

# COMMUNITY news

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BARNET  
LONDON BOROUGH

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# YOU SPOKE WE LISTENED!

## Barnet's share of council tax to rise by 5.5 per cent

BARNET'S council tax is to rise by less than 10 pence a day to pay for council services - the cost of a local telephone call - while there is to be more money for community safety and street repairs.

It follows a big response from the public during a month long consultation which for the first time asked how much they wanted to spend and for the second year running, where the money should go.

The largest vote was for a 5.5 per cent increase, which 45 per cent of respondents favoured. The other choices were: 6.5 per cent (22 per cent support); 7.5 per cent (8 per cent backing). Twenty four per cent wanted the council tax to increase below the levels suggested in the consultation, to stay the same or decrease.

A total of 4,447 responded saying where their money should be spent and 3,728 expressed a view about how much they should be charged - both more than twice the number last year.

A 5.5 per cent council tax increase will mean a £691.91p Band D tax for Barnet's share of the bill. To that would be added £122.98p to pay for the new Greater London Authority, making a final Band D bill of £814.89p.

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## Children face the future and remember past at civic ceremony

DANCERS from Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School (pictured left) entertained more than 300 guests at Barnet's Civic Ceremony held to mark the Year 2000.

They were among children from across the borough who put on performances for councillors, religious leaders and community representatives.

The evening included music from the Finchley Choral Society, performances by the Barnet Schools' brass band and the Dollis Junior School Deep Pans steel band.

The ceremony, held at Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School, was to remember life in Barnet as it was and to celebrate life as it is today. Children also placed their wishes for the future on a special 'Tree of Hope' which is to be planted in the grounds of the recently opened Orion School in Grahame Park.

# Quality field to take over elderly homes

## Top marks for Barnet libraries' future plans

FIVE of the country's most respected providers of care for the elderly have been shortlisted to join the council in a partnership to run Barnet's eleven residential homes with a brief to ensure the highest standards of care.

Councillors considered a list of potential partners at the Policy and Implementation committee on 1 March.

The five were: Orbit Housing Association; Ealing Family Housing Association; Anchor Trust; Warden Housing Association and Circle 33 Housing Trust.



Better standards in prospect for Barnet's residential homes

The council decided to form a partnership with a not-for-profit provider last summer because of the need to meet stringent future registration standards.

If Barnet Council alone had paid for their upgrade, it would have cost local tax-payers up to £18 million.

Council leader Alan Williams said: "Residents and their families

will be reassured to hear that the five interested housing associations have enormous experience and respect when it comes to providing homes and caring for the elderly.

"They are also among the biggest players in the field and are renowned for providing high quality care."

Cllr Williams added: "Barnet Council alone would not have

been able to afford the cost of meeting the stringent new standards that all local authorities have to meet by 2001.

"By entering into a partnership with a not-for-profit housing association who are experts in the field, we can ensure we improve standards, for example by providing en suite facilities and a new Asian Elders facility.

"We can guarantee a place for

everyone currently living in a Barnet home. Staff conditions will also be safeguarded through protection of employment legislation."

A report before the Policy and Implementation Committee also estimates that medium to long term savings of £1.25 million a year are likely from the transfer.

The Etchingham Park Day Centre would also form part of the package. It is currently in a poor and dilapidated condition. For example, the kitchen has not been used for the past four years because it fails to meet current Health and Safety standards and significant investment is needed to cater for those with higher dependency needs in the future.

The timetable would see the partnership formed in February 2001.

Barnet Council, auditors and representatives of residents, their families and trade unions carefully vetted all the housing associations on the shortlist.

BARNET council has achieved the highest rating possible from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport for its annual library plan.

The national audit of 1999 library plans published in February by the Culture Secretary Chris Smith shows that Barnet is one of only 13 London boroughs to score a '3' rating. The plan was assessed as 'well conceived' and 'good'.

All 149 library authorities are required to submit a plan on how they intend to modernise and reform their library service over the next three years.

Overall, the library plans of 54 authorities were assessed as 'good', a further 85 as 'satisfactory' and ten of the 149 authorities produced plans assessed as 'poor'.

The 1999 library plans show how councils intend to provide best value, develop their use of information technology in libraries and improve access to libraries for all sectors of the community.

Councillor Susette Palmer, Chair of the Community Development Committee, said:

"We are extremely proud of our library service and delighted that our plans for the future have received such a ringing endorsement from the Culture Department.

Our libraries provide a vital service to the community. They offer local access to a wide range of services in a way which suits local people and at times which are convenient to them.

"This endorsement means we can now press on with our plans to provide access to the internet in all libraries and to extend community learning facilities in libraries.

"Unlike other boroughs Barnet will not be closing any of its libraries."

Copies of the Barnet Annual Library Plan 1999 are available in all borough libraries.

## National No Smoking Day (8 March)

### Barnet FC helps launch 'Eat Smoke-Free in Barnet' Guide



TO mark this year's No Smoking Day, Barnet Council launched the fourth edition of the 'Eat Smoke-Free in Barnet Guide' at a football match between Barnet and Swansea City.

During half-time, teams of children took part in a 'Smoking Slows You Down' relay race which involved trying to dribble a football past a number of cigarette obstacles. The match, sponsored by Barnet Council, also issued free copies of the guide to supporters at the ground at Barnet Underhill.

The Guide, published in partnership with the Health Authority, provides information on at least 80 places to eat in Barnet with designated smoke-free areas.

Twenty five new pubs, cafes and restaurants have been added to this year's guide and it also now offers a 15 per cent discount off the cost of a meal at some of the establishments listed.

Beverly Pearce, who chairs the council's Environment Policy Development Committee said:

"Many people, even smokers, prefer to eat in smoke-free environments, and this guide can help to show you where to go in the borough if you don't want someone else's tobacco smoke to affect the enjoyment of your meal."

Copies of the guide are available from libraries, council action points, GP surgeries and hospitals. Alternatively, you can contact Tamsin Greulich on 0181 359 4717 for a free copy.

#### Quitting the habit

This year an estimated one million people will have decided to quit smoking on National No Smoking Day (8 March).

No Smoking Day aims to help smokers who want to give up by raising awareness, increasing motivation and by encouraging smokers to stop.

Apart from the long term benefits of stopping smoking such as reducing the risk of lung cancer, heart attack, stroke and chronic lung disease you will also feel the benefit from the moment you stop.

# Street repairs and community safety get more cash

*continued from page 1*

Cllr Williams said: "Not only have we honoured people's wishes, we have also been able to increase spending on areas they were concerned about."

An extra £100,000 is to go on establishing a Community Safety Partnership Fund aimed at vulnerable elderly and disabled people. This is new money that will go to fund home security, such as door locks and chains. A further £50,000 will help develop and support Neighbourhood Watch Schemes around the borough.

A further £75,000 will go on pavement repairs. This will allow repairs in around 50 more streets than previously planned.

Meanwhile, money has been set aside for a special refuse collection to coincide with the Jewish Passover festival when more rubbish is discarded.

Cllr Williams said: "This is a people's budget in the truest sense, because the people of Barnet have helped us put it together."

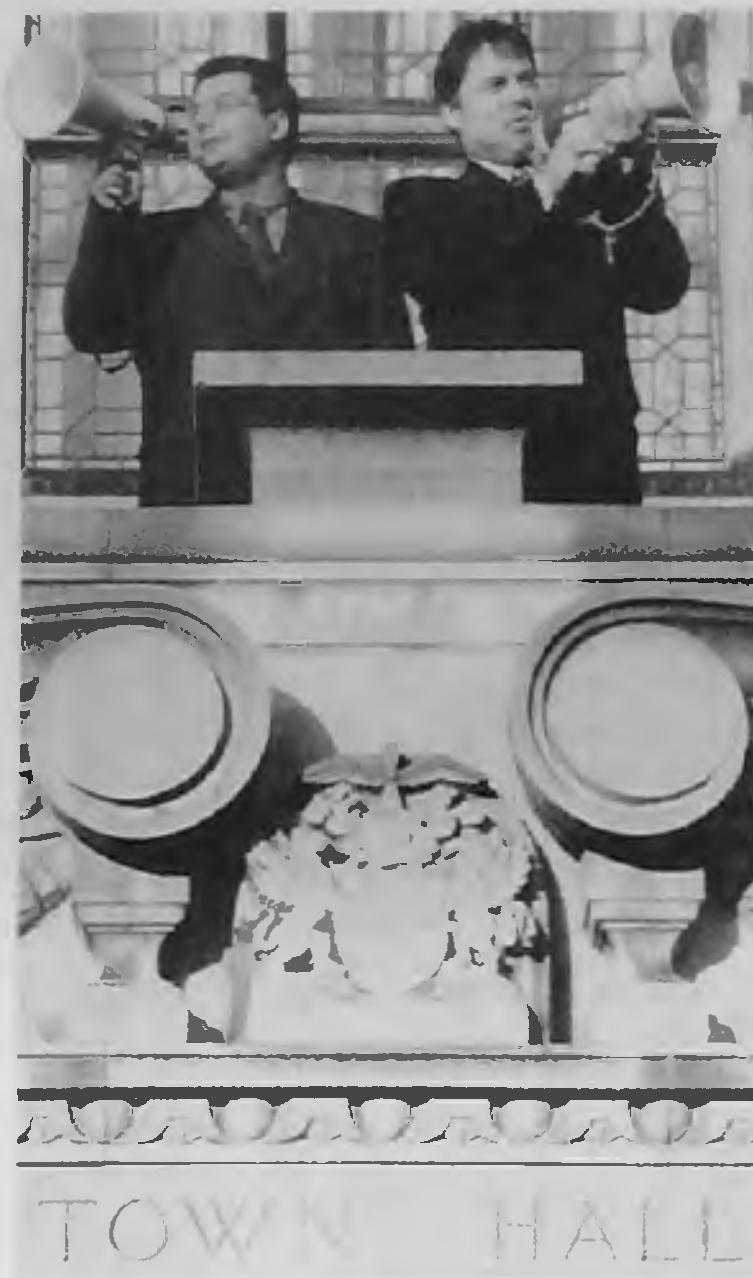
"I am delighted to say that even at the lower council tax increase of 5.5 per cent we have been able to bring in the budget we had planned and even found more to spend on the public's priorities."

"We have done this partly by taking a little more from our balances, while maintaining healthy reserves, and ploughing back more money from

parking fines and charges into good causes."

Cllr Williams added: "There is something for everyone in this budget, but our main priorities are the same as residents. They are road repairs, street cleaning and community safety."

"This budget confirms we are wise spenders, not big spenders and we will continue to prudently manage the public purse."



From The Town Hall balcony, Council Leader, Alan Williams and Resources Chair, Danish Chopra (left) urged people to make their views on the budget known.

## Budget increases include:

- £1.8 million for better street cleaning and bin services
- £2.7 million for schools
- £1.313 million for special educational needs
- £1 million for more places for elderly people in nursing and care homes
- £360,000 to support adults with learning difficulties
- £77,000 for two extra nursery classes
- £167,000 for a new customer care unit
- £80,000 for better horticultural displays
- £5,000 towards a holocaust memorial
- £57,000 for improved play facilities and equipment
- £150,000 for better winter roads maintenance
- £25,000 for continued Sunday opening at Hendon Library
- £74,000 for three new park keepers

# Young person's drop in centre to open

TEENAGERS are to have their very own drop in centre offering support and advice on everything from sexual health to alcohol abuse.

The centre in Finchley, which opens in April, will offer information, advice and counselling for 14-18 year-olds.

Funded by Barnet Council and Barnet Health Authority, the centre will provide information about benefits, education, employment, family planning, sexual health, drugs and alcohol and mental health. It will also give practical help and training in interview skills and CV writing.

Councillor Phil Yeoman, lead member for social services, said: "The information provided by the centre is already available in Barnet, however, it is fragmented and not always geared towards young people."

"The aim of the new centre is to provide easy access to information for teenagers about a number of issues all under the one roof."

It will be supported by two smaller centres in Barnet and Edgware where counselling by trained professionals, for young people suffering from depression, anxiety, eating disorders, addictions and relationship problems will take place. A counselling co-ordinator will first carry out an initial assessment of the person.

The Finchley centre, which will also offer support to parents, partners and siblings, will work alongside the national Youth Agency, Young Minds, Adolescent Trust and local universities. It plans to open Monday to Friday from 3pm to 8pm to suit the lifestyles of young people.

# Making sure you get value for money services

EVERY home in Barnet is to get a copy of a new brochure showing how the council intends to provide value for money services in the borough.

The Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) will go out to 128,000 homes in Barnet after being approved by the council's Policy and Implementation committee. (March 1)

Councils are legally required to produce a Best Value Performance Plan in the Local Government Act 1999. The legislation requires all councils to say:

- What services the authority will deliver to local people
- How it will deliver them

- To what levels the service is currently delivered
- What levels should be expected in the future
- And what action will be needed to deliver such levels of service and over what timescale

The plan must be approved by external auditors to make sure the council is being tough enough on itself.

Policy and Implementation chair Cllr. Helen Gordon said: 'Barnet has had a five-year Best Value programme in place since July 1997. Our aim is to review all our services by July 2002.'

"Best Value is a crucial part of the

Government's agenda to modernise local government and one which we strongly support. Our constant drive is to ensure that not only our services but also whole approach reflect the needs of all the people we serve.

"Barnet's scrutiny commissions will play an important part determining in depth priorities for services."

"Consultation with all those involved is an important part of the process. As a commitment to that we are publishing a Best Value Performance Plan to help people judge how their local council is doing, including asking for your views through a questionnaire within the brochure."

# Care in the Community - Partnership in Action

WORK on the new Community Care Plan 2000/2001 is under way.

The care plan is produced every year as a guide to new initiatives for council and health authority staff, service users, carers, voluntary and private sector providers and all interested residents.

The plan underlines the importance of the close working relationship between Barnet Council and the other agencies which makes it possible to deliver effective and

streamlined services to those in need.

As well as setting goals and monitoring improvements, the plan aims to be fully integrated with other programmes being developed for health care in Barnet including the Health Improvement Programme (HIP) and the Joint Investment Plan.

The HIP looks at problems with special groups and diseases as well as tackling wider issues such as poverty, the

environment, housing and promoting healthy life styles.

Barnet Social Services also work closely with the Health Authority in order to plan investment in continuing community care to ensure sufficient funds are in place to meet local need.

It is this combination of knowledge, skills and expertise which enables co-ordinated planning and delivery of services.



**CHIEF executive Max Caller is to leave Barnet to become Managing Director of the London Borough of Hackney.**

Mr Caller, 49, joined Barnet in 1985 as Controller of Engineering Services, became Director of Technical Services in 1987 and was appointed Chief Executive in April 1989.

He has spent his entire career in local government in London and is one of the longest serving Chief Executives in the capital.

## Alan Williams



Leader's View

YOU spoke and we listened! As you will have read in this edition of Community News, Barnet's share of the council tax from April will rise by 5.5 per cent.

That was supported by the largest single proportion of people in our biggest ever public consultation.

And what's more, we've done it without cutting services and we've even found extra cash for community safety and street repairs - the two areas you wanted more money spent, according to the results of the consultation.

We already planned to find nearly £20 million for exciting new spending projects next year. In particular, street based services are to be given priority, resulting in cleaner, safer, better maintained streets and a better bin service.

And all this for 69 pence extra a week, the same cost as a bus ride in Barnet, or less than 10 pence a day.

### Cynics

Cynics doubted we would listen to the results of the public consultation and we have proven them wrong. We do listen and will continue to listen. Gone are the days when councillors thought they knew best and made decisions from their ivory towers.

We also listened to your views over plans for a £35 million regeneration of North Finchley, including a wonderful new arts centre.

An incredible 91.1 per cent of you supported some or all our proposals. Normally, around one or two per cent of those consulted would be expected to respond, instead 10 per cent made their views known. Any opinion pollster would be delighted by similar returns.

We were under no obligation to carry out that pre-planning consultation, but were anxious to get your views to make sure the application was right before it goes before planners in the summer.

When it is considered by planners you will be able to make your views known on the application during the statutory consultation.

On top of this, Barnet has pioneered area forums, Local Agenda 21 and has a Citizens' Panel. Representations can also be made before council committee meetings.

Barnet Council has never been more open to your views. I am proud to say that we are truly a listening council.

# They're off... the race is on to run London

## London goes to the polls on 4 May. But what's it all about?

LONDON is finally to get its own strategic authority 14 years after the GLC was abolished.

On May 4, Londoners will go to the polls to elect both a Mayor and representatives of the new Greater London Assembly (GLA).

The Mayor will be one of the most powerful figures in British politics presiding over a £3 billion budget and acting as an international voice for one of the most important capital cities in the world.

The job description includes looking after transport - including The Tube and London buses - economic development, the fire service and taking over a large part of responsibility for the police from the Home Secretary.

The GLA's job is to keep a close eye on the Mayor to make sure whoever it is doesn't get too big for his/her boots - Dick Whittington and his cat Puss in Boots beware!

That means you will have to vote for both a Mayor and a representative for the GLA on 4 May. Both will be elected to serve four years.

The vote for the Mayor uses an unfamiliar Supplementary Vote (SV) system. This aims to make sure most people support London's Mayor.

You will have two votes, one for your first choice and another for a second choice. You will mark each preference with an X. The ballot papers should not be folded and the ballot boxes look different, so the papers can easily be slid in.

If one candidate wins half the votes cast they will be elected. If not, the two hopefuls with the most first choice votes go into a second round.

Here, second preferences from

those knocked out will be allocated to the final two candidates. The one with the most votes wins. Simple isn't it?

Likewise, the GLA representatives will be chosen by a different system to the one used in General Elections - for the Peter Snows among you interested in that kind of thing it's called the Additional Member System (AMS).

London has been divided into 14 constituencies, with the areas drawn rather like spokes radiating from the centre of a bicycle wheel. Barnet forms a constituency with neighbouring Camden.

Each constituency will elect one member using the same system we use to choose MPs - First Past The Post.

But once again you will have a second vote, this time for a party list or an independent candidate. An extra eleven Assembly members will be chosen this way, taking the total to 25. The thinking is that this will achieve a fairer share of seats among the parties in the GLA. It is also the same system as used in the recent European elections.

So who is going to pay for all this, including a swanky new assembly building on the south bank of the Thames?

Most of the £3 billion will come from the Government. Effectively, this is the money ministers already spend on the capital, it will simply transfer to the new Mayor and GLA. The Government says it will spend no more than £20 million setting up the Mayor and assembly and they say it should cost around £20 million a year to run, about one per cent of the city's annual spending.

The GLA, like Barnet and other local authorities, will set its own council tax, but the Government says this should cost no more than 3p a week for an average

## Brief history of London government

- 1192 - first Lord Mayor of London
- 1215 - King John establishes annual elections for Mayor through a royal charter
- 1397 - Dick Whittington becomes Lord Mayor. Holds office three times between 1397 and 1420
- 1888 - London County Council (LCC) set up.
- 1889 - LCC takes in Metropolitan areas of Essex, Kent, Middlesex and Surrey.
- 1965 - Greater London Council (GLC) set up. Takes in large parts of Middlesex and Kent, Surrey, Essex and Hertfordshire.
- 1986 - GLC scrapped.
- 1990 - Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) abolished.
- 1994 - Government Office for London created to decentralise administration of city.
- 1998 - 72 per cent vote 'Yes' for a Mayor and Assembly.
- 4 May 2000 - elections for Greater London Assembly (GLA) and Mayor

Use your vote on May 4



Band D property

Polling stations will be open from 7am to 9pm on May 4, although early voting will take place at The Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon on April 27, 28 and 29 from 7am to 9pm.

The last day to apply for postal votes and proxy votes is 13 April by 5pm.



## Get dug in at Barnet's first ever Early Years Centre

LITTLE Lauren Crosby, two, and Tyrell Bennett, three, join in the fun with Government Minister Margaret Hodge who was officially opening Barnet's first ever Early Year's Centre.

The Minister for Employment and Equal Opportunities praised the Fairway Early Years Centre in Mill Hill, which is Barnet's first fully integrated centre combining nursery education, family support and day care for 'children in need', their families and the local community.

The 79 place centre managed by Barnet Council's Early Years and Play Services, opened in September after an extensive three floor refurbishment was carried out to cater for the increase in services.

It now boasts a brand new nursery class, offering part-time nursery education and there are plans to extend day provision at the centre with breakfast and after school care. Additional early years services may also be added in partnership with a range of other providers and agencies.

Margaret Hodge said: "Fairway is a shining example of the National Childcare Strategy in action. The Centre is rising to the challenges that we have set: a free funded nursery place for all four-year-olds and a doubling of the number of free three-year-old places by 2002."

In recent years the Fairway Children and Family Centre has been one of five centres in the borough providing a range of early education and family support services to 'children in need', along with community group services open to all families in the area.

Councillor Anne Jarvis Education lead member said: "Fairway Early Years Centre is a flagship in Barnet's Early Years and Childcare Plan which is based on the Government's 'Early Excellence Model'.

"Barnet Council is committed to providing good quality nursery education in Barnet and there are plans to provide more nursery classes each year so that we can extend this service to all three-year-olds by the end of 2002."

# Helping solve consumer problems the easy way

MANY people have reason to complain about the goods or services they buy. But many find themselves too easily fobbed off. Others think complaining might be too difficult to be worth pursuing.

Not so, say Barnet's Trading Standards who have produced an easy to use guide to help consumers help themselves when faced with shoddy goods and services.

Called the Consumer Action Pack it contains a series of colour coded leaflets giving a step by step guide to your rights and how to set about solving problems with traders.

With a little care, many consumer problems can be avoided even before any money is handed over.

Thinking about whether to pay cash or credit, shopping around and comparing prices, finding traders who have a good reputation and offer after-sales service will all help stop problems ever arising.

If the worst happens, Barnet's Action Pack will guide consumers through the rules and regulations which for many can seem a legal minefield but which are the key to getting satisfaction.

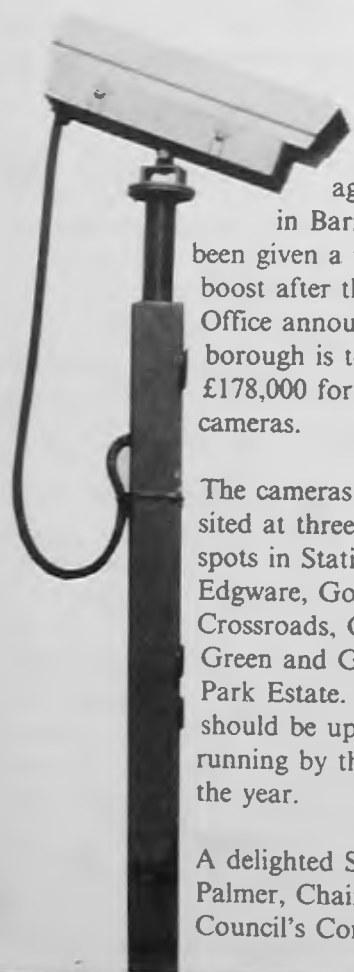
All the most frequently bought goods and services are covered ranging from fitted kitchens, clothes and double glazing to dry cleaning, car repairs and package holidays.

It explains dealing with guarantees and warranties, identifies your rights and responsibilities and shows how to put your case across to the right people clearly and effectively.

Taking a trader to court is a last resort. Carefully following the advice in the Action Pack should ensure in most cases this never happens.

The Action Pack is available free from Barnet Trading Standards who will include extra information on individual subjects for residents who are having particular problems. Contact them on 0181 359 2606

## I SPY! HELP IS ON THE WAY



THE war against crime in Barnet has been given a powerful boost after the Home Office announced the borough is to get £178,000 for CCTV cameras.

The cameras will be sited at three crime hot spots in Station Road, Edgware, Golders Green Crossroads, Golders Green and Grahame Park Estate. They should be up and running by the end of the year.

A delighted Susette Palmer, Chair of Barnet Council's Community

Development, said: "This is great news. The cameras will help us in our total determination to reduce crime and the fear of crime in Barnet.

"They will help us reach the target in our Community Safety Strategy of reducing street and violent crime in public places by five per cent and the fear of crime by ten per cent between 1999 and 2001. It will also help combat vandalism, drunkenness, graffiti and theft.

"The cameras will deter crime, identify suspects, provide evidence and help the police decide the appropriate level of response."

A crime audit was carried out in January last year which highlighted places in Barnet that would benefit from CCTV. A bid entitled Making Barnet Safer was made to the Home Office in July - one of 750 nation-wide last year.

Chief Executive Max Caller said: "The council is to receive every penny it put in for in its Making Barnet Safer bid. That bid was categorically supported by the results of a public consultation exercise.

"The council sent more than 5,000 questionnaires to Edgware and Golders Green traders. There was an overwhelming 96 per cent backing from respondents for CCTV cameras in those town centres."

Match funding to the tune of £179,980 will be contributed by Barnet Council and the police authority.

Local traders are also contributing towards the schemes in partnership with the council.

A total of twelve fixed location cameras would be installed at the three sites. More than 1,300 homes and nearly 500 commercial premises would be protected.

## On Yer Bike

BARNET Cyclists, a group set up to promote pedal power, are to take part in a gentle 30 mile ride to raise money for the Mayor's Appeal.

The ride, at 10am on Sunday, 16 April, will start at King George V playing fields, Barnet Lane, and go to Stanborough Lakes, Welwyn Garden City and back.

Experienced cyclists will be on hand to deal with minor repairs and there will be first aid and refreshments on the way. The ride, through scenic country lanes and cycle paths, is expected to finish by 6pm.

If you are interested and over 16, contact Norman Burgess on 0181-346-6337.

# Older, bolder and speaking out

ADVANCES in science, better health and nutrition mean people are living longer, more productive lives than ever.

That was the idea behind an Older and Bolder 2000 Conference organised by Barnet, Enfield and Haringey local authorities who are working together to create a framework for action for older people in north London. This will influence the development of social strategies.

At Edmonton's Millfield Theatre, celebrated film producer, Lord Putnam, returned to his north London roots to speak about the changes in an ageing society.

He told 300 older people from the three

boroughs: "The statistics are staggering. There are now 10.6 million older people in a country of 60 million. By the year 2030, 23 per cent of the population will be aged over 65."

"People aged 90 will be the norm and it is estimated that 36,000 people will live to be over 100. This is the decade in which the age balance alters substantially."

He said health, education and resources are the battlegrounds for devising strategies to deal with the enormous change, but the Government is committed to getting these elements in the right order.

Lord Putnam said: "We need a sensational

education system, for it is through education that we can support the other services." Other speakers included Martin Shreeve, from the Better Government For Older People programme, who said older people are now expressing powerful views.

Debate of the Age director Charles Carter spoke of new ideas such as age neutrality and the concept of retirement as a thing of the past.

This was reinforced with a performance of Age To Age, a community play written by its cast whose ages ranged from 14 to 80. Through drama, music, poetry and rap the play questioned attitudes to age and offered solutions.



Lord Putnam speaking at the Older and Bolder 2000 Conference

## Alternative lessons give truants a second chance

LIKE all schools, Queen Elizabeth's Girls' in Barnet keeps a very watchful eye on the attendance level of its charges. When a pupil starts to skip school regularly, action is swift.

"If a student starts to show a pattern of absence, their head of year will get in contact with the parents to discuss the students' behaviour and they are placed on a pastoral programme to encourage regular attendance", explains headteacher Anne Shinwell.

There may be a number of reasons why a child is absent from school. Says Anne Shinwell: "Some of the older students find the constraints of the curriculum doesn't suit them and once they are in the habit of not coming to school, they find it difficult to start attending."

Clearly, there is no easy and quick fix to what is often a complex problem. But for 15 and 16-year-olds a groundbreaking project in Barnet is helping pupils to end year 11 with a higher level of academic achievement and life skills than they might have achieved in school.

The Oasis project started in September 1998 with funding and support from Barnet Council's Youth Service. It was set up in response to increasingly high numbers of students in Barnet who were not attending school, and the lack of appropriate services to address their needs.

### Pupils leave Oasis Project with greater skills than they might have achieved in school

Following a successful pilot project involving 15 pupils from Edgware School, the scheme went borough-wide in September 1999 with a further 15 pupils from six different schools taking part.

Anne Shinwell immediately saw the benefits of the scheme. Along with senior members of staff, she set about identifying students whose attendance was giving them cause for concern and who may benefit from joining the Oasis programme.

Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School currently has seven year 11 pupils on the scheme, for which it pays a cash contribution per student.

A senior teacher works closely with the Oasis project team to help sort out any of the students' problems. Oasis students remain on the school role and attendance at the

project merits a mark in the school register.

Based at a youth centre in the borough, students undertake a series of courses, including GCSEs, which emphasise key skills and personal development.

The Oasis project team of qualified and experienced youth workers also works in partnership with a host of agencies to deliver a range of accredited programmes which students can choose to follow.

The emphasis is on the students taking personal responsibility for their behaviour and studying. They learn about the outcomes of their actions and how these affect themselves and others.

Participants build personal portfolios of their skills and abilities that can be used to help them into further education, training or work.

In addition, each student has an individual timetable created to meet their needs.

Work experience is offered to enable students to try out job areas they might be interested in following.

"The Oasis project has been successful", says Anne Shinwell. "It has given the students the opportunity to learn and succeed in a different environment."



Cllr. Williams signs up Barnet Council to Community Plan

## Signing up to a shared vision of the borough

RELIGIOUS leaders, businesses and community groups have signed up to a pledge to improve the quality of life in Barnet.

The Barnet Civic Forum, set up to develop a Community Plan for the borough, met at the council's offices in Friern Barnet Lane to sign a joint 'statement of intent'. It sets out how the forum will work together to help tackle priority areas in the borough.

The Forum, which first met in September 1999, is developing Barnet's first Community Plan which is a shared vision for the future, and a joint understanding of current issues facing Barnet.

Cllr Alan Williams who made a presentation to the Forum said: "Although we all do our best to work in partnership, the Community Plan will help us all to focus on the bigger picture and help us tackle those issues that must be solved together."

"The statement of intent is a written pledge which demonstrates the commitment of organisations involved in improving the quality of life in Barnet."

The Statement of Intent promises to:

- Ensure all Barnet's communities are able to contribute their views and that these are listened to and considered fairly.
- To help identify and prioritise the current and future needs of Barnet and agree a shared set of goals and clear targets and publish these in a 'Community Plan' for Barnet.
- Find better ways of working together and overcome barriers to achieve the Community Plan's aims.
- Regularly update the public and others about the Community Plan and its progress.
- Link organisations' future corporate strategies with the Community Plan to help deliver a shared vision.

The evening also included a presentation by Chief Executive, Max Caller, followed by workshops to discuss: Citizenship & Involvement; Investing in Skills; Promoting Public Health; Neighbourhood Renewal and Equality for All.

# St Valentine's Day graffiti massacre



TAKE that you dirty rat!...Cllr Monroe Palmer (pictured, above) showed he meant business when he got tough with graffiti during a St Valentine's Day crackdown.

He was lending a hand to clean up the streets of Barnet as part of a new pilot initiative to wipe out graffiti.

Street Cleaners carrying out an annual cleaning blitz in Finchley, Golders Green and Childs Hill between 14 and 18 February were, for the first-time, instructed to remove graffiti from public areas.

Twice each year, a 'block cleanse' takes place in all areas throughout the borough to supplement the usual clean ups. Previously, it has

included street cleansing, removal of fly tips and gully emptying. Skips are also provided in streets for large items of household waste.

But this year, the cleanse, dubbed the St Valentine's Day Graffiti massacre, used the opportunity to pilot the council's graffiti removal unit - a team of designated staff and specialised equipment operated by Finchley-based, Clean Streets Ltd.

Barnet Council is planning to set up a service to remove graffiti in general and offensive or racist graffiti on public buildings. This service is expected to become a permanent feature of Barnet's street care team from April.

Councillor Monroe Palmer, who represents Childs Hill ward and is lead member on regeneration said: "Graffiti is not only unsightly and spoils the character of buildings and property, it can also be deeply offensive.

"Barnet Council is committed to improving street services so that people who live, work and visit Barnet can enjoy the borough and do not have to tolerate this sort of anti-social behaviour.

"The new graffiti unit will help us implement a sustained programme of graffiti removal so that we can take a pro-active stance towards wiping out graffiti."

## Help from trading standards is just a click away

BARNET trading standards is now on the internet offering fast and direct access to help and advice via the council's website.

Residents can log on to Barnet Online and at a click of the button can quickly view practical, clear information on consumer and trading issues.

The site, launched in October 1999, can be accessed free of charge in many of Barnet's libraries.

Information is organised into sections on consumer advice, current issues, events, licensing, and Watling market.

Contact details for Barnet trading standards can be easily accessed, and the site contains a links section with access to a host of helpful organisations.

The consumer advice section contains details on Barnet trading standards' consumer action pack. Designed to be an easy-to-use guide to help

solve consumers' problems, it contains a step-by-step guide and practical and legal advice. It also includes sample letters for residents to send.

Barnet trading standards are also running a number of campaigns, including an education programme on underage sales and conversion to the metric system by businesses selling loose goods.

Information on these campaigns can be found in the current issues section of the website.

Councillor Beverley Pearce, Chair of the Environment Committee, said:

"Advice on consumer issues can be very complex and this site is a helpful resource for residents who have a complaint or are looking for help."

Visit the website at [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk) and just click on 'About Barnet'.

*improving quality of life*

Barnet Council

## Easter and May 2000 collection arrangements

### Refuse collection

With the support of the refuse crews there will be **no changes to refuse collections** on the following dates:

- Good Friday 21 April
- Easter Monday 24 April
- Monday 1 May
- Monday 29 May

Please have your refuse available for collection on your normal day by 6.30am.

Please do not overload your bin - the lid must be closed.

For special or Passover collection please ring (020) 8359 4600. There is a charge for this service.

Barnet's Civic Amenity (Residents' Waste) site at Brent Terrace, off Tilling Road is open from 8am to 4pm daily throughout the holiday.

### Recycling collection

There will be **no change to recycling collections** through the Easter period or in May.

***With your help we hope to collect over 6,500 tonnes of paper this financial year.***

***If you are not part of the scheme and would like to be, please contact our Customer care Unit, telephone (020)8359 4600.***



*"The most rewarding part of being a carer is when a child comes into your care frightened and with no confidence and then you see them gradually blossom into wonderful young person"*

...Terry Savva, foster carer

FOSTER dad Terry Savva is in no doubt, he says: "Fostering a child is a big decision and one which the whole family had to make."

Terry, 52, who lives with his wife Andrulla in Enfield started fostering in 1992 after answering an advert to provide care for a homeless child.

Terry and his family have since provided long-term care and emergency care for many children and currently have four foster children aged between 12 and 18.

According to Terry, "The most rewarding part of being a carer is when a child comes into your care frightened and with no confidence and then you see them gradually blossom into wonderful young person."

Terry who has one daughter, Chrissy, aged 23 claims: "You need a great deal of love and patience to be a foster carer. In fact, you need more patience than you would usually have with your own children because quite often they have been rejected so many times."

Before Terry and the family could foster their first child they had to undergo eight months of training and checks including police checks.

They and other foster carers, who work round the clock looking after children in need, are being given extra support and allowances under a new Government initiative called Quality Protects.

But despite this, Barnet Council is still crying out for suitable carers to provide foster care.

Terry said: "People don't become foster parents for the money - if you did you'd be sadly disappointed. Fostering is a full-time job and although the money helps, the real rewards are the love and appreciation you get from the children."

Cllr Phil Yeoman, Barnet Council's lead member on social services, said: "Being a foster carer is a 24-hour job which

requires enormous dedication and commitment, so even with extra cash incentives it's still not easy to find people to fit the bill."

Currently, there are 89 foster carers working for Barnet Council, including experienced carer, Terry Savva who has fostered nine children in Barnet who have been exposed to various kinds of abuse or neglect.

As well as the fostering allowances, Barnet Council also provides carers with the support of a social worker, ongoing training, 24 days paid respite a year and Membership of the National Foster Care Association.

Terry Savva explains: "Working with Barnet Council, you get great support and training and you are made to feel very valued. You also know that you can call someone at anytime for advice. There are also support groups every six weeks, where you can meet other carers to learn from each other and share experiences."

Barnet has recently set up a new project called The Professional Foster Carers Scheme. To become a carer on this scheme you must have proven childcare experience including fostering or have a professional child care qualification.

You will also need plenty of time and energy and enough space in your home to accommodate a child. Carers under this scheme are paid a weekly fee plus allowances for the child.

Cllr Yeoman said: "Children of all ages and backgrounds are placed in the care of Barnet Council for various reasons. Some are orphaned or abandoned, some have suffered emotional, physical or sexual abuse and some are from homes where parents are unable to cope.

"Barnet Council is committed to protecting children and providing a good standard of care for them. To do this we urgently need people who can provide a safe and caring environment for these children."

To find out more about fostering, please call 0181 359 5701.

## Council staff receive awards for 1,326 years service

VALERIE Ross and her twelve year-old son, Ben (pictured, left) collect a canteen of cutlery from the Mayor of Barnet, Cllr Jack Cohen. Mrs Valerie Ross of Northolm, Edgware has worked with Barnet Council in various posts since 1969. The Children and Youth Advisor at Hendon Library was among staff being honoured who had clocked up a total of 1,326 years service with the council.

Forty three staff who had individually worked for the council for up to 40 years collected gifts up to the value of £120 each from the Mayor at the ceremony at The Town Hall, Hendon.

Staff included a number of teachers, school kitchen attendants, building control surveyors, welfare assistants, home helps and librarians. The gifts, chosen by the staff, included Wedgwood vases, jewellery, a garden bench, watches, a canteen of cutlery and a camera.

On presenting the gifts, Cllr. Jack Cohen said: "The ceremony, held every year, is a fitting tribute to the dedicated members of staff which have worked tirelessly

## Ten out of ten for artistic impression



TOTTERIDGE artist, Gabrielle Weigert (pictured) was one of fifteen north London artists paid cash for art in an award scheme organised by Barnet Council.

For the first time, young artists from the neighbouring boroughs of Brent, Haringey, Enfield and Harrow were invited to compete against Barnet artists for a share of the £20,000 Milly Apthorp Fund for Young Artists.

The aim of the fund, which pays up to £5,000 a piece for artwork to be displayed in hospitals, schools, residential homes and youth centres, is to encourage promising young artists.

The project, open to artists aged 18-30 from the five boroughs, attracted forty Barnet artists including Gabrielle, 23, of Ventnor Drive who was awarded £750 for her wallhanging named 'Reflections'.

Cllr Susette Palmer, Barnet's lead member on community development, said: "We had an amazing array of artwork sent in this year by talented young artists from all five boroughs.

"We wanted to open up the competition to other boroughs this year to extend the benefits of the fund and so that Barnet could share in the work of other talented young artists in London."

The final selections were made on 1 February by two panels of judges which included gallery owners, practicing artists and a trustee of the Milly Apthorp Charitable Trust which provides the funds.

Before the artwork is displayed in public places in Barnet it will be exhibited at arts centres and galleries in north London including The Bull Arts Centre, Barnet in June.

for Barnet Council over a considerable amount of time.

"As a recognised 'Investor In People', Barnet Council is committed to providing excellent employment conditions and the length of service of our staff would suggest that we are meeting these targets."

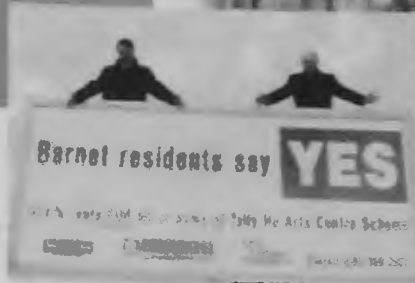
The longest serving member of staff at the ceremony, was Mr Trevor Bainbridge, Headteacher of Moss Hall Junior School in Barnet.

Mr Bainbridge joined the authority as a teacher at Livingstone School in 1960. His 40-year career with Barnet Council has included teaching posts at Cromer Road School, Courtland School and Moss Hall Junior School where he was headteacher until his retirement in August 1999.

A total of 14 long service awards were handed to existing staff who had completed 30 years service. Vellums - awards for people who have retired after at least 25 years - were presented to 26 people and three people received both awards.



# Nine out of ten back Tally Ho



Above, artists impression of how the arts centre might look. Left, Council leader, Alan Williams and Gerald Knight, of Chiltern Investment Properties, unveil the consultation results.

## A day of celebration and fun for Burnt Oak

Watling Festival 2000 on Sunday 4 June

AGE will be no barrier at the huge community festival being planned for Burnt Oak on June 4 - everyone can join in and there will be something for the whole family.

More than 12,000 people are expected to pour into Montrose Park for Watling Festival 2000.

The Burnt Oak park will be the host venue for the fifth year in a row in what is likely to be the biggest community event seen in the area for years.

A major feature of this special year's festival will be the Millennium Roadshow in the main arena. This is a high profile live and recorded music event with a focus on local young people with talent looking to break into the popular music business.

Among this year's other attractions will be an Arts Tent with mask making, kites, dragons and face painting, community stalls and kiddies rides.

There will be a parachute display jump by London Fire Brigade, helicopter trips, sports contests, dog show, funfair, vintage vehicle displays and much more.

A wide range of food and refreshments provided by local traders will be available throughout the day including a beer tent.

Last year's biggest crowd-pullers included 'Mr Blobby' and Heart FM Radio and this year promises more surprises in store.

Watling Festival 2000 will open at 10 am and run till late. This biggest festival yet will for the first time take over the whole of Montrose Park in Montrose Avenue, Burnt Oak.

**E**XCITING plans to breathe new life into North Finchley, which includes an arts centre, have won the overwhelming backing of residents questioned.

The £35 million development won the support of residents in a pre-planning consultation carried out by Barnet Council and its development partners.

Nine hundred and fifty seven questionnaires were returned to the council. 148 people submitted a petition and hundreds of people visited the exhibition.

Of those who returned the questionnaire, 93.8 per cent said that North Finchley town centre is in need of regeneration. And 94.6 per cent said that the Tally Ho Corner site should be redeveloped.

Including those who signed the petition, 91.1 per cent are in favour of all or some parts of the proposed scheme.

**C**ouncil leader Alan Williams said: "This scheme is a great opportunity to regenerate North Finchley, and I am thrilled that so many residents

have given it the thumbs up.

"We are especially pleased to receive so many positive comments in response to a development which comprises so many elements."

Brochures, including a questionnaire, were distributed to homes in and around North Finchley and an exhibition including visual presentations was open at Tally Ho Corner from February 12 to 19.

**A** document is to be sent to all people taking part answering points raised. The single area of most frequently expressed concern related to parking and traffic. Some, 132, were worried there was not enough parking in the scheme, 76 said the development would make parking worse and 12 said car parks were already full. One hundred and nine said the development would exacerbate traffic, 21 wanted public transport improved.

The document will say the scheme is fully in tune with the council and Government's planning and transport policies as it is in a

town centre with good public transport provision and within walking range of many people.

The scheme provides one parking space for each residential unit and a further 100 spaces for the other users which is considered enough. Officers have been meeting with local traders and residents to overcome concerns about traffic and parking since last year and a parking management strategy is to be drawn up.

**M**eanwhile, 107 people were worried about the height of the apartment building, 86 about other design aspects, 25 wanted adequate landscaping and 17 were worried about potential vandalism and graffiti.

The document will say that Tally Ho is a landmark development for the 21st century. The scheme will use high quality materials that are durable and retain their appearance. And in response to comments, a more cohesive and dynamic design to the apartment

building has been made. Forty three people wanted the market kept on site and 39 others wanted to know whether it would be relocated. The document will say that it is impossible to retain the market, but discussions have been taking place with traders to find a good quality alternative elsewhere in North Finchley.

**O**ther concerns, included 48 saying there was no need for an arts centre, 16 saying it would be too costly to ratepayers and ten thought the theatre too small. The document will say that based on potential audience and user surveys undertaken by specialist advisers and consultation with local people, there is a need for an arts centre in the borough.

A planning application was submitted to the council on March 6 with planners expected to consider the proposals later this year. If the development is granted approval, building work could begin in October.

## 'Supporting people' to target benefits at the most vulnerable

**P**EOPLE in the front line of providing housing support for vulnerable groups are to play a key role in the development of the government's new 'Supporting People' policy designed to streamline the way benefit is calculated.

'Supporting People' will fund support for groups such as frail elderly people, people with mental health problems, and victims of domestic violence.

Services may include the general support, counselling and

supervision which enables vulnerable residents to live with some independence within the community.

In recent years, Housing Benefit has been used to meet the costs of these services over which the Government has had no control. The result was that the standard and quality of support services were not properly monitored.

The present complicated funding arrangements are to be replaced by a single budget specifically to protect vulnerable groups and will

be administered by the council.

It is designed to ensure future funding for support services will be clear and practical and will enable councils to respond more effectively to local needs and priorities in partnership with local agencies.

It should also help ensure vulnerable people get the cost effective, high quality services they need and deserve.

People who provide these services are now being asked to think

about how they account for the services they provide and those who live in supported accommodation, whether public or private, may be asked to help by giving information about their special needs. This is essential to work out what funds will be needed to pay for the new system.

A temporary scheme, beginning April, will insure the present support continues until the new long-term system starts in March 2003.

# School kids to put best foot forward in Walk to School Week

CHILDREN and their parents are to be encouraged to walk to school during a special week running from 21 to 24 May.

The number of children walking to school has dramatically declined in the past 20 years from 72 per cent in 1975 to 59 per cent in 1994.

The rise in car usage has caused increased traffic around Barnet's schools, resulting in increased dangers around school entrances.

The week, being run in line with the National Pedestrian Association campaign, aims to highlight the many benefits gained from walking to school. These include keeping fit, learning valuable road safety skills, becoming more independent road users, reducing pollution and congestion on roads.

Children also enjoy walking with their parents, meeting friends and getting to know their local environment.

Children who took part in last year's Walk To School Week were asked to complete a diary. This required them to consider the environment and how they felt about traffic and safety issues as well as how clean and enjoyable their walk was.

Walk To School Week is co-ordinated by Barnet's Accident Prevention Unit. Last year's campaign was very successful with more than 60 schools taking part.

People who live too far away from school to walk the whole journey were asked to park away from the school gates and walk part of the journey.

During the week there was a noticeable improvement in the amount of congestion during the school run.

Cllr Beverley Pearce, Environment Policy Development Committee chair, said: "We hope that parents and their children will become motivated to walk to school not just during the week, but all year round."

# Council aims to drive out rogue motor traders



**Cllr. Beverly Pearce gives approval to one garage taking part in the scheme**

Barnet Council has teamed up with 18 local garages to help drive out rogue motor traders.

A new Registered Motor Trader Scheme which will award certificates to fair, safe and honest traders came into force on Monday 6 March.

The scheme, developed by the council's Trading Standards team, Chamber of Commerce, Retail Motor Industry Federation and local motor traders, aims to improve standards of trade and bring dodgy dealers into line. It covers motor sales, vehicle repairs, servicing and the sale of parts and accessories.

For customers, it means that any garage displaying the 'registered motor trader certificate' has been

vetted by trading standards and complies with trading and consumer rights legislation.

Councillor Beverley Pearce, lead member on the Environment said: "The Registration Scheme has major benefits for everyone. Consumers will be assured of traders committed to best trading practice, the trade will improve its image and registered traders will gain business from those less committed to offering a fair deal.

Members of the Barnet Registered Motor Trader Scheme must sign a code of practice promising to:

- comply fully with trading and consumer rights laws
- train staff to meet codes of practice

- make full checks on the descriptions and history of used vehicles and to pass information on to customers

- be open about the source of spare parts and the price of servicing and repairs

- to run a proper complaints system that ensures that customers receive a fair hearing and have the choice of swift, independent and binding arbitration

The full membership list is available at action points and libraries in Barnet and is posted on the council's website at: [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk).

For further details about the scheme, call Barnet Trading Standards on 0181 359 4889/2606.

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## Local sports clubs?

Barnet Council's Sports Development Team is updating a sports club database to:

- encourage new members into sports clubs
- provide a point of contact for local clubs
- eventually produce a directory of clubs in Barnet, accessible to all.

Name/address of club

---

Contact name

---

Telephone (Day)

---

Evening

---

Correspondence address

---

Brief details

---

If you do not want your correspondence address included in the Barnet borough guide of sports clubs tick this box

If you do not want your club details included on our web site tick this box



**Please use the tear off slip to send your details to:**

Leisure Services Section  
FREEPOST ND1237  
The Old Town Hall  
1 Friern Barnet Lane  
London, N11 3DL

Or contact Chris Walker on  
**T** (020) 8359 3317  
**F** (020) 8359 3011  
**E** [leisure@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:leisure@barnet.gov.uk)



# What to do in the Easter holidays

THE Easter school break sees the return of Barnet Council's popular Splash Holiday Schemes for 11-16 year olds.

Taking place at five venues in Barnet, the schemes have a host of holiday activities in store to keep kids entertained from 17 to 28 April.

The Splash Schemes, subsidised by Barnet Council, the Barnet Crime Reduction Partnership and run by experienced youth leaders take place Monday - Friday from 10am 'til 4pm (times may vary).

The cost for each week is £20 including the cost of activities and day trips to the Millennium Dome, ice skating and canoeing.

To book a place on one of the Splash Schemes call your nearest centre:

- Church Farm Youth Club, East Barnet - 0181 361 3051
- Claremont Club, Cricklewood - 0181 458 1709
- Grahame Park Youth Centre, Colindale - 0181 205 7112
- Herbert Wilmot Youth



Centre, East Finchley - 0181 444 8422

- Rainbow Centre, Barnet - 0181 440 4608

## Libraries

Barnet's children's libraries will also host seasonal activities and sessions throughout the two week break.

Special art and craft kids' sessions include 'Make a mischievous Easter bunny

mask', at East Barnet Library; 'Make an Easter Card' and 'Make a Hedgehog Picture' at Chipping Barnet and Friern Barnet libraries as well as 'Spring Holiday Fun' for the over 5s at Mill Hill library.

The libraries' regular programme of story time sessions for under fives will also take place. For further details of what's on and where contact your local library.

## Sporting activities

Sporting youngsters can instead opt for activity weeks and coaching courses in football, tennis, squash, golf and swimming.

Activity weeks, organised by Barnet Copthall Pools include Mini Choices for 4-5 year olds offering arts and crafts, treasure hunts and fun-swims. There are also Minor Choice sessions geared at 6-7 year olds and

Super Choices for 8-12s which include archery, football, bungee, running and day trips to sporting venues.

## Coaching

All ages can also benefit from five-day tennis coaching courses available in Mill Hill and Hendon and there are four day basic golf courses sponsored and accredited by the Golf Foundation.

'Holiday Football' offers young footballers the chance to get professional tuition from FA qualified coaches in partnership courses with Barnet Football Club. There will also be opportunities for children to meet their favourite 'Bees' player and win match tickets.

Kids swimming lessons for beginners and improvers and life saving and diving courses will also take place at Copthall, Finchley Lido and Church Farm pools.

For further details of any of the sports and activity courses either visit or call Barnet Copthall Pools, Great North Way, Hendon on 0181 457 9909.

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Barnet Council

## COUNCIL TENANTS WHY YOU SHOULD GET INVOLVED

The Government is changing the way that local councils consult and involve residents. **This means that you can have a greater say in the running of your housing services.**

Barnet Council is setting up '**Partnership Panels**' to ensure that the services we provide are what you want – **but we need your support.**

Partnership Panels will discuss:

- the local needs of tenants on an area basis
- improving the standard of the service we provide
- where money is to be spent
- information about estate improvements
- improving the safety of the community and the environment for your family.

This is just the start. There are many more opportunities for you to improve your neighbourhood.

It doesn't matter who you are - we want to hear from you.

**We would especially like to hear from those of you who live in Edgware or Barnet.**

Want to know more? Contact Yvonne Williams on **0181 359 4821.**



# COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES

(at Bank Holidays, surgery times may change. Please ring beforehand to check) (Con = Conservative, Lab = Labour, LibDem = Liberal Democrat)

## ARKLEY WARD

### ANITA CAMPBELL (Lab)

Tel: 0181-440 2703.  
e-mail: [cllr.a.campbell@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.campbell@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: 1st and 3rd Saturday every month at Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Road, Barnet EN5 4QT, 2-3pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

### PAULINE COAKLEY WEBB (Lab)

Tel and fax: 0181-449 2588.  
e-mail: [cllr.p.coakleywebb@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.p.coakleywebb@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: 1st and 3rd Saturday every month at Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Road, Barnet EN5 4QT, 2-3pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### PAM COLEMAN (Lab)

Tel: 0181-449 6254. e-mail: [cllr.pam.coleman@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.pam.coleman@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: 1st and 3rd Saturday every month at Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Road, Barnet EN5 4QT, 2-3pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

## BRUNSWICK PARK WARD

### GEOF COOKE (Lab)

Tel: 0181-446 5773.  
Fax: 0181-446 8315.  
e-mail: [cllr.g.cooke@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.g.cooke@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: Tuesdays at New Southgate and Friern Barnet Social Club, 31 Oakleigh Road South, New Southgate, London N11, 7-8pm. Also: Saturdays at Labour Party Office, 104 East Barnet Road, New Barnet, EN4 8RE, 10.30am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### LYNNE HILLAN (Con)

Home Tel: 0181-445 5101  
Work Tel: 0181-452 7222.  
Work Fax: 0181-450 3232.  
e-mail: [cllr.l.hillan@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.l.hillan@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: 2nd Saturday every month at Osidge Library, Brunswick Park Road, London N11 1EY, 10.30am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### ANDREAS TAMBOURIDES (Con)

Tel and fax: 0181-368 5417.  
e-mail: [cllr.a.tambourides@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.tambourides@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: 2nd Saturday every month at Osidge Library, Brunswick Park Road, London N11 1EY, 10.30am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

Remember that after April 22, phone numbers in Outer London will change from 0181-XXX XXXX to (020) 8XXX XXXX



## BURNT OAK WARD

### LINDA McFADYEN (Lab)

Tel: 0181-364 8782.  
e-mail: [cllr.l.mcfadyen@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.l.mcfadyen@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: Saturdays at Burnt Oak Library, Watling Avenue, Burnt Oak, Middx, 10.30am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### ALLAN TURNER (Lab)

Tel: 0181-952 2106.  
e-mail: [cllr.a.turner@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.turner@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: Saturdays at Burnt Oak Library, Watling Avenue, Burnt Oak, Middx, 10.30am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### ALAN WILLIAMS (Lab)

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (LABOUR GROUP LEADER)  
Tel: 0181-906 0576.  
e-mail: [cllr.a.williams@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.williams@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: Saturdays at Burnt Oak Library, Watling Avenue, Burnt Oak, Middx, 10.30am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

## CHILDS HILL WARD

### JACK COHEN (LibDem)

MAYOR  
Tel and fax: 0181-446 7940.  
e-mail: [cllr.j.cohen@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.j.cohen@barnet.gov.uk)  
[www.childshilllibdems.org.uk](http://www.childshilllibdems.org.uk)  
Surgery: 1st Thursday every month at Childs Hill Library, Cricklewood Lane, London NW2, 7-8pm. Also: 2nd Tuesday every month at Kent Hall, Westcroft Way, London NW2, 4-5pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### MONROE PALMER (LibDem)

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP LEADER  
Tel: 0181-455 5140.  
Fax: 0181-731 7670  
e-mail: [cllr.m.palmer@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.m.palmer@barnet.gov.uk)  
[www.childshilllibdems.org.uk](http://www.childshilllibdems.org.uk)  
Surgery: 1st Thursday every month at Childs Hill Library, Cricklewood Lane, London NW2, 7-8pm. Also: 2nd Tuesday every month at Kent Hall, Westcroft Way, London NW2,

4-5pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### SUSETTE PALMER (LibDem)

Tel: 0181-455 5140.  
Fax: 0181-731 7670.  
e-mail: [cllr.s.palmer@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.s.palmer@barnet.gov.uk)  
[www.childshilllibdems.org.uk](http://www.childshilllibdems.org.uk)  
Surgery: 1st Thursday every month at Childs Hill Library, Cricklewood Lane, London NW2, 7-8pm.  
Also: 2nd Tuesday every month at Kent Hall, Westcroft Way, London NW2, 4-5pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

## COLINDALE WARD

### DANISH CHOPRA (Lab)

Tel and fax: 0181-449 3231  
e-mail: [cllr.d.chopra@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.d.chopra@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: Saturdays at Grahame Park Library, The Concourse, Colindale, NW9 5XL, 10-11am  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### NATHANIEL RUDOLF (Lab)

Tel: 0181-346 1175.  
e-mail: [cllr.n.rudolf@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.n.rudolf@barnet.gov.uk)  
Surgery: Saturdays at Grahame Park Library, The Concourse, Colindale, NW9 5XL, 10-11am.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### GILL SARGEANT (Lab)

Tel: 0181-455 1070.  
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Surgery: Saturdays at Grahame Park Library, The Concourse, Colindale, NW9 5XL, 10-11am.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

## EAST BARNET WARD

### USHA CHOPRA (Lab)

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### OLWEN EVANS (Con)

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Surgery: 1st Saturday every month at The Community Centre, Victoria Road, New Barnet, 10.30am-12noon  
Also: 3rd Saturday every month at East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill Road, East Barnet, EN4 8SG, 10.30am-12noon  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

### ANNE JARVIS (Lab)

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Surgery: Saturdays at Labour Party Office, 104 East Barnet Road, New Barnet, EN4 8RE, 10.30am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

## EAST FINCHLEY WARD

### HELEN GORDON (Lab)

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Surgery: Saturdays at East Finchley Neighbourhood Centre, Church Lane, East Finchley, N2, 10-11.30am.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

### ALISON MOORE (Lab)

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Surgery: Saturdays at East Finchley Neighbourhood Centre, Church Lane, East Finchley, N2, 10-11.30am.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

### PHIL YEOMAN (Lab)

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Surgery: Saturdays at East Finchley Neighbourhood Centre, Church Lane, East Finchley, N2, 10-11.30am  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

## EDGWARE WARD

### MALCOLM LESTER (Con)

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Surgery: every Tuesday at Edgware Library, Hale Lane, Edgware HA8 8NN, 6-7pm  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

### JOAN SCANNELL (Con)

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Fax: 0181-906 9292.  
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Surgery: every Tuesday at

Edgware Library, Hale Lane,  
Edgware HA8 8NN, 6-7pm  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**ANTHONY SPENCER (Con)**

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Surgery: every Tuesday at  
Edgware Library, Hale Lane,  
Edgware HA8 8NN, 6-7pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**FINCHLEY WARD**

**EVA GREENSPAN (Con)**

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Surgery: 1st Wednesday every  
month at Avenue House, East  
End Road, Finchley, N3, 7.30-  
8.30pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**BARBARA LANGSTONE (Con)**

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Surgery: 1st Wednesday every  
month at Avenue House, East  
End Road, Finchley, N3, 7.30-  
8.30pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**LESLIE SUSSMAN (Con)**

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Surgery: 1st Wednesday every  
month at Avenue House, East  
End Road, Finchley, N3,  
7.30-8.30pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**FRIERN BARNET WARD**

**JAMES CHAPMAN (Con)**

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cldr.j.chapman@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: 2nd Saturday every  
month at Friern Barnet Library,  
Friern Barnet Lane, N11,  
10.30am - 12 noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**BRIAN SALINGER (Con)**

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Mobile Telephone: 0956  
337878.  
e-mail: bialinger@aol.com  
Surgery: 2nd Saturday every  
month at Friern Barnet Library,  
Friern Barnet Lane, N11,  
10.30am-12 noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT  
NECESSARY

**JOHN TIPLADY (Con)**

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cldr.j.tiplady@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: 2nd Saturday every

month at Friern Barnet Library,  
Friern Barnet Lane, N11,  
10.30am-12 noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT  
NECESSARY

**GARDEN SUBURB WARD**

**JOHN MARSHALL (Con)**

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e-mail:  
cldr.j.marshall@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: 4th Monday every  
month at Fellowship House,  
Willifield Way, London NW11,  
7.30-9pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**JAZMIN NAGHAR (Con)**

Tel: 0181-458 2466.  
Fax: 0181-458 5457.  
Surgery: 4th Monday every  
month at Fellowship House,  
Willifield Way, London NW11,  
7.30-9pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**Dr. PETER SKOLAR (Con)**

Tel: 0181-455 1652.  
Fax: 0181-731 9414.  
e-mail:  
cldr.dr.p.skolar@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: 4th Monday every  
month at Fellowship House,  
Willifield Way, London NW11,  
7.30-9pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**GOLDERS GREEN WARD**

**MELVIN COHEN (Con)**

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0181-445 0979. e-mail:  
cldr.m.cohen@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: 2nd Sunday every  
month at Golders Green Library,  
2.15-3.15pm. Fourth Sunday  
every month at Hendon Sports  
Centre, 11.15am-12.15pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**ABA DUNNER (Con)**

Tel: 0181-455 9960. Work Tel:  
0181-731 9025. e-mail:  
cldr.a.dunner@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: 2nd Sunday every  
month at Golders Green Library,  
2.15-3.15pm. Fourth Sunday  
every month at Hendon Sports  
Centre, 11.15am-12.15pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**CHRISTOPHER HARRIS (Con)**

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Surgery: 2nd Sunday every  
month at Golders Green Library,  
2.15-3.15pm. Fourth Sunday  
every month at Hendon Sports  
Centre, 11.15am-12.15pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**HADLEY WARD**

**KATIA DAVID (Con)**

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Surgery: 3rd Saturday every  
month at Chipping Barnet  
Conservative Association, 163  
High Street, Barnet, EN5 5SU,  
10.30am-12noon. Tel: 0181-449  
7345. Fax: 0181-449 7346.  
Also: 4th Saturday every month  
at Chipping Barnet Library,  
3 Stapylton Road, Barnet  
EN5 4QT. 11.30am-1pm  
Tel: 0181-359 4040.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**LIZ MAMMATT (Con)**

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month at Chipping Barnet  
Conservative Association, 163  
High Street, Barnet, EN5 5SU,  
10.30am-12noon. Tel: 0181 449  
7345. Fax: 0181-449 7346.  
Also: 4th Saturday every month  
at Chipping Barnet Library,  
3 Stapylton Road, Barnet  
EN5 4QT. 11.30am-1pm  
Tel: 0181-359 4040.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**KANTI PATEL (Con)**

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e-mail: cldr.k.patel@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: 3rd Saturday every  
month at Chipping Barnet  
Conservative Association, 163  
High Street, Barnet, EN5 5SU,  
10.30am-12noon. Tel: 0181-449  
7345. Fax: 0181-449 7346.  
Also: 4th Saturday every month  
at Chipping Barnet Library, 3  
Stapylton Road, Barnet EN5  
4QT. 11.30am-1pm Tel: 0181-  
359 4040.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**HALE WARD**

**STEVEN BLOMER (Lab)**

Home Tel: 0181-959 7878.  
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Surgery: 1st and 3rd Thursday  
every month 3.45-4.45pm, 1st  
and 3rd Saturday every month  
1-2.30pm at Mill Hill Library,  
Hartley Avenue, NW7 2HX.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**BRIAN GORDON (Con)**

Tel: 0181-381 3339 (daytime).  
Fax: 0181-381 3336.  
Mobile: 07931 300679  
Surgery: Last Thursday in every  
month at Hendon Conservative  
Association, 2 Apex Parade,  
Selvage Lane, London, NW7,  
8.15-9.15pm.  
Tel: 0181-381 3339  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**RUTH NYMAN (Lab)**

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e-mail:  
cldr.r.nyman@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: 1st and 3rd Thursday  
every month 3.45-4.45pm, 1st  
and 3rd Saturday every month  
1-2.30pm at Mill Hill Library,  
Hartley Avenue, NW7 2HX.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

**HENDON WARD**

**MAUREEN BRAUN (Con)**

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Surgery: 1st Monday every  
month at Hendon Library, The  
Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ,  
6.45-7.45pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**ANTHONY FINN (Con)**

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Work Fax: 0171-328 2140.  
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month at Hendon Library, The  
Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ,  
6.45-7.45pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

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month at Hendon Library, The  
Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ,  
6.45-7.45pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**MILL HILL WARD**

**ROGER AXWORTHY (LibDem)**

Tel: 0181-906 8863.  
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e-mail:  
cldr.r.axworthy@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: Saturdays at Mill Hill  
Library, Hartley Avenue, Mill  
Hill, London NW7 2HX,  
10am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**WAYNE CASEY (LibDem)**

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Surgery: Saturdays at Mill Hill  
Library, Hartley Avenue, London  
NW7 2HX, 10am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**JEREMY DAVIES (LibDem)**

DEPUTY MAYOR  
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Surgery: Saturdays at Mill Hill  
Library, Hartley Avenue, London  
NW7 2HX, 10am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**ST. PAUL'S WARD**

**KITTY LYONS (Lab)**

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Labour Party Office, 38 Church  
Lane, N2, 11am-12.30pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

**KATHY McGUIRK (Lab)**

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Surgery: Saturdays at the  
Labour Party Office, 38 Church  
Lane, N2, 11am-12.30pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

**JIM TIERNEY (Lab)**

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Surgery: Saturdays at the  
Labour Party Office,  
38 Church Lane, N2, 11am-  
12.30pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**TOTTERIDGE WARD**

**BRIAN COLEMAN (Con)**

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Next surgeries are April 15,  
10.30am-12noon at Totteridge  
Library, 109 Totteridge Lane,  
London N20 8DZ, 0181-445  
5288 and 20 May 10.30am-  
12noon at North Finchley  
Library, Ravensdale Avenue,  
N12 9HP,  
0181-445 4081.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY  
or contact  
163 High Street, Barnet  
(0181-449 7345)

**KEVIN EDSON (Con)**

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surgeries are April 15,  
10.30am-12noon at Totteridge  
Library, 109 Totteridge Lane,  
London N20 8DZ, 0181-445  
5288 and 20 May 10.30am-  
12noon at North Finchley  
Library, Ravensdale Avenue,  
N12 9HP,  
0181-445 4081  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.  
or contact  
163 High Street, Barnet  
(0181-449 7345)

**VICTOR LYON (Con)**

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Next surgeries are April 15,  
10.30am-12noon at Totteridge  
Library, 109 Totteridge Lane,  
London N20 8DZ, 0181-445  
5288 and 20 May 10.30am-

12noon at North Finchley  
Library, Ravensdale Avenue,  
N12 9HP,  
0181-445 4081  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY  
or contact 163 High Street,  
Barnet  
(0181-449 7345)

**WEST HENDON WARD**

**ARUN GHOSH (Lab)**

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cldr.a.ghosh@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: Saturdays at West  
Hendon Community Centre,  
Marsh Drive, West Hendon,  
NW9, 10.30am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**AGNES SLOCOMBE (Lab)**

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e-mail:  
cldr.a.slocombe@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: Saturdays at West  
Hendon Community Centre,  
Marsh Drive, West Hendon,  
NW9, 10.30am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

**ANSUYA SODHA (Lab)**

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cldr.a.sodha@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: Saturdays at West  
Hendon Community Centre,  
Marsh Drive, West Hendon,  
NW9, 10.30am-12noon.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**WOODHOUSE WARD**

**BEVERLEY PEARCE (Lab)**

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e-mail:  
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Surgery: 1st Saturday every  
month, South Friern Library,  
Colney Hatch Lane, N10, 11am-  
12.30pm and other Saturdays at  
1 Friern Park, North Finchley,  
N12 (portacabin), 11am-  
12.30pm.  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

**BARRY RAWLINGS (Lab)**

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e-mail:  
cldr.b.rawlings@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: 1st Saturday every  
month, South Friern Library,  
Colney Hatch Lane, N10, 11am-  
12.30pm and other Saturdays at  
1 Friern Park, North Finchley,  
N12 (portacabin), 11am-  
12.30pm  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

**PAUL ROGERS (Lab)**

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cldr.p.rogers@barnet.gov.uk  
Surgery: 1st Saturday every  
month, South Friern Library,  
Colney Hatch Lane, N10, 11am-  
12.30pm and other Saturdays at  
1 Friern Park, North Finchley,  
N12 (portacabin), 11am-  
12.30pm  
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

# Bookstart packs for babies



FROM March, every baby in the borough will receive free books thanks to a national scheme being introduced by Barnet Council and Barnet Healthcare.

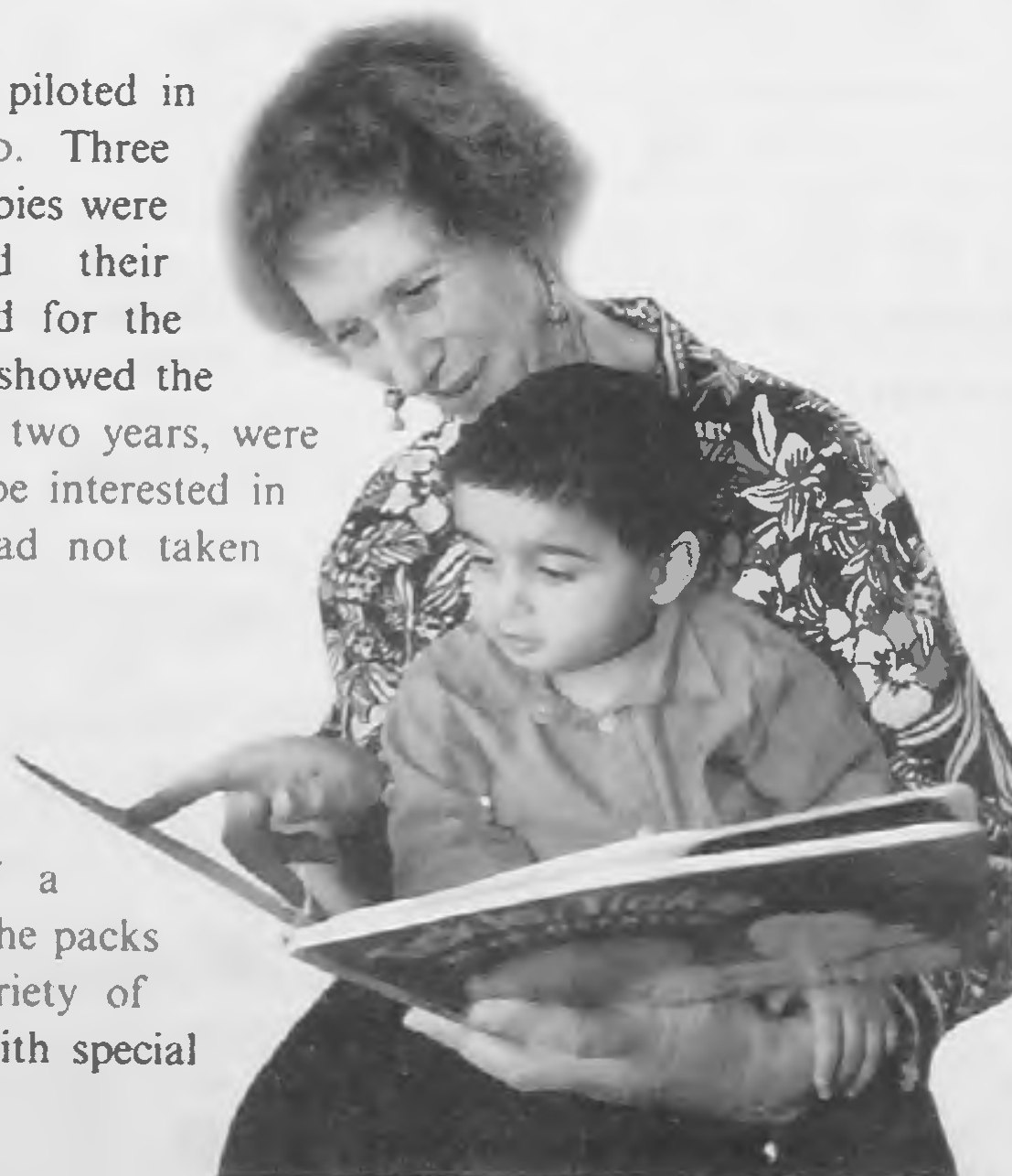
Bookstart, which encourages parents to share books with their children from a very early age, was launched on Friday 3 March at Chipping Barnet Library by the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Jack Cohen. It was attended by the founder of Bookstart, Wendy Cooling, a well-known children's author and Barnet resident.

The Bookstart packs supplied by Barnet Library service, will be handed out by Health visitors at the seven-month development check to around 4,000 babies each year. The packs include two free board books, a laminated place mat plus information about Bookstart and using books with young babies.

Councillor Susette Palmer, chair of the council's Community Development Committee said: "Bookstart is based on the belief that children introduced to books at a very early age are more likely to be interested in reading than children not exposed to books at a young age. There is also evidence to suggest that children will have an advantage that can last throughout their life."

The scheme was originally piloted in Birmingham six years ago. Three hundred nine-month old babies were given free books and their development was monitored for the next five years. The results showed the Bookstart babies, after just two years, were three times more likely to be interested in reading than those who had not taken part in the scheme.

Bookstart, sponsored by Sainsbury's, has 190 schemes in Britain and has handed out around half a million books start packs. The packs are also available in a variety of languages and for babies with special needs.



## MEETINGS OF COUNCIL, COMMITTEES etc

27 March - 31 May 2000

Normally, meetings will commence at 7pm and will be held at The Town Hall, Hendon unless otherwise arranged. Other arrangements operate for Area Forums and Area Sub-Committees. To find out details for one near you ring 0181 359 2018. Meetings not included will be arranged as and when required.

### MARCH

27 (Mon)	Scrutiny Commission - Social Services (Adults & Older People)
	Scrutiny Commission - Education & Children
28 (Tues)	Barnet Area Forum
	Finchley Area Forum
	Hendon Area Forum
29 (Wed)	Policy and Implementation Committee
30 (Thurs)	Planning and Environment Scrutiny Commission (7.30pm)

### APRIL

5 (Wed)	Chipping Barnet Area Environment Sub-Committee (Barnet House)
11 (Tues)	Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee (Friern Barnet Lane)
	Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee (Avenue House)
	Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee
12 (Wed)	Reserved for Policy Development Committees
	Environment Policy Development Committee
	Central Services Scrutiny Commission
13 (Thurs)	Council-In-Committee (then Council)
17 (Mon)	Reserved for Scrutiny Commissions
	Housing Scrutiny Commission
	Scrutiny Commission - Education & Children
18 (Tues)	Edgware and Mill Hill Area Forum
	Golders Green Area Forum
	Whetstone Area Forum

### MAY

3 (Wed)	Policy and Implementation Committee
9 (Tues)	Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee (Friern Barnet Lane)
	Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee (Avenue House)
	Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee
10 (Wed)	Equalities Policy Development Committee
16 (Thurs)	Annual Council meeting
17 (Wed)	Resources Executive Committee
22 (Mon)	Housing Scrutiny Commission
	Scrutiny Commission - Education & Children
23 (Tues)	Finchley Area Forum
	Barnet Area Forum
	Hendon Area Forum
24 (Wed)	Reserved for Policy Development Committees
30 (Tues)	Finchley & Golders Green Area Environment Sub-Committee (Avenue House)
	Hendon Area Environment Sub-Committee
31 (Wed)	Policy and Implementation Committee

continued from page 16

**11-15 April.** 7.30pm & Sat matinee 3pm Finchley & Friern Barnet Operatic Society present 'Half a Sixpence' by David Hanicker & Beverley Cross. Millfield Theatre, Silver Street, Edmonton, N9. Details. 0181 482 6923/807 6680.

**BARNET BOROUGH ARTS COUNCIL DRAMA FESTIVAL** takes place between February and May. Details 0181 207 2114

30 Mar-1 Apr, Guild Players at Ballards Lane Methodist Church, N3. 0181 346 6337; 5-8 Apr, Radlett Players 'Among the Pigeons' by Duncan Greenwood at the Radlett Centre. 01923 8592114; 9-16 Apr, 8pm, Incognitos Theatre Club 'Top Girls' at Holly Park, N11. 0181 445 7455; 13-15 Apr, 8pm, The Good Companions 'Little Women' by Peter Clapham adapted from the novel by Louisa Alcott, John Keble Hall, Deans Lane, Edgware. 0181 906 1453, box office 0181 958 5922. £6.50 (£5.50 conc); 13-15 Apr, Compton Players 'How the Other Half Loves' by Alan Ayckbourn, Winchmore Hill UR Church, Compton Road, N21. 0181 360 1104; 3-6 May, 8pm (7.30 Sat) Brookland Players 'The Matchmakers' by Thornton Wilder at The Bull, 68 High Street, Barnet. 0181 348 2921; 11-13 May, Garden Suburb Theatre 'Loot' by Joe Orton, The Institute, NW11. 0171 723 6609.

#### MUSIC

**25 March.** 7.30pm. The Confections Concert, music, laughter, dance from music hall to Gershwin, Berlin, Rogers & Hart. In aid of 'Help the Aged'. St Mary's Church Hall, 279 High Rd, East Finchley, N2. Tickets £7, £6 conc (incl. light buffet) from 0181 445 7907. **25 March.** 7.30pm Barnet Parish Church Recitals. Bach's St John's Passion at St. John the Baptist Church, Wood St. Barnet. Details, 0181 449 3894 **1 April.** 7.30pm, Finchley Choral Society perform Handel's 'Messiah'. St Jude-on-the-Hill, Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11. Tickets £10, £8 conc. Tickets available in advance from 0181 445 9666 or at entry. **1 April.** 7.30pm. London Pro Arte Choir perform Bach's St John Passion with the English Baroque Orchestra at John Keble Church, Mill Hill. Details, 0181 906 4151 **9 April.** 3pm, Barnet Schools Wind Orchestra 'Family Concert', East Barnet School, Westbrook Crescent. Details, 0181 359 3111

**15 April** Edgware Symphony Orchestra at Sacred Heart RC Church, Flower Lane, Mill Hill, NW7. Details 01923 256186.

**23 April.** 6.30pm Barnet Parish Church Recitals: Easter Festival of Lessons & Carols. Parish Church Choir. St John The Baptist Church, Wood St. Barnet. Details 0181 449 3894/440 5726. Also **13 May.** 7.30pm, Recital by Rowena Calvert, student Yehudi Menuhin School, Barnet Parish Church. Details 0181 449 3894.

**29 April.** 7.45pm Hendon Music Society presents Jamie Walton (cello) and Daniel Grimwood (piano). Programme incl.

works by Beethoven, Chopin, Kabalevsky and Rachmaninov. This recital is sponsored by the Countess of Munster Musical Trust. Trinity Church, Hodford Road, Golders Green. Tickets £9.50 (children free, senior citizens, students, UB40s £7.50). (Facilities for the disabled and hard of hearing). Apply with cheque and s.a.e. to Hendon Music Society, 3 Southfields, Hendon, NW4 4LX.

**6 May.** 7.45pm Finchley Chamber Choir 'English Music for Voices and Brass'. Programme: Patterson, Magnificat; Rutter, Gloria; Ireland, Vexilla Regis. Trinity Church, Nether St, North Finchley, N12. Programmes £7.50, conc. £5, available in advance 0181 446 6151 or at the door.

**13 May.** 7.45pm Finchley Chamber Orchestra Programme. Beethoven - Overture Leonora No. 1, Triple Concerto and Symphony No. 1. Trinity Church, Nether St, North Finchley, N12. Programmes £7.50, conc. £5, available in advance 0181 449 2604 or at the door.

**20 May.** 7.30pm Barnet Choral Society present 'Saul' by Handel. St Bartholomew's Church, Ann St, Brighton. Tickets £12, £10, £8 (reserved), £5 conc. Further details, 0181 441 1443, Box Office, 0181 449 6809.

#### East Barnet Library Recorded

**Music Society.** 28 Mar, 'Tenors and other performers' - David Moldon; 11 Apr, 'More of Ray's favourites' - Ray Jones; 25 Apr, 'Oh to be in England...' - Susanne Hassel; 9 May, 'More favourite delights' - Joan and Frank Ball; 23 May, 'My Music' - Ivan Ward; 6 June, 'The orchestra speaks' - Barbara Wynne. Meetings at East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill Road, East Barnet, EN4 8SG. Details, Hon. Secretary, 0181 361 9050.

#### Friern Barnet Library Recorded

**Music Society.** 6 Apr, 'Return to Arcadia' - Ray Hirst; 27 Apr, 'The Music of friends: II' - Liz Hart; 11 May, 'Mr Peter Salomon presents' - Brian Keane; 25 May, 'Some late romantics' - John Nicole; 8 June, AGM and requests. Meetings at Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Road, N11 3DS. Details, Hon. Chairman, 0181 444 7215.

#### Hendon Library Recorded Music

**Society.** 28 Mar, 'Hope and joy: musical expressions' - John Spinks; 11 Apr, 'The Music of friends: I' - Liz Hart; 2 May, 'Some masters of their art' - Jean Matt; 16 May, 'Setting the scene' - Dennis Evans; 30 May, 'Max Bruch's lesser known works' - Ivor Fersht; 6 June, Request programme. Meetings at Hendon Library, The Burroughs, NW4 4BQ. Details, 0181 958 5353/0181 450 8305

**Barnet Folk Club** meet monthly at King George pub, High St. Barnet. Details, 0181 441 3620.

**Youth Music Centre** from 3 yrs to adults. Ensembles, quartets, orchestras (incl. parents' orchestra) at Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute, NW11. New voice production classes. Saturday mornings. Details 0181 343 1940.

**Rithmik Music Project** based in the Clitterhouse area works with 9-25 year olds teaching garage and jungle music. Chances to perform at festivals and other music events. Details 0181 202 5533.

**Heyiddleiddle.** Can you play the cello, viola or bass? **Hendon String Orchestra** meet Tuesdays at Hendon Methodist Church, The Burroughs. Details, 0181 346 2080.

#### DANCE

**Circassian Circle Folk Dance Club,** alternate Thursdays, 7.45pm, The Harwood Hall, Mill Hill Broadway, NW7. Details, 0181 950 5756.

**Chipping Barnet Folk Dance,** alternate Mondays, 7.30pm, Church House, Wood St. Details, 0181 883 8190.

#### MUSEUMS

**Until 21 May, Church Farmhouse Museum,** Greyhound Hill, Hendon, NW4. 'England's Cathedrals', a celebration of important buildings of the last millennium by local artist and architect Peter Hume. Also **3-18 June,** Art and artifacts from Barnet's twin towns. Includes paintings, ceramics and photography from Tel Aviv, Germany and Cyprus. Tel. 0181 203 0130.

**Royal Air Force Museum.** Grahame Park Way, NW9. Opening of the new spectacular sensory sound and light show, re-telling the story of the Battle of Britain. (opening Easter, dates to be confirmed). Also **8 May,** Veterans Day, to

commemorate the contribution of WWII service veterans, the museum is offering free entry to these veterans of all three services (& one guest) if they pre-register on 0181 200 1763 (Mon-Fri office hours).

**29 May-4 June, Half Term - Earth Sciences;** within the museum's giant dome learn how the earth was formed and why volcanoes erupt. Phone 0181 205 2266 for more information on these and other events. *Please check beforehand dates and schedules which may vary unavoidably without notice.*

**Until 29 October 'Taxi'** An exhibition on Jewish taxi-drivers and the London cab trade **The Jewish Museum,** 80 East End Rd, Finchley, N3 2SY. Admission £2, £1 conc. Also **28 March,** 8pm, talk 'Taxi Driving and other jobs for nice Jewish boys - occupational choice among British Jews in the 20th century' by Professor Barry Kosmin. Admission £3 (£2 for Museum Friends, JPR members and full-time students) incl. admission to the museum from 7pm. Also **7 May,** 3pm, 'The Knowledge'. Thames TV production written by Jack Rosenthal and starring Nigel Hawthorne. Admission £3 (£2 for Museum Friends and full-time students) incl. admission to the museum before film showing. Tel. 0181 349 1143.

**Barnet Museum,** 31 Wood St. Barnet. Open 2.30-4.30pm Tues, Weds, Thurs and Sats 10am-12 noon & 2.30-4.30pm. Until end of April following the British Association's week promoting science and technology, exhibition featuring the ventilator developed at Barnet General Hospital and other local industries. Tel. 0181 440 8066. Lectures in Wesley Hall, Stapylton Rd: **12 April,** 8pm, 'Knebworth House/Lyttons', Jo Birch; **10 May,** 8pm, 'Herts Tudor Farmhouse', Gillian Gear.

#### ARTS

**Apthorp Fund for Young Artists Exhibition.** Until 28 March, Fore Gallery, 107 Fore St, Edmonton; 1-26 May, The Artists Gallery, Willesden Green Library Centre, High Rd, Willesden; 13 June-2 July, The Bull Arts Centre, 68 High St, Barnet. **Art Exhibitions by local artists** are at Brent Cross, 2-9 April and The Spires in Barnet 14-20 May. Original paintings by local artists and What's On stand of the 80 or more drama, music and arts societies belonging to Barnet Borough Arts Council.

**30 March-16 April** The Bow House Gallery. Spring Exhibition. Paintings, prints, sculpture. Thurs-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. 35 Wood Street, Barnet. Tel. 0181 441 5841. **14 April,** 7.30pm The Edgware Quartet. Cafe Bar Poetry. Come and read your work or just come and listen. Meet Fridays monthly at The Bull Theatre, 68 High St. Barnet. £3 (£2) or door. Further details, 0181 445 8388

**Milldon Art Society,** Weds, 7.30pm, Harwood Hall, Union Church, Mill Hill Broadway. Details, 0181 346 7481.

**Annual exhibition 29 April-6 May** at Hartley Hall, Flower Lane, NW7.

**Finchley Art Society.** Meet at Trinity Church, Nether St. N12, Mons 7.30pm and at St Mary's Hall, Hendon Lane, N3, Weds 1pm. Also Demonstrations 7.30pm at Trinity Church: **12 April,** Bill Newton 'Landscape in watercolours'; **10 May,** Mike Goring 'Using acrylics'. Details, 0181 445 2683.

**Finchley Antiques Appreciation Group** meet at Avenue House, East End Road, N3. 1st & 3rd Weds. 7.50pm.

**Finchley Writers** meet Tuesday evenings in the Tally Ho pub, N12. Details 0181 446 3960.

**Poetry Once Every Month Group** meet in Finchley. Details, call Irene on 0181 446 7063.

**Barnet Guild of Artists** meet at

Whalebones Studio, Wood Street. Details 0181 449 7553

#### COMPETITIONS

**Photo Competition 2000** Prizes both for adults and under 18s for pictures that capture the Spirit of the Year taken anywhere at any time. Send up to five photos 5ins x 7ins, coloured or monochrome, to the Barnet Borough Arts Council by 15 January 2001. Entry forms in libraries or from BBAC address given below. **Short Story Competition** 1,500-2,000 words on general subjects in conjunction with the Annual Open Poetry Competition - up to 35 lines general poems or on loss and bereavement. 7-11s and 12-16s on any subject. Both competitions use the same entry form available in libraries or from BBAC address given below. Entries to arrive at BBAC by 10 October. **BBAC Open Embroidery Competition** held in May or June at The Bull Gallery. Patchwork and quilting included. All designs must be original. Further details see below. *For details and entry forms send a SAE to Barnet Borough Arts Council c/o All Saints Arts Centre, 122 Oakleigh Road North, London N20 9EZ. Tel. 0181 445 8388.*

#### CARNIVALS, FAIRS, SHOWS

**25 March,** 10am-12noon The Finchley Friends of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's Mini Market at St. Mary's Hall, Hendon Lane, Finchley, N3. Cakes, gifts, bric-a-brac, nearly-new books, jewellery. Raffle and refreshments. Entry 20p.

**1 May** Barnet & District Athletic Club. 12th Annual 10K Road Run starts 11am (£5, £4 if belong to a running club) and 2.5K Fun Run starts 10.30am (entry £2). Starting and finishing at Victoria Road Recreation Ground, East Barnet. Medals to all finishers and various prizes. In aid of the NSPCC. Entry and sponsorship forms available from 0181 343 9666 *Please arrive earlier if you have not completed an entry form before the event.*

**7 May** Barnet Lane Charity Horse Show. Showing, show jumping, dog show. Qualifiers for National Championships. King George V Playing Fields. For schedule, SAE to Stables Horse Activity Centre, c/o Fieldways Resource Centre, Dollis Valley Way, Dollis Valley Estate, Barnet, Herts. EN5 2UL. Further details, 0181 440 3498. **14 May,** 2-6pm Church End Festival. Various stalls for different charities and miniature train, go-karts, bouncy castle for children. Fun day for the community. Further details, 0181 346 7316. **21 May,** 2-5pm Pavilion Children's Centre Summer Festival. Lytton Playing Fields, N2. Park entrances in Kingsley Way and Norrice Lea. Craft stalls, nearly new stalls, food stall and activities for children incl. bouncy castle, rides. **29 May,** 12noon-6pm 40th Barnet Carnival. In aid of local charities. Byng Road Playing Fields. Further details 0181 449 4774.

#### GARDENS

**13 April,** 8pm New Barnet Amateur Gardeners' and Floral Art Society. Mrs Patricia Liechti - 'Gardens to Visit'. Also **11 May,** Mrs Ahena Tulba - 'Retrospection and Celebration' (Floral Art). Meetings at Lyonsdown Hall, Lyonsdown Road, New Barnet starting at 8pm. Members £1.50, visitors £2. Also **8 April,** 2pm. **Spring Show** at St John's Church Hall, Mowbray Road, New Barnet. Admission 50p. **6 May,** 10am-12noon, Charity Plant Sale at 57 Northumberland Road, New Barnet, Admission 50p.

#### WALKS

For further details phone 0181 359 3052/3317. *All children attending any*

*activity must be accompanied by an adult*  
**28 March,** 10am-1pm. A ramble from Hendon to Highgate along the Capital Ring (opened a year ago). Walk is led jointly by Barnet Council's Leisure Services & the Countryside Management Service. Bring money for bus fares. Meet at Hendon Central Tube Station: Hendon Way (A41) **15 April,** 2-4pm. **Open Day** at Barfield Avenue. Come and discover the secret world of this new nature reserve. Staff from the Countryside Management Service and Barnet Council will be on hand to assist with environmental activities for children. There is very little street parking at the reserve so please come by public transport or on foot. Buses 125, 184, 34, 251 stop nearby **16 April,** 10am-12noon. Join Roy Beddard of the Welsh Harp Conservation Group on this 4km circular walk to look for spring migrants (warblers, martins etc) visiting birdwatching hides and other habitats. Meet at Woodfield Park car park off Cool Oak Lane (best approached from West Hendon Broadway). Buses 32, 83, 142, 183 **16 April,** 1.30-3.30pm. 4.8km walk with the Countryside Management Service tracing the path of the Folly Brook. Meet at the entrance to Woodside Park off Southover. 5 mins walk from Woodside Park Tube station, bus 326. Phone 01707 650041 for details. **18 April,** 6.30-8.30pm. Guided walk around Darlands Lake. Phone Mel Lloyd for details, 0181 359 3317/3052. **29 April-31 May** Series of walks. Phone Mel Lloyd, Countryside Officer, for details on 0181 359 3317/3052. **30 April,** 2-4pm London Wildlife Trust open day. Self guided 3km circular walk with information points on route in the wildlife sanctuary, once a railway line between Mill Hill and Edgware. Meet at Deans Lane entrance Dryfield Road and Hale Drive, NW7. Bus 305. Phone Ann Brown for details, 0181 343 0831 **13 May,** 2-4pm. Open Day at Coppetts Wood LNR. Phone Mel Lloyd for details, 0181 359 3317/3052 **28 May,** 2-4pm. Mill Hill Old Railway Open Day. Also **25 June,** 2-4pm. Phone Ann Brown for details, 0181 343 0831

**FINCHLEY SOCIETY** (tel. 0181 883 2633) holds regular meetings and runs the Stephens Museum of Ink & Writing in Avenue House, Tues, Weds and Thurs. 2-4pm and College Farm, Regents Park Road, N3 with rare breeds of animals and Art & Craft Fairs, first Sunday each month, details 0181 349 3811.

#### BARNET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Dale Carnegie Training Seminars, Venue, Dumayne House, Fox Lane, Palmers Green, N13. 9am for 9.30am-1pm. £40 + VAT members, £60 + VAT non-members: **28 March,** 'How to develop self confidence and a positive attitude'; **25 April,** 'Time management and managing stress'; **23 May,** 'Good communication with staff and customers'. To book contact Deirdre Cavanagh 0181 343 3833. **27 June** 'Unleash the power within you'. seminar speaker Nigel Risner. Dumayne House, Fox Lane, Palmers Green, N13. £45 + VAT members, £65 + VAT non-members. For more details contact Deirdre Cavanagh on 0181 343 3833

**27 May,** 2-4pm

#### Barnet Borough Confederation of Tenants' and Residents'

**Associations Surgery** at Hendon Library. A service for London Borough of Barnet Tenant, Resident and Leasehold Associations representatives to bring along issues that have proved difficult to resolve. Perhaps we can mediate on your behalf. Also 22 July at Burnt Oak Library; 23 September at Childs Hill Library

# WHAT'S ON

We welcome contributions to the What's On page. 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 taken for the accuracy of information supplied for the page.

## MILLENNIUM EVENTS

**9 April** Barnet Festival of Gymnastics. Includes Barnet Council Gymnastics Championships open to young people in Barnet schools and centres. Hendon Youth Sports Centre. Details, phone Barry Martin 0181 455 0818. **10-12 April** Barnet Schools' Dance Festival 2000. Involving primary, secondary and special schools. Golders Green Hippodrome. Details, phone Anne Fisher 0181 359 3928. **15 April**, 2.30-4.30pm Lecture Series: Grahame Stark, the actor, talks about his life and friendship with Peter Sellers. Chipping Barnet Library, tickets from the library. 0181 359 4040. **13 May** Multicultural Community Day at Barnet Multicultural Centre. Dance activities for young and old, information on health and social care related issues activities taking place in your area, blood pressure and cholesterol checks, food and lots of family fun. See [www.multiculturalcentre.freeserve.co.uk](http://www.multiculturalcentre.freeserve.co.uk) or phone 0181 202 9734. **4 June** Watling Festival. Montrose Playing Fields, Burnt Oak. Annual community festival. For details phone 0181 959 8595. **18 June** East Finchley Community Festival. Cherry Tree Woods. For details phone 0181 444 8461.

## THE BULL

68 High Street, Barnet EN5 5SJ. Tel. 0181 449 0048 Contact The Bull for more information about their events, courses and classes  
**Theatre**  
**25 March**, 8pm Yellow Earth Theatre, two solo performances. 'No Man', performed by Tom Wu, retells the ancient story of the Samurai using storytelling, martial arts and swordmanship 'Face' is performed by Veronica Needa, who tells stories from a Hong Kong Eurasian family. £8, £6 conc. **6 April**, 8pm Pascal Theatre Co., 'Theresa' Based on

the life of Viennese Jew Theresa Steiner, who was betrayed to the Nazis by the British authorities on the island of Guernsey. The play reveals a secret history of collaboration on the British territory invaded by the Nazis. £8, £6 conc. **13 April**, 8pm Theatre Absolute, 'Car'. Four lads steal a car, a story played at breakneck speed. Written by Chris O'Connell, Car won a Fringe First at Edinburgh (contains strong language). £8, £6 conc. **14 April**, 8pm Continuum Arts, 'Hungry For It'. A solo work based on Hi Ching's short story Violin Practice performed by Peter Sakon-Lee. Huang growing up in a Taiwanese family marooned in Britain is desperate to satisfy his unquenchable appetite for life (Contains strong language and material). £8, £6 conc. **11 May**, 8pm Peepolykus, 'Goose Nights'. Inspired by Greek Tragedy, a high energy collision of the old and the new that sees 'our three comic virtuosos' join forces with a mysterious lady, old enough to be their grandmother! £8, £6 conc. **16 June**, 8pm John Hegley, 'Dog'. Exploring the world of dogs across our nation, this show will delight Hegley and canine lovers alike. £10, £8 conc. **22 June** George Melly, Lecture on 'Bessie Smith', The Empress of The Blues, George Melly's favourite singer since he was 16 years old. George brings his inimitable talents as a raconteur to relate her life and times. £8, £6 conc.

## Comedy

**1 April**, 8pm Ha Bloody Ha Comedy 'April Fool's Comedy Night' featuring Steve Best, Mark Hurst and Paul Tonkinson £8, £6 conc. **21 June**, 8pm Craig Charles in his brand new full length show. £12.50, £10.50 conc.

## Music

**5 April**, 8pm Byron Wallen, 'Gayan'. Indonesian Gamelan music, blended with traditional Ugandan sounds and jazz



John Hegley, 16 June at The Bull Theatre

rhythms, tracing the origins of music from its roots in SE Asia to the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. £10, £8 conc. **7 April**, 8pm Frank Chickens, Japanese kitsch performance pop that mingles fantasy and social observation; merging modern and traditional instruments and sounds with songs, stories, costume changes and visuals. £8, £6 conc. **9 April**, 8pm Baka Beyond. Musicians from six countries in the Celtic fringes of Europe and West Coast of Africa bring a stunning and original world fusion sound. £8, £6 conc. **29 April**, 8pm Chinatrash Club Night featuring Chi-Liz and Sarah Liew with their violin playing techno music; Forbidden City - fusion Chinese pop and rap with guitar, Su-Lin Looi - the first British woman Chinese stand-up comic. £10, £8 conc.

## Dance

**8 April**, 8pm Lahing Kayumanggi Dance Co., Filipino dancers performing traditional dances from their cultural heritage of Spanish and local cultures. £8, £6

conc. **10 May**, 8pm Imlata Dance Co. 'City Maps' bringing together experiences of S Asia and Europe, performed to a score by Shrikant Shriram. £8, £6 conc. **24 May**, 8pm Nahid Siddiqui & Co. 'Once Upon A Time' drawing on stories from Britain, Pakistan and India combining Western design and staging with South Asian Kathak's classical traditions. £8, £6 conc.

## LITTLE BULL

(All shows £3.50 in advance. £4 on the day) **26 March**, 3pm Elizabeth Fost 'Attic Tales'. Fed up with a family party, Elizabeth escapes to her aunt's attic to find peace and quiet but she finds herself in a world of Aesop's fables...told as never before. With songs and puppets. Ages 4-8 **2 April**, 3pm & 4.30pm Tutti Frutti present 'Nosey'. Curiosity can be a dangerous thing, getting you into sticky situations! Great fun for all the family! Ages 3+ **9 April**, 3pm. On the Other Hand presents 'Frank Muir's Goldilocks & The Three Bears'. A story of a small bear, a medium size bear, an enormous bear...and a girl with

problem hair! Performers, puppets and lively music tell the tale. Ages 4+ **16 April**, 3pm, Jacolly Puppet Theatre, 'Dogworthy's Summer Magic'. Dogworthy the magical dog is off to the seaside and would love to take you with him. Holly helps him pack and off they go. Ages 4-8 **17-20 April**, 11am-5pm, Half Moon Young People's Theatre Drama Project. An energetic, creative project learning and participating in new theatre and drama skills leading to a performance to an invited audience of friends and family on the Thurs. Ages 8-11, £60, £45 children of unwaged parents **30 April**, 3pm Freehand Theatre, 'Frogs & Snails & Teddy Bear Tales'. It's bear's birthday tomorrow. How will he ever get to sleep? Bedtime stories, of course, told with puppets. Children are invited to bring a teddy bear with them to join in the tales. Ages 3-7

## Gallery

**Until 25 April** A co-commission with the Chinese Arts Centre in Manchester, Suki Chan's 'Shadow Time' uses habitual objects such as dyed rice and chicken bones that are staged to create a poetic imagery. A shadow is cast by a gently swinging light source.

## Foyer

**Until 6 April** Dinu Li's photographs of the Long Horn Miao in Southern China, a tribe that has remained isolated from other civilisations. **13 April-11 May** 'Acquisition' Ravi Malhotra's photographs concerned with culture in post-colonial Britain.

## ALL SAINTS ARTS CENTRE.

122 Oakleigh Road North, N20. Tel. 0181 445 8388. Contact the Centre for details of classes in art, dance, music and drama.

## SPRING HOLIDAY FUN IN CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES

**18 April**, 2-3pm, Crippling Barnet Library, Make an Easter Card, all ages welcome; East Finchley Library, Spring Holiday Fun, for under 10s; Grahame Park Library, Spring Holiday Fun for 5s and over, limited numbers, free tickets available in advance. **18 April**, 2.30-3.15pm, Totteridge Library, Make a mischievous Easter bunny mask all ages welcome **18 April**, 3-4pm, Golders Green Library, Rainbow fish crafts, games and stories, for ages 5-11 **19 April**, 11am-12noon, North Finchley Library, Spring stories and crafts, for ages 6-10, limited numbers, free tickets available in advance. **19 April**, 2-3pm, Church End Library, Funny bunnies, all ages welcome **19 April**, 2.30-3.15pm, East Barnet Library, Make a mischievous Easter bunny mask, all ages welcome **19 April**, 2.30-3.30pm, Mill Hill Library, Spring Holiday Fun, for 5s and over limited numbers, free tickets available in advance. **20 April**, 10.30-11.15am, Friern Barnet Library, Make an Easter card, all ages welcome **20 April**, 2.30-3.15pm, Osidge Library, Make a mischievous Easter bunny mask,

All ages welcome **20 April**, 2.30-3.30pm, Hampstead Garden Suburb Library, Funny bunnies, all ages welcome, Hendon Library, Spring Holiday Fun, for 5s and over, limited numbers, free tickets available in advance. **25 April**, 11am-12noon, Childs Hill Library, Spring Holiday Fun, all ages welcome **28 April**, 2.30-3.30pm, Burnt Oak Library, Spring Holiday Fun, for 5s and over, limited numbers, free tickets available in advance. **27 April**, 10.30-11.15am, Friern Barnet Library, Make a hedgehog picture, all ages welcome **27 April**, 2.30-3.30pm, Edgware Library, Spring Holiday Fun, for 5s and over, limited numbers, free tickets available in advance. **28 April**, 2-3pm, Chipping Barnet Library, Make a hedgehog picture, all ages welcome **28 April**, 2.30-3.30pm, South Friern Library, Funny bunnies, all ages welcome.

## THEATRE

**4-8 April**, 7.45pm Manor Light Opera presents Johann Strauss' 'Die Fledermaus' at The Steiner Theatre, 35 Park Rd, NW1. Booking, phone 0181 202 4573, conc. available, Tues, Wed and Thur and family tickets.

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Peepolykus at The Bull Theatre 11 May

## COMMUNITY news

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