

# Royal Docks at heart of green economy

CATARINA JOELE

The Greater London Authority has awarded £500,000 to support Newham Council plans to make the Royal Docks a 'beacon of green innovation'.

The funding came from the Government's UK Community Renewal Fund after a successful council bid for funding that focused on the potential of the Royal Docks and will establish North Woolwich and Beckton as potential green business locations.

Newham Mayor, Rokhsana Fiaz, said: "We are developing the skills and business expertise to take forward green economic opportunities that can provide employment and help tackle climate change."

Newham Council aims to develop a network of local sustainable initiatives focusing on "circular economy". The Council will carry out a feasibility study to explore potential sites and partners for a project on material reuse in the construction industry across London and beyond.



Photo via [www.royaldocks.london](http://www.royaldocks.london)

Newham's Regeneration Team is due to report on the progress of these initiatives in six months.

The Council has also pledged to reduce its carbon footprint with the installation of solar voltaic panels

and a ground and water source heat pump that will provide a greener and more efficient heating of their Dockside headquarters. Efficient LED lighting will also be installed.

More council news pages 4-5. ●

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## Newham Voices for Green Action

We're going green! *Newham Voices* is launching a campaign to support your efforts to confront the threat of climate change.

We know that our readers are passionate about the environment. It was the single most important topic highlighted by residents in this year's council survey of community concerns.

So our collective New Year's resolution for 2022 is to focus on telling the story of how people in the Borough are playing their part in making our air safer, our streets cleaner and our business greener.

We want to hear from you on what you are doing at home, at work, at school and in your social life to protect, conserve and enhance Newham's environment.



The council and climate-change campaigners want to turn Newham into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon local economy that ends the threat from air pollution, fly-tipping and poor

waste management, all of them risks to health and wellbeing.

Many residents, including young people, are frustrated that the issues are not being taken seriously. Some are protesting, others are making changes in their lives to deal with the crisis – but many people are still in the dark about the climate change crisis.

Our Green Action campaign will provide information on how people at grassroots level are coping with change and how they are integrating concerns about the environment into their everyday lives.

In this issue we highlight some of the concerns – showing how little changes can have a big effect, even at Christmas (see Page 8).

Contact us with your Green Action ideas and stories: [info@newhamvoices.co.uk](mailto:info@newhamvoices.co.uk)

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# May elections: Newham politics is ripe for change

2022 will be a defining year for local politics as the Olympic Park area comes back under local control and with council elections in May. In the run-up to the vote *Newham Voices* will give opportunities for all the major political groups in the Borough to have their say. As the year ends, **John Oxley**, Chair of West Ham Conservative Association, kicks off the debate.

In May 2022 Newham will return to the polls for the local government and mayoral elections. At first glance, it seems like a foregone conclusion. The Labour Party has dominated Newham for decades and the Borough is one of its strongest areas in the country.

No non-Labour councillors have been elected since 2006, when Respect and the Christian People's Alliance both won seats, while the other major parties have not held a seat on the Council since 1998.

Yet the last few years have shown that strongholds like this are not as strong as they once were. 2022 may well be the year where political change returns to Newham. Of course, Newham itself is undergoing rapid change – most obvious in the wards to the west of the borough, around Stratford and Canning Town, where new-build flats have swelled the population and brought in affluent City workers.

While some would expect these



John Oxley

to lean towards Conservative, there is some evidence that the Party now struggles with such workers, instead opening the door to the other national parties. The Lib Dems performed well in Stratford in 2018 and have an opportunity to make an

impact in the new ward centred on the Olympic Park.

Equally, the Green Party has established itself in Forest Gate and Maryland where, again, new and more compact wards make things more competitive. Like elsewhere in the country, they are aided here by opposition to Brexit, as the north and west of Newham voted heavily Remain in the referendum.

In the south and east of the borough, it is a different story. Areas such as Custom House and Royal Docks leant towards Leave with a mix of white working class votes and an under-reported support for Brexit seen in South Asian communities.

These wards are also vulnerable for Labour for other reasons – violent crime, and the failure to deliver CrossRail, two things which undermined Sadiq Khan's election showing, are acute here. Indeed, Custom House was the only ward in East London where Conservative Shaun Bailey beat Labour on first preferences.

Newham is unlikely to see the dramatic changes of the Red Wall in the North of England, but as the Borough changes, and politics too, Labour cannot take their dominance for granted. Shifting populations, changing political trends and the impact of the new council ward boundaries could produce an upset or two come May. ●

## Giving voters a voice

*Newham Voices* has been awarded a grant to campaign for greater participation in next year's local elections.

The campaign will focus mainly on Canning Town South, the ward with the lowest voter turnout in the 2018 elections.

The grant has been awarded by the Public Interest News Foundation Impact Fund. It is part of a research project being run in five wards in London and Birmingham to measure the impact of local newspaper coverage on democratic participation.

*Newham Voices* publisher Aidan White said: "Canning Town South is on the threshold of massive change. It's important that local people have as much information as possible to ensure their voice is heard when it comes to shaping their environment. We are delighted to have won this grant from PINF and we look forward to working with people in Canning Town South."

Further details will be announced in January. If you would like to take part, contact [info@newhamvoices.co.uk](mailto:info@newhamvoices.co.uk)

# Keeping an eye on feathered friends

LYNDSAY JONES

How many species of bird do you think live in West Ham Park? You may be surprised to know that on any day of the year you will be able to see 16 species!

The Friends of West Ham Park record the birds we see there every month – and this is our score of "regulars". Over a year, we see around 37 species as the birds move around between their winter and summer homes.

Why do we record the birds? Well, birds are at or close to the top of the food chains, so if they are doing well so are the plants and insects that they eat.



In recent years, the park has encouraged wildlife with long grass, flower meadows and more variety in the trees we plant. This

also provides more food for the birds.

Well-known to park regulars are the bright green and very noisy parakeets. They are ring-necked parakeets, originally from the foothills of the Himalayan mountains. They are the offspring of birds brought over to the UK as pets which then escaped and found London to their liking.

They nest in holes, so may compete with our Great Spotted Woodpeckers and Nuthatches. But, as you can see in this picture from June, the woodpeckers had found a home and raised at least this chick, looking out to see if dinner was on its way.

To learn more about birds and get tips on how to use binoculars (it's not as easy as it looks), come along to the guided bird watch in January. Details will be available on the website and social media.

🏠 [friendsofwesthampark.co.uk](http://friendsofwesthampark.co.uk)  
 📱 @FriendsOfWestHamPark  
 📷 @fwhp\_e9

## Correction

Last month's Page Three article *It's a rubbish day out* was written by Ron Inell, not Nick Brown. Sorry for the confusion, Ron.

## Council Notebook: Reports from 22 November meeting

# Dockside lights up for campaign against domestic abuse

Newham's Dockside area will be glowing orange for 16 days from 25 November until 10 December to promote an international campaign against violence against women.

Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz told the full council meeting that she herself had been a victim of hatred and online intimidation in the past, as she outlined a plan for 16 days of activism in the Borough as part of the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls.

During the 16 days of activism until UN Human Rights Day on 10 December, the Council will run a series of events promoting zero tolerance against domestic and sexual violence.

They have invited local residents

to support the campaign by posting a picture of themselves online with the message 'Never commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women'.

The Mayor called for zero tolerance of violence and hate crime against women, highlighting social media in particular. "It is essential that social media be held accountable. Currently males can post online anonymously," she told the meeting.

She invited anyone taking part in activities to share their experiences over the coming days.

The Dockside area was previously illuminated on 24 September in tribute to Sabina Nessa, the young woman murdered in a South London park, and to highlight the issue of violence against women and girls. ●



# Call to action over scourge of Trans hate

Dr Rohit Dasgupta (Canning Town South) made an impassioned speech to councillors calling for action to protect trans and gender variant people who are the victims of discrimination and violence.

Speaking to mark International Trans day of Remembrance on 20 November, he said 375 Trans and gender variant people globally had been murdered over the past year "because of hate and bigotry".

"The number of reported crimes in this country has also increased dramatically and within Newham alone we have seen a dramatic increase of more than 50 percent between February 2021 and October 2021," he said, quoting figures from the Metropolitan Police.

And with further information on a worrying 10 year high in LGBTQ+ hate crimes being committed in London it was right to ask the Met what is being done to challenge this trend.

He said Trans people face huge barriers when it comes to secure housing, jobs, education and their own safety both online and offline.

"In the last few months alone we have seen staggering levels of toxic abuse creating a hostile space for our Trans siblings," he said. "The level of political debate and media representation when it comes to Trans stories in this country has been shocking."

Dasgupta criticised the government for promoting a culture war agenda "which is pitting Trans rights against other rights".

He said there was no conflict between women's rights and Trans rights.

"Our struggles are all connected," he said. "As a queer person of colour I might face racism and homophobia

but as a cis man [who has the same gender identity from birth] I also have privilege, I will never understand meaningfully the misogyny and transphobia that so many women colleagues face.

To emphasise the point, he told a moving personal story.

"Many years ago I was mentored by a trans aunt – Agniva Lahiri a pioneer in LGBTQ+ rights in Eastern India who also set up one of the first shelter homes for trans people facing sexual abuse.

"Agniva, or the Bengali term mashi which means aunt that I referred to her by, taught me many things but one of those things was to never stay silent in the face of discrimination even if it means putting ourselves in danger.



Dr. Rohit Dasgupta

"Agniva passed away a few years ago but her words remain with me."

He said that he works closely with the LGBTQ+ community globally and noted that LGBTQ+ deaths are often forgotten.

"On trans day of remembrance let us pledge to be good allies to our Trans siblings, stand by them when times are hard, fight alongside them and above all listen to them." ●

### EVENTS INCLUDE:

#### 30 NOVEMBER

Poetry Against Violence,  
6:00 – 8:00pm  
Stratford Library, The Grove, Stratford, E15

#### 4 DECEMBER

Newham One Stop Shop Drop-In  
10:00am – 2:00pm  
East Ham Library, Barking Road,  
East Ham E6

#### 6 DECEMBER

Healthy Relationship  
Workshop, 11:00am – 1:00pm  
Custom House and Canning Town  
Community Neighbourhood Centre  
and Library, Rathbone Market,  
Barking Road, E16

Residents can just turn up at any of the events above.

Anyone experiencing domestic or sexual violence should contact the Newham One Stop Shop 24 hour line on **0845 451 2547** or visit **www.newham.gov.uk/health-adult-social-care/domestic-violence-support** for information on the range of support services available.

If you are in immediate danger due to domestic or sexual violence and need an emergency response, call **999**.

For more information about any of the events, contact **noreen.mukal-azi@newham.gov.uk** or call **07814 615 350**.

# Civic Awards to honour people who are the best of Newham

Newham is launching a new Civic Awards Scheme to honour the extraordinary achievements and dedication of residents and groups who make a difference to the community.

The Council has agreed a new system for deciding who deserves special recognition. Introducing the Newham Civic Awards plan, the Mayor said the awards would break with the "secrecy of the past" in handing out council gongs – the new system would be open and transparent, she said.

The Civic Awards will be in addition to the existing process for granting Freedom of the Borough and recognition of honorary Alderman or Alderwoman.

Residents are asked to make their nominations for Civic Awards and the final selection will be made by an Awards Panel made up of councillors and community representatives.

A call for nominations is being launched in December with a closing date at the end of January. A formal awards ceremony will be held at the

annual council meeting in May.

Nominations can be made for any individual or volunteer, community or faith group or local business. There will be five categories of award reflecting the priorities of the Council and there will be a total of 10-15 civic awards in all.

Simultaneously, nominations for honorary freeman and freewoman, and alderman and alderwoman awards will be agreed at a special council meeting at the end of February 2022. ●

Reports by: Noah Enahoro, Jean Gray, Catarina Joele, Rebekah Samuel and Aidan White

# New initiatives aim to ease temporary homes crisis

REBEKAH SAMUEL

Newham aims to buy up to 500 new homes each year to provide high standard temporary accommodation as part of a new set of initiatives to confront the borough's homes crisis.

The plans were welcomed by the Council amid positive signs of improvement in an area where poverty levels are high and, according to Trust for London, Newham tops the chart in having the highest number of people living in temporary accommodation in the country.

Shaban Mohammed (Canning Town North) who leads for the Council on this issue said: "Temporary accommodation has always been a key matter of concern for Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz.

"Recognising the high levels of cases work relating to poor standards of accommodation that Councillors were continually having to deal, the push to drive up standards is a priority. Consequently, the Council is reviewing standards of temporary accommodation in the Borough to determine



whether accommodation is fit for purpose and meets basic standards such as state of repair, fire regulations, energy efficiency, ventilation etc."

He said the report and investigation into temporary accommodation revealed that only around 50 per cent of properties were broadly in good condition, 46 per cent were average,

but many were not satisfactory, and there was also a backlog of properties still to tackle."

Because of fears that rejected properties might be offered to other local authorities with less stringent controls, Newham Council is collaborating with Waltham Forest, Redbridge and Enfield Council on an agreement

which allows checks to be conducted to ensure landlords are accredited.

He said that great work has been achieved in housing, homelessness and temporary accommodation since 2018. "We have seen a 10 per cent reduction in temporary hotel accommodation, the most insecure and expensive form of temporary accommodation. This demonstrates that the Council and current administration is taking the issue seriously."

With the need for temporary accommodation exacerbated by the pandemic, as a result of job losses causing people to fall behind on their rent or mortgage and become homeless, Councillor Mohammed says the plan to tackle temporary accommodation is a very ambitious "acquisitions programme to purchase new housing."

An acquisitions board has been set up to buy property in Newham using different funding streams, which will include Council money, but also consider other options of financial investment such as banks and pension funds interested in social housing.

The initiative will be a much more cost-effective approach to previous solutions like hotel accommodation or managing older properties with higher maintenance costs. ●

## Delayed start, but Carpenters Estate ballot now open

The resident ballot at the Carpenters Estate is finally underway after a delayed start. The ballot opened on 19 November and will close on 14 December.

The Council delayed the vote after it became aware of additional eligible voters.

As the vote gets underway, many people hope the extensive master

plan for regeneration of the area will end almost 20 years of uncertainty over the future of the estate.

But opponents warn that plans to demolish and rebuild homes on the estate, which was built in the 1970s and originally consisted of only council housing, will not provide the numbers of low-cost homes needed to ease the housing crisis.

They say that plans for the area focus on its value as prime London real estate, sitting in the shadow of the London Stadium and neighbouring Westfield shopping centre and Stratford International train station.

They warn it does not meet the challenges of Newham's housing crisis, with more than 5,500 families with children living in temporary accommodation and in excess of 27,000 people on the waiting list for council housing. ●

### FACT FILE

## How Newham Compares

1. Highest number of people living in temporary accommodation (49.36 per 1,000 households).
2. Highest number of evictions among London boroughs. (3.4 per 1,000 households compared to 1.7 for London overall)
3. Newham worst-hit London borough in terms of proportion of total deaths due to Covid infections during the last year of the pandemic (32 per cent)
4. Highest furlough rate in London during the pandemic (22 per cent)
5. Rough sleepers are more commonly seen in Newham than other London Boroughs

Source: Trust for London



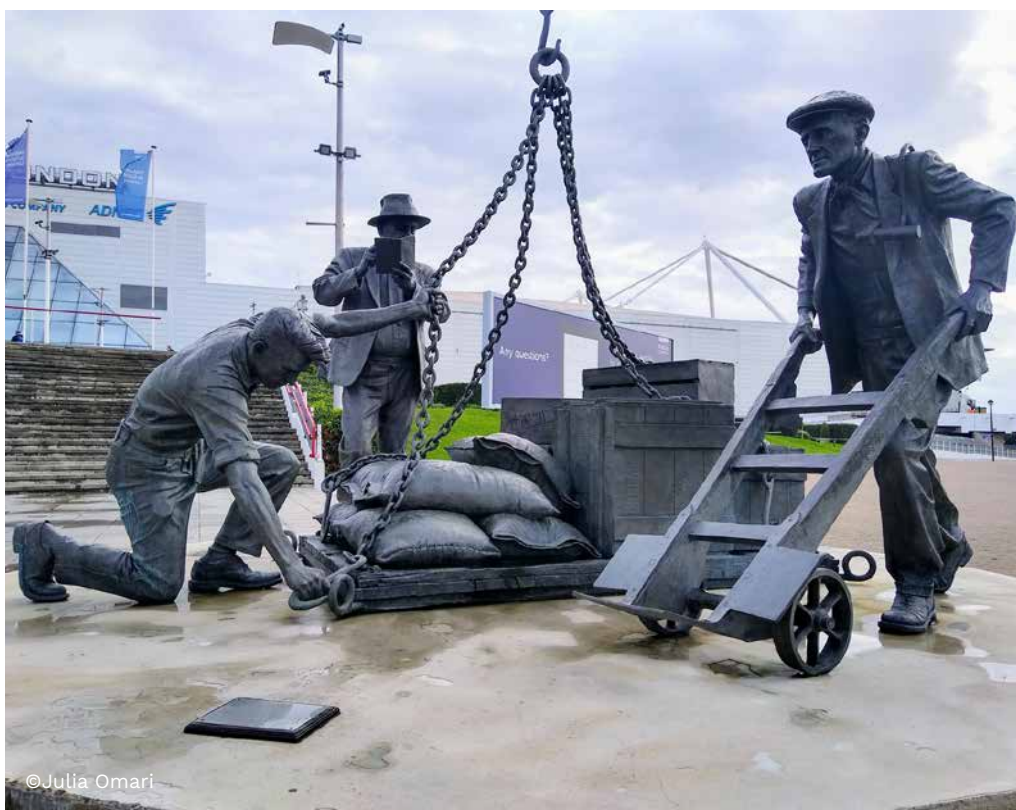
Photo via Twitter

# Tribute to dockers who made the Royals a global trading centre

As part of our regular feature on Newham's monuments, Julia Omari visits a statue that pays permanent tribute to our heroic dockworkers

Since its opening in November 2000, Excel London has drawn an ever increasing stream of visitors and workers. Thanks to the impressive regeneration programme which started in the 1980s, it is easy to overlook the historical importance the space once held, not just for the local workers but also to the British economy as the largest enclosed docklands in the world, Britain secured its place as a global trading centre.

Victoria Docks, Albert Docks and King George V Docks known collectively as the Royal Docks operated between 1855 and 1983 and saw the arrival and departure of hundreds of trade and



©Julia Omari

passenger ships. There was a constant need for dock workers, who in turn brought their families to settle in the area, but work was hard, long, poorly paid with dangerous conditions.

Former dock worker Johnny Ringwood felt moved to honour the dock workers past after seeing a statue dedicated to the steelworkers of Sheffield. Alongside Patricia Holland, whose father and husband both worked on the docks, they campaigned to raise the funds needed to create a permanent reminder.

On 24 August 2009, the statue, titled Landed, by Australian sculptor Les Johnson, was unveiled in Royal Victoria Square. Landed shows three actual dockworkers; Johnny Ringwood, Mark Tibbs and Patrick Holland at work and is dedicated to all the dock workers and their families. ●

## Tackling loneliness and a day to remember

A company called Mash Media every year runs an event called One Day at Christmas for the elderly and people spending Christmas alone. Usually it is held in the Midlands, but this year it's coming to Newham.

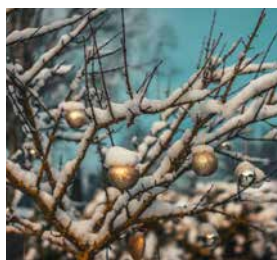
It's a free to attend event being to be the ExCel, on Tuesday 14 December where up to 400 people will get Christmas lunch, entertainment, bingo, free transport to and from the venue and heaps of fun!

Local community groups can collect names from their area and get their

residents together for a fun filled day. Covid-19 restrictions will be put in place, only allowing access to people who are fully vaccinated or provide a negative covid test 48 hours upon entry.

To get your supporters to join this great event contact Alice Kinchington on **0208 481 11 22**

Mash Media promotes big media events and is also a major supporter of charities - including Macmillan Cancer Support and the Lords Taverners. Normally its One Day at Christmas is organised at the NEC Exhibition Centre near Birmingham.



Youngsters volunteering at **Bonny Downs (BDCA) foodbank** and the **Ascension Eagles cheerleading athletes** join forces to make Christmas as festive as possible.

©Sylvie Belbouab

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# Blue plaque recognises Jack Leslie's Canning Town roots

**Neandra Etienne** who organised a Black History Month exhibition on black footballers reports on recognition of one of the stars

The ceremony was attended by Jack's grand-daughters Lesley, Lyn and Gillian, and great great-nephew George, alongside other members of the Jack Leslie Campaign. Jack's granddaughter Lesley said: "I am delighted that Newham Council erected a plaque to honour Grandad in recognition of his footballing career. It is heart-warming to know that he is finally getting the recognition he deserves."

Jack Leslie was featured in the Newham's Black Football Players through the Years exhibition for Newham Black History Month at the Canning Gallery in Canning Town.

Jack, from Canning Town, was picked to play for England in 1925. However, his name was dropped from the team sheet when officials discovered his Black heritage.

Sadly, Jack was never given the opportunity to play for England again. At the time of his death, in 1988, Jack's England call up was never acknowledged.



Jack Leslie's family, Jack Leslie campaign members, Councillor Winston Vaughan. © Andrew Baker

It wasn't until the Jack Leslie Campaign got involved in 2020 that his story was finally told. They successfully campaigned for Jack to receive a statue in Plymouth, because he played for Plymouth Argyle football team.

Jack's blue Heritage plaque was organised for him to be remembered in Newham, the borough where he

was born and where he worked when he was a Boot Boy at West Ham United FC.

Gillian, Jack's granddaughter said: "It's just a shame he's not here to experience everything that's being done in his honour. I'd also like to thank everyone involved; we never thought anything like this would ever happen." ●

# Eat up! Britain's biggest wormery is keeping the ExCel green

ExCel London which brings some of the world's biggest events to Newham is making a meal of food waste through its wormery – Britain's biggest – which swallows up vegetable leftovers from their kitchens, converting it to fertil-

iser for the green spaces around the dockside building.

The wormery is part of a wide-ranging sustainability and energy-saving programme that includes working with exhibitors to provide greater use of digital energy efficient LED screens

and where there is still a need to print, using only sustainable materials.

Some 95 per cent of banners in use around the site are made from a PVC-free substrate that can be upcycled to create a variety of products, from traffic cones to roofing materials, or used as fuel at waste-to-energy plants.

The company's campaign to cut single-use plastic waste also saw a reduction in the number of plastic bottles used by more than 200,000 in 2019. Other initiatives to reduce the use of plastic include water fountains, removing plastic straws from point-of-sale and introducing discounts for visitors with reusable cups.

To make sure nothing goes to waste, surplus food and furniture, from events, is donated to Community Food Enterprise, who share these with community projects throughout Newham. ●

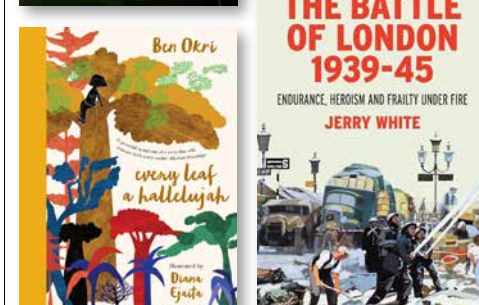
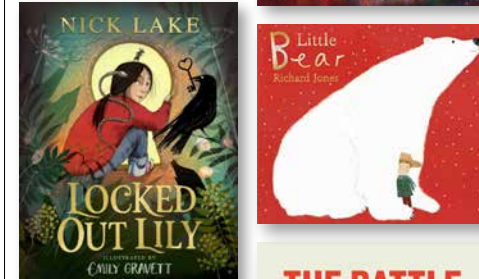


## Good reads in Newham

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

- **London Clay**  
By Tom Chivers
- **A Farewell to Calm**  
By John Crace
- **The Battle of London 1939-1945: Endurance, Heroism and Frailty Under Fire**  
Jerry White
- **Every Leaf a Hallelujah**  
Ben Okri
- **Little Bear**  
By Richard Jones
- **Locked Out Lily**  
By Nick Lake

Compiled by David Ceen



[newhambooks.co.uk](http://newhambooks.co.uk)  
@NewhamBookshop

# Newham needs climate action after Glasgow's hot air

HEIDI HENDERS

Whilst world leaders, billionaires and delegates from oil companies attended Cop26, the climate conference in Glasgow, hundreds of thousands of people marched through the streets for climate justice.

The protests attracted a broad coalition, from trade unions and indigenous campaigns to school children and many individuals. I joined the protests, not only because of my anger at world leaders' inaction, but also because of the disproportionate effect climate change is having on the world's poorest and most insecure.

Climate justice must ensure the transition to a green world is equitable and just. The decisions made can't just mitigate climate change for the rich, they must also challenge inequality, poverty, and oppression for all.

The climate crisis is by no means far away for people in Newham. We live in the most polluted borough in London, with plans for the Silvertown Tunnel threatening to worsen the issue. Last July, flooding closed three stations and Newham Hospital's A&E department, showing



Photos courtesy Heidi Henders

Newham is vibrant, diverse and powerful. From community gardens to housing campaigns, we prove that building a just, sustainable world is possible and it must start right on our doorstep.

that Newham's infrastructure is not prepared for extreme weather.

Newham is also a boroughs with one of Britain's highest levels of poverty. We need secure jobs and accessible training to challenge insecure work and unemployment.

In Newham, this could be achieved with a commitment to green jobs from the Council, focusing on renewable energy, expansion of public transport and other sustainable industries.

We need affordable and safe homes. Investment in insulation, rent caps and an end to precarious housing is vital for Newham residents; especially to provide security in the face of climate change.

The Cop26 talks won't solve the climate crisis. World leaders are too obsessed with fossil fuel profits. We need to keep protesting to demand change from the Government. I was inspired by the vast display of unity at the Cop26 protests. So many people stood up to call for change.

Newham is vibrant, diverse and powerful. From community gardens to housing campaigns, we prove that building a just, sustainable world is possible and it must start right on our doorstep. ●

## Dreaming of a green Christmas

DAPHNE STEDMAN

We live in a society where consumerism is encouraged, very noticeably in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Shops and online traders rely on Christmas trade to make a profit. Decorations, wrapping paper, Christmas jumpers, food and presents all translate into increased consumption of the world's resources at this time of year.

In light of Cop26 we need to look at how much we consume, and what better time to do this than now?

As we approach Christmas, here are a few things I do to keep consumption down.

I try not to waste food. The first step here is not to buy more food than is needed. This might sound obvious, but if so why do 65 per cent of UK citizens admit to buying too much food? London has one of the highest food waste rates in the coun-

try. Avoiding throwing food away is important, as, according to the Felix Project, food that ends up in landfill produces greenhouse gases.

I reuse Christmas wrapping paper. It is probably 30 years since I last

bought any wrapping paper. I keep wrapping paper from any presents I receive, and it gets reused year after year. Yes, some sheets may have creases and Sellotape marks in places, but does this really matter?

Decorations, wrapping paper, Christmas jumpers, food and presents all translate into increased consumption of the world's resources at this time of year.

I wear the same Christmas jumper every year. (It's only six years old...)

I use my late grandmother's tabletop Christmas tree (pictured), which is now over 50 years old. The deco-

rations include most of the original ones she purchased, together with other odd bits I've acquired over the years. I splashed out a couple of years ago and bought the robin new from a gift shop, but otherwise this

Christmas tree is much as it was 50 years ago. Last Christmas, I was not able to meet up in person with my brother on Christmas Day. We had a long Zoom meeting instead, and Christmas games consisted of charades (no materials necessary) and a new game I thought of. All those taking part were asked to show examples of things they had repaired or were still

using even though a little worn out. This turned out to be very interesting and funny at times. It was good to see examples of where "repair, don't replace" has worked. ●



Photo courtesy Daphne Stedman

# Was it just a media stunt? Pupils doubt governments on climate promises

Four year-12 pupils at School 21 in Stratford have joined Newham Voices on a short project to learn about journalism and the community. Ibrahim Alom, Abu Miah, Sazzard Hossain and Sneha Patel report on reaction to the climate crisis and the Cop26 conference.

Talking to students at School 21, it becomes apparent that there is a general lack of awareness about Cop26 and what it hoped to achieve.

However, many pupils seem to understand what climate change is and how it will affect future generations.

One student claimed that the reason they had a lack of understanding about the recent climate change conference was because of a lack of input in the school curriculum.

"A lot of subjects avoid the topic of climate change even when it can easily be incorporated into the lessons," they said. Another commented: "Only subjects such as Politics and

Geography briefly cover it but even then, it is not enough".

Though there was a lack of understanding of the conference, there is general agreement that not enough is currently being done to solve this issue.

Many pupils raise concerns about how we are destroying the environment and other species that inhabit it.

One proposed that "we should all do our part. It could be small things like using paper bags instead of plastic bags or turning the tap off whilst brushing our teeth." All those we interviewed believed that they were already doing this.

Some gave more complex solutions. One pupil said that there "needs to be a massive change. The reason



this issue is so bad is because the government allows private corporations to throw waste into the waters, a reference to recent publicity over waste water and raw sewage being dumped into waterways by water companies which prompted government promises of action last month.

Despite the government's action the pupil added: "The government most probably won't do anything. Their whole involvement in Cop26 is nothing but a media stunt. They are just pleasing the people and distracting them from the harm they are causing to the environment."

However, one student offers a more moderate and optimistic view. They said: "I agree that enough is not being done. The government is using this situation to distract attention

from the harm and damage they are causing but something is better than nothing. So it is good that they are at least involved in Cop26."

Overall, this research leads us to conclude that a lot more needs to be done. School 21 and other schools need to actively ensure that their students are aware of climate change.

Many pupils strongly believe that, sadly, Cop26 may turn out to be mostly a media stunt. Whether this is true and whether or not the promises made by the UK and other governments will be delivered only time will tell.

Responding to this report Louise Holyoak, Head of Geography and Co-Head of Humanities at School 21 said students learn about climate change in geography lessons from year 7-13 as well as in other subjects including science.

"In future it would be great to see climate change featured in coaching (form time) so all students can learn about these issues," she said. ●

## Want to take Green Action? Here are some starting points

### Consume less

Our buying habits have a huge impact on the environment. But do we need to consume so much? Cheap goods are always available in Newham, and we all like to get hold of the latest gadgets – but we should ask, are these essential?

### Reuse more

Single-use plastic has a devastating impact on our environment. Can we use less of it? Instead of carrying disposable shopping bags, drinking from disposable coffee cups and eating from disposable plates can we switch to reusable items? It will make a difference to the environment.

### Recycle properly

Educate yourself on what can and cannot be recycled in your bins at home. Newham Council has just announced that our orange bins can be used for lots of new items including glass bottles, plastic tubs, aerosol cans and aluminium foil.

### Shop second-hand and buy local

Instead of heading to Westfield or other big shopping centres to buy new clothes think first about using a second-hand shop, a charity store or swapping clothes with friends. New clothing uses up precious resources – packaging and

fuel needed for delivery. It's a heavy toll on the environment.

### Get out of the car if you can

Any time we can save on car use will help. For short trips, try walking or biking. If that isn't feasible, try car-sharing with friends or neighbours or fellow workers. And, if all else fails make sure your car journey takes the most efficient route to save time and miles driven.

### Use less water

Conserving water at home is an easy way to protect the environment. For example, turn off the tap while you brush your teeth, fix leaky taps, install low-flow toilets and efficient shower heads and shorten the time you shower. It will all make a difference.

### Save electricity

Switch to more efficient light bulbs such as energy-efficient CFLs or LEDs, and turn off the power to electronics when they're not being used, use programmable or smart thermostats, seal air leaks around doors and windows and make sure your home is properly insulated.

**Do you have more ideas? Do let us know!**



# Keeping adults safe in Newham

LEONARDO GRECO

The Keeping Adults Safe in Newham event that took place on 19 November was attended by over 40 participants from local organisations, community groups and residents.

Head of Healthwatch, Julie Pal, presented the results of a nine months long safeguarding engagement including the findings of research and recommendations arising from a training the trainer outreach programme with grassroots groups and organisations to help them raise awareness of safeguarding in their communities.

Newham Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) has also established a community engagement sub-group, Keeping All Adults Safe, to reframe safeguarding activity in the Borough.

Claire Solley and Tony Pape from Newham's Safeguarding services talked about how safeguarding works and how it improves accessibility for residents.



Councillor Zulfiqar Ali also hosted a discussion on ways to involve the community and voluntary sector in safeguarding. The group suggested refraining from using the term 'safeguarding' to avoid translation miscommunication and implementing a co-working strategy between the NSAB and community organisations whom residents trust.

Visit our website for the full event presentation. Updates on next steps and a follow up report will also be available online. ●

[www.healthwatchnewham.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchnewham.co.uk)

# Do your bit to report fly tipping

PETER LANDMAN

I have to go on regular walks due to my age and have made a habit of noting dog fouling and fly tips as I go along.

When I get home I enter what I have noted on to the Council's online Report It facility.

I think it's particularly important to get dog fouling on pavements cleared in case children step into the mess.

Here is what I reported last time:

- On the green space by flat block 1-11 Talbot Road loose railings, full black plastic bags, bits of a bed and a big cardboard box
- Inside the long alleyway beside 89 Wellington Road, pieces of a bed, and scatter of litter.
- While shopping at Sainsbury's East Ham, I reported on the filthy state of the alleyway at the side.
- Fly tips on the pavements by the crossing at Talbot Road and Market street; and by the inter-

section of Canberra Road and Barking Road

There is an issue of take up where there is recurrent fly tipping on the same site, as on this green space, Talbot Road. I had the response 'fly tip cleared'. But I checked up and found it still there. So did the fly tip team just go by record of the previously reported instance?

If more of us could consider reporting street issues as they go along this would help our environment.



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# Stratford Circus' legacy programme: local charities receive £125k

CATARINA JOELE

Stratford Arts Trust, the charity that ran Stratford Circus Arts Centre since 2012, has closed and as part of their winding-up process, the Trust allocated £125,000 to three local charities that run art organisations.

After losing the Theatre Square venue that was their home for nine years and consequently funding from Arts Council England, the charity wants to ensure that a legacy of cultural service to the local community is put in place.

The charities to benefit are :

- **Eastside Educational Trust** will be granted £50,000 to run Creative Schools + Colleges, a programme aimed at education institutions with limited art and cultural provision;
- **Spitalfields Music** will receive another £50,000 to continue running the New Young Voice Collective (NewYVC), a Newham-based mixed-age youth choir and
- **Face Front Inclusive Theatre** will receive £25,000 to continue running Blue Sky Actors, a group of adults with learning difficulties or disabilities.

Artistic Director, Ray Downing, said: "The Blue Sky Actors are a prime example of why we exist – inclusive, playful, full of wonder and jolly good fun for all. We are extremely proud of our partnership with Stratford Arts Trust. The legacy funding for the group means we have a guaranteed future. Thank you."

The funding was distributed according to each group's running expenses and should cover their activities' production costs at least until August next year.

individual £2,000 grants.

The awards are a contribution to five projects that aim to connect communities in East London, including: a photography project; a theatre



New Young Voice Collective

Stratford Arts Trust's Chair, Georgina Philippou, said: "Our legacy partners share our ethos and passion for these projects and we are excited they will continue providing artistic opportunities for people in Newham well into the future."

The trust has also announced the East London Emerging Artist Research and Development Awards. Local emerging artists Korantema Anyimadu, Chloe Bailey, Mathias Lemaitre, Maria Majewska and Anna Strickland are the five winners of the

production exploring heritage and migration in the Polish community; an illustrated guide to East London's hidden places; a heritage zone exploring under-documented heritage of Black and Asian people and a series of art therapy workshops for children.

Any remaining reserves held by Stratford Arts Trust, at the point the liquidation process is complete in early 2022, will be distributed to grassroots organisations operating in Newham. ●

## Poetry in Mind

*Reflections on the poetic side of Newham life. This month we feature a poem by Zhenreenah Muhxinga*

### UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY

Unity Means Unity In The Community  
Unity Means Unite and Understand  
Each Other Culture  
Accept Each Other Differences  
With no Judgemental  
Live Equal

Embracing Each Background  
Is Central  
We Come Together And Feel Awright  
No One Better Than Each Other  
So No Fuss And Fight

Unity Is About Take A Village  
To Support A Child  
Diversity community is unity  
No Hostility, No Hatred, Show  
Love All The While

We Might Fall Out Now And Then  
Respect Each Other Reason About It  
and Hug It As Fren

Teach Our Youth How To Agree  
Without The Knife  
We Need Them To Love Each Other  
And Strife

Unity Is Dignity, No Unconscious  
Bias, No Unjust  
Valuing Each Other Is A Must.

Peace, Love, Harmony with  
Blessings Always

# Calling all carers – time to have your say

HEENA PATEL

Unpaid carers are the unsung heroes of Britain's social care system. In Newham and across East London they provide amazing support for their loved ones, often without any recognition. Now they have an opportunity to have their say and to join with others in highlighting the importance of this work.

Carers are being invited to join the NHS East London Community Mental Health Transformation Group under the umbrella of the East London Foundation Trust (ELFT) which is targeting unpaid carers living – or caring for someone in Newham, Tower Hamlets, and City of London and Hackney.

Carers will be paid for their time to take part so long as their loved ones are a current NHS ELFT mental health service user, or have been discharged from the service within the last six months.

The monthly Working Together Group is open to all carers living in or caring for those in Newham.

A 2020 survey of carers about their life and health during the lockdown across the Trust health services highlighted the need to show respect for the role of carers play and strengthen support for them; to improve communication with and information from professionals;

to understand the opportunities and challenges of both face-to-face and virtual service delivery; and above all to listen to the diverse voices of

carers.

In response, the Trust has undertaken a mapping exercise to understand what is currently provided for carers. They now want to use all this information to help shape a refreshed vision across the organisation. Anyone who would like to be part of the conversation can join. All meetings are online. Contact: [heena.patel20@nhs.net](mailto:heena.patel20@nhs.net)

Eligible participants will be paid for their participation and can register at People Participation by completing the 'Getting to Know You' form on <https://bit.ly/3k9y2AW>





Missy's Rona Jones and Clare Geraghty on the right, brewing with Pretty Decent's production team Chris Pollard and Audrey Silver.



## SOMETHING'S BREWING



*Have a beer and save the planet says Phil Mellows – even if you have to wait a little longer for it*

Green beer anyone? No, not those frightful concoctions you get for St Patrick's Day. I mean beer that's a little kinder to the planet.

Down at the Pretty Decent Beer Company in Forest Gate, the brewery is continuing to live up to its name by reducing its impact on the environment over the past year.

Since the summer it's been delivering canned beers by bicycle to customers around London and started collaborating with local food busi-

ness Missy, which now serves drinkers at the firm's Sheridan Road tap room, to find ways they can work together to make a difference.

produce, and from the start they have been especially conscious of the great volume of water that's wasted in brewing. They've always recycled it, but a brewhouse upgrade in the New Year will improve the efficiency of the process, with the aim of making 40 per cent more beer from the same amount of water.

“Since lockdown we've been working harder to reduce our footprint,” said James. “Thanks to the cycle courier we now guarantee zero emis-

Since lockdown we've been working harder to reduce our footprint. ... We've already had a good response. Customers understand what we're doing and they're willing to wait a bit longer for their beer.

ness Missy, which now serves drinkers at the firm's Sheridan Road tap room, to find ways they can work together to make a difference.

It's resulted in two ingenious brews, available soon. One is a rich Baltic Porter for Pretty Decent's (cycle delivered) Christmas hampers brewed with leftover brown bread itself made from spent grains from the brewery.

The other is a Raspberry and Kaffir Lime Gose (a slightly sour and salty German style of beer), brewed with the zest of limes squeezed by Missy for one of its pickles.

James and Sarah Casey, who founded Pretty Decent in 2017, are already known for donating 10p to charity from every can and pint they

sions for can deliveries, and we're exploring how we can do the same with our kegs.

“We've already had a good response. Customers understand what we're doing and they're willing to wait a bit longer for their beer.

“And we hope more people will include environmental issues in their decision-making when they buy a beer. It might be a bit more expensive but they'll know we're trying to do things right, and it will be a rewarding experience for them.

“Through our beers we hope, too, that people will realise everyone can perform these micro-actions. One beer isn't going to save the planet but if you multiply that across a lot of beers, it's going to add up.” ●



*Winter is time for patience, clearing up the debris and good for browsing seed catalogues says Cecilia Cran*

### What to grow:

This month is all about planning, preparation and most of all...patience.

I'm checking out seed catalogues, looking back at what worked well in the garden last year and what I want to plant again, leaving behind the things that didn't earn their keep and carefully planning how I want my summer garden to look and feel.

Maintaining the garden through the less hospitable months is important and worth it when it comes to planting out summer flowering seeds. Make sure that leaves, branches and any other debris is cleared away. Otherwise, pests and diseases can make themselves at home, which is what you want to avoid and stores up more work in the long term. It may seem like a thankless task, but managing your garden through winter will pay dividends through the spring and summer.

Once you have chosen your planting spot and dug the area. Add some grit to the soil– this will provide good drainage. Also consider adding in some organic matter and mixing in some peat free compost too, this will make the soil nice and fertile and give the bulbs all the nutrients they need to produce strong stems up to about 15cm tall and their delicate little blue, bell-shaped blooms.

Bulbs must be planted with the pointed tip facing upwards towards the sky and must be planted to the right depth and spacing – see above. Once the bulbs have been planted, gently press down on the top of soil to ensure the bulbs will be making contact with the soil and then water.

### Green escape: Beckton District Park and Lake

This is a superb spot to enjoy East London's finest flora and fauna. The park has a well equipped children's playground and a good size playing field to kick a football around in.

Alongside the park, there is a huge lake, which is home to an impressive water bird population – you'll see swans, geese, ducks, coots and moorhens amongst others. The lake is flanked by beautiful weeping willows, as well as a fabulous array of other trees showing off their vibrant autumnal colours, along with a great mix of other interesting plants, shrubs and trees.

Unfortunately, it seems like what was once a café is now closed. But there are lots of benches in the park and spots to sit if you want to bring your own flask of something warm – sit and soak up the atmosphere. It's funny how even in the heart of East London, it can feel like you're in the middle of the countryside – bliss! ●



Photo courtesy Cecilia Cran

Alongside garden maintenance, this month I'm planting Scilla Siberica bulbs. This is the latest I would look to put them in, but as a hardy perennial, I'm confident they'll get through the winter and bring beautiful colour to the garden come March next year. Bees also love these nectar rich plants, so you'll help encourage some wildlife to your garden too!

### How to grow:

To get started, choose whether you will be planting them in a pot or the ground. Both work well. For the purposes of this, I'll refer to planting in the ground (but the same rules apply).

Choose the spot you want to put them, plant them around 8cm deep, in well-drained soil, spot that gets sunshine.



Photo courtesy Cecilia Cran

# Woodgrange Market: for a different shopping experience

LORRAINE TAPPER

Woodgrange Market is a familiar sight to Forest Gate locals every Saturday between 10am to 3pm.

Laura Glendinning and Alicia Francis started the market 10 years ago, inspired by their friends who produced arts and crafts but had to go out of the Borough to sell their work.

They wanted to provide a community hub where people could shop and meet up, enjoying a different retail experience.

A council market, it is run by Laura and Alicia on a voluntary basis. Traders pay £15 for the chance to be part of the market with its distinctive yellow gazebos.

There is an eclectic mix of regulars and ad hoc stall holders. Some of the regulars include Italian food, organic vegetables, bread, olives and second-hand books, crafters, vintage sellers, artists, and plant sellers. There are also stalls whose proceeds go to charity.



Woodgrange Market courtesy of Laura Glendinning

A specialist service for cyclists is available on the second Saturday of each month. You can bring your bike down for repair by Newham Cyclists.

This is a great opportunity to test the market for a new product. You can hire a stall for up to three times, with the market covering your insurance for those days.

Laura Glendinning said: "During

lockdown, the market was involved in an amazing project in partnership with Grove Guest House and Occasional Art School E7 to help with isolation. About 80 people took part in crocheting a Christmas tree for the marketplace."

The Gate Library will have an exhibition during December showing how the tree was made. ●

## EVENTS IN DECEMBER

### Saturday, 4 December

- 3pm: Craft Making for Children
  - 3.45pm: Christmas Carol Singing
  - 4pm: Turning on Christmas lights
- Free refreshments provided

### Saturday, 11 December

- 3pm: Performance by King Toadfish & The All Weather Riders, a multi-genre community band
- Free refreshments provided

### Booking details

Stalls are now fully booked until the New Year. Sometimes there are cancellations.

For more information, email [woodgrangemarketplace@gmail.com](mailto:woodgrangemarketplace@gmail.com)



# Kevin's Christmas legacy brings joy to Newham children

FAWN BESS-LEITH

The Newham Christmas Toy Appeal has been launched and renamed The Kevin Jenkins OBE Newham Christmas Toy Appeal in honour of its founder Kevin Jenkins who passed away earlier this year.

The appeal is in its 44th year and is run by charity Ambition, Aspire, Achieve (AAA) with the Newham Recorder, supported by Community Links.

Colin Grainger, trustee and patron of the Appeal, told *Newham Voices* about his first encounter with Kevin over four decades ago when he shared his vision for the campaign. It is for disadvantaged children in the community whose parents cannot afford to buy Christmas presents.

The first year's target was for 500 toys but it has grown to 15,000 as local residents lend increased support, including pensioners providing monetary or hand crafted donations, or even a newspaper boy sharing his pocket money. Businesses also give support.

"The whole community has always been involved but the spirit of community cohesion and togetherness has been more evident since the pandemic," said Mr Grainger, former editor of the *Newham Recorder*.



During the pandemic almost 3,000 families benefited from the appeal, an increase of 1,000 from 2019. However, with more and more families living below the poverty line, the need has increased significantly.

The charity is committed to carrying forward Kevin's legacy this year

and beyond.

Each youngster will get a sack with at least 4-5 brand new appropriate toys and other resources tailored to meet their individual needs. Newham Council's children and young people's workforce refer families in need and as a referrer for the past two years I can testify to the positive impact of this project.

"I have struggled with my mental health this year and to be honest I don't think I have thought about Christmas or presents. To receive this I am very grateful and it has made me very emotional that people are still looking out for each other. It has uplifted me" one parent said.

AAA's vision is for every child and young person to have Ambition, the confidence to Aspire and the self-belief to Achieve. Anyone wishing to donate directly can visit the Amazon Wish List at: [www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1PSGXVJOPIR-4F?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1PSGXVJOPIR-4F?ref_=wl_share)

Donations can also be made in person at the Terence Brown Arc In The Park, Canning Town. ●

# Cheers!

Zhenreenah Muhxinga shares a recipe for a festive tippie using dried sorrel

### Equipment:

- 4 Litre Stainless Steel Pot
- Large Strainer
- Large container with lid

### Ingredients (makes 10 cups):

- 2 1/2 cups dried sorrel
- 3 oz fresh ginger, grated
- 5 pimento berries
- 10 cups boiling water
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 3/4 cup white rum

### Method:

- Place sorrel, ginger and pimento berries in a large pot or mixing bowl
- Pour boiling water over the ingredients; stir and place in fridge overnight to steep
- Using a large strainer, pour the steeped liquid into another container; use a spoon to squeeze more liquid out of the sorrel
- Add sugar, lemon juice and rum to sorrel and stir until sugar dissolves

Enjoy over ice!

## SPORTS SHORTS

Compiled by Neandra Etienne



Fight for Peace, Athena with trophy, Donte smiling in the back, Eniola with the medal

Local athlete **Athena Bashar** also moved her record to 2-0 securing her latest victory via referee stoppage. And, on the same day, Donte Da Costa showed an excellent display of skill to win his fourth competitive bout.

[fightforpeace.net](https://fightforpeace.net)

**Upton Park Ladies Football** team will no longer be playing in the GLWFL (Greater London Women's Football League). Until next season they plan to compete in 5 and 7-a-side leagues while they put together a squad of committed players. If you would like to join their team please email [info@uptonparkladies.com](mailto:info@uptonparkladies.com)

Former University of East London scholar and Paralympian athlete **Ali Jawad** was interviewed by East London Sport. Ali discusses how his Powerlifting career started and the launch of his app aimed at helping raise opportunities for disabled people.

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

**West Ham United Foundation** is running three fun football sessions as part of Holiday Hammers from 20-23 December in Beckton E6 5NX [www.whufc.com/club-foundation](https://www.whufc.com/club-foundation)

Congratulations to the four Masters swimmers **Christine Jaeggi, Peter Dixon, Ralph Pinel** and **Reece Parker**, who competed at the Swim England Masters National Champs at Ponds Forge International Sports Centre in Sheffield on the 29, 30 and 31 October.

The swimmers, who are part of the Newham and University of East London Swimming Club, achieved an impressive haul of medals, with top 10 finishes and super times! Three of their youth swimmers are taking part in national championships in Sheffield and Swansea in December.

*The Newham University of East London (NUEL) Late County Qualifier Open Meet 2021 is open to the public for spectating only at £10 per person per day on 4 and 5 December 2021 (Saturday and Sunday), London Aquatic Centre, Stratford, London E20 2ZQ*

<https://uk.teamunify.com/Home>



Christine Jaeggi (left) Peter Dixon (centre) Ralph Pinel (right) Reece Parker (not pictured)

City Boxing Camp is a brand new Boxing gym in Stratford. They are a family run organisation who cater for the communities fitness needs through boxing inspired workouts. Their classes are suitable for all ages from seven upwards. All levels are welcome.

[www.cityboxingcamp.co.uk](https://www.cityboxingcamp.co.uk)

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



City Boxing Camp

Congratulations to **St Bon's Year 10 Football** team who continue winning ways after successfully overcoming Eastbrook in a 4-1 victory in the u15 Essex Cup. They are currently undefeated in all competitions this year. The team's effort coupled with their technical ability makes them a formidable unit. The team are now looking forward to competing against Goffs School in the National Cup, Davenant School in the Essex Cup and finding out their opponents are in the London Cup.

**Forest Crusaders WFC** is recruiting players for the 2021/22 season. Their training sessions take place on Tuesdays at Forest Gate Community School 6.30pm- 8pm. Anyone interested in being a part of their team should direct message them at:

[@forestcrusaderswfc](https://www.instagram.com/forestcrusaderswfc/) or email [forestcrusaderswomen@hotmail.com](mailto:forestcrusaderswomen@hotmail.com)

Three-time Paralympian Amy Conroy is among the roster of international talent joining the **East London Phoenix** ahead of the launch of the newly formed British Wheelchair Basketball Women's Premier League.

"The first thing that drew me in was the chance to live in London and the fact that it's the first ever franchise that the University of East London have launched," said Amy. Charlotte Thornton White, Fi Tillman, Freya Levy, Curran Brown, Evelyn Roberts, Beth Wheeler and Nik Terrell are also joining the squad.

The league is a game-changer for the sport, becoming the first of its kind for women's wheelchair basketball globally and the first professional para-sport league in the UK. The East London Phoenix are currently the only professional para-sport side in London, and one of only four university-based franchises joining the league.

**The East London Phoenix** will play their matches at SportsDock on the University of East London's Dock-



East London Phoenix players (l-r) Nik Terrell, Beth Wheeler, Evelyn Roberts and Amy Conroy

lands campus. SportDock's world class facilities were home to Team USA during the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games, and today are used as a training venue for the London Lions, who play in the top tier of the British Basketball League (BBL) and Women's British Basketball League (WBBL).

The season begins in January 2022 [@EastLDNPhoenix](https://www.britishwheelchairbasketball.co.uk/womens-premier-league) [@EastLDN\\_Sport](https://www.instagram.com/EastLDN_Sport) [@BritWheelBBall](https://www.instagram.com/BritWheelBBall)

Good luck to **Divin Mubama** who signed his first professional contract for **West Ham United FC** on his birthday. Former St Bons student Divin grew up in Newham.

"It was a very proud moment for me and my family. I've been at the Club since I was eight," said Divin. "My dream is to be the record goal scorer at West Ham - also the Premier League - and one day get West Ham to the Champions League."

[@divinmubama](https://www.instagram.com/divinmubama) <https://www.whufc.com/>



Divin Mubama ©Arfa Griffiths

**The University of East London Men and Women's Volleyball** 1st teams are playing Premier League matches (featuring top university teams in the country) on 1 December. They are taking place at the SportsDock on UEL's Docklands campus.

The Men's Volleyball 1st team will also be playing a Premier League match there on 15 December.

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

**Clapton CFC's Women's First Team** currently sit top of their league, unbeaten in eight games. They have also had a fantastic Vitality Women's FA Cup run. After three rounds, they are through to the Second Round Proper.

In the league they will be facing Enfield Town Thirds away on 5 December, Comets at home on 12 December and Bromley FC away on 19 December.

The Tons are currently playing at Wadham Lodge, Kitchener Road, Walthamstow, E17 4JP. Entry is free but donations are welcome.

[www.claptoncfc.co.uk](https://www.claptoncfc.co.uk)

Good luck to the London Lions team who have advanced to the final of the Women's British Basketball League (WBBL) cup final.

<http://www.wbbl.org.uk> <https://www.thelondonlions.com>

## Eniola, a two time winner

Newham boxer **Eniola Akingbesote** has been a Fight for Peace member for many years, starting his Boxing journey as a young teenager. In 2018, he became the London Junior Development Champion.

Recently Eniola returned to the ring to begin his bid to secure the title of London Development Champion again, this time in the youth category.

After swiftly moving through the early competition rounds and into the final, Eniola won with a 4-1 split decision making him a two-time London Champion!

"I am very excited, and I feel like a true champion because I haven't only done it once but twice now,"

said Eniola.

He is now en route to challenge for the national title and, having claimed victory in his quarter final, now moves on to the semi-finals and finals in Banbury, Oxfordshire.



# Hammers fly so high in the Premiership



**WEST HAM 3 - 2 LIVERPOOL.**  
**Mickey Ambrose celebrates the Hammers' move into the top flight of the Premier League as Moyes does it again**

I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles is a popular American song written in 1918 and has been sung by West Ham supporters since the 1920s and, though Wolves brought us down to earth soon after, my god didn't the fans sing their hearts out at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Stadium following the stunning victory against the mighty Reds of Liverpool FC.

The only bubble that burst was Liverpool's 25-game unbeaten run and as the final whistle went you could hear the corks from the bottles of champagne popping and flying across pubs and living rooms along Stratford High Street for those fans who couldn't get the golden ticket for the game.

David Moyes masterminded this victory in such a way the Hammers outfought and outthought Liverpool in every way by letting the visitors have most of the possession during this pulsating match which took your breath away every time the team went forward.

It was the archetypal West Ham performance, punctuated with potency on the counter-attack and physicality at set-pieces, in what is turning out to be another outstanding season for Moyes's side. After only four minutes of play,

West Ham took the lead with their first attack as Pablo Fornals' corner skimmed off the glove of Alisson the

Liverpool goalkeeper, and into the net classed as an own goal. Liverpool by nature love the passing game, pass and move and I remember watching the likes of Steve Heighway, Dalglish, Rush, and Keegan who could open up any defence back in the day with passes that could slice through butter.

Tactically, though the Hammers were spot on again because they knew Liverpool would play high up the pitch and leave space at the back which they exploited. The plan to hurt them on the counter-attack worked perfectly and you have to give credit to the players for following the manager's instructions to a tee.

There were moments of quality, too, in particular the equaliser four minutes into the second half when Trent Alexander-Arnold curled home a stunning strike for the visitors. But West Ham regained the lead midway through the second half when Fornals was put through on goal and Alisson was unable to keep out his low shot.



Mickey Ambrose

That goal led to the London Stadium exploding into the deafening noise, which became even louder - similar to when Mo Farrah did the double 5,000 and 10,000 in the same stadium in 2012 - as Kurt Zouma headed home in a corner minutes later. Divock Origi swept in a second on the turn to give Liverpool hope of rescuing something, but West Ham kept their nerve and focus to take the three points and go third.

On a more sombre note, the football family lost former Everton, Scotland, and Rangers manager Walter Smith at the age of 73, having lost Howard Kendall in 2015 the other side of Mersey are mourning another great football icon in Walter, with Howard being described as the most successful manager in Everton's history. Rest In Peace.

**Mickey Ambrose** is a former Charlton and Chelsea player

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*Note: Our next issue goes to print on 25th November*

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We have developed a short survey to help us understand who our audience is and why people are reading *Newham Voices*.

Your response will help us to shape the paper so that it is more relevant and serves you, our audience, better.

The survey should take approximately 5 – 10 minutes to complete. You may skip a question but please be as complete as possible. Your responses are voluntary and will be confidential. Responses will not be individually identifiable unless you choose to share your details for the prize draw.

Return the printed copy to: *Newham Voices* reader survey, 11 Vicarage Road E15 4HD or you can take the survey online at: [www.newhamvoices.co.uk](http://www.newhamvoices.co.uk)

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