

Transforming for the Good?

As we turn back pages of history to the Saxon times, we would see that Leytonstone was a small settlement. Two thousand years back Leytonstone was recognized as the path that the Romans took to London, which was at that moment in time, called Londinium. Most people might think that Leytonstone does not have a strong history. In fact Leytonstone is known to have a strong and quite interesting historical record. For example in the doomsday book, it was mentioned that Leyton was a small settlement. Later on in history, Leytonstone was found as a small town between London Waltham Abbey and Colchester. Many towns including ours have been known because of the rich families. In Leytonstone a family named Barclay, opened the first 'Barclay bank' in the 1700s. Due to the development of the railways, throughout the 1850s, huge houses were built, which are identified as the Victorian houses. However, these houses were only for grade two or three gentry. In Leytonstone, there were gentry, like most places in Britain. The second and third class were for people who were middle and professional class. As for the fourth and fifth class, they were the people who were manual workers, for example the railway workers. Finally in 1900s Leytonstone became a suburb of London. Some people in Leytonstone worked as servants up to the 1940s. After the war between 1950s and 1970s, a lot of immigrants from the old empire moved into London and Leytonstone.



Many people question what factors have affected urban growth. There are several different answers to this question. Most people agree that from the industrial revolution the population migrated to the town and cities. This growth is referred to as urbanization. Leytonstone today, is not the old town we knew. Many people, who live in Leytonstone, do not seem to realize that Leytonstone is rather unpleasant compared to further towns within London. Many people had ideas to change the town. For example recently Leytonstone library has just been refurbished. Many approve of the building now however there are still a few who disapprove with the work, as they say money was wasted. Not only has the library been changed, in Leytonstone there are many other things that have. The other thing is houses. Near the high road flats have been built, so that the population would be accommodated. Not only has the population changed in Leytonstone but the house prices have rapidly increased during the years. Most people say this is because in Leytonstone, houses are much cheaper compared to many other towns like Essex. People who do not have much money to rent an expensive house would be most likely found living in Leytonstone.



Most people would find Leytonstone secure compared to county near Leytonstone. This is because Leytonstone has a hospital near it and a fire station. Leytonstone is not a place where a lot of bloodshed violence takes place however a few crimes like robbery, burglary are known to happen. Unemployment is another issue in Leytonstone. Living in the town, is pleasant but not luxurious. Related to many other towns in the UK, Leytonstone does not have a good standard of living for many people. However, quality of life for many teenagers, parents and other citizens is fairly good quality. This is because Leytonstone is a multicultural society, has schools near by, main shops and parks. One disadvantage in Leytonstone is that there are not many youth centres in this area.

In the UK, many towns are varied, as they have many activities for the citizens. Leytonstone however does not have many activities. Yes, there is green space, (which is a part of Epping Forest) near Leytonstone which are mostly used for youngsters to play football and other sports. One other thing that the town is not identified with is the tidiness of the area. Most people are used to Leytonstone like this and find no problem in this situation however visitors, they seem to see the untidiness in Leytonstone. There is a lot of litter on the land, graffiti and many other things.

Leytonstone is not very exciting for the community. It does not have many festivals during the year; however when a festival takes place many people gather and takes the opportunity to benefit from the celebration. Nevertheless there sure are a lot of multicultural celebrations in schools and colleges in the area. Leytonstone has many newly built houses; however there are many houses in the area which are traditional; which include Victorian houses. In conclusion, Leytonstone is a fairly worthy place to live in, as it is multicultural and has some good schools. However some things in Leytonstone could be improved. One way it could be improved is by opening a youth centre, having different cultural celebrations during the year for the local people to enjoy. Making new modern flats in the area and improving the collection of litter and rubbish.

