

# ENFIELD DISPATCH

Nº. 4 THE BOROUGH'S FREE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

JAN 2019



Sadiq Khan took to two wheels in Edmonton Green as he launched new cycling initiative – full story Page 7

## Enfield's violent crime rate doubles in seven years

Data shows local rate of violence is rising faster than London as a whole

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

**T**he rate of violent crime in Enfield has nearly doubled in less than a decade, police data shows. Latest Metropolitan Police figures show that in the year up to November 2018, there were 8,935 violent crimes across the borough, compared with 4,671 for the year up to November 2011. This represents a 91% increase of violent crime in Enfield and is significantly higher than the 65% rise across London as a whole over the same period. Edmonton continues to be the

least safe part of the borough, with Edmonton Green ward recording 834 violent crimes in the last year – almost one-in-ten of all offences committed across Enfield. The news comes after 20-year-old Richard Odunze-Dim was shot dead in St Joseph's Road, Lower Edmonton, on Tuesday 18th December – two men were in custody on suspicion of murder at time of going to press. It was the fifth killing in Enfield in 2018. Police are also still appealing for help in catching a violent robber who attacked an elderly man, who later died from his injuries, at his home in Bowes (full story on Page 14). At an Enfield Council meeting

in November, councillors passed a motion “expressing deep concern about the soaring level of serious and violent crime in Enfield”. It followed a multiple shooting in Gordon Road, Enfield Chase, and a multiple stabbing in Fraser Road, Edmonton Green, occurring within 24 hours – two crimes detectives said were “linked”. The twin acts of violence – for which no-one had yet been charged at time of going to press – led the council leader Nesil Caliskan to write a letter to residents asking for their help in catching the perpetrators. Councillors have blamed soaring crime rates on “historic levels of

under resourcing to the Metropolitan Police” with a £700m cut in funding from government since 2010. Cllr Caliskan said: “In Enfield, we’ve lost nearly 240 police officers and community support officers from our streets. These huge Tory cuts have consequences.” However, opposition Conservatives said at November’s meeting that “more money is not the answer – it is better management”. The council already funds an extra 16 police officers out of its own budget, specifically to patrol housing estates, while last summer it spent £100,000

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# ED.

## Nº.4

### JANUARY 2019

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# Council criticised over failure to win funding bid

## Enfield Council fails to get extra funding for youth activities



BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

Enfield Council has been accused of “letting down” the borough’s youngsters after failing to win funding for youth projects.

Conservative group leader Joanne Laban blamed an “incompetent” submission by the Labour-run council for its failure to win money from a £15million pot aimed at

providing more opportunities for young Londoners – particularly those at risk of getting caught up in crime.

The Mayor of London’s ‘Young Londoners Fund’ was set up to support a range of education, sport, cultural, and other activities for children and young people.

But the council’s bid for the money – which came on top of an earlier £30million funding round – was unsuccessful after the Greater

London Authority (GLA) ruled the proposals lacked “outputs, outcomes and capability”.

Cllr Laban said: “Enfield’s Labour council let down our young people with this submission. It shows incompetence as many other boroughs were awarded funding but Enfield missed out.

“We are lucky to have a lot going on in Enfield for young people – just not run by Enfield Council – but we need to do more given our prob-

lems with serious youth violence.”

Labour councillors recently defended their record on crime at a full council meeting, in which they blamed funding cuts to the Metropolitan Police and the council for stopping them from tackling crime and its causes. A £100,000 package of youth activities, put on by the council last summer, aimed to prevent youngsters getting caught up in crime.

The council has also defended its GLA funding bid and pointed out that only a small number of applications were successful.

A spokesperson said: “Enfield’s bid to the Young Londoner’s Fund focused on providing additional support to children and young people at risk of school exclusion and/or starting to become involved in crime and was to supplement existing provision.

“The bid was developed by a partnership board of council officers and partner agencies including the police and community organisations.

“The grant fund that we applied for received 109 bids from all parts of London totalling £85m against a fund of £45m.

“Given the level of need in our borough and our historical underfunding we are very disappointed to have not been successful on this occasion and will be submitting another bid when the next funding round for the Young Londoners Fund opens.”

#### ► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

on a range of extra-curricular activities designed to curb youth violence.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan has launched a Violence Reduction Unit to focus on tackling violent crime, but also agreed in 2017 to the closure of 73 police front counters, including one in Enfield.

London Assembly Member Steve O’Connell, chairman of the Police and Crime Committee at City Hall, said: “Londoners are heartbroken to hear about the near daily carnage on our streets, the young lives lost and the misery for families and communities. The mayor’s new Violence Reduction Unit will need to demonstrate that it brings some-

thing different to the table. It cannot simply be a re-branding exercise of existing programmes and policies.

“We cannot emphasise enough how critical it is that the unit tackles the traumatic situations that children might live through in order to break the cycle of violence.”

As of the start of this month, Met Police teams in Enfield and Haringey have been merged to form a single ‘Basic Command Unit’ – one of twelve such units launching across London. Writing for the *Dispatch* in October, Inspector Chris Byrne said the merger “should make it easier for Enfield and Haringey police to support each other over borough lines at particularly busy times”. He also denied that the

merger meant cutting police officer numbers, with a commitment to continue providing two dedicated neighbourhood officers and a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for every ward in Enfield.

A Met Police spokesperson said: “Police in Enfield are committed to tackling crime in all its forms, and reducing the fear of crime. Through neighbourhood policing, regular patrols and fast-time responses to live incidents, and proactive operations by both borough officers and specialist units, we are working hard to bring crime levels down and arrest offenders, while supporting victims. “We work closely with the local authority and other partners.”

## Correction

An article in last month’s edition of *Enfield Dispatch* about the sale of Edmonton Green Shopping Centre (*Shopping mall site sold for £72m, December 2018, Page 3*) stated that the three tower blocks situated within the shopping centre site were “also made part of the deal”. This was incorrect. The residential towers remain on a long-term leasehold with Metropolitan Thames Valley and L&Q (London and Quadrant). We apologise for this mistake. An amended version of the article can be read on our website: [EnfieldDispatch.co.uk](http://EnfieldDispatch.co.uk)



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## Tackling loneliness in Enfield

Enfield Asian Welfare Association launches new project to combat loneliness



Enfield Asian Welfare Association has been helping bring people together for 20 years

and similar places. Once groups are formed, we will find out from the groups what activities they prefer and offer opportunities accordingly.

We are currently fundraising for this project so that it can become a reality – and the Co-op has selected Social Hub Project so that it can be supported by its members. When a Co-op member shops at a Co-op supermarket, 1% of what they spend on branded products and services can help fund community projects. Now, as part of your regular shop at Co-op, if you are a member, you can nominate Social Hub Project to receive funds until November. Or, if you want to become a Co-op member and nominate us, that would be a bonus!

Please help isolated older people from being lonely.

**For more information about Enfield Asian Welfare Association and how you can support the Social Hub Project:**

**Call** 020 8443 1197

**Email** [info@eawa.org.uk](mailto:info@eawa.org.uk)

**Visit** [eawa.org.uk](http://eawa.org.uk)

BY CHETNA SHAH

**T**wo-fifths of all older people say television is their “main company”, according to charity Age UK. Nine million people in Britain say they are “always or often lonely”, according to the British Red Cross and Co-op’s Loneliness Action Group.

Loneliness increases the likelihood of death by 26%, according to the Campaign to End Loneliness.

In 2018, Enfield Asian Welfare Association (EAWA) celebrated its 20th year of working with the local elderly community. The above statistics are the reason we are launching our Social Hub Project, which will find isolated older

people and offer them a chance to meet with others to go shopping, have coffee, or eat a meal together, and participate in local activities.

This project will allow such people to connect and bring them back into community life, rather than them being left alone. We will approach people from sheltered homes, libraries, coffee shops, post offices,

## Friendship and fun

New Rotary club launches in Enfield Chase

BY SUE JESSEL

**E**nfield’s newest Rotary club meets for breakfast on Thursdays in the heart of Enfield Town.

Our early meeting time means that you can start the day with merriment before going on to work or the rest of your day’s events. A friendly group of men and women, the club meetings are fun, interesting and informative. Each year we have a full programme of social and fundraising activities and hands-on projects within the community.

Rotary has a great reputation for helping people within our local area as well as supporting worthy causes both in the UK and around the world. Currently we are raising funds for Solace Women’s Refuge, Noah’s Ark Children’s

Hospice, and the Stroke Association, by hosting charity quizzes and through our Christmas collections.

You will also find Rotary members taking part in the Stroke Association’s ‘Know Your Blood Pressure’ campaign; we are always on hand to help at Enfield’s annual Parade of Light; our members help the British Legion collecting for the Poppy Appeal every November; we were recently at Forty Hall helping with the Mayor’s Fun Run; and for the seventh year in a row we joined with other Rotarians in the annual Rotary North London Disability Games at the Aspire Centre, Stanmore.

There are now five Rotary clubs in Enfield; Southgate, Enfield, Edmonton, Bush Hill Park and now Enfield Chase. Visitors and new members are always welcome!



Rotarians helping out at last year's Parade of Light event

Our members are all enthusiastic and take an active role helping in our local community. An international organisation, Rotary’s mission statement is: “Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.”

If you want to put something back into the community or change the

world, please come and visit us to see what Rotary does.

**Rotary Club of Enfield Chase meets every Thursday from 7.15am at The Coffee Lounge, Enfield Baptist Church, Cecil Road, Enfield EN2 7QS. For more information:**

**Email** [secretary@enfieldchaserotary.org](mailto:secretary@enfieldchaserotary.org)

**Visit** [enfieldchaserotary.org](http://enfieldchaserotary.org)

## Written in the stars

Stephen Cox from Bowes explains how he wrote his first novel

**H**ow did I write *Our Child of the Stars*? Did I stick to the old saying ‘Write what you know’?

I wrote a short story for Halloween about a couple, Gene and Molly, and their strange but lovable son Cory. I was intrigued, obsessed. There was tragedy in Molly’s past and violence in the family’s future. What an oddly likeable little boy Cory was.

Whole strands of the book come from single sentences in the story, such as how Cory came into their dreams. And it was clear the setting was rural New York and the timing was that great myth-filled decade, the Sixties.

I was brought up in Bristol. It would have been easier to move the book to the urban England of my childhood and set it a little later. The book would have been surprisingly different. Yet the characters were very clear in where they came from.

What I know, I hope, is people. I have always been surrounded by strong, interesting women, which helped to write Molly, the main voice. I know families, bereavements, arguments, and what it is to be a child, a sibling, and a parent. I know what I care about, what I think of the world then and now (war and peace, truth and lies) and what type of books I like.

I’m a kind of recovering science fiction and fantasy fan, I like some of it a lot, but always because of the people. America fascinates me, because I was born there. My research was talking to people, remembering stories from my parents, the books and films of the era. And the wonderful soundtrack of the Sixties made music a character in the book. I knew who to ask, intelligent readers of different ages, genders, tastes, and nationalities who would give me robust feedback.

I wanted to try for an agent. A previous novel got nowhere, but encouraged me. It’s never been so easy to find out what agents want. This book interested three agents and one offered to represent me. We didn’t know each other, he just liked the book. “It’s wonderful,” he said, “but it needs more work.” Now it is out in the world, and complete strangers love it.

**Our Child of the Stars is available from 24th January:**

**Visit** [stephencox.co.uk](http://stephencox.co.uk)



## Mind the gap

*A local mental health charity in Edmonton is working hard to fill the gap left by cuts to public spending*

BY ANDREW GURR

Mind in Enfield has held a special place among the borough's charities for more than 40 years, with a mission to promote and improve the mental and social wellbeing of local people. The charity challenges the stigma and isolation people suffering from mental health difficulties may face, and provides person-centred services which are consistent with the charity's vision of a local community where everybody enjoys greater mental wellbeing. The chair of Mind in Enfield, Laurane Till, said an experience she had a month ago reminded her of just how crucial the service is to the community. "Early one morning I came to our headquarters in Fore Street and found a youngish man huddled in the doorway in a state of acute distress," she said. "The documents he showed me made it clear that he had been moved from one agency to another without getting any reassurance about a place to sleep or means to eat. He was at the end of his tether. "I brought him into our café for a cup of tea and saw how our magnificent staff swung into action to help him. Carol and Martine made him welcome; Sufia put aside

personal commitments she had to chat with him and find out his problems; and Petronella, the head of our advocacy team, saw him and gave him the sympathetic advice which enabled him to see a way through. "We know that thousands of people in Enfield face similar problems. Public expenditure cuts and the introduction of Universal Credit are making them worse. That experience demonstrated to me that we are vital in giving hope and confidence to people with mental health issues. That amounts to a tremendous contribution to the common good of Enfield." One immediate initiative Mind in Enfield is planning is the provision of advice on how to avoid debt and on dealing with debt for people with mental health issues. Mind in Enfield is also the front-door access point of Enfield Connections, working as a delivery partner for the information and advice service. Laurane says it is "a strong and friendly working relationship" with Enfield Connections. She adds: "The signposting service we are providing is working well for the benefit of the whole community."

**For more information about Mind in Enfield:**

**Call 020 8887 1480**



Wellbeing Centre staff outside the Mind in Enfield office in Fore Street, Edmonton; Suhayla Greenwood, Debbie Boots, and Sufia Rahman

Rabbits are complex animals that have a lot of daily needs



## Happy bunnies

*A new service for pet owners is opening in Enfield*

BY NICOLA WALKER

Over the years the RSPCA Enfield Cattery has helped to find new homes for countless cats and kittens, as well as supporting the local community through animal welfare schemes such as microchipping and neutering. Now, we are expanding our support to the community and have opened a free Enfield Pet Wellness Centre. Sometimes there are misconceptions about how to care for a pet, and some people may not

realise that they are not looking after their pets in the right way. As a result the pets could become sick. Sadly, we have found that if an animal does fall ill, a small minority of people are then too scared to seek veterinary help. This is where we hope the wellness centre can help; people can bring their pets to us for advice in a friendly and safe environment where no-one is judged. All we will do is offer help and guidance

to find the right diet, accommodation, and care for your animals. So whether you are feeding a stray cat or worrying about your cat, rabbit, hamster, guinea pig or other small furry creature, you are eligible for a free wellness appointment! We are particularly keen to see rabbit owners. Many people are unaware that rabbits are highly intelligent, inquisitive animals, and this means they have

***"Many people are unaware rabbits are highly intelligent, inquisitive animals"***

complex needs and have to be really well looked after in order to have a good quality of life. Rabbits come in a variety of breeds, shapes and sizes. Each bunny has their own unique personality, and can live for eight to twelve years, or even longer. They prefer to live in pairs and need a good-sized place to live as they are so active and need to be able to hop, run, jump, dig and stand fully upright on their back legs, or stretch out fully when

lying down, as well as needing somewhere quiet to rest and sleep.

Final year vet students from the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) will offer 30-minute slots every Wednesday. They will be joined by one of the experienced RVC vets. This is not a veterinary clinic, but pet owners who have not signed up with a vet yet will be given details of local veterinary facilities, including subsidised clinics for those on low

incomes. All attendees will be given a warm welcome and a free pet goody bag! We cannot see dogs at the cattery (they might scare the cats) but we can give advice on how to care for dogs.

**The Enfield Pet Wellness Centre is based at the RSPCA's branch in Primrose Avenue. Appointments are available from 10am-4pm on Wednesdays. To book an appointment:**

**Call 07557 118 484**



# Concern over sexual health spending

Drop of £4m in Enfield is biggest in London

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Spending on sexual health services has fallen faster in Enfield than anywhere else in London, new figures show.

Data revealed under Freedom of Information laws showed there had been a 47.5% reduction in money spent on sexual health in Enfield since 2013, compared to a 16% fall across London as a whole.

Enfield Council has stressed that the drop in its spending on sexual health services – from £8.9m in 2013/14 to £4.7m in 2018/19 – is because of lower demand, not because of any cuts to services.

However, there has been a rise in the number of newly-diagnosed sexually transmitted infections (STIs) over the same period. Data from Public Health England shows that the number of new STIs diagnosed in Enfield has risen by 4.7% since 2014, in contrast to London as a whole where there has been a 0.9% fall in new STIs – although Enfield still has the 13th lowest STI rate in the capital.

Yasemin Brett, cabinet member for public health, said: “Local authority sexual health services are funded on an ‘as used basis’. Consequently, local authorities are charged each time sexual health services are used by their residents. Sexual health funding is therefore driven by demand and Enfield [Council] is not able to cut sexual health services to residents. “On the contrary, in partnership with



Silverpoint Medical Centre in Edmonton, opened in February last year, provides walk-in sexual health appointments Credit: Enfield Council

North Middlesex Hospital, Enfield Council has opened one of the foremost sexual health clinics in London.”

Enfield residents may now access a range of sexual health services at the newly-opened Silverpoint Medical Centre in Fore Street, Edmonton – including regular walk-in appointments. The centre is operated by Enfield Clinics Health Organisation (ECHO), a local NHS-run organisation which also provides services at The Town Clinic in Enfield and at Enfield Island Surgery.

The figures on sexual health spending were revealed by London Assembly Member Sian Berry, who has

raised concerns over the availability of services. She said: “For some people even asking for help for sexual health problems can be a barrier to accessing services – but the situation is worsening as Londoners are having to compete for appointments or even being turned away from clinics.”

Cllr Brett said the opening of Silverpoint Medical Centre was helping to address the problem. She said: “ECHO offers a full sexual health service including testing and treatment of STIs, a check-and-go service, treatment for HIV, and treatment for recurrent infections and complex contraception.

Residents visiting the website may also order a free STI testing kit online.

“Enfield has made strenuous efforts to improve sexual health in the borough. We recognise that sexuality is a normal healthy part of life and we will continue to do everything we can to ensure that our residents have the support they need to live and enjoy long and healthy lives.”

**To access sexual health services with Enfield Clinics Health Organisation (ECHO):**

Call 020 8887 4510

Visit [echoclinics.nhs.uk](http://echoclinics.nhs.uk)

## No confidence bid fails

Local branch of Labour Party votes in support of Enfield Council leader

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

The leader of Enfield Council says it is “time to move forward” after a motion of no confidence against her failed.

The motion tabled by members of Enfield Southgate Constituency Labour Party (CLP) called on Nesil Caliskan to resign as leader over her decision in November to temporarily remove Yasemin Brett from her post as cabinet member for public health.

Cllr Brett was disciplined by Cllr Caliskan after breaking ranks with colleagues over a cabinet report relating

to the North London Waste Plan. But the no-confidence motion was not carried by the CLP, while an amended motion calling for ongoing dialogue to resolve disagreements was approved instead. Cllr Caliskan said: “I welcome the fact Enfield Southgate constituency members did not carry the motion of no confidence. Now this is a time to move forward.

“This is the toughest of times for our communities because of Conservative government cuts. I will continue to be 100% focused as council leader, working with all councillors, to address the real issues facing local people.”

The amended motion carried by the

CLP called for the clarification of the rules by which councillors can withdraw from cabinet discussions on the grounds of non-pecuniary interest.

It also noted an investigation into the selection process for councillors last May was taking place and called for “internal disagreements to be resolved through ongoing dialogue rather than mutual public recrimination”.

Cllr Brett had said she declined to take part in discussions over the North London Waste Plan because of her interest in wildlife. Pinkham Way, a wildlife site located in Haringey borough, on the border with Enfield, has been included in the plan.

## Surf's up

Enfield could become home to London's first surfing facility. Lee Valley Regional Park Authority (LVRPA) announced plans for a £40million “world class” surfing venue called ‘The Wave’. It would be the centrepiece of a redevelopment scheme for land adjacent to Lee Valley Athletics Centre in Edmonton.

The purpose-built surfing lake would generate 1,000 waves per hour, with some up to two metres high. Surfing is now an Olympic sport, with the first medals on offer at Tokyo 2020.

LVRPA chief executive Shaun Dawson said: “The Lee Valley leisure complex was once a sewage works and rubbish dump. A generation ago we built what was then Europe’s largest leisure centre. Now we hope to bring inland surfing here to create an outstanding new leisure destination for the capital and the region.

“This marks another exciting chapter in the history of the Lee Valley.”

Nick Hounsfield, founder of The Wave, the company which would run the new facility, said: “We want to create a space where people can have an amazing time by connecting with nature, each other and themselves. We know we can enhance this space, and encourage more people to get outside in nature and get active.”

**“We hope to create an outstanding new leisure destination”**

## Cash for new council homes

More than £18million has been given to Enfield Council by the Mayor of London to build 571 social homes in the borough.

Money is being allocated to London boroughs via a new fund to help boost council housing stocks and will be used along with existing Right to Buy receipts and borrowing to finance the building of hundreds of new social homes in Enfield.

Nesil Caliskan, the council leader, said: “I am delighted that our bid for funding has been successful. There is a chronic shortage of housing in Enfield and this funding will help drive the construction of more than 570 homes in this borough, which will be available at ‘London Affordable Rent’ levels.”



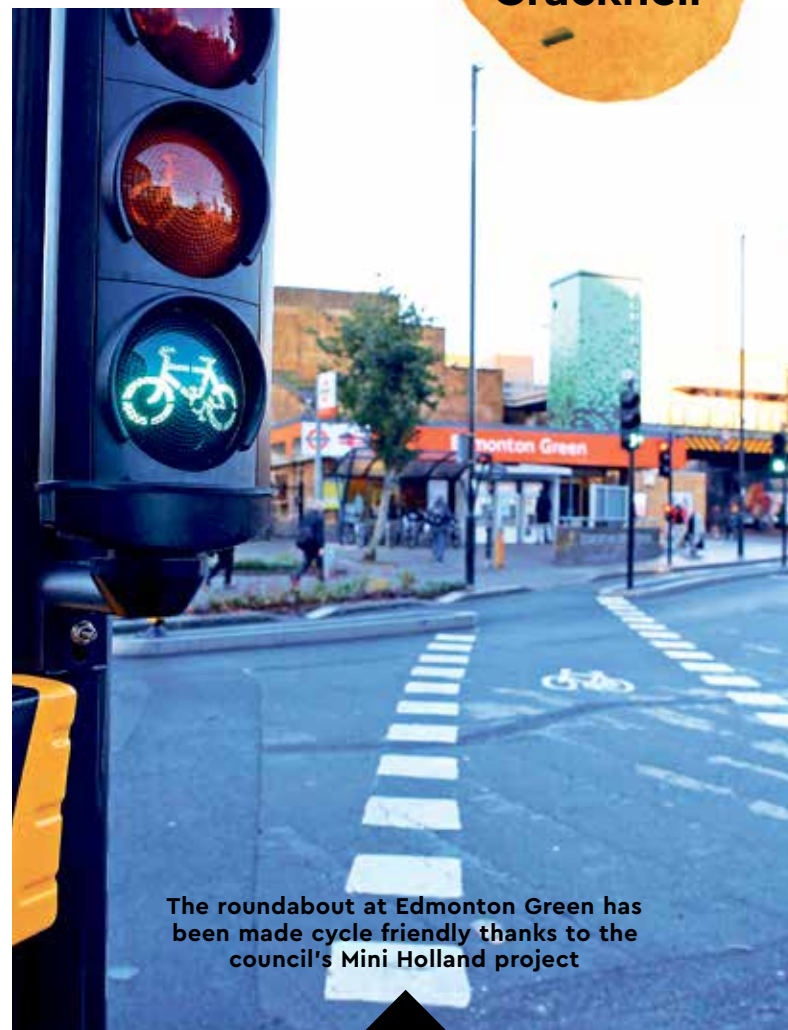
Enfield Council leader Nesil Caliskan



# Mayor praises new cycle lanes

Sadiq Khan announces cycling vision on visit to Edmonton Green

BY  
James  
Cracknell



The roundabout at Edmonton Green has been made cycle friendly thanks to the council's Mini Holland project

Enfield Council leader  
Nesil Caliskan meets  
Sadiq Khan in Edmonton  
Green last month

~  
***“This  
roundabout  
is not scary,  
I’ve just  
cycled it  
myself!”***  
~

**S**adiq Khan says Enfield's Mini Holland cycling scheme should be replicated across the capital.

The Mayor of London visited Edmonton Green to check out the newly-installed cycle lanes around the station – and announce a new set of quality standards for all cycle routes.

The ongoing £30million Cycle Enfield programme – dubbed 'Mini Holland' by former mayor Boris Johnson when the scheme was announced five years ago – has been praised by cycling campaigners but also criticised by business owners who have blamed new cycle lanes for declines in trade.

New segregated routes have been created in Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill, while work is ongoing in Ponders End. The roundabout at Edmonton Green is the latest scheme to be completed and includes new planting and cycle storage outside the station.

Mayor Khan told the *Dispatch*: “Here in outer London there are many occasional cyclists, who need to have the confidence to cycle, and this junction in Edmonton Green has

been made safer. Cycling can be scary if you're an occasional cyclist, but actually this roundabout is not scary, I've just cycled it myself!

“I think it is very exciting and it is a template for town centres to follow. It is possible to use a combination of cycling and public transport to get about Enfield and Edmonton and that is really good to see.”

The Mayor of London used his visit to Edmonton Green to announce a major overhaul in the way London's cycling infrastructure is promoted, the way investment decisions are made, and to launch “the world's first cycling infrastructure database”. He said: “We have made sure that we've learned mistakes from the past. If you have investment in cycling infrastructure, more people will cycle, but we need to make sure people aren't confused between Cycle Superhighways, Quietways, and Mini Holland, and make sure it is all in plain English.

“We are releasing the data about where all these different paths are, where you can get cycle training, and the idea is that innovators will use that to create

apps to make it easier to get around. “Previously we have been giving out money for things like Quietways without any quality assurance. The whole point of a Quietway is to move cyclists to quiet parts of the road but if they're not quiet then what's the point? There are cycle lanes now that aren't very safe. At City Hall now we are going to make sure there are steps to reduce traffic – there is no point investing in cycling if it is not very safe.”

The mayor claims his plans for cycling investment will see the number of journeys made by bike double over the next six years. The segregated cycle lanes along Green Lanes through Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill have seen a 52% increase in cycling, according to Transport for London (TfL).

However, the cycle lanes continue to attract strong criticism from residents and business owners. Last year a survey of traders saw lack of parking and new cycle lanes listed as the top reasons for declines in trade.

The council has also opened a new public consultation for parts of the

Green Lanes project after admitting they were built using “experimental traffic orders” that necessitated further feedback and possible revision before being made permanent. People can give their views online via [cycleenfield.co.uk/a105eto](http://cycleenfield.co.uk/a105eto) between now and June 2019.

The Cycle Enfield programme is also set to include new cycle lanes in Enfield Town, but no detailed scheme has yet been published. Asked whether the negative reaction from business owners in Green Lanes had prompted a re-think, council leader Nesil Caliskan told the *Dispatch*: “We want each town centre to have its own personality. In Enfield Town traders have expressed concerns about empty shops so we want to look at that. We are going to have a big public meeting and we want to have conversations with local people.”

The council has recently submitted a bid for up to £10m to TfL, separate to the Mini Holland programme, which if successful could see a “large scale” revamp of Enfield Town (full report on Page 14).



## Campaigning to stop Brexit

*Two-and-a-half years after the EU Referendum, in which Enfield voted 'remain' but the UK voted 'leave', local campaigners issue a final plea to cancel Brexit*



Enfield for Europe campaigners hold a rally outside Southgate Underground Station last year

BY SARAH DODGSON

For the past two years, a group of ordinary local people have taken to the streets to talk to people in Enfield, face to face, about the European Union (EU).

That group is Enfield for Europe and we welcome input and representatives of all political parties and all the pro-EU campaigns. We started in summer 2016, when a handful of EU Referendum campaigners felt there was something very wrong with the official remain campaigns. Positive information about jobs, rights and protections from the EU, about where EU money was benefiting Enfield, and what Enfield would lose if we left, wasn't being publicised.

Leaving was not going to be good for local regeneration projects, or for our EU citizen friends and neighbours.

Enfield for Europe was formed to help mend the national view of the EU and to make the conversation about not leaving less toxic. By joining together all the different campaigns that sprang up in 2016 and 2017, Enfield for Europe grew as a local activist group. A big

banner attracted Enfield people on marches and at meetings; a rally outside Southgate Underground Station hit the local headlines; our website was created by a local school student; and various social media feeds grew popular.

After the referendum the group rejected any message that leaving was inevitable, and that we should settle for a questionable Westminster deal. It became a voice for people who were telling us about how bad

ment where we can use our voting power to vote for improvements to our lives. We have all found out that Brexit will deplete the funds available for the NHS, and will go on costing us for years to come.

Enfield for Europe has met with local MPs to ask them to speak out against the racism that Brexit has created in our communities and we protested about this issue at Enfield Council last May. We want to spread positive messages about

the ability of the EU to fix the big crises facing the world, from air pollution to migration.

Enfield for Europe keeps coming back to the reality that simply stopping Brexit altogether is the best 'deal' available to

Enfield and to the UK. Regardless of any concessions from the EU, a change in prime minister, or even a change in government, the best solution for Enfield is to cancel Brexit and remain in the EU. Then we can build a peaceful, anti-racist society in our neighbourhood.

Brexit would be for local industry. We joined together both the People's Vote and Stop Brexit campaigns, stickered the Labour Live festival in Haringey, and added Enfield's red beast and stars badge to the Stand of Defiance European Movement (SODEM) banner at the Houses of Parliament.

We are constantly having to bust myths. Many of the problems blamed on the EU are not the fault of the European Parlia-

***“Enfield for Europe keeps coming back to the reality that simply stopping Brexit altogether is the best 'deal' available”***

For more information about the Enfield for Europe campaign: Visit [enfieldforeurope.com](http://enfieldforeurope.com)

## Out on the Town

*In our regular councillor's column, Michael Rye talks up Town ward*

I have represented what is now Town ward since 1994 and it is a real pleasure to serve the area where I have lived almost all of my life.

I try to provide a response to constituent enquiries within 24 hours. Issues raised by constituents range from a missed refuse collection to a council housing refurbishment.

Both prior to May 2014 and subsequently, a major issue for many residents has been the number of empty shops in Enfield Town. The reasons for this are complex, including unrealistic rents, the cost of business rates, uncertainty over the Cycle Enfield programme, and of course the huge change in the way we shop.

I have lobbied the council for many months, requesting enforcement action against empty shops and for

information to be sent to landlords about how to change from retail to restaurant or café where appropriate. I managed to get the council to install new lights on Library Green and have been promised that the café in the library will be open again before Easter. I also congratulate local traders for their appeal for funds for Christmas lights, which the council agreed to match-fund.

The council has set up

an empty shops working party, which I serve on, and enforcement action has now been taken. I am optimistic we can improve Enfield Town and make it a more vibrant place to shop and eat both during the day and in the evening. If you are concerned about our town centre, please use it!

In Town ward we have many groups of passionate volunteers. I congratulate all the volunteers we work with, including friends groups, residents associations, neighbourhood watch, and local police team. I also serve on the Old Enfield Charitable Trust which owns Market Square and makes grants totalling many thousands of pounds to local people in need.

As a member of the Conservative opposition group it is important to scrutinise the actions of the Labour administration and hold them to account. We have for example been particularly critical of the slow progress (eight-and-a-half years) on the small housing sites in Parsonage Lane and Forty Hill. It is especially important when resources are tight that the council makes good decisions.

Since May 2018 we have held two ward forums and we also hold weekly surgeries, and occasional coffee mornings. I am proud to represent Town ward and believe Enfield is a great place to live, work and play.

Cllr Rye is one of three councillors elected to represent Town, alongside Lindsay Rawlings and James Steven (all Conservative). Surgeries are held at Enfield Civic Centre, usually on Wednesday mornings. Call 020 8351 1384 Email [cllr.michael.rye@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.michael.rye@enfield.gov.uk)



Michael Rye has been a councillor in Enfield since 1994



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**Blackhorse Lane E17 5QJ**



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# LETTERS

## Send us your letters

Got an opinion on something in Enfield? We accept letters of up to 200 words from people and organisations in the borough. Email [EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com](mailto:EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com) before the next deadline on Tuesday 22nd January.

## More support for elderly

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

**T**he big task that Age UK Enfield has just achieved is moving offices from the library in Ponders End to John Jackson Library in Agricola Place, Bush Hill Park. The upheaval is finally over and normal service has resumed. The drop-in information and advice service continues to run from Monday until Wednesday 9.30am–2.30pm, which offers advice on a wide range of services and problems.

In the last month we have also launched three new peer support groups. Firstly there's 'Tea and Chatter', a social friendship group which runs on the first Thursday of each month, 10am–12pm, in Enfield Town Library – everyone is welcome. The next group we launched, to quite a fanfare, was the 'Memory Club' in Edmonton. This will run on the second Wednesday of each month 10am–12pm at Community House in Fore Street. Finally a diabetes support group will run every last Tuesday of the month, 1.30pm–3pm at Green Towers Community Centre in Plevna Road.

These last two groups are particularly significant as they are the first of their kind in the east of the borough. There is demand for them and we hope they will be a valuable resource to people.

Ciara McNulty  
 Age UK Enfield

## Good and bad of cycle lanes

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

**W**hen travelling to Sainsbury's I do not use cycle lanes as I am overloaded. When travelling along London Road from the triangle [in Palmers Green] I will not use the cycle lane as I know my shopping will be too heavy.

The only good thing about the cycle lanes is that it slows traffic, as one cannot overtake and I must wait behind a bus all the time. I know my journey takes longer and causes more pollution, petrol consumption, and wear and tear on my car, but for the so few cyclists I've seen using the lanes it is worth it. During bad weather I have not seen any cyclists. Furthermore, I can't park outside local shops.

Mike de Haan  
 Southgate

## Anxiety over school places

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

**C**ongratulations on launching *Enfield Dispatch*, it's a great paper and wonderful to be able to read about local news in print again.

I would love to see more news about schools in the area – both achievements of the local schools and their pupils, the funding challenges they are currently facing, and also the issues with catchment areas and the shortage of spaces, which plague lots of neighbourhoods, particularly those living on the Lakes Estate and Fox Lane areas of Palmers Green. I know there are lots of anxious parents at the moment making their applications for the September 2019 entry.

It would also be wonderful to hear news about changes in the high streets – i.e. particularly in Palmers Green where there seems to be a lot of change going on at the moment.

Natasha Boydell  
 Palmers Green

## Find money for police

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

**E**nfield has been demanding more money from central government for policing; unfortunately, they have still not yet evolved any tested and proven empirical formulae to ascertain the performance of every member of their staff about achieving measured desired objectives – a notorious public sector default – to justify this request. Existing opportunities for optimising the economic management and administration of the Metropolitan Police, including reducing the numbers of different ranks from about eleven to about six, are not being exploited. The Met's organisation structure is uneconomically too fat and top-heavy – only serving career progression.

Meanwhile, Enfield Council has only 1,120 fixed and 31 movable CCTV cameras. The onus is on all Enfield landlords to complement effective policing by installing CCTV on their own properties. If every landlord in Salisbury had done so we would have recorded sightings of the people who sprayed deadly toxins on door handles and dumped the spray in a bin!

Seton During  
 Ponders End



## Make a difference in 2019

Healthwatch Enfield is looking for new volunteers

BY CLAIRE FISHER



A 'thank you' lunch held for Healthwatch Enfield volunteers at Christmas

**H**ave you been pondering life over the holiday period, maybe thinking how you can give something back

to your community? Is your CV lacking in relevant experience, or do you need to brush up on some skills? Perhaps you

simply like helping people and want to do something really worthwhile?

If your answer is 'yes' to any of our questions then Healthwatch Enfield is here to help. At Healthwatch Enfield, it is our job to make the views of residents in Enfield known when it comes to local health and social care services. That's everything from general practitioners, dentists, hospitals and pharmacies, to publicly-funded care homes for elderly, vulnerable or disabled people.

We rely on great people from the community to get involved and dedicate some of their spare time for free to help support the service we offer. In return we provide training opportunities, a chance to learn new skills, brush-up on old ones, and be part of a varied and vibrant team of really lovely people! We are always looking for new volunteers from all ages and abilities.

Among our volunteers are students from college taking placements with us; professionals who want to gain experience and skills such as marketing or graphic design; retired folk who have time, patience and wisdom; people with personal experience of disabilities who represent a different view on projects; as well as others who just simply love to get out and about in the community, help take surveys about services, or visit care homes to talk to residents and families about their experiences.

We write reports based on all this feedback, which we submit to various boards to help bring about changes, improvements, or influence the design of future services. We also help to promote services that are available in the community and help Enfield residents navigate their way around services, such as complaints procedures.

Our targeted projects last year included our Open2All initiative that we ran in partnership with North Middlesex University Hospital. This project has seen the implementation of training and coaching programmes for reception staff to help improve the experience of disabled patients visiting clinics. Step-by-step we are making a difference, so why not join us and help us make that difference even bigger and better in 2019?

**For more information about Healthwatch Enfield and to get in touch:**

**Call** 020 8373 6283

**Email** [info@healthwatchenfield.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchenfield.co.uk)

**Tweet** @HealthwatchEnf

**Visit** [healthwatchenfield.co.uk](http://healthwatchenfield.co.uk)



## Make fostering for Enfield your New Year goal for 2019

- 🏆 earn up to £450+\* a week
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- 🏆 receive ongoing training and 24-hour support
- 🏆 help children in our care have a better future

\*Amount you earn can vary depending on your placement



## Find out more about fostering

Call or email us anytime with any questions you may have or drop in to one of our 2019 fostering information sessions:

Enfield Council Fostering Service, Triangle House, 305-313 Green Lanes, Palmers Green N13 4YB



☎ 020 8379 2831

✉ [fostering@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@enfield.gov.uk)

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[www.enfield.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/fostering)





## Community ties

Helen Osman, founder of community website *n21online.com*, on why we should make the most of what our 'local patch' has to offer



While your local community may lack the 'village feel' of years gone by, it still has lots to offer

It has been said that in the modern world most of us live in networks, connected only remotely to the people we have shared interests with; whether at work, rest or play.

Does that mean that we no longer feel the need to belong to the local area in which we actually reside? Maybe you see your home as your sanctuary, where you can shut the world out, so it is irrelevant what is going on in the streets and green spaces near where you live.

When you are heading off to work, or going out at weekends, are

you inclined to stick in your ear buds and walk around in your own little bubble, oblivious to your surroundings? Guilty?

London is often described as a city made up of hundreds of small villages. For centuries, the village green or town marketplace was the centre of the local community; somewhere for people to meet, somewhere for people to trade. The pub and the

church were at the heart of most people's lives. Yet both of these institutions have been declining for decades; their building's façades re-purposed for new uses. Does that mean our local communities are also in decline? No, far from it. Your local area may no longer feel like a village, but there is almost certainly masses going on; although you might have to work harder to catch

***“Popping out to the local shops may be the only social contact some elderly people have all day”***

up with local gossip.

Our church halls, pubs and cafés are important venues for classes, workshops, live music and drama, and community and campaign groups, which are all contributing to your local community and local economy.

Look again at your local shops, they may not be funky coffee shops but they are still vital to a fully functioning community, for people of all ages.

Strapping the baby in the buggy and popping down to the shops or to a sing-along class can be a welcome break from the social isolation of new parenthood. Popping out to the local shops may be the only social contact some elderly people have all day. A resolution for 2019; use them or lose them. Think how sterile the area would be if they weren't there.

The new year is the perfect time to take a fresh look at what your local patch has to offer and, dare I say it, what you could offer your community. Start using online forums and the scores of flyers on community notice boards around your local area.

There is plenty of scientific evidence that being part of real social networks is good for our mental and physical wellbeing. We are living in a more uncertain world, which is being reshaped by politics, global economic and technological trends over which we have no control; perhaps putting down roots in your local patch isn't such a bad idea?

## New directions

*Jo Johnson from Love Your Doorstep recommends using local businesses to help fulfil new year's resolutions*

After months and months of work and migrating of content, the new Love Your Doorstep website has been born.

Log on to [loveyourdoorstep.co.uk](http://loveyourdoorstep.co.uk) to explore all your local services, events, jobs and more. We hope you will enjoy the new layout and features.

This time of year brings Love Your Doorstep a vast range of requests spurred on by new year's resolutions. Fortunately, we have plenty of businesses that can help with these, whether it's keeping fit, hobbies, de-cluttering, or giving up smoking; our local business directory has it all.

We have a range of fitness classes, dance classes and personal trainers to choose from, covering everything from typical training sessions to Zumba, hula dancing, and trampoline fitness. For others, a

***“There are so many wonderful places locally that can't operate without volunteers”***

new year goal might be a bit of pampering or a new hairdo – luckily we have some great hairdressers that will be happy to help.

If you're looking to plan a nice holiday for later in the year our travel agents have some great ideas for you. Or you might just want to book tickets for one of the many amazing shows coming up at one of our local theatres.

High up on the list of plans for the new year is often home improve-

ments. Sometimes it's a long list of little bits and bobs that we don't get around to sorting and need to hand over to someone else. We have whole categories of painter and decorators, handy people, and builders who can take on these jobs for you.

Another common theme is de-cluttering. Many of us use this period to have a thorough sort out of the home – in our directory we even have professional de-cluttering people who will come and assist you with clearing out your belongings, which, if you are a hoarder like me, could be a very useful service to have! Items that no longer serve a purpose could be welcomed by one of our many local charities or services. Which leads us on to another new year goal – volunteering. There are so many wonderful places locally that can't operate without our community giving up a little bit of their spare time. Whatever your goals may be for the new year, please visit our online community forum on Facebook and continue to support our community and businesses!

**For more information about Love Your Doorstep:**

**Email** [customerservice@loveyourdoorstep.co.uk](mailto:customerservice@loveyourdoorstep.co.uk)

**Visit** [loveyourdoorstep.co.uk](http://loveyourdoorstep.co.uk)



## In full colour

An artist from Palmers Green is launching a new series of workshops to help people's mental health

BY PATRICK SAMUEL

I'm an artist, composer and public speaker. I also have autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Life two years ago was very different. I wasn't coping that well; I didn't have coping

mechanisms or calming strategies in place, and as a result, I was having frequent meltdowns because of sensory overload and being overwhelmed by situations at work and at home that I couldn't manage. I was so traumatised by all of this that I eventually stopped speaking. It was then that my friend and

carer got me to try drawing as a way to express myself. He said: "If you can't speak, then draw, let the pencil do the talking." So I drew. And the next day I drew again. Gradually I wanted to talk about what I drew; about what was happening to me and the problems I had coping. This led to me wanting to share it

with others and I soon saw how much it was helping on a wider scope.

In the two years that followed I discovered my love for colour; as I moved on from drawing to painting with oil pastels, soft pastels, acrylics and oil paint. I found colour as a way to express myself more freely than I had ever done before. It was like

'Shadows of the Past' was painted by Patrick Samuel and formed part of his recent exhibition 'Passing Time' inspired by his visits to Broomfield Park

learning a new language. It was a completely different way to communicate and connect with others; something I had always struggled with.

After giving lots of talks at schools, community centres, at autism shows and conferences, and six solo exhibitions, I've been given the wonderful opportunity to run three workshops where I can share my love of colour based on the therapeutic approach I've been shown. These will be held at Dugdale Centre in Enfield and will focus on Broomfield Park, the subject of my most recent exhibition, using oil pastels with various mixing and blending mediums.

I'll be supported by my carer and staff at the Dugdale and Museum of Enfield to deliver these workshops and I'm looking forward to seeing who'll come along and share this experience with me. Let's learn to communicate with colour!

**Colour Therapy with Patrick Samuel takes place at Dugdale Centre on Saturday 26th January, 23rd February and 30th March, 1pm-3pm. The cost is £10 per session - all materials are provided. For more information:**

Visit [patricksamuel.net](http://patricksamuel.net)

## The final curtain

Warren McWilliams is directing the final show at Intimate Theatre

After the success of recent pantomimes, *Frosted* and *The Little Mermaid*, Saint Monica's Players return to the Intimate Theatre this month to perform *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*.

When her 'magic mirror' tells Snow White's stepmother that she is no longer fairest in the land, the vain, wicked Queen vows to put an end to her stepdaughter. Aided by her friends, Snow White escapes and hides with the dwarf family deep in the forest. But she is soon found and struck down by a poisoned apple. Will Snow White survive? Can true love save her? Will the Queen be fairest in the land once again?

Featuring all the traditional elements of pantomime this new show promises to warm the

hearts of children and adults alike. Featuring hit songs, spectacular dancing and great gags, *Snow White* is a fantastic family pantomime that will not disappoint. Sadly this show will be the last to be staged at the Intimate in Palmers Green as, after more than 80 years entertaining the local community, the venue faces demolition. The Intimate has a wonderful legacy and a huge place in Enfield's cultural history, but Saint Monica's Church, which owns the building, want to build flats and a new parish centre in its place and is now seeking planning permission to knock it down. Saint Monica's Players have been performing in Enfield for 60 years. We are proud to be the last

group to perform at the theatre and we intend to bring the final curtain down with a bang at our Sunday matinee, which will be an emotional final performance for us all. Our next show in June 2019 will be a performance of *Much Ado About Nothing* in the grounds of Bury Lodge Park. Auditions take place in February.

**Snow White runs from Thursday 17th January until Sunday 20th January, at 7.30pm. With 2.30pm matinees on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th. In addition, an 11am matinee on Saturday 19th will be tailored for a younger audience. For more information and to book tickets:**

Call 07708 708 062  
Email [SMPTickets@hotmail.com](mailto:SMPTickets@hotmail.com)  
Visit [smptheatre.co.uk](http://smptheatre.co.uk)



Snow White will be the final show to be performed at Intimate Theatre



# Concerted effort

## Garry Humphreys reviews two classical concerts

Nothing better illustrates the variety and quality of 'classical' music in Enfield than two recent concerts in Southgate and Palmers Green. The excellent choir of Christ Church Southgate celebrated its patronal festival in November with a foretaste of its forthcoming visit to Venice next February; a programme comprising music by Gabrieli, Lotti and Monteverdi – all associated with the Basilica di San Marco – Vivaldi, and their English contemporaries, William Byrd and Henry Purcell. They were partnered by the Bach Sinfonia, led by professional violinist Liz Partridge, who was joined in a virtuosic concerto for violin and cello by Vivaldi with the cellist Sean Turpin, who works for Enfield Music Services and is a member of the Hammig String Quartet. Christ Church Southgate may not quite match Venice's San Marco for spaciousness and acoustics

but it proved to be a worthy venue for this programme. A capacity audience enjoyed the scintillating sound of solos and duets contrasting with the full choir in massed and antiphonal music from Italy and music of an equally grand but perhaps more restrained variety by the English composers. The United Reformed Church in Palmers Green was the venue in December for the first of this season's three concerts by the North London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Robert Max. The main work was Walton's *First Symphony*, preceded by Saint-Saëns's *Fifth Piano Concerto*. The soloist was Jack Campbell, an 18-year-old who two years ago won the keyboard category of the BBC Young Musician competition. His manner is calm but he delivers the goods, and the audience gave him a rapturous reception, realising that they were perhaps witnessing the beginnings of an

illustrious international career. The orchestra is an accomplished and experienced ensemble, perfectly capable of taking in its stride one of the great British symphonies of the 20th Century. They played superbly, but unfortunately the church – a good space for music – was too small for the volume of sound generated and the brass and woodwind often overpowered the strings, which provide the continuity in this work. Therefore the highlighting by the wind sections tended to take priority and emerge as a series of disjointed outbursts – not the fault of the players! One can perhaps understand why the orchestra's other venue, St James's in Muswell Hill is, sadly for us, now used for two out of the three concerts performed by North London Symphony Orchestra each year. But these concerts attract capacity audiences and Palmers Green would be the poorer without them.

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# LISTINGS

## Submit your listing

We can include low-cost community events taking place in Enfield. For February listings, email the details of your event to [enfielddispatch@socialspider.com](mailto:enfielddispatch@socialspider.com) by Tuesday 22nd January.

## ART

### Mindful Arts Café

Monday 7th and Monday 21st January, 12.30pm–1.30pm  
Dugdale Centre, 39 London Road, Enfield EN2 6DS

Come and take part in a regular arts class in the café foyer with Art Stop. There will be easy-to-follow and therapeutic art activities allowing you to spend an hour immersed in your thoughts and the process of making in a relaxed and non-threatening environment. All materials will be provided.

**Tickets £6**

**Call** 020 8807 6680

**Visit** [dugdalecentre.co.uk](http://dugdalecentre.co.uk)

## HISTORY

### Children of Forty Hall Estate

Opens Saturday 19th January  
Forty Hall, Forty Hill, Enfield  
EN2 9HA

An exhibition portraying the experiences of children at Forty Hall through subtle displays set in the period rooms to give a fascinating glimpse into the hall's past. Throughout the centuries there have been children at Forty Hall; wealthy children have lived here and poorer children have worked here.

**Free entry**

**Call** 020 8807 6680

**Visit** [fortyhallestate.co.uk](http://fortyhallestate.co.uk)

## MUSIC

### Chickenshed Community Choir

Starts Wednesday 16th January, 6.30pm–8.30pm,  
290 Chase Side, Cockfosters N14 4PE

The Chickenshed Community Choir is a uniquely inclusive environment to develop your singing skills as part of an ensemble through a fantastic series of vocal sessions. During the workshop you will learn and help to develop vocal arrangements for a wonderful mix of songs arranged with a Chickenshed twist!

**£7.50 per session**

**Call** 020 8292 9222

**Visit** [chickenshed.org.uk](http://chickenshed.org.uk)

## CINEMA

### Talkies Cinema presents

#### 'Hell or High Water'

Friday 18th January, 7pm  
Bounds Green Bowls and Tennis Club, The Clubhouse, Brownlow Road, Bowes N11 2BS

Toby is a divorced father who's trying to make a better life for his son. His brother Tanner is an ex-convict with a short temper and a loose trigger finger. Together, they plan a series of heists against the bank that's about to foreclose on their family ranch.

**Tickets £6.50**

**Visit** [talkies.org.uk](http://talkies.org.uk)

## SHOPPING

### The Ultimate Snowdrop Sale

Saturday 26th January, 10.30am–12pm  
Myddelton House Gardens,  
Bulls Cross, Enfield EN2 9HG

The highlight of every gardening enthusiast's year is fast approaching – the annual snowdrop sale at the award-winning Myddelton House Gardens. Hundreds of snowdrop enthusiasts and keen gardeners will gather to get their hands on a rare or unusual new bulb for their garden or collection.

**Free entry**

**Call** 030 0003 0610

**Visit** [visitleevalley.org.uk/myddelton](http://visitleevalley.org.uk/myddelton)

## CHILDREN

### The Saturday Shift

Saturday 26th January, 1pm–2.30pm (5–8 years) and 3pm–4.30pm (9–12 years)  
Chickenshed Theatre, 290 Chase Side, Cockfosters N14 4PE

Join us for The Saturday Shift, a brilliant afternoon session giving a flavour of Chickenshed's children's theatre through play, performance techniques and interactive workshop games, all run using Chickenshed's unique inclusive methodology. For all children aged between five and twelve years.

**£8 entry (subsidies available)**

**Call** 020 8292 9222

**Visit** [chickenshed.org.uk](http://chickenshed.org.uk)



## AROUND THE BOROUGH

### BOWES

## Police appeal over 98-year-old man's death



Peter Gouldstone was attacked at his home in Evesham Road

POLICE ARE CONTINUING TO to appeal for information about a violent robbery, after the elderly victim of the attack died in hospital. Peter Gouldstone, 98, died on 30th November from injuries sustained in an attack in his own home. Police were called at 10am on Tuesday 6th November to Peter's address

in Evesham Road, where he was found suffering a head injury and extensive bruising to his body. A number of Peter's possessions had been taken, including a 26-inch Panasonic television, model TX-L26X10B. A £10,000 reward is on offer from charity Crimestoppers for anyone who provides information that leads to the conviction of those responsible for the attack. Detective Inspector Paul Ridley said: "I particularly want to hear from people that may have been offered the Panasonic television that was stolen, or who saw either people or vehicles in the vicinity of Evesham Road that may have appeared out of place." Call police on 101 and quote the crime reference number 2140/6NOV. Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111

### PALMERS GREEN

## Cycle lanes documentary

A FILMMAKER IS SEEKING HELP for a documentary about new cycling lanes installed along Green Lanes. Hardy Saleh's film *Sharing the A105* will look at how the cycle lanes, constructed as part of the council's 'Mini Holland' programme, have impacted the local community. It will later be submitted to the HERE Film Festival run by Talkies Community Cinema.

He said: "There has been heated debate about the benefits and drawbacks of the scheme. This film will draw on the perspectives of people in the community and invite them to ask each other burning questions so that a common understanding can be reached."

Visit [sharingthea105.co.uk](http://sharingthea105.co.uk)

### ENFIELD LOCK

## Dangerous crossing

DRIVERS HAVE BEEN WARNED not to ignore traffic lights at level crossings after it was revealed there had been 78 near misses at the Ordnance Road crossing near Enfield Lock Station in one year. "Distracted" drivers were blamed for the number of incidents at level crossings, where they risk being hit by

trains if they ignore warning lights. Richard Tew, head of safety at Network Rail, said: "There is a lack of knowledge around how dangerous railway crossings can be. We're seeing drivers take risks at level crossings every day – putting themselves and others in danger. Nothing is worth risking your life over."

### ENFIELD TOWN

## Bid to improve town centre

ENFIELD COUNCIL IS HOPING to transform Enfield Town with the help of a grant of up to £10million. The council last month submitted an "ambitious" bid for funding to Transport for London's Liveable Neighbourhoods Programme, which if successful would go towards the "large-scale" regeneration of the area.

A master-plan for the work is now being drawn up, with residents and traders being urged to contribute ideas over the next few months. Organisations such as Enfield Disability Action will also be invited to contribute to the plans.

While the regeneration could include new cycling infrastructure, it is said to be separate from the ongoing £30million 'Mini Holland' programme that has seen more than six miles of cycle lanes constructed across the borough.

Council leader Nesil Caliskan said: "This demonstrates our ongoing commitment to transform Enfield for the benefit of everyone. By working together in a constructive way, we have an opportunity to create a vibrant major town centre, while respecting the town's unique character. "Any vision for the town should be shared with local residents, the market and the traders."

Last September the council was criticised by opposition Conservative councillors for policies they claimed had contributed to a rise in the number of empty shops in Enfield Town, but their call to lower parking charges and introduce rate discounts for new retailers was rejected.

Now, the ruling Labour administration claims its "visionary" proposal would encourage walking, cycling and the wider use of public transport; encouraging more people to visit local shops and cafés.

An announcement on whether the council's funding bid is successful is due in March.

### PONDERS END

## Plans for £40m brewery approved



Beavertown's plans for its new facility in Ponders End

BEAVERTOWN BREWERY HAS BEEN given permission to build a £40million facility at Ponders End Industrial Estate, reports Simon Allin, *Local Democracy Reporter*. The development will include a brewery, office and visitor centre, but will involve knocking down part of the historic Ediswan factory, which produced lightbulbs for the Edison and Swan Electric Light Company and later became home to the UK's first radio valve and

television cathode ray tube factories. Enfield's Conservation Advisory Group (CAG) had raised concerns that the plans involved retaining only a small part of the historic factory, but following negotiations with planning officers Beavertown agreed to include more of the original building. Around 90 people will be employed at the site, but it is large enough to accommodate 200 workers if the business expands. Beavertown is

well known for its colourful cans and products such as Gamma Ray American Pale Ale and 8 Ball. The brewery started life in Hackney, before moving to Tottenham Hale. It's expansion into Enfield is being funded by beer company Heineken. The proposals were unanimously approved by Enfield Council's planning committee. Councillor Mahtab Uddin said it would bring "much-needed investment" to the area and help attract more businesses.

### EDMONTON

## Grave concerns prompt inspection

A GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR IS probing Tottenham Park Cemetery. The Ministry of Justice hired Peter Mitchell to address concerns raised about the condition, practices and management of the privately-owned and operated cemetery, which recently went into administration. Local people had complained about the way it was being managed.

Enfield Council welcomed the news. Leader Nesil Caliskan said: "Very serious concerns have been raised which have caused considerable distress and upset to families who have their loved ones buried at Tottenham Park Cemetery. It is right and proper that the Ministry of Justice has appointed an inspector so these can be addressed."



# At the top of our game

***Southgate Hockey Club is still leading the way, writes chairman Neil Murphy***

The men's team in action at Trent Park

Credit SPactionimages



Southgate Hockey Club is one of the largest, most successful hockey clubs in the country – and the club's facilities in Trent Park are some of the finest to be found anywhere in Europe.

Trent Park has been Southgate Hockey Club's home for almost 25 years but its history goes back long before that. Founded in 1886, Southgate has been at the top of the hockey pyramid ever since then. The club were European champions in 1976, 1977, and 1978. Numerous England and Great Britain players have worn the black and red of Southgate.

Indeed, the finest hour of the Great Britain men's team – winning gold at the 1988 Seoul Olympics – was built on a backbone of people from Southgate Hockey Club; including team coach, manager, captain and leading goalscorer.

Today this successful, high performance level of hockey continues with both the men's and ladies' first teams competing in the National Hockey League and junior players representing county, regional and national age-group teams.

However, Southgate is also about much more than top-level hockey. Every weekend throughout the season we field five ladies' teams and eleven men's teams all drawn from a pool of 300 senior and more than 200 junior players. These teams play at all levels of the London Hockey League, East League, and Middlesex Ladies League – competitive and friendly sport to suit all abilities and ages. The club also fields veterans' teams for over-40s, over-50s and over-60s, as well as mixed-age teams. Southgate is, and always has been, an ambitious club looking to grow and broaden its offer of hockey to lots of people. Our ethos is to develop our own talent and we have, perhaps, the strongest junior coaching set up in the region. Led by head coach John Shaw – a former GB Olympian and Southgate stalwart – the juniors have more than 200 members training on Sunday mornings and they successfully compete in regional and national leagues.

Over the next two or three seasons, we're looking for

new playing members to support additional teams in the ladies' section and to build on the strength of new teams in the various men's divisions. Club membership secretary, Michelle Joubert, says: "We are always keen to hear from anybody thinking about playing. We welcome players coming back to hockey, moving to the area, university students and people taking up the game for the first time."

Everyone at Southgate is proud of the club's facilities; few hockey clubs in the country have their own pitches and clubhouse and most depend on local schools and

council-owned pitches. At Southgate hockey is played all-year round, including the summer leagues, and training sessions take place most of nights of the week during the season. After a match there are few better places to relax and re-live the game than on the balcony of Southgate's clubhouse, while watching the next fixture taking place below. Everyone gets a game at Southgate.

**For more information about Southgate Hockey Club:**  
**Visit** [southgatehc.org.uk](http://southgatehc.org.uk)



Southgate Ladies celebrate a goal  
Credit SPactionimages



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These are challenging times for print media, with many newspapers closing and advertising revenue in decline, but our not-for-profit model offers a new approach to creating local news which is inclusive and accountable.

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