

Why not try Fairtrade food or goods?



NEWS IN BRIEF

The future is looking leafy

OVER 400 trees have been planted across Hackney as part of a pledge to boost borough boughs by more than 1,000.

Mayor Jules Pipe pledged to carry this out by 2010,



Mayor Pipe and Cllr Laing dig in

following requests from residents, and he rolled up his sleeves to help plant the latest batch himself.

The current planting season ends this month, so he paid a visit to Sigdon Road, E8, with Cllr Alan Laing, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, to see the progress.

The Council is seeking residents to act as 'Tree Champions' who look after young trees and suggest locations for new ones. Cllr Laing said: "Hackney is one of the few boroughs investing in the trees that we have, and committed to planting many more. Residents are coming forward with requests for trees on their streets, and I welcome the enthusiasm they have shown."

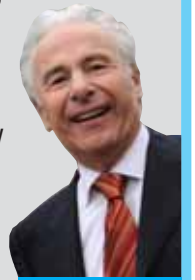
Hackney's Arboricultural Team has already started to prepare its planting programme for the 2008/09 season. If anyone has a suggestion for a suitable site, or is interested in becoming a Tree Champion, call: **020 8356 3000** or e-mail: info@hackney.gov.uk

Volunteering centre

A NEW centre for volunteering charity CSV has opened in Hackney.

Lord Levy returned to his Hackney roots to officially launch the centre, which is named after him, on 25 February.

It will offer local young people, aged 14 to 25, the chance to develop new skills through a range of job-based training, qualifications and community action. Lord Levy, who has been president of CSV for a decade, met trainees and volunteers at the new facility in Lower Clapton Road, E5. Josma Begum, 23, is one of the success stories – a customer service student five years ago, she is now employed as a recruitment and inductions officer. Lord Levy grew up in Stamford Hill and went to the former Grocers' grammar school, now Mossbourne Academy.



Lord Levy

Fairtrade Fortnight

FAIRTRADE Fortnight saw local faith groups join together to call for an end to injustice in the Third World.

It also featured a moving talk from a cotton producer from Mali in West Africa, who spoke about the struggles of people in his village to make a living, and the benefits that Fairtrade goods can bring.

Representatives from the Muslim, Jewish and Christian communities, signed a statement pledging to make ethical shopping choices, and calling for producers in poorer countries to be paid a fair price for their goods.

During the fortnight, from 25 February to 9 March, the local Fairtrade Group, supported by the Council, also applied for Hackney to be formally recognised as a Fairtrade borough.



Artist's impressions of what the centre of Dalston could look like after regeneration

Major boost for Dalston

From Page 1

The scheme will be divided into two construction projects called Dalston Lane South and Dalston Junction Interchange (with Dalston Square linking the two sites).

The Council's Dalston Lane South site, bordered by Beechwood Road, Roseberry Place and Forest Road, will provide homes, shops and a new library.

TfL's Dalston Junction will bring a new Tube connection from 2010 and a new bus interchange.

Further shops and homes will be built on top of the new station.

The scheme, designed by Arup Associates and John McAslan & Partners, includes 14 apartment

Making progress to preserve historic terrace

FURTHER down Dalston Lane, plans are underway to carry out a conservation-led regeneration project to preserve a terrace of historic buildings.

Many of the 19th century properties, part of the Dalston Lane (West)



Dalston Lane terrace in 2007 before some walls were removed

Conservation Area, are vacant and have fallen into disrepair. The Council has been working with a conservation structural engineer to make sure they do not deteriorate further. On their advice, some of the walls from 60 to 64 Dalston

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have been removed because they were structurally unsound.

The walls and other features were documented by conservation officers and the contractor beforehand and the bricks, where sound, were cleaned, wrapped and carefully stored. The intention is to re-use them in the future redevelopment.

Plans for a longer-term strategy to regenerate the terrace are being drawn up by the Council. English Heritage has already supported the project with initial funding and technical guidance.

Hackney Council, led by Mayor Pipe, campaigned for five years for a Tube link in the borough, and secured new stations at Dalston Junction, Haggerston, Hoxton and Shoreditch High Street.

By June 2010, the East London Line will run from Dalston Junction in the north to New Cross, Crystal Palace and West Croydon in the south. The link will be extended to Highbury and Islington by 2011.

MORE INFO

For further details about what is happening in Dalston visit:

www.dalstonsquare.co.uk; or call: **0845 460 6011**

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