A project by ArchitectsE17 with support from RIBA East London Architects for the 2015 E17 Art Trail and the London Festival of Architecture.

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The places on this map are community assets: places that are valued by local residents whether as the location of a defining personal event or an everyday pleasure. Some are places run by people who care passionately about their visitors and customers, others are spaces of beauty due to their nature or connection with historical events. Some places have gained meaning to individuals, others to groups who meet there. All of them fire the imagination and represent the people who live here.

ArchitectsE17, May - June 2015

1. **Toy Library, Comely Bank Clinic, Addison Road**
   - Tagged by Tony Age: 51+
   - Memories of taking my children there when they were young. An example of a community run provision enriching local parents and children's lives.

2. **Marlowe Road entrance, Wood Street Market**
   - Tagged by Eva Age: 19-35
   - In the summer of 2013 I moved to this bit of Walthamstow. Wood Street market was so buzzy and full of potential. There seemed to be so many startup companies and creative people and energy about the place. This was my favourite bit of the market... It had ‘the chair man’ who made, repaired and converted unlikely objects into really cool chairs. Opposite him was a unit selling old vinyl records and then also Wood Street Coffee had just started up at the entrance. This bit of the market was such a lovely place to come on the weekend, sit in the sun on a ‘chair man’ chair, have a delicious coffee and cake and listen to the great old tunes coming from the record shop. I always ended up chatting to someone, some I knew and some I just met.
   - Since that summer a lot has changed. My favourite bit has been demolished to make way for flats, which will be similar to the ones next door. Wood Street coffee have relocated to Blackhorse Road. I’m not sure what happened to the chair man or the record shop. The market seems to have lost its buzz, which is really sad. I really hope that with all of the other changes planned for Wood Street there is still a place for the people and energy that make it so special.

3. **Old cinema opposite Aldi**
   - Tagged by Roland Age: 36-50
   - Discovered this old building in an unloved part of town - it looks like it might be developed for flats or other boring uses, but a public programme could transform the space around it.

4. **Churchyard of St Mary’s Church, Walthamstow Village, junction Orford Road/Church End**
   - Tagged by Carol Age: 36-50
   - When I was looking around various parts of London for somewhere that I could afford to buy a flat, the discovery of the village, the ‘ancient house’ and this lovely churchyard made up my mind that Walthamstow is indeed a ‘welcoming place’ with it’s own identity and not just another boring London suburb.

5. **Table in the front window, Rose & Crown Pub**
   - Tagged by Jonathan Age: 36-50
   - A small square table by the window. A very decent spot for watching the traffic rumbling and pedestrians wandering past, drinkers and pizza eaters congregating at the tables outside. A treasured spot for meeting friends that I have found here, the warmth of sunshine through the window matched with the welcome found behind the bar, where another pint awaits.

6. **Ravenswood Industrial Estate**
   - Tagged by Oliver Age: 19-35
   - Ravenswood Industrial Estate houses a number of great creative enterprises which together make it a very magnetic place which always has a strong energy. My favourite place is probably Gods Own Junkyard. The first time I stumbled across this place, (completely by accident, while looking for some spare timber) I felt like I’d stumbled across the epicentre of Shangri La /Vegas madness hidden in an industrial estate; the tripped out eighties music, the lights and the heat were mesmerising but at the same time I always find the place completely relaxed. It’s a kind of a museum come shop come café come Sunday nightclub. I once fell asleep in the café section after a heavy night and was accidentally locked in. I woke up in the dark surrounded by strange new lifeless objects and for a moment I thought this was the end...

7. **The piece of ground at the start of Vinegar Alley along side St Mary’s Church at the top of Church Hill**
   - Tagged by John Age: 51+
   - It’s a calm quiet almost village type space just off the well trodden commuter route of Prospect Hill and Church Hill.

8. **Walthamstow Stadium**
   - Tagged by James Age: 36-50
   - This was the first experience of Walthamstow I had. Getting off the tube, getting a bus to the dogs, eating scampi in a basket, drinking crap lager and losing £20 as I have no idea how to bet. And after the races getting lost trying to find my way back to the tube. This was before we all had maps on our phone.
9  Solly family tomb, Churchyard of St Mary (the one with the lion paws!) Approx 20 yards to the south west of the church tower

Tagged by Karen  Age: 36-50

When I first moved to Walthamstow I lived on Hoe Street and it was good to retreat to other quieter parts of the area once in a while. I spent a lot of time walking around Walthamstow especially looking at its built heritage. Although there were several buildings which caught my eye, it was this tomb which really intrigued me, and was the first part of Walthamstow’s history I researched. I think it was the anomalous lion paws...

10  The green mound of grass in the town square

Tagged by Roy  Age: 36-50

I like to spend time outdoors and in the sun. On weekends when the weather is nice I like to grab some street food and have a little picnic here, feeling being part of Walthamstow while being a little bit separated from the crowds. It’s like finding a bit of privacy in the centre of Walthamstow. I find this very relaxing and also like that I am able to sit on the grass here and the hilly shape of the ground gives you the feeling of being in a landscape.

11  Vinegar Alley

Tagged by Victoria  Age: 36-50

Every morning my 5 year old son and I joyfully go whizzing downhill, both of us on the same scooter on the run to school, chatting all the way. Precious times; as I realise we won't fit together like this forever... His feet have nearly grown too big now, and every day it’s different, from the misty dark of winter, the beauty of the spring blossoms, to the current cow parsley sun speckled path. Everything too fleeting, but full of promise.

12  The Crooked Billet - pedestrian walkway

Tagged by Theresa  Age: 19-35

I saw this place each week on the way to the supermarket. I saw this place each week on the way to the supermarket. I would walk there, early(ish) on a weekend morning, sleepily thinking about the day. I would walk back laden with bags, wishing I'd taken the bus.

On the way back I would collect rosemary. There is enough to the current cow parsley sun speckled path. Everything grown too big now, and every day it’s been different, from the misty dark of winter, the beauty of the spring blossoms, to the current cow parsley sun speckled path. Everything too fleeting, but full of promise.

13  Walthamstow Forest

Tagged by Philip  Age: 51+

It’s the closest bit of Epping Forest to where we live. At the junction of Pentre Road and Beacounter Avenue, near the (noisy) A406, there is a patch of really dense forest. A path runs through it, and apart from the traffic noise you could think you were in deep, dense forest. We used to take our late, beloved dog (Seamus) there - he'd scramble at the door to get out on the grassy bank. Nearby the bridge over Forest Road leads on through a grassy area and on in turn to a slope which leads down to another lovely area, with a bench near a shallow, reedy pond.

14  The Greek Theatre, Walthamstow School for Girls

Tagged by Mark  Age: 36-50

It is a little known gem. A picturesque open air amphitheatre built in 1925, nestled in the grounds of Walthamstow School for Girls. Open for a few days every summer for picnics and Shakespeare.

15  The Walthamstow Lighthouse

Tagged by Bill  Age: 36-50

My favourite building in Walthamstow. Funded by Captain King, the owner of a shipping line hence the Lighthouse Design. I’ve been fascinated by this building since moving to E17. A Lighthouse marooned the other side of the river from the nearest sea. It’s out of place, yet completely at home, part of the mixed fabric of Walthamstow.

The classroom block of the building (the bit nearest Downsfield Road) has a series of bricks initialled by its makers. This is because the classroom block was built from the ground up by the community using the building. And it’s their initials etched on to the bricks. I can see the tower and it’s light from my back garden. I immediately think of you when I see the tower and it’s light from my back garden. I immediately think of you when I see the tower and it’s light from my back garden. It reminds me what those people achieved, it reminds me how much Walthamstow has changed since it was built. And most of all, this slightly out place building reminds me that Walthamstow has a character all of its own.

16  The Lord Palmerston Pub

Tagged by Steven  Age: 36-50

With Walthamstow changing so rapidly it gets gentrification takes hold, there are fewer and fewer pubs in the area that have not either closed for good or have been converted into some sort of gastropub, for better or for worse. This is why I so cherish the Lord Palmerston - an absolutely beautiful building from the outside - and a busy pub on the inside.

Looking at the exterior, it is a grand red brick Victorian building clad in glossy green tiles and draped with flowering hanging baskets. Step in and it’s a little rough round the edges, it doesn’t have quite the same aesthetic appeal as the outside due to a few too many renovations by the pub’s owners. But it is a fun pub. It is very well attended by locals. It has a dart board and pool tables. It feels like a lot of Walthamstow’s isn’t cool or trendy but it serves the community well. It’s probably been here for over 100 years, and I would like it to stay here.

17  Fairy Houses at 134 & 136 Howard Road

Tagged by Webby  Age: 51+

The houses in Howard Road jump from no: 132 to 138 ...there are no houses 134 and 136. When our young daughters asked why, we spun them a tale about Fairy Houses in the gap. Now many decades later we gave the same explanation to a neighbour’s little girl, Milli Ward. Milli wanted to know where the houses were. So we bought some birdhouses which she painted herself. Milli now comes to check regularly whether the fairies have come back. Lots of children in the road seem intrigued also!

18  St. Mary’s Churchyard

Tagged by TC  Age: 36-50

This small plot is quite special for its history and how it holds a particular type of stillness. There is a wonderful sculptural quality to the arrangement of those headstones and crypts. I always enjoy the walk to and from work through this space, seeing the change of the seasons. Every Wednesday evening the bell ringers practice and it is a joy to experience that rich sound.

19  Thomas Samuel Infants/ Junior Schools

Tagged by Martin  Age: 51+

I went to school here! Like all the schools I went to in Walthamstow it’s no longer standing - and in this case the road isn’t even there any longer. Samuel Road ran between and parallel to Alexandra Road and Beacounter Road. Inevitably I have many early memories of the school - the 1/3 pint of milk which in summer was warm from being left outside, the outside toilets, the smell of coal tar soap in the too. And Mr Bramhall the headmaster who took asciiy messages - I can still remember some of the stories he told.

20  Leyton Baths, Leyton High Road

Tagged by Martin  Age: 51+

OK so this place isn’t strictly eligible because it’s just over the border into Leyton. But I lived in Walthamstow whilst living here and it was an incredibly formative and important place for me. I learned to swim in the small pool here & discovered that I was quite good at swimming club and in no time at all was competing. This means I raced here often - always in the big pool. The big pool was a strange length by modern standards - 40 - 45 yards long - so for races to be 100 yards in length a long pole hung from the ceiling and was winched down across the width of the pool half way along to create a temporary starting line for each race. 100 yard races were therefore 2 1/2 lengths long and the pole thing relied on the slowest swimmer in each race coming to the winning end in sufficient time for the pole to be winched down into place before the fastest completed 2 1/2 lengths. Was a right palaver.

I also suffered my first broken bone here - fell over and broke an arm in the changing rooms, tried to train afterwards but it hurt a bit so was taken to Whips Cross. Leyton Baths was demolished many years ago. The site is now occupied by the Tesco supermarket on Leyton High Road near the Bakers Arms.

21  Low Hall Farm allotments

Tagged by Lucy  Age: 36-50

I have an allotment at Low Hall Farm, where there are over 100 plots that have been there for nearly 130 years. As soon as you get your plot you are part of a community- people talk to you as if they’ve known you for years even if they haven’t met you before. It’s a wonderfully diverse place, with people of all ages from all over the world, in particular from the Caribbean and from Turkey, which means there usually some amazing food being prepared in one of the kitchens that we all take pride in building themselves. When someone starts building a shed or greenhouse, others start taking an interest and it often turns into a group effort over several days. Although some people just have normal sheds that they bought off the shelf, many people design and build their own, some of them even including fold-up beds, curtains and pictures on the walls, and usually with an attractive balcony at the front to sit and have dinner, or like my neighbours, to serve food to the queue of children who have been helping do the weeding whilst their lunch is being prepared.

I’m very happy that since I got my plot I have a lot more very local friends, many of them in their 70s and 80s, who I don’t think I would have met otherwise. It’s a very social place, many people are there from 9am or earlier until sunset, and a lot of that time is spent sitting in each other’s plots chatting, with rum or beer being offered at all times of the day. In September we have a ‘Social’ with a small amount of prize giving before we get on to the important part of the proceedings, which is listening to reggae, ska and soca while having food which has been prepared by volunteers- surprisingly few vegetable dishes but instead curvy goat, jerk chicken, rice & peas, fish, fritters, and then at the other end the Turkish barbecue. Of course the food growing is the centre of all of it. I’m not as experienced as most people around me and it took me a while to get used to always being told how to do things differently, but I get fantastic vegetables for most of the year, with the freezer usually full in the winter and the potatoes and pumpkins keeping for months. I’ve been introduced to some different vegetables as well.
including chocho and caliloo, which for some strange reason doesn’t seem to be sold in the UK, instead we have to wait for someone to go to Jamaica and bring the seeds back for us all.

Some of the plot holders have been there for up to 50 years and I hope I’ll stay for a long time too.

22 Banbury Road
Tagged by Tadz Age: 19-35
My favourite bit of E17 is the edge of the Banbury reservoir. Banbury road which then leads you to the Tottenham marshes and the Lee river and valley beyond. I’ve moved to London quite recently, and I miss the green spaces more often than not. Via W62. I love this doorway from E17 to the Lee valley and cycle there with friends as often as I can.

23 New landscaped area outside of new Empire Cinema/ The Scene
Tagged by Philip Age: 36-50
I have lived in Walthamstow for 14 years, in fact only a stones throw from this very place. As the years have passed my expectations for regeneration have had their ups and downs. At times I thought the arcade site to be an insult to what the community members love and have come to expect. However thankfully it was and I like the new restaurants and cinema and the overall feel of the new landscaped space situated at the end of our famous market. Indeed, what I like best is that one doesn’t have to go inside the building to appreciate what has happened here because you can take it all in from outside. I remember when The Scene and new landscaped area were first opened towards the end of last year and I overheard two ladies standing and new landscaped area were first opened towards the end of last year and I overheard two ladies standing and friends.

24 Sir George Monoux College. The old part of the building is shaped like an E. Please could you put the tag half way along the bottom bar of the E (the south wing)
Tagged by Elizabeth Age: 36-50
This is where I spent interminable Maths lessons, whiling away the time chatting to the boy sitting behind me. The boy who is now my husband. It’s a wonder either of us passed the exam.

25 Walthamstow Marshes via Sandpiper Close
Tagged by Brian Age: 51+
65 years an E17 resident and for 56 of them I have been going to the river Lea and Walthamstow marshes. What is now Walthamstow marshes was then to all of us locals the ‘Seven Acres’ field and fenced off. These were the days when some tradesmen still used horse and carts to ply their trade on the local streets, this field is where they were kept. It is now the route to get to the river Lea and the navigational canal, but then as a nine year old on my bike to go fishing in the canal was a journey down coke alley and over an old bridge, both of these no longer exist. It was still a working canal then, horses still pulled the barges carrying mainly wood and coke. Several times a week come rain or shine I am still down there enjoying it just as much now as I did then. Instead of fishing I now walk my dog who loves it just as much as I do. I forage for elderflowers for cordial or blackberries for jams and syrups. In this area of London we are so lucky to have the Lea Valley and Epping Forest, large open wild spaces to still be able to feel at one with nature.

26 Higham Hill Hub
Tagged by Caramel Age: 36-50
The Hub used to be a former bowls club. It’s tucked away on the edge of Higham Hill Park and when our children meet there for Woodcraft Folk it’s like a secret garden.

The garden itself is a work in progress, but there’s something magical about the way they can play together independently in this place that’s just a little bit shut away from the world.

27 Wakefield Ironmongers
Tagged by NL Age: 36-50
When I first moved to Walthamstow I was directed by a local plumber to the ‘walkaround’ at Bakers Arms for all my DIY needs. It was like walking back in time into an Aladdin’s Cave of ironmongery. A place packed from floor to ceiling with locks, door handles, tools, casters, washers - packed into drawers, stacked on the floor or hanging from the ceiling. Need a single nail or screw? No problem, just choose it from amongst the thousands arranged by size in tiny compartments ranged across the counter tops. Describe anything you need, or even the thing you need it to do and they will magic it out of thin air. Pay for your goods and they’ll provide a handwritten receipt and wrap your goods in newspaper (as a woman, they were discreet enough to use a diet sheet of hand to avoid wrapping my goods in p3 of The Sun)

28 Lighthouse Church
Tagged by Eunice Age: 51+
My local church - only operating lighthouse tower in London.

29 The old Granada cinema
Tagged by Barry Age: 51+
I’m a Brighton Boy, well I was, actually. In the ’60’s I was neither Mod nor rocker but I loved black music. We’d drive in my old sit up Ford Anglia most weekends to Eastbourne to hear the latest soul sound regularly enough to up to the Ram Jam Club in Brighton to soak up the Stax sound and once and only to Walthamstow to hear James Brown and his Famous Flames. There we were 18 year olds in a car that was ancient in 1965, up the A23 past Brixton and Streatham and into blackness that was North London. I recall nothing about Walthamstow. If you’d asked me I wouldn’t have known what part of North London we were in. All I knew was James and his Famous Flames: dragging him back on stage, covering him with a cape as he screamed “Please, Please Me”. Did Papa have a brand new bag? I don’t recall.

All I know is that when we moved to Walthamstow in 1996 that cinema was familiar to me and then. I was of my Generation once again.

30 Walthamstow Central station - Victoria Line ticket barriers
Tagged by Allen Age: 19-35
This is the place where last year I shook the hand of a very dear friend that came to visit on a weekend as he made his way home. I had given him a tour of the area where I live including God’s own Junkyard, Pepper’s pizza at the Rose & Crown, Wood St. gardens and the garden for them to explore.

31 Junction of Wingfield and Randolph Roads
Tagged by Sivana Age: 51+
The point where Wingfield and Randolph Roads meet is the focal point of our ‘Wingdolph’ community. You often run into neighbours there and have a little chat - these everyday encounters promote a real sense of community. And since our two Little Free Libraries were installed in Sept 2014 (diagonally across the road from each other with one for grown ups and one for kids) it’s so lovely to see the different people stopping off to borrow or donate books. It might seem like an anonymous spot to other people but to us it feels like home!

32 Ritchings Avenue/Lime Street
Tagged by Victoria Age: 19-35
The mural at Ritchings Avenue/Lime Street is amazing, it’s tucked away down a residential turning off the beaten track where you least expect to find a massive scale piece like this. A beautiful example of accessible art for everyone.

33 Beulah Path
Tagged by Carolyn Age: 36-50
One of the first places I discovered when I moved to Walthamstow frudging the streets with my year old daughter in a pram. Finding a pretty short cut from Lloyd Path to the doctors in Grove Road.

34 Walthamstow Marina
Tagged by Joanna Age: 36-50
My friend introduced me to the marina many years ago. It’s a world away from the hustle & bustle of Walthamstow. One sunny day we got chatting to one gentleman that had a nice old Rosie & Jim type barge. We ended up chatting away all afternoon and sharing lunch. Then we walked along the river past the ice skating rink, crossed over into the other side of Lea Bridge Road to another hidden gem “The Princess of Wales”, a nice riverside pub. I have to say we really do have a lot of hidden treasures in Waltham Forest.

35 Trencher Field Allotments
Tagged by Pixey Age: 36-50
I love watching people work in the High Hill allotments. The allotments are a tranquil rural oasis just off a busy, bustling road. I’ve visited them countless times (usually when waiting list and I feel guilty because I have a garden) but I’ve visited a couple of times with people who do and it’s so very different to be a hard-core urbanite a chance to play the ‘Good Life’ and in-between spending their precious spare time over there sharing tips and advice. I’ve also tasted the produce and have to say it taste sooo much better than shop bought fruit and veg!

I think people love it because they get to enjoy the whole process-the planning, the planting and then tasting the fruits (or veg) of their labour most importantly it gives hard-core urbanites a chance to play the ‘Good Life’ and who doesn’t want a bit of that? ;o)

36 Queens Road Cemetery
Tagged by Adam Age: 19-35
My house backs onto the cemetery so it has always been part of my Walthamstow life. As well as the hours I’ve spent looking out of my window at its vastness, plus very wonky graves, the cemetery is a great haven for wildlife - with many multiple types of birds, squirrels and foxes seen regularly. When my first daughter was born, I performed endless laps around the cemetery to get her to sleep - reading the head stones and finding it fascinating how many of the names over 100 years ago are still popular now.

It’s a tranquil and peaceful place to me, and a place of reflection - I’m extremely happy to see it every day.
as I was not fully qualified, most of my ideas were carried
Whilst I didn’t get the chance to carry the project through
the borough. I was asked to help Friends work out if the
meeting house and my parents, also Quakers, lived in
I first saw this building when it was a disused factory
never pass a soul. Shame the secret is out now. See you
season it’s the perfect spot for a jog or a sulk as you’ll
jam. Maybe on the industrial estate? There are plenty
Gingerly traversing the nettles you will find a series of
mystery to me, you eventually reach a very brambly path.
This secret path leads you from Blackhorse Road to the
Tagged by Sarah Age: 19-35
This secret path leads you from Blackhorse Road to the
reservoirs, marshes and River Lea. If you follow it down,
passing industrial units to the left whose work remains a
passing industrial units to the left whose work remains a
It’s all about the beautiful garden space and vintage
street furniture. The enclosed garden is peaceful and safe
for children. The house itself has interesting exhibitions
about local history and artists and an information centre
full of “what’s on locally”. I used the Vestry House sign for
our wedding invitations so it has a personal touch for us
too.

38 Vestry House
Tagged by Philip Age: 36-50
It’s all about the beautiful garden space and vintage

39 A secret path to the Reservoirs
Tagged by Sarah Age: 19-35
This secret path leads you from Blackhorse Road to the
reservoirs, marshes and River Lea. If you follow it down,
passing industrial units to the left whose work remains a
mystery to me, you eventually reach a very brambly path.
Gingerly traversing the nettles you will find a series of
plum, pear and apple trees that come August are beside themselves with fruit, then over night it is all magically
snapped up. Someone in 167 is clearly making a lot of jam.
Maybe on the industrial estate? There are plenty of
blackberries for all... too many perhaps. Whatever the
season it is the perfect spot for a jog or a sulk as you’ll
never pass a soul. Shame the secret is out now. See you
there.

40 Quaker Meeting House
Tagged by Su Age: 36-50
I first saw this building when it was a disused factory
and I was an architecture graduate in the early 1990s.
Walthamstow Quakers were looking for a site for a new
meeting house and my parents, also Quakers, lived in
through into the finished conversion in 1998, including
the arrangement of the rooms with the meeting room at
the rear. Whenever I return to Walthamstow, the borough
I lived in for nearly a decade. I’m reminded of my first
‘real’ design job and think of all the Quakers who worship
there and members of the community that find it useful.

41 Gnome House
Tagged by Kumbhe Age: <18
This place is important to me... because I do dance there
and I also do the youth club it’s also a big space so I feel
like I get to do a lot of different things

42 Gnome House
Tagged by Chantelle Age: <18
After 16 years living in this area we finally have a creative
hub, social space, rehearsal and performance space in
our community. This space is probably the most exciting
thing that has happened since I’ve been living here. Can’t wait to watch it develop and grow.

43 St Peter’s-in-the-Forest
Tagged by Jay Age: 36-50
I went on an exploratory walk, looking for things to
photograph for a gadget review and happened across
this church purely by accident. As I had approached
it through the trees it had a certain magic as it slowly
revealed itself. I had no idea that it was just off a main
road until the traffic noise became apparent.

44 Precision Films Studios - Beulah Court, Wood Street
Tagged by Barry Age: 51+
Beulah Court, on the corner of Wood Street and Forest
Road is the site of the Precision Films Studios, the first
purpose built film studios in Greater Britain and as such
of extreme cultural importance. Opened by the Gobbett
Brothers, local entrepreneurs, it only survived for a short
period but its revolutionary design of a brick ground
floor incorporating film stores, props and costumes
and offices and a first floor completely of glass became
a template for later studios including The Curand/ Broadwest studios built further down Wood Street at
235-243 Wood Street in 1914

45 L’Hirondelle cafe
Tagged by James Age: 36-50
The day we moved to Walthamstow, around seven years
ago, I dropped into L’Hirondelle cafe to get sandwiches
and coffee during a brief break in unpacking. I’ve been
returning most days since - either to pick up a coffee
on the way to work, or buy croissants for a weekend
breakfast at home. And we’ve celebrated special
occasions with one of their amazing cakes.

This is the best kind of neighbourhood cafe - a meeting
place for all sorts of people, from every background
and religion, and friendly and welcoming to all. A delightful
place.

46 The bench in the back garden of Vestry House
Tagged by Samuel Age: 36-50
Me and my wife sat here the day before our wedding,
holding hands and thinking about the future. Soaking up
some warm early autumn sun and chatting.

47 Reservoir No.5 along with Coppermill Lane
Tagged by Samuel Age: 36-50
Our friend took us there when we stayed at his home in
Walthamstow. We only stayed there for 3 nights but
it instantly became one of our favourite place in
Walthamstow because of lovely geese, we went there
every morning.

48 The Paint Place, run by Forest Recycling Project
Tagged by Nicole Age: 36-50
Our friend took us there when we stayed at his home in
Walthamstow. We only stayed there for 3 nights but
it instantly became one of our favourite place in
Walthamstow because of lovely geese, we went there
every morning.

49 The clearing north of Peterhouse Centre
Tagged by Simon Age: 36-50
My kids play in this clearing all the time - running to dens,
dipping in the pond. In the summer, the long wavy grass
is beautiful to lie and hide in. In the winter, the mist rolls
across it beautifully.

50 Guerrilla gardens on Aubrey Road
Tagged by Helena Age: 51+
I created this guerilla garden 18 months ago. It’s long
been a dream of mine to brighten up ignored corners of
our streets and, just as important, to inspire others to do
the same. Neighbours helped me get this patch going and
are taking turns with the watering. Sometimes they
add plants as well! This year we extended our range and
I’m beyond delighted that further down Aubrey Road,
towards Hoe Street, others have taken up the challenge
so that we now have several pockets of wellness down
our road.

51 Trattoria la Ruga
Tagged by Tom & Helen Age: 36-50
Exactly 10 years before the 2015 E17 art trail (4th June
2005) we got married in Walthamstow registry office
and then walked down to the village with 20 or so close
friends and family for a very informal reception hosted by
Peter at Trattoria la Ruga. Walthamstow has changed a
lot since then, and so have we, but it is still our home and
the only one here for our children (now 8 and 6) have ever
known. We have many treasured places in Walthamstow
but always remember that afternoon with good food,
wine, family and friends.

52 Walthamstow Marshes, Coppermill Lane, between
the railway underpass and the bridge over the River Lea
Tagged by Kevin Age: 36-50
I pass through here most days cycling to work in
Islington, ducking my head under the too-low underpass
as I go. It’s a chance to slow down a bit and to have a
moment of peace in this amazing wilderness in the
middle of East London. Time to draw breath before the
start of the working day or to relax on the journey back
home. Just the chaffering of the birds and the noise of
passing trains in the distance.

53 Kitchener Road Park
Tagged by Claire Age: 36-50
I moved through Walthamstow in 2000 and soon afterwards
was given a puppy by my parents. We spent many happy
times in Kitchener Road park and met lots of other
owners and dogs. Walking in the park and getting to
know people made us feel at home in the area and some
of the people we met became dear friends. Fifteen years
on I am lucky enough to still be in the area and, although
Eliee has gone, I still have the friends she brought me.

54 Lloyd Park
Tagged by Rob Age: 19-35
When I was first moving to Walthamstow and looking to
move to the Higham Hill area, I stumbled upon Lloyd Park
and this little gem of a park persuaded me I was onto the
right idea. Whenever possible now I make sure my route
passes through the park.

55 Forest Wines
Tagged by John Age: 36-50
This side of Walthamstow has felt forgotten until the past
couple of years when slowly new ventures have gambled
on us here on the edge of what has been labelled
Blackhorse Village. Oh yes the Tesco’s handy. But a
specialist wine shop minutes from my home? Fantastic!
56  Walthamstow Marshes, via Sandpiper Close
Tagged by John Age: 36-50
A gateway into the Lea Valley, this hidden place is the beginning of one of my favourite weekend walks with friends. We do a circuit across the marsh, down the Lee Navigation, to Springfield Marina and back home via Coppermill Lane.

57  Michael's record shop, Wood Street Market
Tagged by Matt Age: 36-50
When I first walked through the doors of Wood Street market, I felt like Indiana Jones in the Temple of Doom. There were a few traps laid to put you off exploring - it was cold, the sound of grumbling filled the air, a painting of an incarnated man was labelled “Portrait of a Wood Street Market Trader”. However, there were glittering gems to be found inside - Martin’s multi-coloured shrine to pop art toys of our tin and plastic past, Shirley Pouletty’s studio, Jeff’s bloke’s paradise of football, comics and music and Michael’s welcoming vinyl heaven were some of my favourites and thankfully still going strong. The market itself was damaged in The Great Fire of London, and was reconstructed many times, but money rushed in and rushed out again, the owners getting mayoral funding help it improve then chopping one arm off to turn into flats. The fact that it is so mysterious and wonderful is testament to the spirit of those stall-holders, guardians of the temple through thick and thin.

58  Froth and Rind
Tagged by Theresa Age: 19-35
This place is special to me for several reasons. Firstly, who wouldn’t love a place that serves primarily beer and cheese?! Secondly, they have created a place that is both fun, and full of laughter and chat, but also leaves me feeling more calm and relaxed than anywhere else I go for evenings out. If I arrive feeling at all stressed, I always leave feeling like the world is a fantastic place.

59  Walthamstow Assembly Rooms
Tagged by Gloria Age: 51+
I used to have bellad and tap lessons at Monica Andrews School of Dance in Orford Road, twice a week. The highlight of the year, however, was the dance school’s concert at the Walthamstow Assembly Rooms. How I loved performing! Unfortunately I grew too tall for ballet, but I still remember not only the excitement of dressing up in a tutu but also the amazing Assembly Rooms themselves - a brilliant piece of architecture which along with the Town Hall still remain today for all to admire.

60  Land outside S Block Priory Court
Tagged by Karen Age: 51+
My family moved to Priory Court when I was 4 on 30 July 1966, World Cup final day. The grown-ups were distracted and when my Rayleigh bike was unloaded from the removal van I was off. Some hours later the policeman brought me home from a very pleasant cycle in Lloyd Park! An auspicious day indeed. It was the first day of 12 smashing years growing up ‘in the court’.

61  The Lloyd Park Centre, Lloyd Park
Tagged by Seema Age: 36-50
From a portacabin for local children to play to an environmentally friendly circular building in Lloyd Park this organisation has helped and supported numerous families and children through 30 years of history.
The centre is run by an amazing bunch of staff and volunteers and you can still hear happy stories of people who attend their sessions or use their services. I am always surprised and inspired by the new initiatives taken on and how the centre develops - such as with a new outdoor play area called ‘Grow Wild’ and the work of the outreach team to help families in need and the wider community.

62  The Castle Pub
Tagged by Sophie Age: 19-35
GW started the group in September 2014 and Adam the landlord kindly let us play there every Wednesday. It’s brilliant and has really got a great community together!

63  The Castle pub
Tagged by Gail Age: 19-35
Every Wednesday we get together with a load of nerds and we sing and play a wee four string - commonly known as a Uke! It’s the best free fun you can shake a stick at...

64  Significant Seams
Tagged by Paul Age: 36-50
This my haven, my little home from home. A place where I feel I belong.
I started volunteering at Significant Seams a couple of years ago. What started as sitting around doing some cross stitching and having a natter has blossomed into some beautiful friendships and some still basic attempts at learning other crafts.

65  Vestry House Museum garden
Tagged by matty Age: 36-50
A little patch of heaven on earth, full of birdsong, gorgeously scented roses, all over-canopied by beautiful trees.

66  Upstairs at the Rose and Crown
Tagged by Susan Age: 36-50
Where I started my Red Imp comedy club and have had loads of fun acts on and given many people a great night out. It’s also how I met all of my friends in Walthamstow and now I really feel part of the community.

67  The Rose and Crown Pub
Tagged by Katy Age: 36-50
The exterior of the building is lovely but what is special about this place is the people, both punters and owners; a big part of what makes it’s E17 special.
At one of the pop up meals we were on a table with a drawer and opened it to find a note from someone who had just left the area saying how much they were going to miss it. We wrote a little message and left it in the drawer. A couple of weeks later we found several messages from others who had randomly opened the drawer!

68  Manning House, The Drive
Tagged by Michael
Possibly the most unromantic location to feature here. The Drive with its great Victorian houses and villas now a distant memory to the few who are left that remember them, the grand sweeping tree lined avenue once home for the opulent new Walthamstow elite, made up of City Bankers, Industrialists and the like. A new economic Eden sits outside the urban sprawl on a Hill overlooking farmland.
Then came the post war clearances of the 50’s and 60’s, of which I commit my own Father for trial, guilty in destroying this grandeur into crumbling rubble of broken brick and glass, all for the price to feed his new born child for which I myself am as guilty as he.

Then as the early 1960’s approached up sprang the new England of council blocks, new and shiny, home for the young, East End Dockers, Unionists and the like. The real fictional characters of a new world order.
Out of this travesty sprung Manning House, it is rather like all the rest, unimposing, yellow brick and French windows, balcony with later added addition of satellite dish. Now less council owned but more a buy to let, the once cheap end of the property market now looking to turn into a swan.
So what my Father destroyed, and in all fairness helped rebuild, was largely the work of the local Labour Party, which instigated this restructuring project. Amongst its members one Alderman A E Manning JP, mayor of Walthamstow 1943-44, which incidentally or not as the case maybe was my Uncle.
So whenever I pass this former and forgotten part of the Stow, I like to stand a white and ponder upon my Walthamstow legacy.

69  Walthamstow Folk Club, Rose & Crown Pub
Tagged by Anne Age: 19-35
I first discovered this club, back at the (now closed) Plough in Wood Street, when me and my sister saw the wonderful Nancy Kerr and James Fagan play. In the small back room, we ate lovely buttery sandwiches (included in the entry), and were close enough to touch the performers. Since then, many Sundays have passed being transported by songs and stories of love-gone-wrong, foul murder, distant lands, and on every other subject you could think of. For a few quid, you will never find a more intimate and friendly place to enjoy quality music. But really what makes it so special is how egalitarian it is: if you can remember the words to a song or poem, and are brave enough, you can share them in the ways of the performers. It’s a place run by lovely people for all people, and truly a hidden gem of Walthamstow.

70  The Chequers Pub
Tagged by Matt Age: 51+
My favourite pub in Walthamstow. There is always good beer on tap and the staff are always friendly and welcoming.

71  Wild Card Brewery
Tagged by Matt Age: 51+
My second favourite drinking place in Walthamstow. As introduced to me by a former worker no names (she knows who she is) at my first favourite drinking place.
72 The right hand field in Lloyd Park (dog off lead field) at the back.

Tagged by Oiwien Age: 36-50
This is where me and my dog hang out with human and dog friends.

73 Lot 107 Café
Tagged by Maria Age: 36-50
Two years ago I became a customer here. I was coming out of a dark place that I had been in for quite a while and this place gave me warmth and I felt safe here. I first met Tracy (one of the waitresses) - she was kind and I felt really at ease with her and we had a giggle whenever I came in. I never felt I outstayed my welcome and I was there an awful lot. Then one day Tracy said there was an opening there and that I should apply. I was gobsmacked - me? Really? It’s like she saw something in me, the real me, she had faith in me and was sure I would get it. I really chuffed but very anxious at the thought of rejection but after a lot of talking myself round and a lot of strength I went to that interview. Tracy was there I told her how nervous I was, she held my hand and told me there was no need to be and to just be myself. I don’t think to this day Tracy realises how much that helped. It worked - I got the job and am still there to this day this is now what I call my family and the place and all who are in it including our customers are more important to me than they know as this its place and them that have helped me pull through any relapses I’ve had as I have Bipolar and at times it can be so tough my family and friends of course are and have always been behind me but working here is also that exhaustion that extra purpose that I exist. I love that we have regulars and I and friends of course are and have always been behind me but working here is also that exhaustion that extra purpose that I exist. I love that we have regulars and I

74 The former Plough pub
Tagged by Deniz Age: 36-50
There used to be a pub at the end of my street called The Plough. It was a bleak and dismal place when I first moved to E17 but, under new management, it had transformed itself into a decent live music venue. One sultry summer’s night we went to see Martyn Stephenson, formerly of The Daintees. The venue was packed, the atmosphere was celebratory and Martyn was clearly in his element in that intimate setting. It was truly heartening to be able to experience such a quality act just a stone’s throw from our home. Alas, The Plough is gone now, replaced by a convenience store. But I recall that night with fondness. I hope that someday, somehow, Martyn returns to E17. And then, once more, we’ll sing, ‘Orange is the Colour of Joy’.

75 Wood Street Library, corner of Wood St and Forest Rd
Tagged by Deniz Age: 36-50
I often used to take my sons down to Wood Street Library. With its warm and welcoming atmosphere, it felt like a sanctuary on grey and damp afternoons. My sons would happily spend time looking through the picture books and choosing which to take home. It really is a crying shame that its opening hours have been cut.

76 Railway Bridges in the streets near Stoneydown Park
Tagged by Fiona Age: 36-50
A collaboration between local school children and local artist Linda Hughes. Colourful and fun, the really brighten up the local area. Come and see them before the Network Rail bridge replacement works make their current incarnation disappear - and lend your voice to encourage Mini Holland to commission replacement artwork for the new bridges.

77 Lloyd Park
Tagged by Vincent Age: <18
It has a park and you can cycle around it and it a good place to have fun with your friends in. There is a lot of area for you to play games and the pond is a good place for tourists.

78 Walthamstow Bus Station
Tagged by Eric Age: <18
There are seats where I can sit and have a snack. I like to watch the buses and the cars.

79 Walthamstow High Street
Tagged by Jonathan Age: 36-50
When I was looking for somewhere to live, my friend and I walked down Walthamstow high street on a Saturday. It was hot and busy. Stalls were buzzing; people from all over the world were there. I turned to my friend and said ‘I love this place!’ That’s when I decided to move here.

80 Walthamstow Town Square
Tagged by Elizabeth
A lot of activities go on almost everyday. There is very little crime around here compared to other places. The atmosphere here is great, with a lot of hotels and parks for the children to play in.

81 Lloyd Park Skatepark
Tagged by Alison Age: 19-35
Watching my son learn to ride his bike, and seeing his confidence grow.

82 Path and grassed area between town square and bus station
Tagged by J Age: 36-50
The town square is known for juvenels on a Saturday. This gives us business for the fair and allows us to keep working and happy.

83 Bench outside St. Mary’s Church
Tagged by JS Age: 36-50
When I considered moving to Walthamstow I sat on this bench and watched some local people painting the bollards. If people cared that much about where they live; I should too. I decide that this was the place for me.

84 Outside Lloyd Park William Morris Gallery café
Tagged by SG Age: 51+
It’s a vibrant and open space! What more do I need to say…

85 Hollow Ponds
Tagged by Zeki Age: <18
Hollow Ponds is very important to be because it’s beautiful and I play football on Leyton Flats all the time.

86 Lloyd Park water fountain
Tagged by Maria Age: <18
I met my best friend here in September 2013. He needed help with directions and we’ve been best friends ever since.

87 Gigi’s dressing room, Wood Street Market
Tagged by Amelia Age: 19-35
Gigi’s dressing room in Wood Street Market is run by a wonderful lady called Gigi. She has provided our theatre company Slap Haddock @slaphaddock with beautiful costumes and much support.

88 William Morris Garden at Lloyd Park
Tagged by Raewyn Age: 36-50
I started walking through these gardens most days from November 2014. I was a bit puzzled that even though it was winter they were very dead looking with lots of bark and the odd scrubby plant. As the months have gone by and spring has sprung, the gardens (at the back of the William Morris Gallery, near Wmns Terrace) have grown into the most stunning flowerbeds full of beautiful perennials and grasses. Wander through the herringbone paths and you will find inspiration for your own garden. What makes it even more special is on occasion I have spotted the wonderful band of volunteers who tend the garden and make it so beautiful for everyone to enjoy. Park yourself on a bench among the plants and you could be a million miles from Forest Road.

89 Outside L. Manze Pie and Mash Shop
Tagged by … Age: 36-50
My parents and grandparents were born in Walthamstow and I have fond memories when I was younger of live eats escaping onto the street before being chopped up for customers - trying to avoid being splashed by their blood as we passed by! I remember the stall holders calling out to passers by to stop and buy their goods and everyone queued in line.

90 Greenway Avenue Woods
Tagged by Marian Age: 51+
A hidden treasure, a small wood snuggled between two residential roads. Peaceful, full of bird life, wild flowers and trees. I walk there every day with my dog Dennis and we love it. It is at the bottom of my garden and we have been going there since we moved to this house 30 years ago.

91 Church Path
Tagged by Nicola Age: 36-50
When I first moved to Walthamstow a friend told me about ‘the scenic route’ from Walthamstow Central into the village. This takes you up St Mary Road, through the Church Path which is still one of my favourite places and makes me think of times gone by. I still walk this way some weekends and love it’s quiet and peacefulness, but during the week I’m usually running late so take a more direct route!
Walthamstow, I love their delicious & cheap brunch on Saturdays. There's also a little farmer's market just outside. I have important memories of coming here to meet a friend while going through some difficult stuff -- the brunch & multiple cups of tea were always so comforting.

100 Vestry House Museum Community Room
Tagged by Thomas: Age: 19-35
I had always been someone cynical about marriage. I was of the "why do I need a piece of paper from the Government to validate my relationship" school. Nevertheless, I proposed to my girlfriend on our ninth anniversary together and we planned to marry on our eleventh.

We married in the Vestry House Museum on 16th October 2010. I was genuinely taken aback to discover that it was the best day of my life. Everyone worried me that it would be stressful. Instead I was blissfully, ecstatically happy, and thrilled to be marrying my wonderful wife. Moreover, it was only when it happened that I realised that this would be the only day in my entire life when every single person I love would be in the same place at the same time. The fact that this place was Vestry House is something that will always make it one of the most special places on earth for me.

101 Front garden of 121 Billet Road
Tagged by Nicola: Age: 36-50
Our family built a model village (or at least three #E17 streets and some local landmarks) in our front garden with help from BBCTV, celebrity gardener Monty Don, Blackhorse Workshops, Walthamstow sell or swap Facebook Group and our friends and family. We were filmed as we went along and still meet new people who saw us on TV. We love people coming to our house and seeing the garden for the first time. It seems to be especially popular with delivery drivers.

102 East of Eden Studio 1, 12-15 Hatherley Mews
Tagged by Meghan: Age: 19-35
A very good friend of mine opened this yoga studio in March and I have been frequenting it ever since. The Mews where it is located is a beautiful cobbled street, which then leads to the actual studio which is incredibly inviting and also busy with happy yogis.

I love going to East of Eden and through their classes I have really developed my yoga practice...as well as meeting some lovely new friends along the way.

103 Market stall by 110 High Street
Tagged by Steven: Age: 19-35
My favourite market stall on the High Street and always the highlight of my Saturday shop -- this was an old fashioned veg stall run by a local chap who sold seasonal produce by the bucket load, at ridiculously low prices. Always cracking jokes and talking to/shouting at passers-by, the stall holder was a big man with a ruddy face -- he'd certainly put in the hours outside over the years. He didn't subscribe to any of that pound-a-bowl nonsense: this was done the old fashioned way - by lumping some spuds on an old two pan balance, and chucking the ancient pound weights on the other side until they both hovered together. He'd always make a joke when he guessed the amount right first time, playing down the fact that he'd got rather good at it over the years.

The stall closed for good in 2014 when the 'veg cockney' retired. It really was a sad day for the market. Probably the last of the old-school stalls, gone forever. Only later did I find out what his name was, when I bumped into him on the street while out shopping. 'Everyone calls me Wolfie' he said. Thanks Wolfie and all the best.

104 Forest Rise, where Upper Walthamstow Road and Epping Forest meet
Tagged by Peter: Age: 19-35
This marks the place where quite by accident I stumbled across Epping Forest during an airless, contemplative Sunday evening walk. The road sweeps round in a sudden curve as if deciding at the last moment not to enter the forest. The narrow strip of Forest Rise is all that holds back the jostling trees on one side of the road from overrunning the homes on the other, and one has the impression of surveying the silent no man's land between two uneasily juxtaposed worlds: the one familiar, ordered, and comforting; the other wild and mysterious. Both have their appeal, but it goes without saying which, in the glorious light of that Spring evening, I chose to explore.

105 Walthamstow Stadium
Tagged by Edward: Age: <10
It reminds me of my granddad.

106 Lloyd Park
Tagged by Fred: Age: <10
It has loads of equipment and is really fun and you can play with your friends anything.

107 Lloyd Park
Tagged by Issa: Age: <10
I like Lloyds Park because it has a place where you can skate, where you play basketball and you can exercise and you can play on the slide and climbing frame.

108 Lloyd Park
Tagged by Can: Age: <10
In Lloyd Park you can play in there and is so good in so many things in there and in there you can play football in there and you can play basketball in there is fun.

109 Walthamstow Library
Tagged by Alexandra: Age: <10
I like Walthamstow Library because they have loads of lovely fiction books which you get loads of imagination and they also have non-fiction which gives you loads of facts.
110 Empire Cinema
Tagged by Maryam Age: <10
It has popcorn, chocolates, sweets, and drinks and also they have the very best grown-up and kids movies, like kids love Madagascar and grown-ups love watching Maleficent and they have cafes and that’s why it’s my favourite place in Walthamstow. My other favourite thing is the William Morris Gallery and Lloyd Park.

112 Stoneydown Park
Tagged by Rafida Age: <10
I like Stoneydown Park because they have fantastic swings and grass with climbing frame. Sometimes there is an exciting fun fair. I like to make new friends when I am there.

113 Vestry House
Tagged by Eissa Age: <10
I like to go to Vestry House because you learn how to write in arabic and there is a secret garden and it has a special path.

116 Lloyd Park
Tagged by Ali Age: <10
My favourite place is Lloyd Park because they have magnificent climbing frames and dazzling slides and exercising machines and you can make perfect new friends.

117 Wingfield Park
Tagged by Madeleine Age: <10
I love Wingfield Park because it has a huge park and when it gets too hot you can always find shade under the big slide. IT’S INCREDIBLE!

118 Empire Cinema
Tagged by Ayaan Age: <10
The cinema is in Walthamstow and it’s big and it has popcorn and sweets and hot dogs and you can pick your sweets.

119 Empire Cinema
Tagged by Reuben Age: <10
My favourite place is the Empire Cinema. I like this place because I get really excited when the great movie is going to come on and especially when it’s in 3D. I like the cinema because you can get any snack you want to have!

120 Lloyd Park
Tagged by Kamar Age: <10
In the winter days the trees start to shake and blow. The space is fantastic, good for running. There is big areas good for small children and big children.

121 Epping Forest
Tagged by Ella Age: <10
My favourite place in Walthamstow is Epping Forest because it is out in the wild and you can go to it whenever you like. It has lots of lovely plants, flowers and trees. And it is HUGE!

122 The Mall
Tagged by Cleo Age: <10
I like the Mall because it’s where me and my mum and my sister go shopping and they have really nice shops with cool stuff in the entrance. I usually has a costa coffee at the entrance then there are stairs leading to toilets. On the outside it has a big pink M on the front it is near the train station.

123 Lloyd Park
Tagged by Nashwa Aa Age: <10
Because I’ve been to Lloyd Park every time my auntie picks me up. I go with my friend called Liesa who has a different religion.

124 Lloyd Park
Tagged by Mathnoor Age: <10
My favourite place is Lloyd Park because there are slides and it is great! It looks fun-fair and there is trees dustbin and lots to do.

125 Woodcraft Folk in Epping Forest
Tagged by Finn Age: <10
The woodcraft folk is like a family to me. I love the people there. They are so nice and more, all my friends and family there. There are lots of trees and grass. I love them.

126 Coppermill Lane where it enters Walthamstow Marshes
Tagged by Simon Age: 51+
As a cyclist I love escaping down the lane and onto the marshes. Countryside so close to an urban sprawl is so wonderful.

127 L. Manzes Pie and Mash Shop
Tagged by Liv Age: 19-35
Manzes is a very special place indeed. The pie, mash and liquor here are almost as good as my Nan’s (almost). It really does feel like you have walked into a past era as the interior is unique with its original tiles and benches. Every time I’m in there I think to myself ‘if only these walls could talk’. I expect they would tell a fantastic story of real people....

128 Eat 17 Deli, 28-30 Orford Road
Tagged by Simon Age: 36-50
About 6 years ago we needed a bigger house. We spent many days in different areas soaking them up, seeing if we could see ourselves living there. We decided to give Walthamstow a go and visited many times. There used to be a deli on Orford Road, run by the guys from Eat17. One day we went in looking for a foodie gift for a friend of ours. We went to pay, for some reason my card would not work and my partner could not remember her pin number. Sibiwar who served us said “I have seen you around recently, do you live round here?” We replied “not yet but we’re considering it” Sibiwar then said “just pop in the money when your next passing” we left the shop turned to each other and said “not yet but we’re considering it”

129 The Nag’s Head back garden
Tagged by TC Age: 36-50
For London the Nag’s Head is a unique pub. I always like to think that it’s back garden is a secret retreat from the hubbub of this city. You can’t help but enjoy the relaxed atmosphere there, amidst the array of plants and enclosed by high walls. I particularly love being there, in the transition between late afternoon into the evening, when the sun sets, the lights on the tropical tree illuminate and no little people are allowed in! Don’t tell anyone.

130 St Mary’s Churchyard
Tagged by Georgina Age: 19-35
My grandparents got married here during the war. Just before they had their photo taken a bomber plane flew over and everyone ran for cover behind the gravestones. My nanna is still annoyed that her hair got ruined for the photo. They’re about to celebrate their 75th wedding anniversary and after growing up across London, we’re just about to buy a house opposite - I can’t wait.

131 Essex Road railway bridge, at the junction of Essex Road and Salop Road
Tagged by Anise Age: 36-50
A sweet, old, little bridge. Gateway to St James Park for those living on the Coppermill Lane side of the railway tracks, and, most importantly, an explosive echo chamber for the nursery groups who troop under it to enjoy afternoons in the sun.

132 Plinth for a stolen sculpture, Coppermill Lane/Rensburg Road junction
Tagged by Thom Age: 36-50
This is nothing more, now, than a granite pillar about waist height and maybe a yard across. There are some drill holes in the polished top of the pillar, and a plaque on the front explaining the significance of the sculpture - look upon its works, ye mighty, and despair. The sculpture was stolen long ago. What it is, now, is a plinth to display children. It is irresistible to any small child, my own included. They will, when allowed near, climb the short pillar and stand in whatever pose seems most to suit their mood at that moment. The metal sculpture that was intended to stand there is scrap now, but the column on which is stood is an ever-changing work of art.
133 Lloyd Park - tree next to the moat
Tagged by Jo  Age: 19-35
This is the place where, on my way home from work, I can take a deep breath, exhale and forget about the stresses of the day. I can pause and look back across the William Morris Gallery and gardens - my favourite view in E17!

134 Higham Hill allotments
Tagged by Duncan  Age: 51+
I finally got an allotment in 2013 and worked every spare moment to get things going, late in the growing season. The real excitement though, was getting to build a shed from scratch. I bought timber and constructed the frame at home, then took it to site and put it up in an afternoon. For the covering I chose semi-translucent plastic sheeting, a bit like corrugated cardboard but white plastic, which is cheap and very strong. It’s meant for printing signs but turned out to be perfect, because the light comes through the sides of the shed, not just through the windows. The only drawback is that insects find their way up the corrugations and get stuck there, making long dark streaks that you can see when the sun is in that direction.

135 Willow trees north of Coppermill Lane car park
Tagged by Anna  Age: 36-50
Trees you can get lost inside. A secret, magical gem enticing children and adults to venture in and have a look, a play or a climb. A great stop if you are cycling by, or if you are looking for an exciting natural playground to explore and be creative in: we love it!

136 Rose & Crown Pub
Tagged by Victoria  Age: 36-50
The excellent local pub!

137 Cycle rack outside Sainsbury’s
Tagged by Claire  Age: 51+
I love Walthamstow Market. I love my bike. This is where I park it, lock it up, when I visit the Market. I have been doing this since 2012. I had not ridden a bike for over 30 years, and I believed the hype that Walthamstow would come to a standstill during the Olympics, due to the traffic. The traffic chaos never happened, but I started to cycle again and have not looked back since. I just love cycling. Long may it last.

138 The Windmill, 18 High Street
Tagged by Jon  Age: 19-35
The Windmill Restaurant was a lovely Portuguese restaurant on the High St, now - sadly - closed. A true community asset, serving good quality, good value food, with a clientele ranging from market traders to yummy mummies. Everyone knew it was the place to go to pretend you were on holiday, while still in E17. It’s where we chose to take my family to celebrate the birth of our daughter. Sadly, it closed at the end of 2014. I don’t know where we’ll get our custard tarts now.

139 Lloyd Park tennis courts
Tagged by Gill  Age: 51+
Love to sit on the benches knitting and nattering with my daughter while we wait to get a game. Love watching all the different people playing and the people passing by.

140 Teras Turkish BBQ Restaurant
Tagged by Bryan  Age: 36-50
Top kebabs!!!

141 Ringwood Castle Pub, 49 Gosport Road
Tagged by Martin  Age: 51+
The Ringwood - no longer standing - was pretty much opposite my late Dad’s flat. He had a troubled relationship with alcohol through most of his life, which cost him his marriage, and for some periods at least, his relationship with his children. But late on in life - and very unusually for an alcoholic - he got to the point where he could have a pint and leave it at that. This means that I could do something I’d not been able to do during my formative years and go for a pint with my Dad. The staff in the Ringwood knew my Dad well - and as his son they treated me like a special visitor. The Ringwood closed in 2009 - but I didn’t visit again after my Dad passed away in 2003. Kinda wish I had. There’s a bit about the pub here: http://www.closedpubs.co.uk/london/e17_walthamstow_ringwoodcastle.html

142 Footbridge over Forest Road
Tagged by Suzi  Age: 19-35
There is an amazing view of the city (better in winter!) if you stand just south of the bridge - on a clear day if you look back you can see the shard, Barbican, Canary Wharf etc. Discovered during an evening summer walk in the woods - my favourite bit of living in upper Walthamstow.