

ISLINGTON Gazette

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY FOR 152 YEARS

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2009

www.islingtongazette.co.uk

PRICE 50p

GO
FILMS MUSIC THEATRE
FOOD COMPETITIONS
AND MUCH MORE **INSIDE**



North London's
No 1 property
guide **INSIDE**



AMERICAN singing sensation Katy Perry performed alongside chart stars such as Leona Lewis, Lionel Richie, James Morrison, Enrique Iglesias and Dizzee Rascal when more than 55,000 pop fans flocked to Capital FM's Summertime Ball at Arsenal's Emirates Stadium in Holloway on Sunday.

Capital DJ and concert host Johnny Vaughan said: "I loved every minute. I think all of that dancing has worn me out for my breakfast show!"

But many local residents who were not allowed to park outside their homes to avoid congestion were not so happy. The Summertime Ball raised £100,000 for Capital's FM's Help a London Child appeal.

● FULL STORY: SEE PAGE 4

GOTCHA!

Traffic camera nets £120,000 a week in fines

COUNCIL chiefs changed the rules to make a street no-entry - and then fined almost 3,000 motorists in the space of just three weeks.

Islington Council raked in almost £350,000 by using a sneaky CCTV camera to spy on cars turning from Balls Pond Road into Henshall Street.

Angry drivers - who only realised the tiny Islington back street had been made no-entry when they started to receive fines through the post - are now demanding that the council cancels the fines.

by MEYREM HUSSEIN

mevrem.hussein@archant.co.uk

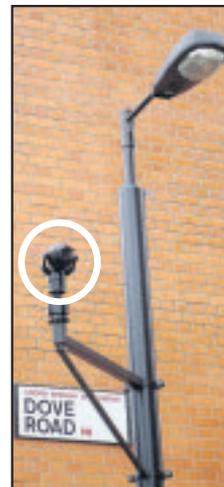
John Marriott, 36, landlord of the Perseverance pub in Southgate Road, Islington, said: "I went down there to warn other motorists and turned away more than 30 cars in 20 minutes. I know one guy who has got 17 tickets. It's just a money-making exercise."

Islington Council claims that it put up signs to warn drivers that they were no longer allowed to turn into Henshall Street from Balls Pond Road back on January 28, ahead of starting to fine people on May 14.

But motorists claim they never noticed the signs. And between May 14 and June 5, the council caught 2,907 people illegally turning into Henshall Street - the equivalent of catching more than 120 people a day. It issued them all with £120 fines.

Floor layer Colin Whitehead, 48, of Mitchison Road, Islington, said: "I didn't realise it was a banned turn until I got my

● TURN TO PAGE 3



■ THIS tiny traffic camera (circled) has helped net £350,000 in three weeks.



■ ANGRY motorists Colin Whitehead, John Marriott and Kelly Best with their fines.

S & S CYCLES
29 Chapel Market, London, N1
Tel. 020 7278 1631

LARGE RANGE OF AFFORDABLE BIKES

SALE NOW ON

SALES & REPAIRS
Service from £30 plus parts
Repair starts from £5 plus parts.

Mon-Fri 9am-6pm opening

Airports **Direct**
247.com

OFFICIALLY N-LONDON'S CHEAPEST FARES

HEATHROW FROM £25
GATWICK FROM £53
STANSTEAD FROM £37
LUTON FROM £31
CITY FROM £18

020 7609 8888

THE PRICE ABOVE IS THE PICK-UP COSTS FROM THE AIRPORTS TO QUALIFY FOR THIS PROMOTIONAL PRICE A TWO WAY JOURNEY MUST BE BOOKED. THE GOING OUT PRICE MAY BE DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF ABOVE

MasterCard Visa American Express

School's discovery of Documents unearthed under stage a 150-year-old treasure trove!

A TREASURE trove of history dating back almost 150 years has been unearthed at an Islington school - giving one elderly former pupil the chance to relive her wartime memories.

When a caretaker discovered a box of old files and photographs at St Mark's Church of England Primary School, in Sussex Way, Holloway, he gave it to teaching assistant Heather Cox to rummage through.

Ms Cox, 30, was dumbfounded to discover it was crammed with registers, class photos and exercise books dating back to 1864.

She said: "The school was knocked down in the war but somehow the stage in the hall has stayed intact for ever."

"The caretaker was cleaning it out and found it under the back. There's all sorts in



TEACHING assistant Heather Cox with another of the fascinating documents
Picture: Dieter Perry

by MATT HUMPHREYS
matt.humphreys@archant.co.uk

there. The last entry in the old punishment book is dated 1980 so somebody must have known about this then and never told anybody.

"There are clippings from old Islington Gazettes and even the original deeds sealed with a wax stamp."

Former St Mark's pupil Peggy Bish, 74, who now lives near Brighton, heard about the discovery through a friend and visited the school on Friday for an impromptu history lesson.

Mrs Bish said: "I was born and raised in Islington and I was only three when I came here. I was at the school from 1938 to 1940 until it got bombed. Then we got evacuated."

"It's very interesting. I saw lots of photos and I even found my name was on the register. I couldn't remember the girls in my class - but I could remember a couple of the boys!"

Ms Cox contacted Islington Council about the find - but she was told there was no space to keep the box at the Islington Museum, in St John Street, Finsbury.

"The council couldn't take it," said Ms Cox. "But we're a church school so I've applied for funding so we can preserve it - there are legal documents in there as well so they might need to keep them."

"Hopefully we're going to have to have a whole display on the school's history in our reception."



PEGGY Bish looks through the school archive
Picture: Dieter Perry

Traffic camera nets £120k a week in fines

● From page 1

first ticket and now I am expecting another nine. I have been driving down that road for 25 years."

Kelly Best, 36, of Stamford Road, Dalston, a buyer for a jewellery company, has also been caught out. She said: "I have been driving down Henshall Street for 10 years because it's on my way home."

"Now I have got two tickets through the post and am expecting another seven. I just never realised."

Mr Marriott added: "I have been turning into this road for 13 years."

"I also only realised the rules had changed when I got a ticket through the post. Now I am expecting four or five more."

The motorists claim Islington Council should have put up warning notices to alert drivers to the new signs - which they claim are barely visible.

Islington Council has refused to cancel all the tickets. But it has agreed that drivers who turned into Henshall Street several times before receiving the first fine in the post will only be fined once.

A council spokeswoman said: "Local residents complained that Henshall Street was being used as a rat run, with cars and motorbikes rushing through. The no-entry is part of a five-month-old 20mph zone, and makes the street safer for people who live there."

"Road safety schemes like this one save more than 100 people from death or serious injury every year in Islington."

Stolen clothes haul

A HAUL of luxury clothing thought to have been stolen in a smash-and-grab raid has been discovered in Islington.

Police officers found the 72 branded T-shirts and jumpers at an address in the N1 area on Friday.

They are believed to have been part of a haul of 80 items, worth a total of £5,500, that was taken during raid on the Lyle & Scott shop in Covent Garden on May 26.

A 21-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the goods recovered and was bailed to return to a north London police station.

Your Gazette

FROM June 22, 2009, the office from which the Islington Gazette is produced will be moving to 100A Avenue Road, Swiss Cottage, NW3.

Mother's suicide phone message

A MOTHER left a chilling message on her sister-in-law's phone just moments before she jumped to her death.

Jane Pointing, 47, leapt from the third floor window of her flat in Highbury New Park, Highbury, on March 30.

At an inquest into her death at St Pancras Coroner's Court on Tuesday, her sister-in-law Rachel Toohey, tearfully described how she received the voicemail message at around 8.30am.

She said: "I go to bed quite early and when I woke up on the Monday morning she had rung four times. I was getting my son up and ready for school and I when I got back down she had tried to call again and left a voicemail."

"I listened to it and then tried to call her back 10 times in a row but she didn't answer so I phoned 999 and told them my sister had jumped out of the window and that she had mental health problems."

The court heard that the message left by Ms Pointing said: "It's me. I've had enough and I'm going to jump. Please call an ambulance. I have left the door open. Tell Freddie, Ben and Harry and your boys that I love them and look after Freddie for me."

Ms Pointing, who had been estranged from her husband for six years, had a history of mental health problems, suffered with schizophrenia and was subsequently seen regularly by a psychiatrist and social worker.

Police Constable Rachel Heywood, of Islington police, said: "We approached the front door but saw a basement area with a patio area where a female was lying on the floor. We were not able to find any eye witnesses and she died at the scene."

While recording a verdict of misadventure Coroner Dr Andrew Reid said: "Jane Pointing died from multiple

injuries and on the balance of probabilities I find that she acted impulsively that morning and impulsively called her sister-in-law before impulsively jumping from the

window intending to harm and cause physical injury.

"I cannot however be sure that she intended to kill herself and can only record a verdict of misadventure."

PRISONER'S JAIL ESCAPE

A PRISONER serving time at the same jail as the mum of tortured tot Baby P disappeared last Friday.

Aishatu Ishaku, who was being held in the prison on remand, apparently went to an education session at Holloway Prison, in Parkhurst Road, Holloway, on Friday morning but failed to show for the 11am roll check.

As the Gazette went to press, she was still on the run - despite a major search involving police helicopters and sniffer dogs.

She is reported to have walked out after attaching herself to a church group visiting for a prayer session.

A Prison Service spokesman said: "Holloway is currently undertaking a search of the prison and grounds for a prisoner who was not accounted for at morning roll check. Aishatu Ishaku went to education this morning but was subsequently found to be missing at 11am. Prison search dogs and police helicopters have been deployed."

**STEEL FOR BUILDERS
EXPRESS SERVICE**

**STRUCTURAL STEEL CUT & DELIVERED
SPlicing • DRILLING • WELDING • ERECTION
CUT & BENT BAR • REINFORCING MESH**

DAILY DELIVERIES

**BRANDON STEEL ☎ 01708 864028
FAX: 01708 866638 E-mail sales@brandonsteel.co.uk**

**Don't get any loan.
Get a fair loan.**



- ✓ Personal loans at 35% and business loans at 19%
- ✓ No hidden charges or small print
- ✓ Bad credit history is not a problem, each application is assessed on its own merits
- ✓ A friendly service available to anyone in London

Call us: 020 7780 1777
020 7254 1976
Visit us: www.fairfinance.org.uk

