



Guild of Location Managers

INFORMATION

Newham Film Office - fam trip

2 March 2011

Our merry band set off from Newham HQ, and headed across the borough to our first destination. Along the way we were given facts and figures by our knowledgeable Newham Guide, Jean Jeffrey, Newham's Commercial Officer, lifelong resident and fan.

Situated three miles from the City, Newham encompasses much of London's revitalised docklands. The borough is at the centre of London's 2012 Olympics and is also home to City Airport, ExCel exhibition centre and the new development, Stratford City comprising of a vast Westfield shopping centre, new homes, office and hotel space.

Did you know ?

Newham is the most culturally diverse borough in the UK.

City Airport is the fastest growing airport in Europe and now offers a business class service to JFK airport in the US.

As part of the Cross Rail development, Newham will receive five new stations, due to be completed by 2018.

Newham Film Office has produced a handy flip guide to their key locations. If you would like a copy either get in touch at www.newhamfilmoffice.co.uk or join them on their Facebook page and they'll send a copy by request.

Our first location was the Carpenters Estate

This is made up of three tower blocks and their residents are gradually being decanted as part of the area regeneration. James Riley Tower has already been used extensively for filming and currently has a dressed set available for use.

From the 21st floor we took a short flight of stairs up on to the roof. There is a small scaffold viewing point erected here which gives panoramic views across the Olympic park and over the streets of Stratford.



Newham also have an Olympic Park Viewing Gallery, a purpose built enclosed rooftop structure at Holden Point in Stratford. This is managed by Jean Jeffrey and she can be contacted on 020 8430 1568.

The estate can accommodate a few technical vehicles, but there is unit parking at the nearby bingo hall.

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Carpenters Estate, Carpenters Road, E15

Rokeby School

This is a 1960's secondary school that's currently disused and available for filming. It has a great playground and yard areas, along with traditional gym halls, classrooms, good science labs, lots of corridors, hall with a stage and all the usual school favourites.

It also makes a good production base and has plenty of parking areas.



Rokeby Secondary School, Pitchford Street, E15



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Plaistow Hospital

Once a geriatric hospital this building has some remarkable architectural details which gives it a curious appeal despite the desolate appearance. The interior was resuscitated recently for "Getting On", the deadpan comedy about a geriatric ward. There are no utilities available on site, but on the up side, parking is unrestricted in the surrounding streets.

It's a large Victorian building with modern additions and spaces include an intact reception, lots of lovely long corridors, waiting rooms and plenty of medical furniture.



Plaistow Hospital, E13

West Ham United

Commonly known as Upton Park, this is a Premiership football ground with 35,000+ seater stadium. There are also conference facilities, several bars and a hotel with rooms that overlook the pitch. There is a "Champions" statue in Barking Road, opposite The Boleyn Arms, commemorating West Ham's three sons who helped win the 1966 World Cup: Bobby Moore, Geoff Hurst and Martin Peters and also included on the statue is Everton's Ray Wilson.



West Ham United, Green Street, E13



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University of East London

This university campus is modern in design and was London's first new university campus to be built in over half a century. It's won acclaim for its iconic architecture and was short-listed for Building of the Year. The student village has a striking waterfront setting and campus includes lecture theatres, seminar rooms, multi-media production centre, a 24/7 library as well as shops and services.



Docklands Campus, University Way, E16 2RD

Newham Council Building 1000

This modern glass office building has a dockside setting and a bird's eye view of London City Airport. There is masses of open space and open plan office areas, all in a contemporary setting. The building also has a spacious canteen with floor to ceiling glass wall on one side overlooking the dock. It's a very flexible building and has areas that would also make a good airport lounge double. There is outdoor and underground parking space.



At the end of our tour we all congregated in a meeting room at Building 1000 and enjoyed drinks and nibbles. The Mayor of Newham, Sir Robin Wales, gave an enthusiastic welcome to his borough and he is clearly passionate about the area.

We are very grateful to Sue Russo and David Fearn of Newham Film Office. It was a fascinating visit and gave a great overview of the diversity of architecture and locations available in the borough. David gave a demonstration of their new website which is very comprehensive, clear and full of relevant information. We look forward to working with you !

Leonora Sheppard, March 2011
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