

## Barbara Windsor returns to the Queen Vic

By Louisa Emery on June 9, 2011 3:33 PM | **Tagged with:** barbara windsor, david essex, eastenders, queen victoria seamans rest, royal british legion

She couldn't resist telling her audience to "get out of my pub" but the Queen Vic Barbara Windsor dropped into this morning (June 9) was a long way from Albert Square.



The Eastender was in Poplar to open the Royal British Legion Wing of the Queen Victoria Seaman's Rest on East India Dock Road.

She said: "What's great about this place is it's a little bit of old London. There's a feeling about it. I feel like a little girl coming here. The love here is absolutely amazing.

"London has a reputation for not being very friendly and that breaks my heart. We have to bring village life into the city and this is a great example of that."

Barbara unveiled a plaque and received a bouquet from resident Private David Waymark.

The RBL has donated £336,000 towards the refurbishment of 14 rooms at the charity which provides accommodation to ex-servicemen.



"I didn't want to put my name to just anything," said Barbara. "I recently became a patron of Anchor House in Newham and I went along there and really liked it. The fact this is the Queen Vic appealed and being in the East End got me straight away - it's where I come from."

Now a regular voice on Radio 2, Barbara won't be returning to the square but she is still keeping an eye on its residents, particularly new boy David Essex.

She said: "I'm a big fan of David, he's lovely. He was supposed to be in the show three years ago as my boyfriend but he had a tour. He has brought a real warmth to the show."

Full interview in next week's Wharf

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