

Act now over child poverty crisis – MP

KAROLINA KRÓLICZEK

A shocking new report shows that half of all children in Newham are living in poverty.

And East Ham MP Sir Stephen Timms, one of Britain's leading anti-poverty campaigners has warned that unless urgent action is taken, the situation will get even worse.

Timms says a new strategy is needed to combat the threat to children in the midst of a deepening cost of living crisis.

As workers across the public and private sectors are forced to take industrial action to defend their living standards (See Page 5) and when food banks in the Borough are stretched with demands from people unable to feed their families, there are fears that rising poverty levels may trigger social unrest.

"I can well understand these forebodings and I share them myself," he told *Newham Voices*, "but what we need, most of all, is a general election and a change of government."

His call for change comes as the End Child Poverty Coalition (ECPC) released figures showing that 49.5 percent of children in Newham were living below the poverty line between 2020-2021, compared to the average 35 percent for London as a whole.

Nearby Bethnal Green and Bow face



Food banks under pressure (@HASPhotos/Shutterstock.com) and, inset, Stephen Timms

an extreme child poverty rate of 56.1 percent.

The latest ECPC report says Newham was among the top 20 UK boroughs with the highest child poverty rates. East Ham was ranked second in the country with 50.1 percent of children living below the poverty line, and nearby West Ham ranked fifth.

Commenting on the figures Timms, who is also Chair of the Parliamentary Work and Pensions Select Committee, said: "Thirteen years ago, I took the Child Poverty Act through Parliament. It required ministers and local authorities to produce and update strategies for tackling child poverty.

"Unfortunately, the Coalition Government repealed the Act. It's time now to get serious about tackling child poverty again. It causes great harm in the present, but also reduces the country's economic potential in the future."

Joseph Howes, the ECPC Chair echoes these concerns. "The numbers may have gone down overall during the initial period of the COVID crisis, but it still feels like we are on the edge of a precipice," he said, "there is significant concern that they will now rise again

sharply with families facing huge cost increases in the coming months".

The latest figures also show that children from minority ethnic communities are more likely to experience poverty than children from white British families. Between 2019/2020 as much as 48 percent of Black households

in the UK were living in poverty, compared to 26 percent of those living in White families.

CEO of the Race Equality Foundation, Jabeer Butt OBE said: "Unfortunately, rather than addressing these failings, the Government pushed more children into poverty by removing the £20 universal credit uplift. The lost education, the lost welfare support and now the cost of living crisis have not only pushed more children from these communities into poverty, but are likely to hinder their ability to use education as a ladder out of poverty in adulthood."

Alison Garnham, Chief Executive of Child Poverty Action Group says that restoring the value of benefits and ensuring they keep up with inflation must be a priority.

"These are grim figures for London but it's grimmer still that many of the children who were lifted out of poverty last year by the £20 uplift to Universal Credit have already been forced back over the brink by the decision to cut the uplift," she said.

But solving the crisis is not just about the welfare of children, says Timms. "It's not just about supporting individual children," he told *Newham Voices*, "it's also about the well-being of our society and about meeting our country's potential." ●

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Social inequality on the health agenda

£15,000 funding to boost Well Newham Challenge

Over £15,000 in funding has been made available to staff at Newham Hospital in the first round of funding of the Well Newham Challenge.

Seven projects are being funded by Newham Council which aim to improve the health of borough residents by addressing the non-medical, social factors that can negatively impact their health. Speaking on the collaboration, Councillor Neil Wilson, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, said: "Social Prescribing is a key pledge of Building a Fairer Newham, the Manifesto of May 2022, and this is a

part of our work to expand the reach of social prescribing across the Borough."

In order to be eligible for the funding, each team had to demonstrate how their project will help improve and overcome social determinants of health, such as language and culture, social interaction and inclusion and housing and living.

The seven projects funded in this round come from different teams across Newham Hospital and will be supported by the hospital's quality improvement team in their development, delivery and evaluation.

Well Newham Challenge: Round 1

- **Caring for cardiac patients:** This project will involve patients attending routine cardiovascular disease appointments who might benefit from targeted help to meet income and financial challenges arising from unemployment or poor housing and living standards.
- **Couch-to-5K support:** Provide a supported Couch to 5k community with facilitated group running sessions and provide related health information from health professionals. Improving literature: This

project will review existing patient literature and, if necessary, create a series of leaflets for those who are at risk from colorectal cancer. Leaflets in community languages will be co-produced with residents and voluntary sector partners.

- **Managing diabetes:** To improve diabetes management for patients from the Asian community, the team will develop a carbohydrate exchange list, specific to the Asian/Bangladeshi community containing the community's most popular foods.
- **Medicines translations:** Translate medicine instruction labels and supporting information into community languages.
- **A matter of balance:** Develop a falls program based on the "matter of balance" programme, designed to reduce fear of falling and improve activity levels, to reduce falls risks at home and improve their strength/balance.
- **Improving gestational diabetes care:** Improve the peer support and education provided to women with gestational diabetes, especially those with other barriers to accessing services (language and social complexity for example).



Get walking and make health a personal priority says Council

PETER LANDMAN

Get walking and develop a personal exercise programme – these are among the key recommendations from councillors to help residents improve their health and enjoyment of life.

Members of the Newham Council Cabinet have agreed a number of recommendations for healthy living after a report from the council's Scrutiny Commission on health inequalities.

The report was drawn up after reviewing problems of health ine-

quality as highlighted by the review of health inequalities in England carried out by Professor Michael Marmot from University College London.

He concluded that health inequalities arise from social and economic factors particularly in areas of deprivation and could only be tackled by policy objectives that focus on help for children, providing fair employment and decent working conditions, improving living standards and strengthening good work the role and impact of ill-health prevention.

As part of their report, the Scrutiny

Commission gathered further evidence from the Marmot designated cities of Coventry and Greater Manchester and the Institute of Health Equity, which was set up after the Marmot review.

The Commission has recommended that council departments need to work in partnership with the government, the NHS, voluntary groups, charities, and hard to reach individuals.

The recommendations from the Scrutiny Commission report include:

- To promote Local Walking Groups.
- To develop an Online Healthy Living and Exercise Programme, that relates to lessening health inequalities, and that can be followed at one's own convenience.

These recommendations and the objectives of the report aim to tackle the reality of lower life expectancy rates in poorer areas of London compared with richer areas of the capital. ●

Full details of the report and recommendations are available from Jason.strelitz@newham.gov.uk for further information.



New clinic opens to ease blood tests crisis

AIDAN WHITE

Problems over getting access to blood tests in Newham have eased with the opening of a new blood test clinic in Stratford's Westfield Shopping Centre.

The new clinic was opened by the local NHS on 12 July following protests and complaints from patients highlighted by *Newham Voices* earlier this year.

The East London NHS Foundation Trust acted after public governors at the trust voiced concerns over the switch from walk-in blood testing to an online appointments-only system.

This took many people by surprise and led to problems for vulnerable groups, particularly people in their 60s and 70s, who found online services difficult to access.

The new interim clinic will be the fifth blood test clinic in Newham and will provide an appointment-only service from 8am-8pm which will increase the availability of blood test slots in the Borough and will reduce waiting times.



Jacqui Birkett with the new clinic team

Service Manager Jacqui Birkett said: "We are pleased to be able to offer a fifth option to local people. It means we have more blood test appointments available. Being based in the Westfield Shopping Centre means it is quite central and people can combine having their blood test with other activities."

Newham carries out around 300,000 blood tests each year and the online booking service was first introduced last year during the pandemic when it became unsafe to maintain waiting

rooms at existing clinics because of social-distancing rules.

Many patients who were unwell and frail, found themselves queuing up outside health centres, sometimes in poor weather.

NHS managers hoped that the new Swiftqueue system, which is widely used in other boroughs in north east London, would make it easy for people to book in advance, but some people were unaware of the change and many were shocked to find that they had to wait more than two weeks for an appointment under the new arrangement.

There are a number of slots reserved each day for urgent blood test requests, which have to be authorised by GPs but the old walk-in system which meant people could get routine tests within a day or two of seeing their doctor has now been finally abandoned.

For people who are not able or confident to use the online booking system, a phone line is available. In future the main way to book a blood test is online but with waiting times reduced thanks to the new clinic. ●

Council upgrades special needs following Ofsted criticism

Peter Landman reports from the latest council Cabinet meeting where improvements to services for children and young adults with special needs and disabilities were outlined

The Council failed a recent inspection by Ofsted and so is required by law to issue a written statement on improvements.

The Ofsted Inspection highlighted, in particular: delays and poor quality assessments; lack of user involvement; and not having arrangements in place for joint commissioning.

The Council SEND team presented an investment and improvement report to the July meeting of Cabinet. This is an ambitious report as it aims for a redesign of the service.

To begin with, temporary extra funding of £300,000 was agreed to clear the backlog of assessments, and permanent extra funding of £629,000 was agreed for further developments.

The main aims are:

1. To improve the situation on assessments. The service will increase the numbers of special education needs case workers, and educational psychologists; and promote the Tools for Schools best practice guidance.

2. To lessen the number of costly out of Borough placements. The service will increase the number of placement support officers to make last ditch attempts to avoid placing special needs children and young adults outside of Newham.

3. To make transition to young adulthood smoother. The service will create more education, employment and training practitioner posts.

4. To develop user involvement. The service will create a co-production lead position, in particular to work more closely with the Newham Parent Carer Forum and the Youth Empowerment Service.

If you wish to know more, or offer views and experiences contact **Tim Aldridge @ newham.gov.uk**

See what you've done!

Soo Dhowaada, Bine aṭi venit, Miśto avile, Witamy, Mirë se vini!, Bem-vindo(a), Sveiki atvykę, आपनुं स्वागत छे, خوش آمدید, வரவேற்கிறோம், স্বাগতম, Welcome!

ROSIE WHICHELOE

Back in September last year, *Newham Voices* published an article about the funding and votes the people of Manor Park gave to our project and how we were setting out to make the garden you wanted to see.

And can I just personally say "WOW" – have you seen the results? Manor Park now has a beautiful community garden full of fruit, vegetables, flowers and butterflies, thanks to the hard work of the community: supporting, voting, planning, designing, building, volunteering, and connecting over the last 12 months.

We have a growing team of volunteers helping with watering and general duties during the week. At the weekends we are organising workshops and events in the garden from yoga, to gardening workshops in partnership with LoopLabs, to co-design workshops on renewable energy.

As a *Newham Voices* reader, do you have an activity you would like to run

in the garden? We are now looking for ways to make the garden more accessible and open during the week. The garden is a beautiful sociable space, and a great place to meet your neighbours, it is also a great space to share knowledge and take part in art, crafts and growing. We are making compost, have tables and chairs, a huge greenhouse, tools and large raised beds. Get in touch: e12garden@gmail.com, www.e12garden.com, @e12garden.

Upcoming Events:

- **30 July - Gardening 101** (In partnership with Loop labs and Flourish)
- **31 July - Growing in small spaces** (In partnership with Loop Labs and Flourish)
- **14 August - You can't grow that here!** (In partnership with Loop Labs and Flourish)
- **20 August - Community Energy Workshop** (In partnership with UCL, KCL and Repowering London)



Yannick Bourdain and Agne Juknevicicite

A song and dance to celebrate Jamaica's 60 years of independence

ZHENREENAH MUHXINGA

People in Newham of Jamaican ancestry have a day to celebrate on August 6 – Jamaica Independence Day – and the 60th anniversary of independence.

There will be the launch of the 'Jamaica Independence Festival,' which showcases a grand parade, traditional music, the World Reggae Dance Final, and other events to celebrate.

Jamaica Independence Day is celebrated every August. This day became a national celebration in 1962 when Jamaica became independent with full dominion status in the Commonwealth, under a constitution that retained the British monarch as head of state. The first elected Prime Minister was Alexander Bustamante.

Jamaica's independence meant that Britain no longer controlled the country's affairs. Last month the government announced plans to become a republic in 2025, cutting links with the British monarchy.



The country is already autonomous with affairs primarily managed by the Prime Minister and his locally elected cabinet. Furthermore, Jamaica's independence has meant that they have created their own constitution, sym-

bols, emblems, army, currency, and passports.

Jamaica was one of the first colonies in the so-called 'new world' of European colonialism. Jamaica became a Spanish colony in 1509. In May 1655,

the British took over the island during the Anglo-Spanish War. In the 1950s, the British Empire broke up; thus, Jamaica took advantage of the situation to make several amendments to its constitution to allow greater self-government and a Prime Minister. In 1958,

In 1962, the 'Jamaica Labour Party,' under the leadership of Bustamante, won the elections, which resulted in the passing of the Jamaica Independence Act by the United Kingdom Parliament on July 19, 1962. On August 6, 1962, the British granted them independence, and the Jamaican flag flew for the first time with Bustamante as first Prime Minister and with the new country joining the Commonwealth.

On Saturday 6 August 2022 the Jamaican flag will be raised at The old East Ham Town Hall and Stratford Town Hall in the early part of the morning.

Celebration event details can be found at [#jamaica60thindependence](#) or [@eventbrite / shoobs / www.getyourtickets.co.uk](#)

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CASE NO. 12333-2022

BETWEEN: GABRIEL GABMAN **Applicant** and SRA **Respondent**

I Gabriel Gabman of Flat 16 Banting House, Ainsworth Close, London NW2 7ED was admitted a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Judicature on 01/04/2004

By an Order of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal dated the 08/10/2009

I was struck off the Roll and:

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- 2) I advertise this application in accordance with the Rules.
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- 4) Any objections to this application should be served on the Tribunal and the parties to the application no later than 21 days before the hearing date. The Tribunal may allow the person objecting to the application to appear before it at the hearing, call evidence and make representations upon which the Tribunal may allow the person to be cross-examined.
- 5) The Applicants address for service is above or MR GABRIEL GABMAN, FLAT 16 BANTING HOUSE, AINSWORTH CLOSE, CRICKLEWOOD, LONDON NW2 7ED
The Respondent's address for service is c/o Ms Jennifer Ackers, SRA, The Cube, 199 Wharfedale Street, Birmingham, B1 1RN or legaladvicerequests@sra.org.uk
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Note: Our next issue goes to print on 29 July 2022

Give us justice at work say striking barristers

Industrial action which has ignited a summer of confrontation across public services, transport networks and among people working in poorly-paid jobs has also inspired Britain's legal professionals to strike in defence of living standards.

On 18 July Tim Kiely, a criminal barrister living in East Ham, made his way to the Palace of Westminster in full court dress to meet with his MP, Sir Stephen Timms.

He was one of around 150 members of the Criminal Bar Association (CBA) who gathered that day to lobby their MPs on the state of the justice system,

as their strike action entered its fourth week.

MPs who attended were briefed on how years of chronic underfunding has led to a growing backlog of 58,000 cases, a crumbling court infrastructure and a shrinking pool of lawyers.

Criminal barristers in their first three years of practice, they heard, earn a median income amounting to £6.25 per hour, for a 40 hour week, which is significantly below the minimum wage.

As a result young people, many of them traditionally less well represented at the Bar, especially those

from black and minority ethnic backgrounds, women and people with disabilities, are simply leaving the profession.

A quarter of specialists have left in the last five years, including 40 per cent of its most junior practitioners in the last year alone.

At minimum, the CBA and its members argue, an urgent injection of cash is needed to raise the fees earned by barristers whose work is funded by Legal Aid, as well as an independent pay-review body and proper remuneration for written work and cases involving pre-recorded evidence from

Criminal barristers in their first three years of practice, they heard, earn a median income amounting to £6.25 per hour, for a 40 hour week, which is significantly below the minimum wage.

vulnerable witnesses.

Following their discussion, Timms raised with Dominic Raab, the Secretary of State for Justice, the issue of a promised fee-rise by way of Statutory Instrument, and whether this would also apply to the current backlog of cases.

Tim Kiely said: "I appreciate the time taken by Stephen Timms to address this issue. But there is always more to be done. The fight goes on." ●



Tim Kiely meets Stephen Timms in Westminster

V&A East: what's in it for us seniors?

EastBank Seniors, Visible in Newham and other London 2012 boroughs sought an audience with Dr Gus Casely-Hayford, director of the V&A East which will soon be a feature of life in the Olympic Park area

The Victoria and Albert Museum in South Kensington has always been a favourite of EastBank Seniors' subscribers and so it was their curiosity which led them to make the journey into the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to question how the V&A East could benefit those getting on in years, who survived the pandemic and are challenged every day by other global matters.

"We should recognise that we are a less-confident society than pre-Covid and we need healing through creativity", said Dr Gus. "We need to bring communities together".

He reminded us that the answer for us seniors to benefit from V&A East lays in the innate passion we do have for creativity, its relevance to our lives through making and doing, seeing and touching, and that by recognising these human aspects we can come together both spiritually and physically in a cultural space.

Neighbouring communities have a right to be included in E20's economic boom. For two years the director had sought opinions and preferences from local people about the incoming V&A East. To attract groups of people who have been marginalised historically, treasures from every continent over 5000 years will be available and seen.

Dr Gus is planning to meet every school student in the four surrounding boroughs to share his team's work and to consolidate the links to the national curriculum.

At his encounter with EastBank Seniors, he met for the first time a group of seniors adamant that they be included in the realisation of a vision of community and inclusion through art.

To subscribe to EastBank Seniors email gillianamuir@aol.co.uk



External view of the new V&A East Museum, designed by O'Donnell + Tuomey. © O'Donnell + Tuomey/Ninety90, 2018. From www.vam.ac.uk

HAVE YOUR SAY – LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@newhamvoices.co.uk

Transport for London and the Silvertown Town Tunnel

I was struck by the passion, conviction and range of arguments expressed against the tunnel in your piece "Fresh plea to halt tunnel as health fears grow" (*Newham Voices* July).

But fact is fact. Transport for London has received the go ahead.

TFL had to consider a second river crossing in view of frequent congestion at the Blackwall Tunnel, and they are introducing measures to mitigate pollution.

I have received a press release, detailing the measures:

- To lay on 20 zero emission buses to go through the tunnel.

- To spend £2 million in concessionary fare arrangements for local people.

- To levy a user charge on cars approaching the tunnel, with the aim to discourage non essential journeys into the tunnel.

Meanwhile Riverlinx, the company responsible for the tunnel construction, will be monitoring air quality as required by their code of practice.

Also they aim to have 55 percent of the construction materials ferried across by river.

During the preparation process for the Development Control Order, TFL had to face scrutiny from planning

inspectors on a health and equalities assessment and on air quality monitoring.

The Silvertown Tunnel Implementation Group, which includes representation from other agencies, including neighbouring Councils, meets monthly.

Thomas Canning, Press Officer, states: "We will continue to engage with the local community and monitor traffic, air quality and other factors..."

For further detail or expression of views, email SilvertownTunnel@tfl.gov.uk

– Peter Landman, East Ham

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Maths on the High Street a winner for Eman and Anishka

Two 11-year-old pupils of Lathom Junior School in East Ham, Eman Ali and Anishka Ithayachandran, have won the “Sum it Up” maths competition, launched by leading edtech provider Renaissance Learning.

Open to all primary school children across the UK and Ireland, the competition encouraged children to think big about how maths can be found in the everyday and create imaginative artwork showing their vision of where they can see and experience maths in the world around them.

“We are best friends and really like working together so this was fun!” said the two winners, “We decided to design our poster based on an everyday scene on a normal high street and the people that would go there and the things you would see. Taking part in the competition helps us to see that numbers are all around us.”

Their joint design was chosen from over 450 entries and provided a visual interpretation of how they picture maths on their local East Ham High Street.



Eman and Anishka

Eman and Anishka’s winning picture was chosen by a panel of expert judges including Catherine Magee, Teacher of the Year in a Primary School Silver Winner and Kjartan Poskitt, author of the Murderous Maths series.

The judges were really impressed by the inventive and inspiring ideas in

Eman and Anishka’s winning entry, pointing out how they showed the world in all its mathematical glory – from small items like the handbag on a passer-by to bigger objects like buses. Through their vibrant, detailed drawing it is clear to see that there is maths on the ground, at eye level, at building height and even in the sky.

Eman and Anishka’s teacher Janine Lodhia says: “I am really thrilled children from our school have won – there are not many maths competitions available for children to enter so we grabbed the chance!”

The artistic talents of the winners has won Eman and Anishka and their fellow artists a Kindle Fire and a year’s subscription to Renaissance’s Freckle and Star Maths practice and assessment solutions for their class or school.

More information about Renaissance and Freckle can be found at www.renlearn.co.uk/freckle/

Girl Guides and Brownies back on track

JULIA OMARI

As lockdown fades from memory, it’s great to witness young people falling back into regular routines and once again attending their favourite clubs, which for many girls in Newham means Girl Guiding.

The Guides run a number of clubs throughout Newham organised according to age: Rainbows 5-7; Brownies 7-10; Guides 10-14; and Rangers 14+

Girl Guiding clubs offer the opportunity for friendship bonding, skill building, adventurous trips, cultural learning, arts and crafts and so much more. One of the highlights of Guides is the ongoing support given by the volunteer leaders to help each attendee earn badges and develop into confident young women.

The ultimate Brownie goal is the Gold Award. Once in-person classes returned, Imaani Hussain, 11, achieved the Gold Award after working on the badge Guide curriculum. Imaani has now moved up to the next level of Guides.

Find out more at: girlguiding.org.uk

Advertorial

Inspiring stories: “NewVlc is what you make it, amazing for those who want to be here!”

Meet Jadyen, NewVlc’s SU President as he reflects on his first year at college.

Jadyen is a first-year student studying A Levels in Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics. Alongside his course, Jadyen is also doing an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Jadyen is involved in many opportunities available for students at NewVlc. Jadyen is also the college’s Student Union President and involved in the Student Council and Student Ambassador volunteering scheme. He is also an avid musician and singer hoping to get his musical career off the ground. Jadyen was home schooled prior to joining the college. We caught up with Jadyen to find out a little more about his journey so far.

What made you choose NewVlc?

“Funny story, I was a home-schooled student during GCSEs and by the time I realized I had to start applying for sixth forms and colleges, most of the deadlines had passed. I ended up googling ‘Top London Sixth Forms’ and NewVlc was one of the first results. Of all the colleges I looked at, I found that NewVlc had the



Jadyen

most appealing campus and a massive academic support system; teachers here give their all to help you succeed!”

How have you found college so far?

“Being at NewVlc has definitely been one of the greatest times of my life, I have made friends from all walks of life, had a chance to do crazy things, and have been represented on different stages I never thought I would see. I really like the community spirit here. If you drop by one of the NewVlc Knights basketball games, you will definitely feel like you belong to a family. It’s amazing, really!”

Is there anything you wish you had known that you do now?

“It’s never too late. I wish I had taken the jump with many of my aspirations and goals, instead of procrastinating just because I did not think I was capable of doing it. If you have something, you want to do with your life, take the jump now! Do not think you cannot do it just because you are different from the other people doing it as well. You’ve got this!”

Who is the most inspiring person you have ever met?

“Emmanuel Smith. An awe-inspiring gospel singer/songwriter - I knew him from his humble beginnings, and it has been amazing to see how he has grown and developed into a star. Last, I saw, he was performing at an internationally renowned church with some GRAMMY award-winning artistes! Good on him.”

Tell us about being the Student Union President and a part of Student Council?

“I am over the moon for being elected as Student Union President for the next academic year and excited about voicing student concerns and issues. I love to help others and why not as president to

my peers? I believe in making change for young people and I am grateful that the student community voted for me and believe in my abilities. This opportunity will enable me to gain new skills that will help me in my future. I can’t wait to get started in my role and working with the rest of the student council.”

What is your advice for students considering NewVlc?

“Do it. Just like any other place, NewVlc is what you make it, amazing for those who want to be here! Being at NewVlc is sensational; you will meet teachers who are alumni from top universities and staff who have mentored big names in the entertainment industry. Come explore this haven, I look forward to meeting you all :)”

So what is next for you?

“I’m shooting for Harvard University in the USA, hoping to study Computer Science. Hopefully I’ll get my own musical career of the ground; but in the meanwhile, I’m working towards doing a PhD in Artificial Intelligence.”

Hear more student stories at www.newvic.ac.uk/student-blog



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Newham Libraries

A variety of fun activities are taking place during the summer holidays for children and young people including: Lego Club (ages 3-12), Cupcake Decorating (ages 5+), Gamers Zone (ages 2-13), Popcorn and Movies (ages 2-13), Scavenger Hunt (ages 2-16) and Go Gadgetees – Workshop Age 6+

[@NewhamLibraries](#)



'Celebrating 10 Years' Festival Site

A free to enter festival site with a big screen has been set up in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

You can watch the Commonwealth Games live, blockbuster movies, and some iconic summer of sport moments from the London 2012 Games.

In addition there will be a line-up of off-screen activities: live performances, karaoke and a Commonwealth Craft Market. Mobile football, rugby and cricket pitches will provide unique and portable entertainment

For the kids there's garden games and TikTok workshops. Bikeworks will exhibit a collection of unusual bikes – including one that makes smoothies!

Sunday 24 July to Monday 8 August, 11am until 9pm every night, Hopkins Field on the northern section of Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

Monday 8 August, 1pm – 3:30: film *Spider Man – No Way Home*

queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk

Hope 4 Humanity Children's Club

Summer club for children, funded by the Council, is taking place at two locations.

Free breakfast and lunch will be served to the children.

• Club 1: H4H- Grangewood Club, Chester Road, E7 8QT, 26 July 2022 – 22 Aug, 10:30am – 2:30pm, Monday – Friday



Hope 4 Humanity

• Club 2: H4H – Durning Hall Community Centre, Earlham Grove, E7 9AB, 26 July 2022 – 22 August, 10:30am – 2:30pm, Monday – Friday

[@Hope4HumanityH2H](#)

SEND Play Sessions

Summer holiday play sessions for children aged 5-11 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and their families (parents/carers and siblings welcome)

26 July – 25 August, Tuesdays 10am-12pm, Thursdays 1-3pm, Royal Wharf Community Dock, E16 2ZA

wsfroyaldocks.org/special-events

Kids Summer Splash

Dive into family fun as Kids Summer Splash brings you dock swimming, super sandpits, deckchair chilling, and much more.

It is free and open to swimmers and sandcastle-builders of any age

1 – 21 August, 10am – 6pm daily, Royal Victoria Dock, E16 1AG

www.royaldocks.london/whats-on



West Silvertown Events

There are lots of activities at the Royal Wharf Community Dock!

• Photo Walk – Wednesday 3 August – 10am-12pm

• Just a Minute – Tuesday 9 August – 10-11:30am

• Karaoke Day – Wednesday 10 August – 12-1pm

• Bring and Share – Thursday 17 August – 1-2:30pm

For details email hello@wsfroyaldocks.org or visit wsfroyaldocks.org

Repair Café

If you have anything that needs repairing, whether it's digital devices, household appliances, or clothing, bring it along to the Repair Café, where experts will help you repair broken items.

The aim is to encourage reuse and prevent waste.

Saturday 13 August, 11am-2pm, East Ham Library

eastlondonwaste.gov.uk/repair-cafes

Royal Docks Learning and Activity Centre Summer Fun Day and Picnic

Free Summer Fun Day for children aged 4 +

Thursday 18 August, 10am-6pm (picnics at 12 noon and 3pm) Royal Victoria Dock, E16 1AG

More information on other events can be found at:

www.royaldocks.london/whats-on

www.rdlac.org



Fly With Me kites

Thousands of kites will fly in solidarity with Afghan people simultaneously across 16 locations in six countries in Europe, to commemorate the one year anniversary since the Taliban takeover.

Afghan artisans will run kite making and storytelling workshops. Fly With Me, which is presented by the Good Chance Theatre, will celebrate and preserve Afghan culture in exile, and connect newly arrived Afghan people with others who have migrated, local communities and cultural and civic groups.

Saturday 20 August, 12pm-3pm, Wanstead Flats, E7 0LY

www.goodchance.org.uk/flywithme

Britannia Village Family Fun Day

The infamous 'BV whacky races! Big 'Em Up' showcase of young people featuring dancing, spoken word and more.

There will also be an opportunity to learn about development plans for the area.

Saturday 20 August, Britannia Village Green, Hanameel Street, E16 1UA

www.royaldocks.london/whats-on

Newham Unlocked Festival

Funded by Newham Council, the free festival returns to celebrate the unique culture, resilience, and creativity that defines the Borough.

This is an opportunity to showcase your talent, learn a new skill or volunteer in the community.



Newham Unlocked, @razecollective

• Sat 20 August – Plashet Park
• Sat 27 August – Rathbone Market
www.newhamunlockedfestival.org

StreetGames and London Youth Summer Celebration

A 1-day free Summer Celebration of Sport and Culture at the iconic 'BOX THAT ROCKS' – the Copper Box Arena

Thursday 25 August, 10.30am-4.30pm, Copper Box Arena, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, E20 3HB8

18 years (children and young people must attend with an organisation)

Bat Walk

Did you know there are tiny Pipistrelle bats in West Ham Park? The best time to see them is just after sunset

Friday 26 August, West Ham Park, Upton Lane, E7 9PU

friendsofwesthampark.co.uk

Yaram Masquerade Festival

Yaram Arts, a non-profit organisation funded by Arts Council England, presents the annual Gambian-Senegambian Cultural Weekend festival.

It is a FREE family festival that features medieval West African Masquerades and contemporary musical genres.

The headliner is ST – Brikama Boyo coming all the way from The Gambia where he is the leading rap artist.

Sunday 28 August, 1pm – 8pm, Barking Road Recreation Ground, E6 2PB

<https://www.yaram.org>

UK Black Pride Power

Europe's largest pride celebration for LGBTQI+ people of African, Asian, Caribbean, Latin American and Middle Eastern-descent.

Sunday 14 August, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Stratford

www.ukblackpride.org.uk



Lion Zimba Masquerade

The history makers

In our regular focus on monuments in the Borough, **Julia Omari** visits the Memorial Recreation Ground and **Bobby Wasmuth** discovers the little known Anglo-Romanian tribute to eight Romanian pilots who served in the First World War

The riveting history of the Hammers

West Ham United Football Club evolved from an earlier football team called Thames Ironworks Football Club, which was formed in 1895 and made up from members of staff working at the Thames Ironworks & Shipbuilding Company in Canning Town.

The company originated from Ditchburn and Mare Shipbuilding Co in Deptford but moved east in 1837 then expanded to Canning Town. It became one of the most important shipyards of the 1800s, employing some 7000 workers at its height.

The work involved creating and shaping steel, building vessels and warships, including the HMS Warrior and HMS Albion, the latter of which sadly resulted in the death of 38 casualties at its launch in June 1898.

The constant sound of clanging could be heard coming from the shipyard as the riveting gangs banged away on the iron with their hammers, and it is from this action that West Ham takes its famous chant "Come on you Irons!"

The site that the Thames Ironworks FC played on from 1897 – and continued to play on under their new name of West Ham FC until 1904 when they moved to the Boleyn – is today a public park called Memorial Recreation Ground. The park is home to eleven steel posts, titled The Hammers which are laid out to take the deck shape of the HMS Albion, in memory of those who died at her Bow Creek launch and also in memory of the skilled workers and the historical contribution they made to what was an important industry.

The steel posts are interactive and allow you to recreate the sound of the riveting gangs by pressing the hammer to the iron for yourself.

The work was created by Theresa Smith-Mooch and is funded by West Ham and Plaistow New Deal for Communities. **JO**



Hammers memorial park

Newham tribute to Romanian heroes

When we think about the first World War it is natural to think primarily about the killing fields of France and Belgium. We think of the familiar

countries which were subjugated, and those who resisted the Austro-Hungarian-German advances. But little has been said about the position of little Romania, how it came to have a British born Queen, that it declared war as an ally of Britain, and that it suffered the terrible price of over

600,000 lost lives.

On the 100th anniversary of the Armistice a moving ceremony was held in the garden of Zaraza Romanian Restaurant, Forest Gate. A photograph had recently been uncovered showing eight brave Romanian pilots who had travelled from the east theatre of war across to Britain to train with the Royal Flying Corps (pre-dating the RAF) in order to learn more skills so they could return to the skies and fight for liberation.

Those eight men have been honoured on a small but special plaque in the community garden at 344 Katherine Road. Alongside it is a tree, protected by a preservation order, commemorating the unification of Greater Romania, achieved in no small measure by Queen Marie at the Paris Peace Conference, supported as she was by Winston Churchill and by her cousin George V.

Since 2018, on 11 November, poppies have been laid at the base of the tree, including by Stephen Timms MP, community leader Imam Sohail Bawa, and by local children.

Forest Gate lays claim to this World War 1 Memorial to Anglo-Romanian partnership, the first and only such bond between our nations to exist in Britain, and the people of Newham are proud to have achieved this. **BW**



Armistice remembrance ceremony at Zaraza Romanian Restaurant, Forest Gate

Royal Docks aims to be a Living Wage Place

PHOENIX DEBOLA

ExCel Exhibition Centre has become an accredited real Living Wage employer as Royal Docks launches a major campaign to become a Living Wage Place – a place where all businesses pay their staff the real Living Wage as an absolute minimum.

The real Living Wage is a voluntary scheme based on the true cost of living. It is reviewed regularly by the Living Wage Commission. The current London real Living Wage is £11.05 per hour. Compare this to the statutory National Living Wage that starts at £6.83 for 18-year-olds.

Newham Council and local busi-

nesses who attended the launch agreed that accreditation is the way forward in order to improve the lives of low-paid workers.

David Miles, the Chief Financial Officer of ExCel, said the commitment of his organisation to pay decent wages is a continuation of the good they do locally. Gerald Mason of Tate and Lyle Sugars said that over the next three years, a coalition of accredited employers in Royal Docks will aim to increase the number of organisations paying the real Living Wage by 50 per cent, securing a pay rise for thousands of employees.

Also present were Caroline Verdant, a campaigner and teacher, whose employer, St Antony's

Catholic Primary School, supported by Newham Citizens (Citizens UK), famously persuaded London City Airport to pay its staff the London Living Wage. The pupils kicked off the event with a rendition of 'Reach out and Touch' by Diana Ross.

Mathew Sheehan from Enabled Living said that the effect of the pandemic on low-paid workers was an eye-opener. Over half of their staff are based in Newham, and they are extending the Living Wage to apprentices this year.

Mayor of Newham, Rokhsana Fiaz said that Newham Council is already an accredited employer and promoting fair wages is part of the transformation going on in the Borough.

Rainbow Coin carries a powerful message about Pride and protest

NEANDRA ETIENNE

Forest Gate-based artist and activist Dominique Holmes was approached at the start of 2021 by the Royal Mint to submit some designs for a coin depicting 50 years since the first London Pride.

Dominique explained exclusively to *Newham Voices* why they wanted the coin design to highlight the ethos and drive behind the Pride movement,

“Pride is so often dismissed as just a parade and a celebration when in fact it has always been much more than that; Pride is Protest,” they said.

“It was important to me to include that message in my design. The idea I kept returning to was inspired by the protest marches, especially those of the early days, and the things that stood out were the protest placards, the words shouted out and presented to proclaim what we LGBTQ people are fighting for when we march through the streets of London.

“Words are powerful and I felt centering them in the design leaves very little doubt about what Pride represents.”

Dominique moved to Forest Gate in 2015 after they had been looking for somewhere to settle and create a space for their art practice, with a creative energy and strong community.

Since the move to Newham Dominique has been involved in local LGBTQIA+ community projects, as co-Director of Forest Gayte Pride



Dominique Holmes holds 50th Anniversary of Pride 50p with original artwork

from 2019 until this year, founding and organising SheHerTheyThem – a community building social initiative for Queer Women and Gender Diverse people in Newham and the surrounding areas.

Dominique, currently organising the next event for SheHerTheyThem on Saturday 10 September, is also continuing ongoing research into Tattoos and Gender Equality Movements, and working on a new series of artworks

that explores and confronts the stigma and shame projected on Queer Sex and Desire. This project should be ready to exhibit in summer 2023.

Dominique is also working on a project that will tell the stories of the Queer Women and Marginalised Gender Diverse people who have been working to improve the lives of LGBTQ+ people through activism. More information from: www.dominiqueholmes.com or www.shehertheythem.com



Good reads in Newham

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

- **These Streets** (Local author) By Luan Goldie
- **The Binding Room** By Nadine Matheson
- **The Lost Man of Bombay** (Pre-order your signed copy now) By Vaseem Khan
- **The Merciless Ones** By Namina Forna
- **The Girl Who Talked to Trees** By Natasha Farrant
- **The Gifts That Grow** By Monika Singh Gangotra

Compiled by David Ceen, Newham Bookshop



Festival returns in style

LIA REES

The Forest Gate Festival and street party returned to its traditional place on Osborne Road on 2 July and residents put the misery of the last two years behind them enjoying a vibrant series of events – live music,



Forest Gate Festival

street food, wandering entertainers, children’s activities, market stalls, and busy workshops, all taking place on a single day.

With 5000 visitors on the day the Festival has over the years become a valuable “destination” for community groups and residents and 2022 was an incredible success: with pesky pirates, Absolute Bollywood, King Toadfish, a carnival parade and plenty of sun.

The Newham Writers Workshop stall has collected many positive comments from residents including: “My first Forest Gate Festival after moving to the community last year,” said Caroline. “The effort and enthusiasm by all the stall holders was amazing.”

“It was very nice to see so many happy people in one place,” said Vit. Another festival-goer added: “Came back twice because my girl (19 months today) enjoyed it so much, especially the food, dancing, people, community.”

www.forestgatefestival.com
@FGFestivalE7



Cheers to the Boleyn!

The Boleyn Tavern’s stunning restoration as featured in *Newham Voices* has won a national award. The Barking Road pub had a £1.5 million facelift and has been named the winner in the Community Local category of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) Pub Design Awards.



newhambooks.co.uk
@NewhamBookshop



SOMETHING'S BREWING



Phil Mellows keeps his head down to avoid the pain of judging Britain's best pubs

No one ever believes me when I say that being a judge for the Great British Pub Awards isn't all fun, but a few days in, I already have the bump on my head to prove it.

The bump is the result of a brush with a cellar ceiling, a frequent hazard of the job, as I descend precipitous steps into the cramped engine room of a pub to check that everything's clean, tidy and well-organised – a good pint depends on it.

I'm also on the lookout for vegetables. It's tempting for a pub to store them in the cool of the cellar, but it really can affect the taste of cask ale.

Judging the best pubs in the land, you see, isn't simply a matter of drinking and eating. The quality of the drinks and the food, of the service and that elusive thing they call the 'atmosphere', all depend on what goes on behind the scenes, and the way the publican runs the operation.

So I also check the kitchen to see that everything's running efficiently, while

trying not to get in the way. It's best to visit when the pub isn't too busy.

The toilets can also be a sign of a well-run pub. If they're super-clean with nice little touches of decoration, it's likely the rest of the place is also getting the attention to detail it deserves – and that includes, of course, the customer.



That comes down to the people working there, behind the bar and in the kitchen. Any decent publican will tell you the staff are the most important part of their business, but what are they doing to make sure they greet you with a smile because

they're happy and not because it tells them to do it in the staff handbook?

A customer might come away happy without exactly knowing why. They've unconsciously absorbed countless impressions, the kind of things I try to be alert to when I'm making a judging visit, from the way the pub looks as you approach it, to whether the bar staff give you the kind of cheery goodbye that makes you think you'd quite like to go there again. ●

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GARDEN TALK

We may be having a hot summer, but **Cecilia Cran** is already planning her autumn garden



Following the recent heatwave and news that this July has been the driest on record in the UK for the last 111 years, trying to keep my plants alive and not burnt to a crisp has proved a constant battle.

In these beautiful long, sunny evenings, I have enjoyed planning my autumnal garden – you can never plan too early! I am looking for low maintenance plants that will add colour and interest and also encourage insects and other wildlife. Hellebores are something that I was aware of, but had never grown until last year and are now a staple in my garden for the colder months.

What to grow: Hellebores

Hellebores are perennial, hardy plants that are an excellent addition to an autumnal/winter garden, they offer colourful, with their nodding blooms throughout the chillier months. If you want something that creates impact, but is low maintenance and supports pollinators, this is a perfect choice.

How to grow:

Select your spot where you want them, they typically prefer shady areas, so choose a space that isn't too exposed to sunshine.

Moisten the soil and dig in some peat free compost. Hellebore seeds do not need to be planted too deeply, instead, gently lay the seeds onto the soil, and then press them down to secure them. The seeds should be planted around

7–10cm apart, not all seeds you plant will germinate and if you have some that are a little too close together, it's a nice problem to have, these can be easily thinned out, moved to another space or even gifted to a green-fingered friend!

Cover the seeds with a layer of soil and water them in well. Be careful to ensure the area does not dry out, but do not be tempted to over water them.



Green escape: Thames Barrier Park

Thames Barrier Park is a 7-hectare area of wonderful green space. Opened in 2000 it is one of the newest green riverside spaces Newham has to offer. It is housed on what was previously a petrochemical and acid works. In order for the park to be created a 6-foot layer of crushed concrete was laid, or order to separate any contaminated soil.

The park is not just housed in an impressive setting – right next to the Thames, with excellent views of the Thames barrier, it also has hugely impressive design credentials, which has seen it win horticultural design awards in the UK and the USA.

For me, it is the 130-foot-long 'green dock' – a sunken garden, with a host of colourful plants, hedges and vibrant flowers that is the stand out feature. The yew and maygreen hedges are carefully cut into wonderful shapes to mimic rolling waves, creating a real impact and atmosphere. The green dock area was specifically designed to offer protection from the elements and encourage a thriving microclimate for plants and wildlife.

Above this, the park has a fountain area, a well maintained and equipped children's area, a basketball court, visitor pavilion and café area (both currently undergoing a refurb). A host of excellent picnic spots, areas to kick a ball around and benches to relax on. Can't recommend this wonderful space enough. ●



Photos courtesy Cecilia Cran

Child's play at West Ham Park – coming soon!

MARY EDMONDSON

The newly-refurbished West Ham Park playground is opening in the coming days – with luck for children to enjoy during the school holidays.

The playground is having its first major redesign since 1986. Park users will have been watching the new playground take shape over the last few months. After a few inevitable glitches progress has been good.

The original plan had a Phase 2, to extend the playground and create a 'quiet play' area as well as refurbish the toilets and provide a catering outlet, but the City of London, which owns and manages the Park, decided not to make the additional investment and were unable to obtain grant funds. The Friends of West Ham Park hope this phase will be taken forward in the near future.

Alongside a completely new water feature, the star of the show is the



Explorer ship. Modelled on the kind of ships sailing the seas in the time of Dr Fothergill the former Park owner and creator of the park's ornamental gardens. On this ship children can play with imagination and fantasy while they explore and climb.

The Friends of the Park decided to create an interpretation panel which tells Dr Fothergill's story for the children's area and install it near to the Explorer ship. This may counteract the tendency for the ship to be dubbed 'the Pirate ship'!

The story is told with younger children in mind, but links with the 'Kew Gardens of the East' exhibition in the flower gardens. This story is also told with the support of a professional illustrator of Children's books. His illustrations are lively and expressive and full of detail.

Since January local children have desperately missed their playground and it can't reopen too soon. ●

South Asian Heritage Month events

The month-long celebration of South Asian history supported by Newham Council continues into August and marks the contribution of the diaspora community who have made Newham their home.

It is an opportunity to see, hear taste and explore what it means to be South Asian in the 21st century, as well as examine how the community has helped build the diverse Britain of today.

4 August: Modern Mughal Portrait Workshop

Forest Gate Youth Zone

A workshop for young people with local artist Momtaz Begum-Hossain, making portraits inspired by Mughal portraiture. Participants will make their own portrait on a small canvas.

11 August: Launch of Oral History Project Talking of the Olympics

A film and digital installation featuring the testimonies of Newham residents from a diverse range of South Asian heritages on what difference the Olympics and Paralympics has made to their lives.

newhamsouthasianheritage.org



12 August: 6pm Ahimsa Gandhi: The Power of the Powerless

Stratford East Picturehouse

Watch a screening of Ahimsa Gandhi: The Power of the Powerless, narrating his message of non-violence, it's impact on many other movements such as the Civil Rights Movement.

17 August: 6.30-9pm An evening of Qawwali

Old Town Hall Stratford

An evening of Qawwali with The Khan Brothers Qawwali group who have been performing for over 30 years in the UK and Europe, carrying forward the tradition of their ancestors.

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 singandsign.co.uk



SPORTS SHORTS

Compiled by Neandra Etienne

Ambition Aspire Achieve (AAA) have the following sessions during August:

- Mondays, 6:15pm-8:15pm, free Multi-Sports for all 9-14 year olds at Glyn Hopkin Abbey Hub, 6 Gay Road, E15 2RN. Enquiries: Marie@theaaazone.com
- Saturdays, 12:30-2:30pm, free boxing and football sessions for all 10-14 year olds, at Terence Brown Arc in the Park, Hermit Road Recreation Ground, Bethell Avenue, E16 4JT. Enquiries: jen@theaaazone.com
- Sundays, 11am-3pm, free family sports and activities, all ages, at Terence Brown Arc in the Park, Hermit Road Recreation Ground, Bethell Avenue, E16 4JT. Booking: Paula@theaaazone.com

AAA was founded in June 2016 by Kevin Jenkins OBE to provide opportunities for children and young people in Newham and surrounding areas.

www.theaaazone.com



Ambition Aspire Achieve

Come along, listen, and share sporting memories with older sports fans, at the **Sporting Memories Club**. You can take part in fun activities. Free Refreshments provided.

Wednesdays, 10am-12pm, East Ham Library, Ages 50+

To register or for more information email sports@activenewham.org.uk or call 07741 293506

Come and try free taster sessions with **activeNewham** in a range of Paralympic Sports for children and young people with disabilities. Ages 8+ at 12pm-2pm.

- Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 August, Central Park
- Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 August, Keir Hardie Recreation Ground
- Monday 15 and Tuesday 16 August, Beckton District Park
- Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 August, Plashet Park

More information on this event and other Newham Summer Park Activities can be found at www.eventbrite.com/cc/newham-summer-park-activities-491139

Forest Crusaders, Goals4Girls and **Genesis Futsal** played in a five-a-side women's football tournament in Central Park, organised by the Royal Docks Team with activeNewham as part of Queens' Roar! - a series of cul-



Forest Crusaders ©Neandra Etienne

tural moments celebrating women, football and culture. Forest Crusaders won the tournament after their win against Genesis Futsal in the final

Free BMX sessions with **Community Outdoor Group (COG)** (ages 5+)

No booking required. Just turn up. Adults will need to attend to register children. Bikes and helmets provided. Please wear long sleeve tops, long trousers and full finger gloves.

Mondays and Wednesdays BMX, 10am-12pm - under 10s, 12-2pm - over 10s.

Fridays BMX SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) and Balance Bike, 10-11am and 11am-12pm - SEND, 12-1pm and 1-2pm - Balance Bike
25 July - 2 Sept, Gooseley Playing Fields (BMX Track), St Albans Avenue, East Ham E6 6HU

www.cogcycling.co.uk

The **National Tennis Association** is offering free Disability Tennis Taster sessions which cater for all types of disability and are all inclusive.

They use special equipment, smaller courts and softer balls to ensure everyone gets to have a great tennis experience. For all ages. Saturdays, 3-4pm on 6, 13 and 20 August.

Stratford Park (Tennis Courts), West Ham Lane, Stratford E15 4PT

e: hello@nationaltennis.org.uk
t: 0330 551 9496
www.stratford.newhamparkstennis.org.uk/Coaching

If you have always wanted to try Rugby!.....here's your chance! **East London Vixens**, in partnership with the KXS are hosting a Try Rugby Day. Whether you have never played before, played ages ago or just need a refresher....it doesn't matter, everyone is welcome! 7 August, 2pm at West Ham Memorial Ground, Holland Road, E15 3BP

www.eastlondonrfc.com

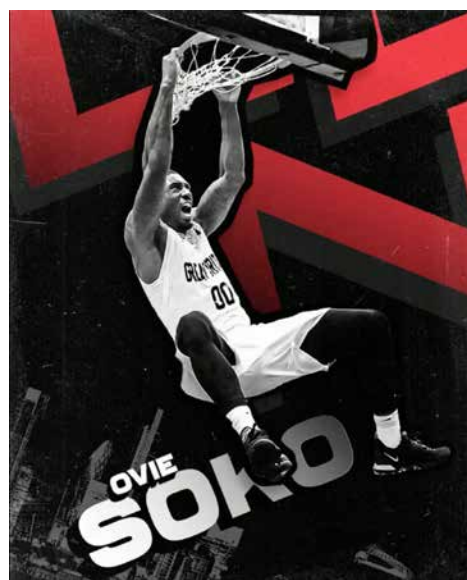


East London Rugby Club

London Lions Basketball team have announced the signing of GB International Ovie Soko.

Soko returns to the club after a spell with Shiga Lakestars in the Japanese B.League. He has played internationally for Great Britain, and is poised to contribute to the growth of British basketball this season with the Lions' landmark inclusion in the EuroCup.

www.thelondonlions.com



Try a number of taster sessions in a variety of **Commonwealth Games Sports** at the Commonwealth Games Festival.

Sports you can try are: badminton, table tennis, cricket, volleyball, basketball, boxing, judo, rugby and athletics.

- Saturday 6 August, 12-4pm, Central Park
- Sunday 7 August, 12-4pm, Stratford Park

For more information contact.sports@activenewham.org

East Village Management are working in partnership with Essex Cricket in the Community to offer free cricket sessions for children aged 5-11yrs over the summer holidays.

Funded places for All Stars www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars and Dynamos Cricket www.ecb.co.uk/play/dynamoscricket are available to children eligible for free school meals.

Sessions will take place every Tuesday 9:30am-11:30am on 9 August and 23 August.

Chobham Academy, 40 Cheering Ln, East Village, E20 1BD

Registration required, please contact: Nafisa.Patel@essexcricket.org.uk

Canning Town FC currently play in the Essex Olympian Football League, with teams in both the Premier Division and Division Five.

Home games are played at West Ham Community Pitch in Beckton, and the Bobby Moore Pavilion, Flanders Playing Field in East Ham.

Their league fixtures are still to be finalised but are scheduled to start on August 13. Before then, they have a friendly game.

Saturday 6 August, 1st Team v Lymore Gardens, West Ham Community Pitch 2pm kick off

Anyone interested in joining can contact them via twitter to arrange a trial

🐦 [@Canning_town_fc](https://twitter.com/Canning_town_fc)

West Ham Women will play the following season away friendly matches

Charlton Athletic, Sunday 14 August, The Oakwood. The match is scheduled to kick off at 2pm, but that is subject to change

Liverpool FC Women, Sunday 21 August, Loughborough University Stadium, kick off 1pm

www.whufc.com

Newham Swords Fencing Club has five fencers selected to take part in the Commonwealth Fencing Championships, and their Head Coach Pierre Harper, has also been selected as the Foil Coach for these Championships. The Championships will take place on the 6/ 7 August at the Sportsdock, home of Newham Swords! The club recently won trophies at both the British Youth and English Youth Championships, and now have two British Youth Champions and three English Youth Champions. They recently celebrated winning 100 medals (all top 4 finishes) this season, an achievement not equalled by any other club in the country!

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



Newham Swords Fencing Club

Clapton CFC women's and men's teams will be playing friendly games at the Old Spotted Dog Ground

- Men - 6 August, 2pm kick off
- Women - 7 and 14 August, 2pm kick off

www.claptoncfc.co.uk

Beth Wheeler was awarded the player of the year for London Titans Wheelchair Basketball Club.

Beth plays for the Titans at National League level and in the Premier League for East London Phoenix

📷 [@13_beth_](https://www.instagram.com/@13_beth_)



Beth Wheeler

A suitable game for a woman



Women were banned from football in 1921 but England's lionesses' rip-roaring semi-final win against Sweden in the UEFA Women's Euro 2022 tournament shows equality is a goal within reach, says **Mickey Ambrose**

Georgia Stanway scored an extra-time 30 yard stunner against Spain which sent the 28,000 crowd home very happy in this riveting game which saw the Lionesses progress to the semi-finals.

England's Alessia Russo's swivel and shot against Northern Ireland in the 5-0 thrashing is now the second best goal of the tournament for me, following Stanway's stunner in this pulsating tournament

The Lionesses top the table with four wins out of four after winning their opener against Austria 1 - 0. But it was the demolishing of Norway 8-0 that caught everyone's attention with Beth Mead scoring a memorable hat-trick as England ran riot to win Group A, with a record-breaking win.

They produced a potent attacking master class to breeze past Norway and made a huge statement of intent with the biggest win in finals history. It is clear they mean business because with Russo's goal, which reminded me a bit of the master Denis Bergkamp's - his turn and finish against Newcastle United was out of this world. This brought the Lionesses within touching

distance of the finals.

And they are making history in the process.

All of this is a far cry from when the Football Association (FA) banned women from playing the game in 1921 - even though, even in those days, they were playing in front of record crowds of 50,000 plus. The FA at the time claimed: "the game of football is quite unsuitable for females...". What a cheek! A bunch of snobs if you ask me.



Beth Mead

Another sporting body the Professional Footballers Association (PFA) banned women from attending the Annual Football Awards.

But on Monday 9 November 1998 Rachel Anderson, Britain's only woman football agent, took on football's authorities and launched a legal battle accusing the Professional Footballers Association (PFA) of sex discrimination because they banned her from the PFA Awards Dinner at the Grosvenor Hotel in London.

At the time Rachel represented West Ham legend and hard man Julian Dicks who had invited her to the PFA Awards Dinner but she was shown the door because it was a men-only policy back then and it did not matter if women were connected to football or not.

In fact the previous year Rachel was asked to leave the dinner by PFA officials after she was accidentally allowed to attend - even former Liverpool and England player Michael Owen's mum was barred which meant she could not see her son collect the PFA Young Player of the Year 1997-1998 while he was at Liverpool.

It is great that women's football has not only taken off but is excelling with record crowds. But I am afraid to say



Mickey Ambrose

we still have a long way to go in other areas of football in this country which is governed by the FA and this is why myself and Nigel Fletcher founded The People's FA. The People's FA vision is equality for all in English football.

Our mission is to change the governance structure, composition, and representation of the FA because it is outdated and does not represent the people and the fans. The FA was formed in 1863 and for the past 159 years its governance has barely evolved and yet the game and the society it represents has changed considerably. To learn more go to thepeoplesfa.com ●

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

Advertisement

Rainbow Gloves group champions diversity

NEANDRA ETIENNE

Rainbow Gloves group works to ensure that as an organisation, Fight for Peace are inclusive and offer support to the LGBT+ community, including colleagues and young people.

Fight for Peace's Chief Executive Officer, Jenny Oklikah said,

"I'm proud that Fight for Peace is taking positive steps to celebrate and support the LGBT+ community. This work will help us strengthen our practice and culture to ensure we provide the best support to every young person who walks through our doors."

Engagement in sport for LGBT+ people can be extra challenging. According to studies carried out by Stonewall, an organisation that advocates for LGBT+ rights, 1 in 8 LGBT+

people avoid going to the gym or participating in sports groups because of fear of discrimination and harassment.

Figures like these emphasise that there is still work to be done to combat LGBT+ discrimination in sports.

Founder of Rainbow Gloves and Fight for Peace's Head of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning, Giancarlo Angelucci said,

"One of our core values is Embracing - making sure that anyone at Fight for Peace feels welcome and included is an integral part of what we do. Having established Rainbow Gloves is a great first step towards supporting LGBT+ young people and their friends."

More information from rainbowgloves@fightforpeace.net
<https://fightforpeace.net>

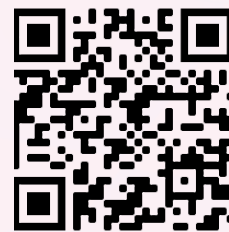


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