressing to university (UCL, Imperial, Kingston to name but a few) whether via A Levels, T Levels or vocational routes, along with those who are taking up apprenticeships or employment.” ●



Celebrating exam results at NewVic. Photo via Twitter

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Note: Our next issue goes to print on 29 September 2022



STRIKE ACTION IN THE WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICE: SATURDAY 27 AUGUST TO SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

WASTE, RECYCLING AND STREET CLEANSING SERVICES WILL BE DISRUPTED FOR SEVERAL WEEKS.

We're sorry for the disruption but we are doing all we can to minimise it and resolve this dispute. Collections from houses are unlikely to take place during the strike period. We will prioritise waste collections/cleansing services on main roads/estates, particularly blocks of flats (due to fire risk).

Bagged household rubbish can be taken to our temporary waste drop-off sites from Sat 27 Aug to Sun 11 Sep, 7am to 8pm

- Little Ilford Park Service Area, Reynolds Avenue, E12 6JU
- Shaftesbury Road Car Park, 85 Shaftesbury Road, E7 8PD
- Church Street Car Park in front of shops, 30-46 Church Street, E15 3HU
- Freemasons Road / Coolfin Road Car Park, E16 3BE

Jenkins Lane Re-use and Recycling Centre, Barking, IG11 0AD is open daily for waste & recycling between 7.30am–5.45pm. And don't forget the Recycling Banks across the borough.

TIPS TO REDUCE WASTE

- **Food makes up 50% of a Newham bin:**
 - Plan your meals before you shop - with a day or two to eat leftovers.
 - Freeze the food you haven't had time to eat – right up until the use by date.
 - Find the best way to store foods – search 'A to Z food storage' for the handy Love Food Hate Waste tool.
 - Try home composting your food waste.
- **Buy loose fruit and vegetables and avoid items that are heavily packaged.**
- **Use refillable water bottles and coffee cups.**
- **Buy products you can refill.**
- **Have a go at repairing items.**

See the latest service updates and waste advice at www.newham.gov.uk/wasteAdvice



WE ARE NEWHAM.



Youngsters on the political trail

YOUTH VOICES OF NEWHAM

NOAH ENAHORO

A Manor Park political summer programme has been hailed a huge success by participants and observers after its two-day completion.

The Politics School, organised by Manor Park Councillors Jenny Bailey, Mariam Dawood and Salim Patel, gave students the chance to learn about local politics and the environment and enabled them to gain new skills, interact with local and national leaders and boost their confidence in tackling the challenges that lie ahead.

The students, between the ages of ten and 15, including younger siblings, learnt about local politics and the environment through fun activities such as planting their herbs, trying out smoothie bikes, creating posters, taking part in prize-winning quizzes, learning about campaigns and meeting lots of inspirational change-makers.

Mayor of Newham, Rokhsana Fiaz, paid a surprise visit to the students congratulating them on their progress. "The Manor Park Politics School is a great opportunity for young people in Newham to get involved. I want young people involved in decision making, increasing their influence and helping to shape Newham."

The second day saw the students, and parents, go on a trip to Parliament, with a tour of both Houses of Parliament, followed by a Q and A session with local MP Sir Stephen Timms.



Manor Park Politics School students and teachers with Stephen Timms

"There is great value in the initiative that Mariam, and others, have started," said Timms. "It is important for young people to see how society is run, as many young people feel disenfranchised. We need to encourage young people to get properly involved in politics, and initiatives like this are a great way to do that".

Shabina Afzal, a parent who accompanied the students on the trip, said: "I enrolled my child to give them the opportunity to recognise that they too can achieve their full potential and be like the people that they hear of on a daily basis making important decisions that affect many people. I feel the event was well structured and targeted its audience and my daughter thoroughly enjoyed it."

Aneesa, aged 11, also enjoyed the programme saying: "I can't believe that Sir Stephen Timms was interested and listened to our ideas and hopes for the future. This made me feel good that it's not just the adults who get a

say about our community and that the children's voices are heard."

"What I enjoyed about the summer politics school is the part when we went to the House of Commons and saw where the speaker sits," said Yahya, aged 13. "My favourite part about the trip is the tour we had and the place where the Queen sat was amazing. The second-best part is the part where we went into the room with all the pictures of the kings and queens."

At the end of the programme, the children were awarded certificates presented by Stephen Timms, in a parliament committee room.

Mariam Dawood, Councillor for Manor Park, said: "We want to encourage young people to get involved in change-making and support the future generation of leaders. As part of our programme, the students were introduced to mentors with expertise in the civil service, advertising, writing, medicine, journalism and inclusion." ●

Pop into the pop-up market for an autumn feast

NEANDRA ETIENNE

Manor Park Pop-Up Market was set up with funding from Newham Community Assemblies.

The aim of the market is specifically to help promote smaller creative businesses and activate part of the local high street.

They are mainly focused on creative traders with an interesting mix of graphic artists, illustrators, ceramists and other makers. Alongside this there are sweet baked items, coffees, pastries and cakes too.

For several of the traders it was their first time selling at a market.

The pop-up market provides the stalls, including stand and gazebo, which can be great for smaller at home businesses looking to get out and sell their wares, as well as other businesses who are wanting to take part in a market closer to home.

Their autumn market will be on 8 October. They are open to anyone wanting to apply to take part in that market, or their Christmas market in December.

For more information about trading at their markets you can contact them via their Instagram and website.

The only participation charge is to cover insurance costs.

📷 @manorparkmarket
www.manorparkmarket.com



Manor Park Pop-Up Market

Poetry without pressure

Newham Poetry Group (NPG), a volunteer-led not-for-profit community group, are inviting people to attend their Newham Poetry Festival - Poetry for All weekend thanks to an Arts Council grant.

Their event includes poetry, spoken word, open mic, music, dance and book stalls (including book swap and unique signed copies).

NPG is made up of proactive

residents who believe that creative activities should be accessible to all backgrounds, ages, skills, and languages.

Peter Landman was a Stratford library volunteer bringing out the teas, when he became inspired to write a poem and become a member:

"The Poetry Group has a great atmosphere. It's a free and easy place to express yourself. There is no competition or backbiting, no pressure

to reach some sort of standard. We accept and respect what each of us has written and there is no criticism."

The group promotes social inclusion, community engagement, and residents' well-being, through creative activities that include poetry, writing, storytelling, music and initiatives that benefit the local community.

NPG aims to make Stratford Park the most vibrant cul-

tural community hub in East London with a programme that focuses on amplifying marginalised voices. The majority of slots at their festival have been offered to young locals, LGBTQ+ individuals, migrants and people from the global majority.



Some of the confirmed artist/poets:

Saturday 24 September
Tuomo Karjalainen, Jenny Mitchell and David Lee Morgan

Sunday 25 September
Las Witchas, Momtaza Mehri and T M Ahmed Kaysher

Sessions run from 1pm to 5pm at the Poetry House (Old Pavilion) in Stratford Park (West Ham Lane, London E15 4PT).

For information contact newhampoetrygroup@gmail.com or visit newhampoetrygroup.com

Stratford Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park is a gleaming showpiece for Britain and

Broken promises th

Special reports by
Noah Enahoro



This year marks the tenth anniversary of the London Olympiad. Over the last decade, Newham, especially Stratford, has changed dramatically. What was once a rundown and neglected area has been transformed into a tourist attraction, with sought-after homes, state of the art sports facilities and in Westfield Shopping Centre, the largest urban shopping and leisure destination in Europe.

In many ways it is a success story, but for most residents of Newham the post-Olympics vision of a legacy providing more jobs, affordable housing and improved democratic participation in development of the area has not materialised.

Ten years on, the builders are still at work in Stratford Olympic Park putting the finishing touches to a bustling educational, commercial, and cultural quarter.

It includes gleaming high-rise housing complexes and five permanent post-Olympic sports venues – the Aquatic Centre, BMX Track, Copper Box Arena, Velodrome, and the London Stadium, the former Olympic stadium, now home to West Ham United.

Since reopening in 2013, the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park has had more than 34 million visits, drawing people from across the world to the Park's greenspaces, venues and events. It is on the face of it, a success story.

To win hosting rights for the third time (1908, 1948, and 2012), London had to promise that there would be a significant and permanent "legacy".

When London won the bid, its backers said that 2012 would be a special Olympics, using the momentum after the games had been completed to provide a legacy, both physical and emotional. "The Olympics will bring the biggest single transformation of the city since the Victorian age," said Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London when the city won the bid.

In 2012 the Olympic Delivery Authority in the form of the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) was founded to use the momentum of the games to "develop a dynamic new heart for East London, creating opportunities for local people and driving innovation and growth".

Without a doubt, the Olympics have changed Newham. Billions of pounds have poured into Newham in the form

of Westfield and the Olympic venues.

The "East Bank" in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park will be home to the University College London's newest campus, the largest development in its 200-year history.

Perhaps the biggest cultural change is a result of West Ham United's relocation from the Boleyn ground to the Olympic Stadium. The old Boleyn site is now home to the Upton Gardens development, 38 percent of which is given over to affordable housing for key workers.

In the Olympic Park itself, schools and educational centres, built as a result of the new neighbourhoods, were promised to serve the local area.

And from the information available it appears that educational targets have been met. The Bobby Moore Academy, for example, has 612 out of 899 pupils (68 percent), living in Newham. Similarly, 1,683 out of 1,894 (89 percent) of pupils at Harris Academy Chobham come from Newham.

One only has to walk through the Olympic site, with a knowledge of what was before the Games, to see how the area has changed.

Housing: broken promises and a haven for the well-off

The Olympic area is now home to some of the most highly sought after housing in the capital. Thousands of homes have been built, with the various

housing complexes and developments attracting buyers and residents from across the capital and the world.

To the naked and uncritical eye, the sight of these homes can all but signal the success of the Olympic legacy. After all, what better way to implement a physical legacy than by building homes for people to live in?

However, scratch below the surface and the statistics reveal that the housing legacy promised has not been delivered.

Sebastian Coe, chair of London's organising committee, promised that the regeneration of the Stratford and Olympic area, which stretches across six boroughs, would produce 30,000-40,000 new homes, "much of which will be 'affordable housing' available to key workers such as nurses or teachers".

But, as of 2022, only 11,000 homes have been built, of which 1200 are in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Of those 1200 homes, only 37 percent (444 homes) and not the promised 50 percent are classified as being affordable.

This means a shortfall of 156 homes in affordable housing that should have been available to people who are priced out of the housing market and many of them caught in Newham's housing crisis. Some might describe it as a betrayal of what was promised.

But promises by politicians and sports chiefs have not been turned into formal commitments. "You won't find any formal documents that said 50 percent, the

documents don't exist", says Dr Penny Bernstock of University College London.

Her research specifically focuses on housing and employment in Queen Elizabeth Park, and she believes this lack of documentation makes it harder for the LLDC to be held accountable. Many people believe that promises were not kept, but proving that the promises were made formally in the first place may be a difficult task.

The idea that the Olympic legacy has not been fulfilled is not just an academic question. Nate Higgins, a Green Party councillor representing Stratford Olympic Park, says: "I think we are at a severe risk of the Olympic Park area becoming completely unaffordable for anyone who isn't extremely wealthy."

Not only is there a shortfall in the promised numbers of affordable homes, but those that do exist have become "ridiculously" expensive for Newham residents.

Housing prices across the Olympic boroughs (Barking and Dagenham, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest, Newham, Hackney, and Greenwich) have risen dramatically, with average house prices in Newham alone rising from 51 percent of the London figure in 2012 to 79 percent today.

"Before the Olympics, 2011 or so, we went to a display of the Olympic village in Westfield, and they mentioned that some of the housing would be given over to social housing," said a concerned local teacher who has lived



London but what have the Olympics really delivered for the people of Newham?

at feel like betrayal

and worked in Newham for almost 20 years and asked to remain anonymous.

“When it came to us looking for a place to live, we couldn’t find out how to go about trying to find a place in the Olympic village. All we were aware of was that the non-social housing was ridiculously expensive and there was just no way we were able to get one.”

Today Newham has more than 31,000 households on its housing waiting list, the most in the capital and the list has got longer over the past ten years.

Not only is there a shortfall in the promised numbers of affordable homes, but those that do exist have become “ridiculously” expensive for Newham residents.

“As far as I’m concerned, the overwhelming majority of the homes built should have been reserved for social housing for residents of this Borough,” said the teacher.

“The whole disruption of the Olympics affected Newham residents, and the promises that were made, made us think that immense benefits were coming,” he added.

“Here was a chance to clear the

housing waiting list and radically alter the lives of thousands of families in one swoop.

“Instead, it looks like thousands of well-off people have come from out-of-borough and bought a majority of the properties in the Olympic Park, so property companies have made an absolute killing. Meanwhile, Newham’s waiting list has grown. What it feels like is that the people of Newham have been betrayed.”

When asked to explain missed housing targets, the LLDC blamed changes in the leadership of London. A spokesperson said: “The revised Legacy Communities Scheme was approved under Boris Johnson’s mayoralty when affordable housing targets were set up to 35 percent.

“Under the current Mayor, Sadiq Khan, those affordable targets have risen to 50 percent. We have always delivered to the prevailing Mayoral policies. More affordable homes require more funding from the government for those homes.

“Like any other developer we have to work within our funding envelope and there is a tension between delivering more affordable homes and returning land receipts to the public purse.”

The LLDC says once all the schemes are completed there will be more than 5,500 homes in the Park, 40 percent of which will be affordable. In the first three neighbourhoods (Chobham Manor, East Wick and Sweetwater) there will be 35 percent affordable homes in line with Boris Johnson’s policy and the remaining sites will deliver 50 percent affordable homes in line with the policy of Sadiq Khan the current mayor.

Democratic shortfall in MSG Sphere controversy

Housing delivery and pricing is not the only area in which the LLDC has been criticised. A lack of democracy and local voice in controversial planning decisions such as the MSG Sphere plan for Stratford has also raised concerns.

In March 2019, the LLDC received a plan for a large-scale live music and entertainment venue next to Stratford Station. The plan from New York’s Madison Square Garden Company is for a “pleasure dome” with a capacity for up to 21,500 people to provide an auditorium, a music venue, nightclub, members lounge, restaurants, bars, and new bridges. The sphere will be as wide as the London Eye and as tall as Big Ben.

Supporters of the sphere include the University of East London and former cabinet minister Matt Hancock, but in Newham it has been met with backlash and massive opposition.

Every single elected councillor opposed the idea. Newham Council objected and said the MSG Sphere would have a negative impact on residents and businesses.

Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz warned of light pollution, transport pressures and excessive noise; she argued residents shared these concerns and the Council supported them.

She said: “The LLDC is the planning authority for this application, and we expect them to take the shared views of our residents and the Council into consideration when they make their decision.”

Member of Parliament for West Ham, Lyn Brown, also spoke out stating that the Sphere was a “monstrosity”, and adding that “Newham doesn’t want this venue. This monstrous glowing orb makes a mockery of East London’s Olympic legacy.”

These forceful voices of local opposition were ignored when in March 2022 the LLDC planning committee, made up of largely unelected members, approved the application by six votes to four – with all of the local representatives from neighbouring London boroughs voting against.

The final say is with the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan and there are still decisions to be made on the issue of bright-light advertising proposed for the exterior of the sphere.

“It was a profoundly undemocratic business,” said Nick Sharman, former director of operations at the London Development Agency and former member of the LLDC planning committee. It was, in his eyes, “one of the most disgraceful regeneration approvals that I’ve ever been part of”.

This lack of appreciation of local feeling may have something to do also with the lack of representation of local people in the workforce of the LLDC itself.

A Freedom of Information request sent by *Newham Voices* to the LLDC reveals that out of 185 staff employed by the corporation, only 11 of them live in Newham. Of those 11, seven earn salaries over £50,000 – more than twice the average salary in Newham.

With little representation of people in Newham in the workforce and the lack of effective voice for Newham representatives in planning matters, many believe that the handling of the MSG Sphere illustrates how decisions are made by individuals who are not economically representative of people in Newham and who have little attachment to the area.

Lindesay Mace, a resident in Stratford and member of the Stop the MSG Sphere Campaign, says: “What’s happening in the Olympic Park area is

gentrification. What’s happening here is that you essentially have two parts of Stratford, that’s what it feels like.

“Living just east of Maryland and being able to see the Olympic Park area, it feels like a gated community that’s been parachuted down and plonked into a community that already existed.

“The MSG sphere doesn’t feel like it’s for us. It was and is a travesty. If people don’t live in an area, they have little to no investment in that area and are going to be less focused on that particular area. It doesn’t surprise at all that there’s so few who live in Newham, and even fewer who earn a wage that is similar to the population here.”



However, the LLDC told *Newham Voices*: “LLDC employees, irrespective of their background, work to the organisation’s mission to change the lives of people in east London and drive growth and investment.

“Any regeneration project will have opposition but there is no evidence to suggest that the majority of local people are unhappy with east London’s Olympic legacy. A recent survey of 550 residents from the four boroughs showed nine out of ten were proud of the legacy and feel the area is changing for the better.”

Among long-standing residents of the Borough, feelings of anger, disappointment and betrayal remain.

One resident, a fitness professional, said: “It’s disappointing. The housing legacy has failed the people of Newham. It was a good chance to tackle an issue that plagues thousands of vulnerable people. It’s heart-breaking that people’s basic needs, in a first-world country, are not being met.”

But there are some undoubted winners: Pauline Clarke, owner of the Carpenters Arms pub on the Carpenters Estate in Stratford, for example, says West Ham’s relocation to the Olympic stadium has been good for business. “Having West Ham has had a huge impact. We are financially a lot better overall. The pub has got busier even on away games.” ●

This investigation has been funded by Trust for London, in conjunction with The Centre for Investigative Journalism.

Boroughs working together over the Olympics legacy deficit

Homes and democracy: we need to make real the legacy promise

Regarding the small number of local people hired to work for the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) Newham Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz says its workforce should reflect the diversity of London, as well as the talent that exists in Newham.

"This should have happened from the outset," she said. "I know that the LLDC is now working hard to be more reflective of the diverse workforce that exists locally."

She contrasts the LLDC performance with Newham's own hiring policy. "Before City Hall moved to Newham earlier this year," she said, "the Council set planning conditions which means City Hall has to recruit a percentage of its workforce from our local talent pool."

Fiaz is also sharply critical of the "democratic deficit" in the LLDC's planning set up. "I don't think it is right that planning decisions affecting local residents are made by the LLDC's planning committee which comprises people appointed by the Mayor of London. Most aren't elected representatives, which highlights a democratic deficit".

Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London, has now agreed to the demands that she and neighbouring council leaders have made over the past four years on the importance of democratic accountability being held locally by elected representatives.

With other neighbouring boroughs – Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest and Hackney – Newham is preparing a joint strategy for the future.

Fiaz says that now the LLDC's days are numbered, and will wind up in 2024, she has been working together with other council leaders "to ensure that what replaces the LLDC is locally accountable in ways that the LLDC hasn't been since 2012, and with local boroughs leading from the front for our people."

In this way, says Fiaz, "we can finally draw out the benefits of the Olympic Park area for our residents in ways that align to our inclusive growth and building a fairer Newham plans including more opportunities and jobs."

On the MSG Sphere, the plan is on hold and a dispute over the advertising features will be going back to the planning committee for a final decision before approval by the Mayor of London.

Fiaz who has publicly opposed the

Given the failings of the Olympics legacy for Newham, Noah Enahoro put a number of questions to Newham Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz about the future when local councils take back planning control in 2024.

plan says she will continue to lobby. "I am pleased that the two Newham councillors I nominated to the LLDC planning committee voted against the MSG Sphere planning application earlier this year," she said.

On the thorny issue of affordable homes, Fiaz blames the broken promise on Boris Johnson, the outgoing

wound down to make real that 10-year old legacy promise. I have been advocating this since 2018."

She highlights the decision to build another 450 homes at Rick Roberts Way in Stratford, which presently sits within the planning authority of the LLDC.

"As well as a brand new school, the

the delivery of genuinely affordable homes on any outstanding LLDC development sites in our Borough."

On the question of 453 untenanted council homes in the LLDC area she says these are predominately in and around the Carpenters Estate in Stratford which has become one of London's largest estate regeneration programmes with a planned £1 billion of investment to redevelop the 23-acre estate based on a masterplan co-produced with local people.

"It's an ambitious plan which was overwhelmingly approved by the majority of residents living on the estate," she says. "Over the 15-year delivery timeframe, Carpenters Estate will provide 2,152 well designed and wonderful homes and at least 50 per cent will be social rent. Overall more than 50 per cent being genuinely affordable homes for our people."

The Council also plans to restore 314 existing homes. She says that in just over two years there will be 136 social rent homes local residents can move into.

Finally, Fiaz acknowledges the enormous challenge of cutting Newham's housing waiting lists where nearly 20,000 have been waiting since 2018.

"Newham faces amongst the most acute and challenging housing needs of any local authority in London," she says. "We have more households living in temporary accommodation than all the local authorities in the north of England".

But she insists the Council is working hard to address the problems. Some £2 billion is being spent on house-building and estate regeneration programmes plus investment to improve existing council homes.

"We have changed housing allocations policy to make it fairer and we are ramping up our ability to buy homes," she said.

Because most Newham residents live in the private rented sector there's a focus on targeting rogue landlords "and making sure we have the best landlord licencing scheme in the country".

"We will deliver another 1,500 new homes at social rent levels over the next four years," she says. As well as campaigning to end the right to buy which is depleting council stock, and putting in place rent controls and more regulation of the private sector the Council is calling for more government cash to build more homes to avert the growing housing crisis. ●



We can finally draw out the benefits of the Olympic Park area for our residents in ways that align to our inclusive growth and building a fairer Newham plans including more opportunities and jobs.

Prime Minister and former London Mayor who pledged in 2012 to build 50 percent affordable housing on the Olympic Park.

"Given the acute housing crisis in Newham and east London," she says, "it is critical that all outstanding developments in Newham need to be delivered by the LLDC before it is

Rick Roberts Way land will lead to at least 78 per cent being homes our people can genuinely afford.

"We have more plans to deliver even more homes our people can afford in the coming four years, plus, as planning powers return to Newham in 2024, we'll finally hold the decision-making authority to prioritise

Poignant story of Three Mills Distillery tragedy

In our regular column on monuments around Newham, Julia Omari discovers a tragic story of heroism at the Three Mills Distillery

Three Mills is a peaceful space that's perfect for a Sunday stroll or bike ride. As you pass by the historic mills, modern art trail and River Lea you may also notice a sculpture of clasped hands by artist Alec Peever. The artwork is in memory of a tragic incident that took place on 12 July 1901 resulting in the loss of four lives.

The area is one of the oldest surviving industrial centres in England and is referenced in a survey taken for the Domesday Book in 1086. Over the years the land changed both in ownership and looks and once included the Stratford Langthorne Abbey, sometimes called West Ham Abbey. The Abbey had acquired three of the original mills and it's from these three mills that the location took its name.

In 1872 J&W Nicholson & Co of Clerkenwell bought the Three Mills Distillery to produce Lamplighter Gin and grain alcohol. Always in need of

water, managing director Godfrey Nicholson, 29, and three co-workers went to check on the water level of a nearby sealed well.

Thomas Pickett, 26, descended into the well to confirm water levels but as he climbed back up the ladder he fell into the water. Company director Nicholson, not thinking of his own safety, went straight down after Pickett, but he too fell into the water. Fellow workers George Elliott, 35, and Robert Underhill, 24, tried to help but they also fell into the water.

A fifth worker Job Vanning climbed down into the well but with a rope around his waist. His body went limp, ready to fall into the water like the four before him but he was pulled to safety. Job was later reported as saying that he had smelt nothing but felt suddenly sleepy and had no memory of being pulled to safety.

It was found that during the ten years that the well had been sealed rotten plants had released carbon dioxide into the water. The carbon dioxide was released into the air when the water was initially disturbed by Thomas Pickett, with more toxic fumes being released



Helping Hands memorial

every time the water was disturbed, resulting in each man becoming overwhelmed by the rising fumes. After the removal of all bodies by the fire brigade, the well was resealed permanently.

Shortly after, a cruciform memorial was placed over the site. A new workers memorial titled Helping Hands by Alec Peever was erected in 2001 in memory of the four men and to commemorate other lives lost. Part of the stone plinth from the previous memorial was incorporated into the new work with all pieces being relocated to the current site in 2011, some 50 metres east of the well. Today the site of the well is covered by a stone disc upon which each man's initials are inscribed. ●



Good reads in Newham

The Newham Bookshop in Barking Road tells us these are the top sellers this month:

- **How to Stay Safe Online**
By Seyi Akiwowo
- **The Last White Man**
By Mohsin Hamid
- **An Island's Eleven: The Story of Sri Lankan Cricket**
By Nicholas Brookes
- **Rosie Raja: Churchill's Spy**
By Sufiya Ahmed
- **Vi Spy: The Girl with the Golden Gran**
By Maz Evans
- **Billy and the Pirates**
By Nadia Shireen
- **How to Stay Safe Online**
By Seyi Akiwowo
- **The Last White Man**
By Mohsin Hamid

The future is there in black and white

YOUTH VOICES OF NEWHAM

Gage Arneaud is a 17-year-old freelance urban street photographer from East London who is also a studio photographer at Masa Studios in Canning Town. His work has been exhibited in London's Saatchi Gallery as part of a competition about images of lockdown. Here he describes his passion for photography and his hopes for the future.

My whole Journey and break into photography began through Masa Studios.

Photography has always been my passion and a way for me to express my creativity. I hope to make it professional and start earning and have my own studio in the future and I feel like it gives me the chance to play around with various shapes and patterns when out on the street.

I believe photography has no limits. There is no right or wrong way to take an image, hence why I work with a lot of shapes and lighting to make the viewer wonder, and to begin storytelling that sends them on an imaginative journey.

My images are often shot in monochrome/black and white. Focusing particularly on the city of London helps me see the images from different perspectives and draws the viewer's eyepoint, differentiating from the normality of the colourful images which we see in magazines and magazine covers. Although I still do shoot in colour to keep the perspective focused on the viewer's eye.

Being a photographer you face many challenges. I believe that photographers do need to allow a chance for the upcoming generations to shine and express their creativity and give young people opportunities to chase their dreams.

Photography has given me the chance to meet new people from many different walks of life. Being a photographer allows me to express my creativity, but there are a lot more



©Gage Arneaud

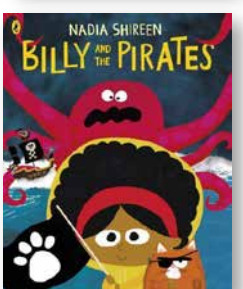
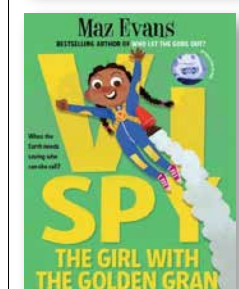
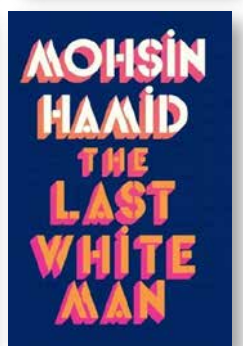
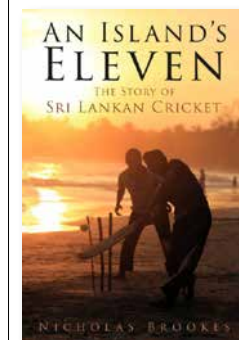
challenges to face, such as rejection and the constant battles with money and restrictions. I would urge the next generation of photographers my age, or beginners not to give up as it is only the beginning.

I am looking forward to what the future holds with my career and travelling adventures, meeting new people and networking along the way, leading eventually to a lifestyle I can enjoy. I would say to future creatives in Newham, or any upcoming aspiring business owners, it is hard but you will make it in the end if you have resilience and drive.

If you're interested in my content, feel free to check out my instagram @Ph.otographer480 for more information about what I do.

My image from Saatchi Gallery was part of an exhibition and competition organised by Westminster which was called 'Lockdown: Westminster's taking a positive view'.

In this one of my Canary Wharf images appeared with leading lines colourful shot which one of my favourite photos created and edited by myself I am very passionate and photography has made me make so many new connections and in the future, my plan, above all, is to make it as a freelance photographer or run my own social enterprise around photography. ●



Compiled by David Ceen,
Newham Bookshop
newhambooks.co.uk
@NewhamBookshop





SOMETHING'S BREWING



Phil Mellows is holding on tight to a dream that will see one of Newham's most historic pubs become part of local life again

It's been well over a year now since Newham Council approved the plan to refurbish and reopen the Old Spotted Dog on Upton Lane, closed since 2004. According to the campaign group Save the Spotted Dog, there is still no date for work to start – making it all the more important that we don't let them forget about it.

The pub is believed to have started life as a hunting lodge for Henry VIII before becoming a destination for people fleeing London to the country during the Great Plague. It is the Borough's oldest surviving secular building and is listed by English Heritage.

It probably didn't become a pub until the early 19th century, and from 1839 it was owned by a William Vause who expanded the building and advertised "spacious dining room and billiards" and the space for "field sports" which became the home of Clapton FC.

Signage on photographs of the pub at the beginning of the 20th century suggest it was tied to East End brewer Truman Hanbury & Buxton, though Bass Ale and Reid's Stout are also prominently advertised. At any



rate, complete with steak house, in the 1970s, it was part of Watney's Schooner Inns.

Within a few years of closing it had fallen into a dangerous state of disrepair, and Save the Spotted Dog was formed to fight to get it renovated and reopened.

The site is now owned by developer Highpride Properties. Its plans are ambitious, detailed and appear sympathetic to the needs of the community. It will restore the historic parts of the building, creating a pub-restaurant, meeting space and function room. Most of the car park will become a lawned garden, and a four-storey 68-room hotel will be built next door.

This is obviously going to cost a lot of money, and in the uncertainties of our post-pandemic times perhaps the delay in progress is understandable.

But we need to hold fast to the dream of preserving a fascinating part of the Borough's history in a way that makes it a part of local lives, and not a mere museum piece. And that's a job that pubs are particularly good at. ●



Flagging up park winners!

Newham Council has received Green Flag Awards for six of its parks. The award is the international quality mark for parks and green spaces.

Plashet Park retains the accolade for the seventh year in a row and Central Park celebrates its second year as a Green Flag winner.

Joining them in becoming some of the country's best parks are:

- East Ham Nature Reserve
- Royal Victoria Gardens
- Forest Lane Park
- Gandhi Chaplin Memorial Garden

The awards recognise the valuable service the Council and volunteers provide in maintaining these green spaces for the community.

The parks were visited by Green Flag judges who were shown around by council officers, and given the opportunity to learn about the parks from local stakeholders including school children, community volunteers and

partner services.

Deputy Mayor Councillor James Asser, Cabinet Member for Environment and Sustainable Transport said:

"I'm incredibly proud to hear we have received six awards this year building on the two from last year.

"I would like to thank all those people who have helped to keep the parks beautiful, safe and tidy. It is such a great achievement to jump from two parks to six in a year but shows how hard the parks service and volunteers have worked to maintain and improve our parks and green spaces."

The Green Flag Award scheme, managed by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy under licence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world. ●



This summer's drought has prompted Cecilia Cran to look for ways of making her garden even greener by recycling rain

I'm looking out at my flowers, which have been scorched to within an inch of their lives, while also trying to understand what has become of my once little patch of lush green lawn, now drier than the desert.

I took a second out of doing my exhaustive rain dance to write this column. Thankfully, said dance seems to have worked – not a moment too soon!

I'm not alone in pausing for thought about what this extreme weather means and why we're where we are, as well as, importantly, where we are headed. Scientists have confirmed that if we don't reduce our carbon emissions, this new weather will be our new normal – with far more tragic effects than shrivelled plants and a



barren spot of lawn.

I've been looking into simple ways to be a little greener in the garden. Specifically, how I can limit my water usage. One step I have taken is to help make best use of rainwater – I have invested in a water butt. Available online and in lots of hardware stores and garden centres, they come in a range of styles and sizes. These are designed to harvest rainwater, so during the drier months you have a ready made store of water, meaning no need to use the hose. They're good for your pocket and the planet – win win.

What to grow: Cyclamens

A low growing, hardy plant, with delicate little flowers that pack a powerful pop of colour. Perfect for the longer grey days and chilly months. Plant cyclamen tubers in the early autumn and wait for flowers to grow through the winter months.

How to grow:

Select a site that isn't too sunny as they prefer shady areas, and be sure to choose a spot with soil that will retain moisture, but is also well-drained. Whether planting in the ground or in pots, the same rules apply.

Prepare the area by raking in some peat-free compost and ensure you remove weeds and any old foliage. Dig a hole around 3–5cm deep (do not plant them too deep, as this limits the flowers they produce, too deep and you will not get any) and space them around 8–10cm apart so that when they grow, they will spread out. Lightly cover with your compost and water them in. Do not over water, as if tubers are exposed to too much moisture they will rot.

Mulch the plants annually around November time to protect from the frost and provide essential nutrients. Place a layer around 3–5cm thick, using a leaf mould mulch – beech is an excellent choice for cyclamens, as it is not too rich. Leaf mould is quite low in nutrients but high in organic matter, so is excellent for the soil – improving water retention and drainage and ultimately the health of your cyclamen plants.

Green escape: Greenway Orchard

Recently I was cycling along the Greenway and I had to do a double take as I passed a neat plot of fruit trees and a colourful sign that announced it as the 'Greenway Orchard'.

I pulled up and took a look. Despite sitting right next to the thoroughfare that is the Greenway, it is an exceptionally tranquil space, very still, with a lovely, calm atmosphere. The area is small, but perfectly formed, very carefully mapped out and well cared for. It houses a host of native fruit trees, shrubs and flowers, bug hotels, places to sit and watch the world go by, bird and bat boxes and a number of raised beds for fruit and vegetables.

The Greenway Orchard is maintained by volunteers, with some funding and support from passionate individuals and the organisation Plaistow South Big Local. The volunteers meet every Thursday from 11.00am – 2.00pm, to help prune, plant, water and weed, as well as anything else that they need support with on site. Definitely one to explore!

E-mail: greewayorchard@gmail.com to find out more and volunteer.



Photos courtesy Cecilia Cran

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Getting Back to Normal – Utopia/ Dystopia by Gal-Dem

Erin Aniker: Stratford Support Structures. Aniker will use digital and light sgraffito-based media to produce a series of large-scale digital projections for East Bank, celebrating under-represented communities and local, small and family-run businesses.

Hannah Ceren: Life under Lockdown. Hannah's East Bank event will be a digital film about her and her mother's experience of the pandemic in East London.

Kirsty Kerr: Re-Construction signs. For her East Bank event Kirsty is creating a site-specific intervention consisting of a series of miniature placards which will appear in unexpected places across Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. They will raise questions about which voices are heard and unheard in landscapes of large-scale redevelopments.

Cherelle Sappleton: A Massive Distraction. Sappleton's new work for East Bank will be a series of digital collages celebrating solidarity amongst local communities. 8 August – 30 October

queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk
gal-dem.com



Burning Man 2017 Charon by Peter Hudson
Photo ©MitziPeirone3

Charon (Greenwich+Docklands International Festival (GDIF))

Monumental and mesmerising installation, Charon is a gigantic 32ft high rotating zoetrope with posed human skeletons mounted on its inner edge, fully powered by you.

Originally created for Burning Man, Peter Hudson's extraordinary, kinetic installation will take over a new festival site in Royal Docks, bringing the spirit of Nevada's legendary festival of art, community and self-expression to Newham.

There will be strobe-free performances at 7pm– 8pm on Sun 4 and Mon 5 September

A touch tour for our Blind and Visually Impaired audiences will take place at *7pm on Wed 7 September

1 – 10 September, 8pm–10.30pm, Limmo Peninsula, Royal Docks
royaldocks.london/whats-on/charon

Artisan East Market

There will be a range of handcrafted goods for you to buy including cards, jewellery, knitted items, artwork, preserves and cakes and bakes.

Sat 3 September, 12pm–4pm, St Bartholomew's Church, East Ham

[@artisaneast1](https://www.instagram.com/artisaneast1)



CROWDCTRL

Greenwich+Docklands International Festival (GDIF)

This event features a unique entertainment of the most amazing theatre, art and dance, courtesy of the On Your Doorstep crew.

There will be 2 events at Rathbone Market

The Tide explores the experience of migration and its impact on an evolving British cultural landscape.

Crowd_CTRL is a creative performance from On Your Doorstep. Four dancers from London's Dragonsquad busking crew turn their personal history of the Afrobeat's movement into a futuristic Odyssey.

Sat 3 September, 1pm & 4pm, Rathbone Market, Canning Town

festival.org/gdif/whats-on/crowd-ctrl-on-your-doorstep

Newham Unlocked Festival

The event funded by Newham Council creates spaces to encounter joy, community and the unexpected. Over three Saturdays in September, Newham Unlocked will tour the Borough's parks with a bespoke line-up for each location including performances from East London Dance, Reggae Choir, Newham Super Choir, artists such as Raze Collective and Grand Union Orchestra.



Newham Unlocked

There will also be roller-skating, cabaret, DJs, food, and workshops.

• Sat 3 September – Beckton Park, 12pm–6pm

• Sat 10 September – Central Park, 12pm–6pm

• Sat 17 September – West Ham Park, 12pm–6pm

newhamunlockedfestival.org

Play Street

The Love E15 Play Street event on Willis Road is run by local volunteers. The street will be closed to allow safe play.

You are invited to bring bubbles, bikes, outdoor toys and even chalk so you can draw directly on the pavement.

Sun 4 September, 2pm–5pm, Willis Road

[@lovelondone15](https://www.instagram.com/lovelondone15)

Record Fair

Calling all vinyl collectors Dig A Little's record fair is taking place at the Tracks Bar. Expect to find some, Soul, Funk, Rock, Jazz and, House, Hip-Hop and Reggae records.

Free entry

Sunday 4 September, 1pm–6pm, Tracks Bar, Forest Gate

[@digalittle7](https://www.instagram.com/digalittle7)

[@trackse7](https://www.instagram.com/trackse7)

Forest Gate Jumble Trail

This event is a great way to shop local for preloved bargains, cakes and bakes, bric-a-brac and lots more.

Applications for stalls will close by 5pm on Thurs 15 September to be on paper maps and 10pm on Fri 16 September to be on the online map

This event is sponsored by Wilkinson Estate Agents

Sat 17 September, 11am–4pm, Forest Gate

[@fgjumbletrail](https://www.instagram.com/fgjumbletrail)

Manor Park Jumble Trail

Come and meet your neighbours while grabbing a bargain and a slice of cake!

To register or for further info please email manorparkjumbletrail@gmail.com or find them on Instagram at [@manorparkjumbletrail](https://www.instagram.com/manorparkjumbletrail)

Sat 17 September, 10am–3pm

Relaxerette (GDIF)

Relaxerette lets you lie back in a hammock, put some headphones on and immerse yourself in stories.

Please note Relaxerette is suitable for ages 6+ / minimum height 1.2m.

9 and 10 September, 1pm–5pm, Rathbone Market, Canning Town

www.royaldocks.london/whats-on



Relaxerette ©Sophie Sijpheer-Terluin

Revolution, Love+ Creativity+ Recycling

September fashion fun is coming to Art in the Docks (AID) in the form of this exhibition of wearable art by artist and creator Yuliya V Krylova.

5–18 September, 12pm–5pm Mon–Fri, weekends by appointment, Art in the Docks, Hamme Building, 25 Shackleton Way, E16 2XJ

[@artinthedocks](https://www.instagram.com/artinthedocks)

Forever Young Project

Performance art theatre company IROKO Theatre are offering over 50s living in Newham the opportunity to make new friends and socialise during their free Drumming for Wellbeing sessions in Newham libraries.

The Forever Young project has been made possible through three-year funding (2022 – 2025) from the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington, part of the Mercers Philanthropy. The project is also taking place in Barking&Dagenham, Redbridge and Hackney.

• Manor Park Library

Wed 21 September, 3pm–4pm

Thurs 29 September, 3pm–4pm

• Custom House Library

Tues 27 September, 11.15am–1pm

• Canning Town Library

Fri 30 September, 12.30pm–2.30pm

[@irokotheatre](https://www.instagram.com/irokotheatre)

Dystopia to Utopia: Reimagining Our Future

At sunset the East Bank building site will come to life with projection and genre-bending performance reimagining our future together as we rebuild our community following the pandemic. The performance will feature members of East London Dance's youth company, dancers from their community and local dance groups.

Wed 22 September, Carpenter's Lock, Queen Elizabeth Park

queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk

All events are subject to change. Please check websites/social media for updates

Is your child our next cricketing star?

NEANDRA ETIENNE

Newham Cricket Club held their family friendly event Cricket on the Field in August, supported by Born Everywhere Made in Newham, at Flanders Field, East Ham.

Recognised cricketers who have previously played at Flanders Field include former England captain Nasser Hussain, who was a player for the Ilford Cricket Club.

Newham Cricket Club player and recent graduate of Brampton Manor Academy Dhanesh Shah, 18, was one of the cricketers who attended.



Dhanesh Shah, holding the bat ©Neandra Etienne

Dhanesh, who first came to the club when he was five, helps out with the younger players.

Newham Cricket Club, run by volunteers, was established in 2005. Their men's first team were recently promoted to the Hamro Foundation Essex League. Some of their players have even gone on to play for Essex County Club.

They would like to include more 7-11 year old boys and girls to their teams to help establish their aim of creating a family friendly club.

So if your child has the potential to follow in the footsteps of Newham-born and former England cricketer Ravi Bopara, sign them up to the club.

The grassroots club are also looking for local sponsors to help further their development in the sport. ●

www.newhamcc.com

[@NewhamCC](https://www.facebook.com/NewhamCC)

[@newhamcc](https://twitter.com/newhamcc)

[@newhamcc](https://www.instagram.com/newhamcc)

www.bemadeinnewham.com

Black Pride record-breaker

NEANDRA ETIENNE

A record breaking crowd of 25,000 came together on 14 August in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park Stratford for UK Black Pride: Power, Europe's largest celebration for African, Asian, Middle Eastern, Latin American and Caribbean-heritage LGBTQI+ people.

In fact UK Black Pride is now officially the largest Black Pride in the World!

The event previously took place in Haggerston Park, Hackney in 2019, with an attendance of 10,000. Due to Covid UK Black Pride took place online in 2020 and 2021.

The theme for UK Black Pride was Power. In a blog post released on the UK Black Pride website, Phyll Opoku-Gyimah, Executive Director and Co-Founder of UK Black Pride writes: "We honour the power our communities continue to wield to ensure that our communities are defended and supported, loved and protected."

The event featured community-focused groups/organisations stalls such as Newham based she.her.they. them, food and drink areas, workshops, wellbeing area, DJ tent and 50 performers on stage including Emeli Sande and Beyoncé Experience. The headliner was Dréya Mac,



Naala Lartey at Black Pride 2022 ©Neandra Etienne

who has 74 million likes on TikTok and received a 'Music Artist to Watch' nomination from GUAP magazine, the Home of Emerging Creatives.

During her closing speech Phyll Opoku-Gyimah was joined on stage by the UK Black Pride team and activist Ted Brown, who was present at the UK's first Pride march in 1972.

A mission statement on their website said:

"UK Black Pride is a safe space to celebrate diverse sexualities, gender identities, cultures, gender expressions and backgrounds and we foster, represent and celebrate Black LGBTQI+ and QTPOC culture through education, the arts, cultural events and advocacy. Importantly, UK Black Pride promotes unity and cooperation among LGBTQI+ people of diasporic communities in the UK, as well as their friends and families." ●

www.ukblackpride.org.uk
www.shehertheythem.com

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SPORTS SHORTS

Compiled by Neandra Etienne

University of East London (UEL) alumni Jona Efoloko, Adam Gemili and Bianca Williams, current high performance sport scholar Emily Martin, all enjoyed medal success with Team England at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

Jona Efoloko and Adam Gemili won gold medals in the men's 4x100m final. Bianca Williams took home the silver in the women's 4x100m final.

Emily Martin, who was making her Commonwealth Games debut, won a bronze medal in the women's 10m synchronised diving competition with Robyn Birch

📷 @eastldn_sport



Bianca Williams ©University of East London

Forest Crusaders FC have confirmed their Greater London Women's Football League (GLWFL) games for September: 4th Hackney Reserves, Away; 11th AFC Leyton, Home; 18th Actonians Thirds, Away; 25 Sept, Leyton Orient, Away

Dates are subject to change

📷 @forestcrusaderswfc

Mark Noble aka 'Mr West Ham' exclusive feature length documentary 'One of Our Own', a celebration of his life and career of Mark Noble, is available on the official West Ham United YouTube channel.

www.whufc.com/news/west-ham-united-presents-mark-noble-documentary-one-our-own



Mark Noble ©West Ham United FC

Bonny Downs Community Association's Indoor Bowls sessions for ages 65+ take place at the Well Community Centre, 10.45 am – 12.45 pm 14, 21 and 28 September

bonnydowns.org



Amy Conroy on Screen, East London Phoenix

Well done to **Amy Conroy** for winning the bronze medal in the first ever 3x3 Women's Wheelchair Basketball event at the Commonwealth Games.

Amy plays for the Professional Women's Wheelchair Basketball Team, East London Phoenix. They are a University of East London 1st Pro Sports Team.

📷 @eastldnphoenix

📷 @amyconroy10

East London Rugby Club have confirmed their new fixtures for all their teams.

East London's 1st XV men team

- Sat 3 Sept – Harlow (H)
- Sat 10 Sept – Champion (A)
- Sat 17 Sept – South Woodham Ferrers (H)
- Sat 24 Sept – Wanstead (A)

East London Vixens Ladies

- Sun 25 Sept – Romford and Gidea Park Ravens Ladies (H)

The full list is available on their website

<https://www.eastlondonrfc.com>

The Queens' Roar! Football display with portraits by Newham-based photographer Sylvie Belbouab took place in Green Street library, Newham Bookshop, Queen's Square and Market.

Green Street's vibrant culture was the inspiration for the Queens' Roar! A series of cultural moments celebrating women, football and culture.

The photos feature Forest Crusaders FC, Goals4Girls and Genesis Futsal Team. It was commissioned by the Royal Docks team

www.royaldocks.london



Queen's Roar! ©Neandra Etienne

Newham Community Project offers a range of women-only cycling free sessions, on Mondays and Wednesdays. The sessions are organised and run by experienced women cyclists.

Different levels of ability are welcome: If you would like to attend either of these sessions

support@newhamcommunityproject.org

www.newhamcommunityproject.org

Did you know there are **pan-disability football sessions** in Newham, and best of all, it costs nothing to join? Sessions are fortnightly on Saturdays at 10-11am, at Newham Leisure Centre, E13 – open to all adults aged 16+.

For more info email sports@active-newham.org.uk or call **07741 293506**

Biking should be accessible for all. **Bikeworks UK cycling clubs** are designed for people with learning, physical and sensory disabilities with a range of adapted cycles.

They have regular sessions every week in Newham – see more and get involved! All Ability | Bikeworks CIC

bikeworks.org.uk

Clapton CFC men's first team started their 22/23 season with a 3-0 win against Stonewall FC.

This was the last game for their assistant manager Stu Purcell, who announced that he is leaving the club to move to Belfast.

The September fixture list for all their teams is available on their website

www.claptoncfc.co.uk



Clapton CFC ©Nick Davidson



District Line Railway AFC

District Line Railway AFC are the London Underground, FA Standard Chartered Football Club, they compete in the London Underground League.

They have a planned game against the other tube lines that pass through Newham

📷 @DistrictLineAFC

East Ham MP Sir Stephen Timms attended the opening ceremony of the **Commonwealth Fencing Championships Training Camp**, hosted by Newham Swords Fencing Club.

newhamswords.org.uk



Commonwealth Fencing Championships Training Camp. ©Sylvie Belbouab

Good luck to Garion who is due to start trials with **Ipswich Town Football Club**.

Garion started at Heroes FC aged 8 and within a few months made his debut playing for the U8, 9s and U11s. He previously got scouted by Leyton Orient, Arsenal and now Ipswich

📷 @officialheroesf.c

Putting their oar in for charity

The Stratford-based charity, British Bangla Welfare Trust came second in the Charity Boat Race at the Nouka Festival at Fairlop Waters on 14 August, raising money for different causes in Bangladesh.

The team joined the event for an afternoon of fun with their volun-

teers who came from across the UK to support them.

Nabeela Zaman, Managing Director, British Bangla Welfare Trust said:

"The volunteers are ecstatic to have left with a triumphant achievement.

This would not have been possible without the hard work behind the scenes and we are grateful to have been part of such a great event which lifted community spirits."

British Bangla Welfare Trust is a registered charity organisation with a charity shop in East London, 196 The Grove, Stratford, E15 1NS

📷 @britishbanglawt



What a football season ahead after the Lionesses' victory!



Mickey Ambrose is still enjoying a triumphant glow after England women's Euro win. Can the men now learn from it?

Bloody hell our girls have only gone and done it!

Ecstasy. Records tumbled, emotions raged and hearts burst as England, with a first international goal from Chloe Kelly, defeated the eight-time champions Germany and were crowned 2022 champions of Europe thanks to inspirational manager Sarina Wiegman, who led the Netherlands to victory last time around.

The Lionesses brought home their first ever major silverware and England's first since 1966 when the men won the World Cup. I was then five-years-old, living in Poplar!

But this win was not without drama. Ella Toone's stunning second-half chip over Merle Frohms looked to have been enough but Lina Magull equalised for Germany. With penalties looming ominously, Kelly pounced, turning in from close range to steal the headlines after battling back from an anterior cruciate ligament injury that ended her Olympic dream and threatened her European one.

Whipping her shirt off in celebration, replicating the historic image of the USA forward Brandi Chastain in the 1999 Women's World Cup final that helped the game explode in the US, Kelly pointed to the revolution that the Lionesses have kick-started in England.

It was a record crowd for a European Championship final of 87,192, beating the 79,115 set in the men's final in 1964 and also topping the 80,203 that watched

the 2012 Olympic gold-medal match to set a record for a women's international in England. That was added to the six Women's European Championship attendance records that had tumbled with each round of this tournament.

The public impact of the tournament was exemplified by tube trains heading to northwest London crowded with England shirts from before mid-day. Hours before kick-off Wembley Way was flooded with fans. Amid the carnival-like vibes were whispers of nerves and heightened emotions from those deeply invested in the development of the women's game – including the families of some of the players who had ducked out of the ground to soak up the atmosphere.

This was the final that Euro 2022 deserved, the two best teams in the tournament pitted together and a tie steeped in history. For England, it was a chance to prove the gap between the European powerhouse and the home team had closed in the 13 years since their 6-2 final defeat at the hands of Germany.

Women's football has come a long way since the Women's Super League with the first game kicking off on the 13 April 2011 between Chelsea and Arsenal.

Now we look to the men to maintain these winning ways when the FIFA World Cup 2022 kicks off. Hosts Qatar take on Ecuador on Sunday 20 November 2022, at 7pm.

Following the excitement of the

Lionesses' victory in the Euros it was back to the domestic league with West Ham losing both their opening games against Premier Champions Manchester City, going down 2-0 and then 1-0 to the new boys Nottingham Forest who were playing their first Premier League game at home since 1999.

One of their most charismatic managers and one of the greatest managers of the English game – the late Brian Clough – steered Forest to two consecutive European Cups (in 1979 and 1980) and two League Cups (1978 and 1979) and a further two more League Cups (1989 and 1990). He would be so happy to see the club back in the big time.

As for West Ham, don't despair, at least they created chances but David Moyes and his backroom staff will be scratching their heads to try and work out how they did not score again in this emotional game with the atmosphere raucous long before kick-off at the City ground.

The Hammers hit the post, bar, had a goal disallowed, and Zouma's



Mickey Ambrose

header was cleared off the line by Neco Williams. It just wouldn't go in and, to cap it all, they missed a penalty!

Finally, what the hell is going on at Manchester United? Dire Straits were a British rock band who had a hit with, dare I say it, 'Money For Nothing'. According to Gary Neville that is exactly what the fans got against Brentford in their 4-0 thrashing. But then they came back with a stunning 2-1 win over Liverpool!

Welcome back to the Premier League.

Mickey Ambrose is a former Chelsea and Charlton player who lives in Stratford



From Instagram @lionesses

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