

BANGLA POST

ISSUE 29 – WINTER 2020

Quarterly newspaper for Bangla
Housing Association Residents

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*Season's Greetings and Happy New Year to all our
Residents and Customers*

COVID-19: London on tier 4 during Xmas and New Year break.

For the latest information and tier 4 update please follow your local council, the Government, and the Public Health England's advice on how to stay safe and prevent the spread of coronavirus. Log on to the Public Health England Websites:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

For latest on coronavirus from your local council please log on the following council websites.

<https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/service-categories/covid-19>

<https://hackney.gov.uk/coronavirus-support>

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/coronavirus-covid-19>



We are open!

Due to Covid-19, our staff are currently working from home. During normal office hours, you can contact us on any of the two following mobile numbers.

07983 467 036 or 07519 715 039

You may also email us:

Shah Uddin, email: shah@banglaha.org.uk (repairs)
Fatima Begum, email: fatima@banglaha.org.uk (rent)
Leena Khan, email: leena@banglaha.org.uk (for any other tenancy matters)

During out of office hours, for emergency repairs only please ring or text Darv Ltd on

07516 976 995 or 07388 016 706

When reporting please say you are a Bangla Housing tenant then say your address.

Christmas and New Year Holidays

Our staff will be on leave on Friday 25th December 2020 until Monday 4th January 2021. During this time for **emergency repairs only** and for the period 25th December 2020 and 3rd January 2021 please contact **Darv Ltd on 07516 976 995 or 07388 016 706**

For all non-emergency repairs please report them to us when our staff are back at work on the 4th January 2021 on Mobile: 07983 467 036



Bangla Covid-19 Advice Project – Our Response

To find out more about our project and to get involved please log onto: <https://www.banglaha.org.uk/covid-19-advice-1>

Editor's comment

Welcome to the winter edition of the Bangla Post.

This year we are all spending the most unusual Christmas and New year holidays. We are in the midst of Covid-19 pandemic and on tier 4 restrictions. We are all going to miss the joy of visiting and seeing our loved ones during this period. But we must all take responsibility to stay safe and keep others safe. Everyone must follow the strict guidelines set by the government to protect ourselves from Covid-19. Together we will win over this nasty virus and get our lives back to normality soon. Please take the vaccine if you are offered. This is our only protection. But until then we all must remember to regularly wash our **hands**, wear a face mask when going out and keep a **space** of 2 meters with anyone you meet outside of your household.

Bangla Covid- Advice project (**BCAP**) has been set up with a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund to raise awareness in the Bangladesh Community in Hackney and Tower Hamlets. NHS statistics shows this community has been disproportionately impacted by Covid-19 with more hospital admissions and fatalities compared to other communities. To read more about our work on this project and our advice generally on Covid-19 for all our residents please visit our website: <https://www.banglaha.org.uk/covid-19-advice-1>

We wish you a peaceful Christmas holidays and a safe and prosperous 2021.

Rent Statements

We normally send you your quarterly rent statements in the post along with this quarterly newsletter. We are shortly going to send you details of how you can access your rent account through Bangla website using your unique log in ID and Password. Please watch out for this information as we will contact you about this via your mobile phone or email. Please let us have your email if you have not given it to us already.

In the meantime, if you would like to have your rent statement sent to you or if you have any problem with paying your rent then please contact Fatima Begum on 07519 715 039 or email: fatima@banglaha.org.uk

Paying your Rent

To avoid accruing rent arrears we urge you to continue to pay your rent. If you are facing financial difficulties, please contact Fatima Begum on 07519 715 039 or email: fatima@banglaha.org.uk

You can pay your rent in the following ways.

- Using a rent card – you can pay your rent at any post office or any shops displaying Pay Point signs. If you need a rent card, please ring 07519715 039.
- By bank Standing Order – See our Bank details given below.
- Internet Banking: Paid directly into our Barclays Bank Account: -
Bangla Housing Association Ltd
A/C No. 60899089
Sort Code: 20.46.57
Give first line of your address as reference (Flat / house no. and name of your block / Street.

Looking after our elderly and the vulnerable tenants

Our staff are making regular contact with our elderly and vulnerable residents to ensure they are safe and well. At the same time, we are providing advice and signposting to relevant services and offering additional support where necessary. If you wish to be contacted also, please let us know on the following numbers. **07983 467 036 or 07519 715 039** Or email: leena@banglaha.org.uk

Gas Safety Checks

Landlords are required to carry out gas safety checks annually. When we contact you to give access for these inspections please keep the appointment and help us to keep your home safe. If you have any query about gas safety inspections at your home, please contact Shah Uddin on 07983 467 036 or email: shah@banglaha.org.uk

Please note: If you smell gas contact Transco immediately on 0800 111 999.

Fire Safety

While Bangla is responsible for ensuring your buildings are safe and meet all fire regulations there are also many precautions you can follow to help minimise the risk of fire.

Do not leave any items in communal areas: They could prevent you or your neighbours evacuating the property safely in an emergency. Leaving prams, pushchairs, bicycles, shoe racks etc. can cause trip hazards.

Do not smoke in the internal communal areas: If you do wish to smoke indoors – never smoke in bed, and don't smoke in an armchair, or on a sofa. Take extra care when you are tired, taking prescription drugs or have been drinking alcohol.

Do not use a barbecue anywhere inside the building or in the balcony: Some of our leases say you are not allowed to have barbecues. If this is the case for your property, please respect these rules. If you are using barbecue in the garden, keep it away from sheds, fences, garden furniture, trees or shrubs.

Fire caused by electrical items: Electrical fires are common, but many can be easily avoided. Scorch marks, flickering lights, hot

plugs and sockets, fuses that blow or circuit-breakers that trip for no obvious reason could all be signs of loose or dangerous wiring. If you have any doubts, get them checked by a qualified electrician. Keep to one plug per socket, rather than using extension leads and adapters.

In the event of a power cut, call 105, a free line which will put you through to your local electricity network provider who can give help and advice.

When charging phones, tablets, e-cigarettes and so on, always use the charger that came with your device as counterfeit chargers can be deadly. Many fails to meet UK safety regulations. Also, do not leave items plugged in once they are fully charged.

Faulty electrical goods can also cause fires. If you have a concern about a product, stop using it and make your concern known to the retailer, manufacturer, and local Trading Standards office. You can check whether an appliance has been recalled by visiting www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/product-recalls.

Useful contact numbers

	Hackney	Islington	Waltham Forest
Service Centre	020 8356 3000	020 7527 1900	020 8496 3000
Housing and Council Tax Benefit	020 8356 3399	020 7527 4990	As above
Council Tax Queries	020 8356 3154	020 7527 2633	As above
Domestic Violence Unit	0800 056 0905	0808 2000 247	0208 558 6228
Noise reporting	020 8356 4455	020 7527 3258	0208 496 3000
Racial Harassment Unit	0800 056 0905	0207 230 2229	0208 496 3000
Victim Support	0800 056 0905 0208 356 4457	020 7272 0784	0208 503 6226
Rubbish Collection/Recycling	020 8356 6688	020 7527 2000	0208 496 3000
Bulky Waste/Street Cleaning	020 8356 6688 up to 5 items	020 7527 4900	0208 496 3000
Parking Enquiries	0208 357 8877	020 7527 2000	0208 496 3000
Police	020 7739 1212	020 7704 1212	020 8520 3211
Gas Leaks	(TRANSCO) 0800 111 999	(TRANSCO) 0800 111 999	(TRANSCO) 0800 111 999
Sewerage	(Thames Water) 0845 920 0800	(Thames Water) 0845 920 0800	(Thames Water) 0845 920 0800

Warm Home Discount Scheme

You could get £140 off your electricity bill for winter 2020/2021 under the Warm Home Discount Scheme.

The money is not paid to you – it is a one-off discount on your electricity bill, between September and March.

To check your eligibility and to claim this discount please contact your supplier.

Contact us.

Bangla Housing Association
100 Morning Lane,
London E9 6LH
Tel: 020 8985 1124.
Mobile: 07983 467 036
Mobile: 07519 715 039
Web: www.banglaha.org.uk
Email: info@banglaha.org.uk

Children's Corner.

During this holiday period you may be spending more time at home due to Covid-19 restrictions. Here are three great ideas for keeping yourself occupied and enjoy.

- 1) Organise a competition through zoom:** you can ask adults to join and have team competitions. Different household can join via zoom as different teams and you can have as many teams as you want. You can have one person as the question master and keep the scores.
- 2) Read Books** – find some children's classical books to read and write a review then share your work with your parents and friends.
- 3) Go for a walk in the park-** When the weather is good go to the local park for a walk with your family and enjoy the fresh air. But remember to follow the Covid-19 safety rules.