

b a r n e t
first

BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

FREE of charge

Issue 1

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www.barnet.gov.uk



**A new future for
Barnet children**

Safety first making our streets even safer

first things first

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Welcome to Barnet First

We're excited to be sending you the very first issue of the bi-monthly Barnet First, offering you clear information on Council services and an update on what's going on in your community.

You can also read Barnet First on the Council website at www.barnet.gov.uk. Turn to page 7 for our website overview.

Barnet Council is putting the community first, and we want to ensure you get the information, advice and support you need.

We need to know what you think about our services, so let us know what matters to you.

Email us at barnetfirst@barnet.gov.uk or give us a call on 020 8359 2479; [minicom 020 8203 8942](tel:02082038942).

BARNET FIRST IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT AND AUDIO TAPE

Barnet First is produced by Barnet Council's Public Affairs Team.

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Leader's column

I was delighted to become leader of Barnet Council in May because it means I'm leading a new team focused on putting the community first.

Our new magazine is called Barnet First as a reminder to councillors and council officers of what we're here to do in the community.

In recent weeks the Council has agreed how best to tackle the increase in street crime, restore a first class education in Barnet and create a cleaner, greener borough.

There's also a major repairs programme planned for our roads and pavements and improvements planned for street lighting.

Safety first

We want to create a safer community for you, so we aim to place neighbourhood wardens around Barnet and use CCTV to target crime hotspot areas - including all main shopping centres.

To tackle anti-social behaviour, we're focusing on school truancy and nuisance neighbours to make Barnet a great place to live for everyone.

The best schools in the country

Every child in Barnet deserves a first class start in life and we're working towards this by making our schools some of the best in the country.

We're already tackling issues with teacher recruitment and retention and planning a massive school building and improvements programme.

A cleaner greener borough


One of our top priorities is a cleaner, greener Barnet and we're determined to protect and preserve our green belt, and use of parks and open spaces.

All reported graffiti is going to be removed within a speedy 48 hours and we're starting a project to treat all street furniture with anti-graffiti paint.

You'll also see regular intensive street cleaning throughout the borough and we want to encourage you to recycle more of your household rubbish - don't just throw it away!

First class care

Care in the community is important to you and to us. We're improving services for children with special needs, reviewing the quality of Barnet's services for the elderly and encouraging a closer working relationship between our social services and the NHS.



**Cllr Victor Lyon,
Leader of Barnet Council**

What do you think?

Contact Cllr Lyon on 020 8359 2079
or email cldr.v.lyon@barnet.gov.uk

020 8359 2079



We're
putting
the
community
first

inbrief

Business scam scuppered

Barnet Trading Standards have stopped a scam to cheat UK businesses out of £4.5 million.

A company with registered offices in Temple Fortune, set up a website with the business details of over 25,000 companies, linking directly to each business's website without permission.

Each business was then sent an invoice demanding over £200, threatening disconnection of the website. Over 700 businesses paid up thinking they would lose their own web address and site.

Thanks to the swift action of Trading Standards, the payments were intercepted and no-one lost a penny.

Want to know more?

Andy Bishop on 020 8359 4930 or andy.bishop@barnet.gov.uk

Barnet base for London Towers

British basketball will receive a huge boost when the Kinder London Towers team build their 5000-seat basketball arena at Brent Cross.

Opening in 2004, the arena will provide a first-class venue for the Kinder London Towers and make Barnet the basketball capital of Europe.

Schools in the area will be able to use the arena to develop their students' skills in a sport that is breaking new records for participation and attendance, and consultation on planning issues is now taking place.

The arena is to be built on land next



to Barnet's Whitefield School, and the Kinder London Towers will work closely with the school and linked primary schools.

Whitefield already has a record of fine sporting achievement and a formal partnership with the London Towers will enable the school to build on its sports college status.

Want to know more?

London Towers on 020 8776 7755 or visit www.london-tower.co.uk
Whitefield school on 020 8455 4114

Barnet on film

Have you spotted your local area on film?

Bond movies have used Brent Cross as a location, and the cast of East Enders was seen celebrating the wedding of Mark Fowler and his bride Lisa in Hendon Town Hall earlier this year.

Barnet's Council chambers double as Walford Registry Office where the soap's characters regularly get hitched. You might also have seen Barnet in BBC dramas *Holby City* and *Murder in Mind*.

McDonald's has filmed TV commercials here, and so too have Carlsberg, Volkswagen, Toyota, Dairyleya and Jaffa Cakes.

So far this year, a record 67 days have been spent filming TV programmes, commercials and promotional videos across Barnet.

In addition to raising the borough's profile, the filming earns income for the Council and local businesses.

Want to know more?

Corinne Gladstone on 020 8358 2071 or corinne.gladstone@barnet.gov.uk

Rolling back the years

The stereotype of Barnet as a suburb of only middle-class, middle-aged residents, is proving untrue!

Barnet is actually one of the most rapidly growing populations in the country with a projected growth rate of 8.5% in the next ten years.

This means the average age of the population is getting younger, particularly with the steady influx of young families.

Want to know more?

Contact Peter Keeble on 020 8359 2860 or email peter.keeble@barnet.gov.uk

Apology

Barnet Council would like to apologise for incorrectly acknowledging Councillor Matthew Offord (Conservative) as Chairman of the Welsh Harp Joint Consultative Committee in the final Barnet Life (Issue 12 July 2002). The Chairperson of the Welsh Harp Joint Consultative Committee is Councillor Ansuya Sodha (Labour).
Barnet Council apologises for any confusion and inconvenience caused.

inbrief

Peter's just perfect

Barnet Lollipop Man Peter Johnson has been voted Greater London's best school crossing patrol officer, in the UK and Ireland Lollipop Person of the Year Award for 2002.

Peter's popularity with local residents and pupils at Broadfields Junior School in Edgware, gave judges no choice but to award him the 'Oscar' of the lollipop industry.



Peter with his award as London's best crossing patrol officer

"Peter has made a fantastic difference in only one term", said Broadfields school governor Caroline Field, who nominated Peter. "He is one hundred per cent reliable – always cheerful and we know we are very privileged to have him".

"The children adore Peter – we couldn't manage without him now".

The award was sponsored by Domino's Pizza.

Want to know more?

For information on becoming a school crossing patrol officer contact:

020 8906 8028

Council staff celebrate achievement

HIGH flying council staff were jumping for joy after they successfully completed a range of training courses designed to produce a first class workforce.

In September around 80 staff were invited to a special reception hosted by the Mayor, Cllr Joan Scannell to receive certificates marking their achievements.

Leadership and management and health and social care were just two areas where staff proved their calibre by gaining new qualifications after completing the courses run by the council's Learning and Development Unit.

Putting the community first is the new council's motto and success like this by staff who take part in professional development courses helps to put these words into practice.

Off to the scrap

More dumped cars are heading for the scrap yard after another successful clear up of abandoned vehicles.

The number of abandoned cars taken away by the Council has increased to nearly 5,000 a year after a dramatic slump in the value of scrap metal.

New guidelines give local authorities the power to remove vehicles abandoned on the street after 24 hours, instead of the previous seven days.

The Council is rigorously pursuing people who abandon cars and will prosecute them where possible. Those who are found guilty could face a fine of up to £1,000, plus costs of removing the vehicle.

Let us know!

To report an abandoned car call 020 8359 4600, or to dispose of a vehicle call 020 8359 4419

A fresh lick of paint

Barnet has signed up for a national community paint-recycling scheme that collects unwanted and surplus paint from businesses and homes and gives it to charities, voluntary organisations and community groups to use.

Community Re>Paint in Barnet was officially unveiled at the Council's Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre in North Finchley. And Mayor of Barnet, Cllr Joan Scannell and local school pupils met the Dulux Dog at the launch of the new service.



Bishop Douglass School pupils
Back L-R Jonathan Calvert, Alisa Coutinho, Kajal Depala
Front L-R Scott O'Brien, Harriet Ssentongo with Tom the Dulux dog

Want to know more?

Contact Gary Clarke on 020 8362 0752

inthe news

The Barnet Civic Awards

Every year the Barnet Civic Awards celebrate the inspirational unsung heroes in our community. The winners and nominees are invited to attend a special ceremony at Hendon Town Hall and presented with a certificate in recognition of their wonderful work in the borough. A round of applause for previous Civic Awards winners.

Tom Beisty

Tom collected a Civic Award on behalf of Safe Start Foundation, an organisation he helped to establish, which has provided temporary accommodation, long-term housing, training and employment assistance to residents since 1989. Tom helps around an amazing 5,000 residents every year.

Sheila Abbot

In a career spanning 35 years, head teacher Sheila has made an outstanding contribution to education within Barnet. She has established a support network for headteachers and made significant improvements to infant education in the borough.

Stan Davison

Although retired for a number of years, Stan works virtually full time to promote the interests of older people in Barnet. He holds a number of high-profile positions in local groups and is a regular campaigner for

improvements in health and local transport.

Sylvia Grant

Sylvia is passionate about helping people. Through Barnet Women's Aid, she's organised refuge for women and children who've suffered domestic abuse. She is currently setting up a housing and outreach service to help women who have had to leave their home.

Pam Edwards

Pam has been a dedicated supporter of the arts in Barnet since the 1960's. A key member of the Barnet Arts Centre, Pam helped set up The Bull Theatre, where she still leads fundraising campaigns.

Want to know more?

Barnet Council website has full details of previous winners and more information about the Civic Awards - www.barnet.gov.uk

Let us know!

Who's your unsung hero? For a nomination form email barnetfirst@barnet.gov.uk or call Lorna Minney on 020 8359 2010. Application forms will also appear in local newspapers.



Tom Beisty



Sheila Abbot



Stan Davison



Sylvia Grant



Pam Edwards

Barnet online

A recent national survey placed Barnet Council's website (www.barnet.gov.uk) joint 14th out of 375 Council websites - meaning the site is in the UK's top 5%. Over 50,000 people visit the homepage every month and the website contains well over 3000 pages of advice and information on services, events and activities, and it's growing all the time.

Here's an idea of a few of the areas you'll find covered on the site:

Benefits and Tax

- ▶ Download forms for direct debit, housing and Council tax benefit applications, or change your address online. Make payments online for business rates, Council tax, housing rent and leasehold charges.

http://www.barnet.gov.uk/Council_benefits/index.php3

<http://www.barnet.gov.uk/pay/index.php3>

Children's Information Service

- ▶ What should you keep in mind when choosing a child minder? Which after school or breakfast clubs are available for your kids? Where can you find a nursery? Find the answers.

<http://www.barnet.gov.uk/education/childrens-info/index.php3>

Education

- ▶ Information on finding a primary or secondary school for your child.

<http://www.barnet.gov.uk/education/index.php3>

Jubilee

- ▶ See the queen visiting the borough for the jubilee celebrations.

<http://www.barnet.gov.uk/jubilee/cophall.php3>

Libraries

- ▶ Need to know how to join your local library? Here you can find out all about membership, opening hours, computer access and locations.

http://www.barnet.gov.uk/cultural_services/libraries/index.php3

Sign Language Interpreting Service (SLIS)

- ▶ Use sign language? Try out the online video to find out about SLIS and how to gain access to Council services and let the Council know if it was useful for you.

http://www.barnet.gov.uk/sign_lang/index.php3

Sports and Leisure

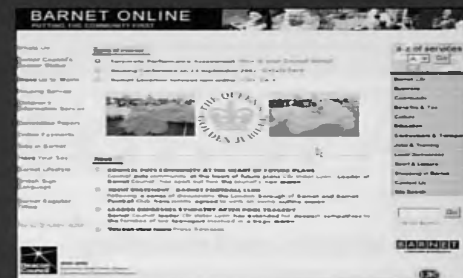
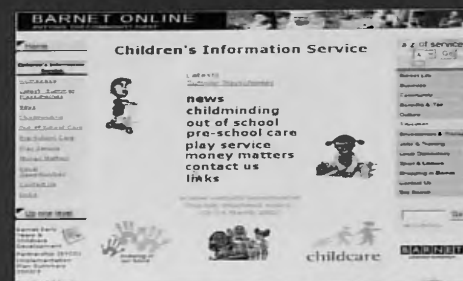
- ▶ Find out about play areas, sport centres, walks and trails, plus booking sports pitches and venues.

http://www.barnet.gov.uk/rec_sports/index.php3

Looking ahead

In planning the website development, Barnet Council will be including more online forms and payment facilities, online bookings and easier access to services. The site is also being redesigned to make it look better and be easier to use.

www.barnet.gov.uk



Let us know!

To see the things that matter to you on the website, you need to let us know. Fill out our feedback form at http://www.barnet.gov.uk/contact_us/webfeedback/index.php3 or ask a question in the forum at <http://www.barnet.gov.uk/phpBB/index.php>



A leap forward for Leisure

All work and no play makes for a pretty dull life, so providing residents with leisure facilities fit for the 21st century is a top priority for the Council.

To ensure the borough's leisure centres meet the high standards customers expect, the Council has announced a 15-year partnership with Greenwich Leisure Ltd.

The company will take over the management of all Council-operated leisure centres from January 2003 and will pump £3.5 million into modernising the facilities, and a further £3 million for maintenance work.

Residents will enjoy a major redevelopment of Copthall Pools, Hendon Youth Sports Centre and Finchley Lido.

Getting the best

Before choosing Greenwich Leisure Ltd as a partner, the Council carried out a vigorous selection process, including 'mystery shopper' visits to leisure facilities managed by the company.

Greenwich Leisure Ltd is the largest leisure trust in the country and already has a successful track record of partnership with the London boroughs of Merton, Waltham Forest, Newham and Greenwich.



Have fun and have health - all at the same time



Profits ploughed back into the service

As a not-for-profit organisation it is able to invest any operating surplus into the development of services and staff.

The partnership between Greenwich Leisure Ltd and the Council will ensure Barnet's leisure provision keeps up with customer demand in the very competitive area of health and fitness centres.

Hendon FC moves into Cophall

In another major improvement to leisure provision in the borough, the Council has teamed up with Hendon Football Club to carry out

“The partnership between Greenwich Leisure Ltd and the Council will ensure Barnet's leisure provision keeps up with customer demand in the very competitive area of health and fitness centres.”

improvements and refurbishment work at Cophall Stadium.

The intention is that the football club will take a 25-year lease to use the stadium as their home ground, relocating from their Claremont Road site.

The club will invest around £300,000 on improving the main football pitch and the appearance of the stadium.

Works will include dressing room improvements, adding a retractable canopy to create an undercover standing area for spectators, seating refurbishments and creating new catering facilities, offices and a club boardroom.

The improved stadium facilities will still be available to the whole community and special arrangements are being made to ensure that Shaftesbury Barnet Harriers will be accommodated on a long lease, with the use of the improved facilities.

Want to know more?

For more information contact
Martin Ling or Kim Tighe

020 8359 3108



A New Deal For Foster Carers



Barnet needs more foster families to care for local children and a new plan to increase allowances and provide support for carers means if you've been thinking about fostering, now's the time.

Cutting bureaucracy and the number of children being sent outside the borough to get the love and attention they need is part of a new Council plan for foster care to be unveiled in November.

The new look fostering service will make it easier for singles or couples of all cultural backgrounds to come forward for a challenging and rewarding experience caring for children.

Children of all ages and backgrounds urgently need temporary homes when they cannot live with their families. Potential carers are needed to provide them with a safe and caring environment.

Those who feel they can provide a home will need time and energy, space and the understanding needed to help a child through a difficult time in their life.

In return they can expect full support and considerably increased allowances that are among the most generous in London. The Council provides training to help families and individuals become the excellent foster

carers every child has a right to expect.

The Council's new approach to fostering will allow carers access to high quality advice and information through an informal customer service. It will also encourage foster carers to work together as a team in a mutual support network.

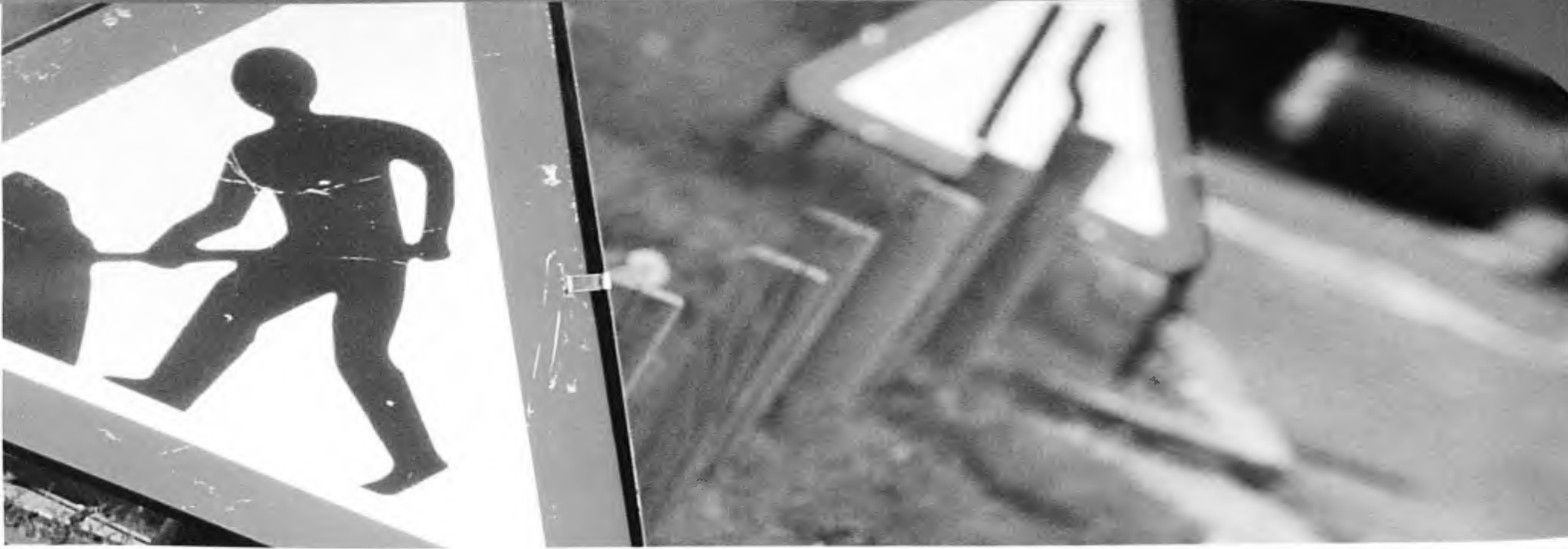
A shortage of foster carers has meant that Barnet children have in the past been sent away from the areas they know best, their schools, friends and sometimes their extended family.

The new campaign is aimed at local people wanting to help local children.

Want to know more?

Call free anytime on

☎ 0800 3898740



Fixing a hole

Roadworks can be a nightmare, especially on Barnet's busy roads. But digging up the roads will be necessary for Barnet Council's major five-year highway improvement programme to make the roads safer for you. It's a huge project that includes filling in potholes within 48 hours of a report, and resurfacing the borough's damaged roads.

Before resurfacing works, Three Valleys Water will be implementing their own enhancement programme, underneath the roads, improving the pipes that carry your water.

Before getting the spades out

Jo Parker, Project Director of Three Valleys Water, explains what has to be done before work begins.

"Maintaining a high quality supply of drinking water to customers in Barnet is our number

one priority, and to do this we need our network of supply pipes to be up to scratch.

"We've identified a number of areas where improvement is needed and submitted a proposal to the Drinking Water Inspectorate and OFWAT. They agreed with our assessment and we now have a legal duty to do the work.

"Before we begin, the Council is informed that we need to work in their area, so they can co-ordinate the work done by all utility companies to ensure it is all finished before roads are re-surfaced.

Spreading the word

"Once our project has been approved by the Council, we submit a series of notices to the highways department to confirm when the work will be done.

"This includes a one-month notice, a seven-day notice and a work in progress notice – for every single street we work in!

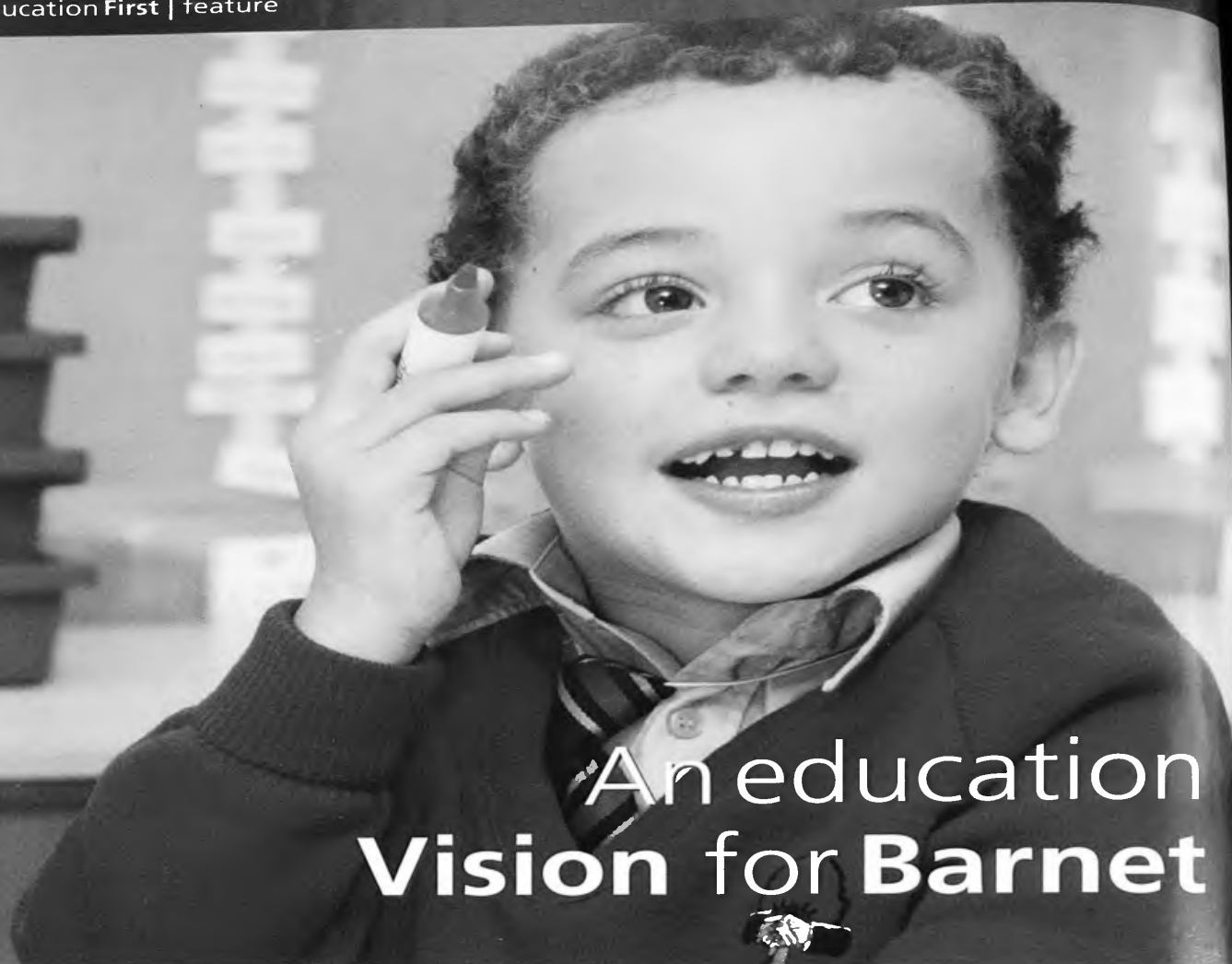
"In addition to the official notices, we also meet Council officers every other week to review the work programme and discuss any traffic management issues to keep your travel as smooth as possible.

"We also keep you, our customers, fully informed of what we're doing and how you'll be affected.

"Finally, and even though it seems logical, it's not possible for most utility companies to share the same trench because of the location of pipes and cables and the different depths at which each company works."

Want to know more?

For details on road works in Barnet contact Lesley Fordham in Neighbourhood Management, on 020 8359 4966. For information on Three Valleys Water visit their website at www.3valleys.co.uk or email external.relations@3valleys.co.uk



An education Vision for Barnet

Barnet is proud of its many high performing schools and students, and we aim for all children to do well, including those who are disadvantaged or who have special educational needs.

We want to promote a culture where everyone strives to achieve more. The Council has held sessions with headteachers to discuss what this means and are now developing ideas with school staff, governors and people within the Council.

Barnet has a great record of providing good quality education and

we want to make it even better!

The Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning, Cllr Vanessa Gearson, shared with the Barnet Headteachers' Conference those values she considers to be important in how we take forward the whole education service.

Excellence

- ▶ Promoting continuous improvement for children, young people and staff.
- ▶ Measuring the success of our schools and making sure we value and celebrate it.

- ▶ Celebrating success, both within the education service and the wider community.

Diversity and innovation

- ▶ Celebrating the diverse background of communities in Barnet.
- ▶ Ensuring that learning meets the needs of everyone.
- ▶ Promoting different approaches to learning and to be open to change with proper planning and evaluation.
- ▶ Improving educational choice.

Children and young people as individuals

- ▶ Ensuring opportunities for learning that will meet their needs.
- ▶ Ensuring they are able to take part in the discussions that will result in the development of the education service.
- ▶ Ensuring that education inspires them to do more than they originally dreamt of.

Our responsibilities to educate Barnet children locally

- ▶ Ensuring that we have effective data on the needs of children and young people in Barnet, both now and in the future.
- ▶ Investing in schools and other organisations in Barnet to allow us to meet the needs of children and young people.
- ▶ Working effectively with partners, such as health, in providing services.

Staff

- ▶ Promoting the importance of all staff as fundamental to the delivery of an effective education service.
- ▶ Promoting a culture of continuing assessment and review.
- ▶ Ensuring effective training and development

Education as a whole service with contributions made by staff, parents, governors and children

- ▶ Ensuring opportunities for regular involvement by all our partners in the education service.

Valuing Schools as part of the whole community

- ▶ Ensuring that schools are part of:
 - Leisure and sports
 - Lifelong learning in the community
 - Relations with the business community
 - Cultural services.
 - Connections and youth services
 - Community safety.
 - Health promotion.



Education is learning for life. All our values promote learning as a lifelong process, which is central to employability and the personal fulfilment of all individuals.

A new look for Barnet

Dr Alan Davison, Headteacher of Mill Hill High and Chairman of the Barnet Headteachers Conference (pictured above) gives a view from the front line.

"Residents of Barnet are very fortunate to benefit from a diverse and rich education system through schools and colleges which are ranked among the top, nationally.

"In recent years the support structure provided by the LEA has not been able to adequately support the very demanding school improvement agenda as set by national government.

"As a result of this, it has been necessary for councillors, officers and members to work alongside Headteachers to bring about significant, positive improvements to the vital school improvements that good local councils provide.

"With the recent appointment of Capita, as educational specialists to provide additional support and guidance, Headteachers are feeling very positive about even greater success and enjoyment for our children in schools.

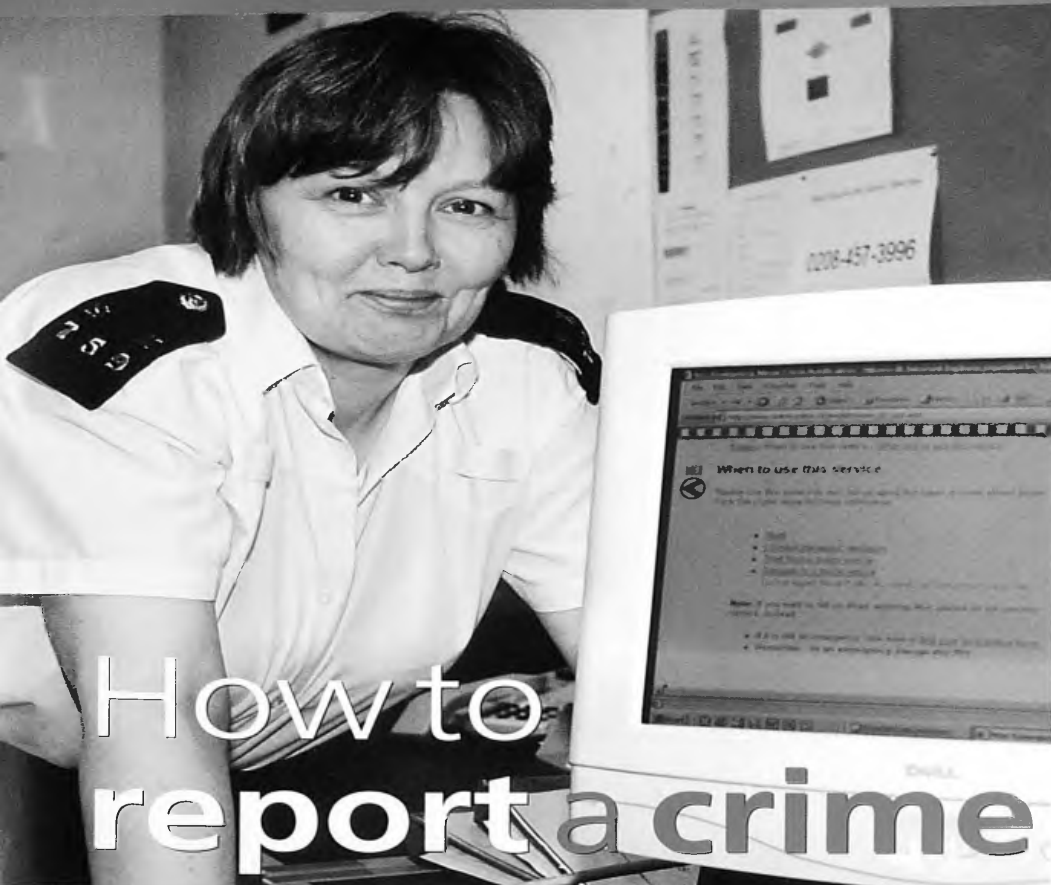
"A spirit of partnership established over the last three years has infused the whole strengthening process and has been much welcomed by Headteachers.

"Barnet is fortunate to benefit from so many high quality staff and officers and, with the additional support, we anticipate our LEA, alongside the schools, will feature as the number one educational provider in the country.

"Schools are working towards providing exciting, challenging and enjoyable learning experiences for all our children."

Want to know more?

For more information or to tell us what you think of Barnet's education service contact Jill Stansfield on 020 8359 2434 or jill.stansfield@barnet.gov.uk



How to report a crime

While Barnet is one of the safest places in London, crime does happen. In the first of a regular Barnet First series on community safety issues, Barnet police tell readers how to report a crime.

When it happens to you, any crime can be distressing, traumatic or just irritating. But it is vital to report it.

To make it easier for you to let the police know about a crime there are a number of ways you can report it - by phone, in person or on the internet.

1 Reporting the crime as it happens

If the crime is happening and you think that police attendance would stop someone being injured or property being damaged or stolen, dial 999.

2 Police attendance at a later time

If you discover a crime has been committed, you can call 0208 200 1212 and police officers will decide when is the best time to come to the scene of the crime to make their report which may not be straight away.

3 The telephone reporting system

Where there is no real need to visit the scene, for example if a credit card is stolen, the police will take brief details when you report the crime and give you a crime reference number.

This means that if the crime involves you in an insurance claim, you can contact your insurance company right away.

The police officer will then agree a convenient time to call you back to take a fuller report.

4 Reporting a crime on the internet

Minor non-urgent crimes can be reported online at www.online.police.uk.

This is a national reporting facility and means that you can report the crime wherever you have access to the web.

5 Going to a police station

You can report a crime at any police station although you should remember that if it is a busy station, like Colindale, you may have to wait.

6 Third party reporting

If the crime involves an issue of domestic violence, racial or religious harassment or violence, or homophobia you may prefer to report this to someone other than a police officer, away from a police station. If so, you can use one of our third party reporting sites at local community centres, a full list of which can be found at www.met.police.uk/barnet

Want to know more?

To find out more about the work of the Met Police visit www.met.police.uk/barnet For information about the work of the Council, police and other organisations to make Barnet a safer place contact Andrew Nathan on 020 8359 2320, email andrew.nathan@barnet.gov.uk or visit www.barnet.gov.uk

Keep Barnet clean and tidy



Barnet Council is determined to keep our beautiful borough clean and tidy.

An important part of this is its crackdown on graffiti and the Council is spending an extra £200,000 this year on the creation of a Council-managed graffiti removal service.

The new teams will have the equipment needed to tackle the graffiti blight more effectively.

Sweeping all before them

The Council is also investing in new high-tech sweeping machines (see our photograph right) which are fitted with shredders and can deal with everything from paper to dangerous objects like syringes.

As well as targeting town centres, the new sweepers will also blitz other litter hotspots in Barnet.

Want to know more?

If you want to know when our clean-up blitz is coming to your area, check out the Council's website at www.barnet.gov.uk. Turn to page 16 to meet Roy Armstrong, Friern Barnet's newest town keeper.

Let us know!

If you spot graffiti, call the Council's customer care line on

020 8359 4600

"An important part of this is its crackdown on graffiti and the Council is spending an extra £200,000"



An art college for Barnet

Friern Barnet School is bidding to become the borough's first specialist arts college.

The 750 pupil school, which has a long tradition of excelling in art and design, drama and music, has also recently introduced dance to the curriculum and is now seeking official recognition of its strength in the performing arts.

The school has already been awarded the Artsmark Silver Award by the Arts Council.

A successful bid would allow the school to consider introducing recording and dance studios and the recruitment of specialist staff who would also develop links with the local community.



The colourful work of students at Friern Barnet school

C Did you know that wherever you live in Barnet there is a Councillor near you? Find out how to contact them on http://www.barnet.gov.uk/local_democracy/councillors_wards.php3



On the town

Friern Barnet's new town keeper, Roy Armstrong, is becoming a friendly and very welcome face in the town centre.

His job is to sort out problems with graffiti, fly-posting and litter in and around Friern Barnet.

"I carry out early morning inspections of my patch to spot and sort out any problems and take on the repair work myself or, if it's a major job, arrange for it to be done by another Council service", Roy explains.

The town keeper service, being introduced throughout Barnet, provides people like Roy with a specially programmed mobile phone that gives them fast access to Council cleansing and repair services.

John Robertson, who manages the service said each town keeper will patrol a specific patch. "A key part of the role is to get local traders and

residents working together", he said.

"The sooner we identify problems, the quicker they will get resolved."

Like Roy, East Barnet's town keeper, Mark Hanna, enjoys his job.

"I am in regular touch with the businesses in East Barnet village and the feedback is very positive. If they spot a problem like graffiti they report it to me and I get it sorted out."

The town keepers also work closely with neighbourhood management officers on removing abandoned cars and taking enforcement action against graffiti vandals and litterbugs.

Want to know more?

Contact John Robertson on 020 8359 5183 or email admin.cleansing@barnet.gov.uk

Housing Key Workers

by Cllr Brian Coleman GLA



Public consultation on the Mayor's draft London Plan is over, and we are one step closer to a framework to guide the future of all planning and development in the capital.

One vital aspect of the plan is the Spatial Development Strategy, which addresses the lack of social housing and homes for 'key workers' such as nurses and teachers.

Housing targets in the plan are based on the prediction that the London population will experience an unprecedented increase over the next 15 years. A key objective is to reduce the number of commuters coming into London by having enough affordable homes within the capital.

It's vital to recognise that the strategy will have an impact far beyond planning and environmental issues, creating hidden costs.

The requirement for 60,000 homes in the four boroughs of north London

produces a serious demand for the supporting social infrastructure of education, health and transport.

Barnet is currently thriving, enjoying job growth equal to growth in population. We are experiencing a baby boom, resulting in a large rise in our young population. The best way to address this is through a model of density, rather than damaging our green belt through housing development.

The Mayor's strategy addresses some key issues, but will one plan be suitable for all boroughs, and ultimately, who is going to put up the cash for it?

What do you think?

Contact Cllr Coleman GLA on
020 7983 4955 or email
brian.coleman@london.gov.uk

Don't just BIN it! You can RECYCLE most of it.

From your black recycling box we collect weekly:

- Newspapers, magazines and other papers
- Glass bottles and jars
- All cans and tins (rinsed, please)
- Aluminium foil
- Textiles and shoes
- Engine oil
- Car and household batteries



If you do not have a box, or you live in a flat, ring 020 8371 3670 to arrange a regular collection

You can take household waste for recycling to:
The Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre at Summers Lane, N12

- Newspapers, magazines and other papers
- Glass bottles and jars
- Cans and tins (rinsed, please)
- Aluminium foil
- Textiles and shoes
- Engine oil and filters
- Car and household batteries
- Cardboard
- Plastic bottles
- Green garden waste
- Furniture
- Fridges/freezers
- Wood
- Electrical and electronic items
- Yellow Pages
- Paint
- Tyres
- Fluorescent tubes
- Toner cartridges
- Bicycles
- Books
- Gas bottles
- Mobile phones
- Metal

The Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre

Private vans and larger vehicles must telephone to make an appointment before visiting the site.
Telephone 020 8362 0752

Opening Hours:

Monday - Saturday

8am to 4pm

Sunday

9am to 4pm

(also Bank Holidays, except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day)

To benefit from your garden and kitchen waste, why not compost it?

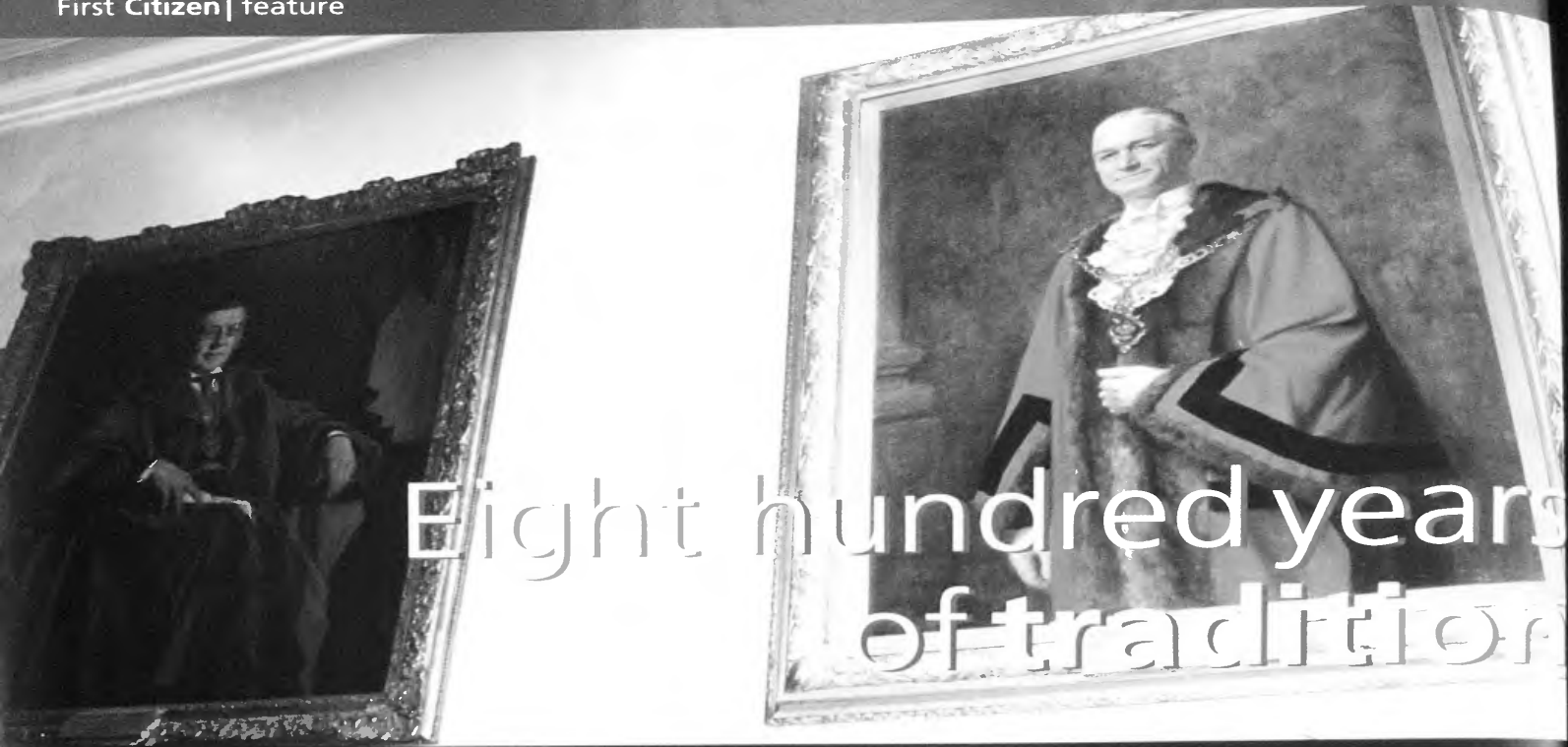
Barnet Council offers a range of home composters at less than half of their usual price.

Ring 020 8359 4296 for a leaflet and order form.

BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

working in partnership with





Eight hundred years of tradition

In the past the mayor was the local tax collector, but these days first citizens like Barnet Mayor Cllr Joan Scannell, have a lot more to do than gather money.

In Britain, the civic office of mayor brings with it over 800 years of tradition and loyalty to the Crown and a direct link to the monarch through parliament.

The current position of Barnet mayor was created in 1965.

That's when the two borough councils of Finchley and Hendon were amalgamated with three local urban district councils to form the London Borough of Barnet.

If you ever see the mayor at an official function wearing ceremonial robes and chain, you'll notice the two maces that are carried in front of her.

These heavy silver objects would originally have been used as a weapon to protect the mayor – even today the tradition still stands that no one must ever come between the mace and the mayor (or they'll face being bopped with the mace!).

The mayor is elected each year by fellow councillors and their first duty

is to select a deputy who can undertake any official business the mayor is unable to attend to.

The Barnet mayor is the first citizen of the borough and attends hundreds of events every year giving support to the local community.

Weekly signing sessions in the town hall are also essential as, certain Council deeds and documents have to be signed and sealed by the Mayor.

Want to know more?

Contact Lorna Minney on 020 8359 2010 or email lorna.minney@barnet.gov.uk

It's possible to recycle up to 45% of waste, but of the 149,000 tonnes of rubbish produced in Barnet in the last year, only 8.3% actually was!

So the Council, in partnership with ECT Recycling, has introduced Wake up to Waste, an initiative aiming to make recycling hassle free and help you play your part in conquering the growing waste mountain.

Recycle from home – an easy to use weekly kerbside service for all households in Barnet. With Recycle from Home, you get a black box for recycling a whole range of items.

Flats recycling service is a new service giving residents living in the borough's 13,000 medium to high-rise flats the opportunity to recycle paper, glass and cans. Residents' groups are being consulted on whether they want special recycling bins and where they should be put.

Summers Lane civic amenity and recycling centre – this revamped facility is the major recycling centre for the borough. At the centre, in Summers Lane, you can recycle and dispose of a wide range of items.

Want to know more?

ECT Recycling on 020 8371 3670, info@ectrecycling.co.uk or at www.ectrecycling.co.uk. Check out the Wake Up to Waste website at www.barnet.gov.uk.

Free green garden waste collection

To complement the weekly kerbside and flats recycling services, the Council is running a trial green waste collection service to help residents dispose of their garden rubbish.

The free weekly collection service is



being piloted in parts of Brunswick Park, Oakleigh and East Barnet wards for a year, to gauge its success.

Householders in these areas who are participating in the scheme are given a free garden waste bin for items such as grass clippings, hedge and tree cuttings, dead flowers and weeds, all of which will be composted and reused.

Want to know more?

For more details and to find out if the scheme is operating in your street, call 020 8359 4296 or email fred.woodworth@barnet.gov.uk

Noise pollution

Excessive noise, from licensed premises, private property or unlicensed raves, can cause real distress. But Barnet's noise busters will now be able to deal more effectively with complaints about loud noise.

The Council is determined to stamp out every type of anti-social behaviour and will use all its powers to stop, and potentially prosecute, those who

violate the right of residents to enjoy their homes in peace.

In the past there has been some confusion as whether it is the Council or the police who should deal with this.

But now a 'noise pollution protocol' signed by the Council and the police gives clear guidelines as to how complaints about noise should be tackled.

When a complaint is received it will be investigated by the Council's 'noise and nuisance' officers, who will try to resolve the problem informally.

If that doesn't work, and there is a breach of the law, a notice will be served which could lead to confiscation of equipment, closure of premises or prosecution of the offenders if they don't stop the problem.

Let us know!

To report any anti-social behaviour, call

020 8359 2000



Celebrating Black History

Black and ethnic minority communities make up 26% of Barnet's population, so it's no wonder our celebrations for October's Black History month are among the biggest and best in London!

The annual celebration began in 1926 and each year Barnet stages a series of events and activities from African storytelling and Asian comedy, to Indian dance and Caribbean music – and many of them are free.

Want to know more?

A full list of events is available from libraries and museums or from www.barnet.gov.uk/cultural_services/index.php3. For more information contact Monika Reinfelder on 020 8359 2058 or monika.reinfelder@barnet.gov.uk

Farm fresh food

A joint initiative between Barnet Council and London Farmers' Markets means that Barnet residents can now enjoy fresh tasty food, straight from the farm.

Shoppers at Barnet's first farmers' market in Whetstone can buy quality food grown, reared, raised, baked, caught or produced by the seller.

Stalls include organic poultry and eggs, vegetables, a full range of meat products, fish, fruit juice and freshly baked cakes and bread.

Farmers' markets improve shopping choice and offer residents the opportunity to find out more about the food they're eating through direct contact with the producer.

The farmers' market is a regular event each Friday in N20 on High Road, opposite Waitrose.

Want to know more?

Contact London Farmers' Markets on 020 7704 9659, the Council's town centre management team on 020 8359 4155, or check out www.lfm.org.uk and www.farmersmarkets.net





2002-2003
Improving Urban Green Spaces
Libraries as a Community Resource

Barnet

where **people** come

first, second,
third...



- **Two Beacon Council awards**
- **A Local Government Chronicle commendation for our innovative transport partnership working**
- **Two Green Apple awards for environmentally sound practice**
- **Investors in People accreditation**
- **Chartermark status for the third time for our Benefits, Awards and Student Support Services**

And most important of all, community focused initiatives that really make a difference to the lives of our residents and visitors to the borough.

We know that in order to achieve our ambition to make Barnet one of the best boroughs in Britain in which to live, work and visit, we can't afford to rest on our laurels. We know that we wouldn't have got this far without the commitment, dedication and expertise of our 10,000 plus staff.

That's why we're always on the lookout for talented people. People who can help support our aim of putting the community first. People who can continue making

Barnet one of the most innovative, forward-thinking and regenerative boroughs in the country.

Visit our website at www.barnet.gov.uk to find out more about Barnet and view current jobs online.

Alternatively, you can receive a list of current vacancies at any time by sending an A4 SAE to The Recruitment Unit, Ravensfield House, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BG.

Barnet Council is committed to promoting equality, challenging discrimination and developing social inclusion. We therefore encourage applications from all sections of the community. We are proud to be Investors in People.

BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

Putting the community first

Barnet Council Welcomes New Traders

Current Vacancies for:

Wool/Haberdashery
Towels/Linen
Toys Children's Wear
Household Hardware
Menswear
Second Hand Goods

- ▶ Ever thought of setting up **business** on your own?
- ▶ Try your hand at **market trading**
- ▶ Low overheads, **friendly** environment, established market
- ▶ Special **half-price** introductory offer

Ring Peter or Andy on 020 8359 2606

BARNET

LONDON BOROUGH
Putting the Community First

WATLING MARKET: BURNT OAK
Car park next to Burnt Oak tube station

West Hendon regeneration just the start

West Hendon is a great community, but faces real problems – particularly poor housing, chaotic traffic and a polluted environment.

But the residents of West Hendon will soon see the start of an exciting transformation when work begins on the regeneration of the Marsh Drive estate and surrounding area.

Barnet Council and residents have chosen Metropolitan West Hendon, a consortium including Metropolitan Housing Trust and leading affordable housing provider Lovell and Bellhouse Joseph, as their partner in the major scheme to rebuild the community.

The multimillion-pound project



A model development?

will see the replacement of rundown housing with 2,000 high-quality private, affordable homes on the 35-hectare site overlooking the Welsh Harp.

Architects have designed a scheme reflecting the vibrant nature of the area and landscapers have produced plans for a green environment.

Traffic will be restricted in the residential areas and better pedestrian links will be added,

including a safer layout for York Park.

In a major boost for the commercial heart of West Hendon, the creation of a new town square, shops, a hotel, banking facilities and a health centre will join major improvements to the station.

West Hendon is one of four Barnet estates earmarked for regeneration with the Council also tackling Stonegrove and Spur Road, Grahame Park and Dollis Valley.

Plus, the rest of the Council's housing will not be left out! Homes will be brought up to modern standards, and residents in 8,000 homes across the borough are already being asked for opinions on fundraising.

Want to know more?

Contact Margaret McPeake on

020 8359 4803

what's on

Autumn Exhibition

THE world of arts and crafts takes centre stage at Hendon Church Farmhouse Museum's annual autumn exhibition.

The two-part display focuses on the work of young Hendon freelance embroiderer Milagros Martin and the output of Cornwall's Troika Pottery.

Milagros Martin trained at the London College of fashion and the Royal School of Needlework. Her recent work has been as diverse as making costumes for the pop band B*witched and the restoration of vestments at Brompton Oratory.

The Troika Pottery was based in Cornwall, first at St Ives, then at Newlyn, from 1963 to 1980. Troika was

an innovative firm which, although it produced work for big outlets, functioned very much as a rural craft pottery. The retrospective displays over 90 pieces, covering the whole range of Troika's styles.

The exhibition runs until Sunday, November 3.

Did you know?

Barnet Council deals with approx 4200 planning applications a year and deals with the second largest number of applications in the whole of London. If you have a planning enquiry then contact 020 8359 2000 and specify the area to which your question relates.



The Bull

68 High Street
Barnet EN5 5SJ

The Bull Arts Centre in High Barnet is a charming conversion of an historic coaching inn, which houses a thriving programme of arts activities. With a 176 seat theatre, a gallery and studio spaces, the centre offers a range of performances in theatre, music, comedy and dance, alongside monthly exhibitions and a wide ranging programme of participatory workshops for all ages. The Bull also houses craft studios for eight resident artists and theatre companies, and runs Youth Theatre groups for sixty young people aged between eleven and eighteen years. Over 60,000 people a year enjoy visiting The Bull, and this wide range of activity is set to transfer in Spring 2004 into the new venue, artsdepot, currently being built in North Finchley.

For further information on all of The Bull's activities and performances, please contact the Box Office on 020 8449 0668 or visit the website at www.thebull.org.uk

Autumn highlights at The Bull

Dance

Sun 20 Oct 8pm
Kathakali Company
(A Black History Month Event)

A spectacular and vibrant international performance with four hundred year old classical dance from South India. Drama, dance and ritual creates one of the world's most visually exciting forms of theatre.

Tickets £10/£8 conc

Theatre

Wed 30 & Thurs 31 Oct 8pm
Oleanna

Award winning Guy Masterson Productions brings David Mamet's most celebrated work to The Bull stage for two nights only. Two unbelievably powerful actors face each other in a blazing performance.

Tickets: £9/£7 conc

Music

Sun 3 Nov 8pm
Gypsy Tango Pasion

Following their sensational sell out tour in 2001, the band that wowed audiences with their

awesome gypsy fiddling and flaming hot tango steps return with a joyous all-new show, Inferno.

Tickets: £10/£8 conc

Music

Sun 24 Nov 8pm
Bert Jansch

A rare opportunity to catch one of British music's true legends and hear some of the most emotive and haunting songs of all time. Bert's hoards of fans include Noel Gallagher and Jarvis Cocker, while his latest CD *Crimson Moon* features guitar greats Johnny Marr and Bernard Butler.

Tickets: £12/£10 conc

Theatre

Sat 9 Nov 8pm
Taj

Taj brings to life a period of Islamic history through the eyes of a young Asian woman on a pilgrimage to her past, exploring the eternal conflict between love and death, knowledge and understanding.

Tickets £9/£7 conc

Theatre

Sun 10 Nov 8pm

Ghetto Goats

Performed by actors from the Port Elizabeth township of New Brighton, Zwai Mgidjima's vibrant piece of theatre offers a rare chance to see contemporary South African township theatre at its cutting edge.

Tickets £7 / £5 conc

Christmas

Sat 7 Dec – Sun 13 Jan
Cinderella and Other Tales

Kazzum returns to The Bull with some of the most timeless children's stories ever told. Bringing to life four of the best known characters in children's literature – Little Red Riding Hood, Sleeping Beauty, Puss in Boots and of course Cinderella herself, this Christmas treat will be comic, poignant, fantastical and beautiful.

Tickets: £9/£7 conc and children

Exhibition

Thurs 17 – Sun 27 Oct
Individuals within Communities
An exhibition about Black and Asian women and men who lived in the London Borough of Barnet before 1965

Admission Free
Chipping Barnet Library
3 Stapylton Road
Barnet

Children's Event

Sat 19 Oct
2pm – 4pm

African Stories, Games and Riddles with Inno Sorsy. An enjoyable event for children and families. Refreshments provided.

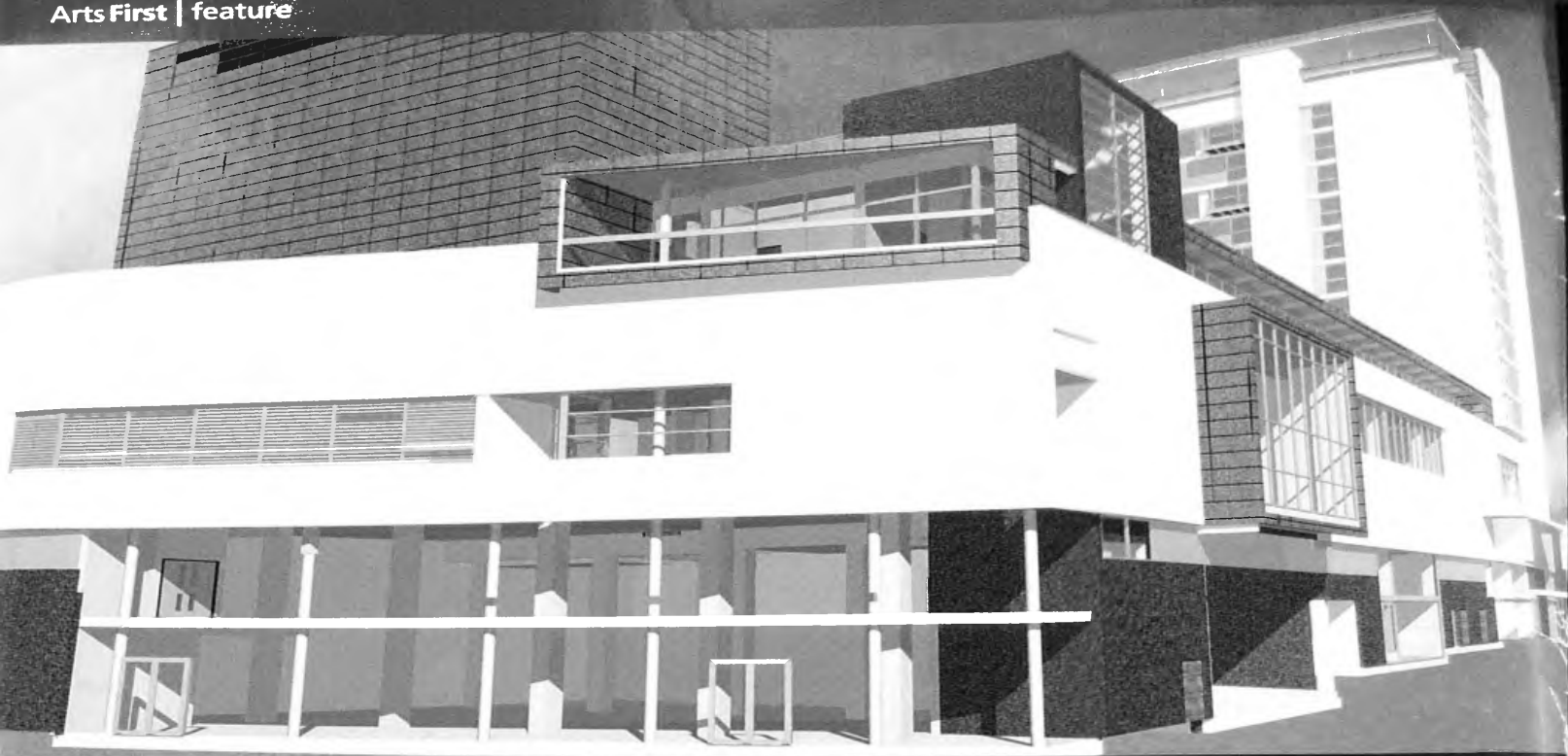
Admission Free
East Finchley Library
226 High Road

Trade Fair

Wed 30 Oct 6pm
Health & Wealth

A celebration of cultural diversity and community co-operation through the significant contribution of small and medium enterprises to the Barnet economy and culture.

Free Admission
The Dining Room
7 The Concourse
Grahame Park Estate
Phone: 020 8201 4860



Bring life back to Tally Ho Corner

*"When it opens in 2004,
the artsdepot will provide
a regular programme of
entertainment for the
whole community"*

Tally Ho Corner has buzzed with activity for centuries - taking its name from the huge volume of horses and carriages that used to pass through on their way to the City of London.

The area will once again be the focus of the local community with the arrival of the artsdepot, forming part of the £38 million development of North Finchley.

The £15million artsdepot centre will offer a vibrant mix of performing and visual arts, plus arts-related training courses and activities for those who want to get directly involved in the industry.

The centre will include a 400-seat theatre with full disabled access and projection facilities, and a 150-seat studio theatre and digital development space designed for new work. There will also be an art gallery, meeting and performing spaces and areas to relax.

When it opens in 2004, the

artsdepot will provide a regular programme of entertainment for the whole community including theatre, dance, digital performance, music, comedy and children's activities.

There will also be themed festivals, co-productions, commissions and collaborations with venues, artists and companies.

The artsdepot will also become home to the Bull Arts Centre, Community Focus Disability Arts and Barnet College's arts courses.

The exciting new Tally Ho development will also combine office and retail space with a health and leisure centre, restaurants and new homes.

Want to know more?

Contact Alison Duthie, Director of the artsdepot on 020 8359 2032 or email info@artsdepot.co.uk