

## Looking to the Future

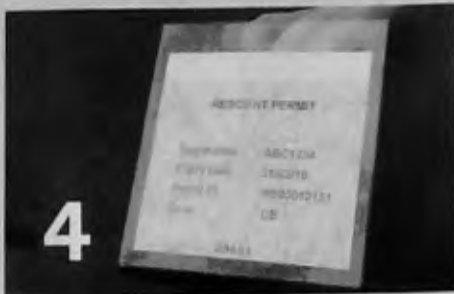
Excited pupils enjoy their brand new building - see page 3



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Made to measure



What's On?



Meet your members

### Production details

Barnet First is your magazine, bringing you news and features about what your council is doing for you. For editorial or advertising queries, or to make comments about the magazine, please contact Jade Asije on 020 8359 7737 or [jade.asije@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:jade.asije@barnet.gov.uk)

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# Message from the Leader

There is no doubt that the credit crunch is biting in Barnet.

Let's be realistic Barnet Council is not going to solve all of the problems that recession has brought the borough. But we are working with our public sector partners to look at what help and support we can give to local residents and businesses.

To support businesses, we have made sure that we are paying local companies as quickly as possible. We now aim to pay our local suppliers within ten days of getting their invoice.

At a recent discussion at the council about the impact of the recession, Barnet College warned us about a likely rise in unemployment amongst young people this month. So we will be introducing 'interns' to the council. Too many young people can get caught in a trap of not being able to get a job because they have never had a job.... Our interns should get real experience of a working environment and an insight into how a complex organisation works.

For the council itself the recession is likely give us some testing years as public spending tightens, underlining the need for our relentless drive to increase levels of efficiency across our services.



# Triple success for Barnet's new school plans

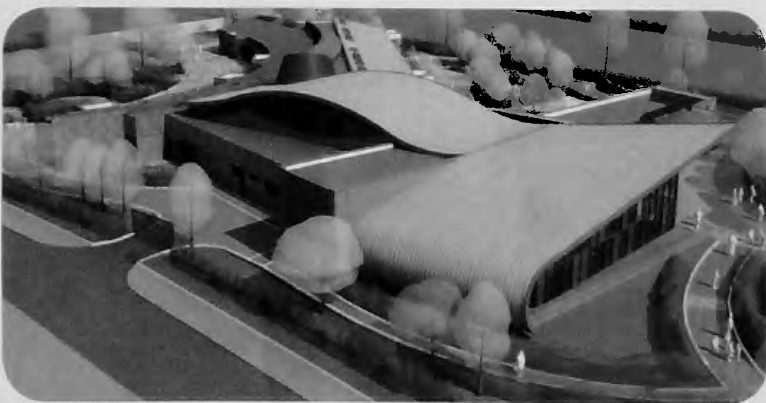
**Three brand new schools are opening their doors at the start of the autumn term as Barnet's First Class Schools building programme gathers pace across the borough.**

The schools at Whitings Hill in Underhill, The Hyde in Colindale, and Parkfield in Hendon, are a key part of the council's innovative scheme to replace buildings which have become obsolete. All of the new schools have been rebuilt on budget and on time.

Whitings Hill includes an eye-catching new swimming pool flanked by large panels of coloured glass, on a prominent corner of this landmark building. Like the other new schools, it is designed to be at the heart of the community, and will offer public access to many of its facilities.

In keeping with the council's commitment to a cleaner, greener and safer borough, all three schools are built to reflect a high degree of sustainability, using renewable energy sources and energy efficient techniques. Whiting Hill schools gathers renewable energy from solar panels on the roof and from a 'ground source heat pump' that harnesses the warmth of the ground beneath the school. In a real change from gloomy school buildings of the past, the building is designed to be flooded by natural light, minimising need for electric light. All three schools are designed with wifi internet access across the school and play ground.

Whitings Hill is the first in a series of new schools to be funded by a scheme which is unique to Barnet. Government capital grants have failed to meet the high cost of replacing inadequate buildings, so



Whitings Hill school has already proved a popular landmark in the area.



The Hyde also opens later this month.

Barnet Council is raising the money from a combination of sources, including selling off surplus school land, adding contributions from grant income, with additional funding from developers. There is also good news for pupils and staff at secondary schools in the borough. Barnet Council has been invited to join the next wave of Building Schools for the Future, the government scheme to replace or refurbish every secondary school in England. Barnet was judged "fully ready to deliver" by government assessors. They were particularly impressed by Barnet's experience and expertise in delivering new schools, and this is being seen as a welcome endorsement and recognition of the council's achievements.

The council is being given about £80m for an initial project which includes six schools: Bishop Douglass School, St Mary's Church of England High School, Copthall School, The Ravenscroft School, Pavilion Study Centre and Oak Lodge School.

Initial proposals are that St Mary's will be rebuilt on its present site, and the Pavilion will be rehoused. The others will receive substantial investment for refurbishment and improvement work. Subject to receiving further funding, Barnet's remaining secondary schools will receive similar investment once the initial project has been completed.

The school building programme is being carried out in support of Barnet Council's pledge to provide a bright future for children and young people.



Pupils at Parkfield prepared for the big move at the end of their summer term.

# Town Hall revamp complete

Loc Group: Borough Councils  
Town Halls

21st century facelift to Hendon Town Hall complete

The £1.5million project, funded by Middlesex University as part of the innovative relationship struck between the university and the council in 2006, sees the 'back office' section of the building handed over for use by the university while the front section and civic areas have been retained by the council and brought up to 21st-century standards



The town hall's council chamber has been restored to its former glory.

Originally built in 1901, the refurbishment is the first time in 40 years that the building has undergone a revamp. The architectural design of the latest refurbishment aimed to return the town hall to its former glory, restoring some of the original aspects of the building while modernising and improving the facilities for day-to-day users.



The modernised building is now an attractive wedding venue.

Restored and refitted are the council chamber, the Mayoral Suite and the three committee rooms, with Committee Room three enlarged to twice the original size in order to provide a meeting room for the larger meetings and events. A new 'heritage room' has been created which will be the venue for weddings, civil partnerships and citizenship ceremonies and will also be used to display civic artefacts.

A new lift and adaptations to the council chamber have made the democratic heart of the borough much more accessible to the disabled, while wi-fi connectivity is available throughout the building.

Putting the Community First

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LONDON BOROUGH

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To renew, or apply for a new permit visit [www.barnet.gov.uk/parking](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/parking)  
Residents without access to the internet should call the automated telephone line on 0845 301 0206

# How you can beat the burglar

Barnet may be a low crime borough, but there are always ways to banish opportunist thefts

**Although Barnet has fewer burglaries than most London boroughs, the summer months saw a slight rise in the crime, due to and doors being left open in the hot weather attracting opportunist burglars.**

Latest figures show that in 27 per cent of burglaries in Barnet, police have identified and arrested a suspect and brought them to justice – better than any other force in the Metropolitan area.

Barnet's force use a dedicated 'burglary car' to patrol hotspot areas and search for suspects, while several targeted operations have taken place stopping and arresting suspects and providing reassurance to members of the public.

Pictures of the borough's 'top ten' most wanted burglars were printed in the local press earlier this year which also helped to identify and remove from the streets a number of wanted criminals.

While the police will continue to work hard to tackle burglaries across Barnet, senior officers have issued six tips on how you can 'beat the burglar' and continue to keep your homes safe from criminals.

## Top tips

1. Close and lock doors and windows when you go out
2. Be mindful of opportunist thieves when deciding which windows and doors to open during the day
3. Don't leave car or house keys in sight or reach of letterboxes as burglars have been known to use devices to 'hook' keys and access homes without having to force entry
4. If you are going away, install timers which switch lights or radios on and off automatically, have a neighbour or friend pop round to clear your letter box or doorstep, and encourage a neighbour to park on your drive
5. If you go out after dark, draw the curtains, leave some lights on and a radio playing
6. If your doors are only secured by 'YALE' type locks your property is vulnerable.

To find out more about how to secure your home against unwanted intruders, visit the Met Police's website at [www.met.police.uk/crimeprevention](http://www.met.police.uk/crimeprevention).

## Introducing Neil Basu



Earlier this year, Chief Superintendent Neil Basu joined Barnet's Police Service, replacing Stephen Kavanagh as the new borough commander. Neil comes to Barnet having worked as a staff officer to the current commissioner for the Metropolitan Police.

Neil aims to build on Barnet's strong reputation and performance and continue to focus on cutting crime and catching the criminals causing most harm to the community.

Speaking shortly after his arrival in the borough, he said: "Police cannot deliver safety and confidence by acting alone, but together, with the public and our partners, we can make Barnet the safest borough in a safer London and make sure that all our communities receive the high quality policing they deserve." He added: "I am very proud to lead Barnet as borough commander and committed to delivering on the Policing Pledge – our promise to all who work in, live in and visit Barnet – that we will help you build a safer, more confident community."

# Don't be scammed!

Barnet residents urged to be vigilant about two new scams operating in the borough

**Trading Standards officers in Barnet are investigating a mail order scam and a fake parcel delivery service which takes people's credit card details and debits money, sometimes up to thousands of pounds, from their accounts.**

The first scam involves adverts placed in local newspapers and magazines under the heading 'Mail Order Specialists' offering a range of electrical items often at discounted prices.

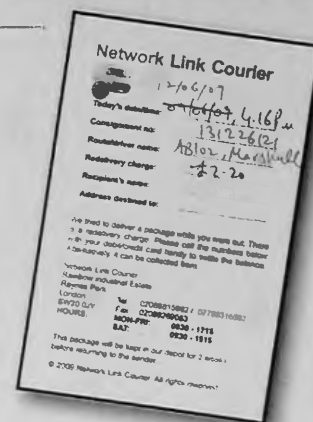
While they all claim 'Trust UK approved trader' and 'been voted best mail order company 2003-2008', consumers have complained the goods have never arrived despite paying for them.

The adverts often go under the name of the 'Gadget Company', 'Arash Ltd', 'Students Gadget Ltd', 'Simply Gadgets' or 'Office Bits Warehouse', 'Office Brands Megastore' and 'Office Supplies Cabin' with an email address of [electrodirect@easymailorders.com](mailto:electrodirect@easymailorders.com) and postal address of Sharston Industrial Estate, Bradnor Road,

Wythenshawe, Manchester. The business has since attempted new and repeat advertising under the trade names of 'Gadget Giant/Technology or Gadgetry Electronics' as well as an address in Lincoln Road Industrial Estate, Peterborough, PE1 2AZ.

The second scam involves a business called 'Parcel Express UK' which delivers realistic looking cards through residents' doors stating they have a parcel awaiting delivery. When callers ring they are asked to provide their credit/debit card details to settle the outstanding £2.20 fee. However, the parcel never arrives and victims often discover too late that money, sometimes thousands of pounds, has been deducted from their accounts.

If you receive one of these cards or believe you have been the victim of fraud then contact Consumer Direct on 08454 040506 or visit [www.consumerdirect.gov.uk](http://www.consumerdirect.gov.uk).



# Care leaver's dreams of joining the police move one step closer

Young care leaver honoured for his skills as a police cadet

**Standing to attention in the searing heat, Mohammad Shafi kept his back rod straight and his eyes firmly focused ahead despite the thousands of eyes watching him from the crowd.**

One of 2,000 Volunteer Police Cadets chosen to take part in the prestigious Police Cadet Parade and Colours Presentation Ceremony at Horse Guards Parade in June this year, Mohammad wasn't going to let anything distract him from this special moment.

Mohammad's progress from novice cadet to a leader member in the Volunteer Police Cadets in the space of one year would have been triumph enough for anyone. But when you consider how far he has come to get this far, his feat is even more remarkable.

After arriving in Barnet one freezing January day in 2008 from his homeland in Afghanistan, Mohammad spent a sleepless night in bed and breakfast accommodation worrying what fate might await him.

But his fears of being deported, or even killed, proved without foundation. Instead, he was clothed, fed and cared for by Barnet Council's social workers and housing officers working for Barnet LCT (Leaving Care Team)/ Housing Plus/ QARA (Quality Assured Refugee Accommodation)

After being placed in semi-independent accommodation with other asylum seekers in Willesden Green provided by Housing Plus, Mohammad enrolled at the College of North West London in Wembley.

"When I first arrived I was so nervous I couldn't sleep," recalls Mohammad, now 18. "I didn't understand a word anyone was saying, I didn't know how to use the money in the shops and everything seemed so strange to me."

There he began learning English and Maths and slowly gaining enough confidence to venture into the world outside.

It was while speaking to Chris Ampofo, his lead contact at Housing Plus, that Mohammad revealed his dream of becoming a police officer.

Chris discovered a Volunteer Police Cadets corps in Wembley and took Mohammad along one March evening to see if he liked it.

"The first evening we were just meant to be observing, but I could see Mohammad was itching to take part," Chris recalls.

"The officer in charge, Sergeant Terry O'Brien, invited Mohammad to join in and he slotted in straight away."

Despite his limited English, Mohammad took to the complicated marching drills like a duck to water and was soon being placed in the lead as he could always be relied on to get it right.

As a result of his excellent work, Mohammad was invited to take part in the Passing Out Parade, watched by Chris and his social worker Ade McNaughton on June 14 2009.

"On the night before the parade I couldn't sleep because I was so excited," Mohammad says. "Although we weren't allowed to smile I was so, so happy inside."

On 15 July Mohammad was awarded a certificate confirming he is a fully fledged volunteer cadet and was honoured with an invitation to the Queen's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, where he saw the Queen and met the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson.

Now living in independent accommodation in Hendon Lane, Mohammad is hoping to finish another year in the cadets before applying to join the police.

"It would be such an honour for me to join the police in this country," he says. "Britain is my home now and joining the police is my way of helping others."

Barnet's Leaving Care Team supports a total of 330 young people aged 16-24, who are or have been in the council's care, in the transition to adult life. This includes approximately 120 unaccompanied asylum seeking young people. The Team is based on the 5th Floor of Barnet House and offers an advice service at 34/36 Young People's Centre, Woodhouse Road, N12 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.



'Mohammad taking part in the prestigious parade, and above, receiving his certificate'

# "I owe a lot to Barnet, now I want to pay it back"

Decorated care leaver delighted as he scoops a first class degree

While most teenagers were going to bed dreaming of a lie in, Ibrahim Ahmed was setting his alarm for 5am making sure he caught the first of his three buses that would get him into school on time.

After arriving in Barnet from Somalia aged just 15, Ibrahim threw himself into his studies, gaining an excellent record for his school attendance at the Ravenscroft School.

Once his studies for the day were over, Ibrahim would complete the return leg of his journey before picking up the groceries to cook dinner for his two younger brothers.

Rather than feel bitter about the heavy burden of responsibility that was landed on his shoulders from such an early age, Ibrahim, now 22, just shrugs and says: "It's nothing. I consider myself extremely lucky to have been given so many opportunities by Barnet, I've been given so much compared with so many other people."

His dedication, coupled with his quick grasp of the English language

meant that within his first two years of arriving Ibrahim had gained four GCSEs and four A levels.

It was while studying for his A levels aged 17 that his two younger brothers came to stay. As their primary carer Ibrahim had to wash, cook and clean for his brothers every day after finishing his studies. In 2006 he began a three year degree course at Hatfield University in Business Studies and Quantitative Analysis. To his tutors and his own delight he was awarded a first class honours degree.

"I had a lot of help from Barnet's Leaving Care team and my teachers," he says modestly. "I owe a lot to Barnet. My social workers advised me to go to university and explained what I needed to do to apply."

While throwing himself into his studies, Ibrahim took time to mentor excluded pupils, become a university ambassador and even visited schools promoting higher education to youngsters thinking about going to go to university.

He now hopes to go on to become a teacher in secondary school specialising in Business Studies or Maths.

"Anything that helps me to help people and put something back into Barnet," he says. "I want to show people that once you grow up you have to face the consequences of your actions. If you get yourself a decent job you will become a respected member of society and if you don't you may end up in difficulty."

"Barnet has done a lot to develop me. Now it's time for me to pay back the community."

## Medals haul for Barnet's young athletes

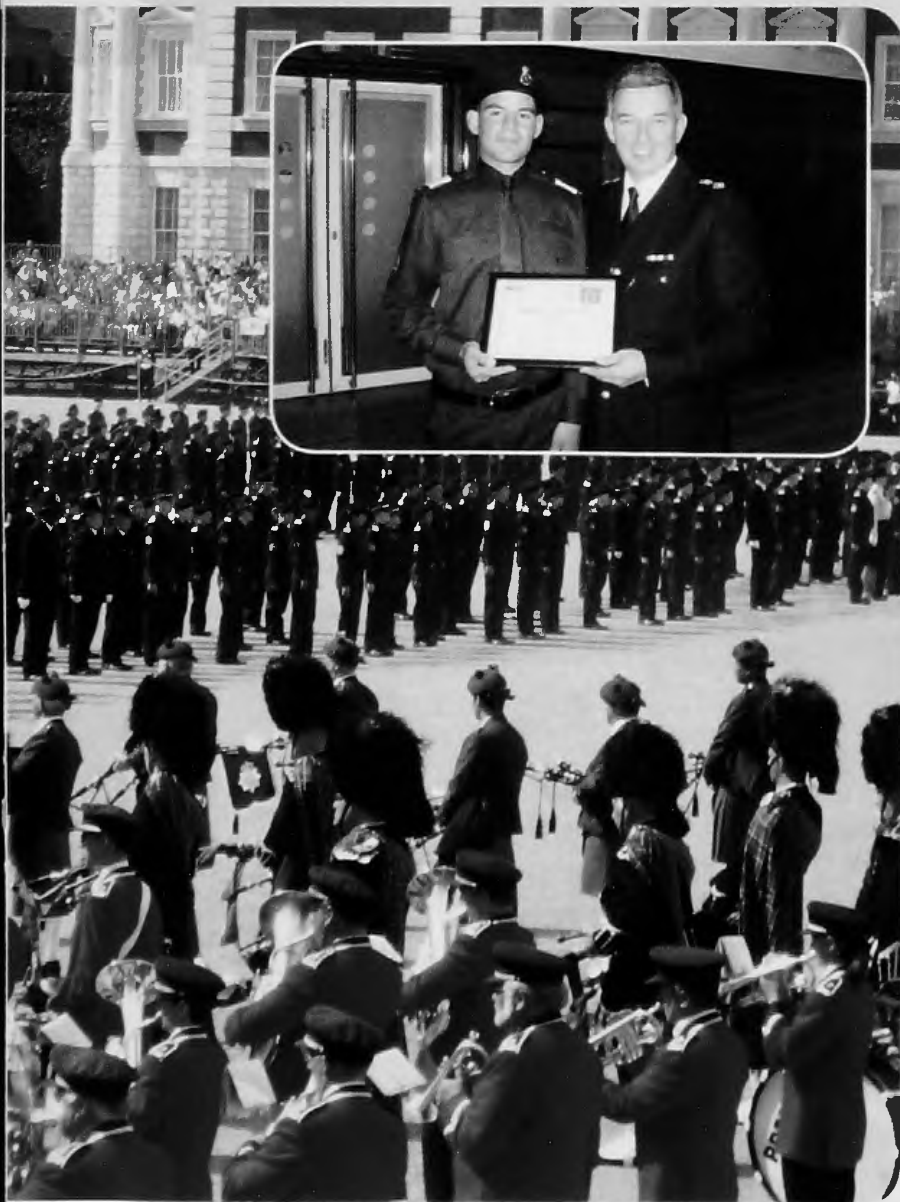
Young athletes brought home 22 medals for Barnet during this year's prestigious London Youth Games.

**More than 200 young people aged 11 to 18 who live and go to school in the borough competed over a two month period against 20,000 other athletes in 20 different sports, culminating in a finals weekend at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre.**

The squad finished 14th out of 33 London boroughs, a huge improvement on its 22nd placing in 2008, with 9 gold, 5 silver and 8 bronze medals.

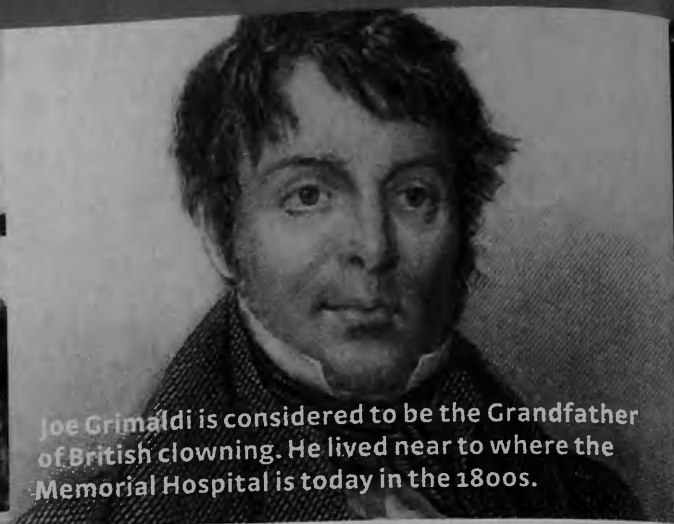
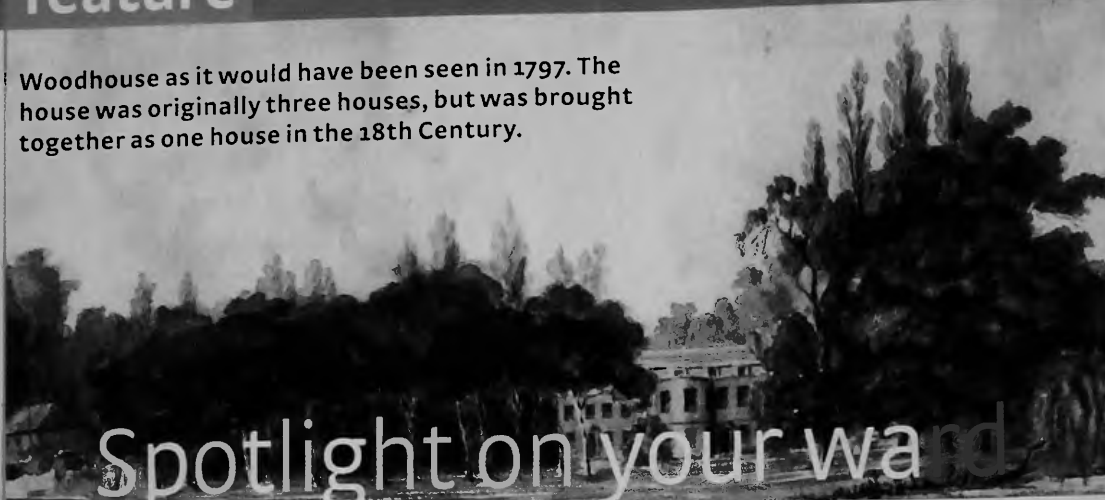
The borough's young athletes scooped gold medals in: mixed fencing, 4x100m relay, 300m running, girls' shot put, indoor rowing as well as running, long jump and boys' javelin in disability athletics.

To get involved in next year's games contact the Sport Development Team on 0208 359 7818.



certificate from the Area Commander, Marc Toland.

Woodhouse as it would have been seen in 1797. The house was originally three houses, but was brought together as one house in the 18th Century.



Joe Grimaldi is considered to be the Grandfather of British clowning. He lived near to where the Memorial Hospital is today in the 1800s.

## Spotlight on your ward

# Woodhouse

In the final spotlight in our series we focus on Woodhouse, once home to Finchley's only brewery and one of Britain's earliest golf ranges.

**Until the 18th century Woodhouse was called Woodhouses after three small houses at the edge of Finchley Common.**

By the early 19th century it was home to the well-known plasterer Thomas Collins. When Finchley Common was enclosed between 1811 and 1816 the process was paid through the sale of land. As Thomas Collins was one of the principle purchasers it enabled him to extend his estate considerably.

In 1925 Woodhouse School was built. Famous alumni include the animator Oliver Postgate of Bagpuss fame, and comedian Marti Feldman. The school is now a sixth form college.

The Glebe Land is locally known as the Rough Lots because of the many ditches and slopes caused by John Lawford's brick works (1879 - 1907). Finchley football club (now Wingate and Finchley F.C.) moved to the site of the actual brick works in Summers Lane in 1932.

Off Summers Lane, Summers Place used to be called Dunger Place after Henry Dunger, owner of the "Flower Pot brewery" (1830s - 1870s). Finchley's only brewery, it was a very small. The Triumph was probably originally the brewery outlet. It is said the house took its name from a Triumphal arch of flowers built for Prince Albert to pass through in his carriage on his way to open the Colney Hatch Asylum in 1851.

In September 1931 Finchley Borough Council opened the Finchley Open Air Pool. With the main pool heated during the 1930s it was possible to swim there from spring until autumn. In 1948 Finchley Pool was used for the preliminary rounds of the Water Polo in the London Summer Olympics. The open-air pool was closed in 1992 and replaced by the present complex in May 1996.

In 1938 the War Office built a drill hall for the Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regt RA (TA), better known locally as the T.A. which was demolished in 2004. In World War One a gun battery at the corner of Summers Lane and the High Road formed part of the defence of London after the first German Gotha twin engine bomber raids started in May 1917. For many years after the land was called the gun field, and from the 1930s until the 1960s there were plans to build Finchley Town Hall on the site. Instead the site became Finchley Automatic Golf Centre around 1963. Here 5,000 weekly customers paying one penny for each ball or five shillings for sixty drove nearly 100,000 balls a day in one of Britain's earliest golf ranges.

The area of Fallow Corner was recorded in 1429. The access roads from the corner to the main road formed the distinct bow shape of





Woodhouse Road about hundred years ago.

### Did you know.....?

- At 14%, Woodhouse has the third highest proportion of Indian residents in Barnet, and also the third highest proportion of Hindus
- With 16.1% of its residents reporting a disability, Woodhouse has the second highest proportion of residents with a disability
- Woodhouse is the Barnet ward with the second lowest proportion of residents who are not economically active because they are looking after a home or family: 6.3%
- 26% of Woodhouse's dwellings are terraced houses, the third highest proportion in Barnet

\* Figures taken from 2001 census.

Bow Road we see today. The clown Joseph Grimaldi lived here and it was whilst "ghost writing" Grimaldi's memoirs (1836 and 1837) that Charles Dickens probably first stayed at the farm. Later, in 1843, Dickens returned while writing Martin Chuzzlewit. He thought of 'Sairey' Gamp (one of the great Victorian fictional characters) whilst out walking in Finchley.

Finchley Cottage Hospital opened in 1908 with just 20 beds. After The First World War Finchley council decided not to erect a war memorial, and instead used the money raised to extend and rename the hospital as Finchley Memorial Hospital in 1922.

The ward includes much of North Finchley. Known as North End by 1462, there were few houses until the enclosure of Finchley Common in 1816. Famous former residents include Eric Morecombe who lived in Totteridge Park, and speaker of the House of Commons, John Bercow MP, who went to school at Finchley Manor Hill, now the Compton School.

In 1844 the first houses were let in Torrington Park. During the 1850s and 1860s Friern Park, Grove Road, Finsbury Road (now Finchley Park) had all been laid out. The Rev Henry Stephens, not to be confused with local MP Henry "Inky" Stephens, came to the area as a missionary working amongst the railway navvies building the Great Northern Line's branch to High Barnet (now the Northern Line). He was at first only granted an iron hut but later Christ Church was built and formally became a new parish in 1872. With the opening of a tramline in 1905 the area began to develop rapidly into an important shopping district and by 1911 there were nearly 12,000 residents.

**To find out more about the history of Woodhouse, contact:**  
**Barnet Local Studies and Archives Centre**  
**80 Daws Lane**  
**Mill Hill**  
**London NW7 4SL**  
**Tel: 020 8359 3960**  
**Email: [library.archives@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:library.archives@barnet.gov.uk)**

## What's in Woodhouse?

### Parks and open spaces

- Warnham Road Recreation, Ingleway Recreation, Glebelands playing fields  
 Facilities include: car park, wildlife interest, toilets, football and rugby, Glebelands bowling club

### Allotments

- Woodhouse Allotments, Grove Road N12 9EA

- Glebeland, Legion Way, Summers Lane N12

### Schools

- Summerside Primary School, Crossway,
- The Compton School, Summers Lane
- Woodhouse College, Woodhouse Lane
- The Wren Academy, Warnham Road
- Barnet College, Stanhope Road site
- Tudor School, Queens Road

- Our Lady of Lourdes, Bow Lane

If you've enjoyed this series of ward spotlights, you may be interested in finding out more about where you live from our Pocket Histories. These cover the whole of the borough and can be found on our website:

[www.barnet.gov.uk/archives-histories](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/archives-histories)

## Your councillors

As with all of Barnet's 21 wards, Underhill has three elected members, or councillors, who have been elected by the ward's residents to represent them. Councillors are elected for four years at a time.

### Geof Cooke (Lab)

He has been a ward member since 2006 and is currently a member of the Audit Committee, Budget and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Corporate Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee, Finchley and Golders Green Area Environment Sub-Committee, Pension Fund Committee.

**Tel: 020 8344 2596**

**Email: [cllr.g.cooke@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.g.cooke@barnet.gov.uk)**

### Anne Hutton (Lab)

Elected as a ward member in 2002. She is currently a member of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee, Finchley and Golders Green Area Environment and Planning Sub-Committees General Functions Committee, Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Standards Committee and Policy and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

**Tel: 020 8883 0996**

**Email: [cllr.a.hutton@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.hutton@barnet.gov.uk)**

### Alan Schneiderman (Lab)

He became ward member in 2002. He is currently a member of the Ad Hoc Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Audit Committee, Budget and Performance Overview and

Scrutiny Committee, Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee, Corporate Joint Consultation Committee and Corporate Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee, Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee, Pension Fund Committee and Special Committee (Constitution Review).

**Tel: 020 8731 9680**

**Email:**

**[cllr.a.schneiderman@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.schneiderman@barnet.gov.uk)**

### Meet your councillors

Barnet's councillors hold regular advice surgeries to give residents the chance to discuss any topics they wish to raise. You can meet your Woodhouse councillors at Customer Focus, Tally Ho Corner, every Saturday from 10.30 - 12 noon.

# Can number 31 save the planet?

This apparently normal looking home in Barnet might help us all tackle climate change



**The house, in East Barnet, is Barnet Council and Barnet Homes' eco house, a refurbishment of an existing 90-year-old terraced home that, thanks to clever energy saving measures, has seen its energy use cut by half.**

Central Government last month published its plans to reduce the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> given off in heating and lighting homes. The "Low Carbon Transition Plan" examines how we can reduce the carbon footprint of existing homes. Up until now many people have been looking at how newly built homes can have their energy use designed out.

But of course most of the homes that people will be using in the next century have already been built so making our existing homes more eco-friendly is now becoming a priority.

Barnet Council and Barnet Homes has already pioneered eco-friendly refurbishments and number 31 is a prototype for how all of our homes can be made more energy efficient.

Low energy appliances and a great deal of insulation have lowered energy use on a daily basis. But the house also tackles the impact that the construction industry has on the wider environment and in particular on the pollution caused in producing building materials. The loft has been lined with nine inches of natural sheep's wool based insulation, replacing artificially produced foam. This wool 'duvet' also sits under the ground floor, keeping the house as warm as toast.

Solar panels on the roof provide almost all of the energy required for hot water and measures such as flow limiters on taps and rainwater collection reduce the amount of water taken from the mains.

What was a gloomy landing is now lit with natural daylight through a "sun pipe". All of the appliances in the house have been picked to be "A rated" and a new condensing boiler has a 90% energy efficiency score (the proportion of energy converted into heat - most boilers are no more than 60 percent efficient).

The benefits of the house are clear to Sacdigo Cali, the tenant who said "The house is brilliant. I am amazed how low our gas bill has been. Over three months in winter the total bill was £40 for a family of six! Even through the heavy snow in winter, all of our hot water was coming from the solar panel.

"Living in a house like this has changed how we live. We now recycle just about everything.

"I get a real pleasure from looking at cold and stormy weather from a warm and cosy house knowing that the cost of keeping the house warm is so small."

Councillor Andrew Harper, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport said: "If the changes we have made to our eco home were repeated in every home in the UK, the country's overall CO<sub>2</sub> emissions would fall by about 15, %. Doing this alone would meet most of the Government's target for a 20% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> by 2020. That gives you some idea of how important schemes like the eco home could be.

"We'll be monitoring this home to see which measures are most worthwhile installing in the future and sharing these with home owners too so they can save fuel and reduce their carbon footprint."

Its national influence can be seen in the project's recent shortlisting for a prestigious Inside Housing Sustainability Award.

Grants are available to help householders reduce energy use. If you are over 70 or on means tested benefits you may get the work done free. Call the Energy Saving Trust on 0800 512 012.

## More green bins available

**More green bins are now available for those of you who want to watch your waste more. Initial green bins are free, but a second bin will cost £5.**

If you'd like an extra bin, or you haven't got your first green bin, please call 020 359 4600 or email: [first.contact@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:first.contact@barnet.gov.uk)

### Did you know?

Green bins are used to dispose of all cooked and uncooked food waste (except bones), grass cuttings, hedge and tree prunings, flowers, weeds, and garden windfalls.

Waste collected in the green bins is taken to the London Waste Composting Centre in Edmonton to be turned into compost.



## Young offenders kick start their careers

Young people known to the council's Youth Offending Service have been learning new skills at an innovative scheme pairing young people with a garage in High Barnet that will teach them mechanics skills.

**An initial group of six have been attending ILM Autos every Saturday to learn the basics of car mechanics, teaching them a new skill and leading them into a productive and crime-free career. For those that get through the course successfully, Southgate College have agreed to accept them onto a year-long course which will lead to a qualification in the subject.**

The initiative, called Kick Start, is being jointly led by the council's Youth Offending Service and Barnet Police, with officers from the High Barnet Safer Neighbourhoods Team lending any necessary support to garage staff. Safety equipment such as boots and overalls needed by the young people have been given to the scheme by Boots Direct.

The lessons in mechanics will cover skills such as tyre changing and checking batteries and brakes.



## We like it here!

80 per cent of Barnet residents are satisfied with the borough as a place to live, according to a latest survey of residents' opinions.

**The figures are part of a biennial survey carried out by councils across the country.**

Satisfaction with the area has improved and is higher than the outer London average. In particular residents find Barnet a cohesive place where people of all social groups are respected, with a real sense of belonging.

83 per cent of residents answered positively when asked if people from different backgrounds got on well together in Barnet with 57 per cent feeling they belonged to their neighbourhood. Both these figures are up on similar surveys conducted in the past.

68 per cent of residents also said the council is well run with 62 per cent believing the council promotes local interests whilst 69 per cent think the council is making Barnet a better place to live.



## Tell us your tales.... and win an iPod Touch

If you've got a tale to tell about your area, or someone from your area, and you think it would make a good story, enter our Barnet Tales competition.

We're looking for heart warming, funny or interesting stories that illustrate why Barnet is a great place to live. Whether you've got a tale about a celebrity or friend, mother or son, landmark or street, we want to hear from you.

The best stories will be published in Barnet First and the top five entries will win an iPod Touch - a place where you can store all your memories....

How to enter

- Entries should be under 600 words
- All stories must be factual
- Anyone living in Barnet can enter
- Clearly state your name, age and contact details

Entries can be emailed to:

- [barnettales@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:barnettales@barnet.gov.uk) or send to:

Barnet Tales  
Barnet Council Communications  
Building 2  
North London Business Park  
Oakleigh Road South  
London  
N11 1NP

Closing date is Friday 25 September 2009.

- Winners will be judged in two categories, under 18s and over 18s

**BARNET  
TALES**  
CONTEST

# Made to measure

Susan uses an agency to help her go shopping, while Joan gets personal help of her choice to ensure her house stays clean and safe

**Both women have visual impairments and are living independent lives with the encouragement of Barnet Council's Adult Social Services. In the past both would probably have ended up in full time day care – expensive for the taxpayer and immensely less rewarding for Susan and Joan.**

"Everyone is different," says Deborah Kershaw, whose job at the council is to help people with visual and hearing impairments lead their own lives. "It may be an obvious point to make but it's at the heart of how we're changing the way we support people." "Our service's priority has changed from supporting the vulnerable to promoting independence," adds Deborah. "This isn't just a case of changing some wording – it is changing the way we work with people and making sure they play a far larger part in defining their own needs and priorities. "We are now working with individuals who are eligible for social care funding to help them identify the level of support they need and then plan with them how they spend their own personal budget."

Barnet council is also developing personal support plans for adults with learning difficulties, and has worked closely with the learning disability charity MENCAP. Members of the Adult Social Services team start off by working with the individual to let them know the range of support on offer.

The money available is identified early and each individual develops their own plan. By assessing an individual's needs and ambitions, very different models of care and support are being created

Other people with mental health problems are using their personal budget to attend college rather than a day centre with the aim of increasing their skills and confidence in order to return to full time work. Councillor Richard Cornelius, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services, said: "With the best will in the world, the traditional model of social services would never have said: 'You need to go shopping more. But Barnet residents are benefiting hugely in terms of improved confidence and health - simply because they have been involved in setting their own targets. With growing pressure on our budgets, we need to do better with less. I genuinely think the best way to do this is to work closely with our service users on creating their own personalised care plans."

The next step is to develop this model for supporting older people in their own homes. "In the past there has been a tendency for many sections of the public sector to provide one size fits all services. This is changing." Said Councillor Cornelius "We see this model of working with people to let them define their own priorities as being used across our department. We are supporting far more older people in their own homes than ever



before – the next step has to be to work with them to develop their own personalised plans. It is only right that we let people decide what their priorities should be for their own care."

## Safe as Houses

Thousands of residents in Barnet will be better protected at home and at work thanks to a new extended alarm service launched by Barnet Homes last month.

**The new Assist alarm service gives a fast and effective response to anyone who has an accident or is at risk at home or while working alone.**

The new service builds on Barnet Homes' previous alarm, Lifeline, which has 4,500 users and receives around 80,000 calls a year. New services include lone worker monitoring, Telecare and free home fire safety checks.

Tracey Lees, Chief Executive of Barnet Homes, said: "We're particularly excited about the new monitoring system offering lone workers safety and security. This is a new service for us and it means that we can now use mobile phone technology to alert the emergency services if there's a threat to their personal safety.

"We also want to do all we can to support residents and help them live independently and safely in their own home."

Assist includes the following services:

- The Assist home alarm, designed to summon help, if and when it's needed, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- Lone worker monitoring, providing reassurance and security for employers and staff who work alone and face potentially risky situations.
- Telecare services with a range of non-intrusive sensors which monitor health and the home environment 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The sensors alert a carer or the Assist response centre to problems.
- Key safes - a quick and easy way of keeping a spare door key in a secure but easily accessible place in case of emergency.

For more information about Assist services phone 020 8359 4841 or see Barnet Homes' website [www.barnethomes.org](http://www.barnethomes.org).

# What's on in Barnet during September and October?

## Arts

**Japan: A Floating World in Print**  
Open Daily (8pm on selected performance evenings)

**10 September – 22 October 12pm – 4pm**  
Artsdepot, Aphorp Gallery

A selection of captivating 'Ukiyo-e' prints, literally meaning pictures of the floating world, created by well-known artists in their field. Prints and postcards of images from the exhibition available to purchase.



**Roald Dahl Birthday Weekend**  
RAF Hendon

**19 - 20 September**

**Session times are 11.00 – 13.00 and 14.00 – 16.00**

Celebrate the famous storyteller's birthday and find out about his career in the Royal Air Force. Make a bookmark to take home. For further information please telephone 020 8358 4896.

**Poetry and Short Story Workshops by Anna Robinson**

**Barnet Local Studies Centre**

**Sat 10 and 17 Oct 10am - 4pm**

Archived records and photographs hold a wealth of stories to inspire and illustrate voices from the past. Feast your imagination on the lives and language of yesterday, creating your own pieces woven from fragments of local history.

Book your free place, call 020 8359 3960

**Charlie and Lola's best bestest play**

**Artsdepot, Pentland Theatre**

**Wednesday 28 October, Thursday 29**

**October – 12pm & 3pm**

**Friday 30 October, Sunday 1 November –**

**10am, 12pm & 3pm**

**Saturday 31 October – 10am & 3pm**

**Tickets: £10, Family Ticket £32 (admits four people)**



The stars of the hit BBC TV series and books by Lauren Child are brought to life by a magical mix of puppets and music. 2-D and 3-D worlds mingle in this new play, adapted from some of the freshest and funniest episodes...

All guests invited to enjoy a free glass of pink milk for all shows to celebrate the artsdepot's 5th birthday. Exchange your tickets at the cafe.

AGES 3+

## Miscellaneous

**World's Biggest Coffee Morning**

**25 September**

Put the kettle on and enjoy a coffee with your friends, family and colleagues to raise money for people affected by cancer.

Every day 822 people in the UK are told they have cancer. Macmillan's ambition is to help every one of these people by providing them with medical, emotional, practical and financial support they need. To register visit [macmillan.org.uk/coffee](http://macmillan.org.uk/coffee) or call 0845 602 1246 quoting LA6.



## Leisure/Pastimes

**Barnet Walks**

**6 September to 22 November**

Join a series of eight themed guided walks in the borough, including the Battle of Barnet, Barnet Ghosts, Pubs and Churches, Fabulous Finchley and Georgian Monken Hadley

For more information contact:

Paul Baker on 020 8440 6805 or email [pbaker54@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pbaker54@hotmail.co.uk)

Cost – Adults £7, £3 for under 12s.

**If you would like your event to be considered for inclusion in Barnet First, please visit : [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk), and add your event details to the "What's on" page.**

## Council meetings

Meetings are open to the public and are generally held at Hendon town Hall starting at 7pm. The residents' forums (which start at 6.30pm) meet at a variety of venues around the borough, and details can be found online, on our posters or by contacting the Democratic Services team on 020 8359 2031. Members of the public can ask to speak at most meetings. Further information can be obtained by contacting Democratic services.

### September

- 1 Cabinet
- 1 Finchley & Golders Green Residents Forum
- 2 Chipping Barnet Residents Forum
- 2 Cabinet Resources Committee
- 7 Hendon Residents Forum
- 7 Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee
- 8 Council
- 9 Standards Committee
- 10 Corporate Joint Consultation (Health, Safety & Welfare) Committee
- 14 Corporate Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee
- 15 Finchley & Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 15 Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 15 Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 16 General Functions Committee
- 17 Pension Fund Committee
- 23 Planning & Environment Committee
- 24 Audit Committee

### October

- 1 Chipping Barnet Area Environment Sub-Committee
- 1 Finchley & Golders Green Area Environment Sub-Committee
- 1 Hendon Area Environment Sub-Committee
- 12 Special Committee (Constitution Review)
- 13 Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 13 Finchley & Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 13 Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 14 Finchley & Golders Green Residents Forum
- 15 Chipping Barnet Residents Forum
- 19 Budget and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 20 Planning & Environment Committee
- 21 Hendon Residents Forum
- 26 Cabinet
- 27 Cabinet Resources Committee
- 28 Licensing Committee

# Meet... your members

Note: All codes are 020 unless otherwise indicated.

**Brunswick Park Ward**  
**Lynne Hillan (Con)**  
Deputy Leader of the Council  
8445 5101  
cllr.l.hillan@barnet.gov.uk

**Andreas Tambourides (Con)**  
8368 5417  
cllr.a.tambourides@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
Second Saturday every month,  
Osidge Library, Brunswick Park  
Road, N11  
10.30am – 12 noon

**Lisa Rutter (Con)**  
8445 3829  
cllr.l.rutter@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
Last Saturday every month,  
Osidge Library, Brunswick Park  
Road, N11  
2.30pm – 4pm

**Burnt Oak Ward**  
**Claire Farrier (Lab)**  
8959 7908  
cllr.c.farrier@barnet.gov.uk

**Linda McFadyen (Lab)**  
8364 8782  
cllr.l.mcfadyen@barnet.gov.uk

**Charlie O-Macauley (Lab)**  
07796 284110  
cllr.c.omacauley@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
Every Saturday at Burnt Oak  
Library and Customer Service  
Centre, 99 Watling Avenue,  
Burnt Oak HA8  
10.30 – 11.30am

**Childs Hill Ward**  
**Jack Cohen (LibDem)**  
Liberal Democrat Group Leader  
8446 7940  
cllr.j.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

**Monroe Palmer (LibDem)**  
8445 5140  
cllr.m.palmer@barnet.gov.uk

**Susette Palmer (LibDem)**  
Liberal Democrat Deputy

Leader  
8455 5140  
cllr.s.palmer@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
First Thursday every month,  
Childs Hill Library, Cricklewood  
Lane, NW2  
7 – 8pm

**Colindale Ward**  
**Danish Chopra (Lab)**  
8449 9046  
cllr.d.chopra@barnet.gov.uk

**Gill Sargeant (Lab)**  
8455 1070  
cllr.g.sargeant@barnet.gov.uk

**Zakia Zubairi (Lab)**  
8959 4091  
cllr.z.zubairi@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
Saturdays, Grahame Park  
Library, The Concourse,  
Colindale, NW9  
10 – 11am

**Coppetts Ward**  
**Mukesh Depala (Con)**  
8365 3614  
cllr.m.depala@barnet.gov.uk

**Kate Salinger (Con)**  
8368 1329  
cllr.c.salinger@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
First Saturday every month,  
Friern Barnet Library, Friern  
Barnet Road, N11  
10.30am – 12noon  
Second Saturday every month,  
Hollickwood School, Sydney  
Road, N10  
1.30 – 3 pm

**Barry Rawlings (Lab)**  
Deputy Leader of the Labour  
Group  
8445 6416  
cllr.b.rawlings@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
First and third Saturday every  
month, Peter Le Poer Church,  
Albion Avenue, N10  
10.30am – 12noon

Other Saturdays, Friern Barnet  
Library, Friern Barnet Road, N11  
10.30am – 12noon

**East Barnet Ward**  
**Terry Burton (Con)**  
8368 8264  
cllr.t.burton@barnet.gov.uk

**Robert Rams (Con)**  
8446 7291  
cllr.r.rams@barnet.gov.uk

**Joanna Tambourides (Con)**  
8361 9154  
cllr.j.tambourides@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
First Saturday of each month,  
New Barnet Community Centre,  
48-50 Victoria Road, New  
Barnet, EN4  
10.30am – 12noon  
Third Saturday of each month,  
East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill  
Road, East Barnet, EN4  
10.30am – 12noon

**East Finchley Ward**  
**Andrew McNeil (Lab)**  
8444 3834  
cllr.a.mcneil@barnet.gov.uk

**Alison Moore (Lab)**  
Leader of the Opposition  
(Labour group leader)  
8343 0306  
cllr.a.moore@barnet.gov.uk

**Colin Rogers (Lab)**  
8444 7150  
cllr.c.rogers@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
Saturdays, East Finchley  
Neighbourhood Centre, Church  
Lane, East Finchley, N2  
10 – 11.30am

**Edgware Ward**  
**Helena Hart (Con)**  
8371 0658  
cllr.h.hart@barnet.gov.uk

**Joan Scannell (Con)**  
8959 5921  
cllr.j.scannell@barnet.gov.uk

**Darrel Yawitch (Con)**  
cllr.d.yawitch@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
Last Tuesday every month,  
Edgware Library, Hale Lane,  
Edgware, HA8  
5.30 – 6.30pm

**Finchley Church End  
Ward**  
**Mike Freer (Con)**  
Leader of the Council  
(Conservative group leader)  
8359 2059  
cllr.m.freer@barnet.gov.uk

**Eva Greenspan (Con)**  
8203 1598  
cllr.e.greenspan@barnet.gov.uk

**Daniel Thomas (Con)**  
cllr.d.thomas@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
First Wednesday every month,  
Avenue House, East End Road  
7 – 8pm (except August)

**Garden Suburb Ward**  
**Andrew Harper (Con)**  
8201 9527  
cllr.a.harper@barnet.gov.uk

**John Marshall (Con)**  
8445 2597  
cllr.j.marshall@barnet.gov.uk

**Jazmin Naghar (Con)**  
8458 2466  
cllr.j.naghar@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**  
Fourth Monday every month,  
Fellowship House, Willifield Way,  
NW11  
6 – 7pm

**Golders Green Ward**  
**Dean Cohen (Con)**  
07887 778509  
cllr.d.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

**Melvin Cohen (Con)**  
8209 0166  
cllr.m.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

**Christopher Harris (Con)**  
07949 592512  
cllr.c.harris@barnet.gov.uk

## Contacting your MPs

### Chipping Barnet

**Theresa Villiers**

Office: 163 High Street, Barnet, EN5 5SU

Tel: **020 8449 7345**

#### Surgery details:

Second Sunday every month, Golders Green Library, Golders Green Road, NW11

2.15 – 3.15pm

Fourth Sunday every month, Hendon Sports Centre, Marble Drive, Brent Cross, NW2  
12noon – 1pm

### Hale Ward

**Tom Davey (Con)**

cllr.t.davey@barnet.gov.uk

**Brian Gordon (Con)**

8931 5062

cllr.b.gordon@barnet.gov.uk

**Hugh Rayner (Con)**

Deputy Mayor

8958 3364

cllr.h.rayner@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

First Thursday every month alternating between Edgware Library, Hale Lane, Edgware, HA8, and Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7 (call 8958 3364 for locations and times)

### Hendon Ward

**Maureen Braun (Con)**

8906 0447

cllr.m.braun@barnet.gov.uk

**Anthony Finn (Con)**

8202 9689

cllr.a.finn@barnet.gov.uk

**Matthew Offord (Con)**

8202 5319

cllr.m.offord@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

First Monday every month, Hendon Library, The Burroughs, 6 – 7pm

### High Barnet Ward

**Duncan Macdonald (Lib Dem)**

8344 2674

cllr.d.macdonald@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Second Saturday every month at Chipping Barnet Library, 3

### Hendon

**Andrew Dismore**

Office: St. George's Lodge, 79 The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 4AX

Tel: **020 8202 2122**

Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN4  
3.30pm – 4.30pm

**Bridget Perry (Con)**

8441 5683

cllr.b.perry@barnet.gov.uk

**Wendy Prentice (Con)**

8364 9249

cllr.w.prentice@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Third Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN4  
10.30am – 12noon

### Mill Hill Ward

**Wayne Casey (LibDem)**

8906 8189

cllr.w.casey@barnet.gov.uk

**Jeremy Davies (LibDem)**

8381 0089

cllr.j.davies@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Saturdays, Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7  
10am – 12noon

**John Hart (Con)**

8381 0083

cllr.j.hart@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Selective Tuesdays, Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7  
6 – 8pm  
Selective Saturdays at Canada Villa, Pursley Road, NW7  
10am – 12noon

Ring 020 8959 5182 for dates or see [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk).

### Oakleigh Ward

**Sachin Rajput (Con)**

84493610

cllr.s.rajput@barnet.gov.uk

**Marina Yannakoudakis (Con)**

8445 8175

cllr.m.yannakoudakis@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Third Saturday every month, Barnet House, 1255 High Road,

### Finchley and Golders Green

**Dr Rudi Vis**

Office: 38 Church Lane, East Finchley, N2 8DT

Tel: **020 8883 0411**

Whetstone, N20  
10.30am – 12noon

**Brian Salinger (Con)**

8368 1329

cllr.b.salinger@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

First Saturday of every month at Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Road, N11  
10.30am – 12noon

### Totteridge Ward

**Brian Coleman (Con)**

Mayor

7983 4366

cllr.b.coleman@barnet.gov.uk

**Richard Cornelius (Con)**

8445 5886

cllr.r.cornelius@barnet.gov.uk

**Cllr Alison Cornelius (Con)**

8445 5886

cllr.a.cornelius@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Third Saturday every month, Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, N20  
10.30am – 12noon

### Underhill Ward

**Fiona Bulmer (Con)**

8344 2672

cllr.f.bulmer@barnet.gov.uk

**Daniel Webb (Con)**

07983 358 910

cllr.d.webb@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Third Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN4  
10.30am – 12noon

**Anita Campbell (Lab)**

8440 2703

cllr.a.campbell@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

First and third Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN5  
2 – 3pm

### Greater London Assembly

**Member for Barnet and Camden**

**Councillor Brian Coleman**

Office: City Hall, The Queen's

Walk, London, SE1 2AA

Tel: **020 7983 4367**

### West Finchley Ward

**Ross Houston (Lab)**

8343 7451

cllr.r.houston@barnet.gov.uk

**Kath McGuirk (Lab)**

8209 1462

cllr.k.mcguirk@barnet.gov.uk

**Jim Tierney (Lab)**

8346 3359

cllr.j.tierney@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Every Saturday at Community Focus, the artsdepot, Tally Ho Corner, North Finchley  
10.30 – 12 Noon

### West Hendon Ward

**Julie Johnson (Lab)**

8203 3531

cllr.j.johnson@barnet.gov.uk

**Agnes Slocombe (Lab)**

8202 4074

cllr.a.slocombe@barnet.gov.uk

**Ansuya Sodha (Lab)**

8959 6035

cllr.a.sodha@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Saturdays, West Hendon Community Centre, Marsh Drive, West Hendon, NW9  
10.30am – 12noon

### Woodhouse Ward

**Geof Cooke (Lab)**

8344 2596

cllr.g.cooke@barnet.gov.uk

**Anne Hutton (Lab)**

8883 0996

cllr.a.hutton@barnet.gov.uk

**Alan Schneiderman (Lab)**

8731 9680

cllr.a.schneiderman@barnet.gov.uk

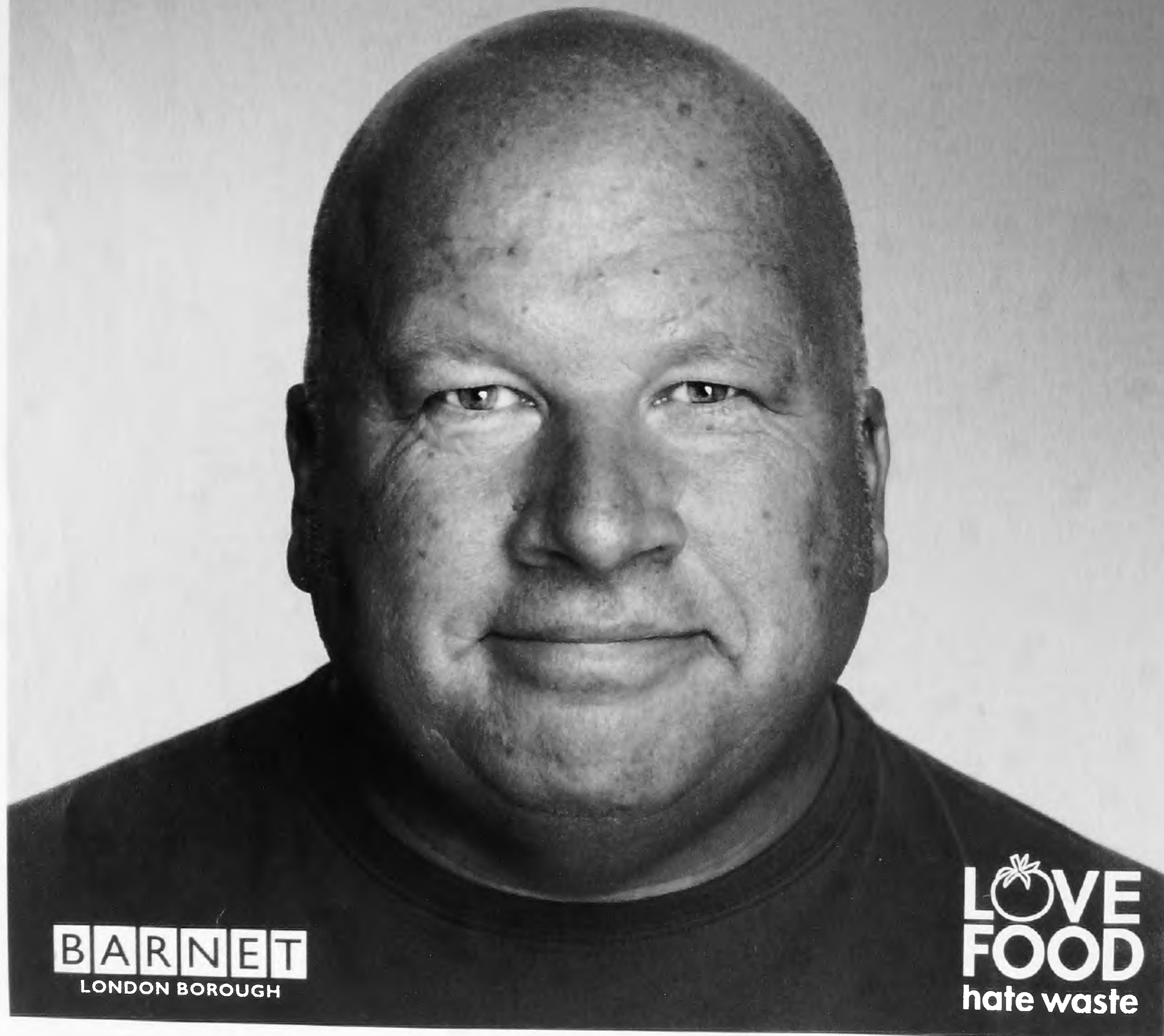
#### Surgery details:

See West Finchley Ward

# POTATO LOVERS hate waste

I love spuds. So I store mine in a cool dark place to make them last longer. And if they do go sprouty, after a proper peel the're ready to mash for shepherd's pie topping Lovely Jubbly.

Whatever food you love, we can help you waste less and save up to £50 a month at [lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://lovefoodhatewaste.com)



**BARNET**  
LONDON BOROUGH

**LOVE  
FOOD**  
hate waste