

# News

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## Light Night comes to Canning Town

An enchanting shadow puppet theatre dazzled audiences last weekend as part of Light Night in Canning Town.

Creative specialists The Brick Box, brought a festival of light to Canning Town, putting the spotlight on an area of London which is undergoing exponential change through a £3.7bn regeneration programme.

The shadow puppet theatre was located in a unit attached to the Vermillion complex, the first phase of the Rathbone Market regeneration scheme which is being completed by English Cities Fund (ECf) — a joint venture between Muse Developments, Legal & General Property and the Homes and Communities Agency.

Gwen Bajon, an experienced artist who regularly works with schools in the area devised the puppet workshop at Vermillion which allowed young people to design their own head dresses to be used around the festival. More than 2000 people attended Light Night events across five different sites, around the area.

Development director for ECf, Duncan Cumberland, said: “We were delighted to support and fund such great exhibition. The Brick Box re-imagined an underused space, saw its potential and brought art and enjoyment to an entire community.”

Councillor Conor McAuley, Executive Member for Regeneration and Strategic Planning for Newham Council, said: “This area is undergoing major regeneration to create a thriving place of choice for existing and new residents and businesses. The event was an opportunity to see this part of Canning Town like you have never seen it before.”

The innovative Light Night received funding from ECf and was supported by Newham Council.

The Rathbone Market scheme is now entering its second phase — Aurelia, which will see an additional 165 mixed tenure homes created in the area, community facilities and a new market square for Rathbone Market.