

CELEBRATING OUR BOROUGH



Festivals return to Vicky Park

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JOBS AND ECONOMY



Supporting our High Streets

SEE PAGES 18-19

MAYOR'S RECOVERY FUND



£140k boost for markets

SEE PAGE 22

ISSUE TWENTY-TWO // SEPTEMBER 2021



OUR EAST END



No place like home

New affordable home for Michaela – see page 4

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OUR EAST END

NEWS FROM TOWER HAMLETS COUNCIL AND YOUR COMMUNITY

I am incredibly proud of our young people in Tower Hamlets. They often get a bad press while in reality many are achieving great things, whether it's academic vocational, or simply coping with great challenges.

Because Tower Hamlets is a place of great aspiration and desire to succeed, often from a challenging start, many achieve great things. We shouldn't be surprised that this year young people have secured great exam results despite lockdowns, or that many have been volunteering in our community, and, at home, many have been supporting their families through difficult times.

I know the huge contributions that young people make to our borough, and I want to set out some of the ways that Tower Hamlets Council supports them in turn.

As a council, we ensure every primary school child receives a free school meal, regardless of eligibility, and we've been working to get children online and continue their learning during lockdown and after it.

Young WorkPath continues to offer careers advice, and our Kickstart Scheme is approaching nearly 200 work placements for young people that have been impacted by Covid-19.

We're investing millions of pounds in our parks for young people of all abilities, and our recent summer activities programme reached over 6,000 young people.

We have young people involved in local decision-making too, through our youth council and young mayors.

We're also using my Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund, a £3m fund I launched to kickstart our recovery from the pandemic, to fund lots of projects.

Of course, all of this is modest compared to what young people themselves, with the support of their families and others, can achieve through their own determination, but we are one community and must support each other. Now that our schools have returned from the summer break, I want to wish our young people every success for the future.

As ever, you can get in touch with me by emailing mayor@towerhamlets.gov.uk or calling 020 7364 4000.

John Biggs,
Mayor of Tower Hamlets



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Michaela says that her shared ownership home was an affordable way to stay in east London

New home helps Michaela live close to her family

HOUSING

Michaela Simmons was living in rented house-shares before managing to buy a shared ownership home in Jolles House in Bow.

“It was an affordable way to stay in east London, close to my family and



Everybody that I have met in Jolles House has been super lovely; it has such a community vibe.

where I grew up,” said Michaela. “It is cheaper than privately renting a one-bed flat in the area and it’s a bonus to also get a foot on the property ladder.”

Shared ownership is one of the ways in which young people in Tower Hamlets can get on the property ladder and avoid the increasing prices of private rent. Poplar HARCA completed the Jolles House scheme earlier this year, creating 70 new homes including 13 for social rent and 57 for shared ownership.

Bringing further regeneration to this area of Tower Hamlets, these homes also provide much needed green space for the community which allows many to come together in the central courtyard and variety of play areas.

Michaela said: “Everybody that I have met in Jolles House has



Poplar HARCA completed the Jolles House scheme earlier this year

been super lovely; it has such a community vibe. My next-door neighbour even bought me a plant!”

She continued: “Generally, it’s just nice to be in a new build where

everything is fresh and new.”

Michaela’s shared ownership home at Jolles House is one of more than 1,000 such homes delivered in Tower Hamlets in the past five years.

Over 100 new council homes delivered in Poplar

More than 100 new council homes have been delivered in Poplar over the summer, as part of the mayor's commitment to deliver and identify sites for 2,000 new council homes across the borough.

The 115 new homes, which are set across three buildings ranging from four to six storeys, include ten wheelchair-adaptable units funded by the council, four disabled parking spaces, as well as landscape improvements within a secure central courtyard providing cycle storage and a communal garden for residents.

Planning permission for Barchester Street was granted in 2015 for the demolition of the existing warehouse, ancillary



Barchester Street residents talking to Mayor Biggs about their new homes



It is particularly good to be able to offer large apartments, including ground floor wheelchair-accessible units and beautiful architecture which celebrates the history of the site.

structures, and part demolition of the 'saw-tooth' factory building retaining three walls of the facade.

In March 2020, Tower Hamlets Council entered into a sale and purchase agreement to acquire the freehold interest of the 115 social rented units with Canary Wharf Group.

Cllr Danny Hassell, Cabinet Member for Housing, said: "I'm delighted we've delivered these new council homes which will provide much needed housing to people on our waiting list. The inclusion of ten wheelchair-adaptable units will be

welcomed to the area and will allow our residents to have homes suitable to their needs."

Shobi Khan, Chief Executive Officer of Canary Wharf Group, said: "We are proud to meet our commitment to deliver social housing on schedule, providing these 115 new apartments for local families.

"At Barchester Street, we have designed and built an exceptional building for the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, and this has been a good example of the borough and a developer working together to

deliver a great project."

"It is particularly good to be able to offer large apartments, including ground floor wheelchair-accessible units and beautiful architecture which celebrates the history of the site."

The development was handed over from the Canary Wharf Group to Tower Hamlets Council in April 2021 and has since been shortlisted for the Inside Housing Development Awards 2021 in the Best Affordable Housing Development (£20m+) category.

New council homes development hits key milestone

A key milestone in the development of more than 50 new council homes was marked over the summer at a 'topping out' ceremony.

The ceremony marked the completion of the highest structural point of the development at Barnsley Street in Bethnal Green, where 53 new council homes are being built.

The homes, which will be 100 per cent affordable at social rent levels, also include wheelchair-accessible housing.

John Biggs, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said:

"The topping out of Barnsley Street development marks a key milestone in this scheme and shows progress in our commitment to delivering and identifying sites for 2,000 council homes across the borough.

"These homes will provide much

needed accommodation for families in the local area and I look forward to the completion of the build."

The development also includes a new purpose-built community facility, which was completed last year, landscaping improvements and a new play area for the local community, forming part of the wider Ashington estate.

The new community centre, which is managed by the Collingwood Tenant and Residents Association, was the first stage of the development to be completed, and provides meeting space, kitchen facilities and multi-purpose rooms for existing and new tenants and residents to use.

Mulalley was appointed in March 2020 as the principal contractor to deliver the development, with works commencing in November 2020.



Topping out: 53 new council homes will be delivered at Barnsley Street

John Moore, Managing Director of Mulalley's New Build Division, said:

"We are delighted to assist on this exciting project which will breathe new life into Bethnal Green

and create high quality and much needed new homes to support the local community."

The development is expected to complete in summer 2023.



Robert Tillett and Marwar Uddin, part of a team of 300 staff operating 90 vehicles to keep Tower Hamlets clean and green

Recycling for a better Tower Hamlets

CLEAN & GREEN

Around 90,000 tonnes of waste was collected from households and our streets in Tower Hamlets last year, with around 18,000 tonnes of it being recycled.

Recycling such large amounts of rubbish each year from a borough with thousands of households is a complex task, made to look easy by people like Robert Tillett, who has been working on the frontline of refuse and recycling collections at Tower Hamlets for the past 21 years.

“I really like the people I work with and meeting different people when we’re out on collections,” says Robert. “I like the fact I’m playing a key part in keeping the borough clean and helping to recycle old rubbish, which is good for the planet too.”

Robert is part of waste services, a team of over 300 staff operating over 90 vehicles and carts across the borough seven days a week, collecting waste, recycling and cleaning streets.

Marwar Uddin, Environmental Services Officer, works with the crews at the depot where recycling waste is processed.

“Everyone knows it’s important to recycle, it means less of our rubbish ends up in landfill and can be used again, which is good for the

environment,” Marwar says.

“Most people do take the time to put the right thing in the right bin, but not everyone does, which becomes an issue when we come to collect the bins and find they are mixed up.

“It means we cannot take that bin away. If we did, it would contaminate the whole lorry load.

“It’s frustrating for everyone. The bin has to be sorted out and the resident then has to wait for another collection.”

Figures from Tower Hamlets waste service show that while most residents do properly recycle, the number of bins not collected due to contamination is rising.

Like other boroughs, Tower Hamlets is also not immune to people illegally dumping rubbish – or fly-tipping – which Robert also finds a challenge.

Robert says: “You also sometimes see people have dumped their rubbish or old furniture at the side of the road and that just makes the place look untidy and it obviously upsets a lot of people.

“People will see that and start blaming the council. It wasn’t the council that dumped it there but it’s our job to gather evidence from what has been dumped for a prosecution before clearing it away.

“It is frustrating as there are bins for household rubbish and the

council has a free collection service for bulky items, so there’s absolutely no excuse for fly-tipping.

“We have a great team here of really hardworking people who are doing their best to keep the borough clean and make sure we are all recycling.

“It can be a tough job, but knowing the part we’re playing in keeping the borough clean keeps me going.”

Marwar adds: “Recycling really makes a difference in helping to look after the planet but at the end

of the day it’s not something that anyone can do on their own.

“We all have a part to play in it and it all starts by putting the right thing in the right bin. If there’s ever any doubt about what goes in what bin, just give one of the crew a shout when they’re down your road and they’ll be more than happy to help.”

For more information about recycling, please visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/recycling

5 handy tips to help with recycling

1. Keep odours at bay by giving food and drink containers, old shampoo bottles and anything else with residue a good rinse before throwing out
2. Recycle batteries and small electrical items (like toasters or kettles) at most libraries and Idea Stores
3. Clothing and textiles can be recycled at textile banks and good quality clothing can be donated to a charity shop
4. Garden waste and a range of household items including mattresses, furniture and electrical appliances can be recycled at the Reuse and Recycling Centre, Yabsley Street, E14
5. Every household gets two free collections of large items per year, with up to five items taken away. Book a collection at: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/bulkywaste



Crews collect hundreds of tonnes of fly-tipped waste each month, but action will always be taken against the culprits

Cleaning up our streets by taking on fly-tippers

Nearly 200 fixed penalty notices for fly-tipping have been issued since April by Environmental Services Officers.

In August alone, thirty-three individuals and companies were handed fixed penalty notice fines of £400 each, as part of a council crackdown on fly-tippers.

The fines were handed out to those caught illegally and irresponsibly dumping items, including bags of rubbish, old furniture and appliances.

As part of efforts to get tougher with fly-tippers, the council increased the fixed penalty fine for the offence from £80 to £400 – the maximum allowed under law.

Every month the council collects about 250 tonnes of fly-tipped waste,

costing hundreds of thousands of pounds to get rid of.

Cllr Kahar Chowdhury, Cabinet Member for Highways and Public Realm, said:

“No-one likes a fly-tipper. What they do is incredibly selfish and disrespectful to the local area and the whole community that lives there.

“It has no place in Tower Hamlets and I am pleased to see that our teams have been working hard and fining those who break the law in this way. It is a shame that the fines could not have been higher.

“Aside from the impact on the environment there’s a financial impact too. I’m sure residents would much rather we were using the money spent on this issue on other

services that matter to them more.

“We’re here to help people recycle and get rid of their waste but we have zero tolerance to those who see the streets of our borough as their dumping ground and we will always take action.”

Fly-tipping offences that end up in court could result in an unlimited fine and up to five years in prison.

You can report fly-tipping through the council’s website or through the Love Your Neighbourhood App. Businesses that would like to learn more about how to properly dispose of their waste, and the services that are available, are urged to get in touch with the council’s commercial waste team on 020 7364 4933 or email commercialwaste@towerhamlets.gov.uk



We’re here to help people recycle and get rid of their waste but we have zero tolerance to those who see the streets as their dumping ground and we will always take action.

Could you sponsor a tree?

Tower Hamlets has become the first central London council to partner with the innovative Trees for Streets programme, which aims to plant thousands of trees in streets across the borough through sponsorship by residents.

The council teamed up with the programme in June ahead of tree-planting season this autumn as part of a drive to make Tower Hamlets a carbon-neutral council by 2025, and a carbon-neutral borough by 2050.

The move to plant more trees is in addition to the 1,000 trees that

the council is planting across the borough to improve air quality. To date, we’ve planted over 740 trees and will be planting hundreds more by early 2022.

Cllr Asma Islam, Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning, said: “Trees make a real difference to our residential neighbourhoods as they are vital to achieving cleaner air.

“Sponsoring, planting and caring for a tree is also a great way for neighbours to come together and create a long-lasting legacy for the community which benefits everyone.

“We are pleased to be working with Trees for Streets to raise additional funds through tree sponsorship as this will boost our tree planting efforts and encourage the local community to get involved.”

If you would like to sponsor a tree to remember a loved one or mark a significant life event in one of our beautiful parks, or to bring a bit more greenery to a street near you, get in touch. Visit www.treesforstreets.org/LBTH



Hundreds more trees are set to be planted in Tower Hamlets

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Hundreds help in Isle of Dogs Big Clean up

COMMUNITY NEWS

More than 100 volunteers worked together to clean up litter and fly-tipping hotspots on the Isle of Dogs at the council's first Big Clean Up event of the year.

Tower Hamlets Council and Canary Wharf Group sent out ten teams of volunteers, including local police officers, to tackle 'grot hotspots' on the island that were suggested by residents.

The council relaunched the Big Clean Up in July, following a pause due to the Covid-19 crisis, and asked residents to name local litter hotspots. Almost 160 residents responded, and these suggestions will be used for future clean ups.

The council's free Love Your Neighbourhood app can be used to share information about repairs that are needed, to report fly-tipping and get abandoned vehicles cleared.



More than 100 volunteers helped to collect over 150 bags of litter

MBE puts youth worker level with England aces

Youth and Community Engagement Manager, Nahim Ahmed, who works at Poplar HARCA's Spotlight youth service, was awarded an MBE in the June 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours for his services to disadvantaged young people.

From failing his GCSEs as a 16-year-old to graduating from three universities, the MBE marks the completion of a remarkable turnaround for Tower Hamlets born-and-bred Nahim, as well as putting him on par with football icons and campaigners Marcus Rashford and Raheem Sterling.

"When I failed my GCSEs I was involved in various circles, some

of which were going in the wrong direction," said Nahim. "I stopped to ask myself: 'What am I doing with my life?' I knew I had to keep busy and stay out of trouble, so I got two jobs and went on to college to retake my GCSEs."

After gaining more GCSEs and completing his A-Levels, Nahim went on to get a Bachelor of Arts in Youth and Community Work at the University of East London, before he took up a postgraduate diploma in Law and Community Leadership at The School of Oriental and African Studies, paid for by the council. He then went on to work in Canary Wharf, before being offered

a fellowship at the University of Cambridge Judge Business School to study Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship.

"It tied it all together," said Nahim. "Right after Cambridge, I joined Poplar HARCA as a youth worker in charge, which meant I could be more involved in a decision-making role, helping to shape projects and programmes that benefit the local community."

"I love working here with like-minded people to make a positive impact. I think my MBE really is a recognition of this commitment. It's massive, I'm on par with celebrities who I look up to, like Raheem

Sterling, Marcus Rashford and others.

"Our aim, as youth workers, is to get young people away from risk, get them through our doors, connect them to the right level of support and enable them to engage with us in a safe space. "I would say to anyone who is in this position, including parents with concerns, come and talk to us. Youth centres are positive places where people connect, relax, have fun, learn and can get support."

To find your nearest youth centre visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/youth



The Our Teviot Festival attracted over 500 people

Festival fun on the Teviot Estate

Family fun and stage performances of music, dance and taekwondo, were some of the attractions of a community festival held on an estate in Poplar this September.

Organised by Poplar HARCA and Hill Group, the Our Teviot Festival drew crowds of more than 500 people.

Andy Fancy, Regional Managing Director at Hill, said: "It was wonderful to see so many local people come together to have fun and celebrate the end of the summer, especially since during

the past eighteen months events like this have been so limited. We were particularly pleased to be able to talk face-to-face with the local community about what matters to them as we continue to work on our plans for the future of Teviot."

The regeneration of the Teviot Estate could eventually include more than 1,750 new homes, alongside new green spaces, shops, community and faith facilities, and improved infrastructure.

Mayor Biggs announces review of Liveable Streets

LIVEABLE STREETS

A programme to create safer, calmer and cleaner streets is being reviewed in light of issues and concerns raised by residents.

Seven Liveable Streets schemes that are currently underway will be reviewed, and possible changes made, before they are finalised.

Liveable Streets has created a better environment for walking and cycling, and a reduction in traffic in some residential areas and around schools. Aspects have included some road closures, reducing through traffic, improving local air quality and pushing through traffic onto main roads. This has involved new pedestrian crossings, 20 new bike hangers, widening footways, new cycle lanes, new electric vehicle charging points and improving the local environment.

Tower Hamlets has one of the highest levels of motor vehicle traffic in the country, in part due to

“
We need to take some time to reflect on the impact the schemes have had on some local residents making essential car journeys, which is why we paused the programme to see what changes are needed.



The programme aims to improve air quality and encourage more environmentally-friendly ways of getting around

cars travelling through the borough. Liveable Streets was brought in as one of several ways to help address the issue of congestion and air pollution that is linked to chronic illnesses including heart disease, strokes and respiratory diseases. The average lung capacity of a child in Tower Hamlets is 5 to 10% less than the national average.

However, the scheme has also led to some residents finding it difficult to make essential car journeys. As a result, Mayor John Biggs announced a pause and a quick review of the current seven schemes. This review is now underway. There will be some changes to make road access in some places easier for residents. The current seven projects will be completed, subject to any further consultation, before the council decides on the next stages for other parts of the borough.

In addition, the council will continue to focus on other areas such as its School Streets programme, which closes roads outside schools during drop-off and pick-up times and has resulted in reducing air

pollution and making streets safer. 20 are already in place and 30 more will be on the way by Spring of 2022, reaching most of our primary schools. The council will still support other local calming and highway projects where consultation has taken place.

John Biggs, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: “We continue to support the principles behind Liveable Streets of better, safer, calmer streets, with a reduction of rat-run traffic in residential areas, fewer unnecessary journeys made by car and a focus on improving the local environment and people’s health with better air quality. We do this mainly to tackle our poor air quality but also to improve the local street environment.

“But we need to take some time to reflect on the impact the schemes have had on some local residents making essential car journeys, which is why we paused the programme to see what changes are needed.”

The seven projects currently underway are in Bow, Bethnal Green, Wapping, Old Ford West, Shadwell,

Brick Lane and Barkantine.

Liveable Streets was based on the principle of consulting residents first and devising schemes with them, rather than some Low Traffic Neighbourhood schemes in London which consulted after the schemes were introduced. Nearly 50,000 people were consulted in Tower Hamlets with 9,000 providing responses to help design schemes.

The Bethnal Green review will look at the planned road closures mainly to the west, of and including, Warner Place and Squirries Street, and whether these are achieving the right balance.

In Bow, further impact studies are needed following comments from Transport for London about the impact on local main roads, meaning elements of the scheme will need to be delayed and possibly redesigned.

The mayor has also announced that the Brick Lane road closures will stop completely in October, but with the option of summer weekend closures to allow pavement dining.

Cllr Kahar Chowdhury, Cabinet Member for Highways and Public Realm, said: “We’re hearing from residents that, in some cases, the Liveable Streets programme is not solving problems of congestion as people are still making local journeys by car and, in some cases, journey times are increasing.

“We need to quickly review this and get it right and while we don’t think it will need a largescale reversal or abandonment of existing schemes, it does mean we will not be developing the future phases of Liveable Streets as we had planned.”

Air pollution – an increasing health problem

- Tower Hamlets has one of England’s highest traffic levels
- 77% of people in Tower Hamlets are exposed to unsafe levels of air pollution
- 80% of our schools are in areas that exceed government guidance
- The average child lung capacity in Tower Hamlets is up to 10% less than the national average
- Dirty air is linked to heart disease, stroke and chronic respiratory disease
- 70 deaths each year in Tower Hamlets are linked to air pollution

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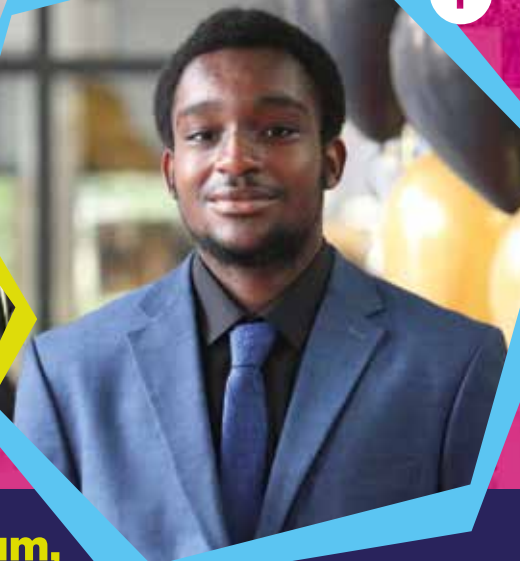
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SCAN ME



All Points East and In the NBHD make Vicky Park return

In each edition, we focus on a person or place that makes Tower Hamlets special

CELEBRATING OUR BOROUGH

Boasting a long and impressive history of hosting major concerts and events going back to the 1970s, Victoria Park knows how to put on a show.

For the 45,000 revellers who headed to All Points East in Victoria Park each day over the August Bank Holiday weekend, Tower Hamlets' oldest park as a major venue once again did not disappoint.

The weekend festival, which first came to Tower Hamlets in 2018, returned after Covid-19 forced a hiatus year in 2020, with acts such

as Foals, Mahalia, Slowthai and Arlo Parks wowing the crowds and many getting their first taste of live music since before the pandemic began.

"It was an amazing few days" said Jim King, CEO of European Festivals for AEG Presents, who put on All Points East. "To be back seeing live music and so many people from the local community, together with visitors from all over London and the UK, all coming to enjoy themselves was just an incredible sight to see.

"Like so many others, Covid-19 has had a hugely damaging impact on our industry and music fans. To see people working and young

people able to come together and enjoy themselves is a massive boost for us all.

As part of the contract with Tower Hamlets Council to use Victoria Park for All Points East, the event organisers have to ensure that the local community benefits from hosting it, such as supporting culture, businesses and employment in the borough, while working with residents to reduce any negative impact of the festival.

Three days of family-friendly activities followed the All Points East festival at In the NBHD (In the Neighbourhood) – a free-entry event

with outdoor film screenings, street food and pop-up bars, dance, yoga, cabaret, sports, crafts, wellbeing activities and even more live music, as well as special events to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Bangladeshi independence.

"It's so hard to choose one highlight as the whole weekend and midweek was hugely enjoyable," Jim said. "Foals closing on Monday was a special moment, but no more than seeing the community come together for In the NBHD and Bangladesh@50."

All Points East was recently listed as one of the top 25 festivals



45,000 revellers were at All Points East to see stars including Slowthai (pictured), Kano and Jorja Smith

in Europe by the music website Festicket, helping to put Victoria Park and Tower Hamlets on the map as hosts of the internationally renowned music event.

“We love Victoria Park,” said Jim. “It’s such an important and historical cultural location and it’s one of the best parks in the world, in a community that is creative and vibrant and we love working here.

“There is so much more that we want to do with our community programming and partnerships that we find unique to east London and so rewarding to be a part of. I feel we have only just started and there’s so much more to do.

“Tower Hamlets personifies London in my opinion. It has such an important and rich cultural history and more recently has become a true creative tour de force in so many industries.

“

To be back seeing live music and so many people from the local community, together with visitors from all over London and the UK, all coming to enjoy themselves was just an incredible sight.

“We hope that All Points East adds to this and provides an added incentive for music fans from the world over to come to Tower Hamlets.”



Mahalia wowed the crowds on the first day of the festival



Special moment: Foals closing the festival on Monday



BRIT Award winner Arlo Parks takes to the stage



Tower Hamlets' summer vaccine festival at Langdon Park

Vaccine roll-out passes 200,000 jabs

HEALTHIER LIVES

More than 200,000 people in Tower Hamlets have now received their first Covid-19 vaccination, according to latest figures.

Data shows that a total of 210,067 people have now had at least their first dose, with 181,638 now fully vaccinated with two doses. The number of 16-17 year olds vaccinated is also continuing to rise, with around 30 per cent now having had their first dose.

Events such as the special vaccine festival in Langdon Park in August have contributed to the numbers.

Around 500 people flocked to the four-day summer festival to enjoy live music, free food and get their covid vaccine, as part of a programme of community clinics that the council has held with Barts

Health NHS Trust, to make it easier for people to get vaccinated, and to protect themselves and others.

John Biggs, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "We're making great progress vaccinating our community, with over 200,000 residents having had their first Covid-19 jab.

"However, we know there is still more to do, especially in continuing to encourage more of our younger residents to come forward for their jab.

"Our summer vaccine festival was a great success and we are continuing to set up more community clinics and events offering vaccination. We now hold clinics in Queen Mary University along with many other local spaces. If you're yet to have your Covid-19 vaccine, check the council website and find an option that works for you."

“ Our summer vaccine festival was a great success and we are continuing to set up more community clinics and events offering vaccination. We now hold clinics in Queen Mary University along with many other local spaces.

Are children aged 12 to 15 getting vaccinated?

All children over the age of 12 will be offered a single Pfizer jab, to help limit school disruption during the winter.

How do I get vaccinated?

Anyone aged 16 and over can call 119, book a jab online or visit a walk-in clinic without an appointment. The recommended gap between first and second jabs is 8-12 weeks. Those aged 12 to 15 will be invited by their school or education setting.

Which vaccine will I get?

People under 40 or pregnant are being offered Pfizer or Moderna. Under-18s are being offered Pfizer, although the Moderna vaccine has also been authorised for use in children in the UK.

Is vaccination compulsory?

No, it is not compulsory but experts say it is the best defence for us all against Covid-19.

Will there be vaccines for children under 12?

There is no vaccine currently approved for use in the under-12s in the UK.

Where can I find more information?

The latest Covid-19 information, including vaccination eligibility, testing, and other frequently asked questions, can be found at: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/vaccine

Booster jab to be offered to over-50s and vulnerable

All people over 50 in the UK will be offered a single-dose booster jab of the Covid vaccine, the government has announced.

Under the plan, people will be eligible for a single booster jab if they are:

- Adults over the age of 50
- Frontline health and social care workers
- Older adults in residential care homes
- People aged 16-49 years old with underlying health conditions which put them at greater risk of severe Covid-19

- Adults who share a household with vulnerable people

It will be offered at least six months after a second vaccination, and is likely to be either Pfizer or Moderna.

Booster jabs in Tower Hamlets will start in early October.

It is safe to have the booster jab and the annual flu jab at the same time. However, the earlier you get your flu jab the better for maximum protection in the winter months.

For the latest information, visit: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/coronavirus



Pfizer vaccine at local clinic in Tower Hamlets

Stay safe and keep life moving

It's been a long journey in our fight against Covid-19 and, thanks to all our actions, we are now able to enjoy many things we have missed such as socialising without restrictions in numbers and attending events.

However, the virus is still with us. Even if you have been vaccinated you can still get Covid-19 and pass it on to others. Around one in three people with Covid-19 show no symptoms at all and can spread it without knowing.

There are simple things we can all continue to do to help reduce the spread:

- If you don't have symptoms, keep taking rapid Covid-19 tests twice a week
- If you have symptoms, however mild, book a PCR test immediately
- Keep washing your hands – it kills the virus and helps stop the spread
- Wear a face covering in crowded places where you can't social distance – particularly indoors



Keep Tower Hamlets Safe advert in Whitechapel

- Use the NHS Covid-19 app when you're out and about. Remember to use it when checking into venues
- If you're meeting indoors, open a window or a door. Better still, meet outdoors where possible. If you need advice or help with Covid-19, you can contact the council's dedicated Covid-19 helpline on 020 7364 3030 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

Flu jabs to protect all school-age children this autumn

As the colder months approach, seasonal viruses like flu become a top priority for healthcare workers in our borough.

Flu can be very serious, causing thousands of hospitalisations and hundreds of deaths in the UK every winter. With Covid-19 still circulating in our community, the NHS expects to be put under particular pressure this year, which is why flu vaccines are being offered to all children aged 2-16 for the first time.

"It's more important than ever to get your child vaccinated against flu," says Sumaira Tayyab, Programme Lead for Maternity and Early Years in the Tower Hamlets Public Health

Team.

"Vaccinating children protects them from a potentially serious illness, but it also protects the community because children are 'super-spreaders' of flu, passing the virus more easily to those around them."

Children aged two and three can be vaccinated at their GP surgery, while school-aged children will be offered the vaccine at school in the autumn term (from October-January).

There will be catch-up clinics for those who miss their jab, and schools will be supporting children through the process, including a

brand-new story book for younger children to help prepare them for their vaccine.

Most children will be given a nasal spray vaccine as it's quick, painless and more effective than an injected vaccine when it comes to preventing the virus spreading to others.

This won't be suitable for all children since it contains a very small amount of porcine gelatine, which is why an alternative injectable vaccine, containing no pork or other animal products, will also be available.

Find out more about the flu vaccine at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/immunisation



A new story book will help teachers explain the flu vaccine to young children



Morpeth School



**Admissions
September
2022**

**Join us
for our
Open Mornings
and our
Open Evening**

SEPTEMBER 2021 OPEN MORNINGS
9.30am to 11.15am
Wednesday 29th

OCTOBER 2021 OPEN EVENING
4.00pm to 7.00pm
Wednesday 6th

October 2021 Open Mornings
9.30am to 11.15am
Friday 8th and Monday 11th

Morpeth School

Portman Place

London E2 0PX

Tel: 020 8981 0921



www.morpethschool.org.uk



www.morpethschool.org.uk

Mulberry

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Our House System

Our wonderful House system enhances our student's learning and experience as they journey with us. Students gain access to a wealth of cultural, sports, musical, entrepreneurial and social action activities, programmes and initiatives that are exemplary.

Come and see us!

- At 9.15am from Monday 27th September to Thursday 30th September
- At 9.15am from Monday 4th October to Thursday 7th October

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 7th October from 4 – 6pm.



An Excellent Sixth Form Experience

Rich and diverse, caring and ambitious, our aim is to ensure that every student leaves us with an amazing profile of qualifications and experiences that will ensure their success in life



For more information about our amazing school, follow the QR code or visit: www.mulberryacademyshoreditch.org/year-6-transition

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SCAN ME



Part of the
Mulberry
Schools Trust



Crowds were drawn to Redchurch Street for shopping, al fresco dining, arts and crafts and other activities. Photographs ©Jeremy Freedman

Culture celebrated as High Streets bounce back

JOBS AND ECONOMY

Food stalls, an art trail, ping-pong and children's entertainment were just some of the attractions on offer at a popular street festival this August, as Redchurch Street celebrated the mix of food, fashion and style of Shoreditch.

With the street pedestrianised for the weekend, restaurants and cafés, such as Albion and Boundary, Owl & Pussycat, Burro e Salvia, Bistrot Walluc, and Franze & Evans, were able to extend their al fresco offers to locals and visitors to the borough.

Retailer, Sweaty Betty, hosted a

pilates session at Shuffle Club while an art trail hosted by Rich Mix wove its way along the street.

Redchurch Street festival is part of a series of events supported through the council's Thriving High Streets Fund to help businesses bounce back from the pandemic. It followed a free arts festival organised by Whitechapel Gallery, called Nocturnal Creatures, earlier in July, which transformed the gallery and nearby historic and outdoor spaces with installations, films, live performances, music and food experiences.

This October, Oxford House will be holding a photography exhibition

in shop windows along Bethnal Green Road.

Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Work, Economic Growth and Faith, said: "The Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund and Thriving High Streets Fund are both being used for events like this, drawing people back to our High Streets and bringing the community together."

For more on the festival visit www.onredchurch.com and for more on the exhibition visit www.oxfordhouse.org.uk/whats-on

For more on the High Streets Fund, visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/highstreetsfund



The Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund and Thriving High Streets Fund are being used for events like this, drawing people back to our High Streets.



Pilates, ping-pong and street entertainment were some of the attractions for the day

Helping our young kickstart their careers

More than 200 young people, aged between 16 and 24, who were hardest hit by the economic impact of Covid-19 have now secured work placements through the Kickstart scheme.

Each placement secured by the council is funded by the government, which pays the minimum wage based on a 25 hour-week placement, providing the opportunity for young people to gain valuable on-the-job experience and training, while the employer gets an additional worker and an option to make the role permanent.

Abida Miah, aged 22, from Bow, secured a Kickstart placement at a-n The Artists Information Company and will now soon be starting an apprenticeship with the company.

Abida, said: "Working at a-n has helped me to gain and improve many professional skills. The company has helped me to advance and broaden my knowledge in my career and I have enjoyed working within the programme team.

"I have learnt how the art world works and how events are run within a company. Supporting



Abida Miah says the Kickstart scheme has helped her gain and improve many professional skills

a-n's communications and marketing has led me to understand and learn the marketing side of a company, and how and why it is important to have this." For more information, visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/kickstart

Ian Parkes, Chief Executive, East London Business Alliance (ELBA)



It's a new term for our schools and students and we all hope that this year is free from Covid-19 disruption.

Young people in Tower Hamlets do really well in school, with the numbers getting good grades and going onto university both higher than the London and national averages. But our young people do not get into the same level of careers with higher earnings as other students with the same qualifications. It's completely unfair and perpetuates inequality and social injustice.

To address this, we have been working with Tower Hamlets Council, Tower Hamlets Education Business Partnership and others to make sure young people are as well prepared as they can be to get into good jobs and careers.

We are already running programmes to help graduates with good degrees but no business contacts to get a start in City firms with a six-month placement. We also have a major City firm helping young women in 6th forms build their confidence and leadership skills. There are employers helping with careers visits, talks, skills workshops, enterprise days and more.

For young people who have left education and who have been hit by the downturn in the labour market, ELBA and other Tower Hamlets organisations have been offering training, preparation and work placements through the Kickstart scheme and other programmes.

Parents too have a role to play in guiding our young people in their careers. It is never too early to start thinking about careers, so talk to your school and college about career options. Take every opportunity from business that you can, whether that's attending a talk or taking up mentoring or work experience, as anything that gets you in front of potential employers is going to help. And finally, always keep your options open. Not many young people have a really clear idea what they want to do early on, but in keeping your options open, planning the next steps and saying yes to opportunities, you will find the career for you.

For more information on ELBA, visit www.elba-1.org.uk

SCHOOL AND NURSERY ADMISSIONS 2022



WHO CAN APPLY

Nursery place

If your child was born between **1 September 2018** and **31 August 2019**, then you can apply for a nursery place for September 2022.

Primary school place

If your child was born between **1 September 2017** and **31 August 2018**, then you can apply for a primary school place for September 2022.

Secondary school place

If your child was born between **1 September 2010** and **31 August 2011** then you can apply for a secondary school place for September 2022.

APPLYING FOR A PLACE

Secondary

Applications open – **1 Sept 2021**
Deadline for applications – **31 October 2021**
Outcome – **1 March 2022**
Deadline for acceptance – **16 March 2022**

Nursery

Applications open – **1 Sept 2021**
Deadline for applications – **16 Feb 2022**
Outcome – **6 May 2022**
Deadline for acceptance – **20 May 2022**

Reception

Applications open – **1 Sept 2021**
Deadline for applications – **15 Jan 2022**
Outcome – **19 Apr 2022**
Deadline for acceptance – **30 Apr 2022**



Secondary Transfer School Visiting Dates for Admission to Year 7 in 2022



We advise that you check the individual schools website for up to date information.

School	Open mornings	Open evenings
Bishop Challoner Catholic Boys' School	Tuesday 5 & Wednesday 6 October, 9am	Thursday 30 September, 4.30pm
Bishop Challoner Catholic Girls' School	Tuesday 21 & Wednesday 22 September, 9am	Thursday 16 September, 4.30pm
Bow School	Monday 13, Wednesday 15, Monday 27, Thursday 30 September & Tuesday 5, Thursday 7 October School tours for all above dates: Tour 1: 11.15am-12pm Tour 2: 2-2.45pm Tour 3: 4-4.45pm Please note: Open mornings – tours 1 & 2 must be booked in advance. Details of the booking arrangements can be found on the school website: www.bow-school.org.uk . Tour 3 is an after school tour which does not need to be booked in advance but does require all visitors to be aware of any public health restrictions that may be in place at that time.	Tuesday 21 September, 4.30pm
Canary Wharf College Crossharbour	Wednesday 6 October, 9am	Tuesday 5 October, 5pm
Central Foundation Girls' School	Thursday 30 September & Friday 1, Monday 4, Wednesday 6, Thursday 7, Friday 8 October, 9.30-10.30am	Tuesday 5 October, 4.30-6.30pm
George Green's School	Monday 4 to Thursday 7 October, 9-10.30am Meet the Principal and take a tour. Places are limited and must be booked in advance. See www.georgegreens.com for more information.	Wednesday 29 September, 5-7pm
Langdon Park School	Tuesday 14 to Friday 17 September, 9.15-10.15am	Thursday 7 October, 5.30-7.30pm
London Enterprise Academy	Saturday 2 October, 10am-12.30pm Monday 4 to Friday 15 October, 9-11.30am	Tuesday 28 September & Wednesday 6 October, 4-6.30pm
Morpeth School	Tuesday 14, Thursday 16, Monday 20, Wednesday 29 September & Friday 8, Monday 11 October, 9.30-11.15am Please also check www.morpethschool.org.uk/2166/admissions-2022 for further information	Wednesday 6 October, 4-7pm
Mulberry Academy Shoreditch	Monday 20 to Thursday 23, Monday 27 to Thursday 30 September & Monday 4 to Thursday 7 October, 9.15am	Thursday 7 October, 4-6pm
Mulberry School for Girls	Monday 20 to Wednesday 22 September, 9.30-10.30am	Tuesday 28 September, 4-6pm
Mulberry Stepney Green	Friday 10, Thursday 16, Tuesday 21 September & Friday 1, Thursday 7, Tuesday 12, Thursday 21 October, 9-11am	Thursday 23 September, 4-6pm
Oaklands School	Thursday 23, Tuesday 28 September & Monday 4, Friday 15, Wednesday 20 October, 9.20-10.40am	Wednesday 29 September, 4-6.30pm
Stepney All Saints CofE Secondary School	Thursday 16, Wednesday 22 September & Tuesday 5 October, 9.30am Register online to attend at www.stepneyallsaints.school	Monday 27 September, 4.30-6.30pm
St Paul's Way Trust School	Monday 27 September to Friday 1 October, 9.15-11am	Thursday 30 September, 4-6.30pm
Swanlea School	Wednesday 22, Friday 24, Monday 27, Thursday 30 September, 9.15-10.15am & Saturday 18 September, 11am-3pm	Wednesday 6 October, 4-6.30pm
Wapping High School	Tuesday 21, Tuesday 28 September & Tuesday 5, Tuesday 12 October, see school website for timings.	Wednesday 22 September, see school website for timings



Newcomers to Whitechapel Market will be mentored by experienced traders. (L-R) Trader Syed Rehman, Cllr Asma Islam, Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning, trader Ahmed Patel, Mayor John Biggs, and traders Sunil Khosla, Shathil Islam and Mr Vyas

£140,000 boost for markets

MAYOR'S COVID RECOVERY FUND

More than £140,000 is being invested in a series of programmes to boost footfall to the borough's pandemic-hit markets and help create new jobs.

The funding, which is an allocation from the £3m Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund announced in July, will be used across a series of projects including creating an online presence for markets and training courses and mentoring schemes for new street market businesses.

A new Moving Markets Online project will see the historic marketplaces going digital with websites and a social media presence to attract more shoppers to the markets, also creating job opportunities for young people aged 17-24 interested in digital marketing to work on the project.

Elsewhere, a new one-week trader training course for budding entrepreneurs is also being rolled out. The training, which will

be provided free of charge, will cover the basic skills involved in setting up and running a street market business, with some of the successful candidates then offered a chance to work alongside seasoned stall holders and to be mentored while they establish their new business.

Mayor Biggs visited Whitechapel Market to meet some of the stall holders who have offered to mentor the new traders and who are looking forward to having an online presence to attract more visitors to their patch.

Sunil Khosla, a costume jeweller who has operated from Whitechapel Market for the last 20 years, spoke of some of the challenges facing traders such as market identity, infrastructure and diversity and the help on offer from through the Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund.

"I just want to see the market grow and it is a great opportunity for someone to start a business with little or no money," Sunil said.

"There's a shortage of small business space in this borough and

this is one of the spaces the small businesses could use, rather than having 75 people here selling the same gear. The market needs an identity and then you get people who can fulfil on that."

Mayor Biggs said: "Now that life is returning to normal, we are keen to help traders get back on their feet and attract business through the Moving Markets Online project and provide jobs to residents who may never thought of trying out a market stall."

Cllr Asma Islam, Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning, added: "We are lucky in Tower Hamlets to have the most markets than any London borough, from the trendy Brick Lane market, colourful Columbia Road market right through to the iconic Petticoat Lane market. I hope residents will sign up to the free Trader Training course as you never know where it could lead to."

“

Now that life is returning to normal, we are keen to help traders get back on their feet and attract business through the Moving Markets Online project and provide jobs to residents who may never thought of trying out a market stall.

Quarter-million makeover for High Streets

High streets across Tower Hamlets are set for a makeover worth more than £250,000 through a series of Big Clean Ups which will sweep across the borough.

Funded with an allocation of £266,750 from the £3m Mayor's Covid Recovery Fund, the clean ups will include graffiti removal, deep cleaning of pavements and

shopfront improvements.

Relaunched in July following a pause due to Covid-19, the Big Clean Ups are a series of targeted days and involve council teams working with community volunteers to make the area litter-free and more attractive to residents, visitors and shoppers.

The mayor visited Navarre Street and Ligonier Street in Bethnal

Green to see the transformation after council officers had blitzed both streets and removed sap and moss from the York stone paving.

John Biggs, Mayor of Tower Hamlets said: "I want to help our businesses bounce back and one of the ways we are trying to do this is by making our High Streets and markets more attractive to visitors.

The Big Clean Ups are also part of our efforts to make Tower Hamlets a cleaner, greener and safer borough."

For residents or businesses who would like to get involved in a Big Clean Up, or anyone who would like more information, please get in touch by emailing bigcleanup@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Are you a private Landlord? Agent? Tenant?

**If so, you need to know
about the three privately
rented property licensing
schemes in Tower Hamlets.**

Selective Licensing

APPLIES TO

All rented properties in Whitechapel, Spitalfields, Weavers or Banglatown areas of the borough.

Additional Licensing

APPLIES TO

All rented properties anywhere in the borough which are occupied by three or more people living as two or more separate households who share facilities.

Mandatory Licensing

APPLIES TO

All rented properties anywhere in the borough which are occupied by five or more people living as two or more separate households who share facilities.

Landlords

Failure to licence a licensable property can lead to a criminal conviction and unlimited fine, or a £30,000 Financial Penalty. You may also not be able to legally evict your tenants.

Tenants

If you are living in an unlicensed property you can apply for a rent repayment order and get up to 12 months rent back. You can check if your property is licensed by looking at the public register on our website.

For further information and to submit an application visit:

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/licensingschemes

or email housinglicensing@towerhamlets.gov.uk



Independent shops and cafés run along the length of Roman Road

Around and About the Roman Road

Graham Barker nips into neighbourhood shops, community spaces and green corners around the Roman Road. Photos by **Kois Miah**.

WALK ROMAN ROAD

On this walk around and about Roman Road you'll see a remarkable mix of independent shops and cafés, heritage landmarks, community projects and green spaces. Week by week, month by month, local businesses are getting busier. But after a tough stop-start time with lockdowns, many of them would welcome a little support – shopping locally can help ensure there's a lively buzz in the high street for years to come.

This walk starts at the junction

Start:	Finish:	Distance:	Allow:
Roman Road/Grove Road crossroads	Roman Road/Grove Road crossroads	2.8 miles	90 minutes



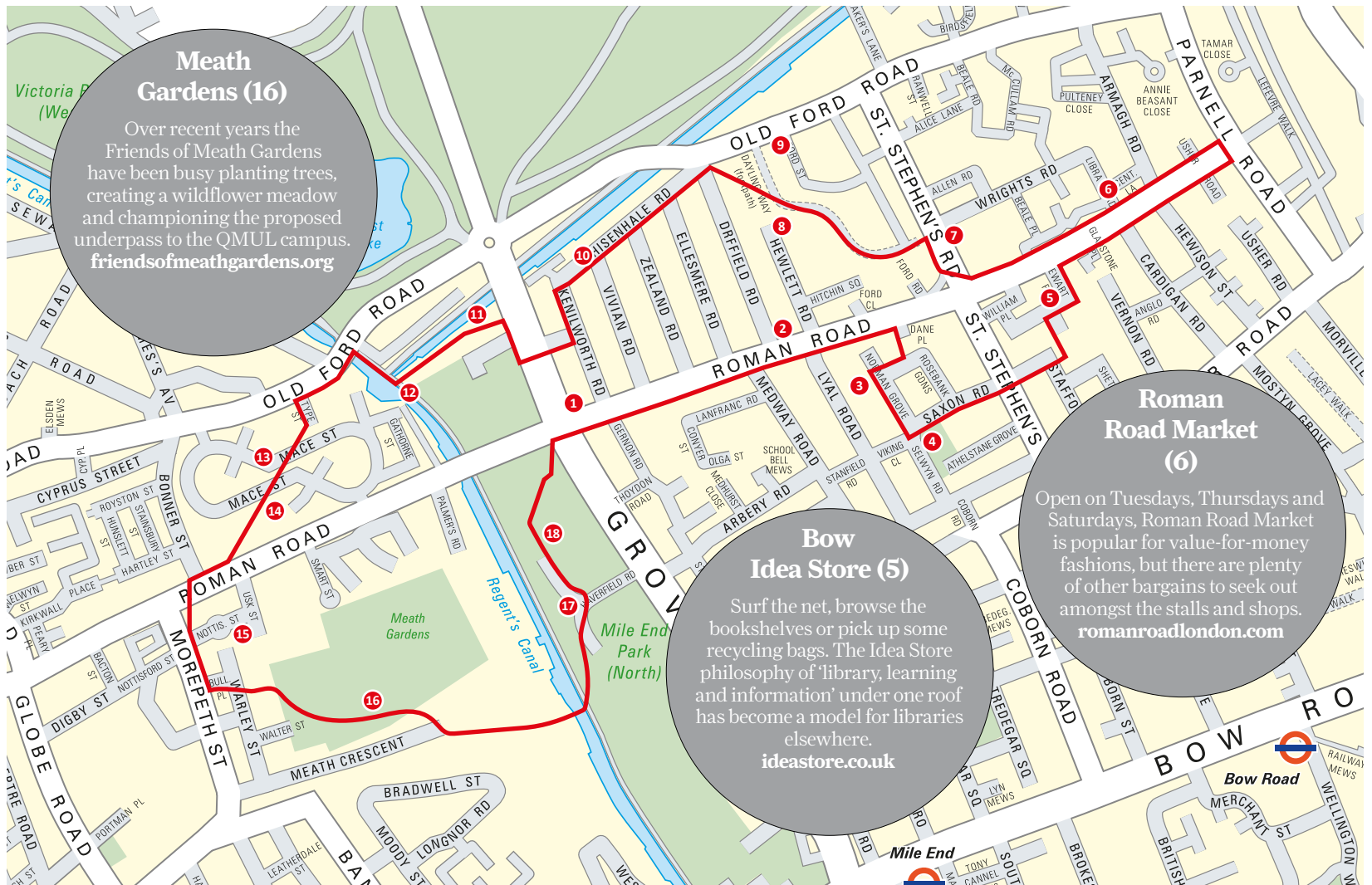
Keyworder signs within Zealand Road's mural



(6) Affordable fashion at Roman Road Market



(8) A bright welcome at the adventure playground



of Grove Road and Roman Road, easily reached by bus from Bethnal Green or Mile End. There has long been a crossroads here – old maps reveal a toll bar spanning Grove Road turnpike during the 18th and 19th centuries, with Green Street running to Bethnal Green and the Driftway footpath heading eastwards towards Old Ford.

The name Roman Road was adopted during the 1860s after archaeological excavations near the river crossing at Old Ford uncovered evidence of Roman housing and the Roman road to Colchester. In turn, that inspired other street names hereabouts, including Norman Grove and Saxon Road, which you'll

visit shortly, and Legion Terrace and Garrison Road beyond.

These days, St Barnabas Church (1) stands prominently at the crossroads. Built in 1865 as a Baptist chapel, and re-consecrated as Anglican in 1870, St Barnabas was originally topped by a soaring steeple until it was bombed during WWII. The crucifix was added around 1957, surrounded by depictions of the Four Evangelists sculpted by Don Potter.

As you stroll along Roman Road, there are glimpses into Kenilworth, Vivian, Zealand and Ellesmere Roads, which were laid out from 1857 as the Victoria Park Estate by the London and Suburban Freehold Land and Building Society. You'll

take a closer look later on.

Roman Road itself is flanked by independent neighbourhood shops and cafés (2). Take time to see what's on offer – for example, vintage clothing and retro bric-a-brac at Gina's Closet, abundant fruit and veg displays at Whole Fresh, fine blooms at Dennington's, and colourful cards and gifts at Snap, interspersed with beauty salons, hardware stores and corner coffee shops.

Along the way, keep your eyes open for a couple of curiosities – the Zealand Road mural featuring Peter Liversidge's Sign Paintings for the NHS that became a lockdown landmark, and two boundary stones of 'MEOT' or Mile End Old Town

– a hamlet that stretched from Whitechapel to Bow – inset into the corner of Medway Road and above No 422.

Many businesses have been here for years – most remarkably, four generations of the Abbott family have supplied locals with lino, carpet and laminate flooring since 1882. Beside their store, turn right into Dane Place where a mural features the founder, Charlie Abbott, dispensing pennies to local children.

Around the corner, charming Victorian cottages extend along Norman Grove. Suffragette Sylvia Pankhurst ran a toy factory at No 45 (3) from 1914 to 1934. With on-site crèche facilities, women could earn



(11) Distilling gin at the East London Liquor Co.



(13) Lubetkin's towers in the Cranbrook Estate



(14) Herb pots at the Cranbrook community garden

a working wage making jointed wooden animals, dolls, and stuffed toy cats, dogs and bears.

Beside Selwyn Green you'll see the 1894 school hall – with its foundation stone laid by Mary, Duchess of Teck – and behind, the original classrooms that together formed the St Stephen's National Schools (4). Across St Stephen's Road, continue towards 22-storey Brodick House, towering skyward.

Veer left around the tower and a pathway continues out beside Bow Idea Store (5). Now that lockdown restrictions have eased, you can go inside to browse the bookshelves, use the internet, or pick up some recycling bags or lateral flow testing kits. Outside, the doorway keystone and ornate corner inscription indicate the public library was opened in 1901, funded by newspaper editor turned philanthropist John Passmore Edwards.

You emerge into Roman Road Market (6). If you're here on market day – Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday – the street is lined with colourful stalls, many specialising in affordable women's fashions. A chance to bag yourself a bargain outfit. There are budget-friendly options among the surrounding shops too, such as a large Spitalfields Crypt Trust charity shop, assorted homewares at the pound store, and pawnbrokers selling jewellery.

Feeling peckish? Then take your pick from the many cafés here, including G Kelly's 'noted eel and pie shop' – opened in 1939 and recently revamped – and Randolph's refreshment bar, a Roman Road institution since 1919. To read the stories behind these local businesses, dip into the popular community blog, 'Roman Road London'.

As you leave the market, detour right to St Paul's Old Ford (7). Re-modelled in 2004, St Paul's now serves as a church, community space and café – a beautiful place for a cuppa and home-made cake. Inside the lofty Victorian church, a timber-clad 'Ark' rises above the worship

space, with the Ability Bow gym perched in the roof.

Retrace your steps to the crossing and continue through Ranwell West Estate, zig-zagging between blocks. Soon you might hear children's chatter from the Roman Road Adventure Playground (8) – a supervised space, busy with youngsters, clambering and crafting after school – or glimpse the Sylvia Pankhurst mural (9) painted on the Lord Morpeth pub wall. This was the East London Federation of Suffragettes' heartland. As well as the Norman Grove toy factory they ran a cost-price kitchen, crèche and baby clinic – practical, social action in tandem with campaigning for women's rights.

Chisenhale Road is lined with berry-laden rowan trees. From the late 1850s, speculative builders erected these houses in twos and threes – in tune with the masterplan but with subtle differences. Many date stones survive, especially in Kenilworth Road.

Further along, Morris Cohen's veneer works – which made propellers for WWII Spitfires – is now the Chisenhale Studios (10), providing affordable space for around 40 artists, together with the Chisenhale Dance Space.

Around the corner, Bunsen Street brings you out to Grove Road beside Victoria Park Baptist Church. Opposite at Bow Wharf (11), the East London Liquor Company – an artisan distillery based in a former glue factory – crafts grapefruit-infused gin and London Rye whisky in the giant copper stills. Neighbouring units are home to a bike repair workshop, personal trainer, wellbeing therapy room, and canalside café.

At Stoneway Walk, you're standing above the junction of two canals (12). The Regent's Canal opened in 1820 to connect the Thames at Limehouse to the Grand Union Canal at Paddington, whereas the Hertford Union Canal – also known as Duckett's Cut – was added some ten years later as a shortcut to the



Taking a break at one of Roman Road's many cafés

Lee Navigation. Fragments of the old stop lock between the two are still visible. As commercial freight routes they were eclipsed by the railways but thankfully they now flourish as green corridors for wildlife, walkers, cyclists and boaters.

Out on Old Ford Road, turn left before heading along Type Street into the Cranbrook Estate (13). Designed by modernist architect Berthold Lubetkin – with striking geometry, swirling staircases, and the use of pre-cast concrete – these 1960s green chequered towers were each named after Bethnal Green's European twin towns at the time.

Nestling beside the central footpath, the Cranbrook Community Food Garden (14) is bursting with runner beans and raspberries, kale and kudu. Check in to see if there's any freshly-harvested produce available in return for a donation.

Across Roman Road, Globe Town Market Square hosts stalls selling fresh fish and fruit and veg, with shops and cafés on hand nearby. Beyond, Denys Lasdun's Sulkin House (15) is another example of innovative post-war housing, designed with splayed wings to optimise sunlight and privacy.

Around the corner, head into Meath Gardens (16). The archway inscription of 'VPC 1845' hints that this was once Victoria Park Cemetery. Established to relieve the pressure

on overcrowded parish churchyards, it was full within 30 years. The cemetery's somewhat unsavoury reputation was salvaged when it was re-landscaped by the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association in 1894.

En route to the opposite corner, look out for a eucalyptus tree and info-board commemorating the Aboriginal cricketer, Bripumyarrimin – also known as King Cole – who died of tuberculosis whilst on tour here in 1868.

Arc over the Regent's Canal on the green metallic footbridge, beside Mile End Climbing Wall. Down to your left, Bow-born footballer Ledley King, suffragette Sylvia Pankhurst and a barge-horse form a trio of portraits cut out of weathered steel.

Narrow boats are moored nose-to-tail along the Regent's Canal, and the solitary Palm Tree (17) stands centre stage, a traditional pub known for its jazz nights and popular with those who fancy a pint al fresco on the surrounding lawns.

Wander through the ecology park (18) flanked by reeded ponds and the gently curving pavilion. It's a haven for water boatmen, frogs and damselflies. Chaffinches and wagtails chirp away, and urban foxes prowl around. It comes as something of a contrast when you emerge from the park back at the Roman Road crossroads, the end of your walk.



(16) Children enjoy Meath Garden's playground



(18) Look out for wildlife at the Ecology Park



Views afar from the Regent's Canal footbridge



The V&A East project has consulted with over 20,000 local young people through education and career initiatives and other activities

New creative vision for V&A East revealed

Details have been revealed for V&A East, one of the world's most significant new museum projects.

The V&A's new national complex in east London will comprise two sister sites currently under construction in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

Opening at Here East in 2024, V&A East Storehouse will offer an immersive visitor experience, providing unprecedented public access to 5,000 years of creativity.

Across the park, opening in 2025, V&A East Museum celebrates global creativity and making.

Both sites are part of East Bank, the Mayor of London's £1.1 billion Olympic legacy project, which will create a new arts, innovation and education hub in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

Underpinned by values of equity, empathy, openness and sustainability, V&A East is committed to creating opportunities for young people and fostering the next generation of creatives.

Gus Casely-Hayford, V&A East Director, said: "V&A East will build on the V&A's long-standing heritage in east London and founding mission to make the arts accessible to all. We are shaping a new creative campus and social space, and by working closely in partnership with our local communities, will highlight the cultural dynamism, youth and creativity of east London."

Empowering young people and opening pathways into the creative industries is fundamental to V&A East. To date, the project has consulted with over 20,000 local young people through education and career initiatives and other activities, working in partnership with organisations across east London such as Bow Arts, Bromley By Bow Centre and Spotlight Centre.

To help shape the project's future youth programming, design collective RESOLVE has been working with organisations across the four Olympic boroughs, including Tower Hamlets, to explore young people's connection to their local area as an opportunity for creative practice. Their work will culminate in a series of installations, designed and delivered across the Olympic boroughs.



An artist's impression of the V&A East Museum which celebrates global creativity and making



Aman and Freedom Fighters, a scene from Shongram

Bangladesh@50 art installation and film festival

As part of Bangladesh@50, a season of events throughout 2021 marking 50 years since the independence of Bangladesh, artist Rahemur Rahman and young people from 'A' Team Arts and Tower Hamlets schools will recreate My House My Bari, a living space depicting the homes of the British Bangladeshi community in 1971.

The participatory project includes research, development, and production of an arts installation to take place at the Kobi Nazrul Centre in the heart of Banglatown from 25 November to 14 December.

This creative engagement aims to facilitate a dynamic cultural and heritage exchange with young people, old people and the community, exploring the UK Bangladeshi community's contribution to Bangladesh's freedom and independence.

The council also curated a film festival to highlight the key events of 1971, when Bangladesh gained its independence and the War of Liberation took place.

Films included the award-winning documentary *Rising Silence* (2019), the poignant documentary *Muktir Gaan* (1995) and the action film *Shongram* (2014).

The screenings took place in September at the Brady Arts Centre, Genesis Cinema and Rich

Mix and were accompanied by Q&A sessions, online screenings, live music from Grand Union Orchestra and a spoken word event from Hope 'n' Mic.

For more information, visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/bangladesh50



My House My Bari (MHMB) is a living space depicting the homes of the British Bangladeshi community in 1971

Music, films, talks and more for Black History Month

October marks Black History Month and this year there will be a programme of activities going ahead, both live and online. This will include live music, film screenings, talks, workshops and more, to offer residents the opportunity to engage with the richness of black arts, culture and history.

We will be showcasing another online photography exhibition, *Beauty and Power*, which will be on display at the Brady Arts Centre in Whitechapel. For full listings please visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/blackhistorymonth

Exhibitions



Sea Shanties

Sea Shanties

John Adams' exhibition is focussed around the theme of the sea, and reveals the influence of Joseph Cornell's 'assemblage' memory boxes as well as inspiration from other artists such as Man Ray, Kienholtz and Rauschenberg. His love of beachcombing has been combined with other collected materials to tell imaginative tales of travel.

Until 28 September 2021

Brady Arts Centre, 192-196 Hanbury Street E1 5HU.

Paradise Is Not Just a Place

A duo show of new works by Yulia Iosilzon and Anna Skladmann whose photographs and paintings draw on forbidden fruit as a repeated motif, exploring tropes of temptation, abundance, and nourishment.

17 September - 23 October 2021

Weds - Fri (10am - 6pm),

Sat (12 - 5pm)

69 Roman Road E2 OQN.

Visit www.romanroad.com



Care by Dola Posh

Look Again

An exhibition of paintings by Dharmacari Abhayavajra (AKA Paul Newman) exploring original ways in which traditional tools, materials and processes can give rise to new and unexpected meanings.

24 September - 2 October 2021 (10.30am-6pm)

The Art Pavilion, Mile End Park. Visit

<https://abhayavajranewman.com>

Beauty & Power

Ten established and emerging black artists have been invited to exhibit their photography at the Brady Arts Centre during Black History Month. Covid confinement has inspired a series of stunning portraits and observations about motherhood, superheroes, identity and rituals past and present. The show is a celebration of black culture, perception and moving personal experience.

Presented by Alternative Arts.

Curated by Sarah Ainslie and Maggie Pinhorn.

1 - 27 October 2021

Brady Arts Centre, 192-196 Hanbury Street E1 5HU.

Utopia

Utopia is a multimedia group art exhibition showcasing the theme of the Ecofeminism Festival which is inspired by the ecofeminism movement that started in the 70s, exploring the relationship between nature and women. The exhibition is accompanied by an extensive programme of events including workshops, performances, talks, and an artist-in-residence programme.

The festival also presents a conference discussing the evolution of ecofeminism through history until today, and a short film festival screening at the famed Genesis Cinema.

7 - 17 October 2021 (12 - 7pm)

The Art Pavilion, Mile End Park.

Visit www.artfromheart.co.uk



A piece by Masha Karda from Prism's latest exhibition

In Search of Possibilities

Following on from their incredibly popular 2020 online exhibition 'In search of (im)possibilities', this year's exhibition sees Prism, a diverse and exploratory group, showcase a range of quality textile practices with a fine art approach.

21 - 31 October 2021 (11am - 6pm)

The Art Pavilion, Mile End Park.

Visit www.primstextiles.co.uk

Project London 1971: Unsung Heroes of Those Stormy Days

A collection of photography, including the rare photographs of British photographer Roger Goyen and of British-born Bangladeshi Yusuf Chowdhury, highlights the pivotal role played by The City of London in the making of Bangladesh. Expatriate Bengalis were vocal about the Liberation Movement, calling for the independence of Bangladesh and raising awareness in British cities throughout the nine long months of war.

1 - 28 November 2021

Brady Arts Centre, 192-196 Hanbury Street E1 5HU.



Painting by Mira Connolly

Mira Connolly

Mira Connolly moved to Mile End 20 years ago, into a small house in a street near Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park. She loves discovering the nooks and crannies of the borough and her work is concentrated around local scenes. She particularly focuses on the greenery of the Cemetery Park which provides a wealth of ever-changing subject matter.

1 December 2021 - 25 January 2022

Brady Arts Centre, 192-196 Hanbury Street E1 5HU.

Art Matters 1 & 2

The Essential School of Painting (ESOP) presents its annual end of year shows. Postponed in June this year due to Covid, these two consecutive exhibitions will be a great chance to see some brilliant and topical artwork made during extraordinary times.

2 - 21 November 2021

The Art Pavilion, Mile End Park.

ELP Festival of Print 2021

East London Printmakers return with their exhibition showcasing a broad range of contemporary printmaking, ranging from traditional techniques to experimental processes.

26 November - 5 December 2021

The Art Pavilion, Mile End Park.



Yoko Ono: Mend. Photo by Kyle Morland

Yoko Ono: MEND PIECE for London

Whitechapel Gallery visitors are invited to participate in an interactive installation by world famous artist, musician and activist Yoko Ono (b.1933, Japan). Broken fragments of pottery are presented on two plain white tables, along with simple materials for repair - glue, twine, scissors and tape. On entering the space participants are prompted by a set of simple instructions provided by the artist. Once finished, the 'mended' objects are displayed on adjacent shelves.

Until 2 January 2022

Whitechapel Gallery, 77-82

Whitechapel High Street E1 7QX.

Visit www.whitechapelgallery.org

Theatre

When Rachel Met Fiona

When Rachel Met Fiona is a fast-paced, funny play about bravery and choices in life, capturing the epic emotions of the most common human events. The new comedy-drama aims to explore a lesbian relationship covering the same territory as all other relationships such as domestic life, sexual frequency and infertility but with some very important differences.

28 September - 2 October

(Livestreamed on 1 October)

Performance times: 7.30pm

Saturday matinee: 2.30pm

Prices: £15/£12

Visit www.space.org.uk

Fun Palaces

This free family fun day returns for a sixth event with another selection of fun community events to get involved in. Join Half Moon as they create a Fun Palace throughout their building and garden with an inspiring programme of events for all ages, celebrating arts, culture and science.

Saturday 2 October (10am - 4pm)

All ages welcome

Half Moon Theatre, 43 White Horse

Road E1 OND

Visit www.halfmoon.org.uk

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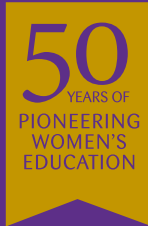
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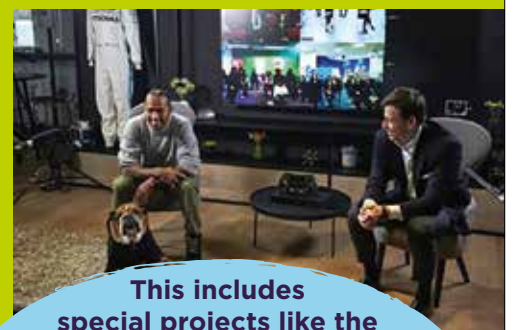


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This includes special projects like the **Mulberry STEM Academy** in partnership with Mercedes-Benz Grand Prix Ltd.

OPEN EVENING

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 4pm – 6pm

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To arrange a tour with the Acting Headteacher, please contact AJ Agar ☎ **020 7790 6327** or ✉ **admin@mulberryschoolforgirls.org**

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USE THE QR CODE
 TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE

SCAN ME





Left: A WW2 bomb damaged the old chapel during the Blitz, but the building survived. Right: Star of stage and screen, Sir Ian McKellen, visits the Space

Isle of Dogs theatre turns 25

COMMUNITY NEWS

A popular theatre based in a converted Isle of Dogs church is celebrating its twenty-fifth birthday.

The Space is celebrating turning 25 years old with a special event this September where five short plays, written specially for the occasion, will be performed for the first time.

The Space opened in September 1996 in the previously derelict St Paul's chapel, dating back to 1859, which was rescued and restored by local resident Robert Richardson, who spent ten years getting the necessary funds, support and work on the building completed.

Robert established St Paul's Arts Trust to provide creative

opportunities for local residents and support new performers.

Current artistic director, Adam Hemming, says, "We're so fortunate that this beautiful old building is still here. Having narrowly avoided being destroyed during the Blitz, it was on the verge of falling down before Robert stepped in with his incredible rescue operation."

Since opening, the Space has played host to numerous early career performers and some established names, such as Steven Berkoff, Louise Jameson and, the venue's patron, Sir Ian McKellen, who began his 2019 national tour with two performances at his local theatre.

The Space provides low-cost tickets, participatory theatre workshops and has a café/bar which

is popular with local residents.

During the pandemic, the Space moved its activities online, providing valuable support and entertainment for those unable to leave their homes.

Adam explains, "We wanted to keep people connected and positive in, what we knew would be, difficult times. Thanks to funding from the Arts Council, we put together an online programme of events and workshops. The response was incredible, so we've continued to stream performances live from the venue for those that are unable to attend in person."

For more information visit www.space.org.uk



Having narrowly avoided being destroyed during the Blitz, it was on the verge of falling down before Robert stepped in with his incredible rescue operation.

Mighty Tigers roar to tournament success

A cricket tournament to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Bangladesh's independence saw the Mighty Tigers lift the cup at Victoria Park cricket ground on August 4.

Four teams; Anirban, London Eagles, Mighty Tigers and Forest Gate Tigers, all members of Victoria Park Community Cricket League, took part in the day long tournament as part of a variety of anniversary events running until December 2021.

A close match was played for the final with the Mighty Tigers beating

Anirban to win the cup by just one run.

Speaker of the council, Cllr Mohammed Ahab Hossain, awarded the cup to the winning team.

A 'family come and have a go' session run by Capital Kids Cricket (CKC), one of the Speaker's supported charities, also took place on the day.

For information about events and activities to mark Bangladesh@50 visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/bangladesh50



The Mighty Tigers beat Anirban by just one run to win the cup

Extra patrols to target anti-social behaviour

SAFER TOGETHER

Increased patrols have been taking place across the borough as the council steps up its work to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB).

Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officer (THEO), Eunice Ndulaka-Okwu, has been key to that work, helping to carry out patrols and weapon sweeps to make Tower Hamlets safer as part of her role.

“I think what’s really rewarding about this job for me is that no two days are the same,” says Eunice.

“One moment I could be helping someone in the community who is unwell or has injured themselves to get the right assistance, the next I could be supporting local police to tackle crime and disrupt the local drug market.

“I meet a variety of people in all sorts of different situations every day – you wake up in the morning and never know who you’re going to meet or what challenges the day might bring. It certainly keeps you on your toes and there’s never a dull moment!”

The additional patrols included extra weapon and drug sweeps in the borough’s parks, clearing graffiti and litter, and enforcing the council’s nitrous oxide Public Spaces Protection Order, which bans the use of ‘laughing gas’ and associated



Tower Hamlets Enforcement Officer, Eunice Ndulaka-Okwu, uncovers a hidden machete during weapon sweep



Cllr Sirajul Islam, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, joins local police during week of action



I think it’s really important to have two-way conversations like this. While we can’t make crime and ASB disappear overnight, working with residents to identify problems and how we can deal with them helps us to help our community in the best way possible.

anti-social behaviour.

“There’s a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes and sometimes people don’t realise all the effort we put in to deal with ASB,” says Eunice.

“We had a week of action during

Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness Week at the end of July which gave us a really great opportunity to speak to residents about what we do, but also to hear from them on where we could do more and what they think the main issues are.

“I think it’s really important to have two-way conversations like this. While we can’t make crime and ASB disappear overnight, working with residents to identify problems and how we can deal with them helps us to help our community in

the best way possible. Something as simple as making sure people know how to report ASB makes such a big difference.”

During the week of action, three dangerous weapons were recovered from parks, including a large machete Eunice found hidden in some overgrowth. Teams also found bags containing large quantities of cannabis and cash.

“Working in this field, you’re prepared for all sorts of situations, but it was still pretty shocking to find that machete hidden in a bush,” says Eunice. “Weapons like this have the potential to cause serious harm, which is why the work we’re doing to increase park sweeps and remove weapons from public spaces is so important. As far as I’m concerned, getting that weapon off our streets is as good as saving someone’s life.”

Following the success of the week of action, the council’s Safer Neighbourhoods Team and THEOs have increased patrols in key anti-social behaviour hotspots and have since found knives, another machete and cannabis.

Cllr Sirajul Islam, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Faith and Equalities, said: “Our teams work hard to tackle ASB and it’s an issue that can have a real impact on residents’ feelings of safety. We are committed as ever in taking action against those who behave in an anti-social way, which negatively impacts people’s lives.”

THEOs are on hand to make community support more accessible to residents in the borough. “I want to make a difference to people’s lives – no matter how big or small,” says Eunice. “That’s the whole reason I got into this role in the first place. I like to think I’m pretty approachable so people have the confidence to speak to me and also know that I’m there to help them for the better.”

“A big part of the job is building trust in the community, so I love when people come up to have a chat and find out a bit more about what we do. I’d encourage everyone to come and say hi if they see me out and about in the borough!”

Funding boost to tackle substance misuse

Tower Hamlets has been awarded nearly £1million in a bid to tackle substance misuse in the borough through a targeted one-year intervention programme.

The funding package is part of Project ADDER, a joint Home Office, Department for Health and Social Care, and Public Health England programme, which is

testing a whole-system approach to drug misuse and drug-related crime.

A separate funding package has also been awarded to Tower Hamlets Borough Command Unit (BCU), meaning the council and local police can work in partnership to offer a system-wide approach to tackling drugs. This will include additional investment into treatment and

recovery services, drug outreach and strengthening existing drug enforcement work through the ongoing Operation Continuum partnership.

This funding will allow the council and police to ramp up delivery of services to support people with drug addiction and address the root causes of drug misuse.



Tower Hamlets officers at Bartlett Park

Make a difference in your spare time by volunteering as a police officer

The police are on the lookout for more volunteer police officers, also known as special constables. Taking on this exciting and rewarding role will give you the same powers and uniform as a regular police constable and is a great way to give back to the community.

Special constables receive the best training available, taking on around 16 hours of work per month and are based at Central East Command in

either Tower Hamlets or Hackney.

Special constable Marcu, Tower Hamlets resident and now police officer in Tower Hamlets, said: “Becoming a volunteer police officer was one of the best decisions I took in my life. As a special constable you can be out in the street combating drug dealing, arresting offenders and tackling violence, and at the same time you can also be part of an investigation unit, analysing

intelligence, gathering evidence and interviewing suspects.

“I help my local community by tackling crime, increasing the confidence of residents in the area, protecting the vulnerable, caring for victims and engaging positively with the community – all in one shift!”

To find out more and apply, email: CEMailbox-Recruitment@met.police.uk

Sign up

Keep up to date with news on community safety by signing up to our new e-newsletter. To sign up, simply visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/signup



All primary school children in Tower Hamlets receive free school meals, regardless of eligibility

Putting free school meals on the menu

YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

It's been a year since England and Manchester United footballer Marcus Rashford put the issue of free school meals into the national spotlight, helping to bring about a change in government policy.

As children returned to school this September, the sporting icon relaunched his campaign, calling on the government to make sure that no child in the country goes hungry.

Figures published on his campaign website show that across the UK, before the pandemic, 4.3million children were living in poverty, or 9 out of 30 children in every classroom, and one million

of those children are not currently eligible for free school meals.

Similarly, the Food Foundation highlights how packed lunches are not the answer, with University of Leeds research showing that less than 2% of packed lunches meet nutritional standards.

"Marcus is an incredible role model, sportsman and social campaigner, and we continue to support him in highlighting this issue and in ensuring that no child goes hungry," said John Biggs, Mayor of Tower Hamlets.

"We want to give our young people the best start in life possible and aside from the health benefits that having a nutritious meal everyday can have,

it also positively impacts things such as a child's concentration levels in class, helping to boost their learning in school.

"This is why we've been delivering free school meals to all primary school children, not only those who are eligible under current rules and funding from government, but to all primary school children regardless of eligibility. This way, we can make sure no primary school child goes hungry."

More than 17,000 free school meals are served to school children across Tower Hamlets by the council's catering teams every day.

"At Marner, I don't have to worry that any child is hungry, and nor

do their mums and dads," said Janice Long, Headteacher at Marner Primary School. "The fact that it's a hot meal that is nutritious, balanced and colourful is really important to their wellbeing."

Marcus Rashford's campaign calls for members of the public to visit endchildfoodpoverty.org and express their support for free school meals ahead of the Government Spending Review, expected in October, where a decision on the funding of meals will be made.

For more information on free school meals for all primary school children in Tower Hamlets, visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Boost for online learning as 60 laptops donated to school

Children and staff at Harry Gosling Primary School in Whitechapel have welcomed the donation of 60 refurbished laptops, as part of an effort to get more Tower Hamlets school children online in the classroom and be able to continue to access their learning from home.

Donated laptops came from old council IT equipment. This was cleaned and had new software installed by volunteers at Tech Inclusion UK, who have also helped breathe new life into over 1,000 laptops from Tower Hamlets following donations from individuals, corporations and the council, as part of efforts to get every child online in Tower Hamlets.

Mohammed Hossain, parent of

Year 4 pupil Samiha Mahjabin, said: "We are really happy, this will help children to access their learning."

For more information, visit www.techinclusion.org.uk and www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/everychildonline

“
We are really happy, this will help children to access their learning.



The 60 laptops will help Harry Gosling Primary School children to continue their learning at home



The recent summer activities programme reached over 6,000 young people



Hundreds of activities and new playground equipment add up to summer fun

Adventure play, football, wildlife exploration, climbing and barbecues were just some of the things enjoyed by young people as part of a programme of more than 200 summer activities hosted by the council and partner organisations.

Figures show that the programme reached 6,200 young people, with park rangers welcoming thousands to over 52 activities in the borough's parks and open spaces, with 100 young people per day taking part in athletics including sprints, throws and jumps.

Amongst other activities, youth and community organisation,

Osmani Trust, delivered a six-days-a-week Kick Back programme, offering sports, day trips and workshops.

"Coming out of lockdown, there has been a positive response from young people, parents and the community," said Abdul Hasnath, senior project officer of the Kick Back programme.

"It's been a very exciting summer, with a three-day youth residential, community barbecue, lots of fun and amazing activities. We have already seen more than 200 young people walk through our doors."

As well as hosting free events, the

council, as part of its £10 million parks capital programme, has improved play facilities to encourage families to make the most of the borough's outdoor spaces, especially on bright summer days.

During the school holidays, families and children flocked to new play facilities, including Weavers Field Adventure playground: a new 'castle' piece of play equipment at Mile End Park children's playground and a new, fully-inclusive adventure playground and a community space at Whitehorse Adventure playground.



It's been a very exciting summer, with lots of fun and amazing activities. We have already seen more than 200 young people walk through our doors.

Mental health: The conversation we all need to have

Adults working with young people in Tower Hamlets are reporting that concerns around managing mental health are increasing as a result of the pandemic, including Harry Forshaw, a youth worker at Spotlight in Langdon Park.

"I have conversations about mental health daily," says Harry. "It's more common to talk about it now because people have realised that everyone is constantly managing their mental health."

"For young people, I don't doubt that there is also more pressure now because of social media and exams."

This summer, Harry took part in a series of mental health workshops, led by Young Creators UK, where local teenagers were encouraged to talk about the mental health pressures they are under and how they maintain a sense of perspective and manage emotions.

Euodia Ohonbamu Imas, who is 18, said: "Mental health is a conversation we all need to have.



(left-to-right): Edna, Euodia and Harry

Older people included. It's such an important conversation to have, as it affects absolutely everyone.

"The best response you can get when you are trying to talk about

your mental health is one that recognises how you feel, doesn't assume anything and says, 'I might not know what you're going through but I'm here for you'."

Visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/recharge for more information. Urgent mental health support is available 24/7 on 0800 073 0003.

Ka caawinta dhallinteenaa inay bilaabaan xirfaddooda shaqo

HARMONY
BENGLALI & SOMALI NEWS

Helping our young kickstart their careers – page 19

In ka badan 200 oo dhallinyaro ah oo u dhexeeya 16 iyo 24 sano jir kuwaas oo ay ku dhacday saameynta dhaqaale ee Covid-19, ayaa hadda meelayn shaqo helay iyada oo loo marayo qorshaha Kickstart.

Meelayn kasta oo uu goluhu soo helay waxaa maalgeliya dawladda oo bixisa mushaharka ugu yar

kaas oo ku salaysan meelayn shaqo oo toddobaadkiiba 25 saac ah, taas oo fursad u siineysa dhalinyarada inay helaan waayo-aragnimo shaqo iyo tababar qiimo leh, halka loo-shaqeeyuhu ka helayo shaqaale dheeraad ah iyo ikhtiyaarka ah inuu doorka ka dhigo mid joogto ah.

Abida Miah oo 22 jir ah oo ka soo jeeda Bow ayaa meelayn shaqo ka heshay Kickstart a-n oo ah Shirkadda Macluumaadka Fanaaniinta Waxayna dhowaan tababar shaqo ka bilaabi doontaa shirkadda.

Abida, waxay tiri: “Ka shaqeynta a-n waxay iga caawisay inaan helo oo aan kobciyo xirfado badan oo shaqo. Shirkadda waxay iga caawisay inaan horumariyo oo aan ballaariyo aqoonta aan u leeyahay xirfadeyda shaqo waana ku riyaaqay la shaqeynta kooxda barnaamijka.

“Waxaan bartay sida fanka adduunka u shaqeyyo iyo sida munaasabadaha loogu maareeyo shirkadda dhexdeeda. Gacan ka geysashada isgaarsiinta iyo suuqgeynta a-n ayaa ii horseeday inaan fahmo oo aan barto dhinaca suuqgeynta ee shirkadda. Sida iyo sababta, ay muhiim u tahay in arrintaan la helo.” Wixii macluumaad dheeraad ah, booqo

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/kickstart

Boqolaal qof oo deggaanka ah ayaa dhammaystay koorsada barashada luuqadda Ingiriiska

Hundreds of residents complete English learning course – page 41

290 dadka deegaanka ah oo dhammaystiray koorsooyinka barashada luuqadda Ingiriisiga sannadkii la soo dhaafay ayaa lagu casuumay inay ka qaybgalaan xaflad dabbaaldeg ah oo ka dhacday Bromley oo ay qabatay Bow Center Park bishii Agoosto.

Goluhu wuxuu ku guulaystay inuu dawladda dhexe ka codsado maalgelin si fasallada ESOL (Ingiriisiga Loogu Tala-galay Ku Hadlayaasha Luuqadaha Kale) loogala kaashado ururada kale iyo si loo bixiyo barnaamijka Together in Tower Hamlets. Ujeeddada barnaamijku waxay ahayd in la xoojiyo dadka ku hadla Ingiriis yar ama aan ku hadli karin luuqadaas iyadoo la kobcinayo xirfadaha luuqadda iyo dhisidda kalsoonida, la yareeynayo

go'doominta lana xaqiijinayo in qof walba ka qayb qaadan karo hawlaha bulshada deegaankooda.

Cllr Sirajul Islam, oo ah Xubin ka mid ah Golaha Wasiirada ee Badbaadada Bulshada, ayaa yiri: “Waxaan dadka u saamaxnay inay sare u qaadaan xirfadahooda luqadeed, yareeyaan go'doominta iyo inay dhisaan kalsooni si ay uga faa'ideystaan awoodooda. In ka badan 1,600 saacadood oo ah hawlo isku dhaf ah ayaa la bixiyay. In kasta oo ay jiraan caqabadaha cudurka safmareenka ah, haddana 290 oo dadka deegaanka ah ayaa dhammaystiray barnaamijka wax ka barashada ee ESOL.”

Macluumaad dheeri ah oo ku saabsan koorsooyinka ESOL, fadlan booqo www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/esol

Natijada Weavers

Kabir Ahmed oo ka tirsan Aspire ayaa loo doortay inuu noqdo xildhibaan ka cusub ee Qeybta Weavers, kadib doorasho dadban oo dhacday 12-kii Agoosto. Waxaa jiray 9,341 cod-bixiye oo dadka u soo baxay doorashada dadban

waxay ahaayeen boqolkiiba 27.91. Cllr Kabir Ahmed ayaa helay 1204 cod oo ka mid ah 2607 cod ee la dhiibtay.

Will Tuckley, Sarkaalka Doorashada

da iyo Madaxa Fulinta Golaha Tower Hamlets, ayaa yiri: “Waxaan jeclaan lahaa inaan u mahadceliyo dhammaan dadka deegaanka ah ee waqtiga ku bixiyey inay codeeyaan waxaana u mahadcelinayaa shaqaalaheena, iyo qof kasta oo ku howlanaya qabanqaabinta doorashada, dhammaan shaqadii adkayd ee keentay doorasho kale oo guul ku dhammaatay.”

Si aad u hesho faahfaahinta buuxda ee natijoooyinka booqo www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/elections

‘লিভেবল স্ট্রীট’ স্কিমটি পূর্ণগবিবেচনার সিদ্ধান্তের কথা জানালেন মেয়র বিগস

Mayor Biggs announces way forward with Liveable streets – page 10

পরিচ্ছন্ন, শান্ত এবং নিরাপদ সড়ক সৃষ্টির লক্ষ্যে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিলের ‘লিভেবল স্ট্রীটস’ স্কিমটি পুনর্বিবেচনার সিদ্ধান্ত নেয়া হয়েছে। বাসিন্দারা এই স্কিম নিয়ে উদ্বেগ প্রকাশ করায় এই সিদ্ধান্ত নেয়া হয়েছে।

বর্তমানে যে ৭টি স্কিম নিয়ে কাজ চলছে এর সবগুলোই পুনর্বিবেচনা করা হবে তথা এতে পরিবর্তন আনা হবে।

এছাড়া এই ‘লিভেবল স্ট্রীটস’ স্কিমের অধীনে আর কোন প্রজেক্ট নেয়া হবে না। এ থেকে শিক্ষা নিয়ে ভবিষ্যতের ট্র্যাফিক সিস্টেম নতুন করে সাজানো হবে।

এ প্রসঙ্গে মেয়র বিগস বলেন, তবে পরিচ্ছন্ন, শান্ত এবং নিরাপদ সড়ক প্রতিষ্ঠার লক্ষ্যে আমরা লাইভেবল স্ট্রীটের ধারণাকে সমর্থন করে যাব। বায়ু দূষণরোধ তথা বাসিন্দাদের স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবেশের উন্নয়নের লক্ষ্যে এবং আবাসিক এলাকায় বেপরোয়া কিংবা অযথা গাড়ী চালানাকে নিরুৎসাহিত করে যাব। স্কিমের কারণে বর্তমানে

গাড়ী ব্যবহারকারী বাসিন্দাদের জীবনে কী প্রভাব পড়েছে তা বুঝার চেষ্টা করছি। তাদের সুবিধার জন্য কী পরিবর্তন আনা দরকার তা যাচাই করছি।

বর্তমানে বো, বেথনালগ্রীন, ওয়াপিং, গুন্ড ফোর্ড ওয়েস্ট, শ্যাডওয়েল, ব্রিকলেইন এবং বার্কেন্টাইন – এই ৭টি প্রজেক্ট নিয়ে কাজ করা হচ্ছে। এসব এলাকার হেভী ট্র্যাফিক মোকাবেলা তথা পরিবেশের উন্নয়ন ও পরিবেশ দূষণ রোধে এই প্রজেক্টগুলো চালুর উদ্যোগ নেয়া হয়েছিল।

সারাদেশের মধ্যে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসে সবচেয়ে বেশী গাড়ী চলাচল করে এবং এসব গাড়ী বায়ু দূষণের জন্য প্রধানভাবে দায়ী। এসব গাড়ী থেকে ৪০% কার্বন ডাইঅক্সাইড নির্গমন হয়। এসব কারণে এখানকার বায়ু খুবই খারাপ যা শিশুদের লাং ফাংশনকে নষ্ট করে। এখানকার শিশুদের লাং ফাংশন সারা দেশের মধ্যে গড়ে ৫ থেকে ১০% খারাপ।

বেথনালগ্রীনের রিভিউতে পশ্চিম দিকের গাড়ী চলাচল বন্ধ পর্যালোচনা করা হবে এবং এর মধ্যে ওয়ানার প্লেস এবং স্কুইরস স্ট্রীট অন্তর্ভুক্ত।

বো’তে লোকাল বাস সার্ভিস পরিচালনায় যে প্রতিক্রিয়া হয়েছে এসম্পর্কে ট্রান্সপোর্ট ফর লন্ডনের মন্তব্যকে আমলে নেয়া হয়েছে। এর মানে হচ্ছে একে রিডিজাইন করা হবে এবং একই সাথে বিলম্বিত হবে।

ব্রিক লেনে গাড়ী চলাচল বন্ধ রাখা সিদ্ধান্ত অক্টোবর থেকে সম্পূর্ণরূপে উঠে যাবে জানিয়েছেন মেয়র।

কেবিনেট মেম্বার ফর হাউয়েজ এন্ড পাবলিক রেলম, কাউন্সিল কাহার চৌধুরী বলেন, কিছু কিছু বাসিন্দা জানিয়েছেন জ্যানজট নিরসনে এই স্কিম তার লক্ষ্য পুরোপুরি পূরণ করতে পারেনি। মানুষ টিকই গাড়ী নিয়ে বেরচ্ছে এবং বন্ধ রাখার আশেপাশের রোডে ভীড় বেড়েছে।

তিনি বলেন, আমাদের এটি দ্রুত পর্যালোচনা করা এবং এটি সঠিক করা দরকার।



Cllr Sirajul Islam, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, at the ceremony

ইসল ক্লাসে অংশ নিয়েছেন ৩০০ বাসিন্দা

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আত্মবিশ্বাস বাড়ানো এবং সমাজের সর্বস্তরের পূর্ণ ভূমিকা পালন করার মত ক্ষমতায়নের লক্ষ্যে গৃহিত একটি প্রকল্প থেকে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের শত শত বাসিন্দা উপকৃত হয়েছেন।

‘টুগেদার ইন টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস’ প্রোগ্রাম চালু করতে ইসল ফর ইন্টিগ্রেশন ফান্ডিং বা অনুদান চেয়ে কেন্দ্রীয় সরকারের কাছে আবেদন করে কাউন্সিল সফল হয়েছিলো।

এই কর্মসূচির উদ্দেশ্য ছিলো, যারা ইংরেজিতে অল্পবল্প কথা বলতে কিংবা মোটেই কথা বলতে পারেন না, তাদের ভাষা দক্ষতা বৃদ্ধি ও আত্মবিশ্বাস বাড়ানো, আইসোলেশন বা বিচ্ছিন্ন হয়ে পড়ে রোধ করা এবং নিজ নিজ কমিউনিটিতে যাতে প্রত্যেকেই অংশ নিতে পারে তা নিশ্চিত করা।

স্বচ্ছাসেবী এবং কমিউনিটি সেন্টারের সংগঠনগুলোর সাথে অংশিদারিত্বের ভিত্তিতে কাউন্সিল গত বছর বারা জুড়ে প্রায় ৩০০ বাসিন্দাকে ইংরেজি ক্লাস করিয়েছে।

যেসকল সংগঠন এই প্রোগ্রাম পরিচালনা করেছে, সেগুলোর মধ্যে রয়েছে ব্রোমলি বাই বো সেন্টার, ইস্ট লন্ডন এডভান্সড টেকনোলজি ট্রেনিং (ইএলএটিটি) এবং ওয়াকার্স গোট্টা যুক্তরাজ্যের মাত্র ৩০টি কাউন্সিল এই তহবিল লাভ করতে সক্ষম হয়।

এই কর্মসূচির উদ্দেশ্য ছিলো, যারা ইংরেজিতে অল্পবল্প কথা বলতে কিংবা মোটেই কথা বলতে পারেন না, তাদের ভাষা দক্ষতা বৃদ্ধি ও আত্মবিশ্বাস বাড়ানো, আইসোলেশন বা বিচ্ছিন্ন হয়ে পড়ে রোধ করা এবং নিজ নিজ কমিউনিটিতে যাতে প্রত্যেকেই অংশ নিতে পারে তা নিশ্চিত করা।

তাদের মধ্যে সার্টিফিকেট বিতরণ করেন। কাউন্সিলের ইসলাম বলেন, লোকজনের ভাষা দক্ষতা বৃদ্ধি, বিচ্ছিন্ন হয়ে পড়া রোধ এবং তাদের সম্ভাবনাগুলো বের করে আনার মতো আত্মবিশ্বাস বাড়ানো আমাদের সক্ষম হয়েছিল। এই কর্মসূচির আওতায় ১ হাজার ৬০০ ঘণ্টার মতো সামাজিক মেলামেশার কার্যক্রম পরিচালনা করা হয়েছিলো। মহামারীর চ্যালেঞ্জ সত্ত্বেও ২৯০ জন স্থানীয় বাসিন্দা ইসল শেখানোর প্রোগ্রাম এবং সামাজিক মিশ্রন কার্যক্রম সম্পন্ন করেছেন।

এই কোর্স অব্যাহত রাখতে কাউন্সিল আরও তহবিল নিশ্চিত করেছে। আপনি যদি আপনার তহবিল উন্নত করতে চান, বা এমন কাউকে চিনেন যিনি উপকৃত হবেন, তাহলে এই প্রোগ্রামে যোগ দিতে কাউন্সিলের ওয়েবসাইটে গিয়ে আপনার আগ্রহ নিবন্ধন করুন।

কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স রিডাকশন স্কিমের সুফল পেয়েছেন ৩৭,৯২০ জন বাসিন্দা

Council Tax Reduction Scheme helps support residents – page 41

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের ৩৭,৯২০ বাসিন্দা গত বছর কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স রিডাকশন স্কিমের সুফল পেয়েছেন। এই স্কিমের অধীনে গত বছর প্রতিটি ফ্লেইমের বিপরীতে গড়ে ৮৩৩.২৯ পাউন্ড সাশ্রয় হয়েছে বাসিন্দাদের। কেন্দ্রীয় সরকার কর্তৃক ন্যাশনাল কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স বেনিফিট স্কিম বাতিল করে দেয়ার পর স্থানীয় কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক এই ট্যাক্স রিডাকশন স্কিম গ্রহণ করা হয়।

টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস হচ্ছে সারা দেশের মধ্যে গুটি কয়েক লকাল অথরিটির একটি যারা এই কর হ্রাস প্রকল্প গ্রহণ করে। এই প্রকল্পের আওতায় বাসিন্দারা তাদের কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স লাইবিলিটি বা কর দায় শুধুমাত্র হ্রাসকরণই নয়, ১০০% পর্যন্ত মওকুফের দাবি করতে পারেন।

মেয়র জন বিগস এ প্রসঙ্গে বলেন, কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স কমানোর এই স্কিম হচ্ছে আমাদের অনেক দুর্বল ও স্বল্প আয়ের পরিবারের জন্য একটি লাইফলাইন। তিনি বলেন, সেই সব পরিবারের জন্য কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স কমানোর অর্থ হল তারা সাশ্রয় করা এই অর্থ খাবার, হিটিং বা ঘর গরম রাখা, জামাকাপড় অথবা অন্যান্য প্রয়োজনীয় জিনিসে ব্যবহার করতে পারেন।

কাউন্সিল ট্যাক্স রিডাকশন স্কিম সম্পর্কে এবং আপনি কর হ্রাস পাওয়ার উপযোগী কি-না সেটা জানতে হলে ভিজিট করুন: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/counciltax



বাংলাদেশের ৫০ বছর উপলক্ষে হোয়াইটচ্যাপেল আইডিয়া স্টোর সেজেছে 'বাংলা' বর্ণমালায়

New artwork at Idea Store Whitechapel – page 41

বাংলাদেশের স্বাধীনতার ৫০ বছর উপলক্ষে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিলের সিরিজ অব অনুষ্ঠানের অংশ হিসাবে বাঙ্গালীদের প্রাণকেন্দ্র হোয়াইটচ্যাপেল আইডিয়া স্টোরে 'বাংলা' বর্ণমালা দিয়ে তৈরী একটি শিল্পকর্ম উদ্বোধন করা হয়েছে। বারার নির্বাহী মেয়র জন বিগস 'বাংলা'য় আলোকসজ্জার সুইচ টিপে এটি আনুষ্ঠানিকভাবে এর উদ্বোধন করেন। বর্ণাঢ্য এই আলোকসজ্জাটি প্রতিদিন রাত ৮টায় জ্বলে উঠবে এবং জুন পর্যন্ত এটি থাকবে।

বাঙ্গালী শিল্পী রুহুল আবেদিন এই 'বাংলা' বর্ণমালার ডিজাইন এবং পরিকল্পনা

করেছেন। এটি নির্মাণে মোট খরচ হয়েছে ৪০ হাজার পাউন্ড।

বাংলাদেশের বিভিন্ন রংয়ের শাড়ী দিয়ে বর্ণমালাকে সাজানো হয়েছে। বর্ণমালার ভিতর বিশেষভাবে প্রজ্জলিত রঙ্গিন আলো উদ্বোধন করা হয়েছে। বারার নির্বাহী মেয়র জন বিগস 'বাংলা'য় আলোকসজ্জার সুইচ টিপে এটি আনুষ্ঠানিকভাবে এর উদ্বোধন করেন। বর্ণাঢ্য এই আলোকসজ্জাটি প্রতিদিন রাত ৮টায় জ্বলে উঠবে এবং জুন পর্যন্ত এটি থাকবে।

বাঙ্গালী শিল্পী রুহুল আবেদিন এই 'বাংলা' বর্ণমালার ডিজাইন এবং পরিকল্পনা

বিগস বলেন, দুঃস্থানন্দন এই শিল্পকর্মটি উদ্বোধন করতে পেরে আমি আনন্দিত। বাংলাদেশের স্বাধীনতার ৫০ বছর উপলক্ষে কাউন্সিলের নেয়া সিরিজ অব কর্মসূচির অংশ হিসাবে এটি করা হয়েছে। মেয়র বাংলাদেশের বিজয় দিবস ১৬ ডিসেম্বর পর্যন্ত বিভিন্ন কর্মসূচি অব্যাহত থাকবে বলে জানান। এটি উদ্বোধনের সময় মেয়রের সাথে আরো উপস্থিত ছিলেন স্পিকার কাউন্সিলার আহবাব হোসাইন, কালচারার বিষয়ক লিড মেম্বর কাউন্সিলার সাবিনা আক্তার, ডেপুটি মেয়র কাউন্সিলার মতিন উজ-জামান, কাউন্সিলার ইভ ম্যাকুলিন এবং কাউন্সিলার শাহ সোহেল আহমদ।

মার্কেটগুলোর উন্নয়নে বিনিয়োগ করছে কাউন্সিল £140,000 boost for markets – page 22

বারার অর্থনৈতিক পুনরুদ্ধারকে জোরদার করার লক্ষ্যে স্থানীয় স্ট্রিট মার্কেটগুলোতে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিল মেয়রের কোভিড রিকোভারি ফান্ড থেকে ১ লাখ ৪০ হাজার পাউন্ডের বেশি অর্থ বিনিয়োগ করছে। মহামারীর প্রভাবে ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত স্টল মালিকদের সহযোগিতা এবং মার্কেটগুলোতে কাজ করতে স্থানীয় লোকজনের উদ্বুদ্ধ করতেই দেয়া হয়েছে এই তহবিল।

স্ট্রিট মার্কেট বিজনেস কিভাবে গড়ে তুলতে হয় এবং সাফল্যের সাথে তা পরিচালনা করতে হয়, সেজন্য স্থানীয় বাসিন্দাদের জন্য ১-সপ্তাহ ব্যাপি ফ্রি ট্রেডার ট্রেনিং কোর্সের আয়োজন করা হয়। এই কর্মশালায় সাফল্যের সাথে অংশ গ্রহণকারীদের কয়েকজন প্রতিষ্ঠিত স্টল হোন্ডার অর্থাৎ স্টল ব্যবসায়ীদের পাশে থেকে কাজ করার সুযোগ পান, যা তাদেরকে অভিজ্ঞতা অর্জনের সুযোগ করে দিচ্ছে এবং এটা হতে পারে তাদের জন্য ব্যবসায়ি হিসেবে আত্মপ্রকাশের একটা অসাধারণ পদক্ষেপ।

সাধারণভাবে বারার হাটগুলোকে আরো সহযোগিতা দেয়ার জন্য, কাউন্সিল প্রতিটি ঐতিহাসিক মার্কেটপ্লেসের জন্য বিশেষ ওয়েবসাইট

তৈরী করছে মুভিং মার্কেটস অনলাইন প্রজেক্টকে সমর্থন করছে এবং মার্কেটগুলোতে অধিকসংখ্যক ক্রেতাকে আকৃষ্ট করতে সোশ্যাল মিডিয়ায় উপস্থিতিকে বাড়াবে।

ঐতিহাসিক হোয়াইটচ্যাপেল মার্কেটের যেসকল স্টল হোন্ডার মেম্বর হিসেবে নতুন ট্রেডারদের কাজের সুযোগ করে দিয়েছেন এবং যারা তাদের স্টলে বেশি সংখ্যক ক্রেতাকে আকৃষ্ট করতে অনলাইনে সক্রিয় রয়েছেন, তাদের কয়েকজনের সাথে দেখা করতে মেয়র জন বিগস সম্প্রতি মার্কেটটি পরিদর্শন করেন।

এ প্রসঙ্গে মেয়র জন বিগস বলেন, মহামারী অনেক ব্যবসায় কঠোরভাবে আঘাত করেছে এবং এক বছরেরও বেশি সময় বন্ধ থাকা মার্কেটের ব্যবসায়ীদের জন্য সবচেয়ে বিপর্যয়কর হয়েছে। এখন, জীবন যখন স্বাভাবিক ধারায় ফিরে আসছে, আমরা মার্কেটস মুভিং অনলাইন প্রজেক্টের মাধ্যমে ব্যবসায়ীদের তাদের নিজ পায়ের শক্তভাবে দাঁড়াতে সহযোগিতা করার পাশাপাশি বাসিন্দারা যারা কখনোই মার্কেট স্টল দিয়ে আয় রোজগার করেন বলে ভাবেননি, তাদেরকেও কাজের সুযোগ করে দিতে চাই।

পঞ্চাশোর্ধ ও দুর্বলদের দেয়া হবে বুস্টার ডোজ Booster jab to be offered to over 50s and vulnerable – page 15

যুক্তরাজ্যের ৫০ বছরের বেশি সকল মানুষকে কোভিড ভ্যাকসিনের সিঙ্গেল-ডোজ বুস্টার জাব দেয়া হবে বলে সরকার ঘোষণা করেছে। পরিকল্পনা অনুযায়ী যারা এই বুস্টার টিকা পাওয়ার যোগ্য বিবেচিত হবেন, তারা হচ্ছেনঃ ৫০ উর্ধ বয়সী সবাই, ফ্রন্টলাইন স্বাস্থ্য ও সোশ্যাল কেয়ার ওয়ার্কার, রেসিডেন্সিয়াল কেয়ার হোমে থাকা প্রাণবয়স্করা, কোভিডের কারণে গুরুতর অসুস্থ হওয়ার ঝুঁকিতে থাকা ১৬-৪৯ বয়সীরা, দুর্বল লোকদের সাথে একই ঘরে বাস করেন এমন প্রাণবয়স্করা।

এই বুস্টার ডোজ দেয়া হবে নিয়মিত টিকার দ্বিতীয় ডোজ নেয়ার ৬ মাস অতিবাহিত হওয়ার পর এবং সম্ভবত এটি হতে পার ফাইজার অথবা মর্ডানা। শীতকালে কোভিড-১৯ এর প্রাদুর্ভাব ছড়িয়ে পড়ার কারণে যাতে স্কুলগুলোতে লোখাপড়া বাধাগ্রস্ত না হয়, সেজন্য ১২ বছরের বেশি শিশুদেরও টিকা দেয়া হবে।

এ সংক্রান্ত সর্বশেষ তথ্য জানতে হলে ভিজিট করুনঃ www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/coronavirus

বারার পরিচ্ছন্নতার জন্য মেয়রের ২৬৬,৭৫০ পাউন্ড বরাদ্দ

Quarter-million makeover for High Streets – page 22

বারার সকল রাস্তাকে পরিষ্কার পরিচ্ছন্ন রাখতে বৃহৎ পরিসরে অনেকগুলো পরিচ্ছন্ন অভিযান চালাতে টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটসের মেয়রের কোভিড রিকভারি ফান্ড থেকে ২ লাখ ৬৬ হাজার ৭৫০ পাউন্ড বরাদ্দ করা হয়েছে। এই কার্যক্রমের মধ্যে রয়েছে ফুটপাথগুলোকে ঝকঝকে করা, নোংরা দেয়ালখিঁচন অর্থাৎ গ্রাফিটি মুছে ফেলা এবং দোকানপাটের সম্মুখভাগের উন্নয়ন করা।

কোভিড-১৯ মহামারীর কারণে 'বিগ ক্লিন আপ' নামের বিশেষ পরিচ্ছন্ন অভিযান কয়েক মাস বন্ধ থাকার পর গত জুলাই মাস থেকে আবার শুরু হয়েছে পরিচ্ছন্ন অভিযান। এই অভিযানের অংশ হিসেবে বিভিন্ন তারিখে কাউন্সিলের টিমগুলোর সাথে কমিউনিটির স্বেচ্ছাসেবকরা সম্মিলিতভাবে তাদের এলাকাকে আবর্জনা মুক্ত করা এবং বাসিন্দা ও যুরতে আসতে লোকজনের জন্য এলাকাগুলোকে আরো আকর্ষণীয় করে তুলছেন।

পুণরায় চানু হওয়া পরিচ্ছন্ন অভিযান 'বিগ ক্লিন আপ' এর প্রথমটি অনুষ্ঠিত হয় আর্নল্ড সার্কাস এলাকায়, যেটি 'আবর্জনা মুক্ত স্থান' হিসেবে চিহ্নিত করা হয়েছিলো। কাউন্সিল কর্মীরা বেখনাল গ্রীণের নাভারে স্ট্রিট ও লিগোনিয়ার স্ট্রিট ও এখানকার ফুটপাথগুলোকে ঝকঝকে করে তোলার পর মেয়র রাস্তা দু'টি ভিজিট করেন। এসময় তিনি বলেন, বিগ ক্লিন আপ হচ্ছে বারাকে পরিচ্ছন্ন, সবুজ ও নিরাপদ করতে আমাদের সামগ্রিক প্রচেষ্টার একটি অংশ।

এই পরিচ্ছন্ন অভিযানে অংশ নিতে আগ্রহীরা bigcleanup@towerhamlets.gov.uk - এই ইমেইলে যোগাযোগ করতে পারেন।

উইভার্সের নতুন কাউন্সিলর কবির Weavers result-p40

এসপায়ার পার্টির প্রার্থী কবির আহমত উইভার্স ওয়ার্ডের নতুন কাউন্সিলর নির্বাচিত হয়েছেন। কাউন্সিলর জন পিয়ার্সের মৃত্যুতে শূণ্য হওয়া আসনে উপ-নির্বাচন অনুষ্ঠিত হয় ১২ আগস্ট।

এই ওয়ার্ডের মোট ভোটার সংখ্যা হচ্ছে ৯,৩৪১ জন। ভোট দিয়েছেন ২৬০৭ জন। ভোটদানের শতকরা হার হচ্ছে ২৭.৯১ শতাংশ। কাউন্সিলর কবির আহমদ পেয়েছেন ১২০৪ ভোট।

রিতানী অফিসার ও টাওয়ার হ্যামলেটস কাউন্সিলের চীফ এক্সিকিউটিভ উইল টাকলি, বলেছেন, "যেসকল বাসিন্দা নিজেদের সময় বের করে ভোট দিয়েছেন, তাদের সকলকে আমি ধন্যবাদ জানাচ্ছি এবং আমাদের সকল পর্যায়ের কর্মকর্তা এবং যাদের কঠোর পরিশ্রমের ফলে সাফল্যের সাথে এই বাই-ইলেকশন আয়োজন করা সম্ভব হয়েছে তাদের সকলকে ধন্যবাদ জানাই।

পূর্ণাঙ্গ ফলাফল জানতে হলে ভিজিট করুনঃ www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/elections



Reichmann: The visionary Canadian businessman shows a visiting Brian Mulroney, the then prime minister of Canada, the plans in 1988

The fall and rise of Docklands

Dreams, disasters and driverless trains – how a determined group of men and women shifted the axis of London from the City to the East End

HISTORY

By **JOHN RENNIE**

By the 1970s London had turned its back on the Thames. The river was polluted and little regarded. As for the docks, they were rotting and forgotten. Yet London had been a port since Roman times, with ships docking at small quays off what is now the City, or in Southwark on the south bank, the so-called Pool of London. But space was limited and the cargoes vulnerable to thieves.

The first dedicated docks were in Rotherhithe, at the heart of what was later the Surrey Docks, at the tale end of the 1600s. But the great age of expansion was the 19th century,

with the West India Dock (1802), the London (1805), East India (1805), Surrey (1807), Regent's Canal Dock (1820), St Katharine (1828) and the West India South (1829). Then came the spread eastwards, with the Royal Victoria (1855), Millwall (1868) and Royal Albert (1880). The King George VI was added late, in 1921, a belated response to the need for bigger and deeper berths.

The docks fuelled London's wealth and growth, and dockers in the East End and on the Surrey side were proud and defensive of their jobs. But there were problems. Even with ever higher walls and endless patrols, the owners could never quite crack the ingenuity of the workers when it came to siphoning off their share of

the goods. And as ships and cargoes grew bigger, and trade increased, ships were waiting ever longer to dock – disaster if they were carrying perishable goods. The bigger ships couldn't navigate upriver, and even the new docks were struggling.

Increased competition from Europe hurt too. While London and Liverpool were charging between 4s 9d (23p) and 12s (60p) a ton to unload goods, Rotterdam, Hamburg and Antwerp were asking between 1s 5d (8p) and 2s 6d (12.5p) a ton. Worse was to come. During World War II the docks were decimated by the Luftwaffe. The bombing of April 19-20 1941 alone saw more than 1,200 people dead as the Royal Victoria, East and West India,

Millwall and Greenwich Docks were hit by more than 1,000 tons of explosives. In hindsight, it's obvious the docks had been fighting a losing battle for decades. There was a boost during the 1950s as materials flooded in to rebuild shattered London (and the docks themselves) but it was a false dawn. The end, when it came, was brutally sudden, and it came in the shape of containers.

The new sealed units could be lifted by crane from deck to dock, and dropped onto lorries or trains. They did away with a huge amount of manual labour and were safe against thieves. Open-decked ships could stack the containers high, driving costs down. But the bigger ships couldn't dock in London.



Getting off the Island: Until the redevelopment there were just two bridges on and off, and they were frequently closed



Early DLR train: The railways came back to the island, but in a form nobody had ever seen before



Canary Wharf by night: Poplar residents of the 70s couldn't have imagined the Manhattan-like skyline just a few years away

Almost overnight, during the early 60s, the trade moved to Tilbury and Felixstowe.

But what to do with eight miles of derelict London? In the 1980 movie *The Long Good Friday*, gangster Harold Shand (Bob Hoskins) has a vision of getting very rich as he builds a new London on the ruins. He even suggests that the Olympics could come here one day. To fund his dream he invites over American investors – the New York Mafia.

Of course, it was a bit more complicated than that. The land was spread over the four boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Newham, Southwark and Greenwich, and owned by a handful of companies including British Rail, British Gas and the Central Electricity Generating Board. So nothing much happened during recession-hit 1970s Britain.

It would need a radical approach and that came under then Environment Secretary, Michael Heseltine, under the new Tory

Government in 1980. Land would be compulsorily purchased and handed to the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC), bypassing the local boroughs.

The LDDC's remit? "To bring land and buildings into effective use, encourage the development of existing and new industry, create an attractive environment and ensure housing and social facilities were made available to encourage people to live and work in the area". Quite a list, and bound to tread on the toes of locals.

Just like Harold Shand, the LDDC decided to invite in the Americans. First, the Chairman of Roux Restaurants, Dr Michael Von Clemm, visited, and thought it a perfect site for a back office for his bank. He alerted his business associate Gooch Ware 'G' Travelstead, a property developer, entrepreneur and head of First Boston Real Estate. He, in turn persuaded the LDDC to pursue his vision of Canary Wharf as a financial and business hub. Ironically for a

money man, he failed to raise the cash from the sceptical banks.

Next, Olympia and York (O&Y) took over Canary Wharf, and gambled on getting in enough tenants at high enough rents to cover their costs and keep financing the development. They couldn't, and Canary Wharf went bust in 1992, bringing O&Y down with it. Their timing had been unfortunate, building office space mushroomed across London, and Britain slid into recession. To add to the pain, the City was fighting back, liberating planning laws to allow more office space in the Square Mile. And then there was the transport problem – it was almost impossible to get on and off the Isle of Dogs.

And local people were infuriated by the pitch to big business, with tax breaks to encourage HSBC, Barclays and Citibank into what was to be called 'Canary Wharf'. Once bananas and coffee had been unloaded here by local islanders – now it was to become the East End branch of the City. Graffiti spread around the Isle of Dogs, complaining about 'yuppification' and demanding 'local jobs for local workers'. The emerging city was looking less appealing to incomers all the time.

But, against the odds, Docklands began to recover. Paul Reichmann, who had led O&Y into the Canary Wharf debacle, reemerged as part of a new consortium and bought the Wharf for \$1.2bn.

The Isle of Dogs, once only accessible by two swing bridges, and one of the most insular parts of the capital, was now joined to London by the DLR with its (at first terrifying) driverless trains. New

roads came onto the island, London City Airport opened on the old King George V Dock, and, by 1999, the Jubilee Line was joining an area now rechristened 'Docklands' to Stratford in the east and London Bridge and central London to the west. The basement levels beneath Canary Wharf became a bustling shopping centre, and the prices of new flats on the island reached eye-watering levels.

Still, a walk around the Isle of Dogs today reveals a startling split between the Manhattan-style wealth on the north of the island, and the rest of the world as you head down to Mudchute in the south. We may have moved on from the Docklands gold rush of the early 80s, but it's hard to argue that the spoils have been shared equally. Those protestors against yuppification 40 years ago might justifiably say we were warned.

But there's a lot more to the regeneration of the Docklands than towering banks and overpriced apartments. Much is here now that wouldn't have been without the radical sweep of Heseltine's ministerial pen. Despite false steps, that decision shifted the axis of London east, creating a hub around which infrastructure would emerge – a new airport, the University of East London's Docklands campus, the Museum of Docklands, and the soon-to-open Crossrail station at Canary Wharf. The redevelopment of the Greenwich peninsula with the Oz, and of the Olympic Park probably wouldn't have happened either. As for Harold Shand's dream of the Olympics in the East End – that doesn't look so silly after all.



Crossrail: The opening of Crossrail links the wharf to the suburbs



Two referendums will be held on 11 November over whether the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Plan will be used to decide planning applications

Date for Spitalfields Residential and Business planning referendums set for 11 November

COUNCIL NEWS

Residents and businesses in Spitalfields will be called to the polls on 11 November to take part in two referendums which will decide whether the Spitalfields Neighbourhood Plan will be used when deciding local planning applications.

The decision to hold the two referendums, one for businesses and one for residents, follows a lengthy process of drafting, consultation and independent examination of the plan.

The Localism Act 2011 gave new powers for communities, including local businesses, to have a greater say in the development of their local areas.

Polls will open on Thursday 11 November 2021 between the hours of 7am and 10pm and the two referendums will be held in parallel.

As with other polls, residents who are eligible to vote at local elections in the area will receive poll cards with further details, including the location of their polling place.

Non-Domestic Rate Payers (businesses) in the area will also be

contacted directly with details on how they can register and cast their vote in the referendum.

Visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/spitalfieldsNPR to view the plan, alongside further information including a map of the relevant area, and to see what the potential outcomes will mean.

Support for Afghanistan refugees

Tower Hamlets will be at the forefront on London's response to support Afghan refugees arriving in the capital, the mayor has confirmed.

John Biggs, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "East London has a proud history of providing a safe haven for refugees of war and conflict.

"We have all been touched by the scenes of desperate refugees fleeing for their lives. London must play its part and Tower Hamlets will be at the forefront of London's response.

"We are proud to be one of the London boroughs that have so far pledged to provide a range of help and support to Afghan refugee families and the council is in the process of working with charity groups and organisations across

Tower Hamlets and London to do this."

The government has promised to house 20,000 refugees, many of whom worked as translators, who have now fled the country with their families since the Taliban retook control of Afghanistan in August.

“

We have all been touched by the scenes of desperate refugees fleeing for their lives.

Weavers result

Kabir Ahmed of Aspire has been elected to serve as the new councillor for Weavers Ward, following a by-election on 12 August.

There were 9,341 eligible voters and the turnout for the by-election was 27.91 per cent. Cllr Kabir Ahmed received 1,204 votes out of the total 2,607 votes cast.

Will Tuckley, Returning Officer and Tower Hamlets Council Chief Executive, said:

"I would like to thank all those residents who took the time to vote and to thank our staff, and everyone involved in organising the by-election for all their hard work which has resulted in another successful election."

For a full breakdown of the results visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/elections

MP not guilty

Poplar and Limehouse MP Apsana Begum was found not guilty of housing fraud at Snaresbrook Crown Court in July.

The prosecution was brought following an investigation into allegations made. Apsana Begum MP maintained her innocence throughout. A council spokesperson said: "We have a duty to investigate any allegations of housing fraud in order to ensure public money is spent correctly and that those waiting on our housing register are treated fairly. After reviewing the evidence with independent legal advice, it was found to be strong enough to bring the matter to court where it was agreed there was a case to answer. We fully accept the verdict, that justice has run its course and that the matter is now closed."



Unveiled: The art installation will be displayed at Idea Store Whitechapel until early 2022

Bangladesh@50 celebrated with new art installation in Whitechapel

A giant sculpture has been unveiled at Idea Store Whitechapel as part of ongoing events to commemorate 50 years of the independence of Bangladesh.

Devised by Tower Hamlets and Bangladesh-based artist Ruhul Abdin, the illuminated installation named 'Bangla' is clad in fabric and is suspended in the façade of the Idea Store, where it will be on display until early 2022.

Ruhul worked with 15 local British Bangladeshi Citizen Researchers to explore the significance of the

1971 Bangladesh Liberation War through collections held at the Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives as part of the Citizen UK Bangladesh 50 project, a collaboration between Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives and the National Portrait Gallery, which began almost two years ago.

The artwork is accompanied by a history exhibition, which tells the story of the Liberation War of 1971, the contribution of Tower Hamlets residents to the independence

struggle, and the importance of the Bengali language then and now.

John Biggs, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "Diversity is one of our borough's greatest strengths and we are proud to celebrate the best of Bangladeshi culture throughout this 50th anniversary year."

Launched at a special event on Thursday 2 September, the artwork will be on show until 2022. A public event will be held at Idea Store Whitechapel to mark the 50th anniversary of Victory Day in December 2021.

Council Tax Reduction Scheme helps support residents

37,920 residents in Tower Hamlets have benefitted from the Council Tax Reduction Scheme in the past year, latest figures show.

The reduction scheme, saving on average £833.29 per claim in the last year, was introduced after the government abolished the national Council Tax Benefit Scheme, replacing it with local schemes decided upon by each local authority.

Tower Hamlets is one of a few local authorities in the country to offer a council tax reduction scheme, where residents can claim up to 100 per cent of their council tax liability and not just a discount.

John Biggs, Mayor of Tower Hamlets, said: "The Council Tax Reduction Scheme is a lifeline to many of our vulnerable low-income families that struggle to make ends meet.

"For those families, having a reduction in council tax helps means they can use it saving on food, heating, clothes or other essential items."

To find out more about the Council Tax Reduction Scheme and whether you are eligible, visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/counciltax

Hundreds of residents complete English learning course

290 residents who completed English learning courses over the past year were invited to take part in a celebration event at the Bromley by Bow Centre Park in August.

The council was successful in applying for funding from central government to put on the ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) classes with partner organisations and deliver the Together in Tower Hamlets programme.

The purpose of the programme was to empower those who speak little or no English by improving language skills and ensure everyone

can participate in their local community.

Cllr Sirajul Islam, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, said: "We have enabled people to boost their language skills, reduce isolation and build confidence to unleash their potential. Over 1,600 hours of social mixing activities were provided. And, despite the challenges of the pandemic, 290 local residents completed the ESOL-taught programme."

For more information about ESOL courses, please visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/esol



Cllr Sirajul Islam, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, at the ceremony

Animal magic down at the refurbished farm

COUNCIL NEWS

A major refurbishment costing £500,000 has been completed at Mudchute Park and Farm on the Isle of Dogs, as part of the council's ongoing £10m parks capital programme to rejuvenate parks and open spaces across the borough.

Much needed work has been carried out to improve the farm's water system, which provides water for the animals, as well as upgrading the external lighting and electricity supply.

All main paths on the 32-acre site have been resurfaced to make them smooth and accessible. The toilets have been fully refurbished and there are new offices and community spaces, including a visitor hub and reception.

Margaret Tracey, farm director, said the refurbishment has been amazing and was managed like a military operation, causing minimum disruption to visitors and the animals.

"The courtyard, toilet and other facilities had been here since the farm was built in the late 1970s. Back then, we'd be lucky to get 200 visitors. Now, we see thousands of



The £500k refurbishment was completed as part of the council's ongoing £10m parks capital programme

visitors per week.

"The lighting makes walking the paths safer and we can offer additional space for community activities. The water system has improved water pressure and made a difference to the animals. I'm delighted that we didn't have to fully close the farm and we were able to welcome visitors during the summer holidays. We're also looking forward to hosting activities during the October half-term," Margaret said.

For further information, visit www.mudchute.org

“
The lighting makes walking the paths safer and we can offer additional space for community activities.



Sheep grazing on the 32-acre site

#MyEastEnd photography competition



From left to right: Winning image @hols_mcdolls (Instagram) and runners-up photos by @scritta_art (Twitter) and @tmjess (Twitter)

A heart-warming father and daughter moment caught on camera at the end of the East Lake jetty in Victoria Park has been announced as the winner from June's Our East End photography competition.

Entering the #MyEastEnd competition via Instagram, @hols_mcdolls said: "One of my favourite places in Tower Hamlets is the end of the jetty, East Lake, Victoria Park. This picture captures my daughter and her dad deep in conversation. The lake seems to bring out the philosopher in us all."

Runners-up were twitter users @scritta_art and @tmjess. #MyEastEnd is our quarterly photography competition that's open to everyone living in, working in, or visiting Tower Hamlets. We challenge you to grab your camera or smartphone, hit the streets and capture our vibrant and diverse borough at its very best!

To enter, following the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions over the summer, share a photograph of your favourite local business with us and tell us why you love it. You could capture your favourite café, shop, barber, hairdresser, restaurant, or

market stall. If it's in Tower Hamlets, we want to see it all!

To be in with chance of winning a pair of Genesis cinema tickets, share your photo via Twitter or Instagram, mentioning #MyEastEnd and @towerhamletsnow. Winning photos will also be featured in Our East End, via social media, and in our weekly e-newsletter.

The closing date for entries is Sunday 28 November 2021. For more information and terms and conditions, visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/myeastend

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Tower Hamlets Council has a system of governance in which the elected mayor, **John Biggs** (right), has personal responsibility and executive powers. Mayor Biggs is responsible for determining and delivering a wide range of policies and priorities. He is advised by his cabinet of councillors and by council officers.



*** The members of the Cabinet are:**

Cllr Asma Begum Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Children, Youth Services, Education and Equalities (Statutory Deputy Mayor)
Cllr Rachel Blake Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Work, Economic Growth and Faith
Cllr Sirajul Islam Cabinet Member for Community Safety
Cllr Danny Hassell Cabinet Member for Housing
Cllr Candida Ronald Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector

Cllr Sabina Akhtar Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Sports
Cllr Asma Islam Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning
Cllr Mufeedah Bustin Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion (job share post as part of Social Inclusion and Public Realm portfolio)
Cllr Kahar Chowdhury Cabinet Member for Highways and Public Realm (job share post as part of Social Inclusion and Public Realm portfolio)

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 @victoria_obaze

Government called to set cladding removal deadline

The government has been called upon to set a deadline for when all Grenfell-style cladding on high-rise developments must be removed.

Tower Hamlets Council called upon the government to set a nationwide deadline to remove Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding, as part of a new Building Safety Pledge which also

calls for the costs of this work to be covered by building owners, developers or the government – and not by the affected leaseholders.

“We are using all of our available resources to bring building owners to the table and to emphasise the need for co-operation and action,” John Biggs, Mayor of Tower Hamlets said. “But there is a limit to the powers we

have at our disposal, which is why we need the government to take action and provide some clarity, so that our residents and others elsewhere who live in ACM cladded blocks can feel safe in their own homes.”

Read more at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/buildingsafetypledge

Cabinet changes

Changes to the Cabinet have been announced by the Mayor. Under those changes, Cllr Asma Begum takes over as Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman is made a Deputy Mayor. Cllr Kahar Chowdhury joins the Cabinet, while Cllr Dan Tomlinson and Cllr Eve McQuillan both depart. See page 45 for the full cabinet.

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For rates and upcoming publication dates please email communications@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Meetings

Council

Wednesday 29 September, 7pm

Standards Advisory Committee

Thursday 30 September, 6pm

General Purposes Committee

Tuesday 5 October, 6.30pm

Audit Committee

Thursday 7 October, 6.30pm

Licensing Sub-Committee

Tuesday 12 October, 6.30pm

Development Committee

Thursday 14 October, 6.30pm

Housing & Regeneration

Tuesday 19 October, 6.30pm

Children & Education Scrutiny

Sub-Committee

Thursday 21 October, 6.30pm

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Monday 25 October, 6.30pm

Health & Adults Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Tuesday 26 October, 6.30pm

Licensing Sub-Committee

Tuesday 26 October, 6.30pm

Cabinet

Wednesday 27 October, 5.30pm

Strategic Development

Committee

Thursday 28 October, 6.30pm

Tower Hamlets Health & Wellbeing Board

Tuesday 2 November, 5pm

Grants Determination

Sub-Committee

Wednesday 3 November, 5.30pm

Licensing Sub-Committee

Tuesday 9 November, 6.30pm

Development Committee

Thursday 11 November, 6.30pm

Council

Wednesday 17 November, 7pm

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Monday 22 November, 6.30pm

Licensing Sub-Committee

Tuesday 23 November, 6.30pm

Cabinet

Wednesday 24 November, 6.30pm

Standards Advisory Committee

Thursday 25 November, 6pm

Strategic Development

Committee

30 November 2021, 6.30pm

Audit Committee

1 December 2021, 6.30pm

Housing & Regeneration

Scrutiny Sub Committee

2 December 2021, 6.30pm

Licensing Sub Committee

7 December 2021, 6.30pm

Children and Education Scrutiny

Sub-Committee

8 December 2021, 6.30pm

Licensing Committee

9 December 2021, 6.30pm

Development Committee

9 December 2021, 6.30pm

Meetings take place at the Town

Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove

Crescent, E14, unless otherwise

stated. Dates and times may

change. Agendas are available

online. For more information

on meetings visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/meetings



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



www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/signup

USEFUL INFORMATION SERVICES AND CONTACTS

Advice

Account 3 (welfare and debt advice)

3 Birkbeck Street, E2.
020 7739 7720
www.account3.org.uk

Age UK East London

82 Russia Lane, E2.
Caxton Hall, Caxton
Grove, E3.
Royal London Hospital
14F Wards.
info@ageukeastlondon.
org.uk
www.ageuk.org.uk/
eastlondon
020 8981 7124

Bromley by Bow Centre

St Leonard's Street, E3.
020 8709 9700

Carers Centre Tower Hamlets

21 Brayford Square, E1
OSG
enquiries@ccth.org.uk
www.ccth.org.uk
020 7790 1765

Citizens Advice Bureau

32 Greatorex Street, E1.
020 7247 1050
towerhamlets@eastend-
cab.org.uk
www.eastendcab.org.uk

Island Advice Centre

Island House, Roserton
Street, Isle of Dogs, E14.
020 7987 9379
www.island-advice.org.uk

Legal Advice Centre

University House,
104 Roman Road, E2.
020 8980 4205
www.legaladvicecentre.
london

Limehouse Project

789 Commercial Road,
Unit 2, St Anne Street, E14.
020 7538 0075
www.limehouseproject.
org.uk

Praxis (New Residents) Immigration, benefits and general advice

Pott Street, E2.
General Helpline:
020 7729 7985
Immigration advice:
020 7749 7608
www.praxis.org.uk

Tower Hamlets Community Advice Network

thcan@island-advice.org.
uk
www.thcan.org.uk

Tower Hamlets Law Centre

Unit 1, St Anne's Street,
E14. 020 7538 4909
www.thlc.co.uk

Careers

Adult education services

Shadwell Centre,
455 The Highway, E1.
020 7364 5665

WorkPath

Employment and Skills
Centre, 55 Upper Bank
Street, E14. 020 7364 3727
workpath@towerhamlets.
gov.uk

Young WorkPath/Tower Hamlets Careers Service

40-42 Watney Market, E1.
020 7364 1401
youngworkpath@
towerhamlets.gov.uk

Council

Town Hall

Mulberry Place,
5 Clove Crescent, E14 2BG.
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk
General enquiries
020 7364 5000

Debt

Fair Money Advice

18 Ashwin Street, E8.
020 3475 8811
www.fairfinance.org.uk

Island Advice Centre

Island House, Roserton
Street Isle of Dogs, E14.
020 7987 9379
www.island-advice.org.uk

Toynbee Hall Advice Service

28 Commercial Street, E1.
020 7392 2953
advice@toynbeehall.org.
uk
www.toynbeehall.org.uk

Health & wellbeing

Alzheimer's Society

Robinson Centre, Mile
End Hospital, Bancroft
Road, E1.
020 8121 5626

BYM Bangladesh Youth Movement Women's Centre of Excellence

Whitechapel Centre, Units
1 & 2, Myrdle Street, E1.
020 7377 8668
www.bym.org.uk

Covid vaccine helpline

Tower Hamlets Council
has launched a Covid-19
vaccine helpline, on
020 7464 3030, to support
residents who are eligible
for vaccination to book
their appointment.

East London Parkinson's Support Group

hello@parkinsons.org.uk
0800 800 0303

Free home fire safety advice

08000 284428

Health hotline

020 7364 5016

Healthwatch Tower Hamlets

Mile End Hospital, Ban-
croft Road, E1.
0800 145 5343
info@healthwatchtower
hamlets.co.uk
www.healthwatchtower
hamlets.co.uk

LinkAge Plus

Toynbee Hall, Commercial
Street, E1.
020 7392 2913

Reset

Tower Hamlets Drug and
Alcohol Service
183 Whitechapel Road, E1.
020 3889 9510
reset.towerhamlets@
cgl.org.uk

Safe East (under-19s)

compass.towerhamlets
yphws@nhs.net
020 3954 0091

Stop Smoking services

www.quitrightth.org
020 7882 8230

Tower Hamlets Advocacy Real

020 7001 2170
hello@real.org.uk

Housing

Choice-based lettings

020 7364 2826

Homeless service

020 7364 7474
Out of hours
020 7364 4079

Homeseekers

www.thhs.org.uk

Housing advice

020 7364 3558

Repairs

0800 376 1637 ext 1

Tower Hamlets Homes

020 7364 5015

Idea Stores and libraries

Bow

Gladstone Place, E3.

Canary Wharf

Churchill Place, E14.

Chrisp Street

Vesey Path, E14.

Whitechapel

321 Whitechapel Road, E1.

Local History Library and Archives

277, Bancroft Road, E1
localhistory@towerham-
lets.gov.uk
Visit www.ideastore.
co.uk/home

Leisure centres

John Orwell Sports Centre

Tench Street, Wapping, E1.
020 7488 9421

Mile End Park Leisure

Centre and Stadium
190 Burdett Road, E3.
020 8709 4420

Poplar Baths

170 East India Dock Road,
E14. 020 3795 0599

St George's Leisure Centre

221 The Highway, Wap-
ping E1. 020 7709 9714

Tiller Leisure Centre

Tiller Road, Isle of Dogs
E14. 020 7987 5211

Whitechapel Sports Centre

55 Durward Street, E1.
020 7247 7538

York Hall Leisure Centre

5-15 Old Ford Road, E2.
020 8980 2243

For the latest information
and updates, including
details of opening hours or
temporary closures, visit
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk
or www.better.org.uk

Parent & child

Family Information Service

30 Greatorex Street, E1.
fis@towerhamlets.gov.uk
020 7364 6495

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

If a child is at risk of harm:
020 7364 5006 (option
3, open Mon to Fri, 9am -
5pm)
020 7364 4079 (out of
hours emergency duty
team)

Tower Hamlets National Childbirth Trust

0300 330 0700
www.nct.org.uk

Report it

Anti-fraud (housing and tenancy related fraud)

0800 528 0294

Black Women's Health and Family Support

020 8980 3503

Childline

0800 1111

Domestic Violence Team

0800 279 5434

Environmental

Protection (Noise) Team

020 7364 5000

Haven Whitechapel (sexual assault referral centre)

020 3299 6900 /
020 3299 1599

Karma Nirvana (honour-based abuse helpline)

0800 5999 247

Men's Advice Helpline

0808 8010 327

National LGBT domestic abuse helpline (Galop)

0800 999 5428 /
0300 999 5428

Non-emergency crimes 101 Textphone

18001 101

NSPCC Child Protection Helpline

0800 800 5000

Respect (for perpetrators)

0808 802 4040

Rights of Women

020 7251 6577

Samaritans

116 123

Shelter

0808 800 4444

Tower Hamlets Mediation Service (free service for council tenants and leaseholders)

020 7364 7474

Victim Support Tower Hamlets

0808 168 9291 /
0808 168 9111

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