

Community news

APRIL 1997

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BARNET

LONDON BOROUGH



Your FREE newspaper printed at no cost to Barnet Council

MORE FOR LESS AS EFFICIENCY PAYS OFF



The Barnet Schools Under-eleven Chess Team paid a special visit to the Mayor of Barnet, Cllr. Pam Coleman. The visit was to mark the team's outstanding success in winning the London Primary Schools' Chess Association Inter-area Championship. Barnet's team beat Richmond, winners for the past eight years, to bring the cup back to the borough.

Tough economy and efficiency measures and control of the purse strings has kept down Council Tax bills and protected services.

Barnet's Council Tax bills will rise by less than 4.4 per cent adding about 54p a week to the average household's charges.

The actual increase in the cash going to the council is only 2.9 per cent - barely enough to cover inflation and increased

Council Tax Bands

Band	Council Tax Bill	Band	Council Tax Bill
A	£443.43	E	£812.95
B	£517.33	F	£960.75
C	£591.24	G	£1108.57
D	£665.14	H	£1330.28

burdens placed on the borough in meeting the demands of new legislation. The rest of the money goes to meet the rising costs of the Police and Fire Brigade.

Protection of services was only made possible by businesslike Barnet's good housekeeping which resulted in £5m of savings

being ploughed back into this year's budget.

Education, social services, housing, the environment, our streets and open spaces have all been protected in a value-for-money budget designed to meet the needs of the whole community.

MAKING EVERY POUND COUNT - see pages 13-14

NEW ARTS CENTRE

A new arts and performance centre could become the glittering jewel at the centre of an attractive and relaxing piazza in a transformed Tally Ho Corner in North Finchley your council is working to get funding for.

The council is carrying out a feasibility study for the new arts centre which will be followed by an application for lottery funding.

The drawing captures what could be an idyllic pedestrianised setting for the arts centre. A fountain and a busking area could form part of the new pedestrianised area.

There has been a huge amount of interest from the local



community in getting involved in helping to shape what the centre could look like.

A steering group of interested people is being set up.

The artistic impression also shows the key part the arts centre

could play in an event like this June's Barnet Arts Festival.

The June fiesta is already set to be the biggest festival in the history of Barnet with over 200 different events so far confirmed at venues throughout the borough.

Barnet's Youth Newspaper



This issue of Community News has a brand new Youth Newspaper inside - **LOUD** - by young Barnet people for young Barnet people. Turn to page 10 and read what they have to say about graffiti, racism and other issues affecting them.



WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO

Only the best will do for the residents of Barnet.

This is the message to the whole community as your council completes its launch of Quality Service Guarantees.

The guarantees promise what we will do, when we will do it and what will be done to put things right if they do go wrong.
Quality, value-for-money

services residents want and need have gone under the spotlight in the continual drive to improve standards.

Quality Service Guarantees make it quicker and easier to contact council staff if standards are not met. Each complaint is treated as a top priority and handled individually by Quick

Response Teams.

The launch of Quality Service Guarantees covering refuse collection and street cleaning was quickly followed by the wide-ranging services provided by social services, street lighting, land charges, roads and pavements, tax and benefits and many more.

Within weeks the council will be launching these 'only the best will do' guarantees for the youth service, children's day care service, libraries, swimming pools, children's services, adoption, fostering, education awards, music centres, the housebound readers service and many more areas of the borough's work.

FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

Your council needs more foster carers to provide children of all ages and backgrounds with temporary homes.

The council's Family Placement Team (right) want to recruit new carers, especially from the borough's diverse ethnic community. They also need carers who can look after teenagers or family groups of children.

Any resident who feels they can offer the commitment, time, energy and understanding to get children or teenagers through a difficult time in their lives should contact the team on 0181-359 4234 or write to them at Community Services, Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, London N20 0EJ.



Advertisement

INTRODUCING HENRY CHARLES

Henry Charles is an exclusive Estate Agency based in Totteridge on the fringes of North London and South Hertfordshire - one of the premier residential locations.

Active in the residential property sector for some 10 years through its internationally based parent company, Henry Charles has been founded to cater for the executive residential sales and letting market, serving the United Kingdom and international clients.

Lawrence Henry, who has worked in the Totteridge area for the past 20 years and who knows Totteridge and the surrounding area intimately, has formed a team of highly experienced professionals who can deal in all aspects of residential sales, lettings and property development.

The company works closely with local groups, like the Manor Association and the Totteridge Residents' Association which do excellent work in helping preserve the past, protect the present and planning for the future.

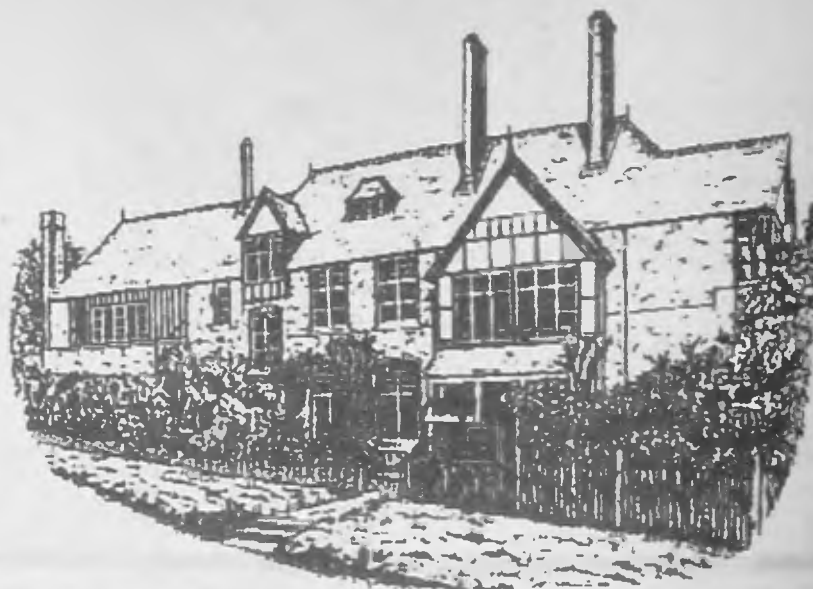
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Clean... Green... Safe...

What Agenda 21 Means

At the United Nations World Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, world leaders agreed that action was needed to protect the environment for ourselves and for the sake of future generations.

The action they agreed was called AGENDA 21. An agenda for the 21st century to ensure that any development now and in the future meets the needs of human beings and is carried out within the limits of the Earth's natural resources - in other words 'sustainable development'.

Sustainable development is not only about saving the rainforests or protecting endangered animals. It is also about using energy wisely at home. Walking not driving to work or school, making our town centres lively and our public buildings accessible to people in wheelchairs. Agenda 21 is about:-

- Environmental protection
- Partnerships with local residents
- Quality of life
- Fairness to all

Agenda 21 is a joint commitment between Barnet and local residents on how YOUR neighbourhood should be as a place to live and work as we move towards the 21st century.

Local Agenda 21 Partnerships At Work

There are already two Agenda 21 partnerships underway in the borough proving what can be achieved when residents and the local authority work together.

Barnet is the only local authority in the country to look at Agenda 21 on an area by area basis rather than looking at the whole borough.

The first environmental area to be set up was the Friary Partnership in November 1995.

This was based around Friary Park in North Finchley/Friern Barnet. It has brought together residents, your council, businesses and local organisations to develop a vision for the sustainable future of the Friary area.

At the beginning of March this year much of this work was realised with the start of the environmental zone traffic management measures (see picture).

This work would not have been possible without the Friary Partnerships involvement and has been invaluable as a role-model in helping to form the next agenda 21 area - Victoria Environmental Partnership - which was set up at the end of 1996.

The Victoria Environmental Partnership covers the area around Victoria Park in Finchley.

The Friary Partnership are now looking at public transport and ways of improving it.

Working parties from the Partnership check for pollution in the Friary Stream and promote recycling as well as focusing on other areas of the environment.

The Victoria Environmental Partnership has set up a number of working groups to look at traffic, pollution, recycling and the social and economic problems and possible solutions in their area.

Both groups planted a tree in Friary and Victoria Parks last month to mark the formation of the Partnerships and the continuation of their work.

Residents can contact Barnet Council for information about the work of the Friary or Victoria Partnerships by calling Samira Bharmal on 0181-359 4669.

For information on recycling or if you would like a composter or wormery phone the council's customer care unit on 0181-359 4600.



Work began at the beginning of March on the Friary Environmental Zone traffic management programme. This includes traffic calming, cycle routes, road junction improvements and width restrictions.

Our picture shows the council's own in-house staff, TeamBarnet Civil Engineering, putting in traffic calming measures at the Torrington Park, Friern Barnet Lane junction. The work is being managed and designed by TeamBarnet Traffic and Transportation Consultancy.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

You don't have to live in one of the two Local Agenda 21 areas to get involved. Everyone can do their bit to protect and enhance the local environment.

Helpful hints

Recycle - there are over 80 recycling sites in the borough which will take everything from glass bottles to clothes and books. Also by the end of this year every resident will have the opportunity to take part in the council's door-to-door recycling scheme. You can minimise organic household waste by buying a composter or wormery from the council. Re-use as much as you can and think before throwing anything away... can it be recycled?

Save energy - buy energy efficient light bulbs, turn lights off when not needed

and turn the television off properly

Save the air - walk, cycle or use public transport for more journeys, it will help reduce pollution and is good exercise

Did you know?

- A photocopier left switched on overnight wastes enough energy to make 5,300 A4 copies
- An open window loses enough energy in a day to produce 130 wine bottles
- Lighting an empty office overnight wastes enough energy to heat water for 1,000 cups of coffee

Environment Week 6-13 July

Your council is mobilising the whole community and special interest groups throughout the borough to take part in Environment Week from 6 to 13 July.

The council and other organisations will be staging events to interest the whole community - the young, the old, special needs groups and families

with young children. The week-long activity will culminate in the opportunity for residents to sign a pledge backing the environmental protection of

the borough. If you or your organisation would like to play a part in Environment Week, please call George Sims on: 0181 359 4614.

Clean... Green... Safe...



Another winner...

It was hands up all round when pupils from St. Paul's School, Friern Barnet, received their well-earned Citizen's Charter award. The award puts St. Paul's School, The Avenue, Friern Barnet, in the same league as some of the country's top companies and public service providers. Pupils, staff and parents are working in partnership and have created new opportunities for the children ranging from French and Music to Sport.

CRACKDOWN ON HOMELESSNESS

Your council is stepping up the fight against homelessness, looking at new and imaginative ways of providing good affordable housing and providing help and advice to families facing eviction following financial problems.

The council will continue to reduce the use of bed and breakfast accommodation for those forced into homelessness by finding more permanent homes and explore every possible way of creating desperately needed low-cost housing in the borough in partnership with local housing companies.

Efficiency and economy

Drive for Affordable Housing Continues

measures across all housing services have meant that despite spiralling costs and reducing grants, rents will increase by only an average of 48p a week. Changes in subsidies meant that Barnet will lose £480,000 this year.

Economy and efficiency measures and a streamlined approach to services also means total spending from the housing revenue account this year at £56.1m will be over £858,000 less than last year.

This £56m has to be met by income from council rents.

Barnet will be reviewing all policies on homelessness this year, including the opportunities for using good quality private rented homes.

The main priority will be on providing help and support which prevents

eviction and homelessness.

The council is backing its borough-wide anti-poverty drive with over £43,000 in cash support over the next three years to enable the Citizens Advice Bureaux to help families facing a financial crisis.

The special needs of overcrowded and badly housed families are being tackled together with continued improvements to sheltered accommodation.

During the coming year the council will be investing £75,000 more in estate fencing, £100,000 on internal joinery, a further £50,000 on gardening services for older and disabled residents, and working with tenants and residents associations to spend £50,000 on improved lighting and security measures.

BARNET TEES UP GOLF DEAL

The golfers of Barnet are being offered golf at a top private club at public course fees.

The council has signed up a special deal with Mill Hill Golf Club off Hankins Lane which means residents can enjoy the facilities of the club Monday to Friday for a green fee of just £10.

Your fee will entitle you to one round of golf and temporary membership for the day which includes changing room, restaurant and other club house facilities.

You can just turn up and play, but to make sure of a slot, phone 0181-959 7261 either on the day

or the day before you wish to play. Please take proof of residence in Barnet - for example a driving licence.

Players should have insurance cover which would cover both injury to and by them. Insurance cover is available at the club at a cost of 50 pence.



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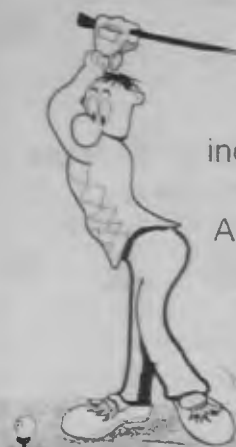
758 Green Lanes, Winchmore Hill, London N21. Tel: 0181 360 5088

Finchley Lido
Great North Leisure Park
Finchley N12 0AE
0181 343 9830

Summer Courses

Barnet Copthall Pools
Great North Way
Hendon NW4 1PS
0181 457 9900

TeamBarnet Leisure offer a wide range of courses for children and adults this summer.



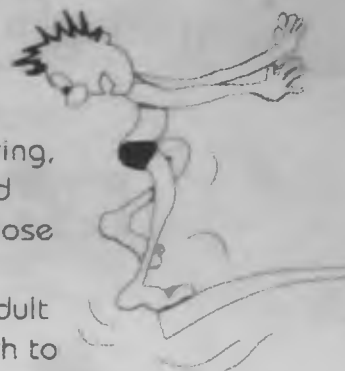
Sports and Leisure courses for Adults include Massage, Reflexology & Aromatherapy, Yoga, Golf, Clay Pigeon Shooting, Tennis and Rambles.

For details contact
0181 457 9909



Swim into summer with our superb range of classes for children starting with Parent and Baby, onto Tadpoles and Ducklings from three years progressing through to Learn to Swim for fives and over. Diving, Lifesaving and Synchronised Swimming are available for those aged seven and over.

Over sixteen and still can't swim? Don't despair. Our adult courses will provide a sympathetic environment in which to learn. For details contact Swimming Development on 0181 457 9902



Summer Sports for children are run after school, at weekends and during the holidays. Courses include Cricket, Soccer, Tennis, FitKids, Fitclub, Introductory Dance Class and Karate. Details from Sports Development on 0181 457 9909



A wide range of adult's classes at both centres continue throughout the summer on a sessional basis, including Aerobics, Keep-fit, Men's circuit, Personal Training, Legs, Bums and Tums, Ante/Post Natal, Box-a-Cise, Walk Reebok, New Body, Step, Yoga, 50+, Gym sessions. All classes are payable on a sessional basis, and a free swim is included subject to pool availability.



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It was all eyes forward when young people from six secondary schools in the borough took part in the RAC Pre-Driver Trophy Competition at the Metropolitan Police Training School, Hendon. The competition aims to reduce car accidents among young people. Statistics show that whilst the age group 17-25 makes up only ten per cent of all drivers, this age range is involved in 20 per cent of all serious or fatal accidents.

Crackdown on Nuisance

Your council is taking a tough new line on antisocial behaviour including intimidation, graffiti, vandalism, racism and drug dealing to allow everyone in the borough to enjoy the peace and security of their own homes.

Support for all

The council has adopted a package of measures designed to bring relief to families suffering from nuisance and crime.

A new nuisance clause in council tenancy agreements makes tenants responsible for the behaviour of those who live with them, including children, and visitors in and around their homes.

Professional witnesses could be used where there is evidence of serious antisocial behaviour or vandalism where families are afraid to give evidence.

The council will work in partnership with the police, tenants' and residents' associations and other groups to create a safe environment on local housing estates.

The council's Housing Consultation Forum has already supported a tougher line on antisocial behaviour and the strengthening of the tenancy agreement.

Barnet will take legal action against nuisance neighbours, including using injunctions, possession and

eviction proceedings.

The council will take whatever action is necessary to stamp out the type of behaviour that ruins the quality of life of other peaceful and responsible tenants.

Your council is investing in new security measures including providing adequate lighting and fencing, new locks and securing empty properties.

Clauses in tenancy agreements will toughen up the council's position on nuisance, racial harassment, violence against council staff and the use of council homes for business.

Loud music, rubbish dumping, threatening behaviour and damage to property are included in the new anti-nuisance charter.

Racist behaviour and language, threats of or actual violence, damage to property and racist graffiti will all be dealt with firmly.

This initiative follows steps taken in December 1995 by the council to toughen up its stance on domestic violence in tenancy agreements.

DON'T MISS THE VOTE

The General Election is just weeks away - don't miss your vote. Exercise your democratic right and have your say on 1 May.

Anyone who still needs a postal vote for the election should remember the closing date is 16 April at 5pm.

If you need help or advice or have any doubts about your eligibility for a postal vote, telephone 0181-359 2323 today. To help residents, your council is pioneering new style polling cards which will be distributed to you soon. They are double the normal size and printed on yellow card. They will be delivered by the Post Office to every home from Friday, 25 April. Delivery will be completed before the polling day.

Have your say on 1 May - use your vote.

ACTION POINT ON THE ROAD

The drive to open up Barnet services to the whole community continues.

Following the success of Action Point, the first-stop shop for services and information is hitting the borough's roads.

This announcement followed the news that a new Action Point was to be opened at the busy Golders Green Library.

Now a specially-developed vehicle will also take Action Point to the heart of the community.

The first pilot Action Point was launched at Chipping Barnet Library in 1995. Its success has led to the decision to open another Action Point at Golders Green Library serving a large local population and close to major shopping centres.

Action Points and Mobile Action Point are designed to close the gap between the council, its services and the residents who use them.

The council will also find locations for another two Action Points to provide a comprehensive coverage across the borough.

Like all Action Points, the mobile unit will have lap-top computers, mobile telephones, photocopiers and carry a full range of council information guides and leaflets. It will also be linked to the council's Infolink information database.



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LOUD the magazine for youth

Clitterhouse Football Team

The football team is very friendly and welcomes new people. If you want to sign up just come down to Whitefield School astroturf on Wednesdays between 6pm and 8pm and you can train with us but there is no guarantee you will get in the side. Please come along and any age is welcome.

In our first season (96-97) we were sponsored by Brent Cross Shopping Centre and did not do too badly. Unfortunately this year we began managerless. Our youth worker, Deirdre O'Neill, helped out in a double management position with Nebi Buwa. We now have a new manager, John Donaldson, who has brought success to the club with the help of Nebi who although only 20 has a good eye for spotting talent and organising the team.

by Danny Denton

SPORT PROFILE

Finchley Boxers

Finchley ABC (Amateur Boxing Club) is in desperate need of some money. The club has been around for some time but if they don't get some injection of money soon then they may have to close down. The last tournament cost £1,500 to stage, but it wasn't such a big success, as they only got £780 from the customers. The final tournament of the season will be on May 3 at Woodhouse College. Please try and support them.

Joy O'uché.

The **LOUD** editorial team are: Sabrina Fitzgerald, Vivienne McEvoy, Dean Fathers, Nicola Wilcox, Penny Crocker, Kelly McCarthy, Omar Noor, Ahmed Abdillahi, Sameer Jamdar, Mubarak Burle, Alex Thom, Joy O'uché, Ian Evans, Michelle Menashy, Suzanne Morris, Christine Down, Sarah Strzelecki, John McEvoy, Elaine Coyle, Rasica Annorathasingthe, Maria Fenner

Let us know your views or ideas for articles in the next issue of **LOUD**. The editorial panel is based at –
61-63 Watford Way,
Hendon NW4 3AX.
Phone: 0181-202 5533



A new hall at Hendon Youth Sports Centre was opened on Sunday 9 March. The Apthorp Hall, which is the centre's specialist gym, has been funded with a £500,000 grant from the Milly Apthorp Trust. The hall was officially opened by the Mayor, Councillor Pam Coleman and John Apthorp, trustee of the Milly Apthorp Charitable Trust. The hall will be used for the centre's gymnastics development programme.

Our picture shows one of the many gymnasts at the opening.



Meet the team... some members of the hardworking editorial panel who have put together **LOUD**, the new youth newspaper, in this edition of the Community News.



Cricklewood Motorcross Project has been running for three years. It is organised by a group of young people from the Cricklewood area and is affiliated to the Barnet Motor Project.

We have 12 week courses in motorbike maintenance which are open to other groups. Anyone attending the course attends the Thursday club and pays subs, this then goes towards the group's funds.

After the course ends we go scrambling at Reading trials park.

We have two very nice bikes which we work on bought with money donated by the Milly Apthorp Charitable Trust and the Princes Trust.

The group has its own committee who make all the decisions such as fundraising, who attends the Monday course nights, bike

SCRAMBLING AT READING

meets and scrambling programmes.

We are hoping to do some endurance tests in the summer.

The committee members are Daniel Hayes (Fundraiser), Gary Stout (Treasurer), David Leaver (Riding Team Manager), Raff Contato (Chair), George Haynes (Secretary), Shaun Ryan (Vice-chair) and Dale Jones (Assistant Riding Team Manager).

by Shaun Ryan

Childs Hill Youth Action Panel

In Childs Hill we have started a Youth Action Panel and a steering committee to look after the pavilion in our park - Childs Hill. Our youth committee is made up of young people and residents. We all meet every two weeks on a Tuesday night. At the moment we are working together to paint the pavilion inside and out. We are also trying to find some furniture to use when we meet. If anyone has any furniture they want to donate they can call our detached youth team on 0181-202 5533 and leave a message for Michael Melville.

Graffiti legal or not probe



Youth Magazine



Pictured: above and below left, Legal "Graff Park" at Tuffnell Park. Below illegal graffiti

TOBAL NO I

This game is one of the best games out on the Playstation at the moment. It is packed with action and adventure based around the common platform style of game. It is 3-d so the characters are amazing.



SHOUT LOUD

Loud is the first ever newspaper in Barnet for young people written by young people.

The idea of a youth newspaper was first brought up at the Barnet 2000 conference last July. Barnet 2000 gave young people a chance to put their ideas forward to influential members of the council.

One of the issues raised was to have a newspaper for young people which was written and produced by young people. Now it is your chance to read the first-ever issue of LOUD.

This newspaper gives you, the young people of Barnet, a chance to have your views heard and have a newspaper with what you want in it.

The editorial panel consists of a group of young people of various ages who have worked together to produce the kind of newspaper they want.

In order for this newspaper to represent all young people in Barnet, we are looking for ideas and articles on what you feel is important to you as a young person in the borough.

As the panel are all young people we feel we have represented the topics which affect the everyday lives of the youth in Barnet but we still want your views.

A lot of people see graffiti as just a lot of unwanted scribbles on walls, but more and more people are starting to see it as a form of expression.

Although it is not recognised, a lot of graffiti artists are very talented.

Graffiti is criminal damage and therefore illegal. There are legalised "graff parks" such as the one at Tuffnell Park but there is a growing need for more.

These sites are usually areas of disused land or parks, this means only the people who want to see it have to.

Graffiti is now a growing problem in this country and it has been heavily influenced by the subways in areas such as New York.

Since the beginning of the 90s the problem of graffiti has risen. Not only the amount of graffiti seen has risen but also the level of other crimes which are sometimes linked to it such as theft of spray cans, pens etc.

As well as being illegal it can be dangerous doing graffiti such as writing on or near train tracks.

Members of the editorial team at LOUD visited the legal graffiti site at Tuffnell Park. We also visited other areas and took pictures of illegal graffiti.

The language of graffiti

Graffiti is often done by a crew - a gang of people. Many of them have names like TBF (the Bear Freaks). A toy is someone who writes but is not very good at it or who does not have a genuine interest in graffiti. A burner is used to describe a good piece of writing on a train, now it means any good piece of graffiti art. The work and colours express real emotion and 'vibes'.

Graffiti is seen by many young people as a way of expressing themselves through art.

What we think

We feel that young people want to express their feelings through the art of graffiti. To stop them doing it in places that are not appropriate then they should have somewhere to go where they can write what they want in safety and legally.

A wall, like the one at Tuffnell Park in Barnet, could potentially stop much of the illegal graffiti and would be a lot safer.

CALLING ALL GRAFFITI ARTISTS AND WRITERS

Writers and artists are being given the opportunity to show their work to the public as part of the Barnet Borough Arts Festival in June. All work should be on wood which will then be hung on railings around the sites of the outdoor festivals. To hang them they will need two holes drilled into the wood. If you cannot manage this the council's youth service can do it for you.

Take your work along to Educational Services, Friern Barnet Lane, London, N11 or give them to your local borough youth worker by 30 May. Further information from Sharon Cohen on 0181-359 3134.

What do you think about graffiti? Should there be legal areas for graffiti?

Ian Evans and Dean Fathers



Banging the drum loud

What is racism

Racism is about stereotyping and discrimination. It usually starts with grown ups who teach children racist words. People are afraid of difference and afraid of the colour of people's skin. This leads to racist attitudes, hatred, violence and in some cases the loss of people's lives. People want to blame other people for problems or mistakes and look for scapegoats. In many cases they will use racism to make other people take the blame. We all need to stop racism and we all need to work at it. Here are some things you can do:

1. Don't say racist words and stop your friends telling racist jokes or using racist names.
2. Make sure you don't influence your children to think in the way you do, you may just be wrong.
3. Education is the key to stop racism.

People are all the same, we are all human beings.

4. Don't stereotype people, because you make judgements about people which are wrong. There are myths all around us and we must challenge them.

We must fight racism and stamp it out. Many varied and fascinating cultures live in Britain. Don't spoil this wonderful opportunity to learn about different parts of the world and different cultures. Don't spoil life, don't think about yourself, think about how other people feel too.

I am a young Asian male from Hendon and I have experienced what racism feels like. I have some friends who are racist to me and so are their parents and this is how I found out where racism comes from. When I come out of my house people, even some I know, call me 'paki'. I try to fight back, tell them to stop, not to call me

racist names, because it really hurts when they call me that, but they carry on because they think I am a softy, but they don't really know me. I keep telling them to stop but it gets worse and worse. If this happens to you don't take it, fight against it. Don't let your friends or anyone else speak in a racist way towards you, tell them how you feel and why it is hurting you. Everyone is the same we are all human beings, our colour should not matter.

Omar Noor & Ahmed Abdillahi

1997 European year



against racism



The European Year Against Racism was launched in Barnet on Monday 27 January. Our picture shows a steel band from Woodcroft School, Burnt Oak.



Pot Black at Old Tower

A new youth centre opened in Barnet in December - The Tower at Church Farm Youth Centre, East Barnet. The youth centre was so popular it was decided to convert the old water tower for activities such as snooker and table tennis. The new building has a specialist arts and crafts area, a lounge and coffee bar, snooker tables and a fitness centre, leaving room in the old youth centre for the popular computer centre and kitchens.



June is Community Arts Festival Month throughout the borough

As part of the month long celebrations, at the Barnet Youth Arts Festival there will be the opportunity for young people to perform drama, music, rap, poetry, dance or whatever they fancy on Sunday 29 June between 7.30pm and 10.30pm at Canada Villa Youth Club.

The cabaret evening is aimed at anyone between the ages of nine and 25 and your act can be up to five minutes long. The theme of the evening is anti-racism. If you want to take part contact Sharon Cohen on 0181-359 3134.

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LOUD the magazine for youth

Where it's at...

Although there isn't an overwhelming probability that you'll bump into Jarvis Cocker waiting for the 102 and it would be quite ill-advised to bet your last pound on the possibility of seeing Mel C at Sainsbury's this weekend, Barnet, although probably not best described as the magnet of the stars, performs surprisingly well at disguising its vibrant music scene behind a calm exterior.

The latest music related thing is not only an excellent way to spend an evening when you want to stay local and haven't more than a copper farthing to your name, but quite possibly the route to the get rich quick scheme you've been dreaming of, paving a path of fame and fortune to becoming a music sensation.

Despite its rather odd name, the 'Rithmik' project is quite possibly the best idea anyone has ever had to get us young 'uns flocking to youth clubs. Run by a top bloke called Anthony Castle, young people in want of a laugh vaguely

connected with music can go down to Claremont Youth Club where you'll have access to some of the most sophisticated equipment in the bizz. All you have to do is find your way there and as well as being able to amuse yourself for hours staring at the alternating flashing lights on the mixing desk, you'll have a wealth of knowledge bestowed upon you, including absolutely everything you will ever need to know about creating music on MIDI tech. Among other gadgets to play with is the computer, keyboard and the sampler (along with numerous other bits which are simply far too technical for the scope of this article). Once you can work all the super whamo hi tech widgets, you can have a go at actually creating your own track. You could simply sit on the keyboard, knock the sampler with your elbows and get a mate to tickle a guinea pig in the background to produce a sure-fire number one Eurotrash stylee dance hit, or if your talent spreads beyond the tip of

your little finger, you could invent your own swing, tri-hop or rap ditty. And once you've actually produced your own track it doesn't stop there. At the mo, Anthony and the group have been putting together a soundtrack for a video about graffiti and if you're more the 'let's just get a tent and pitch in the limelight cos that's where I want to be forever' type of person, then you can have a go at performing your own creation to an audience, who will no doubt hail you the next big thing. Before you know it, you'll be signing autographs for your next door neighbour and selling mugs with your picture on them to your Uncle Dave.

So if you think you've got what it takes to be the next Liam/Spice girl/Alanis/LL Cool J/Prodigy/incredibly rich person with fast car, don your oldest, vilest garments, which you, now being a pop star can pass off as 'trendy', start practising "I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for my fans" in ultra hip tones and get thee to a phone and ring 0181-458 5900 making sure to put on a Mancunian accent while asking for Anthony Castle. Good luck.

Michelle Menashy.



My Youth Climbing Club

The Youth Sports Centre Climbing club in action last year at the Barnet 2000 Conference and Festival. The club abseiled down the side of the Middlesex University building.

Now get out of that...

Now get out of that is a series of team events that take place every year. If you enjoy working with other people on overcoming obstacles, both physical and mental, and you don't mind getting a bit dirty and wet, then this could be for you. The obstacles include the aerial runway, the high ropes course, the mud swing and much, much more. Get a group together and have a go at beating the challenges on offer. For more details contact 0181-359 3218

by Alex Thorn

I started climbing about three months ago. My interest in the sport started when I came to the Youth Climbing Club at Hendon Youth Sports Centre with my school. I found myself really enjoying the sport and decided to come and have a go and joined the club at the Centre. I enjoyed this session and for the first time I saw someone climb over the overhang. From this point on I set myself the goal of climbing it on my next visit. Three months later I got over it for the first time. The feeling was intense, I'd been trying for months to climb it and now I had finally done it. For a sport, climbing is good exercise and lots of fun. The atmosphere is particularly great at Hendon, there's no pressure and you climb at your own pace. Ian Scott, or "Scotty" as we know him, supervises the club sessions, being helpful and very useful as I'm sure you'll find out if you're climbing and get stuck up the wall. Overall it's great fun and Scotty's a nice bloke, so I recommend it to anyone just interested in having a good time. Matthew Gretton.

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Film Review of Jerry Maguire by Joy Ouche

Jerry Mag fantastic

This is a film which has received some rave reviews since its arrival in Britain, and Tom Cruise has already won a golden globe for best actor. I went along to see if the film was as fantastic as I had been told.

Jerry Maguire is a smooth-talking, fast-dealing sports agent, who can convince his clients to sign multi-million dollar contracts while making a nice handsome profit for himself. Maguire works at Sports Management International, where he is the leader of the pack and moving even further ahead. Then one day, after being overwhelmed by his conscience, he decides that there must be a better way for him to live.

Maguire believes that the best way to run the company is to have less clients, make less money and to take care of the actual clients themselves. This suggestion earns Jerry the sack. Now the once mighty Maguire is reduced to just a single client, an American football player, Rod Tidwell (Cuba Gooding Jr) who has something of a problem, and an

employee from Sports International who really likes Maguire, and not just for his honesty. Jerry is now in a personal crisis and the rest of his life to explore.

Jerry Maguire is not about sport, but about the people behind the scenes who make the big offers and the record breaking deals, oh, and of course Jerry Maguire, the man himself.

If you're not a die hard Cruise fan, then this film may not seem like such an attractive option, but there is no denying that the man can act, and once again he puts forward an impeccable performance. The sheer talent of the rest of the cast, and the comical wit of the film will leave you in no doubt that you got your money's worth, although the film is slightly long at two hours and 15 minutes, the writer and director Cameron Crowe doesn't let it drag on.

In my opinion, Jerry Maguire was a really well written film with superb acting. It was as fantastic as I had been told.

MAKING EVERY POUND COUNT

EDUCATION

£126m for Schools Investment in all Our Futures

Barnet will spend nearly £126m on education this year — over half the council's total budget — continuing the investment in our schools and the young people of the borough.

New economy and efficiency measures and the modernisation and improvement of the special educational needs service have resulted in across the board savings which have protected education services from the impact of meeting national spending limits.

Working with schools and the education service, the council has found new and better ways of doing things including the way help for children with special educational needs is given. Schools are being given a bigger say in how this and other priority services are provided.

A three-year £400,000-plus programme of new investments includes two more nursery classes a year, extending homework clubs, expanding breakfast clubs, a major boost for language services, new curriculum initiatives, launching a youth newspaper (pages 9, 10, 11, 12 of this issue), an environmental challenge for schools and providing joint funding with Camden Council for a youth club in the Westcroft area of Childs Hill.

Other new initiatives this year include extending work on literacy and numeracy projects in the borough's schools, a second celebration of school achievement, a borough-wide vocational scheme for fourteen-plus young people and a

Two New Nursery Schools Every Year

European work experience exchange scheme for 16 year olds.

Work will also begin on creating schemes to introduce young people to the world of work, forging links between formal education and training and local employment opportunities.

Schools and the education service will continue to play a major role in the council's anti-poverty drive.

By focusing on and improving skills training, with the active and enthusiastic support of our schools community and working in partnership with the voluntary sector, the council will develop still further school industry links to prepare young people for the world of work.

VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY

BOOST FOR OUR LOCAL ECONOMY

The council is mobilising the whole community in its drive to rid the borough of deprivation and pockets of poverty and breathe new life and prosperity into Barnet.

Nearly £370,000 will be spent tackling the need for creating a vibrant economy in the borough along with a major drive to create more credit unions and a continuing commitment to revitalising town centres and local shopping centres.

Working with the Town Centre Forums and listening to local residents and businesses the council has already started turning the tide.

Last year, working with staff and unions the council launched the Barnet employees credit union - an organisation which enables those working for the borough to save and borrow money at low-interest rates.

Work has already begun on encouraging and supporting community groups in the borough to form their own credit unions, opening up new economic opportunities to those on low fixed incomes and removing the need for them to do business with loan sharks charging exorbitant and ever-escalating interest rates.

To boost this drive to provide equal opportunities and access to loans to those often rejected by traditional lenders, the council is appointing a specialist economic development officer to help groups create community-based credit unions and other local economic development initiatives.

The council believes every pound we invest now on economic development will continue to bring benefits for us all - but particularly those most in need - combating poverty, supporting businesses and creating jobs and opportunities for decades to come.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Protecting the Vulnerable Top Priority

The council is making the protection of the most vulnerable members of the community its priority for social services in the coming year.

At the same time it is launching imaginative ideas to help local people including new neighbourhood care initiatives, a shopmobility scheme and a welfare benefits take-up campaign.

The council will spend almost £5m more on Social Services than last year to help bridge the gap between rising demands for services and the reducing national resources provided to meet them.

Free home care will be provided to vulnerable people on Income Support, Family Credit and Disability Allowance for the first time.

The new Barnet Care 2000 initiative will create partnerships with the community, voluntary organisations, service users, carers and the health service which will be vital to the effective delivery of services.

One of the new initiatives this year is in Neighbourhood Care, where community care organisers will work in partnership with other organisations including health authorities and develop new services for care.

A shopmobility scheme will also be launched, starting with Brent Cross shopping centre, to give people with disabilities greater access to shops.

The council's new Learning Disabilities Strategy and the Mental Health Strategy will enable more Barnet people to lead ordinary lives.

Barnet will also expand its Family Placement Team to recruit and train more foster carers locally.

There will be a Community Care Fair, to provide greater information, help voluntary groups recruit volunteers and promote the multi-cultural needs of all sections of the community.

Following the launch of the Community Care Charter, more Quality Service Guarantees will be introduced. Residents will be helped to claim all the benefits they are entitled to from the Government as the council extends its welfare benefits take-up campaign.

GRANTS

£3.6m backs local volunteers

The council will invest over £3.6m this year supporting local organisations doing vital work with the community.

In addition to supporting traditional, established voluntary groups, the council is placing even greater emphasis on grant-funding those organisations actively involved in the borough's anti-

poverty and economic regeneration drive.

Large, well-established voluntary organisations continue to play a vital role in the community but the council is doing all it can to support small community groups which can respond quickly and effectively to local needs.

To provide the support these

small, embryonic groups need and deserve, part of the overall grants budget is being used for one-off, start-up funding.

In future, any new grants of more than £2,000 are likely to be given as fixed-term project funds to enable projects to start.

This will eventually mean the council can support a wider-range

of deserving organisations making a contribution to the well-being of their community. It is hoped this pump-priming, start-up funding will result in many good local ideas being turned into a reality.

Top priority will be given to supporting worthwhile projects which could not go ahead without council support.

MAKING EVERY POUND COUNT

ARTS & LEISURE

£12.5m Boost for Libraries and Recreation

A £12.5m investment – over £3/4m more than in 1996 – in Barnet's award-winning libraries, recreation and sports facilities and support for the arts, has enabled the council to unveil new services to meet the changing needs of the community.

Continuing economy and efficiency measures have enabled the council to invest more where it counts - in front line services needed and used by all sectors of the community.

The council has already responded to the demands of the community to turn the dream of a major new arts centre in North Finchley into a reality and is working on a public-private partnership at the Gaumont site in North Finchley.

The council is also providing £35,000 to support community festivals and the bi-annual month-long community arts festival announced at Barnet 2000 and planned for June this year.

The arts and cultural festival, including indoor and outdoor events and a literature festival, will involve the whole community and play a major part in the borough's contribution to the European Year of Anti-Racism.

Recreation and leisure continues as a major priority for the council with the announcement of plans to create a discount card for private and public facilities throughout the borough.

The council's investment in the greening of the borough and protecting and enhancing parks and open spaces continues. The council will plant a million daffodil and narcissus bulbs before the year 2000 and 2000

Services Meet New Needs

trees, until the year 2000.

A new park is being created in the Clitterhouse area, landscape improvements are being introduced in Burnt Oak, and the new Barfield Avenue nature reserve will be opened to residents during the year.

There will be further imaginative development of libraries as multi-media centres by up-grading computer systems, expanding the collection of CD ROMs for loan at Hendon and Chipping Barnet libraries and introducing the service to Edgware and North Finchley libraries.

The council launched the first homework club at East Finchley library last year and now three new clubs are being opened at Grahame Park, Burnt Oak and Hendon libraries.

Following the pilot scheme of Sunday opening at Golders Green library, the opening hours of all libraries, their layout and content will be reviewed to ensure they are meeting the changing needs of users.

VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY

HI-TECH MONEY SAVERS

Efficient and innovative Barnet Council will provide new services and quality combined with value for money for local families in the coming year.

New hi-tech measures will boost services while saving the Council Tax-payer money.

Efficiency savings will be achieved through using improved computer systems making it quicker and easier to update records while giving better access to them.

One example is the faster and more efficient service provided by the introduction of a new computer system to deal with student grants. It will replace the old manual system which was slower and cost more.

Further efficiency savings will be made by cutting telephone costs.

CLEAN GREEN SAFE

£18m Investment in Borough's Environment

The council is boosting investment on roads and the environment by over £1.5m this year to £18m.

Stepping up the clean, green and safe drive across Barnet, the council is increasing investment in recycling, street cleaning, creating safe cycle routes, improving street lighting, working on improved cross-borough bus links and encouraging residents to take part in an environmentally-friendly home composting scheme.

There will be a £50,000 investment in creating safe cycle routes to three schools a year and this on-going project is in addition to the £70,000 allocated to support the London Cycle Network in the borough.

During its first year, the safe cycle route to schools will cover three of the borough's secondary schools - Ravenscroft, Compton and Copthall.

The council's three-year £130,000 project to improve cross-borough bus links will provide pump-priming funding support for new service experiments with London Transport.

Over the next three years, the council is subsidising the cost of home-composting units for residents to the tune of £150,000 to encourage recycling.

The council is extending the door to door collection of paper borough-wide this month.

Refuse collection will cost Barnet over £2m this year with the council facing charges of

Protecting All Our Futures

over £4.5m to dispose of local waste. This year the council faced an increase in charges from the North London Waste Authority to nearly £1.5m.

The council is spending over £550,000 on local safety schemes and £350,000 on traffic and environmental plans for the Friary Park Zone with another £350,000 earmarked for the Victoria Park Zone as part of the Agenda 21 initiative which calls for councils and the community to work together to safeguard and green their local areas.

Borough-wide action has included a new tree warden scheme which is cutting down on damage to street trees and the introduction of Parks Patrol Officers to protect local open spaces and make them safer for the whole community.

Up-grading of street lighting across the borough continues with an £142,000 investment in this work during the coming year. Maintaining public lighting across the borough will cost the council over £1.1m this year and nearly £8.5m will be invested in the borough's roads.

HOUSING SERVICES RISE TO CHALLENGE

The council has held down rent rises for local families to the lowest level ever, following continuing economy and efficiency.

Rents will rise by just 0.9 per cent this year, an average of just 48p a week.

This is only a third of the rate of inflation and even lower than last year's rent rise of 1.3 per cent.

The rent rise in 1995 was 2.7 per cent, the lowest increase in the history of the borough up to that year.

Improved security, an enhanced repair service, a new gardening service for older and disabled tenants and fresh initiatives to increase the involvement of local families spearhead Barnet

Council's exciting plans for housing services in the coming year.

In the face of growing demand for housing and despite a reduction in the level of national resources, the council has still been able to boost services with new developments benefiting all sections of the community.

Tenants who asked through the Housing Forum and their Residents Association for an enhanced repair service will get their wish.

An indoor carpentry repair and fence renewal initiative will help ensure council tenants in Barnet who take pride in where they live can enjoy the benefits of attractive

homes which are in good repair inside and outside.

Older tenants and those with disabilities unable to look after their gardens will have them kept clear and tidy by the council, benefiting the whole community by helping improve the appearance of roads and homes in the borough.

COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES

Telephone Numbers: all codes are 0181- unless otherwise indicated. No appointments are needed for those councillors holding regular surgeries. At Bank Holidays, surgery times may change. Please ring beforehand to check.

Political groups are indicated in an abbreviated form (Lab) = Labour (Con) = Conservative (LD) = Liberal Democrat

ARKLEY WARD

Anita Campbell (Lab) 440 2703
Pam Coleman (Lab) 449 6254
Linda McFadyen (Lab) 440 6254

1st and 3rd Monday every month 8-9pm
St Stephen's Church Hall, Bells Hill, Barnet
Every Saturday 10am-12noon
104 East Barnet Road, East Barnet

BRUNSWICK PARK WARD

Don Goodman (Con) 368 0383
Rene Palmer (Con) 368 7800
John Rawles (Con) 368 3522

2nd Saturday every month 10.30am-12noon
Monkfrith Boys' Club, Osidge Lane, N14
(Tel. 449 7345 - Chipping Barnet
Conservative Association)

BURNT OAK WARD

Rosemary Carney (Lab) 959 6757
Allan Turner (Lab) 952 2106
Alan Williams (Lab) 906 0576

Every Saturday 10.30am-12noon
Burnt Oak Library, Watling Avenue, Edgware

CHILDS HILL WARD

Jack Cohen (LD) 445 3981
Jonathan Davies (LD) 203 6690
Susette Palmer (LD) 455 5140

1st Thursday every month 7-8pm
Childs Hill Library, 320 Cricklewood Lane, NW2
2nd Tuesday every month 4-5pm
Kent Hall, Westcroft Estate, NW2

COLINDALE WARD

Danish Chopra (Lab) 449 3231
Gill Sargeant (Lab) 455 1070
David Williams (Lab) 343 1082

1st Saturday every month 10-11am
Grahame Park Library,
The Concourse,
Colindale

EAST BARNET WARD

Usha Chopra (Lab) 449 3231

Anne Jarvis (Lab) 449 9001
Richard Soer (Lab) 441 0170

1st Monday every month 7-8pm
New Barnet Residents' Association
48-50 Victoria Road, New Barnet
Every Saturday 10am-12noon
104 East Barnet Road, East Barnet

EAST FINCHLEY WARD

Helen Gordon (Lab) 444 2761
Joan Ryan (Lab) 444 6400
Rudolf Vis (Lab) 444 4051

Every Saturday 10-11.30am
Neighbourhood Centre, Church Lane, N2

EDGWARE WARD

Malcolm Lester (Con) 349 2595
Joan Scannell (Con) 959 5921
Anthony Spencer (Con) 958 4867

Contact councillors direct or Hendon
Conservative Association
Tel. 959 1446

FINCHLEY WARD

Eva Greenspan (Con) 203 1598
Barbara Langstone (Con) 445 5443
Leslie Sussman (Con) 346 6775

Contact councillors direct or Finchley and
Golders Green Conservative Association
Tel. 445 4292

FRIERN BARNET WARD

John Carter (Con) 343 4005
Brian Salinger (Con) 368 1329
John Tiplady (Con) 445 5734

Contact councillors direct by telephone 7 days
a week or through the Chipping Barnet
Conservative Association Tel. 449 7345

GARDEN SUBURB WARD

Frank Davis (Con)

c/o Finchley & Golders Green Conservative
Association or write to 20 Connaught Drive,
London NW11 6BJ

Mohammed Khamisa (Con) 458 1996
Roy Shutz (Con) 883 1205

Contact councillors direct or Finchley & Golders
Green Conservative Association Tel. 445 4292

GOLDERS GREEN WARD

Melvin Cohen (Con) 346 2550
John Hedge (Con) 203 0137
Michele Moulin (Con) 203 2895

Contact councillors direct or Finchley &
Golders Green Conservative Association
Tel. 445 4292

HADLEY WARD

Mark Hayball (Con) 0956 343070
Liz Mammatt (Con) 361 9720
Kanti Patel (Con) 446 6639

3rd Saturday every month 10.30am-12noon
Chipping Barnet Conservative Association,
163 High Street, Barnet Tel. 449 7345

Liz Mammatt 1st Saturday every month 10.30am-12noon
New Barnet Residents' Association, 48-50 Victoria Road, New Barnet
Tel. 441 7044

HALE WARD

Andrew Dickie (Lab) 906 2807

Every Saturday 10am-12noon
Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue

Leslie Pym (Con) 959 5484
Sheila Scott (Con) 906 0825

Contact councillors direct or
Tel. 959 1446
Fortnightly on Mondays 6.30pm
Hendon Conservative Association,
2 Apex Parade, Selvage Lane NW7 3JT

HENDON WARD

Anthony Finn (Con) 202 9689
Fred Poole (Con) 203 0813
Andrew Sherling (Con) 202 8630

Contact councillors direct or Hendon
Conservative Association
Tel. 959 1446

MILL HILL WARD

Wayne Casey (LD) 203 8189
Jeremy Davies (LD) 202 6105
Sheila Gottsche (LD) 959 3990

Every Saturday 1-2.30pm
Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue
Last Saturday every month 12noon-1pm
Canada Villa, Pursley Road, Mill Hill

ST. PAUL'S WARD

Kitty Lyons (Lab) 346 6843
Katherine McGuirk (Lab) 346 8255
Jim Tierney (Lab) 346 3359

Every Saturday 11am-12.30pm
331 Ballards Lane, Finchley

TOTTERIDGE WARD

Kevin Edson (Con) 446 8343
Victor Lyon (Con) 446 4423
Victor Usher (Con) 445 4248

Contact councillors direct or Chipping Barnet
Conservative Association
Tel. 449 7345

WEST HENDON WARD

Nicholas Kissen (Lab) 200 9861
Gina Marks (Lab) 959 0525
Agnes Slocombe (Lab) 202 4074

1st and 3rd Saturday every month
10.30am-12noon
West Hendon Clinic, West Hendon Broadway
(entrance in Perryfield Way)

WOODHOUSE WARD

Stan Cross (Lab) 444 9178
Mel Packer (Lab) 361 4540
Jo Salisbury (Lab) 444 4482

Every Saturday 11am-12.30pm
331 Ballards Lane, Finchley

COMMUNITY NEWS Barnet Council, The Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon NW4 4BG
Editorial, design & production Barnet Council, Press & Public Relations Unit
Advertising sales Doble, Monk Butler 01843 834919

Please telephone the 24-hour hotline number 0181-359 2325 with any comments or
suggestions you have about Community News or if you have a problem with its delivery.
Please leave your name and a contact number with your message.

WHAT'S ON

We welcome contributions to the What's On column.

Write to:
The Editor,
Community News,
Barnet Council,
The Town Hall,
The Burroughs, London
NW4 4BG.

We reserve the right to shorten entries and no responsibility can be accepted for the accuracy of information supplied for the column.

infoLINK
These events and late announcements of events or alterations to committee dates are available for viewing on the Libraries' infoLINK local information system. This is available through computer terminals in all Barnet libraries, Action Point, the information centre, the council offices at Barnet House, Whetstone and at Educational Services, Friern Barnet. For more details on this service, please contact Ciara Shimidzu: 0181-359 2075

'Making Ladoos'. Festival of Asian Arts and Culture continues in April. Marks 50th anniversary of Indian Independence - includes mix of traditional and contemporary art forms spanning theatre, dance, comedy, visual arts, music, and workshops. The Bull, 68 High Street, Barnet. For information/free festival guide phone the Box Office on 0181-449 0048. The Bull has regular performances in The Theatre and Studio, with special events on Sunday afternoons for children and also runs practical classes and an educational programme.

18 April, 1-7pm

African and Descendants Counselling Services presents Transcultural and Intercultural Counselling Listening to and Understanding the Client Part II, a training day with workshops. Professional Development Centre, 451 High Road, Finchley, N12.

Entry fee £5, concessions may be arranged. Details, Co-ordinator 0181-883 2691
19 April, 7.30pm

Ferencz Diczku conducts Kaleidoscope Wind with Shelley Alexander (contralto) in **Dammerklarheit by Jan Klusak**. Christ Church North Finchley, 620 High Road, N12. £5 (concessions £3), in aid of 'Development 2000'. For details of full programme 0181-445 0578

20 April, 10am - all day

Stile construction between Burton Hole Lane and Lullington Garth, N12. Also 11 May, path clearance at Scratchwood, Barnet Way. Also 22 May, footpath work. Details, Countryside Management Service 01707 650041

27 April, 10am

Rambles for over 40s. Barnet Copthall Sports Centre, Great North Way, Hendon. £1.50. Details 0181-457 9900

3 May - 29 June

Exhibition **The Splendour of Heraldry** by Middlesex East Heraldry Group to celebrate 50 years of The Heraldry Society. Features local coats of arms, banners and shields, incl. replicas of those used at the Battle of Barnet. Also Museums Week 17-25 May, a display of **the life of Mark Lemon** (1809-1870) novelist, playwright, opera librettist, a founder and editor of Punch magazine who spent his boyhood at Church Farm, Church Farmhouse Museum, Greyhound Hill, Hendon, NW4. Tel. 0181-203 0130

4 May, 10am-4pm

Nature trail and access work, also 16 May 5 May, nature trail creation, also 6 May.

8 May, access improvement at Welsh Harp, Cool Oak Lane, West Hendon, NW9. Details, British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, 0171-278 4294

8 May

Royal Air Force Museum, Grahame Park Way, London NW9 - VE Veterans Day, the museum will offer free entry to veterans of all three services and one guest if pre-register. Phone 0181-200 1763 to reserve your visit. Also 25 & 26 May, Emergency Services Weekend 1997, a programme of live demonstrations and displays from the Emergency Services. Also 24 May-1 June, half term workshops for children and young people. Details, 0181-205 2266. 24 hour tel. 0181-205 9191 for information on other special events.

8 May, 10am

Barnet Conservation Volunteers at Mill Hill Railway Line Nature Reserve, Deans Lane, Mill Hill, NW7. Details 0181-444 1404

10 May, 1.30-5pm

Family Holiday Association Fete, Central Square, Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11. Details, 0181-349 4044/359 3036

13 May, 8.30pm

Hendon and District Archaeological Society, AGM Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, N3. Details, Roy Walker 0181-361 1350

14 May, 7.45pm

Barnet and District Local History Society lecture 'The Victorian Way of Death' with Tom Doig. Wyburn Room, Wesley Hall, Stapyton Road, Barnet. Details 0181-440 8066

13 - 17 May

Manor House Hospital Operatic Society, **Gilbert & Sullivan's 'Princess Ida'** at Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute, Central Square, NW11. Box Office, 0181-346 3244

14 May, 7.30pm

Finchley Art Society - **'Seascape in Watercolours', a demonstration by Charles Patrickson** Carey Room, Trinity Church Centre, 15 Nether Street, Finchley N12. Details 0181-959 6530

18 May

British Epilepsy Assn. sponsored walk. 0181-445 8724/444 4453

20 - 26 May

Moscow State Circus in Victoria Park, Ballards Lane, Finchley, N3. Details 01932 830000

26 May, 12noon-5pm

Barnet Carnival. Byng Road, Barnet. Details 0181-449 4774

Throughout June

Barnet Arts Festival launched on 1 June at Hendon Football Club and Clitterhouse Playing Fields to incl. three community festivals, Watling 7 & 8 June, East Finchley 21 June and East Barnet 29 June. Also **Welsh Harp Water Festival** 15 June. Approx. 200 events and exhibitions incl. Mill Hill Music Festival, St. Jude's Proms, chamber music concerts, theatre performances, children's entertainment in parks, town centre street entertainment, folk and country dance, exhibitions in libraries, playwriting competitions, cultural events, youth events, projects in schools, youth clubs and community centres. Details Arts Office 0181-359 3152

7 June, 9am-6pm

East Barnet Parochial Council Village Fayre Oak Hill Park, Parkside Gardens, East Barnet. Details, 0181-359 3036
May - August

Entertainment and music in Victoria Park, Ballards Lane, Finchley N3. Details 0181 346 3002 Also May - Sept **entertainment and music in Friary Park** Details 0181-361 7724

9 - 12 July

Pentland Finchley Carnival. Details contact co-ordinator on 01707 662588

Library Recorded Music Societies meet fortnightly (eves)- Hendon Library, The Burroughs, contact 0181-359 2873; East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill Road, contact 0181-361 9518; Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Road, contact 0181-444 7215

Little Monkeys Parent & Baby Group for first time mums and dads with babies aged up to 18 mths. Friendship, tea/coffee and biscuits. Thurs, 10.15am, Scout Hut, Osidge Lane, N14. £1.20 per session.

Finchley Art Society's painting sessions, Mondays 7.30pm, 15 Nether Street, North Finchley & Weds 1pm, St Mary's Church Hall, Hendon Lane, N3.

Edgware Branch Arthritis Care meets first Tues every month, 2pm, at John Keble Church Hall, Deans Lane. Details, 0181-959 5113

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Potters Bar and Barnet Group). For details of events and activities phone Stan Bailey 01707 646073

Totteridge Garden Club meets 2nd Wed of every month (except Dec) at Totteridge Village Hall, 7.45pm. Lectures, competitions, plant stall outings, etc. Details, Secretary 0181-445 3922

Walks/Activities with Barnet Leisure Services or London Wildlife Trust. For more information and meeting points phone 0181-359 3052

27 April, 2pm

3km guided walk in Barnet Gate Woodland. See work underway to restore the ancient woodland to prime condition.

27 April, 2.30pm

Walk in Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve. Identify birds, butterflies, flowers, look for early slow worms. Also 25 May, 2.30pm.

4 May, 2pm

Esso walk in the Woods Day - Scratchwoods. 2km guided walk and scavenger hunt for the whole family.

4 May, 2pm

3km stroll along banks of the Welsh Harp. See migrating wetland birds.

31 May, 2pm

4 km easy walk around Totteridge Fields Nature Reserve.

3 June, 8.45pm

Guided walk through Oak Hill Woods and surrounds to study bats.

8 June, 10am-noon

Walk along banks of the Welsh Harp, see nesting bird fowl

Barnet Chamber of Commerce - Forthcoming Events

For the latest information on events please contact Peter Starling or De Cavanagh on 0181-343 3833

Your council committees at work

List of Committee Meetings at The Town Hall, Hendon for the period 15 April to 19 June 1997

Commencing 7pm unless otherwise stated.



Disabled Access



Loop system

15 April
Council Meeting

16 April
Golders Green & Temple Fortune Town Centre Forum (at Golders Green Library)

17 April
Compulsory Competitive Tendering Executive Committee

17 April
Direct Service Organisations Executive Committee

17 April
Finchley Town Centre Forum (7.15pm at Blue Beetle Hall, Hendon Lane, Finchley, N3)

24 April
Development & Protection Committee

6 May
Council Annual Meeting

13 May
Development & Protection Sub-Committees

19 May
Housing Committee

20 May
Education Committee

22 May
Metropolitan Police & Barnet Community Consultative Group (7.30pm)

28 May
Development & Protection Committee

29 May
Compulsory Competitive Tendering Executive Committee

29 May
Direct Service Organisations Executive Committee

2 June
Recreation, Leisure & Arts Committee

3 June
Social Services Committee

4 June
Grants Committee

5 June
Economic Development & Land Executive Committee

9 June
General Executive Committee

16 June
Development & Protection Sub-Committees

16 June
Barnet Town Centre Forum (venue to be arranged)

17 June
Public Works Committee

18 June
Personnel Executive Committee

19 June
Budget, Financing & Performance Review Executive Committee

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CHANGES AT BARNET AND EDGWARE HOSPITALS

Barnet Hospital

The new £33 million Barnet Hospital opened on 8 March 1997. First in was the maternity department and neonatal intensive care unit which transferred from Edgware Hospital.

Other new facilities at Barnet Hospital include women's and children's inpatient services; one of the largest day surgery units in Europe; a Fracture Clinic; the latest diagnostic imaging and X-ray, and hi-tech operating theatres and intensive care facilities. Advanced medical technology providing high quality services into the 21st Century.

Outpatient and day care services will continue at both Edgware and Barnet Hospitals so you can attend the hospital closest to your home.

The new Accident & Emergency department at Barnet Hospital opened on 1 April 1997. From April, emergencies and patients with serious injuries will go to Accident & Emergency departments at Barnet, the Royal Free and Northwick Park Hospitals. You will be taken to the nearest Accident & Emergency department.

If you need an ambulance for an emergency or serious injury, dial 999. If your child is sick, you should consult your GP or go to the nearest hospital Accident and Emergency department.

Edgware Community Hospital

Edgware Hospital is not closing but changing.

Some services have moved to Barnet, Northwick Park and the Royal Free Hospitals, including inpatient and Accident & Emergency Services. On 1 April, the Accident & Emergency department at Edgware Hospital closed.

Some services are staying as an important part of the new Edgware Community Hospital with

- outpatient clinics
- day case surgery and investigations in the day surgery unit
- diagnostic testing and X-ray
- the breast screening service
- children's outpatient services
- an urgent treatment centre

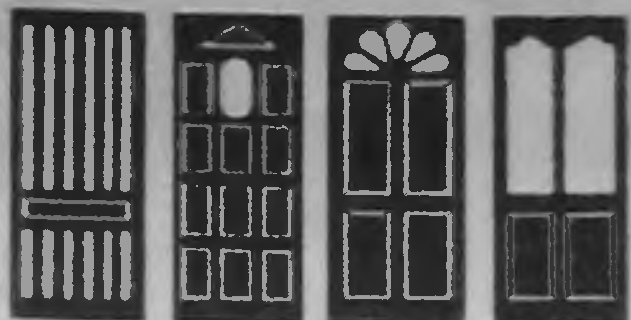
A leaflet on services provided by the Urgent Treatment Centre is available from Edgware Community Hospital, Burnt Oak Broadway, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 0AD. If you are not sure if you need the Centre or an Accident and Emergency Department, please ring 0181 732 6459 at any time, day or night.

New services at Edgware include adult mental health services similar to those already provided at Barnet, Northwick Park and the Royal Free Hospitals; the Northgate Clinic Adolescent Mental Health Service; a Brain Injuries Rehabilitation Unit; and rehabilitation and care for elderly patients.

New, modern buildings will provide a range of quality services to meet local needs. You will be kept in touch as work progresses over the next two or three years. Further information is available from David Law, Project Manager, Edgware Community Hospital, Burnt Oak Broadway, Edgware HA8 0AD.

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The Barfield Group, in conjunction with the local business community are compiling an interactive multi-media CD-Rom. Aimed at small and medium sized companies in the area, the CD will provide vital information on all aspects of starting and running a successful business.

If your company offers such business-to-business services, then a presence on the North London Business CD is a must.

For further
information contact
Jeff King on:

0181 447 1000



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Both Nursing and Residential units are contracted with most local authorities and are able to provide long term, short term as well as respite care.

Should you wish to view the complex or would like to discuss your requirements please contact

Scott Paterson, the Complex Manager on 0181 207 0305
Borehamwood Care Village
Cardinal Avenue, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire WD6 1TB



A MORE CARING CONCERN

FIT FOR THE CHALLENGE

Fitness En-suite at QE Girls

Sean Devine, Barnet Football Club's star striker, took time out from training to help officially open the Queen Elizabeth Centre Fitness Suite at QE Girls School, Barnet.



The fitness suite, which is run by Barnet Council's Youth Service, provides public access to many of the excellent facilities at QE Girls School.

A once under used coffee lounge has been turned into a state-of-the-art exercise area with 12 stations offering the most up-to-date technology, music and a panoramic view of activities in the sports hall through a large gallery window.

For further information contact the centre on 0181-441 2933.

◀ Our picture shows a resident testing out the new apparatus.



Gymnasts on parade

Young people throughout the borough enjoyed an exciting day of events at the Barnet Council Gymnastics Championships at Hendon Youth Sports Centre last month.

Competitors from Barnet schools and the sports centre took part in the day of competitions.

The Mayor opened the Aphthorp Hall, the centre's specialist gym, which was funded by a £500,000 grant from the Milly Aphthorp Charitable Trust and ranks with the best in London.

Hendon Youth Sports Centre opened in May 1995 and provides young people with the chance to increase their confidence and skills through physical activity.

For further information about the wide range of opportunities available at the centre, contact 0181-455 0818.

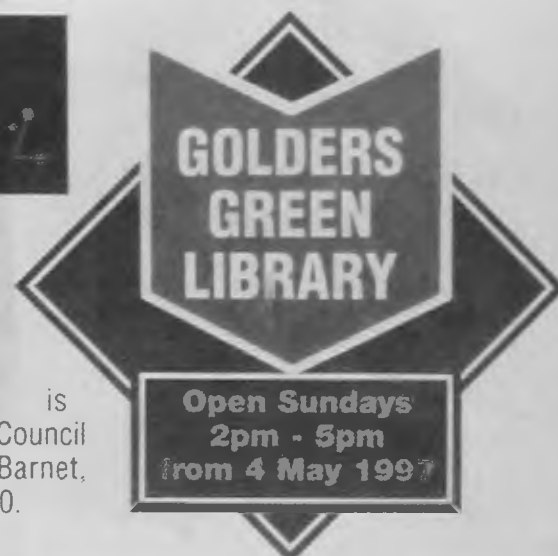


The bi-annual regular month-long community arts festival announced at Barnet 2000 is taking place throughout June.

The council is calling on community groups, festival organisers and arts groups to play an active part or plan their

regular events for June, with over 200 events already organised.

More information is available from Barnet Council Arts Office, Friern Barnet, telephone 0181 359 2000.



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Barnet Council Community News Issue 11 April 1997

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