

ENFIELD DISPATCH

No.57 THE BOROUGH'S FREE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

JUNE 2023

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Breakdown of Green Belt talks between Labour and the Tories

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Actor David Morrissey has cut the ribbon on a food charity's expanded depot in Enfield. The Felix Project is London's largest food redistribution charity and has a base at Great Cambridge Industrial Estate responsible for delivering 12,000 meals a week to 177 community organisations and schools across Enfield, Barnet, Haringey, Waltham Forest, Hackney and Camden. At full capacity it can now store 500% more food in total than it could before – the equivalent of 90,000 meals every week. Credit Nigel Howard

Enfield rental market 'chaotic' as prices soar

Enfield's private rental market has been described as "chaotic" as a chronic lack of supply coupled with soaring demand has led to the fastest price rises for decades.

Renters are now struggling to even book viewings for available properties, with local estate agents telling the *Dispatch* they get "inundated" with calls as soon as they promote a listing.

With many landlords now deciding to sell up or take their homes out of the rental market – in many cases because rising mortgage costs have made letting "unviable" – renters have been left scrambling for the few properties that remain.

The problem is particularly acute in Enfield, where a lack of social housing compared to other London boroughs means there has long been an over-reliance on cheap rental homes to make up the gap.

Rachel Circus, director of the Enfield branch of Belvoir estate

agents, told the *Dispatch*: "It is a bit chaotic. We put something on [the market] and we get inundated with calls. We'll take it off within 24 or 48 hours, arrange half-a-dozen viewings, and most of them will put an offer in.

"You see some people wondering if it's even worth looking at a house, because they know someone will beat them to it."

Rachel said that Belvoir had let out a two-bed property in the EN3 area late last year for £1,250 per month, but had just let it again for £1,400. She added: "I [now] expect to let a property within a few days. Before it would take around three weeks."

Rachel also said she knew someone who had "sofa surfed" for three months because they'd been unable to find anywhere to live.

Andrew Ryde, co-founder of Chamberlains Estates in Windmill Hill, painted a similar picture. He told the *Dispatch*: "We are getting

about 30 enquiries per property [...] I would say demand is double what it was a year ago."

Andrew said renters who stretch themselves financially to bid for a property often won't even be considered by landlords. "There will be some places we let in just two days," he said. "Landlords are able to pick from the bunch."

The rate of price rises in Enfield's rental market is the highest Andrew has seen in three decades working in the industry. He said he found the whole situation "really frustrating" and added: "They need to devise a way to create more social housing stock – that can't be bought in a few years and taken out of the social rent market."

Separately, new data released last month revealed that nearly one-in-three Enfield families have adult children living at home – the second-highest rate in England and Wales. The Census 2021 figures show that 28,500 Enfield families

had at least one adult child living with them at the time of the survey, a rate of 31.9%. This puts the borough behind only Brent, where 32.4% of families had an adult child at home. The 31.9% rate for Enfield is up significantly on the 24.5% figure recorded in 2011.

Matt Burn, from campaign group Better Homes Enfield, said: "Young adults are being priced out of living in Enfield. The result is that households are overcrowded, and young families are leaving Enfield. We are already seeing significant falls in demand for school places.

"Addressing this in the short-term requires removing the housing benefit cap, introducing rent controls, and measures to reduce properties left vacant or used as short-term lets. Longer term, Enfield needs to build far more genuinely affordable social rent homes, something the borough has performed very poorly on."

Share your story about renting in Enfield:
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The Dispatch is supported by Chamberlains Estates – turn to page 3

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BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

A cross-party review of Enfield's draft Local Plan has descended into acrimony as Labour and Tory councillors accuse each other of backsliding on the talks.

The two rival political groups agreed last year to look again at the borough development plan's most contentious points, including proposals to allow thousands of homes to be built on parts of Enfield's Green Belt.

But the future of the talks now appears uncertain after the two sides traded blows over who was responsible for a series of setbacks to the review, which began six months ago.

First published in June 2021, the draft Local Plan sparked an immediate backlash over plans to de-designate areas of the Green Belt to allow more than 6,000 homes to be built. The Conservative group at Enfield Civic Centre strongly opposed the move, while Labour's London mayor Sadiq Khan also criticised it.

The council is currently preparing a revised Local Plan after considering the responses to an initial consultation on the draft. This next version will undergo further public consultation before being submitted to the government's Planning Inspectorate, which will decide whether it is sound and legally compliant.

After inviting council leader

Nesil Caliskan to enter cross-party talks to break the "deadlock" over the draft Local Plan, the Conservatives have now cast doubt on Labour's commitment to resolving the impasse. Claiming the Labour group had cancelled a meeting scheduled for 27th April, a source said: "The council clearly will not listen on the Green Belt, or tower blocks, or density, and therefore we will be considering our options as to whether to proceed with the [cross-party] group."

On the Green Belt, the source claimed that what Labour wanted to discuss was essentially confined to looking only at particular types of restrictions on building and not the question of whether or not to build at all, suggesting they had "already made their mind up on that".

The comments prompted a furious response from Cllr Caliskan, who claimed Conservative councillors had "refused to engage with the cross-party working group from the beginning". The council leader said the Tories had "initially tried to make the terms of reference for the group an issue", after which she suggested there would be no explicit terms of reference. Although this was "welcomed", she claimed the Conservatives "disengaged again, providing no good reason".

Cllr Caliskan accused the Tories of not bothering to turn up to the first meeting, where members agreed the work plan and a list of sites that should be visited, or to a day of site visits across the borough, which was organised

so members could discuss sites and provide "granular feedback to council officers as part of the development of the Local Plan".

The council leader said opposition councillors had not indicated they would attend the meeting scheduled for 27th April, which was cancelled because of "staffing sickness" and was due to be rescheduled "within the next few weeks". She also claimed the Conservatives had not submitted any additional sites for the Local Plan, despite being asked to do so.

Cllr Caliskan added: "Needless to say, I do not believe that the Conservative group ever had any real intention of adding anything constructive to the development of our Local Plan."

Conservative leader Alessandro Georgiou hit back at the council leader's comments, saying members of the Labour group were "divorced from reality and wouldn't know the truth even if it hit them in the face".

He said: "It was our proposal to scrap the terms of reference, it was our proposal to work collaboratively and do what is in the best interests of the borough, and it was Conservatives that signed up to what the leader initially agreed to but has since rowed back on, probably because she didn't know what she was agreeing to in the first place."

Cllr Georgiou dismissed the claim the Tories did not propose any sites, claiming they had emails to prove they had put forward "reasonable proposals" but officers "rejected them out of hand".

Rail upgrade cancelled

Enfield Council insists the cancellation of planned rail infrastructure works that would have boosted capacity at Meridian Water Station "will have no impact on the delivery of homes".

Despite planning permission being granted for a scheme to install a passing loop at Ponders End Station just five months ago, the council has confirmed the project is no longer going ahead because of "extraordinary inflationary pressures" that have forced the local authority to appeal for more money from the government to fund it.

The council was awarded £170million from the government in 2020 to cover the cost of increasing both road and rail capacity at Meridian Water – seen as crucial to enabling the construction of 10,000 homes.

Plans were drawn up for a passing loop at Ponders End, which would have allowed four trains per hour to serve Meridian Water Station. But the council now says the £170m is insufficient to cover the cost. Instead it's using the money to ensure street works – including new roads, bridges, parks, utilities and flood alleviation – can be built instead.

Tower sale

An Edmonton tower block that had its gas supply cut off over structural safety fears looks set to be sold by Enfield Council.

Civic centre bosses have revealed plans to sell 23-storey Walbrook House in Huntingdon Road for private development, after deeming the costs of refurbishing the block or knocking it down to build new affordable housing to be too high.

Built in 1968 using a cut-price method that involved assembling large panels manufactured off-site, the tower block – which contains 126 flats – was found to be at risk of collapse in the event of a gas explosion following tests carried out in the wake of the Grenfell Tower fire.

Cladding was removed in 2019 because of fire safety concerns, and the gas supply was cut off last July. In January, families remaining in the block complained they were "freezing" and suffering from worsening damp and mould.

A report reveals the council now plans to "fully decommission" Walbrook House, moving the 20 families remaining and buying up the properties owned by leaseholders. It says the cost of a refurbishment could rise to more than £30m because of inflation in the construction market.

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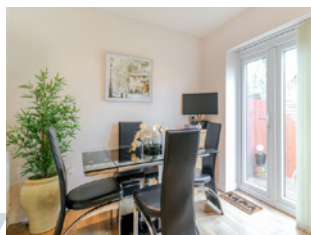
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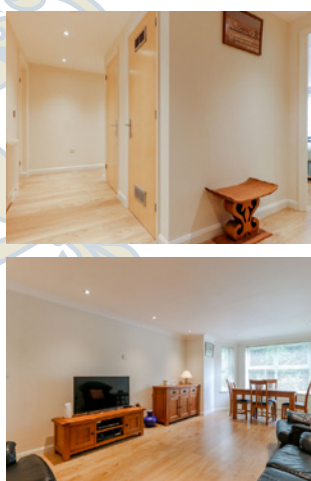
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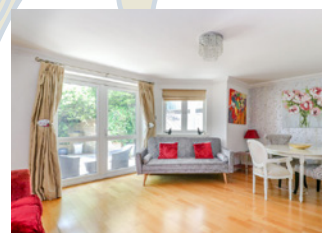
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Celebrating carers in the community

Danny Newland from Enfield Carers Centre invites people to get involved with National Carers Week this month



Enfield Carers Centre will be hosting a family fun day on Library Green on Saturday, 10th June

National Carers Week celebrates and highlights those providing unpaid support for someone who requires help – whether because of a physical or mental health condition, substance misuse or someone who is simply frail through ageing.

This is more than deserved. Carers in England and Wales contribute a staggering £445million to the economy every day –

that's £162billion per year!

Although carers have a legal right to be able to access support and information, most are unaware of this and don't even realise that the label 'carer' applies to them, mistakenly thinking this only applies to people paid to provide care or that caring is just something families are expected to undertake.

At our base in Baker Street, Enfield Carers

Centre not only provides emotional and practical support for carers, aged five years or older, it is also dedicated to helping people realise that they are carers and that support is available if they need it.

From Monday 5th to Sunday 11th June, we will be using National Carers Week to promote this message around Enfield. We will be holding our annual family fun day on Library Green in Enfield Town on Saturday 10th, from 11am to 4pm, and we are also very excited to be working with a number of other wonderful community groups to organise a carers' picnic on Thursday 8th, from 11am to 2pm.

Charity Hearts and Helpers have invited us to hold the carers' picnic in their community garden, created and maintained as one of many projects they undertake for people in Enfield, and they are also arranging a meditation teacher to help create a chilled atmosphere. Food is being provided by Cooking Champions, an organisation that provides food parcels and meals to vulnerable adults using donations from The Felix Project and other sources, as well as running a community café at St Peter's Church Hall in Ponders End. Asda in Southgate is also supporting this joint effort.

If you are a carer, you are very welcome to register, for free, with Enfield Carers Centre and access practical and emotional support; we also hope you might join in with our celebrations of National Carers Week and see first-hand the great work that organisations such as Hearts and Helpers, Cooking Champions, The Felix Project, as well as Enfield Carers Centre, are undertaking locally.

For more information about Enfield Carers Centre:
Visit enfieldcarers.org

Owl works as an online version of traditional neighbourhood watch groups



Don't be a twit, sign up to Owl twoo-day!

PC Neil Rogers from Enfield police invites residents to join an online neighbourhood watch service

Have you ever wanted to be part of a neighbourhood watch group and receive regular communications from your local police? Look no further than our local service, Owl (Online Watch Link).

You can sign up for free at owl.co.uk and receive up-to-date crime prevention, ward crime stats, local police meet-ups and much more from your local police officers. You can also reply to the messages via email, directly to your local team, so you can be assured of a line of contact.

If you want to join a neighbourhood watch then why not join Owl and start your own online watch. You can get your neighbours signed up to Owl and grow your watch, become a co-ordinator for your watch and be able to message your team via emails regarding local activity.

When you become a co-ordinator you will also get an Owl neighbourhood watch window sticker for you and your watch members when they sign up. This will help showcase your road as a neighbourhood watch area and hopefully deter criminals.

You can also join 'CCTV watch', if you have CCTV on your property that you are happy for police to know about and use for the detection of crime. You can even join 'dog watch', designed for anyone who owns a dog and would like up-to-date messages about any criminal activities regarding dogs.

If you are a business you can join 'business watch' and receive messages regarding crime prevention for your physical business and any criminal activity to be aware of.

Owl is now Enfield police's go-to website for keeping you informed about what is happening on your ward and across your borough, so don't delay, sign up today and be part of policing for the future!

Meet other carers at our friendly dementia café

BY ANNA MACER

Since launching in October 2021 we have enjoyed a steady flow of carers to our twice-monthly dementia café at St Stephen's Church in Bush Hill Park.

Sadly, due to the nature of dementia, many of our café users have either lost their loved ones or moved them into permanent care and are now less regular visitors to us. All have said how helpful it has been to be able to get feelings off their chest and share with others who are currently in or have walked in the same shoes – caring for a loved one with dementia.

Our aim is to offer more than coffee, cake and chat. We also want to keep carers updated with new developments in treatments for dementia sufferers. Any one of us could be a sufferer in future years, so having up-to-date information is essential. To this end we would like to invite speakers from Alzheimer's Research UK and the Alzheimer's Society to attend the café, but we need more carers visiting to make it a viable proposition for these busy organisations.

Age UK Enfield does a fantastic job of providing support for dementia sufferers, but we concern ourselves with their carers. Lucid conversations can be had with loved ones

up to the end, but nothing prepares you for how it is to find your loved one inhabiting a different planet from the one you are on. Just being able to give vent to those feelings and frustrations with others who have experienced similar situations somehow gives one the strength to carry on, knowing they are not alone in this awful situation.

So please do come and see us and mention our free café to anyone you know who could benefit from coffee, cake and a chat!

H's Dementia Café for Carers takes place on the second and third Monday of the month, from 2-4pm, at St Stephen's Church (small hall) in Bush Hill Park. For more information: Call 07710 043 421

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The Southgate woman on a mission to save the world

Arianna Abdul-Nour speaks to James Cracknell about her role with the UK's youth delegation to Cop28

Arianna Abdul-Nour says she is "ambitious" with what her delegation can achieve in the run-up to Cop28, the latest big climate conference scheduled to take place in Dubai later this year.

As part of the Future Leaders Network, the Southgate resident has been selected as co-head of the UK youth delegation for the United Nations event starting in November.

The delegation is made up of four young people who "care passionately about accelerating climate action and ensuring youth voices are heard" and their remit is to identify climate policies that young people want decision-makers to adopt – and then advocate for them.

Arianna, an international relations graduate, says: "We need to work out what the issues are and communicate that with people who have the power to do something about it."

Before the conference begins, the delegation will put together four policies that they wish to prioritise.

"Every policy we make, we put whether it is ambitious or realistic next to it. Although we know a certain country might not agree to it, we don't want to just have realistic policies because we need to be ambitious as well."

Cop ('Conference of the Parties') events have long been the world's primary forum for discussing global solutions to man-made climate change but, with a few notable exceptions such as the Cop21 talks in 2015 that led to the Paris Agreement, the conferences have become infamous for the repeated failure of the 195 countries taking part to agree on how – and how fast – to reduce carbon emissions.

Expectations are low for Cop28 in Dubai, partly because of the host city's strong connections to the oil and gas industry in the Middle East. Arianna remains hopeful but admits it is never easy to reach agreements on an international level.

"It is often about the leaders turning up and getting photos taken while the delegates do the real work!" she says. "[Cop26 president] Alok Sharma was really close to pushing this ban on coal through, but the

International relations expert Arianna Abdul-Nour grew up in Southgate



"We need to work out what the issues are and communicate that with people who have the power to do something about it"

nuance of a sentence meant India rejected it.

"So it is about identifying what people want and making sure the policies are robust and non-negotiable, so when it does get presented we have already anticipated what might come up and have alternatives ready."

The three stated aims of the UK youth delegation are to speak to a diverse range of young people and "confidently represent the youth voice to decision-makers on the global stage"; identify climate policies that "resonate with young people and would deliver on their priorities"; as well as advocate for these policies by "meeting with officials, politicians and other industry leaders", and by using the media and in-person forums.

To land her voluntary role as part of the delegation, Arianna had to go through several rounds of applications, including a video submission and interview. The former Ashmole Academy pupil thinks her academic background helped secure her place.

"My masters thesis was on internal displacement in Iraq [...] there is an intersection there with climate change – it is a human crisis and there will be climate migrants and a domino effect as a result."

Outside of her role with the UK's Cop28 youth delegation, Arianna works with the United Nations Association, engaging young people in diplomacy, and as a researcher both at the John Locke Institute and the European Institute of Research and Human Rights. In another volunteering role, she has also been teaching English to refugees at a camp in Jordan.

All of this experience makes Arianna well-equipped to handle discussions that could determine the fate of the planet. "I have always thought it was the end goal for me to be a delegate because it is an amazing opportunity," she says. "We have a lot of flexibility and power and I am very excited."

"We have lot of scope to do what we want – we can go to different places and talk to different people – but [we have to] balance a lot of things, so we can't take up all the opportunities that are out there."

Does she have a strategy in mind? "We are not trying to reinvent the wheel because a lot of research has been done already, but we are seeking to have all the facts we can to make sure we are not blind-sided and know what other people's agendas are."

"As the UK, people think we have a lot of clout, and we get a lot of emails from different countries to discuss things with us."

To get in touch with Arianna and the UK youth delegation to Cop28:
Email ukcopdelegation@futureleaders.network

The new express service will feature specially-branded buses



‘Superloop’ route revealed

A map showing the places where a new express bus service will stop in Enfield borough has been published for the first time.

The so-called ‘Superloop’ bus service being launched by Transport for London (TfL) to help better connect outer London was first unveiled in March, but now more details have been revealed about which areas will be served by it.

The simplified orbital map originally published by TfL suggested only Arnos Grove and Edmonton would be served by the Superloop,

but the new map of the North Finchley to Walthamstow leg of the service reveals that there are in fact four Enfield stops that will be provided; New Southgate Station, Arnos Grove Station, Gloucester Road (for North Middlesex Hospital) and Silver Street Station.

Although a public consultation on the North Finchley to Walthamstow route will not be launched until next spring, the public is now being invited to comment on the Harrow to North Finchley service.

The Superloop is described by TfL as a “game changing new

network of limited stop express routes” which, when complete, will circle London and connect outer London town centres, hospitals, schools and transport hubs. It is being supported by £6m of additional funding provided by City Hall.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan said: “The Superloop is part of my plans to improve public transport in outer London. These new routes will substantially improve access to transport services, town centres and hospitals in outer London, and help build a better, greener London for everyone.”

Thousands raised to support family of boy killed by car

A fundraising page set up to support the family of an eight-year-old boy fatally struck by a car in Winchmore Hill has raised more than £10,000.

Donations and tributes have poured in for Marigien, who died in hospital shortly after being knocked down at the junction of Compton Road and Green Lanes on Friday, 28th April. At time of publication, 494 donations totalling £10,519 had been made via a page on the Go Fund Me website launched by Antonia Koublis.

Antonia, a friend of the boy’s family, described Marigien as a “little angel” and wrote on the page: “I am here to help and support his family as they are going through a tragic loss in their lives.

“Funds will be used to help the family bury their little angel and help with any other expenses.”

Antonia added that Marigien is being mourned by his mother, father, two siblings and grandparents.

A shrine in honour of Marigien has been established near the



Flowers left near the scene of the incident in Winchmore Hill

scene of the tragedy, with bouquets of flowers and toys being left there.

The driver of the vehicle which hit Marigien stopped at the scene. No arrests had been made at press time. The Metropolitan Police continues to appeal for information from anyone who may have witnessed the incident or recorded it on dash-cam footage. Anyone who can help is asked to call 020 8597 4874, quoting CAD 6124/28Apr23. Alternatively call 101 or tweet @MetCC using the same reference.

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We need to design streets around people, not cars

Maggie Westhead and Clare Rogers from campaign group Better Streets for Enfield make a passionate plea for more road safety measures in the borough

An eight-year-old boy was killed on a road in Winchmore Hill in April. For us two local mums, this devastating news was not surprising. Our roads seem designed to put convenience for driving before human lives. That must change.

Enfield's road casualty stats are shocking – 31 people were killed from 2017 to 2022, and 658 seriously injured, including 49 children. The most likely to be killed or seriously injured were pedestrians.

So what can be done to make our streets safer? A lot. London borough councils that are serious about 'healthy streets' are acting on speed limits, parking and junctions, among other measures.

In Winchmore Hill and Palmers Green, we need a 20mph limit on Green Lanes, where so many people shop and travel to school. Winchmore School students are at risk:

teenagers are the group most likely to be killed on the road. The benefits of a 20mph limit are well known – 40% of people hit by a vehicle at 30mph die, compared to 10% at 20mph. Enfield needs to join the growing list of boroughs with a default 20mph limit.

Junctions are where most collisions happen. Side roads, like the Compton Road junction with Green Lanes, are especially dangerous as thousands of drivers turn across the path of pedestrians on the high street. The solution? Stop minor roads being used as shortcuts for cars. Look at Fox Lane's junction with Green Lanes in Palmers Green – now that 6,000 drivers are not using Fox Lane as a shortcut, crossing that once terrifying junction is a breeze. Devonshire Road was once a rat-run too, but now its closure at Green Lanes has made space for café seating and a kids' play area. This is why much-maligned low-traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs) are so necessary – cutting the risk of collisions

"We need to work out what the issues are and communicate that with people who have the power to do something about it"

in half is one of their benefits.

Junctions at major roads are a different animal. We are appalled that there is still no signalised pedestrian crossing on any arm of the Hedge Lane/Green Lanes junction in Palmers Green, despite being the route to school for so many. Why? If crossings slow bus journeys by two minutes, does that matter compared to a child's life?

Parked cars line much of Green Lanes and its side streets, making it harder for drivers to spot pedestrians about to cross, especially if they are a small child. In New York, replacing car parking with cycle lanes reduced pedestrian casualties dramatically. But when Enfield's cycle lanes were built there was such an outcry from traders, the council kept as many parking spaces as possible, carving seven out of the newly enlarged public space in Compton Road.

Parking should be cut back in Winchmore Hill, except disabled and loading bays. As well as being safer it would give more space for seating, planting, and spending time and money – benefiting traders. For many it would also be the nudge needed to arrive by foot, bike or public transport instead of by car.

Finally, we need controlled parking across the borough. Is it right that I can park a car for free the day I buy it, but have to wait for years – and then pay – for a secure on-street space for a bicycle? Charging for parking would help reduce multiple car ownership



Better Streets for Enfield wants to see a borough-wide 20mph limit introduced and the council could charge more for SUVs, which are more likely to kill children.

All these measures and more are laid out in the annual 'Healthy Streets Scorecard' which ranks London boroughs on how healthy their streets are, according to ten indicators. Enfield is ahead of many outer London boroughs, with its miles of cycle lanes, two 'quieter neighbourhoods' (LTNs) and school streets, but still sits in tenth place overall for outer London – with progress being slowed.

We urge Enfield Council to make healthy streets in Enfield a priority, so we never have to face an avoidable tragedy again.

Advertisement

EDMONTON YOUTH HEROES

EDMONTON
GREEN

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A 13-year-old school pupil has won a national art competition after writing a poem about her experiences of racism.

Shania Anyemedu entered her poem *Little Black Girl* in the creative writing category for her age group in the annual Show Racism the Red Card art competition, which has been running for 24 years and is the biggest of its kind in the country.

Shania was named as one of the winners at an awards ceremony at Liverpool FC's iconic Anfield Stadium. She had been selected from more than 30,000 other children who had entered the competition from around the UK.

Shania was presented with her award by Liverpool legend and Show Racism the Red Card patron John Barnes. The ceremony was hosted by CBBC presenter Ben Cajee.



The charity is the UK's largest anti-racism education charity and has worked with more than one million young people since its inception in 1996. Shania's inspirational winning poem can be read below.

Little Black Girl

They taunt me for the colour,
the shade of my skin,
They taunt me for my bushy hair,
which can't be slicked nor thin
They tease me for my edges,
yet try to imitate,
They laugh about my nose and lips,
for which I cannot change.
But the bronze on my skin, oh,
it glows in the sun,
My coiled, afro hair cannot go undone,
My edges, a unique dime of mine,
My precious nose and lips are one
of a kind,
My ancestors, standing brave
and strong,
My culture, in which I belong.
The tone of my skin, can make
life a little hard,
This is why we need to show racism
the red card.



Nominate your heroes

Dispatch readers are welcome to nominate their own 'Edmonton Youth Hero' – an inspirational young person (16 or under) from Edmonton who has made a valuable contribution to their local community. Simply email your nomination to EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com

Investing in New Southgate

Labour councillor Josh Abey on the progress being made in his ward since winning election last year

It has been just over a year since I was first elected as a Labour councillor for New Southgate ward – and it's been quite the year.

The cost-of-living crisis has gone into overdrive. The Conservative government's crashing of the economy last autumn, compounding 13 years of economic failure, has resulted in the UK having the highest inflation among the G7 countries. People are experiencing the largest fall in living standards on record and Enfield residents have been hit hard.

I stood for election because I

believe that local government done right can improve lives. In tough times, when people are struggling to get by, investing in our communities becomes even more important.

And so our Labour council has been focused on delivering its 2022 manifesto, spurred on rather than deterred by the crisis. Planting thousands of new street trees; cracking down on fly-tipping with a record number of prosecutions; and supporting job creation with new construction and film academies – the work is underway to secure a thriving Enfield even while the economic storm rages.

“I believe that local government done right can improve lives”

The housing crisis has contributed to the difficulties our communities are facing, too.

Across the country, private rented sector rents have soared for families who simply cannot afford them. In my casework and in my role on the council's housing scrutiny committee, I have seen the devastating effects on residents in New Southgate, which has a higher proportion of private renters compared with Enfield overall.

Against this backdrop, Labour-run Enfield Council is pursuing innovative measures to support people facing homelessness. There is more to do, but there are real achievements: while rough sleeping increased by 26% nationally between autumn 2021 and 2022, Enfield saw a 48% reduction over the same period, the largest reduction in the UK.

Ultimately, it will take thousands of new affordable homes being built to deal with the housing crisis, and that is what Labour in Enfield is committed to delivering.

At the same time as these living standards challenges, we continue to face a climate emergency that is no less urgent. In New Southgate, I have supported plans for investment in sustainable transport, and infrastructure for walking and cycling to help reduce emissions. Our pledge to roll out 1,000 electric vehicle charging points across Enfield will benefit the whole ward, but especially the area west of the A406 which has been underserved by charging points before now.

The council is also in the process of designing a solution for Brownlow Road to become safer and more accessible for pedestrians and cyclists.

So a year on, the issues confronting New Southgate and Enfield are substantial. But Labour is on your side – and I look forward to my second year serving residents.

Josh Abey is one of two councillors representing New Southgate, alongside Nelly Gyosheva (also Labour). Ward residents can get in touch:

Call 020 8132 0288
Email cllr.josh.abey@enfield.gov.uk



LETTERS

Send us your letters

Got an opinion on something in Enfield? We accept letters of up to 150 words from people and organisations in the borough. Email EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com before the next deadline on **Monday 19th June**.

New foodbank

Dear Enfield Dispatch

St Demetrios, an orthodox Christian community celebrating its 50th year, has partnered with The Felix Project, Enfield Food Alliance and Enfield Council to set up a weekly foodbank.

Operating from the church grounds each Saturday, 12pm–2pm, the volunteers distribute food, clothing, and other necessities to the community. A soup kitchen feeds over 150 families each week in the winter months. None of this would be possible without our dedicated volunteers. However, help is always needed! If you are interested in giving up a couple of hours of your time on Saturdays, we would love to hear from you. Or why not come and meet the team at our annual summer festival? It will be held on Saturday, 9th July, from 1pm–5pm, and there will be live entertainment, crafts stalls, games, as well as delicious refreshments on offer. All are welcome!

Yiannis Ioannides

St Demetrios Church, Edmonton

Social homes

Dear Enfield Dispatch

According to Kate Osamor MP in the April issue of the *Dispatch* [Issue 55, Page 6] “it will take a Labour government willing to rebuild our social housing stock”. Kate was re-elected in 2019 on a manifesto to build 500,000 council homes, back when Jeremy Corbyn was Labour leader. But, according to Keir Starmer, “the slate is wiped clean” on that manifesto.

Kate is correct when she says that Enfield Council “doesn’t need to wait for a Labour government to do better”. The Labour-run council is selling off Walbrook House (a block of council flats) and borrowing hundreds of millions of pounds to build private housing at Meridian Water – why not make it 100% council housing?

Will Kate stand for council homes at the next general election? Will Kate back Jeremy Corbyn if he stands, fighting for the anti-austerity policies in his 2019 manifesto?

John Dolan

Enfield Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition

Voter ID fears

Dear Enfield Dispatch

Enfield did not go to the polls in the recent council elections, so some residents might be unaware of the recent change to the law, requiring photo ID to vote. This hastily passed piece of legislation has meant that thousands across the country were unable to vote last month; a deliberate undermining of democracy.

This is particularly concerning for our borough, where recent research has found that 30% of people in Edmonton, and 33% of people in Enfield North, are unaware of the new law requiring photo ID to vote. Young voters and ethnic minority voters are disproportionately more likely to be unaware of the new rules.

A general election is likely to be held in 2024 and Enfield Council elections will follow in 2026. Anyone who wants their voice heard must make sure that they have one of the accepted forms of photo ID – a list can be found on gov.uk/how-to-vote.

Katie Knight

Enfield Green Party

Carbon capture

Dear Enfield Dispatch

Why does North London Waste Authority (NLWA) not spend the £10m funds provided to them for research into carbon capture on mixed-waste cleaning, sorting and recycling, rather than hopelessly outdated tech that only start-ups are getting the money for?

CO2 released accidentally from overfilled empty gas and oil wells in the North Sea is a disaster waiting to happen, if it even works in the first place after being piped hundreds of miles from North London.

We demand the NLWA halt works on the new incinerator; refit the existing incinerator to top anti-pollution standards in view of the Clean Air Act; decommission the existing incinerator by 2026, at the latest; and use the £10m from the carbon capture project to show the world how mixed waste recycling, reuse and repair will save the planet, starting with Enfield.

Malcolm Stow

Stop The Edmonton Incinerator Now!



Fresh call for return to pre-pandemic rail services after new timetable slammed as ‘very disappointing’

London Assembly member Joanne McCartney is demanding Great Northern restore the service it provided before March 2020

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Enfield’s representative at City Hall has slammed a railway company for failing to restore services to their pre-pandemic levels after describing its latest timetable change “very disappointing”.

Joanne McCartney – a Labour politician representing both Enfield and Haringey boroughs on the London Assembly – has long been calling for Great Northern to reintroduce the four-trains-per-hour off-peak service provided before 2020 along the Hertford Loop, but the rail firm again ignored her pleas with its new summer timetable.

While there is an improvement for passengers using Alexandra Palace Station, with services between King’s Cross and Cambridge now stopping there, there is no extra capacity provided for people using Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill, Grange Park, Enfield Chase, Gordon Hill or Crews Hill stations.

The only change for Hertford

Loop passengers in the new timetable, introduced on 21st May, was a rescheduling of services to provide evenly-spaced 15-minute waits for trains towards Moorgate at Alexandra Palace.

Speaking to the *Dispatch*, Joanne said: “We had four-trains-per-hour in the off-peak [before the pandemic] but we are now down to two-trains-per-hour and the new timetable does not increase capacity at all for services northwards of Alexandra Palace.



“I am very disappointed. This is my local train service and there is overcrowding during peak times, when there is standing room only, and off-peak there are just two-trains-per-hour.

“We are still at half the service we had prior to the pandemic.”

Joanne has also been campaigning for Great Northern’s services to be transferred to Transport for London’s control, to become part of the London Overground network. However, the government has recently blocked this move.

In the meantime, the Labour AM wants to see Great Northern restore pre-pandemic service levels. But in a letter to her explaining the decision, the rail franchise’s managing director Tom Moran wrote: “[We] need to ensure we match our level of service to demand, particularly given the ongoing loss-making status of our railway, which continues to be subsidised by the Department for Transport.”

Joanne said she recognises that demand for services is still lower than it was pre-pandemic, but warned: “Part of this is because the government will not fund extra capacity, but there is a danger of a vicious circle – if people think there is a poor service, they won’t use it.

Redundancies planned amid ‘right-sizing’ of Meridian Water team

BY SIMON ALLIN,
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

Job cuts are being made across Enfield Council’s Meridian Water project team under a restructure designed to save £2.6million.

The council is set to slash the number of posts on the team from 45 to 20, citing the need to make “significant financial savings” on the current £4.9m costs coupled with the end of initial works on the project.

It will save around £2.3m on the current £4.3m salary bill, with further savings to be made on management and support services. The estimated pension and redundancy costs associated with the restructure total £471,000.

A council report revealed 28 roles are set to be cut, a number of which are already vacant. It adds that the changes would put twelve officers at risk of redundancy, although the council confirmed that this could fall to nine if new roles are found for three staff members. The council pledged to support staff and “seek to minimise job losses and redundancies”.

The restructure comes shortly after an updated financial model signalled a reduction in the number of affordable homes planned for council-owned sites and delays to key infrastructure works on the scheme, which has been hit by spiralling construction costs.

Earlier this year, during a consul-

tation on the proposals, Meridian Water programme director Peter George left his role after eight years in charge.

Despite the various setbacks, council leader Nesil Caliskan has insisted plans for the flagship Edmonton regeneration scheme “remain the same” – including a pledge to build 10,000 homes in total and ensure 40% of these are classed as affordable.

The report on the restructure reveals plans to merge four separate teams into one “clearly defined functional workstream”. It says the council has “moved away from direct delivery and development agreement” as a result of budget pressures and changes to market conditions caused by “the war [in Ukraine], hyperinflation and forthcoming recession”.

The UK is not currently in recession with the economy growing 0.1% in the final quarter of 2022, but inflation remains in double figures.

Several Meridian Water workstreams have now been “successfully completed”, the council report adds, including the completion of a construction skills academy and the setting up of a “social value matrix”.

The report also states that the “masterplan vision” of the project is “substantially complete” and is “not expected to be revisited for a number of years” – although there is no indication of when the updated document will be published. The original masterplan was published ten years ago.



Construction work is progressing on the first Meridian Water homes

Greek food too good to Nissi

Neil Littman visits a busy Greek restaurant in Palmers Green



Nissi is a modern Greek restaurant overlooking Broomfield Park in Palmers Green. Although only open five days a week, they are very busy most days, and deservedly so as I discovered one Sunday evening. We had decided to eat early at 6pm, which was just as well as on Sundays the kitchen takes last orders at 6.30pm and closes around 8pm. First impressions were good from the smell of the food being prepared in the open-plan kitchen. The Greek

diet is generally one of the healthiest around, which Nissi makes a focus of its menu – good ingredients simply prepared and served. The long dining room is one of the noisiest I have ever encountered. Some acoustic dampening would have helped, but it also contributed to the atmosphere which I would describe as “on holiday abroad without leaving the country”. The Nissi website features an extensive gallery of photos of many of the dishes served, which from our visit looked exactly like what

was on offer – as you might hope! We ordered Keo beers and shared starters of spanakopita (spinach, feta filo parcels) and taramosalata with good quality pitta bread. Cod roe may be available in almost any supermarket in the land, but the experience of eating Nissi’s home-made version is something else. The colour is different for a start, untainted with food colouring, and the taste is as close as you will get to the Mediterranean. The filo parcels were a Gregg Wallace moment, as he might have

said “packed with big flavours” of fresh herbs and feta. Main courses for both of us were chicken souvlaki with sides of hand-cut chips (out-standing) and a Greek (what else?) salad. I ended up with enough for my lunch the day after. Meanwhile, plates of grilled fish and octopus were whizzing past us. We were too full for dessert but, despite this, complimentary ice cream to share arrived and we also ordered coffee. I have since spoken to several friends who rate this place very highly and say it is their favourite Greek restaurant in the area. I am also grateful I didn’t spot the meze for two (ten dishes to share) at £10 each or we might not have made it as far as the main courses! The price for two was £66 (not including service, which was notably good). I left Nissi slightly deafened, but impressed.

Nissi can be found at 62 Aldermans Hill, Palmers Green N13 4PP and is open Wednesday to Friday, 12pm–3pm and 5pm–10.30pm, Saturday 1pm–10.30pm, and Sunday 1pm–8pm. Booking is essential: Call 020 8882 3170 Visit nissirestaurant.co.uk



LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice Of Application For A New Premises Licence/Club Premises Certificate*

Notice is hereby given that **Khawar Mahmood** has applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Enfield for a Premises Licence/Club Premises Certificate* to permit:

- Late Night Refreshments Timings: 23:00–05:00
- For the premises: Crispify Grill and Pizza /Waffle and Shake Delight/Pizza and Burger situated at 11 Green Street, Enfield EN3 7JU

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: **9th June 2023**

Representations received by post will not be accepted. Representations must include your full name and address. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

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

Dated: 23 day of MAY 2023

LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice of Application for a New Premises Licence

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

- Alcohol Licence and opening hours everyday 12:00 to 23:00
- For the premises Lopen Raj Continental situated at: 828–830 Greens Street, Enfield N21 2RT

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: **16/6/23**

Representations received by post will not be accepted. Representations must include your full name and address. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

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

Dated: 19 May 2023

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Goods Vehicle Operator’s Licence

Rita Haulage LTD

Florin Ravar trading as Rita Haulage Ltd, of 89 Giron Avenue, Queensbury, London NW9 9UE is applying for an operator licence as follows: To keep 1 goods vehicle and 0 trailers at the operating centre at Brett aggregate & Capital Concrete, Jeffreys Road, Enfield, London EN3 7UA.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or employment of that land would be affected should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 9NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner’s office.

CRM Agape House

Holy Communion & Miracle Service

Sunday 25th June 2023 @ 10am

Raynham Primary School, Raynham Terrace, Edmonton N18 2JQ

All are warmly invited. Refreshments will be served at the end of the service.

Call 07951 881 991

Visit crmagapehouse.org.uk

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Uplifting songs at choir's June concert

Enfield Choral Society director Ian Mackenzie on what you can expect at their summer concert



Enfield Choral Society performing at St Paul's Church

For our June concert Enfield Choral Society will be performing *From the Bavarian Highlands* by Edward Elgar and *Everyday Wonders: The Girl from Aleppo* by Cecilia McDowall.

Musical director Mark Sproson and pianist Bohdana Ravliuk will be joined by violinist Sarah Colley and by Enfield County School for Girls Chamber Choir. Edward and Alice Elgar spent many holidays around Garmisch-Partenkirchen in Bavaria. After days spent hiking and touring, they enjoyed their evenings in taverns and hotels where they listened to local folk songs. In 1894, the Elgars spent several weeks on Bavarian walking tours and, when they returned home, Alice wrote six poems based on Bavarian folk verse. Edward set these poems to music, completing

them in April 1895 with their premiere at Worcester Festival on 21st April 1896.

Each of the poems and songs were inspired by different events or places in Bavaria – a harvest folk dance; the meadows around the village of Wamberg; a gentle lullaby; a prayer heard in a chapel at the top of the Tyrolean Alps. The fifth song is set in a high-altitude Alpine meadow and the final song is based on the town of Murnau, noted for its annual hunting festival.

Germany is also important for Nujeen Mustafa, a Kurdish girl with cerebral palsy who was forced to flee from her home in Aleppo and undertake an immense but successful journey, being pushed in her wheelchair by her elder sister, Nasrine, all the way from Syria to Germany. She co-authored her

biography with Christina Lamb under the title *Everyday Wonders: The Girl from Aleppo*.

Throughout this ordeal she remained strong, brave and upbeat, taking every opportunity to use her new-found English, which she had learned from watching US soap operas, quizzes and cookery programmes on television in her fourth-floor Aleppo flat.

In 2014 a new cantata was commissioned, based on this biography; the libretto was written by Kevin Crossley-Holland and the score composed by Cecilia McDowall. It was first performed in Birmingham Town Hall in 2018. The composer employs many musical effects to enhance the story, including chorales, spoken sections, body percussion and an intense solo violin that contributes to a Middle Eastern ambience. Both the story and the music are strong, captivating and uplifting – fully capturing the trials, but also the ultimate success against the odds.

We do hope that you will be able to join us for this fascinating concert.

Enfield Choral Society is performing at St Paul's Church, Church Hill, Winchmore Hill N21 1JA at 7.30pm on Saturday, 17th June. Tickets are £15 (£14 in advance), with under-25s in full-time education able to enter for £7:

Call 07864 061 755

Email tickets@enfieldchoralsociety.org.uk

Visit enfieldchoralsociety.org.uk

Summer-long series of events planned in Palmers Green park

David Williamson introduces this year's Broomfield Summer Festival

Now in its third year, Broomfield Summer Festival is becoming the place to go for outdoor cultural events in the borough.

Initiated in 2019 by volunteer group Friends of Broomfield Park (FoBP) and assisted by an amazing team of 16-25-year-old 'festival makers', the festival runs from June to September.

It comprises a wide range of events including family events, live music, open air theatre and dining out under the stars. This year also sees the return of a long-time favourite, Palmers Green Festival, in September.

Family events start on Thursday, 8th June, with the wonderful Heartbreak Productions. They have performed in Broomfield Park since 2018 with rip-roaring performances of the popular children's stories by David Walliams and this year it's the turn of *Bad*

Dad, which is about a boy named Frank who hatches a daring plan to break his father out of prison for a night so they can return the money he stole. Other family events include Chickenshed's *Tales from the Shed* and in September *The Jabberwocky and Other Nonsense* as well as fun fairs.

Live music in Broomfield Park is always popular and this year kicks off on Saturday, 3rd June with Reggae Matik, a five-piece band which presents a tribute to all the reggae and ska songs you know and love from the British charts.

In July it is the turn of Rock Power, a super-interactive high-octane rock 'n' roll band, bringing you nothing but the best in classic rock, power ballads and rock anthems of today. On every Sunday in August there is the ever-popular Broomfield Blues, which draws hundreds to lazy, hazy days spent by the lakeside bandstand.

The repurposed old bowling green – now named 'Broomfield Bowl' – is becoming well established on the national circuit of outdoor theatre venues. Events start on Tuesday, 6th June, with the ridiculously talented and energetic Three Inch Fools, this time with Shake-



Festival organiser David Williamson

speare's maddest of rom-coms, *As You Like It*, with three actors playing 23 instruments, 24 characters and taking on far too many costume changes between them!

Other theatrical highlights include *A Midsummer Night's Dream: The Musical*, *The Great Gatsby* and *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

There is just so much on offer with something for everyone!

For a full list of Broomfield Summer Festival events: Visit fobp.events

Livestock returns

BY ANDREW WARSHAW

Enfield's premier live music event returns to Forty Hall Farm next month with a star-studded line-up to please all tastes.

Livestock Music Festival is looking as diverse as ever, with everything from pop-punk, indie rock, goth, folk, blues, reggae, soul and funk.

On the Feelgood Stage, the headliner slot is being shared by the dynamic, eight-piece Mission Impossible Soul Band, born out of the blues and soul resurgence following the release of *The Blues Brothers*, and the incredible City Funk Orchestra. The return of the latter was a no-brainer after their fantastic show at The Black Barn in December 2022 when they brought the house down on one of the coldest nights of winter.

Other notable additions to the Feelgood Stage are the crowd-pleasing Ukelele Ska Collective, the return by popular demand of The Vipers and Reggae Matik, plus a not-to-be-missed special, one-off, ten-year anniversary reunion from the incredible Spirit of Springsteen.

We say it every year but yet again the Black Barn line-up is another triumph, with a full programme of new, upcoming and original acts headlined by the mind-blowing talent that is Laurie Wright with his infectious punk/roll n' roll fusion that seems certain to blow the roof off.

There is also the outstanding Brooke Law, who went to school locally and adds Livestock to her impressive list of summer festivals, including playing on the same bill as Bonnie Raitt and The Pretenders. Brooke's gutsy voice has been described as Alanis Morissette meets Janis Joplin.

Other Black Barn acts include D'Voxx who return to showcase their acclaimed new album 1984, *Dead Colours* – a mix of synth pop and indie rock with a strong nod to the 80s – and local duo Lost Chimes, blending traditional folk with a contemporary dream pop twist.

If disco is your thing and you fancy a break from the live stuff, the Black Barn will also be repeating the hugely successful teatime disco, a one-hour DJ set of classic tunes from the era.

Down in the woods, on the legendary Woodland Stage curated by St Harmonicas Blues Club, there is the usual amazing programme with The Blues Chapter and House Red already confirmed and more to come. This will be, as ever, a blues line-up second to none.

Livestock will of course offer all the usual bars and food stands plus an array of children's activities throughout the day. There are also plans for a dance zone at the end of the night.

While early bird tickets are sold out, advance tickets are a mere £30, with on-the-gate tickets costing £35. The evening pass is now £20 and valid from 7pm. Children up to the age of twelve remain free (you will still need to book them a pass) and there is a teen ticket for 13-to-17-year-olds at just £5. An accompanying adult ticket is required when purchasing either of the latter.

Livestock takes place on Saturday, 22nd July, from 11am to 11pm. To book tickets: Visit livestockuk.com



Building Bloqs is hosting Enfield Creative Festival on 24th June

Rebels with a creative cause

A new festival for creative entrepreneurs is taking place in Edmonton this month

BY FREYA VAN LESSEN

Over the past year our team at Bloqs has been working alongside a business support service, The Rebel School, which provides free advice and training to hundreds of entrepreneurs and creatives across Enfield – supplying the tools and knowledge to start their own business.

As an open access factory in Edmonton, focused on providing affordable workspace, training and high-end equipment, at Bloqs we are proud to support a diverse community with more than 400 independent businesses. Together, Bloqs and The Rebel School share a vision to level the playing-field for small and independent business, empowering people from all walks of life to follow their

dreams and do what they love.

On Saturday, 24th June, this will culminate in the launch of Enfield Creative Festival; an all-day celebration of the borough's vibrant creativity and entrepreneurship, with guest speakers, live music and stalls, plus delicious food and drinks provided by Bloqs Kitchen – with it all completely free to attend.

Backed by Enfield Council, Enfield Creative Festival provides a chance to celebrate all that has been achieved so far, as well as an opportunity for the next class of 'rebels' to join the movement! The Rebel School was founded in 2010 by Alan Donegan and Simon Paine. Its mission is to change the way entrepreneurship is taught across the world. It has educated over 20,000 people in ten different countries through free events and helped

launch 839 businesses in 2022.

As we continue to live through a challenging economic climate, organisations like Bloqs and The Rebel School – or, more importantly, the communities they create – are playing a vital role in Enfield's development. Using local independent businesses whenever possible helps to spur investment in the local economy and support our community.

So whether you are a business owner, budding entrepreneur or simply want to soak up the atmosphere with a cold beer and enjoy the stunning views from Bloqs as the sun sets behind the River Lea, everyone is invited to join us for Enfield Creative Festival!

For more information and to download a free ticket to Enfield Creative Festival on 24th June, from 3pm-10pm:

Visit therebelschool.com/enfield-festival

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 **Monday 19th June**.

CINEMA

Talkies Community Cinema presents 'Shoplifters'

Thursday 1st June, 7.45pm
Dugdale Arts Centre, 39 London Road, Enfield EN2 6DS

After a successful shoplifting spree, Osamu and his son rescue a little girl in the freezing cold and invite her home with them. Although the family is poor, they live happily together until an unforeseen incident upsets the delicate balance they have created, revealing long-buried secrets.

Tickets £6.50

Visit dugdaleartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/shoplifters

FOOD

Free Sunday Brunch

Sunday 4th June, 10am-12pm
CRM Agape House, Raynham Primary School, Raynham Terrace, Edmonton N18 2JQ

A free Sunday brunch, open to everyone with no restrictions. We provide a hot meal, drinks and sandwiches.

Free entry

Call 07951 881 991

Visit crmagapehouse.org.uk

EXHIBIT

Fore Street for All presents 'Roots'

Thursday 8th June, 6pm-9pm
Fore Street Library, Fore Street, Edmonton N18 2XF

Join us for our upcoming event 'Roots' to celebrate the diverse cultures and heritage of Fore Street through an exhibition of creative community projects.

Free entry

Visit forestreetforall.com

CHOIR

A Midsummer Musical Evening

Sunday 25th June, 7pm
Chickenshed Theatre, 290 Chase Side, Southgate N14 4PE

Chickenshed Community Choir returns to share songs that you will know and love. Playing are members of our youth band and of the wider Chickenshed community who will all come together for a musical evening of popular songs and music.

Tickets £12-£15

Visit chickenshed.org.uk

HEALTH

Hearth Throbs Lite

Starting Mon 5th June, 12pm-1pm
Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, 1 Kirkland Drive, Enfield EN2 0RN

These classes are aimed at those who have encountered a recent cardiac event and want to return to a normal way of life, or anyone else who wishes to exercise at a more gentle level. It will be mainly seated exercises and it will help to strengthen the heart muscle and improve mobility, increasing muscular endurance.

Class fees are £25 per month

Call 07938 926772

Visit heart-throbs.org.uk

FUN DAY

Enfield Carers Centre Fun Day

Saturday 10th June 12pm-4pm
Library Green, 66 Church Street, Enfield EN2 6AX

Bouncy castles, refreshments, tombolas, live entertainment including 'Enfield's Got Talent', children's games and activities, raffle, stalls and more!

Free entry

Email info@enfieldcarers.org

Visit enfieldcarers.org

DRINK

Enfield Gin and Rum Festival

Saturday 24th June, 11am-11pm
Old Bakery Gin, Pymmes Mews, Bowes Park N13 4PF

Meet the distillers and drink some of the UK's finest British gins. All distillers will be serving their own unique gin cocktails and will be selling bottles to take home.

Free entry

Call 020 8829 8241

Email hello@oldbakerygin.com

SHOPPING

Jumble sale

Sunday 25th June, 11am-4pm
Pymmes Park Visitor Centre, Silver Street, Edmonton N18

Bric-a-brac, clothes, household items, books and more! Tea and homemade cake. All funds raised go towards feed for the waterfowl and improvements at Pymmes Park.

Free entry

Visit friendsofpymmespark.wixsite.com/fopp

AROUND THE BOROUGH

WINCHMORE HILL

100-year-old marmalade maker raises £3,500 for local cancer charity



Margaret Stretton loves making marmalade

A WINCHMORE HILL MARMALADE maker helped raise thousands of pounds for Nightingale Cancer Support Centre after producing more than 100 jars to celebrate her 100th birthday.

Margaret Stretton's legendary

marmalades and jams have long been a big hit with her church congregation and, as she prepared to hit her century last year, son-in-law David Mulford suggested she raise money for charity by setting herself a target.

The original aim was to make 50 jars and raise £200, but as the months went on it became clear Margaret would far surpass this.

"David suggested we do a Just Giving page and I said it sounds good but you will be lucky to get £200," she told the *Dispatch*.

"Then we raised £3,500 – which shows there are some good people out there!"

In total throughout last year Margaret managed to make 115 jars of

marmalade and jam, in different flavours including strawberry, apricot and raspberry. This is despite her suffering from macular degeneration which severely impairs her eyesight, as well as rheumatoid arthritis in both hands.

The only help Margaret gets with her marmalade and jam production line is a little assistance scraping out her preserving pan – the same pan she has been using for decades after inheriting it from her mother.

Daughter Christine Mulford said: "The thing we found incredible is that she has her poor eyesight now but she memorised the recipes. She has friends who ring her up to ask if she has any jars left!"

BUSH HILL PARK

Man convicted of murdering 'kind, funny and talented' teenager

A "DANGEROUS" MAN HAS been convicted of the murder of a "kind, funny and talented" 17-year-old.

Timothy Adeoye, aged 20 and of no fixed address, was found guilty of Donovan Allen's murder following a trial at the Old Bailey. He was also convicted on one count of robbery, possession of an offensive weapon and threatening a person with a blade in a public place.

The court heard that on 7th February last year, three males were at a flat in Ayley Croft Estate waiting for a friend to arrive. But instead, Adeoye forced entry to the flat, produced a knife, and demanded to know where a friend of Donovan's was.

While Adeoye was inside the address a male, who was with Donovan, called the flat and said that he was on his way to the address. Adeoye quickly told the group not to tell them that he was there. He took a knife from the kitchen and left the flat to wait for Donovan's friend in the communal area of the building.

As Donovan and his friend entered the building and headed toward



Murderer Timothy Adeoye

the flat, Adeoye approached them, wearing a balaclava with a skeleton face on it. He pulled out a knife and told them to empty their pockets. He took a bag from Donovan and searched it. At this point, a neighbour in the communal area shouted at the group to leave or they would call police. Adeoye threatened this neighbour with a knife.

Donovan and his friend turned to leave, but Adeoye followed them. He then stabbed Donovan in the chest causing the injury that claimed his life. Despite the best efforts of members of the public



Victim Donovan Allen

and the emergency services, he died at the scene.

Detective Chief Inspector Linda Bradley said: "Adeoye is a dangerous individual and while I am pleased with this guilty verdict, there is no court outcome that could return Donovan to his family. My thoughts are very much with them today."

Donovan's mother added: "Donovan was polite, kind, funny and talented and he was taken from us for no reason at all. There are no words to describe the loss."

Adeoye will be sentenced at a later date.

CARTERHATCH

New flats left empty for a year

A BRAND NEW BLOCK OF SEVEN affordable flats in Enfield has stood empty and unoccupied for over a year because a contractor went bankrupt.

External construction work on the four-storey block in Linwood Crescent was completed in March 2022, with only the internal fittings and decoration left to make the flats habitable, but the site has remained fenced off since then with no sign of any progress being made.

The Newlon Housing Trust scheme has been part-funded by the Mayor of London as a small-site development providing "general needs" affordable housing in the borough. Explaining why it has not been completed and the flats not put on the market, a Newlon spokesperson said: "We understand the concern about the building in Linwood Crescent.

"Unfortunately the original contractor went bankrupt and therefore works on the building

Work halted on the flats in March 2022



stopped. We have been through the necessary procurement process to appoint a new contractor and they will be starting on site shortly.

"Although the building may appear to be complete from the outside it is not currently habitable as a considerable amount of internal works are still required. We estimate a programme time of roughly six months to complete works once the new contractor starts on site.

"This situation is frustrating for us and we are working as quickly as possible to get the works completed and to move people in."

PONDERS END

Plan for new flats on site of demolished pub

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

A DEVELOPER PLANS TO BUILD 19 flats on the site of a former Ponders End pub – but provide no affordable housing.

Developer Compton London wants to build a six-storey block of flats at 115 South Street, which was once home to The Falcon public house.

Enfield Council's policies state that developments of ten or more units should contribute to a borough-wide target of providing 40% affordable housing. But the plan for the former pub site states that a financial viability study found the proposed development "cannot support any element of affordable housing contribution".

The Falcon was knocked down in 2017, despite a campaign by local residents to save it. It is one of several pubs in Ponders End to

have closed over the last decade, with most either demolished or converted to restaurants or other uses.

In 2018, the council turned down plans to build 19 flats in blocks up to six storeys high at the site of The Falcon. The developer has since worked with council officers to make changes to the scheme in response to their recommendations.

Planning documents say the new proposal would provide "a high proportion of family homes, delivering a choice of housing and a mixed community". Five flats would have three bedrooms and one would have four bedrooms, with the remaining units containing one or two bedrooms.

Plans claim the scheme would improve "the aesthetic quality and visual appearance of the site, with the new building taking design cues from the area's architectural language".

Chairman Paul Reed (left) greets new Towners boss Gavin Macpherson (right)



Towners announce new manager

The club has confirmed who will be replacing long-serving former boss Andy Leese

Enfield Town FC has announced the appointment of Gavin Macpherson as manager.

Gavin joins the Towners after parting company with Met Police FC, where he spent over 20 years as a player, assistant, and manager.

He will replace Andy Leese in the dugout at the QE2 Stadium, following a six-year stint that came to an end in April shortly after Enfield Town missed out on a play-off spot in the Isthmian Premier Division.

As a player Gavin had stints at Barnet and Carlisle, as well as at Wealdstone, Slough Town and Woking. He took the managerial reins at the Met Police for the 2018/19 season after the resignation of Jim Cooper, guiding them to victory in the

Southern League play-offs – only to be denied promotion at the final hurdle against Tonbridge Angels in a ‘super play-off’.

The Towners have described Gavin as a “widely-regarded coach who has gained a reputation for moulding highly-competitive squads”.

Chairman Paul Reed said: “I’m delighted that we have reached an agreement with Gavin and his team. We had a number of impressive applicants, but Gavin was our clear favourite.

“His short-term and longer-term intentions as manager align closely to ours and he certainly fulfilled the criteria set out at the start of our recruitment process. He brings with him a very strong track record and considerable expertise at step three. I am very much looking forward to working with him and his coaching team.”

“He certainly fulfilled the criteria set out at the start of our recruitment process”

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- Every penny of income from Enfield Dispatch helps us deliver more journalism in Enfield
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OUR CURRENT MEMBERS

Derek Grant, Young Notes, Ed Balleny, Suzanne Beard, Elizabeth Crosthwait, Chris Kaufman, Susan Cook, Basil Clarke, John Naughton, Right at Home Enfield, MumSing Choir, Lloyd Tew-Cragg, Andrew Warshaw, Neil Churchill, Dan Wright, Anthony Fisher, William Yates, Carole Stanley, Mervyn Maggs, Aditya Chakraborty, Norman Bennett, Vivien Giladi, Greg Andrews, The Old Enfield Charitable Trust, Laura Davenport, Mick Wood, Francis Sealey, Caroline Banks, Joe Hickey, Petr Mitterbach, Tracy Hughes, Kristiana Heapy, Neil Bachelor, John Crowther, Hannah Salvidge, Sean Wilkinson, Julia Daniel, Philip Ridley, Robert Pite, Deborah Dalglish, Steve King, Dána Roberts, Lauri Clarke, Julian Rhys-Williams, Anne Cullen, Ross Cunningham, Diana Goforth, Martin Parrott, Kirsten Lowe, Aurora Yaacov, Sylvia Collicott, Paula Lamont, Liz Wright, Elsie Rigden, Adam White, Sue Grayson Ford, Sangeeta Waldron, Joe Studman, Zoe White, Harriet Ray, Hannah Dyson, Julie Nedza, Peter Krakowiak, Lynda Dyson, Chris Skilbeck, Peter Campling, Alison Shepherd, Chris Graham, Per Hansen, Hari Ramanathan, Lindsay Rawlings, Carlo Rimini, Dennis Donoghue, Bhasmank Mehta, Harry Redmond, Jim Shepherd, Graham Halle, Keith Comley, Thomas Whiteway, Anthony Maddox, Neil Littman, Janet Carrick, Tricia Sharpe, Robert Dawes, Paul O'Brien, Richard Mapleston, Malcolm Stow, Graham Cleur, Evan Hughes, Isobel Whittaker, Andrew Murray, Andy Bean, Debbie McVitty, Richard Whitaker, Mark Shaw, Peter Moutell, Jane Maggs, John Cole, Vanessa Wiseman and Pat Kane, Caroline Bernard Moxey, Ioannis Chronakis, Caley Montgomery, Janice Nunn, Amy Williams, Su Fairbairn, Linda Bartell, Fran Holmes, Elizabeth Hart, Helen Menzies, Boyd Goldie, Ann Jones, Yasemin Brett, Christopher Dey, Pauline Burdon, Helen Karamallakis, Tanya Ruth Sampson, Kim Pickering, Sharron Spice, Bush Hill Park Residents Association, Maria McCaul, Ruby Sampson, Colourword Translations, Cristina Agudo, Garry Kousoulou, Pamela Rayner, Susan Davies, Frances Warboys, Pamela Stansall, Michael Dickinson, Richard Stones, Natasha Boydell, Martyn Stogden, Rupert Price, Andrew Irvine, Meryn Cutler, Karl Brown, Kay Heather, Jerome O'Callaghan, Matt Burn, Martin Russo, Marilyn Hamilton, Helen Osman, Bill Linton, Enfield Over 50s Forum, Mr. A Cleary, Stephen Evans, Ryan Hebbes, Bush Hill Park Residents Association, David Mickleburgh, John Machin, Carol Fisk, Sheila Spooner, Ben Sulaiman, Pat Kane, Sarah Jackson, Liz Gilbert, Edward Smith, Jenny Noon, Josepha Scotney, Alison Parker, Vicki Pite, Barrie Lane, John Woodger, Rob Hastings, Malcolm Sleath, Jeni Barker, Sarah Heyward, Nick Mayer, Martyn Axon, Margaret McHugh, Keith Morvan, Alice Kay, Liz Partridge, Graham Kilwin, Colin Younger, Clare Rogers, Phil Gooch, Patrick Robinson, The Enfield Society, Friends of Hilly Fields.

