

# ENFIELD DISPATCH

Nº. 24 THE BOROUGH'S FREE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

SEPT 2020

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A MURAL CELEBRATING the "cultural diversity and artistic vibrancy" of Edmonton was unveiled at Millfield Theatre last month. Featuring students from Platinum Dance, the artwork was created by Japanese artist Sonoko Obuchi. It was unveiled during a fortnight of outdoor arts and cultural events dubbed 'Enjoy Enfield Summer', run by Enfield Council. Pictured are council leader Nesil Caliskan, left; artist Sonoko Obuchi, centre; and the council's head of culture, sports and arts, Paul Everitt.

## More councillors quit Labour over leadership row

Other resignations could follow in backlash against Nesil Caliskan

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

**T**wo more Enfield councillors have quit the Labour Party to join a new independent group, amid growing unrest over the leadership of council leader Nesil Caliskan.

The latest departures have doubled the ranks of Community First, the newly-formed break-away group, from two to four, after a pair of earlier resignations. One of the ex-Labour councillors told the *Dispatch* he believed there were "a dozen" of his former colleagues who might quit.

Derek Levy and Dinah Barry were the first to leave, claiming

they were better able to serve residents as independents. They were followed by former deputy leader Daniel Anderson, who described the legal team at Labour Party head office as "hypocritical" for disciplining him over a code of conduct breach but not Cllr Caliskan, who last year was found to have made multiple breaches.

The latest Labour departure is Dino Lemonides, also a former cabinet member. He said he was joining Community First because the Labour group had become unwilling to debate policy with its own councillors. Cllr Lemonides told the *Dispatch*: "I have been unhappy with the bullying and harassment of the Caliskan regime.

"You are not allowed to hold a contrary viewpoint without it being taken personally by the council leader. As far as I am concerned, democracy should be a robust and open process."

Cllr Lemonides said there had been several policy areas where he had wanted to raise issues with the council leadership, but the 'final straw' had been the recent controversy over the decision to raise special allowances for councillors by up to £36,000.

"I didn't agree with them," said Cllr Lemonides. "As soon as I suggested doing something different, I was accused of being a 'trouble-maker'. I thought this was just crazy. There wasn't a discussion

on it. We all know why she [Cllr Caliskan] is doing it."

Cllr Caliskan has yet to make any comment to the *Dispatch* in response either to the decision of Cllr Lemonides to leave Labour or to the decisions of Cllr Levy, Cllr Barry and Cllr Anderson to quit in similar circumstances. All four have been highly critical of Cllr Caliskan's leadership style.

Cllr Anderson was suspended earlier this year after an internal investigation ruled he had bullied officers, following complaints from four members of staff. That code of conduct breach is currently subject to appeal.

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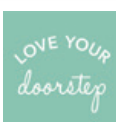
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# Charity shops closed amid fears for high streets

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Several charity shops in Enfield have not re-opened since the Covid-19 lockdown was lifted and may never do so, in a worrying indicator of the struggling local economy.

Shops that haven't opened their doors since March when the pandemic began include those run by Royal Free Charity, in Enfield Town; the RSPCA, in Baker Street; Mind, in Southgate; The Children's Society, in Chase Side; and Oxfam, in Enfield Town.

Royal Free Charity raises money to support patients and staff working for the NHS trust that runs Chase Farm Hospital, but has announced that none of its charity shops across North London will be re-opening. A spokesperson said: "We can confirm that we have taken the difficult decision to close our shops as

with our staff and have informed them, our volunteers and other key stakeholders of our board's decision."

Child poverty charity The Children's Society has not yet re-opened its Chase Side shop but says it hopes to do so in future. Lynne McMahon, director of retail trading and property services at The Children's Society, said: "While we would have loved to be able to re-open all our shops from July, the safety and wellbeing of our staff, volunteers and customers is paramount. We have been re-opening our shops on a phased basis, initially starting with the larger shops where social distancing can be most easily implemented alongside all other government safety guidelines.

"We are keeping the situation under constant review and thank our loyal customers, supporters, staff and volunteers for their patience and understanding."

The RSPCA has said that the closure of its Enfield shop in Baker Street was because of an increase in rent, while the pandemic had also had an impact on branch finances. However, a new RSPCA charity shop has now opened in Palmers Green.

A spokesperson said: "It is with a heavy heart that the charity shop in Enfield has been closed. It has been part of the local community since 1995 and a vital source of fundraising. We are grateful to everyone who has supported the shop over the many years and those who have worked there and given up their time volunteering too.

"But we are excited to announce that the branch has opened a new charity shop in nearby Palmers Green and almost all our other charity shops have now re-opened as well."

Oxfam and Mind did not respond to requests for comment.

***"The economic downturn means that our shops will not be viable"***

a result of the retail pressures caused by the pandemic.

"This is in no way a reflection of the efforts of our retail staff over the past few years, who have done an outstanding job. But, in common with some of the best-known high street brands, we have reluctantly concluded that the economic downturn means that our shops will not be viable for a long time, if ever.

"We conducted a consultation



This RSPCA charity shop in Baker Street has permanently closed

## ► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In a statement about his decision to leave Labour, Cllr Anderson said: "Significantly, the GLU [governance and legal unit] has not explained its somewhat hypocritical stance in suspending me, while it has resolutely refused and continues to refuse either to sanction or suspend Cllr Caliskan who was found guilty of breaches of the same code of conduct on two separate occasions."

The Labour Party was contacted by the *Dispatch* but declined to comment.

Despite the four recent resignations, the Labour group on the council still has a secure majority of 41 councillors out of a total of 62. A by-election for the vacancy in Southbury left following the death of long-time Labour councillor Chris Bond will not be held until at least May next year, because of government coronavirus restrictions.

Cllr Lemonides added: "I joined

Community First because I still hold Labour values, but I want to hold this administration to account.

"I haven't taken this decision lightly, I have been a member of the Labour Party most of my life. I know there are about a dozen of us [councillors] who are opposed [to the Labour leadership] and I wouldn't be surprised if more decided to leave.

"It is not an easy step to make but, now that I've done it, it feels like a weight has been lifted off my shoulders."

## Smart drains

Enfield Council is trialling a new 'smart drainage' system it hopes will reduce flood risk by providing instant warnings of high water levels.

In partnership with tech company DMS Live, smart sensors using 4G technology have been installed in a number of drains around Enfield to identify overflowing gullies.

Deputy leader Ian Barnes said: "The initiative works hand-in-hand with the council's wide-ranging climate action plan, which aims to address the issue of flooding and commits to pro-active flood alleviation work to protect homes, buildings and infrastructure."

## Orca upgrade

Transport for London (TfL) has paid to replace scores of 'orca' cycle lane barriers after a number of incidents in which people were injured tripping over them.

The black-and-white bumps segregating cyclists from motor traffic were criticised as being "unsafe" for elderly and partially-sighted people. TfL has now stumped up the cash – revealed via Freedom of Information request to be £232,139 – to pay for their replacement with larger bollard-type barriers.

An Enfield Council spokesperson said: "Following a review of available products, the council has upgraded the light segregation on the A105 and replaced orcas with 'cycleway defenders'. TfL agreed to cover the cost."

## Meat free

BY SIMON ALLIN,  
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

People need to eat less meat to tackle climate change, the deputy leader of Enfield Council said as he defended a "ban on meat" at council events.

Councillor Ian Barnes said meat and dairy was "bad for the environment", citing expert scientific advice given to the UK government. His comments came during a meeting of the overview and scrutiny committee, after Conservative councillors claimed the newly-published Enfield Climate Action Plan – designed to cut borough carbon emissions to net zero by 2040 – was "adopted without consultation".

The Conservatives, who expressed anger at the decision to only offer vegan or vegetarian options at council events, later had their plea to debate the climate plan rejected.



# Incinerator legal challenge launched

## Extinction Rebellion campaigner set to take government to court

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

A local climate activist is launching a legal case against the government's policy on incinerators – after years of campaigning against a new Edmonton waste-burning plant.

Georgia Elliott-Smith is challenging the exclusion from the government's emissions trading scheme (ETS) of carbon dioxide released by incinerators, which she claims allows waste authorities to ignore their climate impact.

The Extinction Rebellion activist works as an environmental engineer and told the *Dispatch* she decided to launch her court case following her experience opposing the new incinerator at Edmonton, which North London Waste Authority (NLWA) is now set to build.

A crowdfunder launched by Georgia to help cover her legal costs has so far raised £7,000. She said: "I have never done anything like this before, but I have worked as an environmental engineer for 25 years and I know this is wrong."

"I see every day how badly waste is managed and how the whole system is faulty. We produce too much waste and it is not being recycled enough – it ends up in incinerators."

Georgia sought advice from a legal firm experienced in environmental law, and has begun to build her case. It centres around the government's new ETS, which



Georgia Elliott-Smith is an Extinction Rebellion activist and environmental engineer

*"I have been frustrated at how we are fobbed off by politicians"*

is being drawn up to replace the one the UK was part of when it was a member of the European Union.

"There is no system for managing and reducing emissions from incineration, which seems crazy," said Georgia. "They say calculating emissions from incinerators is too complicated. It's a cop out and it allows them to operate in the shadows."

Campaign groups opposed to the new Edmonton incinerator have been locked in a heated battle with NLWA over the last year, with the former claiming it would release the equivalent of 700,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year,

and the latter saying it would be only 28,000 tonnes.

Georgia said: "They are using this system that allows them to offset emissions, so they can claim to be 'green' and be part of the solution to climate change, without anyone holding them to account – it's greenwashing."

"This is the perfect chance to challenge them. We will make the case that by not including emissions from incineration, the government is contravening the Paris Agreement."

"The waste industry is incredibly powerful but I want to stand up to them. We have got three

months to challenge this policy – it is a race against time."

If Georgia wins her case, it would mean all incinerator operators would have to account for their carbon emissions and purchase 'carbon credits' through the ETS scheme. That in turn would lower the financial viability of incineration as a waste disposal option.

Two Enfield councillors recently pleaded with the boss of NLWA to halt development of the new Edmonton incinerator. Vicki Pite and Yasemin Brett asked Clyde Loakes, NLWA chair and deputy leader of Waltham Forest Council, to pause the scheme in light of the 'climate emergency'. But Cllr Loakes ruled out reviewing the incinerator and told a NLWA meeting in June: "To suggest we haven't been working hard to develop the best solution for North London for the next 25 years is incredibly disingenuous."

"At some point someone has to show some leadership, and I am proud of the members of this authority, making difficult decisions for the right reasons."

Georgia added: "I've been involved with the [Edmonton] campaign for a few years but I have been frustrated at how we are fobbed off by politicians. It's become clear the only way to get them to take notice is to take legal action."

The government declined to comment

**For more information on the case:**  
Visit [crowdjustice.com/case/make-incineration-polluters-pay](https://crowdjustice.com/case/make-incineration-polluters-pay)

## Leisure centre opening delays

BY SIMON ALLIN,  
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

A borough leisure operator faced criticism after its sports centres stayed shut more than four weeks after being allowed to re-open post lockdown – with Enfield Council claiming it had asked for an extra £1million to do so.

Fusion Lifestyle closed its council-owned centres across Enfield in March as the nation went into coronavirus lockdown. But despite being given the green light by the government to re-open on Saturday 25th July, many centres remained shut.

Southgate, Edmonton, Southbury and Albany leisure centres finally re-opened on Thursday 20th August, but at time of going to press there was still no re-opening time listed for a fifth borough leisure centre, Arnos Pool.

Enfield Swim Squad had criticised the council on Twitter prior to the first centres re-opening, saying that "disabled and able-bodied swimmers' physical and mental health" was being "adversely affected".

The council subsequently issued a statement revealing Fusion had asked it to subsidise the re-opening of leisure centres. Council leader Nesil Caliskan said: "Over the past few weeks, Enfield Council has made it clear to Fusion that we expect them to open up all the leisure centres in the borough. But we were not willing to hand over £1million, which is essentially what Fusion were asking for and presumably opposition members wanted us to do."

"Instead, Enfield Council has held Fusion to account on their contract and fought hard to ensure value for money for Enfield residents."

Fusion Lifestyle took over control of the council's leisure centres in 2010. A spokesperson said: "We know our leisure facilities are really important for the health and wellbeing of the local community, and we have been working in partnership with Enfield Council to get them open."

"Southbury, Edmonton, Albany and Southgate leisure centres opened on [Thursday] 20th August. We are reviewing our plans for remaining facilities and will open these when they are safe and viable to do so. We hope residents of Enfield will bear with us."

## Allotment anger

An allotments site secretary has demanded better service from Enfield Council after data showed the local authority was charging more rent than almost any other North London borough.

Philip Foxe helps manage the council's Weir Hall Allotments in Edmonton but told the *Dispatch* that, as well as growing courgettes, he had grown frustrated with the local authority's lack of maintenance across the site.

"It used to be in decent condition, with the council delivering compost and manure and there

used to be competitions for the best kept patch in Enfield," Philip explained. "But now the pathways are not being maintained, litter is not being picked up. The place is filthy. There are no towels or soap in the toilets. In the winter there are huge ruts in the driveways. I have been trying to get a lock replaced for a month now."

Enfield Council charges £144 per year for a standard-sized allotment in the borough, with discounts for concessions and those on low pay. There are additional charges for shed rental, water use, and plot and key

deposits. Analysis by the *Dispatch* comparing the costs for renting an allotment in different London boroughs suggests that only Islington Council is currently charging more in total for allotments across North London.

Financial data revealed via a Freedom of Information request submitted by Philip also shows that the council is running a significant surplus on its circa 30 allotment sites – with money from rental income being used to subsidise other council services.

Philip said: "The council is effectively stealing money from the allotments – they had a surplus of £50,000 in 2018/19 and £35,000 in 2019/20. Allotments

shouldn't be for posh people who don't care how much it costs."

In response, a council spokesperson said: "We are working with the secretary of Weir Hall Allotments and have identified a number of works which need to be carried out on the site to raise standards there for plot holders."

"We are also constantly looking at ways of improving security at our allotments and we are currently trialling ID badges at Barrowell Green Allotments. We benchmark our fees with neighbouring boroughs each year to ensure that they are best value in the current market. This money is spent maintaining our allotments for the benefit of our tenants."



## Fighting for survival

*A new book tells the remarkable story of an Enfield soldier captured by the Japanese during the Second World War*

**By Robert Widders**

**L**ance Bombardier Joe Denton and two other men from Enfield were among 1,816 British prisoners of war (POWs) captured by the Japanese, for use as slave labour.

They had been ordered to surrender in Hong Kong on Christmas Day 1941, after fighting a fierce campaign against overwhelming odds. Shipped to Japan in a boat called Lisbon Maru, they were incarcerated in three cargo holds in cramped and insanitary conditions. Many of the men were suffering with serious illnesses and infectious diseases.

On 1st October 1942 the ship was torpedoed off the coast of China. All the POWs were kept down below in the holds, with Joe among the main Royal Artillery contingent. The Japanese crew passed down hand-operated pumps which Joe and his pals used to pump out water from the sinking ship. Meanwhile, after a failed attempt by the Japanese navy to tow the ship to shore, guards battened down the hold covers, leaving the POWs trapped inside in total darkness without food or water.



Many captives died during the next 24 hours, drowning in the bilges, or collapsing from exhaustion as they pumped water

out of the ship. The Japanese evacuated their own crew and soldiers and had left an armed six-man squad onboard to make sure that the POWs did not escape.

The following morning, surviving POWs in the hold next to Joe's used a smuggled knife to cut the lashings and escape on deck. They killed the Japanese soldiers and released the men from the other holds, some of whom jumped overboard before the ship

***“Joe swam for around ten or eleven hours and made it to a little island”***

completely sank. By 5th October, 828 men had died, including Private Leslie Andrews, from Enfield Lock, and Private Percy Hatchett, from Goat Lane near Forty Hill.

Joe swam for around ten or eleven hours

and made it to a little island. Eventually, the survivors were picked up by the Japanese navy and transported to Japan. Joe was among a group of around 500 men sent to a POW camp in Kobe. He served as a medical orderly in a tiny room that the Japanese authorities allocated as a hospital.

But a childhood in Enfield could never have prepared him for the litany of horrors that was to come. Joe and the others were forced to cram the bodies of dead POWs into old soya bean barrels, ready for cremation – even having to cut up some of his old friends.

Over the next couple of years, Joe helped put on concerts and entertainment for the camp. Aside from songs and music, they performed comedy sketches in which they subtly satirised the corruption and incompetence of their captors. Some Japanese army guards would watch the shows, though one guard took exception to the humour and smashed Joe over the head with a metal bar and broke his skull.

Joe recovered and survived the rest of the war, still in captivity, still caring for the sick and dying, and still entertaining his comrades. Eventually, Kobe House POW Camp was destroyed by the US Air Force in a massive napalm-fuelled raid. But Joe survived, and after the Japanese surrender, was repatriated to England. He later married and enjoyed a long life before succumbing to heart disease aged 76.

The full story of Joe Denton's remarkable wartime survival forms part of Robert's new book, 'Forged in Blood and Music'. For more information:

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

## Back in business

**Frances Button takes a tour of local independent traders**

**L**ocal independent businesses are facing major challenges, first caused by the pandemic lockdown and now by consumer anxiety. So how can they adapt and find ways to attract new custom?

Holtwhites Bakery in Chase Side is providing delivery and click-and-collect services, while narrowing its range and organising two shifts of staff each day, closing for a clean at lunchtime. Its reputation as an artisan bakery has not diminished and careful organisation of social distancing in the shop has re-assured regulars. Previously successful taster evenings are no longer viable for Holtwhites, but there are still plenty of local outlets for their goods.

Among them is EN\_Food at the Dugdale Centre, which offers fabulous food with locally-sourced ingredients. Chef Ben Murphy had no sooner got his smaller café at Enfield Town Library underway than it was

forced to close, but now the Dugdale is open again it is a great place for a breakfast burrito after a dog walk in Enfield Town Park!

It has been a challenging journey for *Masterchef* finalist Chris Georgiou at Gastronomical Burgers.

Having started as a pop-up restaurant at Ferny Hill (open Thursday-Saturday evenings) six years ago, he feels the next six months will be difficult for the hospitality industry. Unfortunately, his business does not benefit from the 'Eat Out to Help Out' government scheme and the loss of clientele has made a real impact. He has seen a 25% drop from the days before lockdown, when he was serving 50 people a day. Delivery is not an option, so the family team have started from scratch with a reduced menu and using a larger space.

Chris's passion for food and cooking, and his determination to support local suppliers, remain

undiminished, but he is fearful of the future. He told me: "Independent restaurants will use good independent butchers, bakers and farms to supply their menus, but if those restaurants do not survive there will be a knock-on effect."

Forty Hall Farm is one of those independent suppliers. Angelika Hauses, its manager, told me she

has seen the farm shop "flourish" as people choose to buy organic raw ingredients. Orders for Enfield Veg Co's fresh deliveries, selling food grown at Forty Hall, have outstripped supply – there is even a waiting list to sign up.

Boho Flo is a bohemian arts and crafts homeware shop in Lancaster Road. It had only opened in

November and had just got into its stride when Covid-19 hit. Nikki, the owner, ran crafting workshops at the back of the shop around a long kitchen table – macramé and wreath making, for example – but had to close despite having bookings until May.

Nikki told me she used her spare time in lockdown to make stock for her store and get organised for re-opening, as well as running open-air workshops in Hillyfields. The latter proved very successful, given how many children needed entertaining! When she did re-open the shop, her displays of bowls and baskets of succulents attracted attention, and she has found things have slowly improved. Nikki is now looking forward to organising a festival in Lancaster Road in the future, selling art by local artists, and is also expecting a "bumper" Christmas.

Talking with these committed and caring local business people shows just how dedicated they are to their clientele, the quality of their product, and to their community; the future will be challenging, but the more we all shop locally the more likely it is that they will survive.



EN\_Food has re-opened at the Dugdale in Enfield Town



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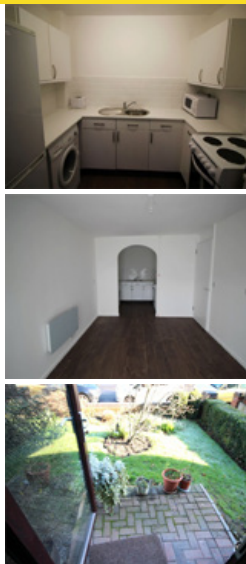
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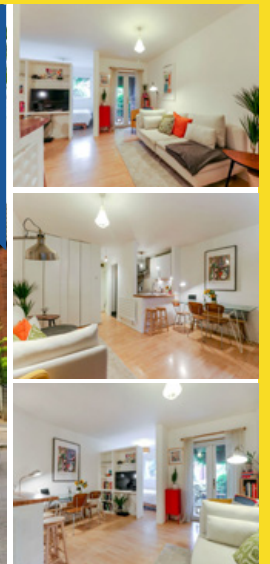


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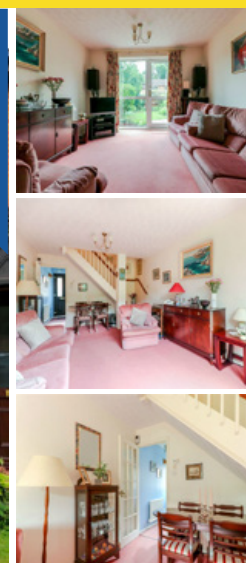


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## Low-traffic scheme brought in without consultation

James Cracknell gauges local reaction to the decision to install a low-traffic neighbourhood in Bowes Park



A barrier was installed a few years ago to create a width restriction for vehicles, but the rat-running problem has persisted

Enfield Southgate MP Bambos Charalambous has said residents were given “insufficient time” to consider contentious plans for a low-traffic neighbourhood in Bowes Park.

Although supportive of the principle of the scheme, Bambos wrote a letter to transport secretary Grant Schapps arguing that the terms of the government’s £100,000 grant gave residents little chance to have their say or contribute to Enfield Council’s design.

The local authority was given just four weeks by the Department for Transport (DfT) to start work on installing a series of obstacles and barriers around a network of streets to tackle rat-running, where non-local traffic taking shortcuts to and from the North Circular has been a problem for decades.

The creation of a low-traffic neighbourhood in Bowes Park last month, without a formal public consultation prior to its implementation, drew a mixed reaction from local people – including a petition with

hundreds of signatures. Motor traffic will be largely prevented from entering from the Haringey side of Bowes Park, forcing local drivers to use the North Circular.

Residents were only told about these changes at the end of July, but the council said it would lose the coronavirus-related funding if it didn’t proceed before the end of September. During the six-month trial, locals will be given an opportunity to leave their feedback.

But Bambos wrote: “While I believe the principle is right and

the funding welcome, the terms under which Enfield Council have been given these funds has created problems locally as this has meant many residents feel there was insufficient time allowed for plans to be considered by the community prior to the implementation of the scheme.”

This was echoed in sentiments expressed by residents to the *Dispatch* shortly before work began on installing the ‘Bowes Quieter Neighbourhood’ on Monday 17th August. Out of ten



Traffic queueing to enter the North Circular from Warwick Road, prior to the implementation of a low-traffic neighbourhood scheme in Bowes Park that aims to reduce rat-running

residents, picked at random to get a broad indication of people’s views, five were against the scheme, four were in favour, and one was undecided.

Warwick Road is one of the streets worst-affected by rat-running. Nonetheless, many residents remain unconvinced by the latest low-traffic plans. Alan McEachren, a long-time resident of the road, said: “I want proper consultation and I want meetings – the council is very good at doing things without consultation. I am against this scheme until they do a consultation.”

Catherine Stock, also from Warwick Road, said: “I think it’s disgusting to not consult us – I would have been happy for them to close one of the roads but not both.”

Pearece Payneeandy, from York Road, was also upset. She lives with her grandmother and fears what may happen if there was an emergency – although the council insists all emergency vehicles can bypass the new barriers. Pearece said: “Adding half-an-hour to get all the way round

and I think for shorter journeys like going to Morrisons we might cycle in future. Although I can see why people are angry when there’s been no consultation.”

A Maidstone Road resident, who wished to remain anonymous, added: “The scheme is not ideal but rat-running has been a problem here for 25 years. This part of Enfield is neglected so my fear is that if we kick it back in their faces they will forget about it.”

Campaign group Better Streets for Enfield described the Bowes scheme as “imperfect” but warned “there is no other money in the pot” and insisted there would be chances to shape the scheme as the trial progressed. In a letter to the *Dispatch* (see Page 9) Warwick Road Action Group co-ordinator Mark Hawkins-Dady wrote: “Ultimately, it boils down to an extra ten minutes on some local car journeys, or doing nothing to address an urgent problem.”

Broomfield Homeowners and Residents’ Association launched a petition against the low-traffic trial after raising concerns about

### “I want proper consultation and I want meetings”

is inconsiderate for people who are disabled or elderly.”

Sasha Haran, from Maidstone Road, said: “It feels like the council is doing it just to see if it fails, rather than having a well thought-out consultation process. They are spending money in haste. No-one denies rat-running is a problem but you need a better solution.”

Not all residents had such negative views of the low-traffic trial, however. Jonathan Weir, from Palmerston Road, said: “This road is really rubbish so if it slows down the traffic that would be great – it’ll be like living in a cul-de-sac.

“We drive but we also cycle,

local people being forced to use the North Circular to access their homes. It said the petition gained 1,600 signatures in two weeks.

A council spokesperson said: “Every year one-in-20 deaths (5.4%) in Enfield can be attributed to air pollution. The council is doing everything in its power to tackle this issue.

“The £100,000 funding comes with the expected short timescale for implementation and so a consultation will run when the scheme has gone live and will allow amendments.”

**For more information:**  
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Hundreds of new homes are replacing post-war council tower blocks on Alma Estate in Ponders End, but there will be a net loss of affordable housing and most of the new homes are small flats for private sale



# How we can build better housing in Enfield

*Matt Burn from campaign group Better Homes for Enfield introduces the group's new research into the borough's housing needs*

Our new report, *Needs Not Numbers*, asks two important questions; are there enough new homes being built in Enfield, and are they the type of homes Enfield needs?

To answer these questions, we reviewed 36 recent major planning applications. Our analysis showed that there are well over 11,000 new homes in Enfield's housing pipeline. Not all of these will come to fruition, but nevertheless it appears that the borough is well placed to meet its target of 12,460 additional new homes over the next ten years.

However, our research also showed that the majority of the new homes planned will be one or two bedroom flats, and that there will not be enough family-sized homes. The council's planning policies stipulate that 60% of new homes built in Enfield should have three or more bedrooms, yet only 25% of the new homes will meet this criterion. Over the next ten years the number of new family homes built will be almost 5,000 short of what's needed.

Our research also showed that affordable housing targets are being routinely missed. Less than one in four housing developments will deliver the amount of social rent housing required by planning policies. This will lead to a shortfall of

at least 1,500 social rent homes over the coming years. This is particularly troubling as there is already a shortage of social rent housing in Enfield.

A lack of family-sized housing will have serious and lasting consequences. For example, there are already over 13,000 households in Enfield classified as overcrowded – around three times higher than the UK average. Families living in overcrowded homes say their living conditions affect their mental health, privacy and sleep quality, and research

***“A lack of family-sized housing will have serious and lasting consequences”***

shows an increased risk of infectious diseases and respiratory problems. Recent experiences of Covid-19 and summer heatwaves have bought into sharp focus the importance of having enough indoor and outdoor space. So, what needs to be done?

Firstly, land suitable for large-scale homebuilding is relatively scarce, so developers need to be more creative in the way they approach high-density housing schemes, in order to make the most of the developable land available, for example by including more apartments with three or more bedrooms and

ensuring homes have gardens or easy access to high-quality green spaces. There are plenty of examples of where this has been successfully achieved, from the Victorian mansion blocks in London, to the apartments of Hammarby in Stockholm.

Secondly, it's important to be realistic. Private developers are unlikely to build enough affordable social rent homes, so council regeneration schemes on public land (such as Meridian Water or the Joyce and Snells Estate redevelopments) need to significantly increase the number of social rent homes built to make up the shortfall.

Lastly, planning applications for major developments should be assessed and approved according to the types of homes Enfield needs. This means that information provided to councillors – especially those on the planning committee – as well as developers and residents, needs to be accessible, clear, consistently reported and up to date.

Without this information there is a real risk, as we have seen, that the thousands of new homes being built in Enfield over the coming years will not be the size and quality the borough needs.

Read the 'Needs Not Numbers' report in full on the Better Homes for Enfield website: Visit [betterhomes-enfield.org](http://betterhomes-enfield.org)

## Protecting our parks

*In our latest councillor's column, Lindsay Rawlings from Town ward explains her love for the environment*

It's been a pleasure to represent Town ward since 2018 and, living in the ward as I do, it makes it extra special representing my neighbours and other residents.

Not long after being elected I was asked to become shadow lead on environment and was more than happy to take on this wide-ranging role. Although my main role is as a councillor in Town ward, this additional responsibility allows me to look across the whole borough on issues such as bin collections.

I have lived in different parts of the borough for over 60 years, so I feel a great affinity with many areas. My local park used to be Broomfield Park [in Palmers Green] and I've enjoyed working with the friends group there to try to tame the long border and the rose bed. Both of these looked particularly colourful this year and we've received many compliments from visitors. The conservatory is also well worth a visit once it re-opens, with loads of bananas growing again this year.

I have spent the last few months visiting different parks and open spaces across Enfield – we have so many and they are all a little bit different from each other. We have a large number of conservation areas in the borough and I have been part of the conservation advisory group both as a resident when I lived in Edmonton and now as a councillor.

It is a shame that this is one of the groups being subsumed into the newly-formed environ-

ment forum, along with the Green Belt forum and public transport group, both of which I have also served on. I hope to be able to keep the issues they covered at the forefront of discussions as the borough is made up of so many different parts – to lose any one of them would be disastrous.

I have done lots of volunteering for many years

and would recommend this to anyone with a few hours to spare. There are many friends groups in the various parks which are always looking for new people, whether you have green fingers or not. Local charities need helpers, especially to help run events. Some of these are running now and others will slowly begin again.

Please contact me if you would like more information on anything I've mentioned here.



Cllr Rawlings was elected in 2018

Cllr Rawlings is one of three councillors representing Town ward, alongside Mike Rye and Jim Steven (all Conservative). Ward surgeries are being held online.

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# 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 15th September**.

## Dugdale disgrace

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

**L**osing the Dugdale Centre's [first floor] space for groups and activities, to create new office space, is shocking and really bad news for Enfield's community cohesion (*Future of Enfield's history in doubt*, Page 2, Issue 23). For more than ten years the Dugdale has built a reputation as a place that everyone in the community could visit. For example, meeting a friend at the cafe for lunch, or taking in an excellent exhibition by a local artist, or accessing local history via Enfield Museum.

To displace hundreds of participants without offering a like-for-like replacement would show a lack of empathy. What is Enfield Council thinking? Without the Dugdale as a cultural hub for the community, there will be a great big void. It will take years if ever to recreate this special synergy between community, culture and the council.

**Jayne Buckland**  
Former Labour councillor  
and mayor of Enfield

## New forest

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

**I** noted – with delight and interest – your article on the forest extension north of Trent Park (*Climate action plan agreed*, Page 2, Issue 23). A map now shows the proposal to be a linear feature along the Salmon's Brook, and part of the Pymmes Brook and Salmon's Brook river management schemes from Thames21. This is already among the greenest land in the borough, albeit farmed, on the edge of some of the most prosperous parts of the borough. How exactly will this improve the lot of those living in the east of Enfield borough? There is the small matter of the A10 in-between – I presume that the footpaths mostly comprise the London Loop route. Public transport in the afforested area is not good, and I presume car parks will not be well provided, so presumably access is to be on foot or cycle? It seems to me to be being touted as a project which means all things to all people.

**John Usher**  
Chase Side

## Welcome move

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

**W**ith regards to the low-traffic neighbourhood (LTN) for Bowes (*Low-traffic scheme brought in without consultation*, Page 6), I welcome this scheme as a much-needed antidote to the high levels of rat-running traffic that has plagued this area for years. Bowes traffic at peak time is 80% cut-through traffic, and now that Covid-19 has reduced public transport capacity, traffic levels are even higher. To address this, new government funding provides the solution through this scheme – but with a strict timetable and criteria.

An understandable fear of change has generated a lot of heat, but not much light, including a highly misleading petition which speaks of being “sealed off” and ignores the 40% of households without cars, not to mention the real concerns about air pollution, road safety and public health.

Angry and inaccurate claims are made about “lack of consultation” when in fact the live trial will allow for ongoing resident feedback. Ultimately, it boils down to an extra ten minutes on some local car journeys, or doing nothing to address an urgent problem that is only going to get worse.

**Mark Hawkins-Dady**  
Co-ordinator, Warwick Road  
Action Group

## Culture threat

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

**I** am confused by Enfield Council's attitude to culture in Enfield (*Future of Enfield's history in doubt*, Page 2, Issue 23). On the one hand, they show indifference to closing well-used cultural space at the Dugdale Centre, while on the other hand, they are successfully establishing a huge film studio (*Enfield to become 'big-budget film hub'*, Issue 22, Page 2). This investment will bring new energy and new residents, but the existing population are more than just council taxpayers, our cultural and community activities are important. Enfield has a rich and varied cultural and industrial heritage which is important to celebrate.

**Anthony Fisher**  
Bush Hill Park



## Hold a free cancer awareness session with us

### Claire Fisher from Healthwatch Enfield on the opportunities available to learn more about cancer



A cancer awareness event held by Healthwatch Enfield, prior to the pandemic

**H**ave you heard the news? We're running free, yes that's free, cancer awareness sessions throughout September and October, for small groups in Enfield.

While we have all been distracted with coronavirus, cancer doesn't care, and is still something we need to be vigilant about. It's important to understand what we can do to help reduce our chances of getting cancer and how to spot it early, so that we can increase our chances of survival if we

do get it. This is more relevant now than ever, at a time where we are all a bit more cautious about using health services in fear of coming into contact with Covid-19.

Last year we teamed up with Enfield Council's 'Cancer, Let's Beat it Together' campaign to help residents learn more about cancer at our workshops. Before coronavirus, 300 local people joined one of our sessions. We are now running similar sessions online, so that you can

continue to learn how to reduce your risk of cancer, why early diagnosis is important, and about screening programmes. There is no need to worry about social distancing as you can join us online from the comfort of your own home or workplace.

Before I became involved in this project I thought I already knew enough about cancer and felt I was doing enough to stay healthy, but I was really surprised at just how much I didn't know, especially when it came to certain lifestyle risks. I also learned about screening, some common myths, where to get reliable information, and where to get free support to help make appropriate lifestyle changes.

Our sessions last around 30 to 45 minutes and are suitable for community groups, care home staff, social groups, staff training, and more. If you have suitable premises where social distancing can be observed then we are also happy to do a face-to-face session, if you prefer. Our fully-trained team deliver an interactive and

engaging presentation and we promise no lengthy Power Point slides!

If you run a community group or belong to one, or if you're looking for some free training for your staff, then one of our sessions could be ideal for you. Attending this session could save your life or the life of someone you care about. Just talking about cancer helps to raise awareness and save lives.

All you need to do is email or call us and we can have an informal chat about how one of our sessions can work for your group. We need a minimum of five participants for a session and they must have access to a connected computer if you opt for the online sessions.

**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)

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## AROUND THE BOROUGH

### PALMERS GREEN

## Fox Lane low-traffic scheme revised

ENFIELD COUNCIL HAS REVISED its low-traffic plans for the Fox Lane area of Palmers Green after 73% of residents surveyed gave a negative reaction to the initial proposals announced last autumn.

A six-month trial of the 'Fox Lane Quieter Neighbourhood' scheme, responding to the feedback given by residents, is now set to launch this autumn. Among

the amendments to the proposal are a reduction in the number of road closure points, from 18 down to eleven. A council leaflet sent to residents in July also stated: "We have relocated several closure points to allow access to businesses from [Southgate] High Street and Cannon Hill."

Adaptions have also been made after consultations with the coun-

cil's waste collection team and various emergency services, so that these vehicles can pass through closure points when they are installed. The scheme is predicted to reduce traffic by at least 75% on the busiest streets between Fox Lane and Aldermans Hill, with a fall of 90% possible on Fox Lane itself.

For more information visit [letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/foxlaneQN](http://letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/foxlaneQN)

### RIDGEWAY

## Plans to redevelop hotel

BY SIMON ALLIN,  
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

A LARGE FOUR-STAR HOTEL ON the edge of the Green Belt is set to be redeveloped for new housing and a retirement home.

Care home company Signature Senior Lifestyle and developer Bellway Homes launched a consultation on proposals to redevelop Royal Chace Hotel in The Ridgeway.

The plans would see the 92-bedroom hotel, built in 1970, replaced by a 102-bedroom care home located closer to the road. This would free up space to the south of

the site to allow 60 homes to be built. According to the developers, there would be 50 car spaces and two minibus spaces, which "will avoid overspill parking occurring on local roads".

Signature says it provides "flexible personalised care that can adapt to the changing needs and circumstances of each resident". Options include day care, respite care and longer-term care support for people with conditions such as Alzheimer's and age-related dementia.

The current designs for the Royal Chace site show a care home rang-

ing over three floors, with a café, restaurant, lounge, salon, cinema and other facilities. Apartments up to four storeys high would provide 32 homes, with the remaining residential development consisting of two-storey houses with rooms in the roof space.

Private gardens would be provided to the rear of the houses, with communal landscaped gardens close to the apartments. Members of the public have been invited to have their say on the plans before they are submitted to Enfield Council. For more information visit [signatureroyalchace.co.uk](http://signatureroyalchace.co.uk)

### NEW SOUTHGATE

## Covid-19 memorial



An artist's impression of the Covid-19 memorial

A MEMORIAL GARDEN IS BEING created at a cemetery to remember those who have died of Covid-19.

Westerleigh Group will create the memorial at its New Southgate Cemetery and Crematorium site. Victoria Crabb, its manager, said: "The new garden will be a tranquil place for people to visit and remember loved ones who died during the pandemic, and to pay tribute to those who sacrificed so much to help others who were sick, isolated or vulnerable."

"The centrepiece will be a stone monument surrounded by a floral arrangement representing a rainbow, which has become a symbol of hope during the pandemic."

### MERIDIAN WATER

## New kid on the Bloq



The Building Bloqs workshop will provide employment space for up to 1,000 skilled workers

WORK IS SET TO START ON construction of a new manufacturing space for hundreds of workers as part of Enfield Council's £6billion Meridian Water development.

The new Building Bloqs workshop, to be created within an existing warehouse complex, will support up to 1,000 makers and creators across specialisms including engineering, wood, metal, digital and additive technology, paint finishing, and fashion.

Workers will have access to more than £1million-worth of light industrial equipment and

there will also be new skills training facilities, a waterside café, gardens, a shop, and event space. The new workshop, funded with help from the Greater London Authority (GLA) and the council, is due to be completed next year. Planning permission was granted last year.

Building Bloqs co-founder Al Parra said: "This commitment by the GLA and the council to manufacturing will ensure increased employment and create the right environment for new businesses to develop here at Meridian Water."

### EDMONTON GREEN

## Digital hub opens

A DIGITAL HUB HAS LAUNCHED at Edmonton Green Shopping Centre, providing a "safe space" for local young people to develop their talent.

21K Digital Media and Technology Centre offers youngsters a chance to gain digital and employability skills. Founder and Edmonton resident Colin Lee-Own said: "I realised there were three tower blocks that accommodate 2,700 residents, many of them teenagers. The only facilities within the shopping centre were at Edmonton Green Library. There is a lack of job

opportunities for school leavers."

Around 90% of all jobs over the next 20 years are set to need digital skills. Colin added: "I feel so positive about the centre's future and the impact it will have in improving the quality of lives for young people."

Sabri Marsaoui, asset director of Edmonton Green Shopping Centre, said: "The purpose is to ensure our local young people are equipped with the skills necessary to take up employment opportunities being created in the digital world."

Visit [21kdigitalmedia.com](http://21kdigitalmedia.com)



# Paddy power

*Pensioner raises thousands for his beloved local theatre, Chickenshed*



Paddy Lyons has raised nearly £2,500 for Chickenshed Theatre

story that united the nation.

Now Enfield has its own version of Captain Tom, in the guise of Paddy Lyons. For the past few weeks, 85-year-old Paddy has been walking 78 laps daily around his garden – rain or shine – to raise funds for his beloved Chickenshed Theatre.

As reported in the *Dispatch* last month, the popular Cockfosters venue, like much of the arts industry, has been decimated financially since it was forced to close its doors back in March.

Chickenshed's inclusive and diverse creative process is renowned nationally and internationally, their purpose-built theatre spaces playing host to a huge range of productions, courses and activities throughout the year, offering a welcoming hub to a community of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.

Chickenshed has now launched a much-needed fundraising campaign, aiming to raise a whopping £500,000 to secure its future. Paddy's own fundraising efforts have seen him walk 100 miles in as many days, half-a-mile in the morning and the other half in the afternoon. By mid-August he had raised more than £2,300 for the theatre. But he's not intending to stop yet.

As he completed yet another afternoon's

pacing round the garden, Paddy told me: "I've changed my slogan from 'and I will walk 100 miles' to 'and I will walk 100 more'."

"I didn't know how much I could raise and initially set the bar at £1,000. I had no intention originally of carrying on but the support has been fantastic.

"It will help Chickenshed and keep me fit so there's a double purpose. I was inspired by Captain Tom and having been involved with Chickenshed for the best part of 40 years it was a no-brainer. All my family members have belonged there at one time or another. You go there and you immediately feel at home, whether you're 85 or 15."

Paddy is no ordinary retired 85-year-old. He was a Cistercian monk in the 1960s, when he didn't speak a single word for four years, and about which he has had a book published. He has also been a journalist in the oil industry, worked as communications director of a national children's charity, and spent time

in management training.

But this has been by far the most rewarding and challenging experience for this most modest of men. "It was really tough during the heatwave because I was already semi-exhausted just coping with the

weather," Paddy recalled. "At times I have to stop because of my back. But Chickenshed is vital to the local community."

While his daily walks have kept him on his toes, literally and figuratively, he has had to be careful not to stray off course – even for a few feet.

"I'm not allowed to use the bottom third of the garden because my wife, Elsie, had new grass laid and doesn't want me trampling through it!"

"I'm not sure exactly when I'll stop but the plan is to get to 200 miles if I can manage it."

***"It will help Chickenshed and keep me fit so there's a double purpose"***

BY ANDREW WARSHAW

Everyone remembers 'Captain Tom', full name Sir Captain Thomas Moore, who raised millions of pounds for charity at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic – a real feel-good

# Cracking the code

Children in Enfield can learn how to create their own computer games at a new youth centre for coding and tech skills.

Code Ninjas in London Road, Enfield Town, is teaching kids aged five to 14 how to code and get creative with technology.

The centre is owned and run by local parents and teachers, Neil and Renee Applewhaite, who have a combined 44 years of experience in technology and education. Along with their software developer and digital manager, Symeon Eleftheriadis, they hope to establish their centre as a home away from home for tech-loving kids living in Enfield.

Neil said: "Children have more confidence when it

comes to digital technology and gaming than we ever did, and that passion is something that's worth encouraging.

"There are so many opportunities available in the technology sector and a real shortage of skilled coders, so our programme sets the next generation of talent up for success. But, first and foremost, our sessions are about fun through learning."

Renee hopes Code Ninjas will become a popular hang-out for children and a safe space for them to socialise. "Parents can either leave their child with us while they're running errands, or they can hang around and make the most of our parents' lounge, with free coffee and Wi-Fi," says Renee.

Symeon, Renee and Neil launched Code Ninjas in Enfield Town last month



"As a busy working mum, I know first-hand just how much of a lifeline services like ours are for parents."

**To find out more about Code Ninjas:**  
**Visit** [codeninjas.co.uk/enfield-london-uk](http://codeninjas.co.uk/enfield-london-uk)

## Event listings

For next month's listings, email the details of your event to [enfielddispatch@socialspider.com](mailto:enfielddispatch@socialspider.com) by **Tuesday 15th September**.

## ART

### Beyond Isolation

Until Friday 4th September, Monday to Friday 10am-5pm  
Dugdale Centre, 39 London Road, Enfield EN2 6DS

For Patrick Samuel's twelfth solo exhibition, he's brought to life many of the places he wandered to in his imagination during the months of the lockdown, and before. He shares these moments with us and invites us to go beyond our isolation.

### Free entry

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

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## WORKSHOP

### Creative Spark Workshops

Every Tuesday in September, 12pm-2pm  
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A series of craft and arts workshops. Participants will explore their inner creative abilities, develop self-confidence and learn new skills, with the added opportunity to exhibit their work or attain a qualification.

### Free, booking essential

**Visit** [learningthroughthearts.co.uk/events/creative-spark](http://learningthroughthearts.co.uk/events/creative-spark)

## CHARITY

### My Big Fun Walk

Sat and Sun, 12th-13th September  
Wherever you want

North London Hospice's flagship event, The Big Fun Walk, had to be postponed this year. Last year it raised £160,000 with 1,600 people taking part. Now instead, My Big Fun Walk sees supporters walking one of our suggested routes, or even creating their own, for 8.5 miles over one weekend.

**Tickets £12.50 adults, £7.50 children**  
**Visit** [bigfunwalk.co.uk](http://bigfunwalk.co.uk)



## All hail Enfield's old buses

Take a bus trip down memory lane with local expert Phil Hambling



London Country's 313 service at Ponders End in September 1987



Sampson's Coaches began running route 217b, seen here at Enfield Town, in 1986

London buses are all red, right? Well it hasn't always been so.

Firstly, there were the 'country area' and Green Line buses operated by London Transport from 1933 until 1969. Routes such as the 310 from Hertford and 313 to St Albans and beyond brought a splash of green into Enfield for many years. The 313 actually turned red in 1982, losing its service west of Potters Bar and later extending to Chingford, while the 310 also continues to operate, but in Arriva's corporate turquoise and terminating at Waltham Cross instead of Enfield Town.

For 52 years, these were the only non-red

service buses to be seen in Enfield. However, before the colour red won supremacy over London's bus network, the London Regional Transport Act 1984 would see the the body responsible for the provision of bus operations in the capital split away from the bus operators themselves. Thus, in 1985, London Buses was born as an 'arm's length' subsidiary of London Regional Transport, which had taken over from London Transport.

This new governing body was able to offer its bus services for competitive tender, with London Buses having to compete with the private sector for the right to operate the capital's services. The results

of the first round of tendering saw half of routes awarded to London Buses and the remaining six won by other operators.

Enfield would be at the heart of the action, as the first four routes to change hands commenced in July 1985, with two running through Enfield. Route 313 was passed to London Country and route W9 became the concern of Eastern National, which set up an outstation at Enfield Council's base in Carterhatch Lane.

Over the ensuing years a plethora of operators would serve Enfield. Route 298 via Southgate commenced operation from London Country's Hatfield garage in June 1986. Like the 313, this route would see operation by Grey Green from 1988 before Capital Citybus took over with bright yellow minibuses in 1992.

Eastern National would add to their Enfield operations from the autumn of 1986 by winning the contract for the 307 service, which took over the eastern end of route 107 and began operation in September.

Sampson's Coaches won the contract to operate route 217b, along the A10, from May 1986. It was perhaps fortunate that this was their only contract award, as their performance was somewhat inconsistent and they had the service stripped from them two years later. London Buses returned to operate the route from its Enfield garage in July 1988, by which time the route was renumbered as 317.

From 1987, Grey Green also ran route 125, between North Finchley and Winchmore Hill, in a brown, white and orange livery. Thankfully the issue of having a livery very different to its colour-based fleet name was resolved in 1988!

***"Enfield was at the heart of the action"***



Grey Green began running the 125 service, seen here at Southgate Underground Station, in 1987

Acton-based coach operator Pan Atlas commenced operation of route 112 from Palmers Green to Ealing in July 1988.

Eastern National had a major reorganisation in 1990 after it was sold to Badgerline Group – today known as First

Bus – with its operations in London becoming rebranded as 'Thamesway'. The company began running route 191 from Edmonton Green in May 1996, which

compensated somewhat for the loss of route 307 a few months previously.

Nowadays, of course, all London operators are required to have their buses painted in standard red but, while the kaleidoscope of colours may have gone, the tendering process of Transport for London, awarding contracts to private operators, remains the norm.



The 191 service, seen here waiting at Edmonton Green, was taken over by Thamesway in 1996 Credit Colin Lloyd



## Still going strong

*Enfield Town Ladies FC chair Guy Malyon invites local women and girls to get involved with the club*

**E**nfield is home to the first supporter-owned football club, Enfield Town FC, but did you know it's also home to one of the oldest women's football clubs in the country?

Enfield Town Ladies FC (ETLFC) is 35 years old this year. The club started life as Merryhill Midgets in 1985, a name taken from the primary school the founder members attended, but in 2003 they forged an official link with Enfield Town. We are now proud to be a part of the wider football community under the Enfield Town FC banner.

After the pandemic lockdown, the Football Association expunged all league results, but our reserve team had already won their division with three games to play and both the first team and third

teams were fighting at the top of their leagues and in cup finals. Our youth teams were also developing well and actually look even stronger for the new season.

Our first team plays in the fourth tier of ladies football, against the likes of AFC Wimbledon, Ipswich Town and Norwich City. They also compete in the Women's FA Cup, narrowly losing out to AFC Wimbledon last season. The first team play their home games on Sundays at the Queen Elizabeth II Stadium, the home of Enfield Town.

The rest of the club's teams play homes games at Enfield Playing Fields; youth on Saturday and seniors on Sunday. For the 2020/21 season we are running six youth teams from under-9 to under-17, plus three senior teams.

We are very proud of our



Enfield Town Ladies FC is one of the oldest women's football clubs in the country

culture as a community club offering football for all. There are no trials or restrictions on squad numbers, allowing girls and ladies of all abilities to be able to train and play competitively throughout the season. We also offer probably the lowest annual subscriptions in the various leagues that we play in,

which also allows more people to access the beautiful game.

The entire club is run by volunteers, yet we are growing and thriving in these most difficult of times. It really is a family-orientated club and we have many members who have been involved for 20 years or more.

If you are interested in either

playing for the club, volunteering your services, or are willing to support the club financially, please make contact through social media or visit the website.

**For more information about Enfield Town Ladies FC:**

**Facebook** facebook.com/EnfieldTownLadiesFC

**Visit** ladies.etfc.london

## Racing returns

**Enfield motor enthusiast Robert Taylor reports from North Weald Airfield in Essex, where racing returned this summer**



Richard Warne racing in his Ford Escort MK2



Geoff Foot taking a corner in his Jedi



John Indri at the wheel of his Mitsubishi Mirage

**L**ocal motorsport roared back into action recently with the TAMS Packaging Summer North Weald Sprint, co-organised by Oakwood-based Green Belt Motor Club.

Edmonton's Chris Deal, who is Green Belt's completions secretary, helped organise the meeting for this, the club's most important event of the year. His many tasks included complying with a raft of new Covid-19 regulations and procedures designed to minimise any effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

On top of this, Chris had to organise the results of the times for a record entry of 74 cars. In all, he was involved in sending more than 1,200 emails in the weeks leading up to this event!

Green Belt Motor Club members did well in several of the 15 classes that were held. In fourth place overall was our own John Indri, in his Harkness-sponsored canary yellow Mitsubishi Mirage. His best time, one minute and 15 seconds, gained him victory in the hotly-contested class for 2000cc-plus modified road cars.

The special trophy for the highest-finishing Green

Belt member went to club president Richard Warne. He drove his Car Spares Cheshunt and Comer Oils-sponsored Ford Escort Mk2 to fourth place in the class for 1400cc to 2000cc rally cars.

Former Palmers Green resident and Green Belt member Geoff Foot brought his Jedi single-seater racing car out of retirement and finished first in his poorly-supported class, and in 23rd place overall.

**For more information about Green Belt Motor Club:**

**Visit** gbmc.org.uk



# Support independent local journalism

## What we do

Here at *Enfield Dispatch* we do things differently. We combine professional journalism with voluntary contributions from people who live and work in the borough and create content which is responsive to and reflective of the community.

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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As a not-for-profit publication we rely on the generous support of our community. We look to our readers, who recognise the value of independent journalism, to help support us.

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[enfelddispatch.co.uk/join](http://enfelddispatch.co.uk/join)

## Individual rewards

### £3 per month upwards:

Name in print and online, pin badge

### £5 per month upwards:

Name in print and online, pin badge, tote bag, paper posted to you every month

## Organisational rewards

### £10 per month:

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### £20 per month:

Name and logo in print and online, 20% discount on advertising

### £50 per month:

Name and logo in print and online, 40% discount, six free small adverts per year

## Members

Derek Grant, Michael Dickinson, Michael Cole, Young Notes, Ed Balleny, Natasha Boydell, Elizabeth Crosthwait, Richard Stones, Philip Ridley, Suzanne Beard, Chris Kaufman, Martyn Stogden, Susan Cook, Rupert Price, Meryn Cutler, Andrew Irvine, Basil Clarke, John Naughton, Right at Home Enfield, MumSing Choir, Penelope Williams, Lloyd Tew-Cragg, Andrew Warshaw, Anna Crowley, Neil Churchill, Karl Brown, Anthony Fisher, Dan Wright, Residents of Edmonton Green, Kay Heather, Julia Mountain, Excellence in Learning Community, Jerome O'Callaghan, Carole Stanley, Mervyn Maggs, Aditya Chakraborty, Norman Bennett, Vivien Giladi, Greg Andrews, The Old Enfield Charitable Trust, Matt Burn, Enfield URCs, Martin Russo, Marilyn Hamilton, Laura Davenport, Mick Wood, Helen Osman, Ranvir Mallick, Enfield Over 50s Forum, Francis Sealey, Caroline Banks, Bill Linton, Joe Hickey, Irene Richards, William Yates, Petr Mitterbach, Gianni Sarra, Tracy Hughes, Kristiana Heapy, Neil Bachelor, John Crowther, Hannah Salvidge, Adrian Day, Sean Wilkinson, Janice Nunn, Julia Daniel, Ranjana Pieris, Deborah Dalglish, Dr. Vaughan Watson, Philip Foxe, Phil H, Matthew Eade, Dána Roberts, A Cleary, Stephen Evans, Julian Rhys-Williams, I J Sneddon, Steve King, Robert Pite, Lauri Clarke.

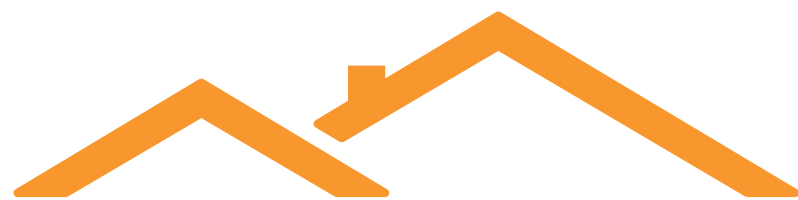
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