

HEALTH

Woman takes fight for better cancer funding to parliament

A woman with ovarian cancer is campaigning for better awareness of the disease.

Cathay Boyle, 51, from Manor Park, was diagnosed in 2014. She joined East Ham MP Stephen Timms at Westminster last week to call for more support for women across the UK.

She said: "It is so important that the 25,000 women living with ovarian cancer in the UK all feel counted, and receive the best care and access to new treatments."

Ovarian cancer is the deadliest of all the gynaecological cancers, with 15 per cent of women dying within two months of diagnosis. A third survive 10 years. Charity Target Ovarian Cancer wants more funds after its Pathfinder study found women lack vital support.

Stephen Timms said: "I'm really pleased to be here to ensure that all women with ovarian cancer get the care, support and new treatments that are needed, so that women's lives are transformed, now and in future."



■ Cathay Boyle and East Ham MP Stephen Timms. Picture: TIM ZOLTIE

WEST HAM

Boleyn demolition video on Twitter

The latest phase in the demolition of West Ham's former stadium has been revealed in a video by TV presenter Jake Humphrey.

In the clip, posted to his Twitter account, one of the stands at the Boleyn Ground has been reduced to rubble.

Once the demolition of the 112-year-old Boleyn Ground is complete, the site will be used to build 842 new homes.

West Ham play at the London Stadium - home of London 2012.

CHURCH

Christmas lunch for lonely people

Elderly people and anyone likely to spend Christmas Day on their own are invited to lunch at iCan Community Church.

Organisers are hoping that more than 150 people will join them for carols, dancing and a three course meal at Venue 229 on Romford Road.

For more information telephone 07949107687.

Number of homeless is highest in country

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Newham has the highest number of homeless people of any local authority in England, a housing charity has said.

Some 12,246 people out of 334,218 in the borough have nowhere to live, according to statistics published by Shelter.

This equates to one in 27 people in the borough, meaning that Newham has the second highest proportion of homeless people after Westminster, where the figure is one in 25.

The figures, based on four sets of data, include people living in temporary accommodation as well as on the streets.

Keith Fernett, of Canning Town homeless charity Caritas Anchor House, said: "We have

“In the last 12 months alone, we received 520 per cent more referrals for our services than our capacity

Keith Fernett

seen the demand on our homeless services in Newham increase, and in the last 12 months alone, we received 520 per cent more referrals for our services than our capacity – 598 referrals for 115 bedspaces.

The government has said it does not recognise the figures put forward by Shelter and more

than £500 million during the course of this parliament was being invested.

A Newham Council spokeswoman said: "The housing crisis has resulted in an increase in homelessness across London and this is felt acutely in Newham.

"With a shortage of good quality affordable properties, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find accommodation to meet the high demand and the issue is further exacerbated by the government's welfare reforms which has restricted the number of properties available to families on low incomes."

She added that the council had taken a "proactive approach to tackling the housing crisis" with its own schemes including Red Door Ventures.

Teenager lands prestigious cadet title

A hard working teenager has been named St John Ambulance's East London Cadet of the Year for 2017. Mathuza Senthivel, 14, from East Ham, saw of tough

competition to scoop the title at the Hotel Novotel, in Royal Docks, last month.

The youngster had to complete a first aid challenge, take part in a debate,

give a presentation and be interviewed.

She will now represent fellow cadets throughout the year at public events on behalf of the organisation.

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