

# ENFIELD DISPATCH

Nº. 20 THE BOROUGH'S FREE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

MAY 2020

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Artwork made in tribute to key workers adorns the gates of Carterhatch Infant and Junior Schools in Carterhatch Lane, Enfield

## Hospital chief warns against 'second wave' of virus

### Housekeeper at North Mid among victims of pandemic

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

**T**he boss of North Middlesex University Hospital has thanked local residents for their support during the Covid-19 pandemic, saying staff there have worked in an “emotionally and physically taxing environment” over the past few weeks.

Maria Kane, chief executive of the NHS trust that runs the Edmon-ton hospital, said the darkest days were likely over but urged people to continue following government guidelines to help avoid a “second wave” of coronavirus infections.

Speaking to the *Dispatch*, Maria said: “At the peak we had 13 wards for patients who were Covid-19 positive, but this has come down now to eight. We have had so many people treated here who have been able to go back home and that is really positive.”

As a hospital in outer London, where Covid-19 spread faster than other areas, there was a rapid increase in admissions at the end of March, building to a peak in early April. In total there were 234 coronavirus deaths at North Mid up to the end of April.

“We were hit quite hard quite early on. It didn't end up being as bad as some predictions, but compared to our usual intensive care capacity of 18 beds, we had a surge up to 41 beds at one point. It takes a huge amount of time to provide that capacity – each bed needs access to a ventilator, oxygen piping, and a whole range of staff. “We started using side rooms but we soon ran out of space and we began to isolate different parts of the hospital, which became a huge job, on top of obtaining the PPE [personal protective equipment] we needed for infection control.”

Elective surgeries were postponed so that operating theatres could be utilised for Covid-19 patients, while visitors were banned from coming in to reduce their risk of contracting the virus.

“There is an impact on staff – they are seeing far more people

**“We were hit quite hard quite early on”**

die than they are used to seeing, it is far more intense. They are wearing kit that is quite heavy and restrictive and it becomes difficult for them logistically. It is an emotionally and physically taxing environment to work in.”

Support has come from unexpected places. Pilots and cabin crew, off work as planes were

grounded, helped set up a “first class lounge” so staff could relax on their breaks. “They can talk through any stressful situations and have a bit of down time. It is really amazing,” said Maria.

At the peak, nearly one third of North Mid's entire staff roster was signed off work, either because they were showing Covid-19 symptoms, their family members were showing symptoms, or because they were among one of the vulnerable groups being advised to self-isolate. Recently retired staff were brought back to fill gaps, while other medical professionals were retrained to meet demand.

Many NHS workers from around the country have themselves died from the disease, and Maria told the *Dispatch* that sadly North Mid was no exception. Cheryl Williams, a housekeeper at the hos-

▶ CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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Nº.20  
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## Community's pandemic response

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Efforts to provide relief to people struggling through the Covid-19 pandemic – and support key workers fighting the virus – are continuing apace in Enfield. Foodbanks and other charities have taken on the challenge of delivering groceries and essential items to those who need it, while other local organisations have found novel ways to help.

In Edmonton, creative workshop Building Bloqs has put its laser cutting tool to good use by making face visors for the NHS. Co-founder Avninder Nanray told the *Dispatch*: “When the lockdown began we couldn't stay open, but our next thought was about ways we could help.

“We reached out to a company running a hub for PPE, and now we're their main manufacturing space. We have an industrial-grade laser running up to 18 hours, seven days a week, making 500 face visors a day.”

Building Bloqs is appealing for donations for materials at [gofundme.com/jfujap6d-ppe-for-the-nhs](http://gofundme.com/jfujap6d-ppe-for-the-nhs).

The British Alevi Federation (BAF) converted its Edmonton headquarters into a distribution centre for food supplies, in co-ordination with The Felix Project. BAF boss Israfil Erbil said: “Our cycling club is helping us deliver essential items to those in need. Many of our volunteers are those who have lost their income due to the coronavirus pandemic. Nevertheless, our spirits are high and our community solidarity is shining through during these tough times.”

North Enfield Foodbank is continuing to co-ordinate the delivery of free food parcels for those facing financial hardship. Go to [northernfield.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food](http://northernfield.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food) to see which food items are most in need.

Other charities appealing for help include Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service, based at Trent Park, which needs to raise £10,000 per month to continue operating – full story on Page 14.

The Enfield Stands Together programme launched by Enfield Council in March has now distributed food packages to more than 5,000 residents, as well as 1,800 prescriptions. A partnership

between Age UK Enfield and the council's catering team at Wilbury School is enabling 11,000 hot meals to be sent to elderly residents over an eight-week period, while hundreds of phone calls are being made to check on the wellbeing of isolated people.

London Fire Brigade is assisting prescription deliveries, with Edmonton, Southgate and Carterhatch Lane stations each assigned a local pharmacy. Borough commander Steve West said: “Enfield firefighters are making sure vital medicine is getting to the most vulnerable in the borough – as well as maintaining a full emergency service.”

The Enfield Stands Together fundraising appeal has raised £21,000

### “Our spirits are high”

and continues to accept donations via [justgiving.com/crowdfunding/enfield-stands-together](http://justgiving.com/crowdfunding/enfield-stands-together). For more information go to [enfield.gov.uk/EST](http://enfield.gov.uk/EST). Meanwhile, the council is co-ordinating government financial support for small traders, with £45million-worth of business rate relief so far offered. The council says nearly two-thirds of eligible businesses in Enfield have received financial assistance direct into their bank accounts. Other available support includes a dedicated business response service; an online Enfield marketplace at [ShopAppy.com](http://ShopAppy.com), enabling firms to add online sales and home delivery to their retail offer; plus agreements to waive rent for some commercial tenants – representing a £1.5m subsidy. For more information go to [enfield.gov.uk/covid19businesses](http://enfield.gov.uk/covid19businesses).



#### ► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

pital for eleven years, died last month after contracting coronavirus. “We are devastated,” said Maria. “It is heartbreaking for us all.”

The battle to obtain the required amount of PPE has been a focus of government criticism during the pandemic. Maria said she was not aware of any staff at North Mid being forced to wear improvised equipment while on the job, as has been seen at some hospitals. “I will be honest and say the sup-

ply chain was quite sticky at the start, and we weren't sure what was coming in, but in the last few weeks it has really got better. We have always been able to adhere to the guidelines [for wearing PPE].”

Another issue has been testing capacity. At the end of April a drive-through testing facility for key workers was opened at Lee Valley Athletics Centre in Pickett's Lock. For staff at North Mid, a testing centre is operating from Tottenham Hotspur Stadium – which has also hosted temporary antenatal services, including

ultrasounds, to help pregnant women avoid hospital.

Is Maria confident the worst is now over? “We have to be prepared for a potential second wave,” she warned. “This is such a new phenomenon. We are learning all the time about how to treat it, and we are participating in a major research programme.

“The support and the good wishes we have received have been really heart-warming. The best thing people can do now is continue to stay at home – it is about short-term pain for long-term gain.”

## Care worker

BY SIMON ALLIN,  
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

Tributes have been paid to a “gentle, caring and kind-hearted” care worker who died after contracting Covid-19.

Sonya Kaygan, who was 26, died on Friday 17th April, leaving behind a three-year-old daughter. She cared for residents at Elizabeth Lodge Care Home in Pennington Drive, Winchmore Hill.

A fundraiser set up by relatives to help pay her funeral costs and care for her daughter has raised more than £20,000. Writing on the GoFundMe page, cousin Sherrihan Afifi described Sonya as “a gentle, caring and kind-hearted soul” who “gave her life to protecting and caring for the most vulnerable”.

To donate to the family's fund go to [gofundme.com/f/care-worker-sonya-kaygan-26-loses-covid19-battle](http://gofundme.com/f/care-worker-sonya-kaygan-26-loses-covid19-battle).

## Incinerator vow

North London Waste Authority (NLWA) has rejected demands by Extinction Rebellion to drop plans for a new £1.2billion incinerator in Edmonton. Enfield Council and the six other local authorities that make up NLWA reaffirmed their “complete support” for a new waste-burning plant to replace the ageing Edmonton incinerator – claiming a delay would “undermine efforts to tackle the climate emergency”.

NLWA claims a new incinerator would prevent “hugely environmentally-damaging increases in landfill use” and generate heat and power for 127,000 local homes. The project was approved in 2017 but construction has yet to begin.

## Clarendon call

The oldest extant structure on the New River is set to get a makeover – potentially allowing public access for the first time in years.

Historic England and Enfield Society have been lobbying to restore the Grade 2-listed Clarendon Arch, a 17th Century tunnel carrying the New River over Salmon's Brook at Bush Hill. Thames Water has now agreed to carry out essential maintenance to a damaged viewing area, while Enfield Society says it is “willing to act as a keyholder and provide access for organised visits”.





# Feryal Clark MP

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I know that many constituents remain anxious about the uncertainty the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about. It's been truly heartening to see our local community's response to this national emergency. Individuals and organisations across Enfield North have pulled together to help to ensure that everybody is supported during this difficult period and I know that this will continue.

Our local NHS, care workers, Enfield Council team, and front line key workers have been doing an exceptional job in helping us all to meet the challenges this virus has caused.

I'd like to thank everyone who has been following the strict public health restrictions in place and would urge local residents to continue to follow the very latest advice.

**Together, we can beat this virus and save lives.**

## USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Enfield Council	020 8379 1000
Enfield Stands Together	020 3821 1966
HMRC	0800 015 9559
Universal Credit	0800 328 5644
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
UK Visas & Immigration	0300 123 2241
Citizens Advice	0300 330 1167
Age UK Enfield	020 8375 4120
Felix Project (Food Bank)	020 7018 3740
Step Change Debt Advice	0300 303 5300
School Closures	0800 046 8687

Enfield Council Updates  
**enfield.gov.uk**

UK Government Updates  
**gov.uk/coronavirus**

**STAY AT HOME**

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## Gardening tips this spring

*Richard Harmes, head gardener at Myddelton House Gardens, shares his seasonal advice*



Myddelton House Gardens boasts 3.25 hectares of landscaped grounds in Bulls Cross, Enfield

**C**ombine singing birds with spring blossom and signs of new life in both flora and fauna, and we have the recipe for a renewed sense of wellbeing and purpose – something needed so much right now.

Gardening and working with plants is said to boost productivity and creativity, and reduce fatigue and stress, so it's the perfect activity to help boost your wellbeing during the current lockdown. It is also something the whole family can do together and is educational for the children.

For me, the joy of gardening derives from being outside and being with nature. The work isn't easy and more often than not is physically demanding. However, when you're digging over a bed, the sense of hard work is often overridden by the surroundings you find yourself in. You never feel as if you're alone in a garden – there will always be a robin or blackbird happy to give you company in return for the opportunity to feast on those worms you are kindly popping to the surface for them as you turn the soil!

Spring really sets the tone for the growing year ahead and, weather permitting, there's an endless list of tasks to be tackled. Roses of all kinds can all be pruned now, as can

buddleias, lavender and winter flowering shrubs. The list for spring pruning is very extensive and it's always worth looking them up if you're not sure. This is also a good time, as the soil warms, to lift and divide those herbaceous plants that have become overcrowded. Asters in particular should be divided regularly to get the best out of them.

During late spring, things really start to speed up here at Myddelton House Gardens, and in gardens across the country, too. It's a good idea to stake taller plants before they get too tall and topple. Mowing will likely be a weekly task. Early May is a good time to scarify those lawns to get rid of moss and control thatch. A good lawn feed now will reward you throughout the summer, and give lawns a better chance of recovering from possible drought.

Nurseries and garden centres are currently closed to the public, but many – including some in Enfield – are offering home delivery services.

Gardening is such a rewarding vocation, as the results are so visible. There is no better feeling than watching something you have grown with your own hands flourish and thrive in the area of the garden you carefully selected for it. It is no wonder horticulture is now a recognised form of therapy. In fact, research shows the health benefits of gardening are quite incredible!

**Garden centres currently offering deliveries include Springtime Nurseries and Wolden Garden Centre in Crews Hill. Find your nearest via the Horticultural Trades Association:**

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

## Grants for community projects

**Laura Spencer from Enfield Connections meets the latest winners of its grant funding programme**

**T**he latest round of 'Community Chest' grants have been issued by Enfield Connections to eight local projects, totalling £15,000.

Applicants could apply for grants supporting small projects that would benefit the local community and improve residents' wellbeing.

Among the winners was Alison Buttery, from Boundary House Surgery, who will be using her grant to invest in early-cropping fruit and vegetables. She told me: "This project aims to improve the health of patients by reducing glucose levels in people with type 2 diabetes, and improving weight in general for obese patients. "I hope this project will gain support among all Enfield GP practices and they will then undertake similar projects in the future."

Another was the British Alevi Federation, which will deliver four health and wellbeing sessions. Kishore Kanani, a volunteer with the charity,

said: "Alevi, Turkish and Kurdish-speaking community members suffer silently when going through depression, anxiety, isolation, menopause and health crises, because they do not use mainstream services due to a lack of knowledge or support.

"Through this project we aim to increase their knowledge, enabling them to be better informed and supporting them to begin using mainstream services."

Enfield Town FC Community Sports Development, which will offer physical activities to vulnerable adults and children, is also a Community Chest recipient. Director Ramadan Ismail said the organisation was "delighted to be recognised for funding" and that it would "assist us during the start-up and publicity period" before the newly-formed charity became established. It aims to become a local sporting hub.

It's My Move is an interactive theatre and training programme

which focuses on the transition of young people with learning difficulties from school to adult life. It provides crucial information and advice which young adults can use to make informed, independent decisions about their futures. The project is being run by Edmonton-based Face Front Theatre, which will use the new funding to tour its theatre show across Enfield, with a company of professional performers and facilitators, starting in October. Artistic director Ray Downing said: "We are chuffed to receive this support as we know how hard it is to find funding in the current climate. We hope to show It's My Move every year in Enfield schools and colleges."

Forest Road Surgery was delighted to receive Community Chest funding, with Janice Downing explaining how the money will benefit their 'Movement to Music' class. She said: "Our class is a gentle

exercise and movement-to-music session, aimed at helping patients recovering from strokes, operations, Parkinson's disease etc."

All these local initiatives will be able to strengthen their work in the community thanks to the funding from Enfield Connections. Programme manager Angela Greaves said: "We received such

a diverse mix of applications this year, all aiming to improve wellbeing in Enfield. We're lucky to have such a range of ideas, and so many passionate, willing people on board to help improve Enfield's mental health and happiness.

"I'm excited to see how each project develops over the coming year, and how the borough will benefit."



Angela Greaves from Enfield Connections with Israfil Erbil, chief executive of the British Alevi Federation



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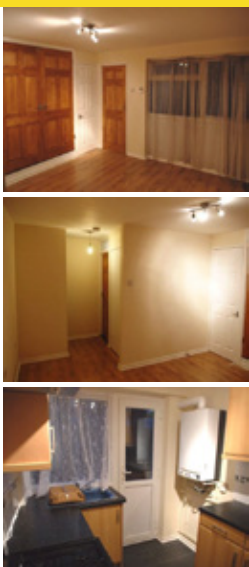
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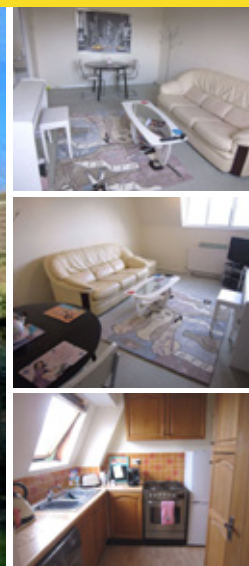
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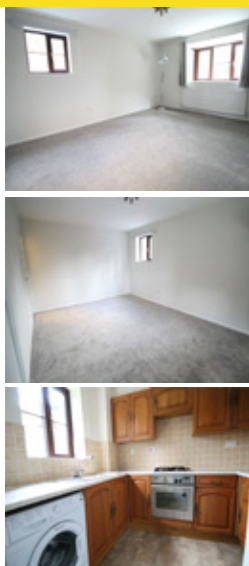


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## Progress continues at £6billion housing scheme

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

**P**lans for Meridian Water are continuing to make progress with thousands more homes winning approval, a new jobs strategy being agreed, and a big American firm signing up to work with Enfield Council.

Two major planning applications for the £6billion housing scheme – on disused industrial land in Edmonton – were granted planning permission at a council meeting controversially held in private. It means work on developing the scheme can continue despite the ongoing pandemic, with planners and developers optimistic they can avoid further delays to the scheme's progress.

Obtaining permission for the latest phase of housing, with another 2,300 homes now ready to go ahead, plus major infrastructure work that will connect up the sprawling site, means the council can continue to strike new deals with development partners. The authority took overall control of the project in 2018 after two previous deals with potential master developers went sour, but the

council still needs to work with private contractors. The latest deal agreed is with American firm Jacobs, brought in last month to advise on environmental, land and water catchment services.

Donald Morrison, a senior vice president at the Texan company, said: "Enfield Council has a clear vision to create a truly special new part of London – a place for people and businesses to thrive in an environment which welcomes

surrounding communities.

"This is an exciting opportunity to support Enfield in devising smart, connected employment space, housing, park and public areas that are more responsive to the needs of the community."

The council has been criticised, however, for debating two major planning applications behind closed doors. The decision to go ahead with the planning committee meeting came despite scores of other council

meetings being cancelled.

Before the March committee a council spokesperson explained the public were being excluded "to protect officers and members that must attend these meetings" while "anyone that has a right to speak will, as an alternative, be invited to make written submissions". An audio recording has since been made available on the council website and, following criticism, the April planning committee was held online via Microsoft Teams to allow people to watch and take part virtually.

One of the applications approved at the private meeting was the largest ever submitted by the council. It will see the creation of a "vibrant riverside community" as 2,300 homes are built over the next decade, including 920 'affordable' homes – 40% of the total – as well as student rooms, a hotel, shops, offices, and a primary school. The second approved application, for supporting infrastructure, includes several connecting roads and bridges, flood alleviation work, plus the creation of a new green space called 'Brooks Park' adjacent to Pymmes Brook.

But committee member Mike Rye criticised the scheme's affordable housing provision, pointing out the 40% allocation was below the council's own 50% target. Objectors against the two applications included Thames Water, concerned about the capacity of the existing sewers, while the council is also seeking to use compulsory purchase powers to buy up disused land owned by the water company within the application area. Other objections came from Ikea (flooding concerns), Sport England (concerns over lack of sporting provision), and the Metropolitan Police (concerns over crime).

Meanwhile, a new employment strategy has also been agreed, at a cabinet meeting held shortly before the government lockdown. It will see the creation of 6,000 permanent roles, all paying at least London Living Wage. Council leader Nesil Caliskan said: "We want to create a mix of employment on the site by generating high-quality, well-paid jobs."

"Meridian Water is an aspirational project that will transform the lives of thousands of local people for the better through providing secure employment."

A new construction skills academy is also set to be built later this year, to train local people, provide on-site work experience, and host visits from local schools and colleges – with a target of 25% of all construction jobs going to local people.



## Speed cameras operational

BY SIMON ALLIN,  
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

**A**verage speed cameras on the A10 are up-and-running, with police operations to stop dangerous driving set to continue "for the foreseeable future".

Transport for London (TfL) confirmed the new camera system – installed after lobbying from residents, councillors and road safety campaigners – is now operational. It's hoped the cameras will put a stop to street racing and other dangerous driving on the road, which runs from north to south through Enfield borough.

Average speed cameras can catch law-breakers even if they are out of range, by measuring speed across whole stretches of road. TfL's chief safety, health and environment officer Lilli Matson said: "We're determined to tackle the danger caused by speeding, in line with our 'Vision Zero' commitment to eliminate death and serious injury from London's roads, and have been

working closely with Enfield Council and the Metropolitan Police to solve issues on the A10 for some time.

"We've installed a new average speed camera system along the A10, which is now operational, and we'd like to remind drivers that speeding is never acceptable, particularly during this time of national emergency."

A Metropolitan Police crackdown on dangerous driving on the A10 that began in May last year has led to dozens of arrests and hundreds of drivers reported for excessive speeds. Superintendent Andy Cox, of the Met's roads and traffic policing command, said: "Beyond operational use of average speed cameras on the A10, the policing operation will continue for the foreseeable future, targeting dangerous drivers and promoting effective road safety."

The news was welcomed by one local councillor, who has lobbied hard for the

cameras to be installed. James Hockney, a Conservative member for Bush Hill Park, set up a petition calling for average speed cameras. He said he was "over the moon" after hearing they were operational and added: "Speeding on the A10 has affected many residents for years with noise pollution and sadly we have seen the loss of life. Residents have lived in fear after a series of drivers losing control and ploughing into their front gardens. Hopefully with this joint action we can finally address much of the road safety issues on the A10."

In March, a man was jailed in relation to an A10 traffic collision in which

his girlfriend was killed. Jordan Moore, 27, of Dickenson Close in Edmonton, was sentenced at Wood Green Crown Court to ten months imprisonment and disqualified from driving for nearly three years. Ariola Hoxhaj, aged 26 from Enfield, was declared

***"Speeding and especially racing on the A10 has affected many residents for years"***



dead at the scene of where her car hit a tree in November 2018. She and Moore were both driving Mercedes cars on the A10 near Carterhatch Lane, in breach of the 40mph speed limit. Moore was found not guilty of causing her death but was convicted for dangerous driving.





Love Your Doorstep has been running a community network connecting scores of local volunteers with vulnerable people

## Enfield's spirit has shone through

*Georgie Charkham from Love Your Doorstep on how the community has responded to a global pandemic*

**T**here's been so much going on over the last month; I really hope you're all keeping safe and managing okay in these strange times. But out of bad situations come good things and this couldn't be truer for Enfield.

We had already seen the borough's community spirit on our Love Your Doorstep platform over the last nine years. Now, through the adversity of the Covid-19 pandemic, we have seen another level of togetherness.

It is simply overwhelming to see the kindness that's all around us, with small and large gestures by local people, local businesses and whole streets. It wouldn't be possi-

ble to thank all of these individuals that have made a difference, but we can wholeheartedly say that Enfield is an exceptionally special place because of the great people in it!

Running a community group, we have to try and foresee future issues, and prior to the lockdown we were busy anticipating how things may go and the potential impact on the vulnerable and elderly in our community. Our founder, Emma Rigby, quickly established a network of relevant people and businesses, including local faith groups, catering businesses, charities, and local food providers. A system was set up so that those in need could reach out for help,

along with a volunteer appeal and crowdfunding page to support the effort. The measures that we put in place early meant we were able to help so many people, from cooking meals for the NHS and care home staff, to collecting prescriptions and

***"It is simply overwhelming to see the kindness that's all around us"***

delivering food to those that can't leave their homes. If you'd like to help you can make a donation via our GoFundMe page at [uk.gofundme.com/f/enfield-coronavirus-fund](https://uk.gofundme.com/f/enfield-coronavirus-fund), or you

can simply visit our website and search 'Enfield Coronavirus Fund'. None of us yet have a clear idea of when the lockdown will end, so we will continue our efforts to support all those that need it, for as long as they need it.

Finally, to keep our community thriving and as strong as it is, we need to all be supporting our local small businesses, who right now may really be struggling to keep afloat and continue trading. Love Your Doorstep was set up in 2011 to get people using local goods and services and keep money local, to improve the resilience and strength of our community. We still have the same passion for this goal that

we did on day one.

We urge you to help your local traders. If you've used a local business, please write them a review, share or comment on their posts, buy a voucher if they aren't open, shop with them more if they are, or book in some future work – just support them any way you can. These small businesses need us now more than ever. Please browse our directory of local goods and services and then get shopping!

**For more information about Love Your Doorstep and to get involved:**

**Email** [hello@loveyourdoorstep.co.uk](mailto:hello@loveyourdoorstep.co.uk)  
**Facebook** [facebook.com/loveyourdoorstepEnfield](https://facebook.com/loveyourdoorstepEnfield)  
**Twitter** @LoveUrdoorstep  
**Visit** [loveyourdoorstep.co.uk](https://loveyourdoorstep.co.uk)



Chase Farm Hospital is set to become a centre for orthopaedic surgeries in North London



## We need a Chase Farm bus review

*Enfield Over 50s Forum president Monty Meth on why a direct bus to the hospital from Oakwood Station is now essential*

I know that the coronavirus crisis is uppermost in everyone's mind at the moment, but there will be life after Covid-19 and there will be problems that still need solving post-pandemic.

Chase Farm Hospital is being upgraded into one of the two major hip and knee repair and replacement surgery centres in London. By this time next year, it will be one of the most digitally-advanced hospitals in the country, with dedicated operating theatres and beds for overnight stays, and expects to have between 400 and 700 more orthopaedic patients.

Chase Farm will be meeting a growing demand from an increasingly elderly population for surgery to hips, knees, shoulders, elbows, feet, ankles and hands. There will be many more patients and visitors travelling from all parts of North Central London, the NHS region it serves, with its 1.6 million population.

In a booklet outlining these planned changes, North London Partners in Health and Care, a partnership of 28 health and social care organisations,

admits: "There may be disadvantages for some people. Some patients may have to travel further on the day of their operation. Visitors may have to travel further."

At Enfield Over 50s Forum, we believe this is nowhere near good enough. We think that London mayor Sadiq Khan, as chair of Transport for London (TfL), should now be instructing TfL executives to update their route plans to Chase Farm, to reduce the discomfort and pain currently being experienced by patients while travelling for surgery.

We have long argued that the most efficient public transport service to Chase Farm from anywhere in London is via the Piccadilly Line; Oakwood Station, 2.5 miles away, is step-free. But there are no direct buses to the hospital from Oakwood and, instead, rail users need to get a bus to Enfield Town, walk to London Road, and catch the W8. We are calling for a new re-routed bus direct to the hospital.

Forum member Nicola McDowell initiated a petition some years ago for such a bus, which fell on deaf

ears. This has become more urgent, as Chase Farm now receives many patients from north-west London. TfL persists in suggesting patients, who may have already travelled for an hour or more, alight at Southgate Station and take a W9 bus to the hospital, a 34-minute journey involving 22 bus stops. It also advises patients from places such as Kentish Town and Gospel Oak to use Great Northern services to Gordon Hill, where there are steps to negotiate and no lift, before taking a bus to Chase Farm.

Natalie Forrest, the Chase Farm chief executive, has met with forum officers and promised full support for a renewed approach to TfL, asking to review its outdated public transport advice to access the hospital. We will be urging the NHS, as part of its equalities impact assessment, to place much greater emphasis on securing a public transport service to match its promise that the changes will lead to a "significant improvement" in patient care. You can add your voice by writing to *Freepost NLP Orth Consultation* (no need for a stamp).

## Helping the community

*In our latest councillor's column, Haselbury ward member Saray Karakus explains how she's helped vulnerable residents*

I am lucky to live in Haselbury ward, where I also have the pleasure of serving as a local councillor.

As elected representatives of the local community, councillors are entrusted with making decisions on issues that affect the area. But the coronavirus pandemic has made life extremely difficult for many – we have to take it seriously and do all we can to prevent the spread of the virus. Our crucial role, in this period, is community engagement.

I know that while some of my fellow councillors have not been able to get out in the community, they have been providing help from their homes. We have had to cancel face-to-face surgeries for the time being, but we are staying alert to all the issues. It is very upsetting and heartbreaking to see that we are losing lives every single day.

I know that staying home means saving lives, but some of us do need to get out there to save more lives. I have been delivering food parcels to Haselbury residents from both the council-run 'Enfield Stands Together' support hub and also the British Alevis Federation's own foodbank service.

I have had unique experiences all over Enfield, but particularly one in Haselbury where an elderly man aged in his 80s had been without food for days and asked me to stay a little longer at his doorstep to talk to him. He told me that living without food can make him unwell "but feeling lonely can kill me".

Self-isolated vulnerable groups are protecting themselves from the virus, but are unable to protect themselves from loneliness. These individuals cannot use the internet or smartphones, so the only way to maintain and improve their self-esteem and wellbeing is for people to call them regularly on their landline. Both of the hubs that I'm volunteering

at have lists of people who need calling, and they have been receiving more each day.

In addition to this, I am also registered with the NHS, volunteering to deliver medicines from pharmacies, driving patients to appointments, and I believe everyone is doing their bit as much as they can at this difficult time, depending on their health and their circumstances.

I believe we all can do small things with great love.

**Saray Karakus is a councillor for Haselbury ward, alongside Mustafa Cetinkaya and George Savva (all Labour):**

**Call** 07971 614 328

**Email** [cllr.saray.karakus@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.saray.karakus@enfield.gov.uk)

Cllr Karakus was elected in 2018





A tower block in Gordon Hill



## Tower residents depend on public parks

Gordon Hill resident Paige Ballmi fears for tower block residents lacking their own private outdoor space

Living in a tower block has its ups and downs, but during this lockdown it's been nothing but downs. I consider myself lucky to live next to an amazing green space which I'm sure has been a god-send for many of us during the lockdown began. It's all I currently have as an escape from being stuck between these four walls all day long. As an introvert, it's never really bothered me having to stay home, yet there is only so much I can endure while living with the extrovert that is my husband! Especially since the sunshine started to appear.

Our private outdoor space is confined to a very tiny second-floor balcony, with a view overlooking the roof of a garage building and facing another tower block – it prevents us from seeing much daylight. We tried our best to make the most of the nearby outside spaces over Easter weekend, but it was extremely difficult to relax. Questions crossed my mind, such as whether people were

**"Those not fortunate enough to have access to outside space will need to know what other options there are"**

judging us for being outside, and whether anyone would try to challenge us and force us to go home. It felt really uncomfortable and unfair that we should feel like this, considering we don't have any freedom right now because of the lack of space we have at home. I feel for those who have even less than we do – I am sure we share the jealousy towards anyone with a garden! Of course I am happy to do what I can right now to make sure I comply with the government guidelines, and protect our NHS, but the longer this goes on those who are not fortunate enough to have access to outside space will need to know what other options there are. We ask not to be forgotten about. It's extremely vital for our mental health.

Advertisement

Your Enfield and Tottenham Slimming World groups are now virtual



that  
Slimming  
World  
feeling!

You can find details of your nearest consultant at: [slimmingworld.co.uk](http://slimmingworld.co.uk)

# LETTERS

## Send us your letters

Got an opinion on something in Enfield? We accept letters of up to 150 words from people and organisations in the borough. Email [EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com](mailto:EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com) before the next deadline on **Tuesday 19th May**.

## Incinerator review

Dear Enfield Dispatch

The April edition of the *Dispatch* highlighted the case for and against the proposed new Edmonton incinerator. Public health, currently the world's primary focus, is highlighted both through its adverse effects on air quality and more widely by its significant carbon footprint, impacting climate change.

It is proposed at a size difficult to justify on the available data, as the incinerator's reach in terms of waste type and geographical catchment repeatedly expands. The original supporting waste forecasts look ever more inflated – and wrong.

Two generations-worth of substantial, locked in, carbon production – during a climate emergency – is a massive gamble. In May 2015 it was stated that it was not practical to undertake climate change analysis on alternatives. We are now in a very different world, one where such an approach carries no credibility; climate change and public health now guide decisions, morally and often legally.

Enfield Council, as the incinerator site host, cannot simply pass this one by. A review is entirely appropriate.

Karl Brown  
Palmer's Green

## Help renters

Dear Enfield Dispatch

It has been welcome to see all court proceedings relating to housing possession suspended. However, many Londoners are asking what will happen after this period. A significant number of renters have already fallen into financial hardship and are unable to cover the costs of living. It is inevitable that leaving tenants to negotiate the repayment of any rent arrears with their landlords and agencies, without adequate support, will lead to widespread cases of unfair and unregulated disputes.

To prevent this from happening, the chancellor should proportionately increase local housing allowance and statutory sick pay to cover average London rents. We could sadly be facing a flood of evictions in the autumn. Let's stop that from happening.

Joanne McCartney  
London Assembly member for Enfield

## This scheme is a towering mess

Dear Enfield Dispatch

The developers of Colosseum Retail Park (*Huge homes plan includes Enfield's tallest tower*, Issue 19, Page 4) claim that "the designs have been shaped by feedback from hundreds of residents". They appear to be being economical with the truth in making this claim. I attended one of their exhibitions in July last year, and when I expressed surprise that the tallest tower would now be 29 storeys high, one of the NEAT Developments team told me that this "was in response to feedback". I was rather taken aback by the suggestion that residents were demanding a tower of this height and asked where this feedback came from. "It came from the council," was the reply.

It is difficult to believe that any council that cares for the wellbeing of its residents would build a development like this, given what we know about the impact of high-rise living. In 2013, Policy Exchange published the outcomes of research that found that, even with socio-economic background taken into account, children living in high-rise accommodation suffer more from hyperactivity, hostility and juvenile delinquency. They concluded that high crime rates, anti-social behaviour, poor health, low educational achievement and safety problems could be solved by demolishing tower blocks and moving to low-rise living.

The developers will doubtless claim that their plans for landscaped external areas, along with on-site shops, will ameliorate such concerns about high-rise, high-density living. But don't forget, when Broadwater Farm in Tottenham was first built, that too was advertised with trendy shops and smart-looking 30-somethings chatting and shopping, just as the NEAT 'visualisations' do now. And look how well that turned out.

Linda Miller  
Enfield Town Residents Association



# Seek help when you need it

*Emma Friddin from Healthwatch Enfield encourages people to get care for all non-coronavirus health problems*

Credit: NHS England



We are all mindful of the current pressure our NHS is under. So knowing what to do when we, our families and friends are unwell with non-coronavirus symptoms is something we need to talk about. If you have general health problems or concerns, it is really

important that you continue to seek medical advice when you need it. And remember, in a life-threatening emergency, you should still call 999.

People are still getting unwell and are still having accidents. Our NHS is working hard to operate as 'normal' and is doing every-

thing it can to continue to keep you safe. Doctor's surgeries are still open, with most offering telephone or video consultations to ensure that you are able to get the care you need and stay safe. If you have a problem that you usually would have seen your GP about, give them a call.

In addition, pharmacies are open and operating with social distancing rules to continue to give you information and advice in a safe environment. Consider contacting services by emailing them or going on their website if you can, if you can't get through on the phone.

NHS 111 has a great online service where you can get information and help without even phoning them; but if you want to phone you can use 111 at any time of the day. Ambulance services and A&E units are still operating and will continue to provide you

with emergency care. In order to keep services safe, there may be changes to where you need to go to receive emergency care – the best way to keep updated is to check your local hospital's website before you visit.

On our website we have brought together lots of well-researched information into one place, so you don't have to go hunting around the internet yourself. You will also find information there on how to get practical help from Enfield Council's 'Enfield Stands Together' network. They offer prescription collection and food deliveries for vulnerable people, and even run a befriending service so you can have a regular social chat on the phone with a volunteer while you can't get out. If you don't have access to the internet, then you can call them on 0203 821 1966 for help.

If you are struggling for entertainment or exercise, our website even has links for those things too. There are some great home-based workouts and advice and activities for keeping on top of your mental health and wellbeing. There's even links to go on virtual tours of museums and theme parks around the world, and plenty for the kids too.

Please do continue following government guidance and keep an eye on our website and social media streams for the latest updates. If we all look out for each other, we will get through this together.

**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)

**healthwatch**  
Enfield

Advertisement

## Coronavirus Looking out for each other

You must stay at home, but there are ways to provide essential support to vulnerable people who are in isolation.

### How you can help:

- phone or keep in touch on social media
- pick up food for others
- pick up medicines



**NHS**

North Middlesex  
University Hospital  
NHS Trust

### LICENSING ACT 2003

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE/CLUB PREMISES CERTIFICATE

Notice is hereby given that **ENFIELD BREWERY LIMITED** has applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Enfield for a Premises Licence Certificate to permit: Sale of alcohol on and off premises **Monday to Sunday 08:00–22:00** at: **Enfield Brewery Limited, situated at 17A Eley Road, London, N18 3BB.**

The public register where applications are available to be viewed by members of the public can be accessed online by visiting <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/business-and-licensing> and following the link to the Licensing Register. Email [licensing@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@enfield.gov.uk) to request a copy of the application within 28 days from the date of this notice.

Any person wishing to submit relevant representations concerning this application must give notice by emailing [licensing@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@enfield.gov.uk), giving in detail the grounds of the representation no later than: **20/05/2020.**

Representations received by post will not be accepted during the Covid-19 emergency period.

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Authorities Sub Committee and will therefore pass into the public domain.

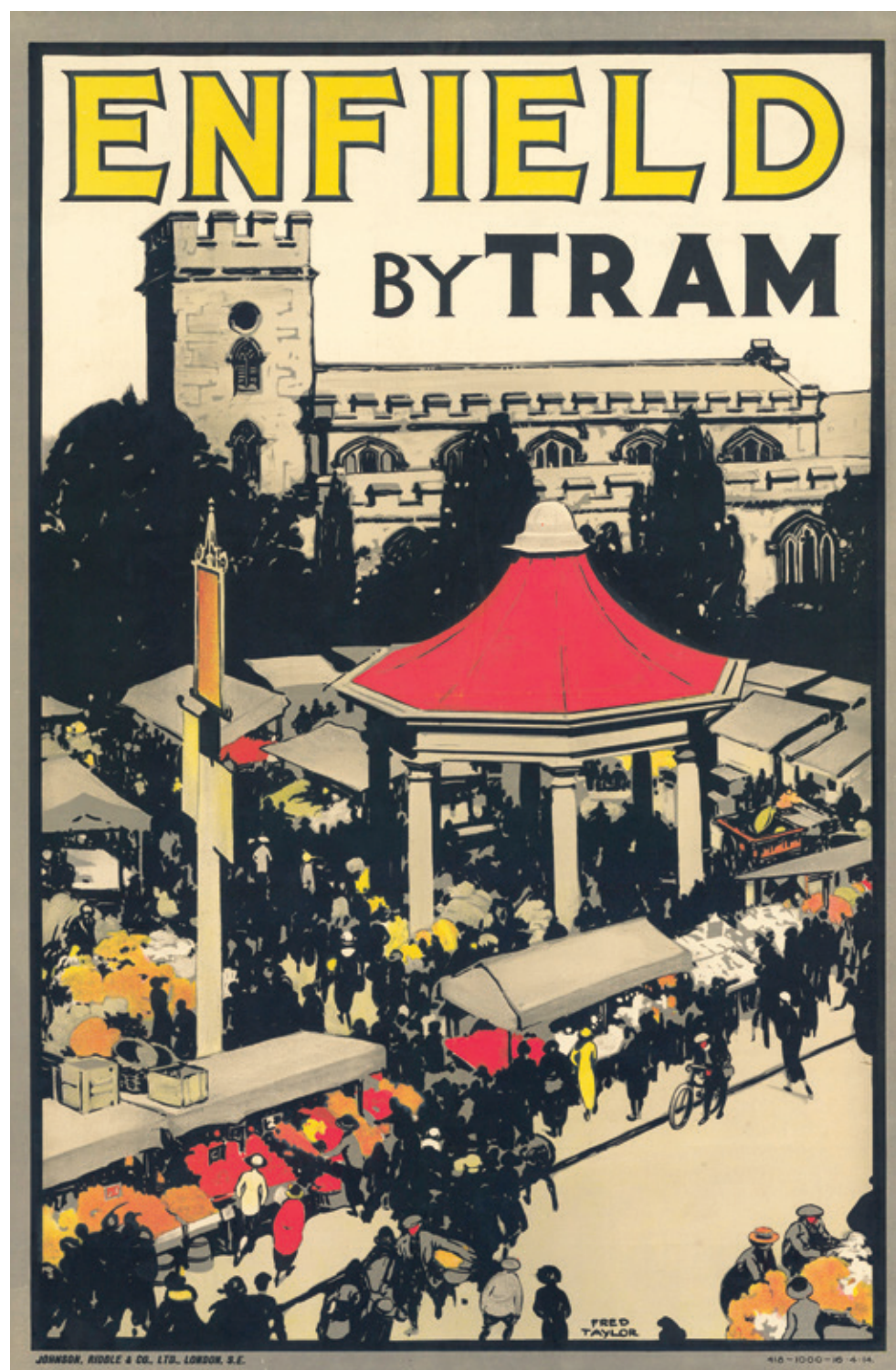
Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application for a premises licence. A person guilty of an offence is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level five on the standard scale.

**Dated: 23rd day of April 2020**



## When trams led the way



An 'Enfield By Tram' poster dating from 1914, created by Fred Taylor and currently part of London Transport Museum's collection Copyright Transport for London

### Enfield Society chair Dave Cockle recounts the history of the borough's tram services

**D**id you know that Enfield was once served by a number of tramways, spanning more than half-a-century?

The first of these tram routes to be introduced was a horse-drawn service from Edmonton, running southwards along Hertford Road to the boundary

with Tottenham. Opening in April 1881, it was run by the North London Suburban Tramway Company and operated from a depot in Edmonton at Tramway Avenue.

This tramway had been extended to Stamford Hill and Ponders End by June 1882. A branch running to Finsbury Park along Seven Sisters Road was quick to follow, taking people further towards the centre of London.

Steam power was introduced in 1885. This was not only unsuccessful in practice, because of the heavy wear on the tracks, but it also bankrupted the original company. North Metropolitan Tramway Company (NMTC) took over in 1891, switching back to horse trams and abandoning the route north of Tramway Avenue.

In 1901 the Metropolitan Electric Tram-

ways (MET) acquired a controlling interest in NMTC. The tramway was electrified as far as Tramway Avenue in 1905, before extending north along Hertford Road – first to a temporary terminus at Enfield Wash in 1907, then to Waltham Cross in 1908. The depot at Tramway Avenue was rebuilt for electric trams in 1904. It was enlarged in 1907, with the capacity to accommodate 60 trams.

The second tramway to arrive was the route from Wood Green along Green Lanes. It eventually reached Palmers Green in June 1907, Winchmore Hill in June 1908, and was completed all the way to Enfield Town in 1909. It is the tramway that was responsible for the current alignment of the main road between Winchmore Hill and Enfield; the more direct route is via Bush Hill and this was the original main road, but there was insufficient space to provide the statutory 50 feet width carriageway for tramways, where Bush Hill crosses Salmons Brook at the historic Clarendon Arch. A new road, Ridge Avenue, was therefore constructed instead, swinging east and joining up with the southern half of Village Road. The new main road used the western half of Park Avenue to link up to London Road.

The last tramway to arrive in the borough ran along Southbury Road, from Ponders End to Enfield Town, just east of Enfield Town Station. This opened in February 1911. Predominately running as a shuttle service, in the peak period some trams ran through to Liverpool Street. Plans were afoot to join it up with the Wood Green tramway at Enfield Town; track work for the link was laid out, but because of the narrow entrance to Southbury Road from The Town, and difficulties widening the road at this point, the link was abandoned.

The early trams did not have route numbers but merely displayed their destination. MET began to give its trams route numbers in 1912. Just skirting the south-west part of the borough at New Southgate was tram route 21 from Holborn to North Finchley. This ran along Bounds Green Road. MET joined up with the London County Council (LCC) tram-

***“Some of the tramway journey times were impressive by today’s standards”***

ways at Stamford Hill in 1906/7 and, in March 1913, they started through-running with the 59 service from Edmonton Town Hall to Holborn, followed in June by the 79 from Waltham Cross to Smithfield.

The 49 from Edmonton Town Hall to Liverpool Street started in June 1920, using LCC trams. The Ponders End to Enfield Town shuttle was given the route number 49A.

A 1937 tram map shows that the 27 to Euston had been extended to Edmonton Town Hall and the 59 to Waltham Cross. Over on the western side of the borough, the 29 route ran from Enfield Town down to Finsbury Park, and then along the Seven Sisters Road to Euston.

In July 1933, London Passenger Transport Board took over the running of all London tramways, making a policy decision to convert the majority of the system to trolley-buses. The last tram along Green Lanes to Enfield Town ran in May 1938. Edmonton soon followed with their trams ceasing in October 1938. The Ponders End shuttle was withdrawn at the same time, being replaced by a bus service.

Some of the tramway journey times were impressive by today’s standards. The Enfield Town to Ponders End tram took just six minutes end-to-end, but then there was no Great Cambridge Road to cross in the early days! Just one old penny was the fare for the journey.

Today, trams have made something of a comeback in several major British cities, with Birmingham, Blackpool, Edinburgh, Nottingham and Sheffield all having regular tram services. They have even returned in London – but so far only in Croydon, Bromley, Sutton and Merton.

The 49A 'shuttle' tram service between Ponders End and Enfield Town began service in 1911





## The show goes online

*Susan Jamson on how a new series of Chickenshed Theatre performances can now be enjoyed online*



Chickenshed's spring production of 'Waiting for The Ship to Sail' was curtailed in March, but has now relaunched via YouTube

It was with great sadness that we had to close up our beautiful building, beside Cat Hill roundabout in Cockfosters, back at the end of March.

The Covid-19 pandemic evolved very quickly and we just had enough time to put up our new banner before we had to leave the site. "Ubuntu" headlines this banner. This Nguni Bantu term is often translated as "I am because we are" or "humanity towards others". For Chickenshed, it is the belief in a universal bond of sharing that connects all humanity.

We have always known that Chickenshed is so much more than a place. In the coming weeks and months we want to connect not only with those who know us well, but also with others to whom we would like to introduce ourselves. To achieve this we have launched #VirtualChickenshed. We are very excited to see how we can continue to grow our community and are actively discovering platforms from which we can continue to share our thoughts and ideas, as well as offering online access to a range of projects and activities.

Our first virtual performance took place on Thursday 16th April, but if you missed it you can see the show at any time on our YouTube channel.

TalesTV's debut show is exciting, silly and Blurgh-tastic! Blurgh ("the thing that goes blurgh") is joined by his many friends for a programme that is perfect for children aged 0-6 years – and their grown-ups too, of course. Brought to you by our amazing 'Tales from the Shed' team, each episode will include something quite different. There will be stories, songs and an opportunity to learn a dance or some sign language.

Episodes are now being aired live each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11am. If your children would like to get involved you can send in a photo or a video of a song, dance or maybe a puppet you have made, and we will try and get Blurgh to include them within one of our shows. Our email address is [tales@chickenshed.org.uk](mailto:tales@chickenshed.org.uk).

The run for our 2020 spring show – *Waiting for the Ship to Sail* – was unfortunately cut short when we closed our doors in March. We know there are so many people who didn't get to see this beautiful show, which is why we have now put it on our YouTube channel so that everyone can!

We wish everyone the very best for the difficult weeks ahead. We will work on ways to get our art to you in a safe and sound way – please stay tuned.

**Watch #VirtualChickenshed shows on YouTube:**

**Visit** [youtube.com/user/ChickenshedTheatre](https://youtube.com/user/ChickenshedTheatre)

## Not the end of the world

*Xenia McGinley from Worlds End Productions London on how its young actors are telling their stories online*

Members of Worlds End Youth Theatre (WEYT) have joined an exciting new coronavirus time capsule initiative.

Designed by Islington-based Company Three, in association with Nick Hern Books, the project is aimed at giving teenagers everywhere space to express what life under lockdown looks like. Week by week, more than 125 youth theatre groups from all over the UK and as far afield as Australia, Brazil, Kenya and the US are creating a cumulative coronavirus video time capsule – recording teenage experience during the coronavirus pandemic.

Each week company members follow a given theme and create a short video diary entry. These are then edited together by the company director to provide a fascinating insight into the lives of teenagers across the globe during the crisis.

The aim of the project is to reduce isolation and anxiety by providing young people with social connections during the lockdown. Company Three artistic director Ned Glasier says the theatre wants to support teenagers missing out on "hugely significant moments" in their education and might be finding the lockdown difficult. He added: "We are so inspired that so many young people have signed up already and can't wait to see what they make. This unprecedented global emergency should also be an opportunity for unprecedented global sharing, understanding and connection."

WEYT, part of Worlds End Productions London, is a theatre company for young people in Enfield. Through long-term collaboration between our company members and professional theatre makers, WEYT has gained a reputation for producing excellent theatre for youth and adult audiences alike. Eleven young people from the group have been taking part in the time capsule project over the last month.

Worlds End artistic director Will McGinley says: "Their films have been funny and poignant in equal measure, testament to the strength and resilience of teenagers at a time when connection with their friends, completing their all-important exams and going outside the home has been withdrawn from their everyday lives."

**To watch the coronavirus time capsule films and to get involved with WEYT:**

**Email** [enquiries@weproductions.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@weproductions.co.uk)

**Visit** [weproductions.co.uk](https://weproductions.co.uk)

**YouTube** [youtube.com/channel/UC2it-RQMmQyGFOElkxK955w](https://youtube.com/channel/UC2it-RQMmQyGFOElkxK955w)

## Need to sew basis

BY SUZANNE KELLY

Friday 1st May is the first anniversary of Stitch! Crafts and Classes in Palmers Green.

We are incredibly proud of the community that has grown and come together in the last year, attending stitching circles, crochet classes, learning to use a sewing machine and mosaic-making, to name a few activities. Our aim is to create a fun, supportive environment led by expert knitters, crochet teachers, sewers and more; providing a place where you can buy fabric, haberdashery and craft supplies.

Obviously in these unprecedented times we have sadly had to shut the shop's doors temporarily. We have postponed all of our classes and workshops that were due to be taking place at Stitch! in Green Lanes until it is safe to run them again. Thank you to all our customers for their understanding. Our next thought has been what we can do to stay in touch with our amaz-

ing stitching and crafting community. Through our social media we have been so impressed and thankful of the number of people who joined in efforts to help sew and make a few hundred laundry bags for North Middlesex University Hospital staff. They were incredibly grateful!

With the help of some wonderful volunteers online, we have been providing ideas for children's crafting and holding an Easter bonnet competition. We also have put some free tutorial videos on our website and social media and are offering some of our crafting teaching on Zoom. The wonderfully talented Sharon Wallin has been running a 'knit and natter' stitching circle every Thursday at 11am and our expert quilter Carol Balfe runs a patchwork surgery to share projects and crafting chat on Wednesday mornings at 11am. Plus we have been running craft show and tells for children on Wednesdays at 10am.

All these sessions are free and open to newcomers, though donations are wel-

come. We really hope this is a way we can stay connected and support each other in such difficult and isolating times. If you are interested in joining us then please email [hello@stitch.org.uk](mailto:hello@stitch.org.uk) for the meeting codes. At the same time we are well aware that many of our community may not have access to Zoom or internet and social media. We would appeal to anyone that knows someone missing stitching circles, crafting or sewing chat, or who is in need of some help with a sewing or crafting project, to please contact our volunteers at Stitch!, who would be so happy to talk to them.

Lastly, we have been busy getting our products available for online shopping and have been making some emergency craft kits, including a lovely 'make a rainbow' teddy kit designed by Susan Mehmet from Ashkim Bears – £2 from each bear is being donated to NHS.

**Get in touch with Stitch! and find out more:**

**Call** 07903 614726

**Facebook** /N13crafts

**Instagram** @Stitch\_N13

**Visit** [stitch.org.uk](https://stitch.org.uk)





All photographs by Nina Grant, taken in and around Palmers Green





## AROUND THE BOROUGH

### COCKFOSTERS

## Wildlife charity 'at risk of closure'



A deer is cared for by Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service staff

AN URGENT APPEAL FOR money has been made by a wildlife rescue charity forced to close to visitors during the ongoing public health crisis.

Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service (WRAS) is based at Trent Park in Cockfosters, where its animal sanctuary is usually open to visitors – the charity's main source of income.

However, government lockdown restrictions mean no visitors have been allowed for several weeks,

putting at risk the charity's ongoing work to help injured animals. It cares for all sorts of wildlife, including birds, hedgehogs, deer, squirrels and foxes.

Barry Smitherman set up WRAS with his wife June in 1985 and told the *Dispatch*: “Having visitors and serving tea and coffee is our main source of income, apart from donations. But we are still caring for animals and we have still got all these overheads. We have got

six staff. We need £10,000 every month to keep going.

“We are using our reserves but there is only enough to last until the end of May.”

The government announced a £750million funding package for charities across the UK, but this is said to fall far short of what is needed to fill the current funding gaps for many charities. Understandably, charities providing frontline services amid the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic will be prioritised.

Barry said: “If we can open the visitor centre again by the end of May we could be alright, but we will need money in the bank before then to know we are safe.

“We still need to feed the animals and pay the staff, although we are limiting rescues at the moment – we are only taking in animals we can treat within a few weeks. We have had to turn away fox cubs because they need six months of care.

“We can't lay off or furlough our staff because then the animals won't be looked after.”

As well as appeals for money, the charity is accepting donations of food – its regular supplies are dog food tins and fresh vegetables.

**To support Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service:**

Email [rescue@wras-enfieldwildlife.org.uk](mailto:rescue@wras-enfieldwildlife.org.uk)  
Visit [wrasenfield.charitycheckout.co.uk/donate#!](http://wrasenfield.charitycheckout.co.uk/donate#!)  
Visit [wras-enfieldwildlife.org.uk/index.html](http://wras-enfieldwildlife.org.uk/index.html)

### PALMERS GREEN

## Set in stone

A STONE-CARVED MEMORIAL commemorating the opening of Broomfield Park to the public nearly 120 years ago has been restored.

The shell-shaped Portland stone memorial marks the purchase of Broomfield Park and House by the former Southgate Urban District Council in April 1903. After decades of neglect, the memorial, which sits close to the main entrance to the park, has been cleaned and the lettering re-cut by conservation specialists. Initiated by Broomfield House

Trust, the restoration was funded by Heritage of London Trust, Enfield Society, and Friends of Broomfield Park. It was officially unveiled by Colin Younger, chair of Broomfield House Trust, with help from Hazelwood and Broomfield school pupils.

Colin said: “We are impressed by the restoration carried out by PAYE Conservation, which has attracted positive comments from park users.”

The history of Broomfield Park can be traced to the 16th Century, when the land was owned by affluent City merchants and traders. Today the park is maintained by Enfield Council, working closely

with Friends of Broomfield Park. Dr Nicola Stacey, director of Heritage of London Trust, said: “This wonderfully-shaped monument records an important part of Enfield's story and has completely brightened up the park.”



The newly-restored memorial at Broomfield Park

### EDMONTON

## Hospital appeal



A pop-up shop opened in April to support staff at North Middlesex Hospital

**BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER**

GENEROUS DONORS RAISED nearly £35,000 to support hard-working hospital staff during the coronavirus pandemic.

North Middlesex University Hospital set up a fundraising page in March to raise money for a pop-up shop and wellbeing workshops for staff. The shop opened in April and is now supplying everyday items such as bread, fruit, vegetables, rice, soup, deodorant and shampoo, which are provided free of charge for staff.

Wellbeing classes include psychological first aid, sleep management

and mindfulness, which any member of staff can use to relax during their busy shift. Local businesses have also been donating food and other products to the hospital.

Maria Kane, chief executive of North Middlesex University Hospital, said: “Our staff are working tirelessly to provide safe and compassionate care to our patients during this Covid-19 pandemic.

“While our patients are being cared for, we know that our staff need extra support too. The more that we can raise the more we can do to make our staff's lives a little easier – so we would be grateful for any support our local community can provide.”

### ANGEL EDMONTON

## Cash boost

ENFIELD COUNCIL HAS WON A £1.1million grant to help regenerate Angel Edmonton.

The money from City Hall's 'Good Growth Fund' will go towards the creation of an 'urban room' for community engagement, low-cost office and retail space in disused garages, plus public realm improvements at targeted spots along Fore Street. The project also includes a programme of business support, the creation of employment and skills opportunities, and the development of a strategic area plan.

The council is match-funding the grant, bringing total investment to £2.2m. Leader Nesil Caliskan said: “Many people in Angel Edmonton feel left behind. This changes now.”

### WINCHMORE HILL

## Inspection

A GP PRACTICE HAS BEEN told to improve after health inspectors raised concerns over safety.

Winchmore Hill Practice in Green Lanes was given a 'requires improvement' rating by health watchdog the Care Quality Commission (CQC). It had been rated 'good' in a previous report from 2017, but last November inspectors found it missed two medication safety alerts and didn't have a system to ensure all patients who had cancer symptoms were given a hospital appointment within two weeks.

A North Central London Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) spokesperson said: “The practice responded as required and asked CQC to review the rating.”



# Stories from Southgate



A scene from Chase Side in the early 20th Century, before motorised transport and the arrival of the tube

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Shortly before the world changed, when WHSmith was still open, I found myself browsing the bookshelves looking for a birthday present.

Not quite sure what I was after, I stumbled upon a local history book called *Old Southgate and Palmers Green*, written by Bernard Byrom. I was instantly fascinated by the old black-and-white pictures from a time before motorised transport and the arrival of the Piccadilly Line, which transformed this area from rural village to busy suburb.

I finally settled down to read the 95-page book as the pandemic lockdown began. One of the few historic facts I already knew was that the name Southgate derived from its position, in medieval times, at the south gate of Enfield Chase, then a royal hunting ground. It remained a hamlet until the 19th Century, when

Southgate's "abundantly wooded and agreeable" green spaces, combined with its convenient location "a reasonable carriage ride from London", led many of the city's wealthy gentry to make it their home. Significant landowners included the Taylor and Walker families, who collectively ran the Taylor Walker brewery in Limehouse.

The Walkers lived in a mansion house at Southgate Green called Arnos Grove, but



Sir Thomas Lipton, whose grocery empire included the Lipton Tea brand, was a famous Southgate resident

the tube station of this name is today situated nearly a mile away, which gives an idea of exactly how much land the Walkers owned. The Grovelands estate, on the other side of Southgate, was owned by the Taylors.

The origins of today's east/west divide

within Enfield borough can be traced back to these two families. It was the arrival of the railways, and its cheap fares, that led to a great exodus of working class populations from the East End out to new suburbs spread either side of the Lea

Valley; Walthamstow, Tottenham and Edmonton. This migration was "viewed with alarm" by the Taylor and Walker families, according to Byrom. To avoid a similar thing happening on the west side of the borough, the families expanded their estates so that they could exert greater control over housing development across Southgate, Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill. They even opposed the construction of railways in these areas – but were ultimately unsuccessful.

The seven Walker brothers who lived at Arnos Grove became famous for their prowess in the sport of cricket. Annual matches were played on the green now known as the Walker Ground, between Southgate Cricket Club and an "All England XI". Crowds of 10,000 flocked to watch the three-day fixtures held every August and, between 1858 and 1863, Southgate won five and lost just one of these games against England – which subsequently "passed into folklore".

The entire Taylor estate went up for sale in 1902, and the Walker estate followed in 1918. Over the next few decades, the large houses and private grounds that had characterised Southgate through the Victorian period were split up and built over. Street after street of semi-detached dwellings sprung up, selling for around £500 each. Immigrants arrived from the middle-class areas of Islington and Stoke

Newington, including a significant Jewish population. Southgate was touted as one of the healthiest places to live in outer London; in 1900 its mortality rate was already far lower than in Edmonton, a trend that has continued ever since.

Chase Side in Southgate marks the border between Enfield and Barnet boroughs, and although Osidge is on the Barnet side, it is worth giving a brief mention to its most famous resident. Sir Thomas Lipton, originally from Glasgow, built the Lipton grocery empire in the late 19th Century. Among its best-selling products was Ceylonese tea, leading

***"Semi-detached dwellings were selling for £500"***

to the creation of the Lipton Tea brand that remains well known today. After the company relocated to London, Sir Thomas made his home in Southgate in 1892, at the mansion house known as Osidge. He died there in 1931. The house is currently in the process of being revamped and sold as luxury apartments selling for upwards of a million pounds each.

The Piccadilly line arrived at Southgate in 1933, cementing its status as a desirable London suburb. The station building and its adjacent shopping precinct were designed by Charles Holden. His Art Deco designs for several tube station buildings won many plaudits and Southgate, in particular, is frequently singled out for praise. In my (biased) view, it remains the prettiest station on the whole network!

As an addendum to this brief journey through Southgate's fascinating past I want to give a special shout-out to the area now known as New Southgate. Historically called Colney Hatch, from 1851 it became synonymous with The Middlesex County Pauper Lunatic Asylum, the largest in Europe. In 1859 the asylum had 2,000 patients and the adjacent Colney Hatch Station was built largely to serve it. By the 1880s it had "become infamous throughout London" and locals sought to "disassociate themselves" from the asylum by lobbying – successfully – for their village and railway station to be renamed New Southgate. It therefore became associated, instead, with the entirely separate settlement a mile-and-a-half up the road.



A plaque on Arnos Grove, commemorating the Walker brothers and their cricketing prowess



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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 journalism which is inclusive and accountable.

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