

ENFIELD DISPATCH

Nº. 26 THE BOROUGH'S FREE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

NOV 2020

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TV PRESENTER Fiona Bruce spent three days filming a new series of the BBC programme *Antiques Roadshow* at Forty Hall Estate in Enfield. Local residents showed Fiona their family heirlooms and missing masterpieces, hoping they might be worth a small fortune. Fiona said: "We had a wonderful time in North London filming some stunning items. Our experts have seen some really intriguing and valuable objects and I can't wait to see the finished programmes." The show will air early next year.

Outrage at high-rise plans

Enfield Town plans revealed after tallest tower is backed

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

London's high-rise building boom has hit the borough, with a 29-storey "skyscraper" winning planning permission in Southbury and a 26-storey tower proposed for Enfield Town.

The plan to redevelop Colosseum Retail Park (*Tallest tower in Enfield given go-ahead, Page 6*) was narrowly approved after a tied vote among councillors on the planning committee, some of whom derided the scheme as "bonkers" and "monstrous".

Two weeks later, Deutsche Bank's long-awaited vision for "revitalising" Enfield Town was revealed to include a tower block in the middle of a conservation area which,

if approved, would be almost twice as tall as any existing building in the town centre.

There was fury among local residents' groups over the proposals for at least 350 new homes, which would involve part-demolishing Palace Gardens shopping centre to make way for a mixed-use scheme that also features a "boutique cinema" and other evening entertainment.

Linda Miller, chair of Enfield Town Residents' Association (ETRA), said: "The developers gave a presentation to ETRA members in September and after much pressing admitted the tallest tower was to be 20 storeys. The overwhelming view of the audience was one of horror."

"Quite why they have decided in the last few weeks that it should be

even higher is a mystery – unless it is to demonstrate how little regard they have for local feelings."

The Enfield Society has also expressed "serious concerns" over the proposed 26-storey tower, while backing the idea of a major residential scheme. The group issued a statement which said: "We support the need for investment in the town centre and believe that many of the proposals, including reconfiguring shops, opening up the centre to Church Street and Cecil Road, creating a town square, bringing in other activities, and improving landscaping, are positive."

"However, we have serious concerns about the proposed height. The society is completely opposed to the inclusion of a tower block

within the development... a tall building would dominate the historic heart of the town."

Town ward councillor Lindsay Rawlings, the Conservative group's lead on environment, is also opposing the plans, claiming it was "not in keeping" with the conservation area.

"The overwhelming view was one of horror"

Deutsche Bank bought both Palace Gardens and Palace Exchange shopping centres in 2018 and 2016, respectively. A spokesperson for DWS, Deutsche Bank's asset

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Enfield Dispatch is the borough's free community newspaper. We publish monthly and distribute 10,000 free copies of each issue – and we will continue to do so during the ongoing public health crisis.

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Petition against low-traffic scheme debated

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

Police, fire and ambulance services did not object to a controversial low-traffic neighbourhood (LTN) when the plans for it had been finalised, a town hall chief claimed.

Addressing councillors who were quizzing him on the new Bowes Park LTN, Richard Eason, Enfield Council's healthy streets programme director, said the emergency services did not oppose the final designs for the Bowes Park (LTN) scheme rolled out this summer, after local people claimed ambulances and police vehicles had found it difficult to access the area.

Under further questioning from councillors, Richard admitted there had been a previous objection from the ambulance service during a discussion of the designs, but said this was based on a potential increase in journey times for staff travelling to and from work and not on the operations of the ambulance service itself.

The project has seen a number of roads blocked off to motor traffic in an effort to curb 'rat running' traffic using Bowes Park as a shortcut to reach the North Circular – and make local streets safer for cycling and walking in the process.

The council's overview and scrutiny committee had convened a meeting to debate a petition objecting to Bowes Park LTN, which had gained nearly 1,600 signatures. Lead petitioner Roland Hewes called for the whole scheme to be removed immediately, telling the committee: "It does nothing to keep us safe from Covid, it is socially regressive, it adds to pollution and congestion in our wider neighbourhood, it

reduces the independence of the vulnerable, and provides disincentives to walk and cycle."

Roland warned the closure of through roads meant access for emergency services "is via a very congested part of the North Circular or Bounds Green Road, both of which are regularly gridlocked and sometimes closed and flooded".

Responding to Roland's concerns and comments by councillors, Richard said: "We have a very constructive relationship with the emergency services. The way it ultimately works is at the end of the discussion, do they have any objections? If they do not raise those objections with us, then we proceed to implementation – and that is the case with this scheme."

The council director added that the emergency services did not carry keys to bollards and other measures designed to stop through traffic, preferring to understand the "strategic routes" through neighbourhoods. He said he had personally spoken to the Metropolitan Police and London Ambulance Service, and said they had agreed the routes that were settled on.

Councillor Ian Barnes, the council's deputy leader, pointed out that a camera had been installed

at one of the entrances to the LTN to allow emergency vehicles to pass through, while preventing other traffic. He added the council had been given just eight weeks to implement the scheme by the government after it offered the local authority a £100,000 grant to spend on the project – cited as the reason a full public consultation was not carried out before the LTN was installed, as is usual for such projects.

Cllr Barnes claimed there was engagement with neighbouring Haringey Council and Transport for London and pointed out a consultation had been launched after the scheme was put in place. In response to concerns that the LTN was having a negative impact on older and vulnerable people who rely on their cars, Cllr Barnes said the aim was to encourage people who can walk, cycle and use public transport to stop using their vehicles for short journeys.

Following the discussion, the committee agreed to recommend that officers do not make the LTN scheme permanent until a full and proper consultation has been carried out.

The consultation on Bowes Park LTN is now open:
Visit letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/bowesQN



Residents in Bowes Park have urged Enfield Council to not "fence us in", although others support the area's new low-traffic scheme

▶ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

management arm, told the Dispatch: "To revitalise the town centre there does need to be an element of residential in order to fund the redevelopment. It needs to be mixed use and it needs to be a certain scale.

"When we did a survey a lot of people said they wanted an eve-

ning economy – at the moment there is no reason to come here after 6pm."

Palace Gardens was built in 1982 and includes retailers such as WHSmith, Boots and Pearsons, although the latter is not included in the redevelopment plans. The adjacent Palace Exchange, built in 2006, is also not included in the current proposal.

Asked whether the height of the scheme was negotiable, the Palace Square spokesperson said: "The architecture will be of high quality. Where height is concerned, we know we need to justify this, and we are confident we can do that."

For more information:
Visit palacesquareconsultation.com

Town revamp

A consultation has been launched on new plans to revamp Enfield Town, providing more pedestrian crossings, cycle lanes, public spaces, and introducing a 20mph speed limit.

Enfield Council was awarded £6million by Transport for London last year as part of its 'Liveable Neighbourhoods' scheme to make town centres "cleaner, greener, and more pleasant places to live". Its proposals now include the creation of a new public square between Church Street and Little Park Gardens.

Three online presentations are being held this month, via Zoom. Residents can comment until Sunday 15th November. Visit letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/enfieldtown

Nomination

An Edmonton Green councillor has been nominated for a national award.

Tolga Aramaz was shortlisted for 'Young Councillor of the Year' in the Local Government Information Unit's 2020 Councillor Awards. Cllr Aramaz was first elected in 2018. He was temporarily suspended from the Labour group in 2019 for refusing to support Enfield Council's budget cuts and also formed a campaign group calling for more social housing at Meridian Water. This year he volunteered to help vulnerable residents during the pandemic.

Award winners will be decided by a judging panel and announced on Thursday 26th November.

Driver fines

Enfield Council issued £167,050 in fines, in three weeks, to drivers caught disobeying new traffic rules.

In September, camera enforcement traps were installed in Fox Lane, Meadway, and Warwick Road to cut traffic. The traps are part of the council's new low-traffic neighbourhood (LTN) schemes in Palmers Green and Bowes Park. The Fox Lane trap saw £29,055 in fines issued between Tuesday 29th September and Monday 19th October, Meadway saw £70,265, and Warwick Road £67,730.

The council's head of parking revealed the figures in response to a request by Conservative group leader Joanne Laban. Cllr Laban said: "It's a lot of money and calls into question how many people know about these cameras or LTN zones."

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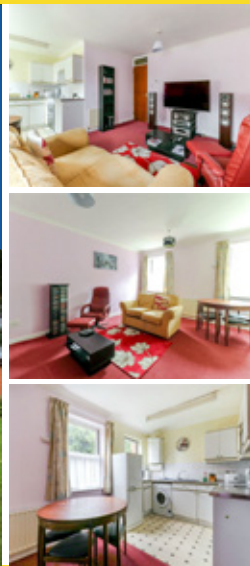
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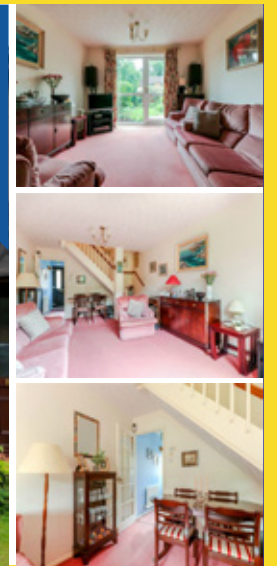


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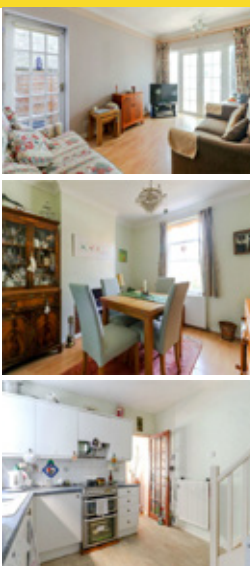


A WELL PRESENTED, CHAIN FREE, TWO BEDROOM HOUSE – EPC D68
Tempsford Close, Enfield EN2 7EP **£425,000 Freehold**



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VICTORIAN CHARACTER TWO BEDROOM END OF TERRACE COTTAGE – EPC D61
Raleigh Road, Enfield EN2 6UB **£600,000 Freehold**



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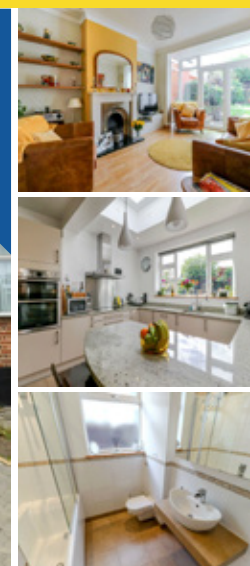


A SPACIOUS FOUR BEDROOM FAMILY HOUSE – EPC E44
Parsonage Gardens, Enfield EN2 6JS **£675,000 Freehold**



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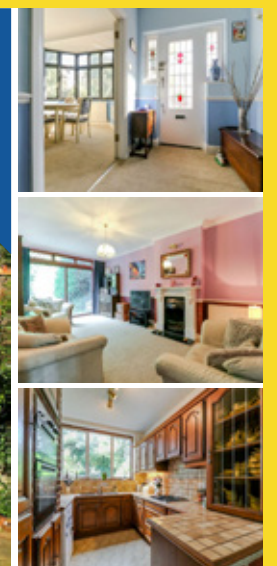


A WELL APPOINTED FOUR BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED CHALET BUNGALOW – EPC D
Links Side, Enfield EN2 7QU **£780,000 Freehold**



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Autumn gardening advice

Richard Harmes from Myddelton House Gardens offers his tips

Autumn is a magical time in the garden. Golden and red hues transform the landscape as the season progresses and many plants and trees prepare themselves for winter dormancy.

As well as the dramatic change in leaf colour in many of our trees, such as the *Liquidambar* and scarlet oaks, there are still some herbaceous plants, such as asters, that perform well and give us a splash of colour right through October, until the first hard frost. Our numerous dahlias will also keep going strong until they are knocked back by the frost, at which time we will lift the tubers and store over winter.

At Myddelton House one of the first signs that autumn has arrived is the onset of *Cyclamen Hederifolium*, which is planted throughout the gardens embracing us with waves of pink and white flowers before the very attractive foliage comes to surface. Our gardens are well known for the display of spring crocus but equally eye-catching are the autumn crocus and *Colchicum* flowers that are popping up at this time of year.

As the weather draws in, often meaning conditions are cold and wet, many home gardeners feel it's time to 'hang up the trowel'



Autumnal colours brighten up Myddelton House Gardens

until spring. However, for professional gardeners working in big gardens such as Myddelton, the hard work is only just beginning!

One of my favourite jobs to do in autumn is to lift and divide herbaceous perennials that have become overcrowded in their allotted space. This is such a great way to spread plants around the garden and the perfect opportunity to fill gaps in the borders with plants you

know will thrive in your garden. Most perennials can be divided at this time of year but some are better to wait until spring when new growth is just beginning.

Other autumn jobs in the garden include leaf clearing and weeding, as weeds will continue to appear in mild conditions; a final lawn mow in November if weather is mild, scarifying and aerating lawns for moss and thatch control; feeding lawns

with autumn feed to promote strong root growth; mulching beds with a good mulch such as mushroom compost, farmyard manure or soil conditioner, also helping to improve soil structure, particularly on clay soils.

You should bring in tender plants and bulbs and overwinter them in a warm greenhouse or conservatory; lift and store dahlias, cannas and other tender perennials once they have been hit by the first frosts; prune climbing roses; cut back grasses and bamboos unless you want to keep them for winter interest; cut back herbaceous perennials as they 'go over'; and put out bulbs and bedding plants for a spring display. Winter bedding should be planted out in November.

Nestled in the heart of Enfield and spanning eight acres, the historic Myddelton House Gardens play host to a variety of trees, shrubs and flowers as well as an extensive heritage kitchen garden and cut flower beds. The gardens are now open for pre-booked visits. Sessions are free to book online and are available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 11am–1pm and 2pm–4pm.

For more information about Myddelton House Gardens:
Visit visitleealley.org.uk/myddelton

Lighting up

Lucy McGinn from The Nightingale Cancer Support Centre on the charity's Christmas appeal

Christmas is a very special time of year, bringing joy to many. Yet it can be especially difficult if a loved one is going through a hard time or is no longer with you.

This year, there is also the added hardship of Covid-19 putting more distance between loved ones and increasing emotional stress. Through dedications and donations, our 'Lights of Love' project helps to remember those important to you, while also helping those who need vital support.

Each year at The Nightingale Cancer Support Centre we receive dedications to help remember your loved ones and put them on display for the public to see. Though we cannot put on our annual public ceremony this year, you can still help to light up The Nightingale and other people's lives.

Your dedication will be part of our centre's festive window display in Baker Street and be included in our dedication book for 2020. Following your dedication you will receive a 'heart of love' to create your own display. It can serve as a reminder of your loved one and your support of The Nightingale.

Joan Kearns, director of services and development at The Nightingale, says: "Christmas is always a particularly trying time and the effects of Covid-19 means that some people won't be able to spend the holidays with their loved ones.

"This year, more than ever, our services are desperately needed by those living in Enfield. Every Lights of Love donation really will make a difference to those who are struggling to cope with the effects of a devastating disease this Christmas."

Make a dedication and donation online:
Call 020 8366 9674
Visit nightingalesupport.org.uk/lightsoflove



Residents can dedicate a light to a loved one

Taking care of our local park

The chairperson of a new 'friends of' group is inviting others to get involved

BY KRISTIANA HEAPY

Tottenham Recreation Ground is a big green space with a small playground, outside gym and a multi-use sports court located between Bowes Park and Edmonton, just inside the border of Enfield borough.

It is the home to the North London Shamrocks Gaelic Football Club, and at the weekend it is full of youth football teams training and playing matches. There is an excellent nursery situated near the entrance of the park and a community of dog walkers.

However, many of the people I have spoken to also feel the park is under-served by Enfield Council and certainly has not seen the

same level of investment as parks such as Broomfield, Grovelands and Oakwood, which are located in more affluent parts of the borough.

In an effort to address this, and to build a park that can better serve the community, a group of local residents (including myself) have set up a new group, Friends of Tottenham Recreation Ground and Boundary Playing Fields. It became constituted at its first meeting in September, where the group was also agreed that our priority would be to connect with as many users of the park and local residents as possible, in order to build a vision of what we are aiming to achieve.

We are at the start of this process but we are already excited about what could be

achieved by our community. Ideas and aspirations include creating greater accessibility for people with mobility aids and parents with pushchairs. Other aims include re-opening at least one of the disused toilet blocks, installing new play equipment, and planting more trees and wild flowers. There is also support for a café and community space in one of the disused outbuildings, something I think there is a strong business case for considering the foot traffic from nursery parents, sport clubs and dog walkers.

As a dog walker and parent of young children I have used the park most days for seven years and it is noticeable how much busier it has been since

lockdown. It is wonderful to see so many people using the park to exercise, play and socialise. There is an opportunity now to harness that expanded community interest in the park and work with the council to build a well-maintained, well-resourced park which can enhance the quality of life for local people.

We believe that it is possible to create a space that reflects the needs and wishes of our local community. If you are a local resident, park user, local business or school, and you have views on what you would like to see, or just want to get involved, then we want to hear from you!

For more information and to get in touch:
Email tottenhamrec@gmail.com

Dr Sam Edward was acting chief executive when the pandemic hit in March



How we've transformed our service for residents

North London Hospice medical director Dr Sam Edward on how the charity has adapted to the pandemic this year

This year has been extraordinarily challenging for North London Hospice, like so many other charities.

The week prior to the lockdown in March, I was acting chief executive. The situation developed rapidly and the rate of change was at times overwhelming. I was managing our planning, while trying to deliver frontline care too.

The biggest challenges we faced at the hospice during the pandemic were around visiting and the safety of patients, volunteers and staff. Central to end of life care is supporting people to have those close to them around in their final days. For the last six months we have not always been able to provide this and that's been heartbreaking. Even now, visiting is restricted, but it has eased and we're learning to operate in this new way of life.

We are constantly trying to strike the right balance between following guidance to limit contact and keep everyone safe, while enabling people to be together and see their loved ones. During the first weeks on our 18-bed ward we tried hard to admit as many patients as we could from hospitals to ease the pressure on them.

In the community, many of our patients were shielding, and it was a priority to find ways to maintain their support while keeping them, and our staff, safe. There was rapid change to our services and we introduced consultations by video and adapted them according to preference and needs. We continued to visit people at home

and also provide supported carers, patients and professionals with a 24/7 telephone advice service.

The issues over PPE (personal protective equipment) were on the news daily, and we faced the same challenges with obtaining stocks as other healthcare providers did. The supplies weren't coming through and we were rapidly running out.

I remember the relief when we got our first national drop of PPE – it was long-awaited but many of our orders had arrived without masks or aprons. It was really hard to see how we could keep going without this essential equipment. We had no choice but to ask our community for help, and it was this generosity in those first weeks that enabled us to continue supporting patients. I would like to wholeheartedly thank everyone who responded.

PPE has made communication with patients difficult, however. We realised how much we read through facial expressions. At North London Hospice, doctors and nurses on our inpatient unit now have a photo on their name badges to help share their faces more clearly. I am used to greeting people with a handshake or holding someone's hand at the end of their life, for many it is the image so often shared in relation to compassionate hospice care. The lack of physical contact creates distance that we've spent our whole careers breaking down – but we just have to do it in other ways now. It's taken a long time to get used to.

The learning curve has been steep – professionally, personally, and as a team – but the transformation in the way we deliver our services has been huge.

Hoping for an equal education

Sofia Cerchiai from Enfield is leading a child-centred educational project

One of the biggest problems presented by the pandemic and the subsequent lockdown was education.

Children could no longer attend school and parents were suddenly tasked with being a teacher on top of their own professions. In short, it was a difficult time for everyone. However, it is often said that necessity is the mother of invention, and this has proved to be true for twelve children who decided to take a stand and change the nature of online education through a new organisation called *hope3g.com*.

With no funding, they have found themselves state-of-the-art offices in central London, thanks to the generosity of virtual office space provider Halkin, and have teamed up with top legal firms and world-leading accountants. Even Jeff Bezos at Amazon has donated server space to them!

This team of children now have more than 2,000 volunteers helping them; university graduates and professionals who are working hard to make sure the organisation can run smoothly. In its simplest form, *hope3g.com* is

a free, online educational platform that showcases lessons in the form of videos that children watch and learn from.

We have lessons contributed to us from educators, but also from junior athletes, business professionals, and everyone in-between! We believe that one person can't teach everything but everyone can teach something. We want to give children across the globe access to world-leading lessons and educational content, thus allowing us to move towards the eradication of educational inequality.

On top of this, our platform allows parents to harmonise their working day with their children, making sure that important Zoom calls can be taken with no interruptions from kids asking how to spell 'because' or how to work out a maths problem. It's a win-win situation!

Ultimately, we want to make this a global initiative with child directors all over the world, but in order to do that we have to reach out and get as many people involved as possible. We would love to have people from Enfield contributing lessons to our platform. Educators are welcome to contribute lessons but we want to stress that they don't have to be based on traditional subjects. Content can be centred around a hobby, an interest, or even what your job entails! In addition to this, children in Enfield are welcome to come aboard as a child director, and be given the opportunity to pick an area they're interested in and lead it. We already have children leading web design, human resources, and more.

If you'd like to contribute, donate money, or find out more about what we do then please go to *hope3g.com*. Your support means that education can become fun, fair, and free!

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How the Colosseum Retail Park scheme will look once complete, according to the developers



Tallest tower in Enfield given go-ahead

The 29-storey scheme on retail park site has been described as “bonkers” and “monstrous”

By James Cracknell

A “skyscraper” set to become the borough’s tallest building has won planning permission – despite councillors criticising the scheme as “too tall”, “unaffordable” and “bonkers”.

Colosseum Retail Park’s redevelopment, on the corner of Great Cambridge Road and Southbury Road, is planned in two stages and could see 1,800 homes built in total. Details for the first phase, including the 29-storey tower and 444 homes, were approved by Enfield Council’s planning committee.

Every committee member who aired their views at the meeting raised concerns, including over the scheme’s height, density, and failure to meet ‘affordable’ homes targets. But in the vote, councillors were split, with five in favour and five against. Committee chair Sinas Boztas cast the deciding vote to grant permission.

Controversy has since arisen over why one committee member – who said they’d have voted against the scheme given the chance – was barred from attending.

Council planning officers recommended councillors approve the scheme, arguing the site of retailer B&Q was a good location for large-scale development and would make a significant contribution to borough housing targets. Officer Graham Harrington claimed the scheme’s ‘affordable’ homes provision of 30% was justified because the developer would not make enough profit otherwise. He said: “The [council’s] 40% target is subject to viability. The acid test is the ‘maximum reasonable amount’. Officers have to negotiate with applicants – we have scrutinised the viability appraisal [...] and are satisfied it is the maximum reasonable amount.”

Cllr Boztas said: “I have been on the committee for some time and, for applications of three or four hundred flats, we have never had [approved] less than 40% affordable housing.”

Conservative committee member Mike Rye slammed the plans, including demolition of the retail park’s bingo hall which he said was popular with elderly people. “I don’t think the re-provision [of these facilities] will meet the loss of Buzz Bingo,” said Cllr Rye. “The height and density causes me concern. The 29-storey tower will be a monstrous scar on the landscape.”

Turley, said: “It [Colosseum] is a retail park without merit. We’ve been working with council officers for three years and the committee will note the relatively few number of objections for a scheme of this scale.”

Brian Reynolds, from NEAT, admitted the scheme had “more in common with Meridian Water” than the local area but added: “Yes, they are tall buildings, but they will allow

“The 29-storey tower will be a monstrous scar on the landscape”

Planning officers admitted the development would be visible from Forty Hill Conservation Area, but that the visual harm “was less than substantial”. Another concern was the mix of home sizes, with more than half the proposed flats in the first phase being one-bedroom or studio dwellings. Just one-in-eight of flats in phase one will have three bedrooms. In the whole scheme, 40% would be studios or one-beds, 50% would be two-beds and 15% would be three-beds.

Maria Alexandrou, another Conservative committee member, said: “We need more family homes in Enfield, so why are we looking at something that has 40% one-bed flats?”

The first phase will see B&Q demolished to accommodate four buildings of 29, 18, nine and six storeys, with the smallest described as a “work hub”. The second phase – still subject to detailed planning permission at a later date – will see furniture shop Dunelm demolished alongside Buzz Bingo and KFC, with additional homes planned that could take the total number built on the 4.2-hectare site to between 1,587 and 1,800. Council planning officers acknowledged the scheme “exceeds 350 units per hectare, the definition of ‘higher density’ development”. Labour committee member Hass Yusuf said: “The whole project is too dense. A 29-storey development is bonkers.”

A petition was signed by 271 local residents, while formal objections were also submitted by Buzz Bingo and two local groups; Enfield Town Residents’ Association claimed the plans would “inevitably result in severe negative impacts on health, anti-social behaviour and crime”, while Bush Hill Park Residents’ Association argued the Grenfell Tower disaster showed the danger of “fires over a certain height”. Sport England also objected over a lack of leisure provision. Two other local groups, The Enfield Society and Enfield Road Watch, backed the plans because “densification in this area is more sustainable than building on green belt”.

The scheme’s developers, investment giant Blackrock and London-based NEAT Developments, committed to financial contributions totalling £18million, going towards improving local infrastructure and public services. This includes £650,000 to Transport for London for boosting public transport and “enhancement” of Southbury Station.

Ben Wrighton, from planning agents

over half the total area to become open space, creating a great place to work, rest and play.”

In the end, five councillors voted in favour (all Labour) and five against (three Tory and two Labour). Four of the five in favour hadn’t contributed to the three-hour debate of the application and the fifth to vote in favour, Cllr Boztas, had been highly critical of the scheme – describing it as “more like a skyscraper”.

Former council leader Doug Taylor said at the start of the meeting that he’d been advised he would need to declare his position on the board of council-owned energy company Energetik as a conflict of interest, because the scheme includes a proposed connection with Energetik’s district heating network. It meant he could not vote on the plans.



Former deputy leader Daniel Anderson, who recently quit Labour to join breakaway group Community First, joined the committee two weeks prior to the meeting but said he’d been denied a chance to take part because the council hadn’t arranged for him to be trained. Cllr Anderson told the *Dispatch*: “I read the report and had numerous concerns, as were expressed by other members of the panel. Having watched the meeting I remained unconvinced and would have voted against.”

A council spokesperson said: “Daniel Anderson became a member of the committee after a recalculation of the political balance of the council’s committees. The council requires any member to have undertaken training and regrettably it wasn’t possible to arrange prior to the committee. Community First could have had an appropriately trained substitute, if they had one.”

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#MoreThanACollege

This scheme is a colossal mistake

Alan Sims from Better Homes for Enfield laments the recent approval of a 29-storey development

Enfield Council's planning committee recently approved a controversial high-density housing scheme. But it is not clear why they approved it.

It will see 26 different blocks built at Colosseum Retail Park, on the corner of the A10 and Southbury Road. Five of the blocks will be towers of between 16 and 29 storeys, while 21 will be between six and 15 storeys. We have some significant concerns about the development.

This scheme will be one of the most densely populated areas of London. One justification given for building high-density neighbourhoods is to increase the number of affordable homes in the capital. However, only 8% of the flats in the first phase will be at London Affordable Rent levels. This is way below the 28% required by planning policy and lower than many other developments in London.

Almost 600 children will live at



the development, but not enough play space will be provided within the scheme, meaning children will need to cross the A10 to use Enfield Playing Fields. At the committee meeting, a council planning officer described the A10 as a "monstrous road" but claimed it was acceptable for children aged eleven or older to cross it to reach the park.

Evidence shows that accident rates (including those near cross-

ings) are highest among children aged 12–15 years. We are concerned that the needs and safety of children have not been properly considered or incorporated into the design, and think it is unreasonable to expect children of any age to routinely cross a busy dual carriageway.

The scheme will not deliver enough family-sized homes, something we have long been calling for and

recently highlighted in our report, *Needs Not Numbers*. Only around 240 of the 1,800 flats will have three or more bedrooms, a fraction of what is required by policy and of what is needed in Enfield borough. This means families may end up living in flats that are too small for them, as already happens in high-density schemes in other boroughs, such as Tower Hamlets.

Families living in overcrowded homes are at an increased risk of infectious diseases and respiratory problems, and many say their living conditions affect their mental health. Recent experiences of Covid-19 are a timely reminder of the importance of having enough space to live in.

The shops currently at Colosseum Retail Park (B&Q, Dunelm, and KFC) will be demolished and 140 jobs will be lost. Residents and tradespeople will need to travel further afield to shop for DIY and building supplies. A popular

bingo hall, Buzz Bingo, will also be demolished. The club has 11,500 active customers and its loss will have a disproportionate negative impact on parts of the community that rely on the bingo hall as a social outlet, namely older women.

The five councillors on the planning committee who voted against the scheme gave detailed reasons for their decision during the planning meeting, with one councillor describing the scheme as "somewhat bonkers". However, it is unclear why five other councillors voted to approve the scheme, because they didn't explain their reasons.

Committee chair Sinan Boztas, a Labour councillor, said that the committee had not previously approved developments with such low levels of affordable housing, so it is unclear why he then decided to vote it through. Four other councillors, also all Labour, voted in favour but did not speak at all during the three-hour discussion, so we do not know their reasons for approving the scheme. We think that given the scale of the development and the issues raised above, that each of the councillors who approved the scheme should issue a statement to explain their decision.

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HERE FOR CULTURE

ENFIELD Council

Proud to represent Enfield Lock

Elif Erbil discusses the key issues affecting her ward



For a day job I work as a senior radiographer at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital and therefore I have knowledge of the NHS and I can understand how the service can be improved.

Talking to residents, crime and fly-tipping are the top issues. The collections of household rubbish and bulky items of rubbish, dropped in certain points of Enfield Lock ward, are a problem. As a councillor I work closely with the Enfield Lock neighbourhood team and the police.

I am a councillor and an NHS worker and I am always willing to be the link between Enfield Council and local people. My background is Turkish and so, being in the multicultural society we are in, I can be the link for the whole community, especially Enfield Lock ward residents.

As a child I got free school meals and today I'm successful and grateful for that. At Enfield Council we are doing our best to support and extend free school meals over the holidays.

I would like to once again remind residents that if you have any issues to please contact your local councillors. We are three councillors working together to meet the needs of our residents.

Cllr Erbil is one of three councillors representing Enfield Lock, alongside Birsan Demirel and Guner Aydin (all Labour). Ward surgeries are being held online.

Call 020 8379 4031
Email Cllr.elif.erbil@enfield.gov.uk

I was honoured to have been elected as a ward councillor for Enfield Lock two years in a row.

I have worked hard, starting from my teen years, to voluntarily go door knocking, post leaflets, and speak to residents face-to-face on doorsteps around Enfield borough.

Wanting to further my passion for helping and getting more involved with the residents, I first won election in May 2017 when there was a by-election, gaining 2,155 votes, making it a Labour seat, which I was very proud.

Besides me there were four other candidates. I then won re-election as a councillor in May 2018 and I was very proud and honoured to be a councillor for Enfield Lock ward once again.

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 before the next deadline on Tuesday 17th November

Orca insult

Dear Enfield Dispatch

Enfield Council claims its decision to remove the cycle lane dividers ('orcas') and replace them with 'cycleway defenders' [Orca upgrade, Issue 24, Page 2] was to "maintain a consistent approach across the network" and was not influenced by public complaints of the orcas being hazardous and resulting in injuries.

In January 2017 a road safety audit was prepared by Transport for London (TfL) on aspects of the Green Lanes cycle route and it was noted that "pedestrians crossing the carriageway may fail to appreciate the raised nature of orcas", admitting the potential for trips and falls. The recommendation was to replace them with an "alternative type of segregation measure".

Residents may well be asking why it took more than three years for Enfield Council to accept and implement TfL's recommendation. The council's "consistent approach" explanation for replacing orcas this year is both disingenuous and an insult to all those that have suffered falls and injury – myself included.

Henry Jacobs
Elmcroft Avenue, Edmonton

Recycle relief

Dear Enfield Dispatch

I note the debate upon the supposed late re-opening of some council services. In respect of the Barrowell Green Recycling Centre, while the timescales on the booking system have been protracted, the revised handling arrangements within the site have come as a blessed relief. Previously, unloading had been difficult and stressful. Vehicle movement around the site to unload different materials was fraught.

Now, staff actively manage vehicles and the skips have been re-arranged and duplicated to ease disposal. Whether bookings continue or not, I hope the current arrangements remain – they are, in my opinion, so much better, making better use of a limited site, and could have been put into place long ago, without the pressure of Covid-19.

It's a pity, however, that there is no resumption of plastics recycling.

John Usher
Byron Court, Chase Side

Traffic chaos

Dear Enfield Dispatch

The low-traffic neighbourhood (LTN) scheme in the Fox Lane area has proved controversial [Fox Lane low-traffic scheme revised, Issue 24, Page 11]. Aldermans Hill and Bourne Hill are overwhelmed with traffic jams, polluting the air. LTNs are having the most detrimental impact on working families, the elderly and those with mobility issues. Enfield Council declared a 'climate emergency' and recently launched its climate action plan. Yet no green modes of transport have been forthcoming, such as a bike hire scheme, e-scooter trial, or e-bikes. Unreliable public transport links have only exacerbated the problems.

Closing roads will not lead to traffic evaporation – it just pushes traffic on to surrounding roads. The council should concentrate on improving public infrastructure, like adding pedestrian crossings and planting more street trees. We need clarity on the cameras and signage to avoid confusion.

Wandsworth Council scrapped their LTN scheme because of pollution complaints. Enfield Council should listen to the voices of residents for once.

Cllr Maria Alexandrou
Winchmore Hill (Conservative)

Rat run ruin

Dear Enfield Dispatch

At what point do the benefits to a few exceed the rights of the many? Having lived and worked in Enfield for more than 50 years, the vast majority of inter-connecting roads linking major thoroughfares at strategic points (so-called 'rat runs') have existed forever. Residents moved to live on them voluntarily. Surely, if you don't like where you choose to live, move out? I don't think getting the misguided bureaucrats to introduce a hair-brained scheme is the right way forward. I am sure all local councils are under enormous pressure with targets from government. These often have different agendas to local priorities, but they still penalise councils for non-compliance. As residents we must not allow this degradation to happen.

John Cook
Bush Hill Park

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Please note: SESSIONS NEED TO BE PRE BOOKED TO COMPLY WITH COVID-19 REGULATIONS

You can find details of your nearest consultant at: slimmingworld.co.uk

Confused about Covid-19? We're here to help!

Claire Fisher from Healthwatch Enfield on how residents can get the advice they need

So, who is confused about what you can and can't do this month because of the government's coronavirus restrictions? Whose mental health is suffering? Who is wondering about what will be happening with GP appointments or cancer treatments? Who is finding it difficult to tell fact from rumour? A good place to start is with us, Healthwatch Enfield. Firstly, it's our job to help you find the right support and information you need about health and care services in Enfield. Secondly, you can trust us for reliable information that only ever comes from verified sources, such as local GPs, Enfield Council's public health team, and local NHS services. Our website has a dedicated coronavirus page which brings everything into one place for your convenience. In other

words, we do all the work so you don't have to. If you are not online we have an information telephone line you can call and if we can't help you, we will put you in touch with an organisation that can. Hard of hearing or unable to use the phone? Simply send us a text message on our office mobile and we will get right back to you during office hours. If you are on social media try our Facebook and Twitter accounts, which are updated regularly with lots of different information about local health and care services, how to access them, and find out about any changes or developments to local services. Every month we also run at least one live online session with representatives from local services such as North Middlesex Hospital, Chase Farm Hospital, Enfield Council and local mental health services, where you can put your

questions directly to the people who run these services. You can even join them by telephone if you are not online. Some of the sessions we have held so far have included keeping safe during lockdown; ***"Keep in touch with us and we promise to keep you informed"*** children and young people's mental health; flu jabs; general mental health; and managing anxiety. We have also run some bespoke sessions about flu and annual health checks especially for people who have autism or a learning disability. The recordings of all

our sessions are on our website, so you can still 'catch up' if you were unable to attend. Remember that NHS services, like GPs and hospitals, have had to change the way they treat and care for patients during the coronavirus outbreak. But they are still open and it's important that you still contact your GP if you are concerned about your health. There are measures in place for your doctor to see you safely if they need to. Whatever the next few weeks and months have in store for us, keep in touch with us and we promise to keep you informed, up-to-date, and give you peace of mind that you are getting trusted information.

For more information about Healthwatch Enfield and to get in touch:
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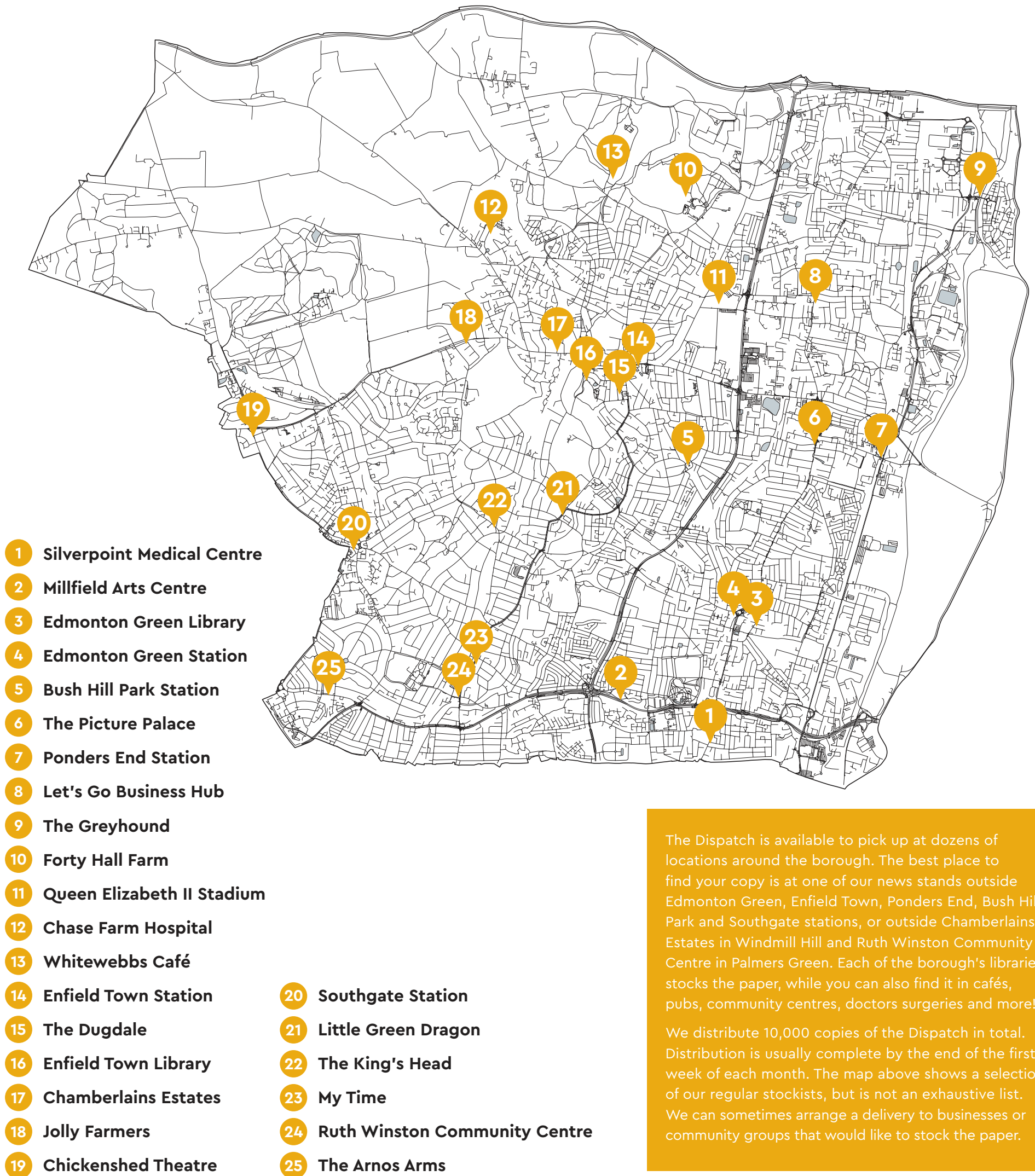
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Artist Patrick Samuel at the crossing he designed in Green Lanes



Artist Dan Maier created a colourful pedestrian crossing in Southgate to reflect the rainbows that have become a symbol during the pandemic



Artist Karen Cox with her colourful crossing in Fore Street



Colourful crossings

Five pedestrian crossings in the borough have been brightened up by local artists.

Enfield Council commissioned "colourful, playful designs" for crossings in Angel Edmonton, Edmonton Green, Enfield Town, Palmers Green and Southgate, as part of an initiative to see "how art can transform public spaces".

The Southgate crossing was designed by Dan Maier, founder of Southgate and Palmers Green Art Trail. She said: "The colour scheme references the rainbows so prevalent during lockdown, symbolising peace and hope."

The Palmers Green crossing was designed by Patrick Samuel to "celebrate and represent the diversity of Enfield". Artist Karen Cox created a series of mini portraits to "represent the diverse culture of the area" for her Edmonton Green crossing, while in Angel Edmonton, the area's contribution

to modern technology, as the birthplace of colour television, was celebrated. In Enfield Town, illustrator and art teacher Hasan Bölücek designed a crossing based around "the importance of nature's elements in Alevi culture".

A council spokesperson said: "The colourful works of art celebrate the arts and cultural heritage of Enfield. They were commissioned to light up our high streets and provide a boost for our communities and local economy."

The first version of Hasan's artwork in Enfield Town was removed as a "precaution" following safety concerns. Responding to criticism over the £55,000 cost of the five crossings, the spokesperson added: "The crossings were funded from a ring-fenced amount for public art from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106. The monies could not have been used for other council services."

Online exhibit raising money for young carers

Janet Benge from Enfield Art Circle introduces the group's annual exhibition

At Enfield Art Circle we are inviting you to our first online exhibition, showcasing artistic talents from more than 30 of our members, made up of local painters and ceramicists.

Works range from creative abstract works to stunning landscapes and figurative styles – all well worth exploring.

Enfield Art Circle was started back in 1932 by local artists and it has continued without a break – even throughout the war years – to the present day. Every year since being founded,

members of the group have held exhibitions to celebrate local creative talent.

For the past ten years, we have organised a summer exhibition at Capel Manor. Their generosity in providing us with facilities has been invaluable, but because of the coronavirus, like many others, we could not offer an open exhibition this year. Undaunted, we are now putting our skills to the test with an online show instead.

The exhibition opened at the end of October and will continue

until Christmas Eve. You can browse our paintings and ceramics at your leisure, and many works will be available to purchase. A charitable donation, taken from 10% of sales proceeds, will be put towards Enfield Young Carers, which supports young people who are involved in caring for a relative. We hope you will help us support others by purchasing from this exhibition – each sale will make a difference.

We are always keen to welcome any new members, both experienced and inexperienced,



Peter Brown's painting of Gentleman's Row is one of 140 works of art up for sale at Enfield Art Circle's online exhibition

professional and amateur, with an interest in exploring the creative arts. So do consider joining us as a way of expanding your interests. During 'normal' times, we offer a range of activities such as talks, demonstrations, practical sessions, occasional workshops, outings to places of artistic interest, and we also support some local art classes.

Details of how to join us, our history and what we do are on our website at enfieldartcircle.org.

To see Enfield Art Circle's online art exhibition: Visit enfieldartcircle.org/art2020

Support for local arts providers

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Just under £900,000 in emergency funding has been granted by the government to support local arts organisations.

In total across the UK, 1,385 individual grants worth £257million were awarded last month as part of the government's £1.57billion Culture Recovery Fund set up to support arts organisations struggling to survive amid restrictions imposed because of the pandemic. Grants were made to Enfield Council (£671,995), Chickenshed (£106,303), Border Crossings (£54,713) and Radioactive Clothing (£200,000) by Arts Council England and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

Chickenshed launched a fundraising appeal earlier this year as its

future was threatened as a result of not being able to put on regular performances at its Cockfosters theatre. Managing director Louise Perry said: "Chickenshed is over the moon to receive this funding from the culture recovery fund.

"It will help us to keep our doors wide open, so that we can continue to shine a light on the wonderful creativity of our community."

The council's grant will be spent on supporting activities at venues including Millfield Theatre in Edmonton, Dugdale Centre in Enfield Town, and Forty Hall Estate. Border Crossings is an arts group based in Gordon Hill that creates "new intercultural, multimedia theatre in response to the contemporary globalised world", while Radioactive Clothing is an audio and visual equipment supplies business based in Bush Hill Park.

Culture secretary Oliver Dowden said: "This funding is a vital boost for the theatres, music venues, museums and cultural organisations that form the soul of our nation. It will protect these special places, save jobs and help the culture sector's recovery."

Tonya Nelson, Arts Council England's London area director, said: "We're very pleased that over 400 arts, cultural and creative organisations across London have received £86million through the government's culture recovery fund.

"London is home to an incredible wealth of dynamic organisations that work with artists and communities locally, nationally and internationally. We know that this is an incredibly difficult time for so many organisations, and that while this investment can't save everyone, it is vital to the long-term recovery of the sector."

A life dedicated to music

A tribute to the late Dr June Keyte MBE, written by husband Christopher

Dr June Keyte was born in South Wales and trained in London as a music teacher at Trent Park College of Education (later Middlesex University).

Her distinguished 50-year career in music and music education included many different roles, from director of music in comprehensive and independent schools, to editing a music publication and conducting BBC School Radio's music broadcasts for 27 years with her comprehensive school choir, Kingsmead Singers.

In 1994 June founded a new local choir, Children's International Voices of Enfield, for which she won much national and international acclaim. Most recently, she travelled to Johannesburg to be one of the international judges at Ekurhuleni Melting Pot National Choral Festival.

June's key role in music education was widely recognised. In 1990, she was awarded a Churchill Fellowship from Winston Churchill Memorial Trust to study choir training in Finland, and later that same year a Bye Fellowship at Selwyn College, Cambridge.

In 1992 June became an Associate of the Royal Academy of



Music in recognition of her "distinguished services in music education", having studied violin there as a postgraduate with Frederick Grinke. In 2005 she was made an MBE for "services to music and the community" and was also awarded an honorary doctorate from Anglia Ruskin University.

"June's legacy lives on"

One of June's passions was commissioning new music, and many composers were persuaded

to write for her. The list is long and includes Betty Roe, Douglas Coombes, John Rutter and Sir Peter Maxwell Davies.

In celebrating over 25 years of Children's International Voices of Enfield, the choir has visited Switzerland, Iceland, Wales, Finland, Germany, Italy and Sweden. Important concerts have included performing at The Proms in the presence of the Queen, to celebrate her 80th birthday; performing at the 90th anniversary of Save the Children at St Paul's Cathedral; and performing at the London Youth Festival of Music at the Royal Festival Hall, by invitation of Rotary International.

In 2014 Children's International Voices of Enfield put on three Christmas concerts, performing eleven works by John Rutter, which he himself kindly recorded, edited and produced on CD.

June's legacy lives on in the many performers, teachers and lovers of music found internationally, whom she taught during their musical training, and her inspiration and kindness are continually remembered by those musicians and countless friends. June will be greatly missed.

LISTINGS

Submit your listing

We can include low-cost community events taking place in Enfield. For next month's listings, email the details of your event to enfielddispatch@socialspider.com by **Tuesday 17th November**

ART

Enfield Camera Club Annual Exhibition

Until Saturday 7th November, 10am-5pm
Dugdale Centre, 39 London Road, Enfield EN2 6DS

The annual exhibition of Enfield Camera Club is taking place in the gallery of the Dugdale Centre, featuring mounted prints by club members.

Free entry

Call 020 8372 8087

Visit enfieldcameraclub.co.uk

MARKETS

Forty Hall Farmers' Market

Sunday 8th November 10am-3pm
Forty Hall Farm, Forty Hill, Enfield EN2 9HA

Come ready to fill your shopping baskets with feast of tasty morsels, including the farm's own organic meat, vegetables and wine. Stock up on bread and pastries from local food heroes Holtwhites Bakery and cheese from urban cheesemakers Wildes Cheese, top notch pies from Brockleby Pies, plus more!

Free entry

Instagram @fortyhallfarm

Tweet @fortyhallfarm

Visit fortyhallfarm.org.uk

Crafter's Corner

Sat 7th November, 9am-4pm
Market Place, Church Street, Enfield Town EN2 6LN

Enfield Charter Market presents Crafter's Corner, with local independent craftspeople selling their wares. Hot food and drink available.

Free entry

Tweet @EnfieldMarket

Visit enfieldmarket.co.uk

WORKSHOP

Digital drop-in with Age UK

Every Wednesday starting 4th November, 11am-12pm
Held online via Zoom

Would you like some support in using IT? We can support you in gaining skills and confidence in navigating the internet.

Free to join

Call 020 8375 4120

Email onlineactivities@ageukenfield.org.uk

TALKS

History of the New River

Monday 16th November, 8pm
Held online via Zoom

History talk by Richard Thomas. Follow the building of the New River, a 400-year-old, 40-mile long man-made waterway from Chadwell Spring in Hertfordshire to the Round Pond in Islington, via Enfield. It was created to supply Jacobean London with fresh drinking water.

Open to non-members

Email zoom@enfieldsociety.org.uk

Aspects of Enfield

Wednesday 18th November, 2pm
Held online via Zoom

A talk all about the history – and future – of Enfield Chase, hosted by Joe Studman, a local history guide and speaker.

£10 tickets, including another talk in December

Call 07875 537 295

Email joe@jaywalks.co.uk

Visit jaywalks.co.uk

CHARITY

Light Up A Life

Sunday 29th November, 4.30pm
Held online via Zoom

North London Hospice is inviting you to join us for our annual 'Light Up A Life' ceremony, celebrating the life of a loved one. This year the ceremony will be streamed online, but you will still be able to dedicate a light on our beautiful horse chestnut tree to someone special and watch as the lights are turned on.

Make a donation to dedicate a light

Email ceremony@northlondonhospice.co.uk

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Visit northlondonhospice.org/events/light-up-a-life-2020

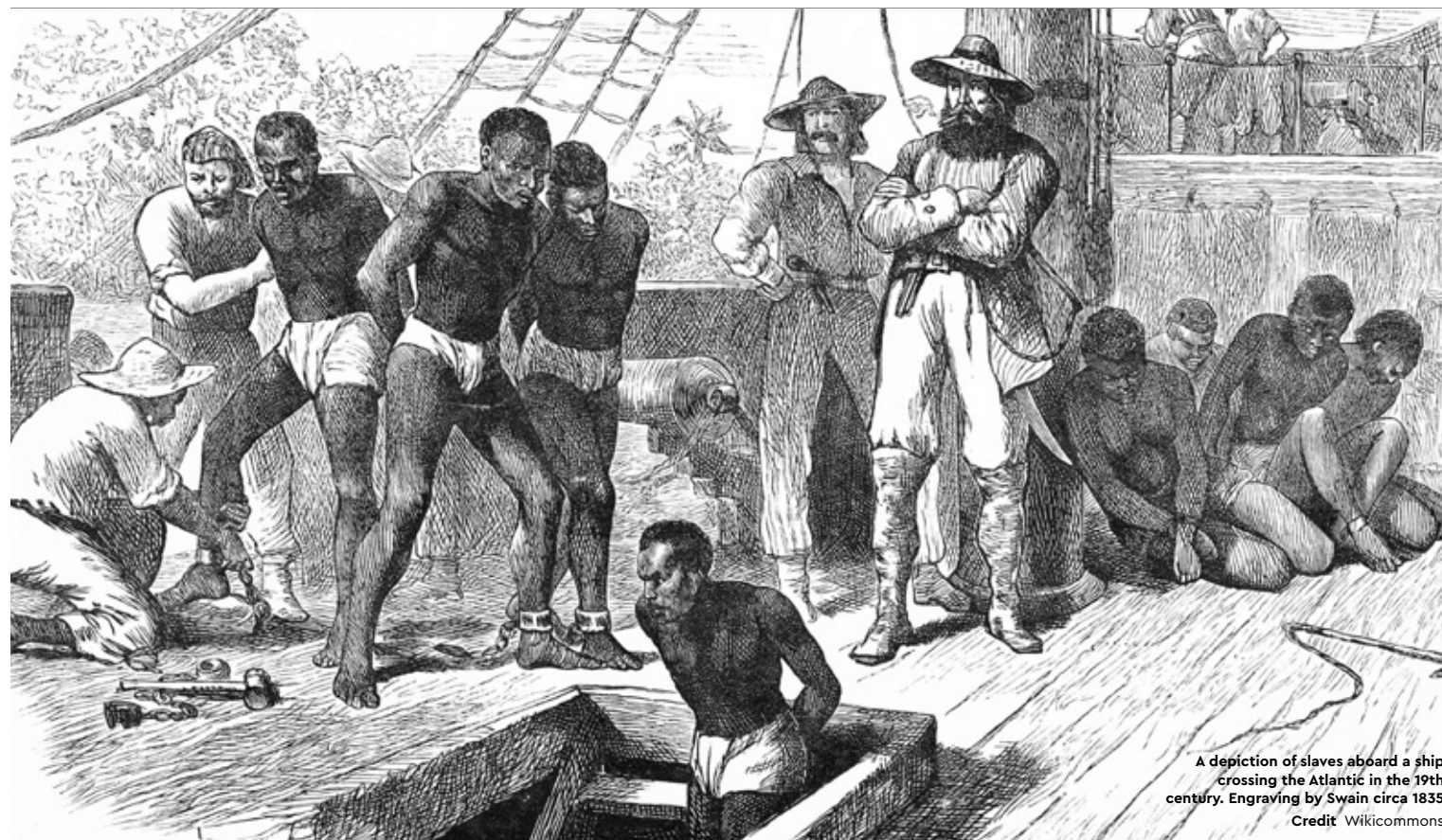
AUCTION

Enfield Art Circle

Until Thursday 24th December
Held online

At Enfield Art Circle we are inviting you to our first online exhibition, showcasing artistic talents from more than 30 of our members, made up of local painters and ceramicists – 10% of sales proceeds will be donated to Enfield Young Carers.

Visit enfieldartcircle.org/art2020



A depiction of slaves aboard a ship crossing the Atlantic in the 19th century. Engraving by Swain circa 1835
Credit: Wikicommons

Revealing Enfield's links to the slave trade

Palmers Green resident Sylvia Collicott describes the results of her independent research into the borough's links with the Atlantic slave trade

The British government finished paying a long-term loan in 2015. Two centuries ago, in 1833, the government of the day borrowed £20million (£2.4billion in today's money) from the Rothschild and Montefiore banks, to finance compensation paid to slave owners in British colonies following the passing of the Emancipation Act.

While 46,000 slave owners were compensated, former slaves received nothing. The slave trade was deeply embedded in the whole of the British economy – and all corners of society. There were many groups of people directly involved in the trade, but even more people involved indirectly. They had amassed great wealth out of other people's suffering.

The history of port cities such as Bristol and Liverpool is intertwined with the slave trade, but its influence also extended to many other places. In what is now the London borough of Enfield, there were at least 15 men who, at some point in their lives, were directly involved in owning enslaved people. They were rich and successful City of London merchants, who aspired to move to the country, buying big houses in the Middlesex parishes of Enfield and Edmonton.

Some of these men had served as Lord Mayor of London and some were to enter parliament. MPs who were part of the West Indies pressure group could and did block abolition for many decades.

William Linwood, a merchant, bought Bridgenhall House and its estate at the foot of Forty Hill in 1819. He made enough money in the 1790s, trading in Jamaica where his brother also lived and traded, to be able to lend large sums of money to plantation owners in financial difficulties. William called in all the mortgages that were outstanding, just before the Emancipation Act, and thereby became the owner of 819 enslaved people. He then applied for compensation and received £15,723 – now equating to about £1.9m.

Two members of the Bosanquet family of Walthamstow also received compensation. James Whatman Bosanquet lived in a mansion named Claysmore in Clay Hill (below Flash Lane and since

demolished) and Charles Bosanquet had a house nearby. Originally refugee Huguenots, the Bosanquets set up a bank and prospered, issuing insurance for slaving ships crossing the Atlantic. Both James and Charles were bankers. James had 358 people enslaved on the Caribbean island of Nevis and received £5,971 in compensation (£0.7m today). Charles owned 409 enslaved people on the neighbouring island, St Kitts, and received £6,670 (£0.8m today).

The Snell family of Edmonton were merchants who lived in a house near Pymmes Park. Three members of the family received compensation. John Snell owned 123 enslaved people on St Vincent and was paid £3,341 (£0.4m today). Charles Snell Chauncey had 1,541 enslaved in British Guiana, Grenada, St Vincent and Tobago and was paid £67,609 (£8.1m



Bridgenhall House, in Forty Hill, was owned by slave trader William Linwood

today). Nathaniel Snell had 350 enslaved people in Grenada and Tobago and was paid £6,426 (£0.8m today).

Meanwhile Samuel Baker lived in Chase Side House, now the site for Enfield Town Library. He was a very successful merchant and businessman and an early investor in the railways. He owned 410 enslaved people in St James and St Catherine, part of Jamaica. He received compensation of £7,990 (£1m today).

Timothy Abraham Curtis was born in Southgate and his fortune came from a family business in Wapping, making ships' biscuits. His father Sir William Curtis had been an influential MP and Alderman of the City – Alderman's Hill in Palmers Green was named after him. Timothy became governor of the Bank of England in 1837, but resigned in 1839 and declared himself bankrupt. Timothy owned 206 enslaved people in St Vincent and was paid compensation of £5,933 (£0.7m today). The Bank of England issued an apology just this year after a University College London study uncovered the extent of Timothy's slave trade links, as well as other bank employees from the same time.

Other local recipients of compensation for slave trade ownership included Samuel Boddington, from Baker Street, who received £36,819 (£4.4m today); Joseph Marryat got £43,299 (£5.2m); Sir Edward Hyde East of Southgate got £21,595 (£2.6m); Thomas Boddington the Younger received £4,606 (£0.5m); Isaac Currie, a banker in Edmonton, got £15,381 (£1.8m); Isaac G. Currie (son of the previous) received £20,000 (£2.4m); and finally John Gore inherited a plantation in Antigua from his ancestor, also John Gore, director of the South Sea Company, and received compensation of £667 (£80,000).

“In Enfield there were at least 15 men who were directly involved in owning enslaved people”

The Emancipation Act not only gave enslaved people 'freedom' and compensated owners, it set out an apprenticeship scheme for the enslaved to last seven years. There were protests and great unrest in the Caribbean and in 1838 'freedom' was finally granted. The UK still controlled the colonies and each colony was an integral part of the British Empire. The 15 men of Enfield who received compensation had owned 11,156 enslaved peoples and, between them, were paid just over £31m in today's money. It ensured the slave owners remained prosperous, while their former slaves were not compensated one penny for their years of misery.

Value of volunteers

Frances Button meets some of the people who have helped Enfield charities keep going in a difficult year



Royal Voluntary Service runs a home delivery service for Enfield libraries. Credit: Royal Voluntary Service

Meandering around Enfield Town nowadays, it becomes apparent how

events since early March have impacted on businesses. It isn't unusual to see empty shops.

One sector that has been really hit

hard is the charity and voluntary sector; many of those closed businesses are charity shops.

Some have managed to keep

going, however, and during lockdown one could see an industrious volunteer working hard at Life in the Town, a shop raising funds for The Learning for Life Charity in partnership with West Lea, a local special school. The shop is now open again and the window display shows a tempting array of goods and furniture.

Klasp, a parent-run charity that provides advocacy support, speaking on behalf of those with learning disabilities when parents are no longer able to, has two shops in Church Street. While lockdown stopped renovations in one shop (mainly furniture), the other one kept going and footfall has increased despite the challenge of having fewer volunteers able to come in.

When I visited, an elegant Danish nest of tables by designer Kai Kristiansen took centre stage in the window display. Klasp's assistant manager, Emmanuel, told me that donations can bring some valuable surprises and, to honour their contributors, staff are careful to value donations appropriately.

Given that shop volunteers are often people aged in their 60s and above, recruiting volunteers has been a challenge, because many in this age group have been shielding. The Royal Voluntary Service runs a home delivery service from Enfield borough libraries, for those who are housebound, and demand escalated in lockdown. But a lack of available volunteers meant

alternative ways had to be found to facilitate these requests.

Enfield Home Library Service is currently looking to hire ten contingency book delivery drivers for autumn/winter to assist in the event of a lockdown scenario that requires over-70s volunteers to go back into isolation. The role would require the delivery of bags of books to up to ten different residences, every four weeks.

You may not be aware of the lengths volunteers have gone to at Royal Free Radio to continue broadcasting during the pandemic. John Smeeton and his fellow presenters have kept going through a mixture of recording from home, Skype, and eventually going back into the studio on their own to present. John is hoping to be able to get back into the studio soon to continue making his programme, *Sundowners*, which is particularly popular with Alzheimer's patients and their carers. It features a compilation of music related to national events from the 1950s and 1960s.

It is clear that the giving and compassionate nature of volunteers, and their ability to think laterally and find a way around the challenges of the last few months, has greatly helped communities in Enfield during the pandemic. It seems that the cliché is true; where there is will, there's a way.

If you are interested in volunteering with Enfield Home Library Service:

Email shauna.teevan@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk

Advertisement

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The flu virus kills thousands every year. The flu vaccine is the best protection for you and those around you.

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LICENSING ACT 2003 Notice Of Application for a Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that **Alice Cavassa** has applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Enfield for a Premises Licence to permit:

- The online sale of alcohol as part of hampers and gifts. The business will run Monday-Friday, from 09:00-17:00 and will run retail activities strictly online.

These premises will only be used to store and dispatch orders, there will not be any sale or consumption to the public directly on these premises, only online.

This application is in relation to two premises situated as follows:

- At 163 Linwood Crescent, Enfield, EN1 4US
- At 83 The Mall, Southgate, N14 6LL

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 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, giving in detail the grounds of the representation no later than: **17/11/2020**.

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.

Advertisement

Man sentenced over random stabbing spree

A man who knifed five victims in Edmonton last year – seemingly at random – has been spared a jail sentence because of his mental health issues.

Jason Kakaire, of Cameron Close in Edmonton, went on a stabbing spree over four days in March and April 2019, as police struggled to track him down. He approached five strangers and stabbed them in the back, leaving one with serious life-changing injuries.

His first victim, a woman in her 40s, was stabbed in Aberdeen Road on Saturday 30th March 2019, at around 7pm. Kakaire walked past her and then returned and stabbed her in the back. Police said he stabbed her with an “immense amount of force”, breaking the handle of the knife.

The attack left the victim partially paralysed and wheelchair-bound. An impact statement, read in court, said:

“When I go out I panic, I suffer with panic attacks. I always want someone I know behind me so that I know I am safe.”

Kakaire stabbed his second victim, a man in his 50s, in Park Avenue later the same evening. The attack left him with a vertebrae fracture. A third victim, a man in his 20s, was stabbed in the early hours of Sunday 31st March, in Fore Street. The victim made his way to Seven Sisters Station to seek help. He suffered significant internal bleeding.

A fourth victim, a man in his 20s, was stabbed in Lansfield Avenue shortly before 10am the same day. Members of the public provided medical assistance after the knife penetrated the victim’s lungs and caused damage to his diaphragm and liver.

Despite an extensive search for the attacker by police, Kakaire remained at large and attacked a fifth victim two days later, on the morning of Tues-

day 2nd April. The man in his 30s was buying medication for his child when he was stabbed from behind, causing a collapsed lung and further organ damage.

Kakaire admitted five counts of grievous bodily harm and possession of an offensive weapon but was not jailed at his sentencing at the Old Bailey on Friday 25th September – instead being given a hospital order with restrictions because of his poor mental health.

The judge who sentenced Kakaire said he had caused “immeasurable harm” to the victims and their families.

Detective Chief Inspector Chris Soole, who led the Met Police investigation, said:

“These five random attacks were completely unprovoked and caused significant harm

to each and every victim. The force used was brutal and it is only by sheer luck that all five victims survived.

“These stabbings have had a huge impact on their lives, both physically and mentally, and understandably left a commu-

nity in fear for a number of days.

“Kakaire took a significant amount of time to admit these offences and has never offered any real explanation for why he acted in this way. I have no doubt he is a dangerous offender and my investigation team and I are pleased he is no longer on our streets.”

Jason Kakaire stabbed five strangers in Edmonton over four days



Councillor loses appeal over bullying breach

BY SIMON ALLIN,
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

A councillor at the centre of bullying allegations has had his appeal quashed by Enfield Council’s conduct committee.

The committee upheld an earlier ruling by the council monitoring officer that Daniel Anderson bullied officials and breached the code of conduct. It means the original sanctions against Cllr Anderson – to apologise, promise not to repeat the behaviour, and be excluded from council offices for two months – still apply.

The verdict came at a committee meeting after almost two-and-a-half hours of private debate.

Following the discussion, committee chair Claire Stewart announced to the public: “The



Daniel Anderson quit the Labour Party earlier this year to join Community First, a new group of independents

conduct committee has decided that we uphold the decision of the monitoring officer and the recommended sanctions.

“The only avenue available

to Cllr Anderson is the Local Government Ombudsman.”

Cllr Anderson, who represents Southgate Green for the new Community First group after quitting Labour in August, waited more than six months to have his appeal heard after being told of monitoring officer Jeremy Chambers’ ruling at the start of this year.

The decision followed two separate complaints about Cllr Anderson’s conduct from four council officers. Three claimed the former council deputy leader engaged in “threatening and uncontrolled” behaviour, while a fourth alleged Cllr Anderson threatened him with physical assault. Cllr Anderson subsequently issued a statement “emphatically” denying the allegations and findings of the investigation, as well as criticis-

ing the report into his conduct.

Ahead of the conduct committee meeting, members of the public were unable to view the investigation report, the monitoring officer’s ruling, or Cllr Anderson’s appeal. These documents were classed as confidential because of “the nature of the allegations and the seniority of the majority of the officers involved”, according to a council report.

The Local Government Ombudsman does not offer a right of appeal against a council’s decision on member conduct complaints but can consider if there was fault in the way the local authority considered the complaint. The Ombudsman’s website states: “We will only investigate complaints if there is sufficient injustice to warrant our involvement or we consider it in the public interest to do so.”

Concern over new bus route

By James Cracknell

Residents of a street in Winchmore Hill are pleading with Transport for London (TfL) to change a planned new bus route.

The new 456 bus, due to come into service early next year, is currently planned to run along Farm Road – a street its residents claim is wholly unsuitable for buses. Dozens have signed a petition to TfL asking it reconsider the route.

One resident, Gurjinder Thethi, told the *Dispatch*: “The logistics of getting a bus down a narrow windy road, past a school, are unfeasible and unwanted on this road.

“It is not viable. At the western end they have small front gardens, it is narrow and there is a humpback bridge which is a single lane for traffic. Buses there will create traffic because you won’t be able to pass.”

The 456 will replace the W10 bus which currently runs from Crews Hill to Enfield Town. It will cover this existing route, but then continue further to serve World’s End and Winchmore Hill Station before terminating at North Middlesex Hospital, expanding public transport access for the Edmonton hospital.

TfL has an objective to make public transport accessible within 400m of every home in London and claims that the 456 bus will “benefit residents in the Firs Lane area as there are a significant number of houses further than 400 metres”. Gurjinder argues this objective can be met without using Farm Road, if the 456 instead used the Green Lanes junction with Firs Lane.

Geoff Hobbs, director of public transport service planning at TfL, said: “Our public consultation showed strong support for the introduction of route 456, which will significantly cut journey times between destinations such as Winchmore Hill and North Middlesex Hospital.

“We know concerns were raised around Farm Road, however we can assure residents we have fully assessed the route, including after specific feedback raised in the petition, and found it to be suitable. We will closely monitor the route 456 when it is introduced and make any necessary changes to ensure that it serves Londoners as best as it can.”

An Enfield Council spokesperson said the local authority was working with TfL on implementing the new bus route to take account of changes requested by residents.

AROUND THE BOROUGH

COCKFOSTERS

Step-free change for station

BY OLIVIA DEVEREUX-EVANS

COCKFOSTERS UNDERGROUND Station has become the 80th tube station to go step-free after an “overnight” lift installation.

The complex operation saw a lift shaft craned into the station and a lift built on site. New tiling was “carefully selected” to reflect the Art Deco heritage of the Grade 2-listed station building. It now allows step-free access to all plat-

forms at the northern terminus of the Piccadilly Line.

Enfield Council leader Nesil Caliskan said: “This is great news for Enfield residents and will encourage more widespread use of the tube network. Initiatives like this mean people are more likely to use public transport and leave the car at home, supporting our wider efforts to tackle climate change and make our borough carbon neutral by 2040.”

Cockfosters is the twelfth station on the London Underground system to become step-free since 2016. Seven more tube stations will follow in the coming weeks. The only other fully step-free station in Enfield is Oakwood, which had a lift installed 13 years ago, with Southgate and Arnos Grove stations remaining inaccessible to wheelchair users.

Heidi Alexander, deputy mayor for transport, said: “It is great to see Cockfosters Station become step-free. These changes will make a huge difference to those with accessibility needs who use this station, and we continue to work on making more stations step-free.”

As part of its aim to make London Underground more accessible for disabled people, TfL has created a smartphone app, TfL Go, which helps passengers plan ahead and see which stations are accessible from street-to-platform.



The new lift shaft was sensitively designed to fit in with the station's Art Deco design

GORDON HILL

School plans delayed

PLANS TO BUILD TEMPORARY accommodation for two new schools on the former Chase Farm Hospital site have been resubmitted.

Both Wren Academy, a new secondary school, and One Degree Academy, an existing primary, had hoped to open within pre-fabricated buildings in The Ridgeway this September. But

after incurring major delays, new plans have instead been submitted to enable opening in September 2021. For this academic year, One Degree Academy is still operating from its Ponders End site, while newly-opened Wren Academy has been forced to teach its first pupils from a shared site with Nightingale

Academy, in Edmonton.

Permanent buildings for both schools are planned to be built at Chase Farm and are also awaiting planning permission, with a scheduled opening date of September 2022 – with 370 new homes also forming part of the plans.

For more information go to chasefarmdevelopment.co.uk

SOUTHGATE

Town centre's future discussed

BY OLIVIA DEVEREUX-EVANS

RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES were given the chance to help shape the future of Southgate town centre by talking to the leader of Enfield Council.

The latest in a series of ‘Let’s Talk’ consultation events, hosted by Nesil Caliskan, was held on

Thursday 8th October. It offered people the chance to submit ideas on shaping the area’s future as the council looks to invest in public realm improvements. The event was held online because of Covid-19 restrictions.

Cllr Caliskan met with business owners to hear their views on improving the town centre. She

said: “In many ways, Southgate is home to a traditional high street – a long road dominated by many shops which benefits from its connectivity. “However, as we know, high streets need to adapt to embrace community values and blend leisure with business, giving local people a reason to visit and spend time in the area.”

OAKWOOD

New wetland

ENFIELD COUNCIL IS SET TO create a wetland habitat at Oakwood Park in a bid to reduce flood risk.

A tributary of the Houndsden Stream runs along a pipe on the eastern side of the park but often overflows after periods of prolonged rain and can cause flash flooding. It also suffers from frequent pollution. The council has successfully created

wetland areas at other borough parks including Broomfield Park and Firs Farm, which have been hailed for the benefits they bring to both wildlife and local people. A consultation was held last month on the proposed wetland at Oakwood – residents can find out more at new.enfield.gov.uk/consultations/oakwood-park-wetlands.

EDMONTON GREEN

Team award

BY OLIVIA DEVEREUX-EVANS

THE MANAGEMENT TEAM AT Edmonton Green Shopping Centre has won a national industry award for its pandemic response.

Edmonton Green picked up the ‘Covid-19: Supporting the Community’ prize at the Institute of Workplace and Facilities Management (IWFM) Impact Awards. The category was added

this year to celebrate the positive impact management teams have had since the pandemic.

The Edmonton Green crew distributed care packages twice a week during lockdown, after receiving donations from retailers. They were sent to hundreds of residents and more than 30 charities and community groups. Sabri Marsaoui, asset director, said: “I am amazingly proud of our team.”

NEW SOUTHGATE

Homes plan

Two tower blocks are planned for the former gas holder site



PLANS HAVE BEEN REVEALED for an 18-storey residential development on the site of a former gas holder in Station Road.

Developer City & Suburban Homes wants to build a “car free” development of 183 homes in two high-rise blocks, new public square, shops, offices and “communal amenity space” featuring “exemplary landscaping”. Alongside the

homes, up to 50 permanent new jobs would be created.

The gas holder, a landmark in New Southgate for decades, was demolished in September after being decommissioned by National Gas.

A planning application is due to be submitted to Enfield Council this winter. For more information on the plans go to yoursay.online/gasholder-site

Keeping his eye on the ball

Andrew Warshaw speaks to Enfield Town's new head of football operations



Graham Dodd used to manage the Towners' under-23 side

His role rarely sees him in the spotlight, but he is the eyes and ears of the manager and a crucial figure behind the scenes.

Graham Dodd provides valuable information to help keep the playing staff moving in the right direction. After two seasons assisting Enfield Town FC's now-defunct under-23 squad, Graham is relishing his new role as head of football operations, a position not every club has but one which, given his vast experience after some 50 years in non-league football, is proving hugely beneficial.

Many football people of Graham's age (69) would be thinking of retirement, but working alongside manager Andy Leese is giving him a new lease of life, having spent most of his non-league career at Brimsdown Rovers and Broxbourne Borough.

"Andy and I have known each other for years and when the decision was made not

to run an under-23 team this year, Andy rang me and asked if I would stay on in a new capacity," Graham told the *Dispatch*. "I guess you'd call it right-hand man, outside the dressing room.

"I don't give team talks, get involved in training or go in after the game. Rather,

"I see my role primarily as a support function to the management team"

I see my role primarily as a support function to the management team. Andy, assistant manager Mario Noto and I have our own WhatsApp group and are always exchanging messages."

Without an under-23 squad to dip into any longer, Graham's role is even more important in terms of identifying talent. Whenever Enfield are playing away he is

invariably somewhere else, either watching future opponents or identifying a specific player who has been recommended to the Towners – or perhaps watching one of the club's own players out on loan.

"Obviously when we had an under-23 side my role was pushing people through

and suggesting to Andy that such-and-such a player might get some exposure."

Graham, whose own playing career was cut short at 28 because of a serious knee injury, continues: "There are many players at lower levels who are more than capable of playing higher up the pyramid. Part of my role now is building relationships with other local clubs.

"To be honest, I enjoy taking a back seat, but there probably isn't a day that goes by when I don't get an email through the club's website either from an agent offering us a player or a player looking for a trial."

And Graham's take on the season so far? "At this moment in time, our league looks pretty even. Most teams have had unpredictable results, not just us. It's the same right at the top of football."

As we head into November, Graham will be keeping his eye on the ball as the management team grapples with an ever-challenging fixture list. While he enjoys watching the professional game, non-league football is his obsession. "It's in my blood. I've never had the compunction to buy a season ticket anywhere.

"You can go to a non-league game, pay your entrance money and probably get a pie and pint as well. To me, that's always been the attraction."

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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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enfelddispatch.co.uk/join

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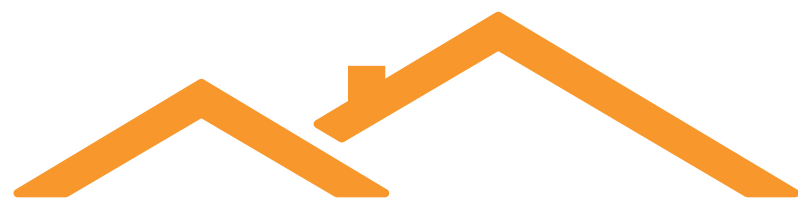
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