# Rising costs force Kirby Estate to cut back on patriotic flags in Bermondsey



The Kirby Estate in Bermondsey, southeast London, known for its patriotic displays during international tournaments, has had to reduce the number of flags this year due to rising costs. Previously, residents could buy flags for around 33p each, but prices have now soared to over £3. Chris Dowse, 45, who organizes the decorations, mentioned the community's pride in funding the flags themselves, despite financial challenges.

Residents, including Alan Putman, 54, and Rebecca Robins, 36, have stressed that their enthusiasm for the flag displays remains undiminished. Robins noted that poor weather and increased costs have led to fewer flags this year. The community has declined external financial assistance, preferring to manage the funding internally.

In addition to the flags, the estate unveiled a new mural honoring local boy Eberechi Eze, a 25-year-old England and Crystal Palace winger, born and raised in nearby Greenwich. The decision to feature Eze over Harry Kane was based on his local connections and potential impact in the Euros.

Residents, including newcomers like Paula Ribolla, 21, and long-term residents like Winston Peckett, 83, support the displays, which foster community spirit and pride in their heritage.