

NEWS

Friday 24 June 2022

A tribute to Mohammed Saeed Khan
Windrush Day celebration
Beckton Bikezone party
and more ...

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A tribute to Mohammed Saeed Khan



The last 2 years have been a very difficult time for many individuals and especially for the Council Tax & Benefits Service, having lost a number of wonderful long-standing friends and colleagues. Our heartbreak continues with the loss of a dear

friend and colleague, Mohammed Saeed Khan in the early hours 21 June 2022. Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers are with his family, friends and colleagues.

A young Saeed joined the council in December 1990, dealing with Poll Tax in the Pyramid building in Stratford (now Morrison's). He was popular amongst his team and many colleagues across the council, known as the 'Omar Sharif' of Council Tax for his suave looks, smart dress and thin moustache. We can only describe Saeed as a gentleman, kind caring and principled. He was extremely dedicated to his work, representing the council at Magistrates Court and often sharing stories of his endeavours to persuade residents and landlords with high levels of council tax arrears to pay up. It is fair to say he was not a man who would give up. He had a big heart and a sensitive nature, willing to listen to people's problems to try and help them. A remarkable personality.

The loss of Saeed is a devastating shock to us all. He was a loving family man and if you knew Saeed, it was evident how proud and committed to his family he was. He leaves behind 4 children, his wife Masroor who also previously worked at Newham, and his adorable grandchildren. He has left a mark in the service that just cannot be replicated.

A JustGiving page has been set up for those wishing to donate to the Al Mustafa Welfare Trust, which provides much needed water wells, as a means of remembering Saeed.

<u>Crowdfunding to Sadaqah Jariyah for Mohammed Saeed Khan Baloch on JustGiving</u>

These are very difficult times without everyone having been able to gather together normally, share our loss and comfort each other in the usual way. Please know that we understand, and that support is available to help you deal with loss. Please speak to your manager or, if you prefer, call our Employee Assistance Programme which offers bereavement support and confidential counselling 24/7 on **0800 882 4102.**

Find out more>

Windrush Day celebration tomorrow



WE ARE CELEBRATING.

WE ARE NEWHAM.

WINDRUSH DAY CELEBRATION EVENT 25 JUNE 2022



www.newhamwindrushday.org



Join us TOMORROW on **Saturday 25 June** for a fantastic all day Windrush Day Celebration at Old Town Hall Stratford.

The day starts at 11am and will be hosted by Quincy the Comedian.

Book now>

For further information on this event and on our Windrush Day grants programme please go to www.newhamwindrushday.org [this link maybe be restricted by your browser, however it is safe - simply choose the override restriction option].

Beckton Bikezone party tomorrow



Beckton Bikezone is having a party TOMORROW and you are invited. Join us on **Saturday 25 June from 12:00-17:00** for an exciting FREE day of cycle skills games and training.

Find out more>

Compliments to Newham Registry staff



A Newham resident had some kind words to say about our colleagues **Karen Roccia** and **Momtaz Basith**.

"I would like to pass on sincere and heartfelt compliments to Newham Council Registry Office employees Karen Roccia and Momtaz Basith for their professionalism, customer service, engaging and jovial approach that made mine and my wife's special day simply beautiful.

Please pass on our commendation to these fantastic employees who could teach others about customer service with their eyes closed. Sterling individuals!"

If you have any compliments or words of gratitude for your colleagues - either from residents or yourself, let us know!

Men's mental health webinar



Thursday 30 June, 11:00-12:00

This webinar is brought to you in association with leading mental health company <u>Onebright</u>, a new way to deliver personalised mental health care. The webinar covers:

- Men's health statistics
- Dispelling stereotypes
- Common men's mental health issues and triggers
- Spotting the signs
- Supporting each other at work and at home

- Strategies to make improvements
- When to get help.

Register now for free>

[this link maybe be restricted by your browser, however it is safe - simply choose the override restriction option].

Commissioning Network

As a council, we want to instil tackling racism, inequality and disproportionality through every commissioning action. You are invited to our next Quarterly Commissioning Network which takes place on **Tuesday 5 July**, **10:00-12:00**.

The aim of the network is to: share good practice, develop tools to support with commissioning, and keep commissioners (and anyone who supports commissioning or is interested in such things) informed on latest developments.

The session will be held over Microsoft Teams and if you are interested in attending, please contact raceequality@newham.gov.uk.

Free sign language qualification opportunity



<u>Enabled Living</u> are offering 2 FREE places on their British Sign Language Level 1 Qualification to adults who work or live in Newham.

BSL Level 1 will introduce you to fingerspelling and basic signs. This course will cover everyday

conversations and will give you confidence when communicating with deaf people. At the end of the course you will receive a Level 1 qualification in BSL.

Course start date: 22 September 2022

Weekday: Every Thursday

Time: 15:00-17:00 Duration: 32 weeks

Venue: The Enabled Living Lounge, The Resource Centre, 200 Chargeable Lane,

Plaistow E13 8DW

If you are interested and are able to commit to 6 months of training and complete the exams at the end of the course please contact Rukshana.Ahmed@enabledlivinghealthcare.co.uk.

5 STEPS FOR LIVING WITH COVID-19 SAFELY

5 STEPS FOR LIVING WITH COVID-19 SAFELY



www.newham.gov.uk/coronavirus

The government's Living with COVID strategy has removed legal requirements to follow self-isolation and universal access to testing in March/April 2022.

However, COVID levels due to Omicron and its variants are still high.

The five steps above are your guide to staying safe:

- 1. Do the basics Wear a face covering in crowded places or where airflow is poor.
- 2. Get your vaccine It is the best protection from going to hospital AND it is safe more than 11.5 billion people worldwide have had a vaccine.
- 3. Keep testing if you can, especially before seeing people who are at high risk from COVID-19
- 4. Stay at home, if you have symptoms or a positive test result
- 5. <u>Stay Healthy</u> sleep, eat vegetables where you can and <u>quit those bad</u> habits.

Find out the latest COVID guidance now>

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