

EDITORIAL TEAM



EDITOR
Charlie Stong
 8884 7413
 cstong@london.
 newsquest.co.uk



REPORTERS
Hannah Crown
 8884 7414
 hcrown@london.
 newsquest.co.uk



Dominic Gover
 8884 7415
 dgover@london.
 newsquest.co.uk

hours: 07824 530132
 (leave a message or send a text)
Fax: 8366 7347

ADVERTISING TEAM



**ADVERTISEMENT
 MANAGER**
Alan Sleet
 8884 7412
 asleet@london.
 newsquest.co.uk



**TEAM
 LEADER**
Vickie Barrett
 8884 7404
 vbarrett@london.
 newsquest.co.uk

ADVERTISING SALES TEAM

Hayes
 831
 London.newsquest.co.uk

'What you are seeing is the people fighting back'

By **GEMMA PARRY**

cstong@london.newsquest.co.uk

THE sound of beeping car horns was audible up and down Chase Side as Enfield residents turned out in force to protest against the closure of their local post office.

And passing motorists were also quick to offer their support to the protestors gathered outside Chase Side post office on Monday.

The post office is just one of six local facilities the Government has voted to close, despite widespread opposition expressed through a public consultation.

Conservative Nick de Bois, who will stand against Enfield North MP Joan Ryan at the next general election, said: "It just shows that this consultation is a sham.

"We've had over a hundred people here since quarter to nine.

"It goes far beyond just selling stamps and offering conventional post office services.

"People are telling me stories how the come into this post office and if they're not seen for a week the postmistress sends someone round to check they're okay."

He continued: "What you are seeing here is people fighting back."

Sub post mistress Gloria



Nick de Bois with protesters outside Chase Side Post Office on Monday
 (Photo: KEN MEARS/EL8338-2)

Lawrence said she was "astounded by the support" shown during the protest, and added: "You see the adverts on TV, 'The People's Post Office' and then they ignore the people."

The remaining post offices will prove inaccessible for many of Chase Side's customers, accord-

ing to protest organiser Maureen George.

She said: "Lancaster Road is heavily congested at the best of times and in Enfield Town there are no parking facilities outside.

"We need the Government's support in this. If they take away these sub-post offices what are

these elderly people going to do?"

The Six Bells pub and La Caverna cafe showed support by offering free refreshments for the protesters.

Although she did not attend the protest, Joan Ryan said: "The one thing that I am certain of is that our Chase Side Post office should stay open."

However, she also showed support for the Government stance on post offices, saying: "Nationally the Post Office costs us taxpayers £500,000 each and every day to keep the business going."

Despite the strength of feeling, Ms Lawrence was bleak about the future of Chase Side.

She said: "I think it's too late for the London offices, I don't think it'll change anything for the 155 offices they've decided to close, but it might help some of the offices that are a bit further out and perhaps they will listen to the people."

Along with Chase Side, the other post offices in Enfield due to close soon are Freezywater, in Hertford Road, Enfield; Green Street, Enfield; Clock House Parade, Palmers Green; Town Road, Edmonton and Crescent West, Hadley Wood.

need cash now?

UNLOCK THE