



News from Jennette Arnold AM Labour London Assembly Member Representing Hackney, Islington and Waltham Forest

London Goes Smoke Free – Countdown to 1 July 2007

On Sunday 1 July, London will look and smell like a different place, as England follows in the footsteps of the rest of the UK and signs like the one shown below will remind us that it is against the law to light up a cigarette in any of our pubs, clubs, cafes and restaurants. The ban also applies to places of work, the premises and grounds of public authorities, including vehicles



used by more than one employee. With over 3,800 pubs in the capital alone, the job of ensuring London is ready for the new law is no easy one. That is why the London Health Commission (LHC) which I Chair, as well as other agencies, has been working on a campaign to raise awareness throughout London of the impending changes.

Some of you may have seen the branded Smokefree London bus in the capital. It has made planned and unscheduled stops at various locations across the city to act as a resource and information point for Londoners, securing comments, opinions and views from the capital's residents.

The bus first set off from City Hall on 22 March – the eve of the 100 day countdown to the new law – and when not in use on the campaign trail, the double-decker is in regular service on the 137 route between Streatham and Oxford Street, ensuring maximum exposure to locals and tourists alike. For more information go to smokefreelondon.gov.uk

Save the Freedom Pass

London Councils have recently stepped up their attacks, calling on the government to abolish the reserve scheme that allows TfL to guarantee the concession. The Freedom Pass is one of the most popular policies ever introduced on London's transport system. Older Londoners and disabled Londoners have expressed growing concern about the approach of London Councils.

I know a number of the older people organizations within my constituency will support me in calling for the Freedom Pass to be maintained in its present form. A withdrawal or restriction of the Freedom Pass would be an immense blow to the contribution made by the millions of older and disabled people across London. The Freedom Pass provides for free travel for Londoners over the age of 60 on the tube, DLR, bus, and tram after 9.30am Monday to Friday and all day Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays. Disabled people can travel at any time. The amount that each council contributes towards the scheme reflects the number of Freedom Pass holders resident in their borough.

It is important in the debate over free bus travel for older and disabled Londoners that all those who support the Freedom Pass speak out.

I ♥ Love London

It was a pleasure to host an exhibition with the East London Printmakers recently at City Hall.



Some of you may know the East London Printmakers, who are a non profit making artists' cooperative with an open access studio in Hackney. They offer open access days, workshops, and artist talks and carry out group shows and cooperative projects with other organisations.

The exhibition I hosted for them also featured a contemporary art association in Germany.

I can be seen here with two of the artists standing in front of two photos depicting Leyton and Walthamstow, which are two of their favourite spots!



The exhibition displayed works from 30 members of the East London Printmakers, portraying their personal most inspiring places to be in London. This part of the show was called "Loveletters to London". The 16 German artists showed artwork produced about London and how it is viewed from a visitor's perspective. That part of the show was called ""Letters from Abroad".

I wish to personally pay tribute to the magnificent images produced by the following artists of the East London Printmakers:

Lynne Blackburn, Daniel Speight, Steve Edwards, Katja Rosenberg, Sara Pendlebury, Will Parker, Ann Norfield, Nick Morley, Jackie Baxter, Claire Hynds, Jeanetta Gibbins, Rory Brooke, Katie Jones, Didi Baldwin, Catherine Walsh, Ferha Farooqui, Louiz Kirkebjerg Nielsen, Janet Brooke, Sumi Perera, Linda Simmonds, Bill Pryde, Krystyna Shackleton Dzieszko, Janet Wilson, Lydie Gallais, Nick Henderson, Wuon Gean Ho, Richard Roberts, Emilia Ljungberg, Anna Alcock, Khara Jade Small, Irune Urunuela, Vic Browne

And not forgetting our German artists from Verein fuer Aktuelle Kunst, Minden-Luebbecke:

Annelene Schulte, Gesine Frank, Ingrid Schaible-Boehm, Lieselotte Scherer, Barbara Junker, Anke Rohde, Guenter Dietrich, Hartwig Reinboth, Inge Dietrich, Isolde Merker, Katrin Sandmann-Henkel, Margret Timm, Mary Wehling von Blaricum, Ursula Gebert, Friedgund Lapp, Ulrich Kuegler, Bernhard Sprute

Leaving The Car At Home

A new scheme to encourage businesses to help their staff leave their cars at home, save money, and reduce their impact on the environment, has been launched by Transport for London.

'Enterprise', has been set up to help small and medium sized businesses across the capital establish 'workplace travel plans', which encourage more sustainable ways of travelling to and from work, and help to tackle global warming through reducing the levels of emissions produced by car use.

Businesses reducing their overall car use can save time and money, both corporately and for their employees, by:

- Reducing business travel costs
- Reducing the need to maintain car parking spaces
- Improving the health and productivity of staff by promoting active ways of travelling
- Reducing staff time lost through traffic congestion
- Providing and promoting a wide range of travel choices to get to work

Businesses can also benefit from reducing their own carbon footprint. There are a number of schemes they can put in place to reduce car use, which includes flexible working hours, working from home, promoting car sharing with Car Club Schemes for example, and encouraging cycling and walking.

Finding Out How Accessible Your Stations Are Before Travel

London Underground has launched its new detailed, interactive service, which allows passengers to understand the access available at every station across the network, particularly the routes between street and platforms.

The service takes access information to a new level and is initially available on the website www.directenquiries.com. This will soon be fully integrated with the Transport for London journey planner.

The new service will be a real benefit for all customers showing them the best routes through stations for their individual needs, not just wheelchair users, but the elderly, travellers with heavy luggage and parents with buggies, as well as those passengers with visual and hearing impairments.

This groundbreaking new service allows all customers to plan in advance ensuring an easier and more relaxed journey, promoting confidence and independent travel on the Tube.

Register For Training For the Olympics

BOOST brokerage service

As most of you know there are five host Olympic Boroughs, and my constituencies of Hackney and Waltham Forest make up two of them. If you live in either of these two Boroughs, you will have a direct link to job opportunities thanks to BOOST- a brokerage service supported by the London Development Agency (LDA). Working closely with Olympic employers, BOOST will flag up job and volunteering opportunities in advance to those who register in the five host boroughs - Greenwich, Hackney, Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest.

If you own a business or you are seeking job opportunities or just wish to volunteer to help with the Olympics and Paralympics you can register through the local labour and business scheme in either Hackney or Waltham Forest, by calling 0845 155 2012, or via the website www.boost-opportunities.org.uk. You will be offered a tailored package of support, which will ensure you are strongly placed to apply for job vacancies and business opportunities.

BOOST is part of the Local Employment Training Framework (LETF), which is funded by the LDA to help local people benefit from Olympic jobs, and improve their overall employment prospects.

The LDA is using the Games as a vehicle to secure sustainable careers and the aim is to see worklessness reduced by 20,000 in the host boroughs and by 70,000 across London. So if you are interested please do take the time to contact BOOST.

Forthcoming London Events – for your diary

This summer, London will host India Now, a three-month season celebrating London's strengthening relationship with India and also exploring India's culture and its contribution to London life. It will take in events, activities and festivals across the capital dedicated to Indian art, film, food, theatre, music, fashion and business. The Mayor will officially launch the season later this summer.

Over 150 of London's cultural organisations and attractions will participate in the India Now season, which will showcase India's contribution to world culture, its rich tradition and most importantly celebrate new Indian trends across art, film, theatre, food, music and fashion.

Events will include Out of India, an exhibition at the Museum of London looking at the contribution of Asian Londoners over the past 50 years and Anniversary Exhibition celebrating Indian independence at the British Museum.

Tour de France festival

The Tour de France Grand Départ will be the biggest sport event hosted by London ahead of the 2012 Olympics and Paralympic Games giving us a taste of what is to come. With just a month to go before the arrival of the world's largest annual sporting event, I thought I would give you some details should you wish to enjoy weekend festival of cycling, or wish to indulge in a bit of spectating. The Tour de France Grand Départ comes to London on July 6, 7 and 8 for the first time in its 104-year history.

A package of activities to accompany the Tour include; the People's Village - an event to celebrate and promote cycling in Hyde Park; 18 giant screens in the capital so everyone can get a good view of the racing. There will also be an additional 11,000 cycling parking spaces in London across the weekend.

Tour De France Festival Dates for your Diary

- Friday 6 July – Tour de France Opening Ceremony - from 18.00 Trafalgar Square. A spectacular presentation of the riders followed by live music.
- Saturday 7 July – Tour de France Prologue - a 7.9km individual sprint around central London:

- 13.00 Tour de France Caravan* sets off;
- 14.00 Riders warm up;
- 15.00 Race Start;
- 18.20 Race Ends;
- Sunday 8 July Tour de France Stage One - A 216 km stage starting on the Mall in central London through South East London into Kent with the finish in Canterbury: Caravan leaves the Mall at 8.40; Riders leave the Mall at 10.25.

Coming up on the Assembly Agenda

July 2007

- 10 Planning and Spatial Development Committee
- 11 Assembly: Plenary
- 11 Health and Public Services Committee (2pm)
- 12 Environment Committee
- 17 Transport Committee
- 17 Audit Panel (3.30pm)
- 18 Assembly: Mayor's Question Time
- 18 Budget Committee (2pm)
- 19 Business Management and Appointments

All meetings start at 10 am and last for two hours, unless indicated otherwise. For agendas, reports and further details, visit www.london.gov.uk/assembly. To watch live webcasts and access archived meetings, see <http://www.london.gov.uk/webcasts.jsp>

My Key Responsibilities

- London Assembly Member for Hackney, Islington and Waltham Forest
- Chair of the London Health Commission
- Chair and Deputy Leader of the London Assembly Labour Group
- Member of the Metropolitan Police Authority
- Deputy Chair of the London Cultural Consortium
- Member of the London Assembly's Economic Development, Culture Sport and Tourism Committee
- Member of the London Assembly's Health and Public Services Committee
- Member of the European Union Committee of the Regions

London Government Working for You

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