

**BARNET**  
LONDON BOROUGH

# barnetfirst

www.barnet.gov.uk

issue 22 September/October 2006

**A Successful Suburb**

**Strong and Healthy**

**Clean, Green and Safe**

**Supporting the  
Vulnerable**

**A Bright Future for  
Children and Young People**

**Signpost  
to success**

Our new corporate priorities revealed

# Message from the Leader



**One of the key challenges to which any local authority must rise is shaping services to meet the needs of our ever changing population.**

Who would have thought that 10 years ago libraries would be considered just as important for their internet access as for their store of books?

Balancing the concerns of an older population, many of whom continue to use the library in the traditional ways, with the realities of the iPod generation is something that Barnet Council must grapple with in the coming years.

It's difficult to look into the future and estimate what services our residents will need in five, 10 or 20 year's time but that is what local government must do.

The look and feel of our libraries must change to help us meet the

demands of the future. Some of our libraries are in listed buildings which makes them very difficult to adapt and we need to look at new models such as multi-functional buildings with broader community appeal. Many of them are no longer part of the main footfall of our town centres and as any retailer knows, when the footfall moves, you have to follow.

What's certain is that over the next few years the library service will need significant investment, libraries will look different and they may even be in different places.

Our libraries have a vital role to play in our community, we need to ensure they remain relevant and attractive to Barnet's changing population.

**Councillor Mike Freer  
Leader of the Council**

## contents



**3** Signposts for a successful suburb



**4** Spotlight on your ward – Coppetts



**6** CCTV hits a century



**7** Make food, fitness and fun your goal!!



**10** Real nappies under the microscope



**11** Barnet's Mayor – a brief history



**12** Barnet parks fly the flag



**13** Information at your fingertips – 24/7



**16** Wingfield opens its doors

## Production details

Barnet First is your magazine, bringing you news and features about what your council is doing for you. For editorial and advertising enquiries, or to make comments about the magazine, please contact Rachel Tansley on 020 8359 7795 or [rachel.tansley@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.tansley@barnet.gov.uk)

Barnet Council does not accept responsibility for any goods or services offered by advertisers. Publication of an advertisement does not imply recommendation by the council of any goods or services advertised.

Copies of Barnet First are delivered to every home in the borough. Local authority and postal boundaries do not always coincide. If you live outside of the London Borough of Barnet and receive Barnet First we apologise. But we hope you enjoy reading it nonetheless.

Barnet First is printed on 100% recycled paper and can be recycled after use.

The cost of designing, printing and distributing each magazine is just over 10 pence per issue.

**Barnet First is also available in large print or on audio tape.**

# Signposts for a successful suburb

Following the local elections in May the council took the opportunity to re-examine its corporate priorities. Some have changed and some remain the same. But does it really matter if they change and what does it mean for you?

Having a clear set of corporate priorities is important in any organisation, whether it's in the private or public sector. They keep everyone focussed on moving forward and achieving. In the private sector it's about pleasing and rewarding the shareholder but in the public sector it's about providing excellent services to you, the taxpayer.

We use our corporate priorities to target those areas of life that you, the residents, have told us matter most. Time and again in our resident surveys key themes emerge – education, concern for the wellbeing of others, a clean and green environment, low crime levels, and a good quality of life.

We translate these key themes into "corporate priorities" so that our staff and elected members can continuously remind themselves of what our residents think are important. For the past four years our corporate priorities have been:

- A First Class Education System
- Repairing Roads and Pavements
- A Cleaner Greener Barnet
- Tackling Crime
- Supporting the Vulnerable

And we've made great strides in moving

**"We hope that our new priorities will recognise your own aspirations and desires for Barnet"**

forward in all of these areas. Our achievements were recognised by the Audit Commission in our Corporate Assessment in December 2005 when it acknowledged improvements in educational attainment, road repairs, recycling and life expectancy. Our residents have also recognised our improvements – in our residents' survey 82% said they were satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live and we remain 5% ahead in satisfaction ratings when compared with the London average.

But corporate priorities cannot remain static and as we improve on some areas we need to move on with others. Circumstances change, the needs of the community change, and we also need to recognise that people don't make distinctions between tackling crime and a cleaner greener Barnet. We know the impact that graffiti can have on fear of crime so our new environmental corporate priority brings all these elements together.

We hope that our new priorities will recognise your own aspirations and desires for Barnet:

- A Bright Future for Children and Young People
- Clean, Green and Safe
- A Successful Suburb
- Strong and Healthy
- Supporting the Vulnerable

Making an appearance for the first time is the obvious mention of our ambitions to become a successful suburb. Somewhere that is part of London, contributing to the life of the city, while becoming a successful entity in its own right. Barnet cannot continue to play its part if it does not get all the improvements that it needs, such as investment in our roads, public transport and health facilities. Our major regeneration programmes in Brent Cross Cricklewood, Hendon, Stonegrove and Grahame Park will deliver improved quality of life in the borough but we have to make sure that we continue to protect what is good about Barnet.

Finally, there is one more priority which is really more internal than external (that's why you won't see it grouped with the other five) and that's: **"A Better Council for a Better Barnet"**.

This one is about working with our partners, seeking your suggestions, engaging with the borough's faith groups, black and minority ethnic communities, and keeping relentlessly focussed on improving our services.

We look on our corporate priorities as our signpost to success. Only you can tell us if we get there.

## Barnet in facts and figures

- 20th most ethnically diverse area in England
- 26% of the population belong to black or minority ethnic communities
- GCSE results above the national average
- One of the safest boroughs in London to live and work
- Set to grow in population by a further 33,000 in the next decade.



## feature

Left: Vine Cottages in Colney Hatch Lane in 1903. The cottages were destroyed by a fire in 1909 while in use as a film location by Robert Paul.

Middle: Friern Barnet has been allowed to use this coat of arms since August 1938. Different parts of the badge refer to different aspects of Friern Barnet. The white stripe on the green background refers to the Great North Road that passes through Friern Barnet at Whetstone. From the time of Henry IV until Elizabeth I the royal coat of arms had three fleurs-de-lis. Friern Barnet is proud of its connections with the Royal Family, and Elizabeth I in particular – after whom Queen's Well in Friern Barnet Lane was named. The Stags Head refers to Enfield Chase, which was close by, and the cross refers to the Knights of St John, who were lords of the manor. The Latin phrase at the bottom means "lover of the country".

Far right: Colney Hatch Asylum built to designs by S. W. Dawkes in an Italianate style, and opened in 1851.



# Spotlight on your ward

# Coppetts

In this edition of Barnet First we focus on Coppetts, which is situated in the east of the borough.



The ward of Coppetts takes its name from Coppetts Wood, a remnant of the great Finchley Woods and once the haunt of highwaymen! The site is now a council-maintained local nature reserve with its own nature trail.

Its name is probably derived from the practice of coppicing - pruning back trees to encourage new growth, which was carried out annually for making poles and was then seasoned for firewood.

In 1882 John Baker was sentenced to life for stabbing Enoch Clarke to death in Coppetts Wood, a brutal crime known to history as "The Finchley Murder". The two men, both from Borough in south London, had been involved in a series of burglaries across north Middlesex, and had been members of the notorious Victorian band of villains called "The Black Gang". It transpired that there had been a fight over "swag" taken from a house called St Alban's Villas in Friern Park. But actually it was a crime of passion, as Baker believed that Clarke had been with his "girl", Emily Mathews, while he had been away.

Apart from Coppetts Wood itself, Colney Hatch and South Friern are also part of what was the parish and urban district of Friern Barnet.

Colney Hatch is, of course, most closely associated with Friern Hospital. Originally called the Middlesex Pauper Lunatic Asylum when it opened in 1851, it was the largest hospital of its kind in Europe with 1,250 patients.

It was intended to be a shining example of "lunatic" care; one without the restraints, straight jackets and other paraphernalia that had been associated with the infamous Bedlam Hospital.

However the needs of the county grew, as the population of London increased, and by the late 1850s the asylum's population was twice what it had originally meant to be. By the 1870s many of the restraints so vilified in the 1850s had been reintroduced.

In 1903 the site suffered the worst hospital fire in British history, resulting in the death of 51 women patients who had been sleeping in wooden huts. A monument to them now stands in Southgate Cemetery.

## Did you know?...\*

- Coppetts covers 2.7 square kilometres, making it the seventh smallest ward in Barnet. It has a population of just over 14,500 people.
- It has the highest number of people who describe their ethnicity as mixed: white and Asian in the borough.
- More people use the bus to get to work in Coppetts than in any other ward. It also has the lowest number of people who work from home.
- Coppetts has a higher than average proportion of its population who are middle aged.
- One in four Coppetts households comprises just one person under retirement age, the highest proportion in Barnet.

\* Figures taken from the 2001 census.



The hospital was closed in 1993 and is now undergoing redevelopment as the prestigious Princess Park Manor residential complex.

To the south of the former hospital site is the Pinkham Way section of the North Circular, the last section of the road to be built. It was opened by Lord Rochdale, the Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex, in April 1932 and is named after Sir Charles Pinkham, then chairman of the Middlesex Highways Committee. There used to be a roundabout where the road crossed Colney Hatch Lane, but this was rebuilt as a flyover in 1972.

Half of the area south of the North Circular Road is known as the Freehold, and was an estate laid out on Muswell Farm from the 1860s, probably by the Westminster Freehold Land Company. The area's greatest claim to fame is as the location for Robert Paul's film studios (1897 – 1910). The Victorian film producer, along with Barnet man Birt Acres, built the first British movie camera, called the Paul-Acres camera, and the first film in England was shot outside Acres' home in Hadley, Clovelly Cottage, by Paul in 1895. In Sydney Road, Paul opened one of the first film studios in the modern sense of the word, and many consider him, rather than Acres, to be the father of British film.

\* The information for this feature was provided by Barnet's Local Studies and Archives Centre, 80 Daws Lane, Mill Hill, NW7 4SL. Tel: 020 8950 6957 or email: [libraryarchives@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:libraryarchives@barnet.gov.uk)

## What's in Coppetts?

### Schools

- Coppetts Wood Primary School, Coppetts Road
- Hollickwood Primary School, Sydney Road
- Holly Park Primary School, Bellevue Road
- St John's Church of England Primary School, Crescent Road
- Friern Barnet School, Hemington Avenue

### Parks

- Friary Park. One of the council's 16 Premier Parks (facilities include a café, play area, gardens, basketball, cricket, tennis, bowling green, pitch and putt)
- Bethune Park (gardens, athletics, basketball, football, golf, tennis)
- Coppetts Wood (café, water feature)
- Friern Village Park
- Hollickwood Park (children's play area, water feature)
- Halliwick Park (children's play area, football, tennis)

### Allotment sites

- Coppetts Road
- Hatley Close
- Rathbone
- The Crescent

### Libraries

- Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Road
- South Friern Library, Colney Hatch Lane

### Recycling bring banks

- Beaconsfield Road
- Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Road
- Recreation ground car park, Bethune Avenue
- South Friern Library, Colney Hatch Lane
- Tesco car park, Colney Hatch Lane

## Your councillors

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

**Cllr Mukesh Depala (Con)** was elected to represent the ward at the last council elections in May.  
T: 8365 3614  
E: [cllr.m.depala@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.m.depala@barnet.gov.uk)

**Cllr Barry Rawlings (Lab)** has been a Barnet councillor since 1998.  
T: 8445 6416  
F: 8445 6416  
E: [cllr.b.rawlings@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.b.rawlings@barnet.gov.uk)

**Cllr Kate Salinger (Con)** was elected in May this year.  
T: 8368 1329  
E: [cllr.c.salinger@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.c.salinger@barnet.gov.uk)

## Meet your councillors

Barnet's councillors hold regular surgeries to give residents the chance to discuss any topics they wish to raise.

You can meet Councillors Depala and Salinger on the first Saturday of every month at Friern Barnet Library in Friern Barnet Road between 10.30am and 12noon, and on the second Saturday of every month at South Friern Library in Colney Hatch Lane between 2.30pm and 3.30pm. No appointment is necessary.

Councillor Rawlings is available on the first and third Saturday of every month at South Friern Library between 10.30am and 12noon, and on other Saturdays at Friern Barnet Library between 10.30am and 12noon. No appointment is necessary.

# CCTV continues to roll out across Barnet

The 100th CCTV camera in Barnet has now been installed.

The borough hit triple figures as the cameras, funded by Barnet Council, went live in Mill Hill, New Barnet and Finchley Central in July, representing a major expansion of the borough's CCTV network.



Cameras are monitored 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, by a team of fully trained council staff and cover parks, town centres and streets. CCTV is one of the major tools available to the

council to tackle street crime and anti-social behaviour, and it plans to introduce at least one new town centre scheme every year until 2009.

The council works in close co-operation with the police to identify incidents and direct officers to the scenes of crime. This work was recognised by the Barnet police borough commander in June, when he commended council CCTV operator Richard Vogel for the part he played in alerting police to a gang carrying out a knifepoint robbery in North Finchley, on a Saturday night in February.

Councillor Brian Coleman, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, said: "This landmark further fulfils this council's commitment to tackling the blight of crime on the borough's streets.

"Those engaged in anti-social behaviour and street crime should know there is no hiding place in this borough."

Cllr Coleman accompanied ward councillors and the Mayor on a tour of the new CCTV sites to mark the 'go-live' of the 100th camera in July.

# Kids onto a winner with graffiti clean-up

Four community-minded young citizens (pictured) have been rewarded for their efforts to clear graffiti from a Mill Hill street.



The quartet – Natalie Morgan, Ricky Burdett, Darryl Ditchman and Simon Hambiliki, all of Pursley Road, have been presented with Brent Cross shopping vouchers after being spotted by the council's graffiti officer clearing street furniture in their road of ugly graffiti.

He had initially approached them because he thought they were spraying graffiti, but was taken aback when he realised they were actually doing him a favour!

Councillor Matthew Offord, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, said: "These four youngsters are great examples of the vast majority of young people who are proud of Barnet and enjoy living in a clean, green and safe environment.

"I am delighted that their actions were spotted and it is absolutely right that they should be rewarded for their community-spirited work. Well done to all of them!"

To find out about receiving a free graffiti clearing kit phone 020 8359 4600 or email: ccu@barnet.gov.uk

I need an affordable home in London, in the right area, at the right price...

**TODAY!**

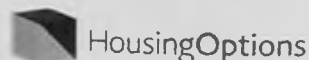
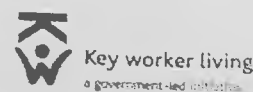
**NO PROBLEM!**

## Working and looking for ways to find an affordable home in London?

Housing Options is here to help you through:

- New Build HomeBuy (formerly known as Shared Ownership)
- Open Market HomeBuy
- Social HomeBuy
- Intermediate Rent

Visit: [www.housingoptions.co.uk](http://www.housingoptions.co.uk)  
Call: 0845 230 8099



# Crime does not pay

Council reclaims over £200,000 from fraudsters.

**Barnet residents can rest assured that the council is keeping a close eye on where it is spending public money, and ensuring it acts on any suspicion of fraud.**

Figures released in July have showed that the council's Corporate Anti-Fraud Team (CAFT) identified more than £200,000 in fraud and overpayments during 2005/6, through the Government's National Fraud Initiative (NFI).

NFI is a data-matching scheme which informs councils across the country about any suspicious claims or possibilities of fraud. In its latest nationwide report, Barnet was highlighted as an authority of good practice.

The discoveries in this borough during

2005/6 included more than £100,000 in overpaid Housing and Council Tax benefit, and 1,149 disabled Blue Badges that had to be cancelled because the owner had died. Barnet is one of only six authorities in the country that already deals with Blue Badge fraud.

The CAFT team also investigated hundreds of cases involving pension payments, care home payments and Income Support. In addition, as well as recovering a council property from a tenant who held another council tenancy outside Barnet, NFI provided details of previously untraceable former tenants with outstanding rent arrears allowing recovery of these arrears to start.

Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council, said: "Since its inception, CAFT has investigated thousands of cases passed on to us by the NFI.

"Nationwide, NFI has led to hundreds of millions of pounds clawed back by local authorities and it is a similar story here in Barnet.

"The council is dedicated to tackling fraud wherever it occurs and will leave no stone unturned in our efforts to make sure public money does not end up in the wrong hands."

If you want to find out more about the NFI, visit its website at [www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nfi](http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nfi)

## Make food, fitness and fun your goal!!

**Arsenal footballer Justin Hoyte kicked off a day of events this summer designed to encourage people with learning disabilities in Barnet to follow a healthy lifestyle.**



Justin (centre) playing table football with centre users Paul McCrory and Folushio Ajayi

People with learning disabilities are at an increased risk of being overweight or obese. To combat this, organisations in Barnet have joined forces to promote the message "Food, Fitness and Fun" and are planning a series of workshops, launched at Broadfields Resource Centre in Edgware.

The morning focused on healthy eating while the afternoon gave everyone the chance to try out a range of exciting activities.

Councillor Fiona Bulmer, Barnet Council's Cabinet Member for Community Services, said she was impressed by the advice on offer at the Barnet Council, Barnet Mencap and Barnet Primary Care Trust event.

"It's no secret that obesity is a problem in this country so I'm pleased to see that healthy eating and taking plenty of exercise are encouraged across the whole community," she said.

"I hope everyone enjoyed the day and also went away with lots of ideas they can use in future to help live a healthier life."

## Expressing themselves through art



Artist Gillian Hynes with carer Dianne Isaacs and some of the artwork

A spectacular art exhibition with a difference was held at artsdepot in North Finchley this summer.

Around 30 colourful works created by clients from the council's Broadfields Resource Centre were on display throughout July.

Broadfields caters for people with profound learning disabilities, who have

been enjoying expressing themselves through art for the last three years.

Their latest creations include some images on very large canvasses produced through group work.

Their appreciation of nature was behind others, the inspiration coming from walks in the centre's garden.

All exhibits were up for sale, with the proceeds going back into the service to pay for new materials and day trips.

Councillor Fiona Bulmer, Cabinet Member for Community Services, said: "Art is a fantastic way for people with learning disabilities to express themselves and knowing that future trips out will be funded by the sale of their work will also give them a great feeling of independence."

## Speedminding success in Barnet

**The council held another successful speedminding event in the summer, bringing together Barnet childminders with parents looking for childcare.**

The event, which runs again in September/October, enables childminders and parents to establish initial contact with each other, while receiving support and information from Barnet's award-winning Children's Information Service (CIS).

And it's obviously proving popular – 88% of those who attended our latest event said they found it useful or very useful.

**"Brilliant idea, prevents pointless visits" Parent, N3**



**"Well organised, very helpful and fun" Childminder, EN4**

For more information about future events, please look out for our adverts in the local press or contact Barnet CIS on 0800 389 8312.

The CIS provides free information about services for children and their families, finding childcare and careers in childcare.

# Meet... your members

**Note: All codes are 020 unless otherwise indicated.**

## Brunswick Park Ward

### Lynne Hillan (Con)

8445 5101  
cldr.l.hillan@barnet.gov.uk

### Andreas Tambourides (Con)

8368 5417  
cldr.a.tambourides@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Second Saturday every month,  
Osidge Library, Brunswick Park  
Road, N11  
10.30am-12 noon

### Lisa Rutter (Con)

8446 4215  
cldr.l.rutter@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Last Saturday every month, Osidge  
Library, Brunswick Park Road, N11  
2.30pm-4pm

## Burnt Oak Ward

### Claire Farrier (Lab)

8959 7908  
cldr.c.farrier@barnet.gov.uk

### Linda McFadyen (Lab)

Deputy Leader of the Labour group  
8364 8782  
cldr.l.mcfadyen@barnet.gov.uk

### Charlie O-Macauley (Lab)

8905 9205  
cldr.c.omacauley@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Saturdays, Burnt Oak Library,  
Watling Avenue, HA8  
10.30am-12noon

## Childs Hill Ward

### Jack Cohen (LibDem)

8446 7940  
cldr.j.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

### Monroe Palmer (LibDem)

Liberal Democrat Group Leader  
8455 5140  
cldr.m.palmer@barnet.gov.uk

### Susette Palmer (LibDem)

8455 5140  
cldr.s.palmer@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

First Thursday every month, Childs  
Hill Library, Cricklewood Lane, NW2  
7-8pm

## Colindale Ward

### Danish Chopra (Lab)

8449 9046  
cldr.d.chopra@barnet.gov.uk

### Gill Sargeant (Lab)

8455 1070  
cldr.g.sargeant@barnet.gov.uk

### Zakia Zubairi (Lab)

8959 4091  
cldr.z.zubairi@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Saturdays, Grahame Park Library,  
The Concourse, Colindale, NW9  
10-11am

## Coppetts Ward

### Mukesh Depala (Con)

8365 3614  
cldr.m.depala@barnet.gov.uk

### Kate Salinger (Con)

8368 1329  
cldr.c.salinger@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

- First Saturday every month,  
Friern Barnet Library, Friern  
Barnet Road, N11  
10.30am-12noon
- Second Saturday every month,  
South Friern Library, Colney  
Hatch Lane, N10  
2.30pm-3.30pm

### Barry Rawlings (Lab)

8445 6416  
cldr.b.rawlings@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

- First and third Saturday every  
month, South Friern Library,  
Colney Hatch Lane, N10  
10.30am-12noon
- Other Saturdays, Friern Barnet  
Library, Friern Barnet Road, N11  
10.30am-12noon

## East Barnet Ward

### Terence Burton (Con)

8368 7366  
cldr.t.burton@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Second Saturday every month,  
East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill  
Road, East Barnet, EN4  
10.30am-12noon

### Olwen Evans (Con)

8368 1986  
cldr.o.evans@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

- First Saturday every month, The  
Community Centre, Victoria  
Road, New Barnet, EN4  
10.30am-12noon
- Third Saturday every month, East  
Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill Road,  
East Barnet, EN4  
10.30am - 12noon

### Robert Rams (Con)

cldr.r.rams@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Fourth Saturday every month,  
East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill  
Road, East Barnet, EN4  
10.30am-12noon

## East Finchley Ward

### Andrew McNeil (Lab)

8365 3948  
cldr.a.mcneil@barnet.gov.uk

### Alison Moore (Lab)

Leader of the Opposition (Labour  
group leader)  
8343 0306  
cldr.a.moore@barnet.gov.uk

### Colin Rogers (Lab)

8444 7150  
cldr.c.rogers@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Saturdays, East Finchley  
Neighbourhood Centre, Church  
Lane, East Finchley, N2  
10-11.30am

## Edgware Ward

### Helena Hart (Con)

8371 0658  
cldr.h.hart@barnet.gov.uk

### Joan Scannell (Con)

8959 5921  
cldr.j.scannell@barnet.gov.uk

### Richard Weider (Con)

8958 4170  
cldr.r.weider@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Last Tuesday every month,  
Edgware Library, Hale Lane,  
Edgware, HA8  
5.30-6.30pm

## Finchley Church End Ward

### Michael Freer (Con)

Leader of the Council  
(Conservative group leader)  
8349 2540  
cldr.m.freer@barnet.gov.uk

### Eva Greenspan (Con)

Mayor  
8203 1598  
cldr.e.greenspan@barnet.gov.uk

### Daniel Thomas (Con)

cldr.d.thomas@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

First Wednesday every month,  
Avenue House, East End Road,  
Finchley N3  
7.30-8.30pm

## Garden Suburb Ward

### Andrew Harper (Con)

8209 3981  
cldr.a.harper@barnet.gov.uk

### John Marshall (Con)

8445 2597  
cldr.j.marshall@barnet.gov.uk

### Jazmin Naghar (Con)

8458 2466  
cldr.j.naghar@barnet.gov.uk

#### Surgery details:

Fourth Monday every month,  
Fellowship House, Willifield Way,  
NW11  
6-7pm

### **Golders Green Ward**

#### **Dean Cohen (Con)**

07786 543866  
cldr.d.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Melvin Cohen (Con)**

7644 7211  
cldr.m.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Christopher Harris (Con)**

07949 592512  
cldr.c.harris@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

- Second Sunday every month, Golders Green Library, Golders Green Road, NW11 2.15-3.15pm
- Fourth Sunday every month, Hendon Sports Centre, Marble Drive, Brent Cross, NW2 12noon-1pm

### **Hale Ward**

#### **Jane Ellison (Con)**

8201 0175  
cldr.j.ellison@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Brian Gordon (Con)**

8931 5062  
cldr.b.gordon@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Hugh Rayner (Con)**

8958 3364  
cldr.h.rayner@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

First Thursday every month alternating between Edgware Library, Hale Lane, Edgware, HA8, and Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7 (so 7 September – MH, 5 October – Edgware) 6-7.30pm

### **Hendon Ward**

#### **Maureen Braun (Con)**

8906 0447  
cldr.m.braun@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Anthony Finn (Con)**

8202 9689  
cldr.a.finn@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Matthew Offord (Con)**

Deputy Leader of the Council (Conservative group deputy leader) 8202 5319  
cldr.m.offord@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

First Monday every month, Action Point, Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 6-7pm

### **High Barnet Ward**

#### **Duncan Macdonald (Lib Dem)**

8440 3941  
cldr.d.macdonald@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Saturdays, Chipping Barnet Library, Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN4 3.30-5pm

#### **Bridget Perry (Con)**

8441 5683  
cldr.b.perry@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Wendy Prentice (Con)**

8364 9249  
E: cldr.w.prentice@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

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

### **Mill Hill Ward**

#### **Wayne Casey (LibDem)**

Deputy Leader of the LibDem Group 8906 8189  
cldr.w.casey@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Jeremy Davies (LibDem)**

8381 0089  
cldr.j.davies@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

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

#### **John Hart (Con)**

8959 5182  
cldr.j.hart@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Selective Thursdays (ring for exact dates), Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7 6-8pm

### **Oakleigh Ward**

#### **Sachin Rajput (Con)**

8381 0096  
cldr.s.rajput@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Brian Salinger (Con)**

8368 1329  
cldr.b.salinger@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Marina Yannakoudakis (Con)**

8445 8175  
cldr.m.yannakoudakis@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

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

### **Totteridge Ward**

#### **Brian Coleman (Con)**

8349 2024  
cldr.b.coleman@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Richard Cornelius (Con)**

8445 5886  
cldr.r.cornelius@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Caroline Margo (Con)**

cldr.c.margo@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

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

### **Underhill Ward**

#### **Fiona Bulmer (Con)**

8441 5258  
cldr.f.bulmer@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Daniel Webb (Con)**

8445 9158  
cldr.d.webb@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

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

#### **Anita Campbell (Lab)**

8440 2703  
cldr.a.campbell@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

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

### **West Finchley Ward**

#### **Ross Houston (Lab)**

8446 6513  
cldr.r.houston@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Kath McGuirk (Lab)**

8209 1462  
cldr.k.mcguirk@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Jim Tierney (Lab)**

8346 3359  
cldr.j.tierney@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Saturdays, 331 Ballards Lane, North Finchley 10-11.30am

### **West Hendon Ward**

#### **Julie Johnson (Lab)**

8203 3531  
cldr.j.johnson@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Agnes Slocombe (Lab)**

8202 4074  
cldr.a.slocombe@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Ansuya Sodha (Lab)**

8959 6035  
cldr.a.sodha@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

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

### **Woodhouse Ward**

#### **Geof Cooke (Lab)**

8446 8407  
cldr.g.cooke@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Anne Hutton (Lab)**

8883 0996  
cldr.a.hutton@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Alan Schneiderman (Lab)**

8731 9680  
cldr.a.schneiderman@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Saturdays, 331 Ballards Lane, North Finchley, 10-11.30am

### **Contacting your MPs**

#### **Chipping Barnet**

##### **Theresa Villiers**

Office: 163 High Street, Barnet, EN5 5SU  
Tel: 020 8449 7345

#### **Finchley and Golders Green**

##### **Dr Rudi Vis**

Office: 38 Church Lane East Finchley, N2 8DT  
Tel: 020 8883 0411

#### **Hendon**

##### **Andrew Dismore**

Office: St. George's Lodge, 79 The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 4AX  
Tel: 020 8202 2122

#### **Greater London Assembly**

##### **Member for Barnet and Camden**

##### **Cllr Brian Coleman**

Office: City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London, SE1 2AA  
Tel: 020 7983 4367

# Real nappies under the microscope

Barnet resident and Consumer Editor at [babyworld.co.uk](http://babyworld.co.uk), Lara Green is a firm believer in the benefit of real nappies and is lending a hand to parents thinking of using this eco-friendly alternative.



Lara, with son Findlay, Barnet's biggest fan of real nappies

Reusable nappies are fast becoming the premium choice of nappy for many parents. The benefits are plentiful - they're kinder to the environment, softer for baby, chemical-free and less expensive than disposables.

To help you on the road to real nappy know-how, I got together a panel of six mums who have been busy road-testing nine different brands of reusables for the past six weeks. Their findings are a must read for both devoted users and real nappy novices - particularly if you're thinking of splashing out on a full set for your baby.

We tested for:

- ease of use
- design
- absorbency
- comfort
- quality
- value for money.

Our panel recommend you 'try before you buy to make sure your baby is the right shape for the nappies' - 'test as many sample kits as possible and certainly don't invest in a full system until you are sure they will work for you.' Interestingly what worked well for one mum was another's disaster.

To see how the nappies compared, check out: [www.babyworld.co.uk/information/products/product\\_tests/reusable\\_nappies/overview.asp](http://www.babyworld.co.uk/information/products/product_tests/reusable_nappies/overview.asp)

Putting the Community First

**BARNET**  
LONDON BOROUGH

Working in Partnership with



**FILL IT - SNAP IT - WIN IT!**

## Over £250 of goodies up for grabs!

Simply send us a photo of you putting out your full Black Box for recycling to: [competitions@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:competitions@barnet.gov.uk) or post to Recycling, London Borough of Barnet, NLBP, Oakleigh Road South, London, N11 1NP. In return the most innovative and fun photograph will WIN a full Black Box of goodies, worth over £250.

*So fill your box with recyclables, get your friends and family involved and start snapping away!*

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 31 OCTOBER 2006.

Visit [www.barnet.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/recycling) or call 020 8359 7400 for full terms and conditions.



## Half price composters and wormeries now available!

To order your composter log on to [www.getcomposting.com/barnet](http://www.getcomposting.com/barnet) or call 0845 130 60 90.

Water butts are also available.

To order a wormery log on to [www.originalorganics.co.uk/barnet](http://www.originalorganics.co.uk/barnet) or call 01884 841515.

Please have your debit or credit card details to hand when you order.

# Barnet's Mayor – a brief history

Since being sworn in as Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Eva Greenspan has wasted no time in meeting many of Barnet's multi-cultural population.

Already, she has opened a residential care home, visited several schools and attended community festivals, in her capacity as first citizen of the borough.

She said: "I take great pride in representing the borough as Mayor and look forward to meeting many of our different communities.

"Going around meeting people is what being Mayor is all about."

And Councillor Greenspan joins a long list of Mayors (42 to be exact) who have done just that ever since the position was created

Barnet for 37 years. She has three children and seven grandchildren and works as a solicitor. Her friend, Leonard Wilson, acts as her escort.

Elected by fellow councillors, she took up her chains of office at a special ceremony held during the council's annual meeting, two weeks after the local elections in May.

The office of Mayor is one of the few aspects of local government that has changed very little over the years. It has retained many of its ceremonial associations, including the robes, chain, badge and maces of the Mayor.

position. It is worn along with a white lace collar called a 'jabot' and a black three-pointed 'tricorn' hat.

At ceremonial occasions, the Mayor is accompanied by mace bearers who carry the two maces of Barnet – one from Hendon and the other from Finchley – dating back to the 1930s. Made of silver gilt, their inscriptions tell the history of the two areas.

Councillor Greenspan is hoping to use her time in this historic role to raise lots of money for her chosen charity, the Variety Club



The Mayor (left) and Councillor Fiona Bulmer chat to a resident at Meadowside care home

in 1965 when the two borough councils of Finchley and Hendon were amalgamated with three urban district councils to form the London Borough of Barnet.

Already well-known in the borough through her time as a councillor for Finchley Church End, Councillor Greenspan has lived in

## "Going around meeting people is what being mayor is all about."

The Mayor's chain, which is worn on all official visits, was presented to the borough by the union NALGO, now known as Unison, in 1965 and was purchased for £800. The badge, meanwhile, is imprinted with the

borough's crest and, in days gone by, was used to seal official council documents.

Her official robes, in common with the other London borough mayors, is scarlet in colour. This is a tradition that has been handed down over hundreds of years, as it was a colour which indicated wealth and

Children's Charity, which supports sick, disabled and disadvantaged children. She is a member of the charity and is looking forward to raising funds for the youngsters of Barnet.

She will also play a critical role during her 12 months in office, representing the borough at civil functions both within and outside the borough, and even abroad. Barnet enjoys a number of twin town associations with places around the world, including Montclair in the USA, Ramat Gan in Israel, Le Raincy and Chaville in France and Jinja in Uganda.

As part of her duties she also has to witness the sealing of the council's legal documents.

To find out more about the Mayor and the history of this civic office, visit [www.barnet.gov.uk/index/community-living/barnet-mayor.htm](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/index/community-living/barnet-mayor.htm)

## Webwatch

What's new on Barnet Online in September and October?

### Feel like getting some fresh air?

Addresses and details of Barnet's 16 premier parks are now online. Visit: [www.barnet.gov.uk/premier-parks](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/premier-parks) to find out more.

### Need to contact your local councillor?

Well you can now search by postcode. Click on to: [www.barnet.gov.uk/councillors-general-information](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/councillors-general-information)

### Want to find out about commercial properties for sale or let?

Visit: [www.barnet.gov.uk/commercial-property-properties-for-sale-and-to-let](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/commercial-property-properties-for-sale-and-to-let)

### View our recently-updated Corporate Plan for 2006/7 – 2009/10.

Go to [www.barnet.gov.uk/corporate-plan](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/corporate-plan)



# Barnet parks fly the flag!

Four of the borough's premier parks have been bestowed with the prestigious Green Flag status: Old Court House Recreation Ground, High Barnet; Hendon Park, Hendon Central; Mill Hill Park, Mill Hill; and Oak Hill Park, East Barnet.

The Green Flag award scheme is the national standard for parks throughout England and Wales where excellence is the name of the game, and advance planning is the pre-requisite for entry.

To achieve this honour, the council had to demonstrate it had a five-year management plan in place for each park, outlining where and when improvements will be made. Each park was then scrutinised by expert judges.

Recent investment in the four parks includes:

- considerable pruning of shrubs and the lifting and thinning of trees to improve visibility for the safety of park users
- renovation and planting of shrub bed, borders and ornamental features
- new litter bins and seats
- notice boards for community use and information panels at the main entrances
- footpaths have been relaid and paving areas re-levelled
- sports courts and playgrounds have been refurbished including the installation of self-closing gates and roundabouts for disabled people

In addition, community participation, regular



events and activities, the recycling of grass and prunings on site, and the active maintenance and promotion of wildlife and conservation management, all contributed to the accreditation.

Barnet's Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Matthew Offord, says: "Our residents are now enjoying some of the best parks in the country. I am delighted that the council's hard work to provide top quality green spaces has been recognised in this way. This accolade is proof that the borough's Premier Parks scheme is making a real difference to the quality of our open spaces."

The council's aim is to achieve Green Flag status in all its 16 Premier Parks.



## Barnet's new top bobby

Stephen Kavanagh has joined Barnet Borough Police as the new Borough Commander.

He takes over from Mark Ricketts who left the borough to take up a post in central London in June.



Chief Superintendent Kavanagh joined the Metropolitan Police in 1985 aged 19, after he witnessed an armed robbery as a teenager and decided he wanted to be a police officer.

His career has seen him hold various posts throughout London including working on the burglary squad and the Anti-Terrorist branch, and helping to set up the Racial and Violent Task Force. He also worked on the homicide team, dealing with murders in north and east London.

Chief Superintendent Kavanagh says that he's looking forward to continuing the close working partnership with the council in his new role.

"Crime reduction cannot be achieved unless we work together and reach into the community," he says.

"Lower crime figures and residents who feel safer will be the measure of our success."

## Remembering our victims of 7/7

Barnet's Mayor, Councillor Eva Greenspan, lays a wreath to remember the nine Barnet victims killed in last year's London bombings.



Councillors, emergency services representatives, council officers and representatives from different faith groups joined members of the public for a Civic Commemoration in the Memorial Garden of Hendon Park.

The event began at 8am on 7 July – poignant as it was the time that many of the victims would have left their homes for a normal day's work.

The event included readings by representatives from different faith groups in the borough and a one minute's silence.

# Information at your fingertips – 24/7! Top class!

Did you know that your Barnet library card is now your personal password to a wealth of reference information?



Barnet's libraries have recently subscribed to a wide range of online reference books that you can use on the internet in your local library and from your own computer at home!

All you need is your 14 digit Barnet library card number to help you access over 400 reference books on our 24/7 Reference Library 24 hours a day.

Resources available include:

- Encyclopaedia, such as Britannica
- Newspapers, including the complete Times

Digital Archive back to 1785 and dozens of local and national newspapers

- Dictionaries, including the Oxford English Dictionary
- and hundreds of reference books from KnowUK, Oxford Reference and Xreferplus, ranging from the Blue Guide to London to Whitakers Almanack and the Actors' Yearbook to Who's Who.

So if you're looking for information on people and places, arts and music, government and economics, history, education, science or medicine, or you just need that little bit of extra help with a difficult crossword clue, give it a go.

For more details look at our website – [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk) – and visit the library pages.

Anyone who lives, works or studies in Barnet can join their local library. If you are not a library member and would like to find out how to join, please pick up a membership form at any Barnet library or visit the library pages of our website.

Barnet's Homeseekers department has been awarded a prestigious Government accolade after cutting the number of cases classed as homeless by 24% within the first six months of implementing a new housing advice service.

The Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has designated Barnet as "regional champion" for tackling homelessness. The status recognises Barnet as an example of good practice for other local authorities to follow, and will see Barnet work with other councils in London to develop their own homelessness prevention work.

The borough's new housing advice service, Options First, created at the end of 2005, focuses on developing alternative housing options, and has enabled large numbers of people to avoid the misery and expense of temporary accommodation.

Councillor Fiona Bulmer, Cabinet Member for Community Services and Housing, said: "I am delighted that the good work carried out by Barnet Homeseekers through the Options First approach over the last 10 months has been recognised nationally."



## Barnet College

Taking you to where you want to be



## Ofsted inspection confirms we're the best FE college in North London

With five centres across the borough of Barnet there is sure to be a centre near you. Our three main centres are:

Wood Street	North London Business Park	Graname Park Way
High Barnet, EN5 4AZ	Building 3, Oakleigh Road South, N11 1GN	Colindale, NW9 5RA

Information Evenings are taking place in November. Check out our website for details or call the number below. For a copy of our full-time or part-time course guides please call the number below.

Course Information

**020 8266 4000**

[www.barnet.ac.uk](http://www.barnet.ac.uk)

[info@barnet.co.uk](mailto:info@barnet.co.uk)

Typetalk for people who are Deaf/hearing impaired: 18001 020 8200 8300

# Your A-Z guide to services in Barnet

<p><b>A</b> <b>Abandoned vehicles</b> 020 8359 7399</p> <p><b>Adoption</b> 020 8359 5705</p> <p><b>Allotments</b> 020 8359 7820</p>	<p><b>Community centre bookings :</b> Garth Hall and Spur Road 020 8359 5258 Grahame Park 020 8200 3014 West Hendon 020 8359 5411 Watling 020 8959 2259</p>	<p><b>H</b> <b>Hospitals:</b> Barnet and Chase Farm 0845 111 4000 Edgware Community 020 8952 2381 Finchley Memorial 020 8349 6300</p>	<p><b>Parks and open spaces</b> 020 8359 4600</p>
<p><b>B</b> <b>Barnet Homes</b> 0800 389 5225</p> <p><b>Barnet Homeseekers</b> 020 8359 4797</p> <p><b>Barnet Housing Aid Centre</b> 020 8446 2504</p> <p><b>Blue Badge parking permits</b> 020 8359 4131</p> <p><b>Business rates</b> 020 8359 2735</p>	<p><b>Council recruitment</b> 020 8288 2319</p> <p><b>Council Tax enquiries</b> 020 8359 2608</p> <p><b>Customer care unit</b> 020 8359 4600</p>	<p><b>Housing and Council Tax benefits</b> 020 8359 2111</p>	<p><b>Planning applications and enquiries</b> 020 8359 3000</p>
<p><b>C</b> <b>Council housing repairs</b> 0800 389 5225</p> <p><b>Cemetery and crematorium</b> 020 8346 0657</p> <p><b>Children's Information Service</b> 0800 389 8312</p> <p><b>Council meetings</b> 020 8359 2156</p> <p><b>Council anti-fraud hotline</b> 020 8359 2007</p>	<p><b>E</b> <b>Education service</b> 020 8359 7618</p> <p><b>Electoral services</b> 020 8359 5577</p> <p><b>Emergency council telephone service</b> 020 8359 2000</p> <p><b>F</b> <b>First Contact (for all general enquiries)</b> 020 8359 2277</p> <p><b>Fostering</b> 020 8359 6274</p> <p><b>Fly tipping</b> 020 8359 4600</p>	<p><b>L</b> <b>Leisure services and swimming pools:</b> Barnet Copthall 020 8457 9900 Finchley Lido 020 8343 9830 Hendon 020 8455 0818 Barnet and Burnt Oak 020 8201 0982 Church Farm 020 8368 7070 Compton 020 8361 8658 Queen Elizabeth 020 8441 2933</p>	<p><b>R</b> <b>Recycling facilities</b> 020 8359 7400</p> <p><b>Refuse collections</b> 020 8359 4600</p> <p><b>Registry Office</b> 020 8731 1100</p>
	<p><b>G</b> <b>Graffiti</b> 020 8359 4600</p>	<p><b>M</b> <b>Mobile Library Service</b> 020 8458 1139</p> <p><b>N</b> <b>Noise nuisance</b> 020 8359 7997</p> <p><b>P</b> <b>Parking permits</b> 020 8359 7516</p>	<p><b>S</b> <b>Social Services for the elderly</b> 020 8359 2440</p> <p><b>Special collections (bulk refuse collection)</b> 020 8359 5043/5175</p> <p><b>Switchboard</b> 020 8359 2000</p> <p><b>T</b> <b>Trading standards</b> 0845 404 0506</p> <p><b>Y</b> <b>Young people's advice line</b> 020 8492 7332</p> <p><b>Youth and Connexions</b> 020 8359 7819</p>

## Sprucing up your neighbourhood

As part of the council's work to create a "cleaner, greener borough we provide a block cleanse service to streets in the borough twice a year.

### On your block cleanse day:

- All roads in the block are swept
- Graffiti can be cleaned from private property at a specially reduced rate
- All road signs are cleaned.

Skips are also provided free of charge and are available for residents' use between 7am to 3pm.

You can dispose of unwanted items of

rubbish including garden waste, cardboard and mixed metals which we will recycle.

Please note that the following items cannot be placed in the skips: trade or builder's waste, fridges or freezers, car batteries or tyres, gas cylinders or asbestos.

All items must be placed in the skips and not left outside your property.

Help for the elderly or those who have assisted refuse collections can be

provided, but please contact us BEFORE your block cleanse day.

Residents are asked not to park in the roads on cleansing day so that we can do the best job possible.

To find out more information, and check out when your street is due to be cleaned, visit [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk) and click on the street care and cleaning link under transport and streets.

# What's on in Barnet during September and October

## Music

### Youth Music Centre enrolment morning

**9 September, 10.30am – 12.30pm**

The Tea House, Northway, Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11. Enrol for music activities at this Saturday morning music school for 18-month-olds and above. Orchestras and ensembles, Kodaly and voice classes, choir, instrumental tuition, theory and composition. Details: [www.youthmusiccentre.org.uk](http://www.youthmusiccentre.org.uk). Cost: none to enrol.

### Sound of the Suburbs until 10 September

Church Farmhouse Museum, Greyhound Hill, Hendon, NW4. The history of pop and rock music in Barnet. Details/opening times: 020 8203 0130.

## Arts

### A Midsummer Night's Dream

**3 September**

Avenue House grounds, East End Road, Finchley, N3.

More details or tickets: call the box office on 020 8455 4640 or visit:

[www.bothyartsfinchley.org.uk](http://www.bothyartsfinchley.org.uk). Tickets: £6.

## Miscellaneous

### Befriending Preparation Training Course for Volunteers

**8 September 7pm-9.30pm and 10 September 10am-4.30pm**

Dove House, Dove Close, Bunns Lane, Mill Hill, NW7 2AQ. Free training to recruit volunteers to support people living in the community suffering from mental health problems. The volunteers are matched to work on 1:2:1 with service users who are isolated and lonely in the community.

### Talk/presentation at Anglo-Italian Circle of Barnet

**24 September**

Licia Luca, an Italian singer in London for various engagements at the end of September, talks. For details call: 020 8205 5611. Cost: £3.

### 'On the Move with Michael Gerson' a talk by Brian Charles

**27 September 7.45pm**

Friern Barnet and District Local History Society, St. John's Church Hall, Friern Barnet Lane, Whetstone. Light refreshments provided. Cost: £2, members free.

### 'London Borough of Barnet Archives' a talk by Jasmine Webb

**25 October 7.45pm**

Friern Barnet and District Local History Society, St John's Church Hall, Friern Barnet Lane, Whetstone. Light refreshments provided. Cost: £2, members free.

### Barnet Plus Social and Leisure Group

**Sunday evenings 8.45pm**

Upstairs function room, Bull and Butcher pub, 1277 High Road, Whetstone, N20. Social and leisure activities for 18 – 35 year-olds. More details: visit [www.barnetplus.com](http://www.barnetplus.com) or contact Mark on 020 8361 2827.

### Canoeing for ages 10+

**Thursday evenings**

Also, Monday evenings, other boatwork and adventurous activities. Southgate and Barnet Sea Cadets, Osidge Lane, Southgate. Contact Lt (SCC) Nina L Villa RNR at [Turnipog@hotmail.com](mailto:Turnipog@hotmail.com) or call: 020 8367 4779. Cost: £8 per month. New cadets aged 12-18 always welcome. Adult helpers/committee members/ administrators always required.

### Barnet Youth Hostel Association Group every Tuesday evening

at Discovery Hall, Stevenson Close, Netherlands Road, Barnet. Visit: [www.barnetyha.org](http://www.barnetyha.org) or telephone Dave on 020 8449 1553 or Sue on 01707 274248 for details. Walking weekends plus day and evening walks and weekly meetings.

### Eating Disorder Support Group

**first Sunday of each month 10.30am**

Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, N3. North London Eating Disorders Support Group, funded by Barnet PCT. Self help and support to anyone aged 18+ affected by anorexia, bulimia, compulsive over eating, binge eating or any other food issue. For further details call: Fenella Lemonsky on 07951 161054. Cost: free.

## Library/Literacy



### Mill Hill Library Book Sale

**22 August – 2 September**

Hartley Avenue, Mill Hill, NW7 2AX. Phone: 020 8959 5066 for more details.

## Council meetings – dates for your diary

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

### September

- 4 Barnet Area Forum; Finchley Area Forum; Hendon Area Forum; Cabinet
- 5 Finchley and Golders Green Area Environment Sub-Committee; Chipping Barnet Area Environment Sub-Committee; Hendon Area Environment Sub-Committee
- 6 Cabinet Resources
- 11 Cabinet Overview and Scrutiny
- 12 Council
- 19 Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 20 Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 21 Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 26 First Class Education and Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 27 Planning and Environment Committee; Tackling Crime and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 28 Audit

### October

- 3 Resources, Performance and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 4 Standards Committee
- 10 Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee; Cleaner, Greener, Transport and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 11 Supporting the Vulnerable in our Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee; Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 12 Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 16 Cabinet
- 17 Cabinet Resources
- 18 Licensing
- 23 Cabinet Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 25 Planning and Environment Committee
- 26 Whetstone Area Forum; Golders Green and Childs Hill Area Forum; Edgware, Burnt Oak and Mill Hill Area Forum

# Improving the mental health and wellbeing of older Barnet residents

Barnet has been selected as the London site of a national development programme to improve the mental health and wellbeing of older people.

The council, along with Barnet Primary Care Trust (PCT) and Barnet Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust (MHT), will be working with The King's Fund, an independent charitable foundation working for better health. The voluntary sector, older people and their carers will also be involved.

The King's Fund is funding work to address the shortcomings in services for older people with mental health problems, highlighted in its inquiry into care services across London last year.

The Barnet development programme aims to create a system which provides maximum benefit to older people and their carers. This could include:

- More choice and better quality of services
- Improved access to treatment, care and support
- Complex and varying needs met in a co-ordinated way
- Improved social inclusion and mental well being.

The King's Fund has now appointed a team of development consultants to support work between the council, PCT, MHT and partners to:

- Undertake an audit and analysis of the local service system
- Agree a commissioning strategy and action plan
- Implement the action plan
- Review progress on the implementation of the strategy.

Glynnis Joffe, the council's Assistant Director for Social Services, says: "This is going to be a fantastic opportunity for our older residents to improve our services for them and for staff to be involved in a very high profile project.

Barnet is very pleased to have been chosen by the King's Fund as the London site to undertake this improvement work."

## Working hard for road safety



Pic caption: Samir and Laura from Barnet Hill Junior School with tv presenters Jeff Brazier and Anna Williamson who hosted the awards show.

Laura Corbett and Samir Khoram are officially the hardest working junior road safety officers in London!

The pupils of Barnet Hill School won the Hard Work Award from Transport for London's Junior Road Safety Officer scheme, at its first award ceremony held recently.

The scheme involves schools 'recruiting' one or two pupils to take a lead on promoting road safety issues in their school communities

in interesting and creative ways. The appointed children teach their classmates about road safety through games, competitions, and plays.

Lisa Gayfer, teacher at Barnet Hill said: "Samir and Laura have worked so hard and enthusiastically to get the road safety message across. They were so surprised to win the award, and they truly deserved it."

The children's most impressive pieces of work included a PowerPoint presentation, and a road safety T-shirt design competition. They will use their £100 book voucher prize to buy a book each and donate the remainder to the school library.

# Wingfield opens its doors

Barnet's first children's centre officially opened its doors to families last month.



Celebrating Wingfield's opening

Wingfield, based in The Concourse, Grahame Park, was opened by Councillor John Marshall, the council's Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning.

The centre will be working with up to 100 families at any one time offering a range of services to meet their needs.

These include:

- 32 childcare places for children aged two to five, open 8am to 6pm, all year round and 10 places for babies (0-2) with linked childminders
- a parent and toddler community group
- help and advice from visiting midwives and health visitors
- access to the local Childminding Network, which supports parents to find an Ofsted registered childminder
- access to advice and information on training, education and employment, benefits and tax advice
- Free courses run in conjunction with Parentline Plus and Barnet College, including English as a second language, first aid, alternative therapy, and parenting.

Wayne Gumble, Business Manager at Wingfield, said: "We are looking forward to making a real difference to the lives of families and children in the community."

The council's second children's centre, Parkfield, is due to open in September at Parkfield Primary School in West Hendon.

By 2008 Barnet will develop a further 15 children's centres across the borough, as part of the Government's commitment that all families will have access to a children's centre delivering services to the local community by 2010.

Children's centres aim to provide:

- children aged under five the best start in life
- parents and children access to flexible and affordable childcare
- Parents and carers with the opportunity to balance work and family responsibilities.

Anyone who wants to find out more about Wingfield can pop along to the centre or give them a call on 020 8205 6175.