



# Anna's new line in handbags with a Tanzanian heritage

By Sophia Platts-Palmer



Fashions by Anna Lukindo

Hailing originally from Tanzania, fashion designer Anna Lukindo relocated to the UK and specifically East Finchley to pursue her passion and study textiles full time. She graduated in 2013 with a degree in fashion design from Middlesex University and quickly went on to establish a successful online boutique fashion label called Anna Luks.

Anna's designs utilise experimental techniques including macramé and crochet and she regularly employs natural materials such as rope, yarn, zips and cord. Her use of traditional East African kanga print is key to her aesthetic but she also has a background in an architectural firm, so her designs convey both a couture-like elegance and a distinct folk quality.

Her latest collection of stylish handbags is a shift away from her usual womenswear designs. Her handbags or 'sack bags' use Italian leather, her signature cord drawstrings and bright pops of colour. Fascinated by the potential of dye, her handbags feature brilliant shades of tangerine, luxe gold and burnt umber.

Anna says this collection is highly personal to her because it is inspired by her mother's own profession as a bag maker in Tanzania.

Currently, Anna works from her home in East Finchley and has big plans for the future, hoping to secure a stockist soon. She says having a boutique dedicated to selling her designs at the historic Dover Street Market would be a dream come true.

Find out more about Anna and her handbags at [www.annaluks.com](http://www.annaluks.com).

# Beacon Lodge is demolished

Beacon Lodge in Eastern Road, N2, once home to an organisation that supported young mothers with complex problems, has been demolished.

The service was forced to shut in July 2014 after cuts to social care budgets at Haringey Council drained it of financial support. The property was put up for sale and is now in the process of redevelopment.

Beacon Lodge started life as a home for unmarried mothers, finding adoptive parents for their babies or supporting those who wished to keep their children. Since the 1970s it had been a hostel for young mothers where they were given help by qualified social workers.

A statement from Beacon Lodge Charitable Trust at the time of closure said: "The work of Beacon Lodge will not end with this, but change yet again. The proceeds [of the building

sale] will be used to continue the care and protection of the welfare of children by the support, assistance and provision of education to their parents."

The Eastern Road property was originally bought by Florence and James Bradley in memory of their only son James, a 2nd lieutenant with the Royal Sussex Regiment who died after being wounded in action on the front line in France in October 1918.

They donated it to the work of the trust in 1928 and a plaque commemorating their son and his portrait hung in the entrance hall. These memorials are now housed safely in All Saints' Church in Durham Road (*THE ARCHER* December 2014).

**RICKY SAVAGE ...**  
"The voice of social irresponsibility"

## Endless summer? No thanks!

Summer, the time when people baste themselves with sun screen and lie like beached whales on the white sand of some poor unsuspecting beach and turn red. But not me, I hate it. Now autumn is close at hand, I'm looking forward to cool breezes, light drizzle and falling temperatures. Give me the choice between sun-kissed sand and an air-conditioned bar and you'll find me in the bar.

It's not just the heat that gets me; it's the fact that summer brings out the worst in homo stupido as we demonstrate that taste and style go down as the heat goes up. When it comes to style nothing sinks so low as those men who think that beachwear is perfect for the morning commute. The only place a man should wear short shorts and flip flops is the beach or in the privacy of their own garden. The Northern line at 8am is neither.

Women are just as bad. Looking like you've been injection moulded into something three sizes too small is not a good look.

And food is where taste takes a hike. There is nothing more likely to turn me into a raving maniac than the smell of burnt horsemeat wafting from every garden in the area. And if you want Spanish-style street food, please go to Spain.

Naturally, no summer is summer without endless sporting clichés. Right back at the start we had England's humiliation at the Euros in France, then came the Olympics with its golden moments of Stunning Sunday, Manic Monday and whatever they fancied calling Thursday afternoon.

And finally, just to prove that the summer is not a happy time but the time for nature to get its own back, there are the devil's little helpers. Yes, that's right, I mean wasps. These evil little things are proof that whether or not there's a God, there is certainly a demon out there twirling his moustache and sharpening his sting ready to strike. Bring on autumn!

## N2 business people united

By Nick Allan  
A fast growing business network in East Finchley was formally launched at the summer festival and will be known as N2United. The first public meeting will be held at the Clissold Arms on Thursday 8 September from 6pm.

A spokesperson for the business network said: "This network will help your business grow. N2United connects you to your neighbourhood and customers and reinforces our already strong local community."

Everyone is welcome at the event on the 8th to hear plans for the next few meetings and for a great opportunity to network with like-minded local business people. For more details visit [www.n2united.co.uk](http://www.n2united.co.uk).

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