



# Barnet gardener's award winning allotment

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A message from  
**Councillor  
Victor Lyon,**  
Leader of Barnet Council

**W**elcome to the latest edition of Barnet First. In this issue you can read about the launch of the council's Street Enforcement Service. We have set up this new force as part of our drive to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in Barnet. Street Enforcement Officers are now patrolling the borough's streets, helping in the fight against crime and to create a cleaner, greener Barnet. Also in this issue, the quality of education in Barnet continues to excel and you can read about our schools' outstanding A-level exam results on page 6. Barnet's schools are officially among the best in the country and I would like to congratulate our pupils and teachers for their outstanding achievements. Finally, once again we are looking for nominations in the borough's prestigious Civic Awards. The Civic Award scheme recognises our local heroes - those who have made an important contribution to the local community. If you would like to nominate a Barnet resident for a 2004 Civic Award, details and an entry form can be found inside the magazine.

Yours sincerely

**Councillor Victor Lyon  
Leader of Barnet Council**

# first things first

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Barnet First is produced by Barnet Council's communications team and printed on environmentally friendly paper

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## Barnet First is also available in large print and on audio tape

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**Barnet First Magazine**  
Town Hall, The Burroughs  
Hendon, London  
NW4 4BG

**Distribution of Barnet First**  
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. We hope you enjoy reading it, nonetheless.

design and print by  
The Limehouse Group

# New force takes to the streets

**A** new force took to the streets in August as part of the drive to tackle crime and create a cleaner, greener borough.

Barnet Council's Street Enforcement Service will focus on

preventative and enforcement action to cut nuisance and anti-social behaviour and improve Barnet's streets.

"This new service will make a real contribution to fighting crime and creating a cleaner,

greener Barnet," said Councillor Brian Coleman, Cabinet Member for Environment. "As well as sorting out problems quickly the new Street Enforcement Officers will deal with the vandals that spoil the environment in the first place."

The council's neighbourhood wardens and neighbourhood management officers have joined forces to create the new service.

Unlike their predecessors, the Street Enforcement Officers will not be restricted to a particular patch or ward. The force will patrol where they are needed most during and outside office hours and will be able to deal swiftly with problems.



Cabinet Member for Environment Councillor Brian Coleman was joined by local councillor Susette Palmer for the launch of the new Street Enforcement Service in Golders Green in August

Want to know more?

020 8359 7495

# £19 Million for housing improvements

**Barnet Council is getting over £19 million from the government to improve its tenants' homes in the coming years after successfully bidding to set up an arms length management organisation (ALMO).**

Despite a major programme of repairs, maintenance and upgrade work on its housing stock over the last ten years the council does not have enough money to bring all its homes up to the standards residents expect.

Around £89 million is needed to bring all council homes up to

these standards by 2010 and subsequent funding will be dependent on government reviews, carried out every three years. Under the scheme, the ALMO will take over the day-to-day management and maintenance of the properties, including major improvements, while the council remains the owner of the properties.

Setting up the ALMO will enable the council to improve the lives and living conditions of residents in 12,000 council homes. Planned improvements include fitting modern kitchens,

bathrooms and heating systems.

Even £89 million is not enough money to tackle the problems on some estates. Major regeneration projects for estates at Grahame Park in Colindale; West Hendon; Stonegrove/Spur Road and Dollis Valley are gathering pace.



## Anti-graffiti kit launched



The council's anti-graffiti pack goes into action

Barnet Council has launched an anti-graffiti kit as part of its bid to create a cleaner, greener borough. The measure is part of the council's crackdown on graffiti which has already seen the introduction of three fast-reaction, in-house graffiti removal teams and means reported graffiti is now deleted free of charge from buildings facing main A roads such as the A1000 within 48 hours.

The anti-graffiti kit is aimed at encouraging community and residents groups to play their part in waging war on this form of vandalism.

The kits contain graffiti remover, abrasive pads, gloves, a trigger spray bottle, safety data sheets, operating instructions and are environmentally friendly to use. They are 100 per cent biodegradable and the product is formed from the constituents found in milk and oranges. Forty kits have already been snapped up by eager local residents and businesses.

### Want to know more?

☎ 020 8359 7499

# News in brief

## Do you know a local hero?

Barnet Council is looking for nominations for the Barnet Civic Awards 2004. Now in its fourth year, the Civic Awards recognise local people who make an important contribution to the community – maybe through voluntary or charity work.

The closing date for nominations is 31 October and the winners will be presented with their awards at a special ceremony at Hendon Town Hall on 20 January 2004.

If you would like to nominate a local hero for a Barnet Civic Award



you can use the nomination form on the back cover of this edition of Barnet First.

### Want to know more?

For further details telephone 020 8359 2339 or email: [renae.randle@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:renae.randle@barnet.gov.uk)

## Housing repairs service extend opening hours

Council tenants no longer have to take time off work to let maintenance staff into their homes for routine repairs, now that a six-month pilot of an extended opening hours service has started.

Before September, the housing repairs service operated Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm. Now, during the pilot period, repairs staff will be on hand to visit homes from 8am to 8pm on Wednesdays and on Saturdays between 9am and 1pm.

### Want to know more?

The repairs service call centre can be contacted on

☎ 020 8359 5225

## Driving out dodgy dealers

Barnet Council's Trading Standards Service has launched a registration scheme aimed at helping buyers get the best from local motor dealers. Those businesses that have signed up to the Registered Motor Trader Scheme comply with a code of practice agreed with the Retail Motor Industry Federation, and subject to inspections by Trading Standards officers.

### Want to know more?

A full list of local dealers who are part of the scheme can be found on the Barnet Council website at: [www.barnet.gov.uk/business/trading\\_standards](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/business/trading_standards) or by calling Trading Standards on

☎ 020 8359 2606

# News in brief

## Barnet Burnt Oak Leisure Centre opens

A new state-of-the-art leisure centre has opened with the latest fitness equipment, a dance studio and much more.

Barnet Burnt Oak Leisure Centre in Watling Avenue boasts a range of impressive facilities, which will be available to everyone in Barnet. It is just one of the many benefits to the local community of a 15-year partnership between Barnet Council and Greenwich Leisure Limited.

Indoor facilities include a Wellness Health and Fitness

Centre with 100 items of the latest fitness equipment, a dance studio, a crèche, a four court badminton sports hall and modern indoor changing rooms. Outdoor facilities include an all weather pitch for 7-a-side football and hockey, two junior 11-a-side grass football pitches and an outdoor facility changing room. There are also two outdoor tarmac areas for netball, football, basketball and tennis.

**Want to know more?**

☎ 020 8201 0982

## Town keeper service launched in Finchley Church End

The council has launched a new town keeper service in Church End as part of the drive to create a cleaner, greener borough. Cabinet Member for Environment Councillor Brian Coleman teamed up with the new Town Keeper Octave Aza for the official unveiling of the scheme in

Ballards Lane in July as the council continues to roll out the popular service across the borough. It follows the introduction of a new Town Keeper in Whetstone in March. Town Keepers carry out early morning patrols to clear any litter or graffiti that has appeared overnight.

**Want to know more?**

☎ 020 8359 7495

## Mayor's clean sweep

The Mayor of Barnet Councillor Melvin Cohen recently spent a morning with a council refuse team. Starting work at 6am he toured the streets of the borough collecting refuse from hundreds of homes and businesses whilst learning more about day-to-day duties of the refuse service.



## Council prosecutes New Barnet takeaway

Barnet Council has taken tough action against the owner of a New Barnet takeaway after Food Safety officers found filthy kitchen equipment during an inspection.

Mr Clint Poon, the owner of the Fishing Village, a fish and chip shop on Bulwer Road, pleaded guilty to four offences in total and was fined £1,000 and ordered to pay £502 costs at Barnet Magistrates Court on 30 July.

When Environmental Health Officers inspected the premises they found a number of problems, including kitchen equipment encrusted with food debris and mould, no hot water to the toilet wash basin and unhygienic storing and handling of food.



Grime and punishment: Filthy kitchen uncovered

**Want to know more?**

For help or advice contact the council's Environmental Health Service on

☎ 020 8359 4654

## Sign of the times at Summerside School

Children at Summerside School in Finchley were put through their paces alongside teachers when they took national sign language examinations.

The school offers the training to all pupils, staff and parents and is a training centre for teachers from Barnet's other schools.

Cathy Ward, Summerside's unit co-ordinator for deaf and hearing impaired children, said: "We have sign communicators to help deaf and hearing impaired children access the curriculum. If they can communicate effectively with their peers in the playground it can have a tremendous knock-on effect on their self-esteem and confidence."

Kelly McGee, aged 11, taking her sign language exams



# Fight for our schools goes on

**T**he fight to secure adequate funding for Barnet's schools continues despite a welcome announcement by the government of extra cash.

Barnet's cash-strapped schools are facing a difficult year ahead even though the government has said it will put extra money into education to stem the funding crisis that has rocked schools across the country.

The extra emergency funding is aimed at helping schools worst hit by the budget shortfall.

But the measures announced leave local authorities and schools with a lot of unanswered questions. As Barnet First went to press, there has been no confirmation of extra funding for Barnet schools this year or the impact of Education Secretary Charles Clarke's announcement on headteachers' budgets for 2004/5.

The council will not know what its share, if any, of the increase in schools funding will be until mid-November 2003 at the earliest.

Barnet Council has told the government that our schools need a minimum of £5.6 million to enable them to plan on a standstill budget for 2003/4 and many will have to remain in the red with several of the worst hit schools predicting their cash reserves will run out in December 2003 or January 2004.

Councillor Lynne Hillan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Lifelong Learning, said: "We are seeking assurances that Barnet's suffering schools will see some of the cash announced by the government and that it will be enough to deliver the first class education the borough's residents deserve."

## Schools celebrate exam successes

**Barnet schools were top of the class in recent A-level and GCSE examinations.**

Two Barnet state schools got the best state A-level results in the country while another proved it is among the cream of the crop. Queen Elizabeth's School in Barnet and Henrietta Barnett School in Hampstead Garden Suburb were named first and second best nationally after the exam successes of their students were revealed in the summer. Mill Hill

County High School was the 18th best comprehensive in the country for A-levels and Hasmonean High School, Hendon was 25th best overall.

Six pupils at Copthall School, Mill Hill gained five A grade passes and over three quarters of entries received A-C grades.

At Henrietta Barnett School, 44% of all candidates got three or more A grades in their A-levels with 97.1% of entries at grade A-C. GCSE results were equally impressive with 100% of pupils entering the exams getting five or more at grade C or above. Nearly eight in ten (79.9%) of all entries were at A\* or A grade.

Colourscape was one of the big features of Play! This was a massive network of tunnels and pods where festival goers were able to get a closer experience of colour

# 10,000 Play! in Friary Park

Around 10,000 people flocked to children's arts festival Play! in July, organised by the council's arts team in partnership with other agencies and early years groups.



Local children perform with the Sariswati Academy of Indian Dance on the Community Stage

The Friary Park event was a resounding success with children able to experience a diverse range of art forms - from dance and puppetry to storytelling.

Play! is a major initiative to give children under five an enjoyable experience of the arts. It has been developed with the Early Years and Play Service, artsdepot, a London-based collective of artists, early years teachers and researchers.

## Want to know more?

Contact the Arts Service on

**020 8359 7762**

## Barnet's biggest regeneration – what you said

Over 5,000 people have been asked for their views on the first phase of plans for the Brent Cross and Cricklewood Regeneration project. This huge consultation programme saw residents having their say on plans for what will be one of the biggest regeneration projects in the UK.

The majority of people who took part in the consultation felt that public transport was a priority, followed closely by lots of green spaces. Some people thought that a park and ride scheme would be a good idea to cut down on traffic, while others thought that the Welsh Harp reservoir should be made a feature within the plans.

Consultancy group EDAW have taken away the results of this first consultation, and are drawing up new plans for the area which will be available in October. Provisions will be made for residents to once again air their views on this important project - watch this space!



A new look for Brent Cross and Cricklewood

# Huge residents' backing for regeneration

The largest ever turnout in Barnet for a housing regeneration ballot saw Stonegrove residents give a massive "thumbs-up" to regenerate their estate.

Turnout by residents was a huge 75%, with nearly nine-out-of-ten residents (88%) voting in favour of bold proposals to transform the area.

Regeneration plans put

forward by the Greengrove Partnership will see the Stonegrove and Spur Road estate in Edgware replaced with 1,375 high quality private and affordable homes.

The plans, estimated to cost £170 million, will transform the existing estate of prefabricated blocks and 11 storey towers into a new neighbourhood of high quality, modern energy-

efficient homes.

Local people have hailed the ballot result as a significant step towards providing decent homes for people in Edgware and improving the surrounding environment.

Rita Bowden, a resident of Garrick Court on the Stonegrove Estate, said: "The estate at the moment is past its sell by date, with condensation everywhere and tiny kitchens. The new scheme is just what we need and with this result from the vote, we are another step closer to getting the new estate and all the benefits it promises for everyone in the area."

## Barnet gardener's award winning plot

**C**ongratulations to Michael Healey (pictured on the front cover of this issue of *Barnet First*) whose green fingers have helped him to win the competition for the best allotment in Barnet. The annual Borough Allotment Competition, which is organised by the Barnet Federation of Allotment and Horticultural Societies and sponsored by the council, rewards the winner of the best plot with £100 for the fruits of their labour.

There are approximately 4,000 allotments within the borough at over 55 different sites, and gardeners can choose to grow their own vegetables, fruits or flowering plants.

### Want to know more?

Call 020 8359 4479 or visit [www.kitchengardens.dial.pipex.com](http://www.kitchengardens.dial.pipex.com)

# Queen honours volunteer heroes



Bill Ibbotson from RSVP, Major Patrick O'Brien Deputy Lieutenant of the Borough, The Mayor of Barnet Councillor Melvin Cohen, The Leader of Barnet Council Councillor Victor Lyon and Marian Cohen one of the founders of HAB

Congratulations to two Barnet organisations for winning Queen's Golden Jubilee Awards for Voluntary Service in the Community.

Homeless Action in Barnet (HAB) and Barnet Retired and Senior Volunteer Programme

(RSVP) were commended for the valuable services they offer to the local community. HAB provides essential services for homeless people in Barnet, while RSVP harnesses the skills of people over the age of fifty who want to volunteer to help the community.

# More choice for Barnet residents

If you are seeking a home through the council you will soon have greater choice about where your new home will be. And within the next few years higher priority will be given if you are already living in Barnet.

The improvements are part of a bold overhaul of the way housing allocations are made in the borough. The changes will make the system fairer and simpler to understand.

The old system was unnecessarily complex and confusing to applicants, who often did not have a clear idea of when or whether they would be offered housing. Very fine detail attracted points which made little difference to the council's overall assessment of the applicant's housing need.

There is a focus under the new points system on those applicants who are most needy – including people in overcrowded living

conditions, sharing or lacking basic facilities or on the housing waiting list for a long period of time.

Those who have settled in Barnet for more than two years will also be given greater priority in allocations.

Simpler and more transparent, people in need of housing will have much more say about where their new home is.

Previously people had to passively accept what was passed on to them by an official. Now they will be able to view and "bid" for properties. The applicant who "bids" for a property with the highest number of points based on their housing need will get the keys.

## Want to know more?

Visit the council's website at: [www.barnet.gov.uk/housing](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/housing) and click on the link to Home Connections



## Council makes traffic flow

**Barnet Council is getting traffic moving again on the borough's roads.**

Throughout Barnet, the council is taking a two-prong approach of tackling congestion hotspots and reviewing the effectiveness of any traffic calming measures on roads due for resurfacing.

The focus on improving traffic flow at key bottlenecks on main roads by a combination of junction layout changes and properly phasing traffic lights is now reaping rewards.

Traffic capacity has already improved by 12% at the Quadrant junction in Hendon after traffic light phasing adjustments were made.

Cabinet Member for Environment Councillor Brian Coleman said: "This shows that our policies for getting traffic flowing more freely on Barnet's roads are really working. By concentrating on bottlenecks at junctions like the Quadrant and making major roads less congested drivers won't have to use our residential roads as rat runs."

# Barnet welcomes considerate contractors

**Barnet has become the home of friendly builders thanks to the launch of the Considerate Contractors Scheme.**

Builders and developers signed up to the scheme will have to ensure that noise is kept to an acceptable level, that building sites are safe, tidy and do not obstruct local traffic or pedestrians. Construction

companies will have to obey a code of practice and will be monitored by council staff such as building and noise control teams.

Already seven companies have signed up to the scheme and agreed to display the Considerate Contractors sign which gives contact details for any complaints or concerns that local residents may have.

You can contact the council in a number of ways:

For general enquiries, or if you know the name of the person or section you want to speak to, call 020 8359 2000.

Visit the council's website at [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk) for information on all services including contact details and telephone numbers. For more detailed enquiries on council services call into one of our Action Points. The council has four Action Points at: The Town Hall, Hendon, Chipping Barnet Library, Edgware Library and Golders Green Library.

Action Points can also be contacted by:

Telephone: 020 8359 4000

Fax: 020 8359 2197; Minicom: 020 8203 8942

Email: [info.centre@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:info.centre@barnet.gov.uk)

Con=Conservative, Lab=Labour, LibDem= Liberal Democrat

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1st Saturday every month, The Community Centre, Victoria Rd., New Barnet, 10.30am-12noon. Also 3rd Saturday every month, East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill Rd., EN4, 10.30am-12noon

### SUSAN STEINBERG (Con)

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2nd Sunday every month, Golders Green Library, 2.15-3.15pm. Also 4th Sunday every month, Hendon Sports Centre, 12noon-1pm

### ABA DUNNER (Con)

(020) 8455 9960 [cllr.a.dunner@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.dunner@barnet.gov.uk)  
2nd Sunday every month, Golders Green Library, 2.15-3.15pm. Also 4th Sunday every month, Hendon Sports Centre, 12noon-1pm

### CHRISTOPHER HARRIS (Con)

(020) 8731 8303 [cllr.c.harris@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.c.harris@barnet.gov.uk)  
2nd Sunday every month, Golders Green Library, 2.15-3.15pm. Also 4th Sunday every month, Hendon Sports Centre, 12noon-1pm

**HALE WARD**

**STEVEN BLOMER (Lab)**

(020) 8959 7878 cllr.s.blomer@barnet.gov.uk  
Saturdays, Burnt Oak Library, Watling Ave., HA8,  
10.30am-12noon

**BRIAN GORDON (Con)**

07931 300 679  
conservative.grp@barnet.gov.uk  
Please contact to arrange a meeting

**RUTH NYMAN (Lab)**

(020) 8906 1418 cllr.r.nyman@barnet.gov.uk  
Saturdays, Burnt Oak Library, Watling Ave., HA8,  
10.30am-12noon

**HENDON WARD**

**MAUREEN BRAUN (Con)**

(020) 8203 1876 cllr.m.braun@barnet.gov.uk  
1st Monday every month, Action Point, The Town Hall,  
The Burroughs, NW4, 6-7pm

**ANTHONY FINN (Con)**

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL  
(CONSERVATIVE GROUP DEPUTY LEADER)  
(020) 8202 9689 cllr.a.finn@barnet.gov.uk  
1st Monday every month, Action Point, The Town Hall,  
The Burroughs, NW4, 6-7pm

**MATTHEW OFFORD (Con)**

(020) 8202 5319 cllr.m.offord@barnet.gov.uk  
1st Monday every month, Action Point, The Town Hall,  
The Burroughs, NW4, 6-7pm

**HIGH BARNET WARD**

**KATIA DAVID (Con)**

(020) 8445 1410 cllr.k.david@barnet.gov.uk  
3rd Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet  
Conservative Association, 163 High St., EN5, 2-3.30pm

**KANTI PATEL (Con)**

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3rd Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet  
Conservative Association, 163 High St., EN5, 2-3.30pm

**WENDY PRENTICE (Con) DEPUTY MAYOR**

(020) 8364 9249  
cllr.w.prentice@barnet.gov.uk  
3rd Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet  
Conservative Association, 163 High St., EN5, 2-3.30pm

**MILL HILL WARD**

**WAYNE CASEY (LibDem)**

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE LIBERAL DEMOCRAT  
GROUP  
(020) 8906 8189 cllr.w.casey@barnet.gov.uk  
Saturdays, Mill Hill Library, Hartley Ave., NW7,  
10am-12 noon

**JEREMY DAVIES (LibDem)**

(020) 8959 6261 cllr.j.davies@barnet.gov.uk  
Saturdays, Mill Hill Library, Hartley Ave., NW7,  
10am-12 noon

**SEAN HOOKER (LibDem)**

(020) 8364 9309 cllr.s.hooker@barnet.gov.uk  
Saturdays, Mill Hill Library, Hartley Ave., NW7,  
10am-12 noon

**OAKLEIGH WARD**

**ROBERT NEWTON (Con)**

(020) 8445 2879 cllr.r.newton@barnet.gov.uk  
1st Saturday every month, Friern Barnet Library, Friern  
Barnet Rd., N11, 10.30am-12noon

**BRIAN SALINGER (Con)**

(020) 8368 1329  
cllr.b.salinger@barnet.gov.uk  
1st Saturday every month, Friern Barnet Library, Friern  
Barnet Rd., N11, 10.30am-12noon

**GERARD SILVERSTONE (Con)**

(020) 8731 8368  
cllr.g.silverstone@barnet.gov.uk  
1st Saturday every month, Friern Barnet Library, Friern  
Barnet Rd., N11, 10.30am-12noon

**TOTTERIDGE WARD**

**BRIAN COLEMAN (Con)**

GREATER LONDON ASSEMBLY MEMBER FOR  
BARNET & CAMDEN  
(020) 8349 2024  
cllr.b.coleman@barnet.gov.uk  
3rd Saturday every month, Totteridge Library, 109  
Totteridge Lane, N20, 10.30am-12noon

**KEVIN EDSON (Con)**

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3rd Saturday every month, Totteridge Library, 109  
Totteridge Lane, N20, 10.30am-12noon

**VICTOR LYON (Con)**

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (CONSERVATIVE  
GROUP LEADER)  
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3rd Saturday every month, Totteridge Library, 109  
Totteridge Lane, N20, 10.30am-12noon

**UNDERHILL WARD**

**ANITA CAMPBELL (Lab)**

(020) 8440 2703  
cllr.a.campbell@barnet.gov.uk  
1st and 3rd Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet  
Library, 3 Stapylton Rd., EN5, 2-3pm

**FIONA BULMER (Con)**

(020) 8441 5258 cllr.f.bulmer@barnet.gov.uk  
3rd Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet  
Conservative Association, 163 High St., EN5, 2-3.30pm

**PETER DAVIS (Con)**

(020) 8449 8968 cllr.p.davis@barnet.gov.uk  
3rd Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet  
Conservative Association, 163 High St., EN5, 2-3.30pm

**WEST FINCHLEY WARD**

**KITTY LYONS (Lab)**

(020) 8346 6843 cllr.k.lyons@barnet.gov.uk  
Saturdays, 331 Ballards Lane, North Finchley, N12,  
10-11.30am

**KATHY McGUIRK (Lab)**

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Saturdays, 331 Ballards Lane, North Finchley, N12,  
10-11.30am

**JIM TIERNEY (Lab)**

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10-11.30am

**WEST HENDON WARD**

**ARUN GHOSH (Lab)**

(020) 8202 6841 cllr.a.ghosh@barnet.gov.uk  
Saturdays, West Hendon Community Centre, Marsh  
Drive, NW9, 10.30am-12noon

**AGNES SLOCOMBE (Lab)**

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Drive, NW9, 10.30am-12noon

**WOODHOUSE WARD**

**ANNE HUTTON (Lab)**

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Saturdays, 331 Ballards Lane, North Finchley, N12, 10-  
11.30am

**MARK LANGTON (Lab)**

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Saturdays, 331 Ballards Lane, North Finchley,  
N12,  
10-11.30am

**ALAN SCHNEIDERMAN (Lab)**

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CONTACTING  
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**CHIPPING BARNET**

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**FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN**

DR RUDIVIS  
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**HENDON**

ANDREW DISMORE  
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Hendon, NW4 4AX  
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**GREATER LONDON ASSEMBLY**

MEMBER FOR BARNET AND CAMDEN  
COUNCILLOR BRIAN COLEMAN  
City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London, SE1 2AA  
(020) 7983 4366

# Tackling crime

**T**he feedback so far on the draft Community Plan confirms that maintaining law and order is a top priority for Barnet residents.

At the heart of the council's work to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour is the Community Safety Strategy 2002-2005, which sets out how we will work with the police and other local partners to make the borough a safer place to live, work and visit.

The blueprint for action has been drawn up by the Safer Communities Partnership. Efforts in the first year were channelled into reducing street and hate crime and increasing public confidence in reporting these incidents to the police.

There has been success in reducing burglaries in areas where there is a particular problem and a range of activities have been introduced to tackle

youth crime and the victimisation of young people. Targeted truancy patrols have resulted in 70 pupils being returned to school.

The partnership has also focused on reducing anti-social behaviour by tackling graffiti and drug and alcohol related problems. This has included the introduction of an anti-graffiti kit to encourage community and residents groups to play their part in reducing this form of vandalism.

There has also been major investment in CCTV. A mobile unit packed with state-of-the-art surveillance equipment is now patrolling Barnet's crime hotspots. This latest weapon in the fight against crime, vandalism and anti-social behaviour follows the installation of more cameras in town centres and the opening of a new CCTV control centre.



Barnet's new mobile CCTV unit

**Want to know more?**

**020 8733 4469**

## Neighbour from hell gets last chance

**A leaseholder who made the lives of her neighbours hell will have to pack her bags and get out if she becomes a nuisance again, after a ruling by Barnet County Court.**

Ms Mona Fofana, of 89 Tyrell Way, West Hendon had previously been ordered by the court to vacate the property after legal action by Barnet Council resulted

in a possession order being granted. Steps to evict Ms Fofana were taken following her conviction at Hendon Magistrates Court three months earlier on two counts of assaulting her neighbours, as well as one charge of threatening or abusive behaviour.

The council also got an anti-

social behaviour order at the County Court that prevented her from harassing, abusing or generally causing nuisance to people in the borough. Failing to comply could have resulted in a £5,000 fine and up to six-months in prison.

A judge later ruled on appeal that Ms Fofana could stay at her home, but only on condition that she did not breach the anti-social behaviour part of her lease again. Barnet's legal action underlines its zero-tolerance approach to abusive and violent tenants and leaseholders.

# Your feedback on the draft Community Plan

**T**he Community Plan affects everybody living and working in Barnet. It provides a strategy for tackling the key issues affecting local people by getting the borough's different agencies to work together.

A special edition of Barnet First was sent to every household in the borough in July, along with a questionnaire asking for your views on the draft Community Plan. The closing date for returning questionnaires was 12 September and the full results of the consultation, including the winners of the free prize draw, will be included in the December/January issue of Barnet First. Your feedback will be fed into the final

Community Plan when it is published in the Autumn.

The initial results of the consultation, based on 1,000 returned questionnaires, show that the most important issues affecting local people are:

1. Crime/law and order
2. Litter and street cleansing
3. More resources for health services/reduce waiting times
4. More resources for education
5. Graffiti/vandalism.

Under each of the draft Community Plan's five priorities we asked you to choose one issue which is the most important to you. These are the key issues that you highlighted:

## **PRIORITY** A Secure and Supportive Community

**Most important issue:** Making Barnet the safest borough in London

## **PRIORITY** A Healthy and Caring Community

**Most important issue:** Ensuring accessible, responsive health and care services for all our communities

## **PRIORITY** A Learning Community

**Most important issue:** Providing a first class education service for the 21st century

## **PRIORITY** An Environmentally Responsive Community

**Most important issue:** Ensuring a borough that is cleaner and free of litter and graffiti

## **PRIORITY** Fostering an Enterprising Community

**Most important issue:** Getting the borough moving – Improving transport and accessibility



## Council budget

Your feedback on the draft Community Plan will be used to help prioritise the services that the council provides next year and its future investment plans. The timing of the survey has been prepared to ensure that your views will inform next year's budget setting process.

As well as this, a budget consultation questionnaire will also be sent to every Barnet household over the next few weeks. The questionnaire will give local people further opportunity to feedback on which services the council should spend its budget next year, and in years to come.

### Want to know more?

For information on the Community Plan and budget consultation email: [emma.gaydon@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:emma.gaydon@barnet.gov.uk) or

**020 8359 7018**



Sunny Gardens Parade Post Office in Hendon

## Barnet slams Post Office closures

Barnet Council has criticised the Post Office over plans to close thousands of sub-offices in urban areas. The cutbacks are set to hit Barnet residents hard, with the planned closures of Post Offices in Deans Lane and Sunny Gardens Parade in Hendon. The closures are part of a plan to close 3,000 urban Post Offices across the UK by the end of 2005.

Barnet Council Leader Councillor Victor Lyon slammed proposals, saying: "These closures are bound to hit our elderly and most vulnerable residents the hardest. People will have to travel quite a distance to access essential services, and this is bound to have a detrimental effect on a high number of residents and businesses in Barnet."

Barnet residents can contact the Post Office with their views and concerns about the closures by writing to:

**George Hooper**  
 Head of Area Post Office Ltd.  
 c/o National Consultation Team  
 PO Box 641  
 St Albans AL1 5XN



Above Hendon Town Hall. Right, Hidden treasures on display within the building



# Secrets of the town hall revealed

Parts of Hendon Town Hall were seen by the public for the first time when the doors were opened during London Open House Weekend on 20 and 21 September. The 102 year old Town Hall was one of five hundred buildings open to the public across London during September. Dozens of people took part in guided tours to see the rooms where some of the council's most important decisions are made including the inner sanctum of the building – the historic council chamber.

For the first time, the public were also able to see some of the rooms that Hendon Town Hall has kept secret for years – such as the apartment in the attic that used to be home to the original Edwardian caretaker, the disused wine cellar in the basement, and the office that used to be the borough morgue.

Sadly these rooms have been sealed up again, but if you missed it watch out for details of next years' Open House events.

## Council crackdown on 'smoking' vehicles

Barnet Council is helping to keep polluted car fumes out of the borough with a programme of roadside vehicle emissions testing. The crackdown started last month when potentially polluting vehicles were pulled over by the local police for checks

on their exhaust emissions by specialist contractors.

The vehicle checks are part of a London-wide clampdown, aimed at reducing pollution. One in five vehicles is estimated to break the legal amount of emissions set under the MOT test.

# Focus on the Corporate Plan

## Supporting the vulnerable in our community

**T**he Corporate Plan is the council's road map for improving service performance over the next five years. In the last edition of *Barnet First* we looked in detail at one of the five key priorities of the plan – providing a first class education service. In this issue we turn our attention to another key priority – supporting the vulnerable in our community.

A comprehensive strategy has been launched to ensure that Barnet does all it can to improve the quality of life for the most vulnerable and least well off in our community, including people who have a disability due to mental health problems, a learning disability, physical or sensory disability or old age.

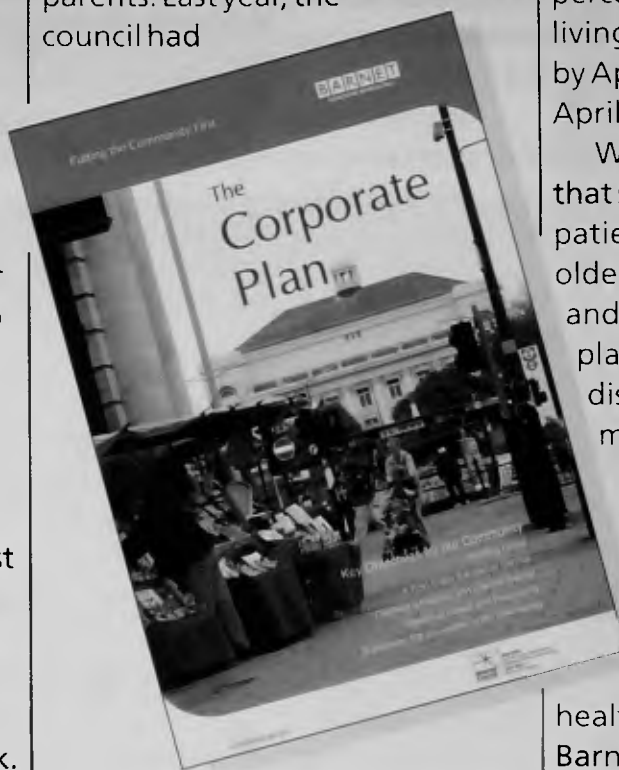
The council will reduce the number of homes not meeting 21st century standards with modern heating, kitchens and bathrooms, from 34% in 2002/3 to 21% by 2007/8 through an ongoing programme of improvement work. A successful bid for an arms length management organisation (ALMO) to take over the day-to-day management of council owned properties unlocks government funding and means much more can now be done.

Meanwhile, a series of multi-million pound regeneration schemes are set to provide residents on the most run down estates with dramatically improved housing and community facilities.

Children most at risk deserve the best chances and opportunities in life to achieve their full potential and the council has set itself

challenging targets to support this group and their families. One target is for a dramatic improvement in the GCSE results of children in care.

An innovative fostering campaign has dramatically increased the number of people enquiring about becoming foster parents. Last year, the council had



just 62 enquiries. Since November, when the campaign started, 160 have come forward. The council aims to have 65% of looked after children in long-term foster placements by April 2004.

To attract and retain more social workers – the Children and Families service has introduced its own trainee scheme, upped pay scales and introduced a retention bonus and bursaries. It has also improved staff career opportunities as well as holding recruitment evenings.

Boosting the numbers of

frontline staff and foster parents means the council will be able to reduce the number of children entering care (from 138 in 2002/3 to 100 in 2006/7) through better support for families, as well as reducing the length of time spent in care.

We also aim to reduce the percentage of children in care living outside the borough to 34% by April 2004 and to just 15% by April 2008.

Weekly monitoring will mean that social workers can liaise with patients and their families before older people come out of hospital and introduce an immediate care plan, reducing delayed discharges to an absolute minimum by April 2004.

Delivering all these targets and opening up new opportunities for the most vulnerable in our community is essential to our goal of improving the health and quality of life of every Barnet resident.

### The five key priorities of the Corporate Plan are:

- ▶ A first class education service
- ▶ Tackling crime
- ▶ Supporting the vulnerable in our community
- ▶ A cleaner, greener Barnet
- ▶ Repairing roads and pavements

### Want to know more?

To get hold of a copy of the council's Corporate Plan telephone 020 8359 7022 or email [claire.johnston@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:claire.johnston@barnet.gov.uk)

# Recycling on the rise

**Thanks to you, Barnet is recycling and reusing more rubbish than ever.**

The latest council figures show that the amount of rubbish being recycled by local residents has increased to nearly 16 per cent – a massive jump from 920 tonnes in June 2001 to 2,124 tonnes in June this year. In comparison, the amount of household rubbish that was dumped in the ground or burnt fell by 15%.

By using Barnet's six recycling services on a

regular basis you can help raise recycling rates to over 40%. Every recycled glass jar, magazine, newspaper and drinks can goes towards creating a cleaner, greener Barnet for future generations.



## Want to know more?

Visit the council's website at [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk) and click on recycling

## Six ways to give something back

**In Barnet there are lots of simple ways you can give something back by recycling. Here are six Barnet Council services that make recycling easy:**

**(1) Recycle from Home:** Is an easy-to-use weekly service for residents that collects cans, batteries, engine oil, foil, glass, mobile phones, paper, shoes, textiles and yellow pages from your doorstep.

**To find out more contact ECT Recycling on 020 8371 3670.**

**(2) Flats Recycling Service:** Is an easy-to-use weekly service for Barnet residents living in medium to high-rise flats. Under the scheme, a limited amount of space is needed to install mini recycling centres, which residents can use to recycle all their cans, glass and paper.

**To find out more contact ECT Recycling on 020 8371 3670.**

**(3) Summers Lane Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre:** Gives Barnet residents another opportunity to get into the recycling habit. You can recycle 30 different materials at the centre, including: bicycles, books, cardboard, engine oil filters, electrical items, electronic items, fluorescent tubes, fridges, furniture, gas bottles, garden waste, paint, plastic bottles, records, CD's and tapes, toner cartridges, scrap metal, sports equipment, tyres, wood and yellow pages.

**To find out more contact ECT Recycling on 020 8362 0752.**

**(4) Compost at Home:** Home composting can cut the contents of your household bin by one third and create free compost. Barnet Council offers residents the opportunity to purchase home composters at subsidised prices.

**To find out more contact Barnet Council on 020 8359 4654.**

**(5) Bring Banks:** Barnet Council has more than 70 Bring Banks at key locations throughout the borough. These can take some or all of the following materials: books, cans, glass, paper, shoes and textiles. **For your nearest Bring Bank contact Barnet Council on 020 8359 4654.**

**(6) Green Garden Waste Collection:** Barnet Council is aiming to offer a green garden waste collection service to all Barnet residents. Residents who request the service have a 240 litre green wheeled bin and an information leaflet delivered so they can take part. The scheme currently covers the following wards: Brunswick Park, Coppetts, East Barnet, Hale, High Barnet, Mill Hill, Oakleigh, and Totteridge. **If you live in these areas and would like to take part in the service contact Barnet Council on 020 8359 7400.**

# Tools for training

**Unwanted tools donated by Barnet residents are helping to improve the lives of people in Africa.**

Since February 2003, Barnet Council's Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre has collected over half a tonne of hand tools, sewing machines and typewriters, as part of a new partnership with the development charity Workaid.

Instead of ending up in landfill sites or as scrap metal, the donated items are repaired by volunteers and then shipped to vocational training centres in developing countries, mostly in East Africa.



Recycled sewing machines are put to good use, helping to improve opportunities for communities in developing countries

Hand tools are used to teach skilled trades such as carpentry, masonry, metalwork, plumbing and car maintenance, sewing and knitting machines enable women to set up small businesses at home and typewriters are used to teach secretarial skills.

Workaid tackles poverty by enabling people to learn skills which can help build a better future for themselves and their communities. By donating their unwanted tools, Barnet residents continue to support Workaid and raise standards in some of the world's most disadvantaged communities.

## A week in the life of A Barnet newspaper



**When you sit down to read your Sunday newspaper, you may be surprised to know that if you recycle it using Barnet's Council's Recycle from Home weekly doorstep service it could be back in your hands within seven days.**

**Sunday:** Enjoy your Sunday newspaper.

**Monday:** Place your newspaper in your black recycling box along with other items such as cans, glass and textiles. Put your box out for collection at the boundary of your property. ECT, the organisation which runs the service in partnership with Barnet Council, will collect the items and take them

to the depot.

**Tuesday – Thursday:** The newspaper is collected from the depot and taken to a recycling plant where it is then fed into 'giant' pulpers. The pulp is broken up, cleaned and any ink removed. It then goes onto a paper making machine, passing over presses and drying cylinders to produce 100 percent recycled newsprint.

**Friday:** The recycled newsprint is then delivered to publishers throughout Europe.

**Saturday – Sunday:** Newspapers are printed, delivered to newsagents and could be back in your hands in time for breakfast.

## Get green in just six months

**Here are just some of the ways you can help Barnet have a clean, green year:**

### This Autumn

- ▶ Visit our recycling information stand, which will be positioned at key sites across Barnet during October, November and December. You will be able to find out about how you can recycle more and the services available. Call 020 8359 4654 for details.
- ▶ Take your rubbish along to the council's Summers Lane Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre this October and you could win a fantastic prize by entering a free prize draw.

### This Winter

- ▶ Do not give the environment a New Year's hangover – recycle your Christmas tree at the Summers Lane Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre.
- ▶ Keep an eye out for our competition for Barnet school children to create the best recycling poster. The winner gets a prize for their school.

### This Spring

- ▶ Giving your wardrobe a spring clean? Don't throw out old clothes with the rubbish, recycle them by using the Recycle from Home weekly doorstep service or donate them to your charity shop.
- ▶ Look out for our spring 'Message in a Bottle' competition open to all residents using the Recycle from Home or Flats Recycling weekly doorstep service.

# what's on

Planning a local event? Want free publicity? Barnet First can help you.

Send us details and we'll publicise it on this page (space permitting) and we'll also put it on Barnet's website ([www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk)).

So if you are holding an event at your local pub, youth club, sports centre or wherever send details (including a contact number) to Susan Segar, Barnet

First Magazine, The Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 4BG, fax: 020 8359 2677 or email: [susan.segar@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:susan.segar@barnet.gov.uk)

**Barnet First is delivered to over 130,000 homes and businesses in the borough. The next issue is out in December.**



18 Oct. 2003 - 11 Jan. 2004

Abram Games was one of the most distinguished British graphic artists of the 20th century. Games worked in many fields, but he is perhaps now best-remembered for his World War II propaganda and information posters and for his 'Britannia' emblem for the Festival of Britain in 1951.

A major retrospective exhibition on Games's work is being held at the Design Museum from 18 Oct.-30 Nov. this year. The Church Farmhouse exhibition concentrates on his portraits and his wartime drawings - many of which have not been displayed before. Abram Games, who died in 1996, was a long-time resident of Golders Green.

The work on show has been kindly lent by his family.

**Until 30 Nov.** A small display of Victorian and Edwardian Jewish New Year Cards. **Children's Drawing Competition.** Part of the national 'The Big Draw'.

**Church Farmhouse Museum, Greyhound Hill, Hendon, NW4. Open Mon-Thurs. 10am-1pm and 2-5pm; Sat. 10am-1pm and 2-5.30pm; Sun 2-5.30pm. Admission free. For more information about the above museum events phone 020 8203 0130.**



Hill Road, Edgware. Year's membership for adults £20, children up to age 16 £15. Classes £3.50 adults; £1.75 children. For more information phone 020 8958 1880/07968 781955.

10 Oct. 5-7pm. Finchley's Stephens Collection described as 'one of the best small museums in England' is to establish a Stephens Museum Support Group. Members of the public are invited to attend the inaugural meeting at Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, N3.

10-12 Oct. Family Learning Weekend 2003. Activities and events in your local library, including fun surfing sessions, story times and much more. For details pick up a leaflet from any Barnet library.

11 Oct. Greek Night. Dance the night away to traditional Greek music - no experience necessary! Tickets £20 include traditional Greek food, live band and dancing. Chicken Shed Theatre, Chase Side, Southgate, N14. Box Office: 020 8292 9222. Also Jazz Shed events: 17 Oct. A Tribute to Alex Welsh; 14 Nov. Julian Marc Stringle and The Dream Band. Tickets £7.50, £5.50 conc.

Hendon Music Society Concerts. 11 Oct. 7.45pm. Melvyn Tan, the pianist. His contract with EMI has produced a series of recordings and he has performed at leading concert halls around the world; 15 Nov. 7.45pm. Medici String Quartet, widely regarded as one of Britain's leading international ensembles. John Keble Church, Deans Lane, Edgware. For details of concert programmes and more information phone 020 8203 2355. Free tickets to ages 8-22 in full time education (courtesy of Cavatina Chamber Music Trust).

12 Oct. 5.30pm for 6pm. Cherry Lodge Cancer Care holding a Quiz Night. Supper included. Bar available not BYO. £10 per head. St Mary's Church Hall, East Barnet. Call 020 8216 4486 to reserve a spot.

Barnet Health and Sports Development Unit is hosting Club Development Workshops in Oct. and Nov. For more information contact Toby Wilson on 020 8359 7812 or email [toby.wilson@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:toby.wilson@barnet.gov.uk)

5 Oct. 8pm. 'Gypsy Tango Inferno'. South Bank sell-outs Zum perform a stunning fusion of Eastern European gypsy fiddle music with Argentinian Tango. £10/£8.

**Half Term**

29 & 30 Oct. 12noon & 3pm. Obelon Puppets 'Three Singing Pigs'. Loveable 'muppet-style' puppets rap and sing their way through five well-known children's tales. Audience participation required! Ages 3-7. £5.25;

31 Oct.-2 Nov. 12noon & 3pm. Theatre First. 'The Extraordinary Adventures of Mr Benn'. The

Nuffield Theatre with the popular children's character Mr Benn making his stage debut in this magical new show. Ages 4+. £5.25.

7 Nov. 8.30pm. Alexei Sayle's book launch of his first novel 'Overtaken'. He will read live from the text before musing on questions from the audience. £12/£10.

artsdepot at The Bull, 68 High Street, Barnet, EN5 5SJ. Box Office 020 8449 0048. Phone or see website [www.artsdepot.co.uk](http://www.artsdepot.co.uk) for full programme of artsdepot events.

Mill Hill Sports Club has a hockey section of six men's teams and four women's teams, playing at all levels from pretty good to starter. Have fun and play good hockey. A very social club. New members always welcome especially goalkeepers and umpires. If you haven't played in a while, or want to take up hockey, see website [www.millhill.co.uk](http://www.millhill.co.uk) or call 0777 552 4281.

Kixa Central Power - Self defence classes for ages 12-60, both sexes. Mondays 7.30-9.30pm, Hartley Hall, Flower Lane, Mill Hill. Thursdays 7.30-9.30pm, Watling Community Centre, 145 Orange

23-25 Oct. 8pm. Garden Suburb Theatre presents 'Les Liaisons Dangereuses' by Christopher Hampton based on the novel by Choderlos de Laclos. Two scheming aristocrats set out to ruin the reputations of their enemies in love. The Institute, Central Square, Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11. £7/£5.50 conc. Box office: 020 7723 6609.

30 Oct. 8pm. Barnet Cyclists, the local group of the London Cycling Campaign, holding a free session on cycle maintenance. Trinity Church Hall, Nether Street, Finchley, N12. For more information phone Jeremy on 020 8440 9080.

30 Oct. 8pm. The Finchley Society. 'Planning Barnet's Future' (Jean Scott Memorial Lecture) by Ros Ward. Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, N3. For details phone 020 8346 7812. Non-members welcome. Also 27 Nov. 'Architectural Heroes of Finchley' by Frank Kelsali.

1 Nov. Annual Family Fireworks and Bonfire Event. Gates open 5.30pm; bonfire lit 6-6.15pm; fireworks 7-7.15pm. Walker Cricket Ground, Waterfall Road, Southgate N14. Nearest tube Southgate, bus 29 to Southgate Green. For more information phone 07778 303757.

2 Nov. Fireworks Display at Barnet Copthall Stadium. Gates open 4.30pm; fireworks 6pm. Small funfair for children, food available. Tickets £5 adults, £3 children under 14. £3 if bought in advance from Barnet Copthall Pool, Finchley Lido or Mill Hill Wines, 85 Mill Hill Bdw. Proceeds to local charities. For more information phone 020 8457 9000.

8-21 Nov. Finchley Art Society's Autumn Exhibition. East Finchley Library, 226 High Road, N2.

11-15 Nov. 7.30pm (Sat. matinee 3pm). Finchley and Friern Barnet Operatic Society presents 'Sweeney Todd', Stephen Sondheim's musical thriller based on the legend of the Demon Barber of Fleet Street. Millfield Theatre, Silver St., Edmonton N18. To book tickets phone 020 8482 6923/box office 020 8807 6680 (Mon-Sat 11am-5pm)/email: ffbos\_tickets@hotmail.com

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2003

### IN BARNET // EVENTS

If you would like a full programme of events and information about Black History Month 2003 in Barnet, please pick up a brochure in a library or phone 020 8359 7760 or email lloyd.gee@barnet.gov.uk The programme of events is also available in large print, on tape, in Braille and in the What's On section of www.barnet.gov.uk

For artsdepot events at The Bull listed below the address is 68 High Street, Barnet, EN5 5SJ; box office: 020 8449 0048 (Tue-Sat: 10am-8pm, Sun 1-8pm, closes at 5.30pm when there are no shows); fax: 020 8364 9037; email: info@artsdepot.co.uk £1 booking fee on phone/fax/email transactions; website: www.artsdepot.co.uk

1 & 2 Oct, 8pm. 'Miss Julie' (theatre) artsdepot. Naach Theatre/Tara Arts. £9/£7 conc.



3 & 4 Oct, 8pm. 'Woza Albert' (theatre) artsdepot. UK Arts International/Market Theatre. £9/£7 conc.

8 Oct, 7pm. 'Glow' (theatre) artsdepot. Theatre Centre/Manjinder Virk's play. Ages 14+. £3.



9 Oct, 8pm. 'Lear's Daughters' (theatre) artsdepot. Yellow Earth/Frank Chickens, front woman Kazuko Hohki. £9/£7 conc.

12 Oct, 3pm. 'Go Noah Go!' (children's theatre) artsdepot. Little Angel Puppet Theatre. Ages 4+. £4.50.

17 Oct, 8pm. 'From Punjab to Pit' (music) artsdepot. The Angel Brothers and Satnam Singh with guest poet Ian McMillan. £8/£6 conc.

19 Oct, 3pm. 'The Dream Tree' (children's theatre) artsdepot. Tam Tam Theatre. Ages 3+. £4.50.

23 Oct, 8pm. 'Texterritory version 2.3' (theatre) artsdepot. Sharon Wray and Fleeta Siegel. Text Grace on 0777 999 8263 with your nickname. Reply gives £1 discount on tickets. £9/£7 conc.

25 Oct, 8pm. 'Changing Moon' (dance) artsdepot. Sinman and Company. Chinese choreographers evoke three different stories. £8/£6 conc.

27 Sept.-18 Oct. 'Pathways 2003'. Exhibition of handmade books by refugee children (project run by Kazum). Church End Library, 24 Hendon Lane, Finchley, N3. 020 8346 5711.

1 Oct.-14 Nov. 'We Were There' Exhibition: a tribute to the contribution made to our defence by military and civilian personnel from the British Empire and the Commonwealth. In Oct. RAF Ethnic Exhibition: a visual tribute to the Black and Asian heroes of the RAF, past and present. RAF Museum, Grahame Park Way, Hendon, NW9. 020 8358 4849/website: www.rafmuseum.org

11 Oct, 2-3.30pm. 'Understanding Others'. Stories with Brenda Agard for children and families. Free. Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7. Details Chris Lloyd 020 8346 5711.

15 Oct, 6-10pm. 'Celebrating Diversity'. The Barnet Multicultural Community Centre invites you to a social evening. Free. Barnet Multicultural Community Centre, Algernon Road, NW4. 020 8202 3794.

16 Oct, 11am-12noon. 'Black History Storytime'. For under 5 year olds. Organised with Barnet College. Free. Grahame Park Library, The Concourse, NW9. Details Chris Lloyd 020 8346 5711.

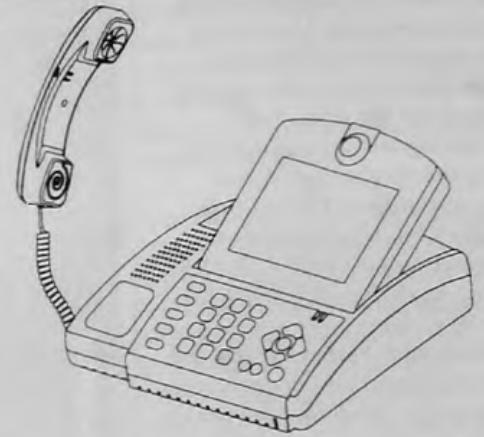
18 Oct. Celebrating Black History Month - Free activities for children and adults. 11am-12noon, Workshop: Mancala, ancient African game; 12noon-1pm, Workshop: Percussions and drumming; 2.30-4.30pm, Workshop: Cultural elegance. East Finchley Library, 226 High Road, N2. Details Chris Lloyd 020 8346 5711.

19 & 26 Oct. 'Africa At The Pictures at The Phoenix: Idrissa Ouedraogo Retrospective'. Four of his films over two Sunday afternoons. Phoenix Cinema. 52 High Road, East Finchley, N2. Box Office: 020 8444 6789 (4-9pm). www.phoenixcinema.co.uk

24 Oct, 11am-12noon. 'Understanding Black History Month'. Coffee Morning Talk by Debbie Enoe from Barnet College. East Finchley Library, 226 High Road, N2. Details Chris Lloyd 020 8346 5711.

29 Oct, 6pm. 'Black and Minority Ethnic Women and Access to Health: A Multiple Identity Approach'. Seminar - Professor Heidi Safia Mirza, Centre for Racial Equality Studies. Free. Board Room G230, Middlesex University, Hendon Campus, The Burroughs, NW4.

# Videophone Interpreting Service



Barnet Council is testing a video phone to make it easier for deaf people to use a British Sign Language Interpreter. This will help the council to communicate with the deaf community in Barnet.

Advice is available on wide range of council services including:

- Council Tax and benefits
- Housing Benefit Information
- General information on the council
- How to comment on Barnet Council Services

Appointments are available at Hendon Town Hall during the following times:

**Tuesday**            10am - 12pm  
**Wednesday**        2pm - 4pm

It is preferable that appointments are booked in advance. To book please call:

18001 020 8359 2040 (BT TextDirect)

Or email: [info.centre@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:info.centre@barnet.gov.uk)

(Different appointment times may be possible if you ask)

**COMMUNITY  
FUND**

**RNID** ●   
for deaf and hard of hearing people

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

 **Beacon Council**  
2002-2003  
Highlighting Green Green Spaces  
Libraries as a Community Resource  
2003-2004  
Community Champion

## Barnet civic awards 2004 Nomination form

**BARNET**  
LONDON BOROUGH

To nominate a volunteer, group leader, carer or anyone you feel worthy of an award please complete the form below and return in an envelope marked 'Civic Awards', Marketing Unit, Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 4BG by 31 October 2003 or see the contact details on page 4 of this issue of Barnet First.

**I Nominate** (name of nominee)

**I think he/she deserves an award because** (briefly state reason and continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

**Nominee's telephone number**

**Nominee's address**

**Your Name**

**Your telephone number**

**Your signature**