

COMMUNITY news

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 1999

 BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

ISSUE No. 22

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Guess who I met on the way to the Forum?

High hopes from Barnet Civic Forum launch

GREATER efforts should be made to get more young people involved in the community.

That was one of the many strong feelings expressed by community leaders at the highly successful launch of Barnet's Civic Forum.

Around 60 representatives of business, religious communities, education, public and voluntary sectors attended the inaugural meeting at Avenue House, End East Road, Finchley.

They began the ten month process of drawing up a Community Plan for Barnet which will create a shared vision for the future of the borough.

Other demands included improvements to the living environment, creating local as well as high quality, high value jobs and working more closely with the borough's culturally diverse community. Representatives also stressed the need for more community transport, work with the



Council leader Alan Williams with delegates

voluntary sector and promoting sport and healthy living.

More people needed to become involved in how the council's money should be spent, they said, and there was a need to look for more external sources of funding.

The civic forum was launched by Barnet Council leader Alan Williams and council chief executive Max Caller.

Cllr Williams said: "We are looking for an agreed community plan. This meeting begins the process and its aims are clear. We want a shared vision of community priorities

which will promote well being in the borough and demonstrate a commitment to it."

Chief executive Mr Caller said: "The community plan will bring economic, social and environmental benefits through the better deployment of existing resources."

The plan will be in force for five to ten years and begin with a joint statement of intent signed by all the parties with an agreed long term vision with local objectives and priorities, linked to regional, national and international strategies. A framework would be

continued on page 2



All kitted up and ready to logo. Cllr Susette Palmer is seen here with Barnet Council's millennium logo plus a toolkit published by the council to help local organisers put their celebrations on a sound footing.

Let's go party!

A MILLENNIUM package to help everyone celebrate the new century in style has been unveiled by Barnet Council.

Under the banner of a sunburst millennium logo, the council has published a toolkit to help organisers of local celebrations as well as a programme of boroughwide events.

Barnet Council has also announced it has set aside £25,000 pump priming cash for small grants between £50 - £500 to help with local celebrations.

The toolkit provides tips and contact numbers on vital matters for organisers. These include how to get a liquor licence if alcohol is going to be sold; where to go to book one of Barnet's parks or open spaces for a party; how to assess the number of lavatories needed and whether to get insurance.

The council is also publishing an ongoing diary of millennium events so everyone can know what is going on and organisers can get free publicity for their events.

The grants are earmarked for community activities which will provide a millennium experience, leaving a long term memory. Priorities will be projects benefiting at least ten people and disadvantaged groups.



Barnet
Millennium
Celebrations

Councillor Susette Palmer, who chairs Barnet Council's Community Development Policy Committee, said: "The

millennium gives us the chance for a unique celebration. This is the end of a century and of a thousand years. This gives us a great chance to celebrate our different and developing cultures, histories and lifestyles. I hope that Barnet will seize the opportunity to celebrate our past and look forward to the future with optimism."

See inside pages 6 and 7

Celebrating - years of black history

COMMUNITY
news

Published by
Barnet Council, The Town
Hall, The Burroughs,
Hendon, NW4 4BG

Editorial design and
production:
Barnet Council Press and
Public Relations Unit.

Advertising Sales:
Contact Pauline Varnals
0181-359 2657.

Printed by:
Sheffield Newspapers Ltd.

Pre-press:
Regency Graphics, Barnet.

Delivery and comments:
If you have a problem with
the delivery of Community
News, or have any
suggestions or comments
about its content, please
telephone the 24-hour
message line.

The number is 0181-359
2165. Please leave your
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your message

A LANDMARK celebration of Black people's contribution to life in Britain is underway. And for the first time, Barnet is participating in Black History Month with a borough-wide programme of cultural, educational and fun events.

Launched on 6 October at The Bull with a vibrant evening of Black and Asian comedy, dance, music and the spoken word. Black History Month in Barnet features performances by stars including Felix Dexter, Linton Kwesi Johnson, and soul legend Geno Washington, as well as up and coming acts like the Funjabis. There is still time to catch many of the top acts at The Bull.

Council Leader Alan Williams said at the launch, "There is another side to the month. As well as being a celebration of Black culture and achievements, it is an opportunity to focus on ways to combat racism".

A resource pack for six - seven year olds has been developed about the life of Harriet Tubman, who led over 300 slaves to freedom before the American Civil War. This is part of an education programme running alongside the entertainment events, including a quiz for primary school children about Black History, lectures and story telling at Barnet libraries, and a series of seminars under the banner Tackling Institutional Racism at Middlesex University. The Barnet Multicultural Community Centre hosts an exhibition of Asian, African-Caribbean and Somali history throughout the month.

Black History Month programmes are available from Barnet libraries and Action Points. For further information about individual artists or events, contact The Bull Box Office on 0181 449 0048. For more information about Black History Month telephone 0181 359 2058.



Badejo Arts Tilewa

Guess who I met
on the way to the
Forum?

continued from page 1

adopted for taking action
and the results would be
measured.

The launch of the Civic Forum was the centrepiece of week of activities for Local Democracy Week. This national event aimed to increase the public's awareness of the work of local authorities.

Barnet put on a travelling roadshow, issuing leaflets, balloons and badges to 3,000 people at shopping centres and other venues. Officers and councillors also visited schools and listened to the views of young people about how they could become more involved.

A quiz about the borough took place and the winners and answers will be in the local press and the next issue of Community News in December.

New website gives Barnet consumers food for thought



The Leader of Barnet Council, Alan Williams and Health Authority Chairman, Anthony Jacobson launch Barnet Lifestyle website.

THE secrets of healthy living will soon be just a click away, with the launch of Barnet Lifestyle - the website for a healthier community.

The new site, co-funded by Barnet Council and Barnet Health Authority, has been developed in partnership with local health and social care organisations to provide a wealth of on-line information for the borough's community. Younger residents get their own section in Barnet Lifestyle Youth, created with the help of local youth groups.

Information is organised in sections on lifestyle, health and social care, social support and news and reviews. Information

about the borough's many voluntary groups can easily be accessed, as well as news from national organisations.

Safer Sound, a Royal National Institute for the Deaf campaign to warn clubbers about dangerous noise levels at clubs and concerts, and a Health Education Authority report on poor fitness levels in the over 50s are both featured in this month's news pages.

The lifestyle section includes information on healthy eating and functional foods, as well as an on-line edition of the guide to smoke-free eating in Barnet and news about sports development in the borough.

Webmaster Rhod Windsor said: "Health advice can be daunting, so one of the aims of the website is to provide practical, clear information.

"For example, most people know it's good to eat five portions of fruit or vegetables a day - but get confused about what makes up a portion.

"We explain this, and give lots more dietary information as well as support for people trying to give up smoking, and tips on how best to enjoy exercise."

You can find Barnet Lifestyle at www.barnet-lifestyle.org.uk

New rules for benefit claimants could affect you

NEW laws came in for housing and council tax benefits in September which could affect you. If you claim for benefit you must provide proof of your identity and provide your National Insurance number before the council can look at your claim. If you have a partner living with you evidence of their identity and their National Insurance number will also be needed.

Acceptable evidence of identity will include: a valid passport, original

birth certificate, driving licence, benefit payment book, credit cards, marriage certificate, life insurance policies, wage slips from a current employer, recent bank statements, gas/electricity bills in your name paid in the last quarter, UK residence permit, medical card, Home Office Standard Acknowledgement Letter or an identity card issued by an EC/EEA member state.

You will have to provide at least two proofs of identity for each person

and they have to be originals. Do not delay sending your claim in because you have not got the evidence available immediately. You may lose some benefit if you do this.

If you do not want to post your documents you can take them to any of the weekly advice surgeries in the borough, or to one of the council's Action Points or to Fenella, Babington Road, Hendon, London NW4.

Where to take your documents
Barnet Benefits Agency, Raydean House, 15 Western Parade, Barnet - hours Wednesday 1.30pm-3.30pm.

Finchley Employment Services, 40 Ballards Lane, N3 - hours Thursday 9am-noon.

Stag House Housing Office, 94 Burnt Oak Broadway, Edgware - hours Thursday 2pm-4.30pm.

Grahame Park Housing Office, 17 The Concourse, Grahame Park

Estate, NW9 - hours Friday 9am-4pm.

Action Points (telephone 0181 359 4000 for opening hours) at Chipping Barnet Library, Stapylton Road, Barnet EN5 4QT; at Edgware Library, Hale Lane, Edgware HA8 8NN; at Golders Green Library, 158 Golders Green Road, NW11 8HE; at The Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 4BG - only between 4.30pm and 6pm.

Thank you for letting me be your child

FOR every child in care desperate for a secure home there is a family searching for someone to make their lives complete.

Adoption can offer the perfect solution, but in some recent, high profile, cases prospective parents have faced long delays and have eventually given up or looked overseas.

National Adoption Week, which runs from October 11 - 17 aims to highlight the fact that there are children available for adoption, as long as couples don't have unreasonable expectations. Jenny Belsham, of Barnet Council's Family Placement Team agrees: "People approach us looking for a healthy young baby, but there are very few placed for adoption these days.

"It's a natural desire in people who have probably been trying for a baby themselves until quite recently. But our task is to show them that it can be just as rewarding to build a relationship with an older child, or to give a disabled child a better quality of life."

Among the children currently waiting to be adopted in Barnet are four groups of brothers and sisters, a baby with physical and learning disabilities, three boys under 10 and a baby of mixed parentage.

'My adoptive parents did a wonderful job, so I don't have any negative thoughts at all about the experience'.

A Barnet couple who initially wanted to adopt a baby are Sandra and Robert, who are both in their early forties. "I'm adopted myself," said Sandra, "and my adoptive parents did a wonderful job, so I don't have any negative thoughts at all about the experience.

"I've always had it in the back of my mind that I'd like to adopt one day, but when we got married I assumed we'd have children

of our own. Unfortunately, I had three traumatic miscarriages, and then went through several cycles of fertility treatment without success. We waited a year to make sure that adoption was what we really wanted, and then approached Barnet Council.

"The age question didn't deter us," she said,

"because we knew we had a lot to offer a child. Our link social worker was very good and the process went surprisingly fast. We went to

preparation classes, had home visits and went through medical and police checks. After a couple of months our application went before the Panel; we were so nervous we went away on holiday, and our social worker phoned at 3 am to tell us we were accepted!"

After getting the panel's approval, the couple's details were placed on a national database, and they also read Parenting magazine, which has photos and details of children available for adoption. "As soon as I saw Ben and Sally's picture, I cut it out and stuck it on the fridge," said Sandra. "It was so strange, I said to my husband - there are our children. He reminded me that we wanted a baby, not eight and five year old siblings, but I just knew they were the ones!"

"We were up against three couples who also wanted the children, and it took another year before we knew they were coming to us. When it was decision time we went on holiday again, and got another phone call in the early hours. It was really strange, we'd been waiting for this day, but it was only then that the reality hit that we'd be responsible for these two lives - it felt like a huge responsibility.

"When we met them it was love at first sight for all of us," said Sandra. "It is hard work, and there were a few

behavioural problems at first, but we were prepared. We've put our own relationship to one side and committed ourselves to giving them 110% attention for the first year because they're not totally secure yet. But they've blossomed really quickly - they'd been through the mill, and now they've got a secure and loving extended family.

"I wish more people would consider adopting older children - they'd soon see what a difference they can make. My two say things like: 'Mum, thank you for giving me a childhood', and 'thanks for being my best mum'."

'It is hard work caring for Dan but because we love him, it doesn't seem like work'.

Wendy and John, both in their fifties, are no strangers to looking after children - Wendy has fostered 118 since 1979! She already has an adopted son aged 17 and six natural children, but had always been wary of looking after a disabled child. "Then I agreed to foster a little boy on a short term basis," she said, "and I soon found that I could see past the disability to the person there." She wanted to make more of a commitment, and after asking about adoption, she was given the details of a child with multiple disabilities.

"Daniel is blind, and has cerebral palsy and epilepsy," said Wendy. "We didn't go into the adoption lightly, and considered the future carefully. It is hard work caring for Dan but because we love him, it doesn't seem like work. And because all our other children love him too, we know that if anything happened to us, he would be looked after. When the adoption came through, we had a party and the whole



A caring home is all most children want. This picture was posed by actors.

extended family came - even an 80 year old aunt who travelled from Gloucester. They all adore him and are constantly in touch to see how he is doing."

Wendy and John have an 'open adoption', which means that Daniel, who is now three, keeps regular contact with his birth parents. "It's worked out very well for everyone," said John, "and Daniel's siblings have adopted us in a way! Dan is coming on really well, he loves school and has a happy life. He's such a character; I think disabled children usually do develop strong personalities, just to get through life."

"There are lots of people

out there who think they couldn't cope," said Wendy. "But if they tried, they would find they could. Dan needs physio, so we do little bits and pieces throughout the day.

"But whatever we contribute, we get so much more back. There are so many rewards, and every time he learns something it's a real milestone. I'm so glad we've adopted Daniel, his parents took a brave step to give him a better life."

Barnet's Family Placement Team have a good record of finding families for children, but sometimes have to look further afield to place disabled children, sibling groups and children

from a black African, Caribbean or Asian background.

"When you think that a week can seem like an eternity to a child, it shows how important it is to sort out their futures without too much delay," said Jenny Belsham. "We particularly need families to come forward if they are interested in adopting children in these categories."

The children's names have been changed to protect their identities

If you would like to discuss adoption or long-term fostering, or if you need more information, please contact Barnet Council's Family Placement Team on 0181 359 4529.



Alan Williams



Leader's View

Community pride takes centre stage

BARNET prides itself on being a forward-looking, modernising council. To those ends we recently continued our policy of opening our decision making by launching the Barnet Civic Forum.

This is made up of community leaders, ranging from business people to religious heads. It takes in every viewpoint so we can get a unique perspective to draw up our first ever Community Plan.

This plan will be a shared vision for the future of the borough, but unlike our Corporate Plan drawn up by council officers in consultation with councillors, everyone can have an input in it.

Our six neighbourhood forums will also be asked their views and late next summer this vision for the Millennium will be launched following extensive consultation.

Already, members of the Civic Forum want us to investigate how we can get young people more involved in running our community. That is vital if we are to have the political leaders for the future and if we are to understand the needs of young people.

The Civic Forum was launched during a highly successful Local Democracy Week when council officials and councillors took democracy on the road to encourage more people to get involved in decision taking.

In the thousands of face-to-face meetings they had, councillors and officers reported how interested the public are and were brimming with excellent ideas.

We will make sure that those ideas do not go to waste. But we also want you to keep those ideas coming by getting involved in your Area Forum.

Want to get fit? There's plenty to do in Barnet.



Get an active life this autumn

THE summer's gone, the nights are drawing in and it's getting colder. There can be few incentives to go out and get fit this time of year... can there?

Wrong, there are incentives all year round.

Exercise reduces the risk of coronary heart disease, helps prevent damage to cartilage and improves the functioning of the joints.

It reduces the risk of strokes, reduces blood pressure and helps reduce the likelihood of depression. And if that isn't enough, exercise also increases bone density, improves brainpower, improves circulation, alleviates stress and is fun!

Extra Energy

People who regularly exercise often talk about how they have extra energy to enjoy life. Sport can be a very social activity and a

great way to meet new friends. As you master new skills, you gain a great sense of achievement and your self-esteem increases.

As we head towards the Millennium, sport is part of the major changes taking place in the Barnet environment, aimed at encouraging healthy lifestyles for all the family.

Adult cycling

Is your bike stuck in the shed, covered in dust and cobwebs? Would you like to cycle around the borough, but feel intimidated by the traffic and wonder if you can still balance on two wheels?

If so, why not book on to our Cyclist Improver's course which is designed to improve your cycle skills and update your knowledge.

Four two hour sessions include a lecture on cycle

lighting, adjusting gears, security, panniers, safety wear and the Highway Code together with practical experience of riding in traffic. Contact the Sports Development Team on the number given below for details.

Anyone for tennis?

A six-week course to improve your tennis skills starts on October 30 and 31 at Sunny Hill Park on Saturdays and Sundays. Each lesson lasts an hour and the cost is £36.10 for the six week course.

Half term Squash Course

A half term squash course will be held at Finchley Manor Sports Club, Lyndhurst Gardens, Finchley, N3. For entry forms contact the number given below.

Baby Massage

Our popular baby massage courses are now four weeks long to allow for a busy

lifestyle. Each session lasts for one hour and the four-week course costs £15. Sessions can also be taken on an individual basis. Contact us on the number below for details of courses in October and November.

Fitness classes

Fitness classes on offer for autumn include Step, Body Conditioning, circuit training, water aerobics, both shallow and deep water, ante natal and post natal classes, new body, legs, bums and tums and 50 plus classes.

Younger visitors can take their pick from Karate and FitClub and young girls can take part in Funk-a-cise.

For details on any of the above mentioned activities telephone 0181 457 9909.

Barnet top of the class again



Barnet schools are celebrating better exam results than ever, with GCSE, A level and SATs passes all up on last year - and generally showing a higher increase than the national average.

Nearly 90 per cent of Barnet pupils achieved five or more GCSE passes at grades A-G, with 57 per cent reaching the A-C benchmark. More than 1,200 sixth formers got two or more A Levels. And the SATs - or Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 - which measure pupils' progress throughout their education, outstrip the national average by up to seven per cent.

Fifteen of Barnet's 20 secondary

schools improved on last year's GCSE results - some by up to ten per cent. Councillor Alison Moore said: "These results are really good news, and reflect all the hard work put in by pupils and teachers. The SATs tests show that we're raising standards across all areas of the curriculum, and that's particularly encouraging."

One school which cracked open the champagne was Cophall, a comprehensive for girls in Mill Hill. Eight students achieved at least three grade As at A Level, and nine scored A or A* in all their GCSEs. The whole school shared their success, with the pass

rate for five or more GCSEs at grade A - C rising by six per cent. "I'm proud of the girls and my staff," said head teacher Lynn Gadd. "We're a neighbourhood school, yet our results compare well with the highest achieving selective schools."

Other schools notching up improved GCSE scores include Bishop Douglas, Queen Elizabeth Boys, Christ Church, Henrietta Barnet and Queen Elizabeth Girls. Whitefield School continued its improvement, and Edgware registered a higher percentage of A*, A and B grades.

Dramatic fall in number of exclusions

INTENSIVE work with schools and families has enabled Barnet to cut drastically the number of pupils permanently excluded from school in the borough, exceeding government targets

From a high of 101 exclusions in 1996/7, the figures for 1998/9 were just 43, and may be reduced even further as seven cases are still subject to appeal.

The council has adopted an innovative approach to the problem, based around pre-emptive action, and effective partnerships with schools, parents and the children themselves.

A dedicated exclusions officer was appointed last year to advise schools on alternatives to exclusion and to liaise with families about the process.

There is also a range of council services supporting this work, including two pupil referral units, for primary and secondary children. Pupils who are excluded attend the units before being placed in another school, but the service is also open to children at risk of exclusion. Troubleshooting behaviour management teams also go into schools when there is a problem.

As well as dealing with individual cases, the Exclusion Service visits schools throughout the borough to talk to heads and governors about reducing exclusion. The result might be training for teachers, or improvement of the school's bullying policy.

Head of Social Exclusion Robin Rickard said: "The Government's target is to reduce exclusion by one third over three years. We've halved it in a year. A lot of the credit should go to schools themselves who have responded to a growing national awareness of the problem."

Other initiatives include:

- * a reintegration programme for children returning to school after exclusion
- * work with Barnet Race Equality Council (BREC), the police and social services to reduce the disproportional rate of exclusion for black children, which historically have been higher
- * work underway to reduce the number of suspensions
- * school policies on bullying and behaviour to ensure that all pupils' needs are met, not just those causing trouble.

improving quality of life

Barnet Council

ACTIVE AUTUMN

Barnet Recreation and Parks Service offers children's activities for the autumn break

25-29 October:

Whole day multi-activity fun for 4-12 year olds.

8.30am - 5.30pm, £70

Plus swimming, football, squash, tennis, golf and courses.

Please enquire for details on

0181 457 9909



LONDON BOROUGH



TWO of the hottest names in football past and present joined forces with Whitefields recently to celebrate it becoming one of the hottest schools in Barnet.

Former England international Tony Currie (pictured right) and his nephew, Barnet footballer Darren Currie, were on hand with headteacher Barbara Howse to celebrate Whitefields becoming a Sports College.

The school beat off fierce competition from other secondary schools across the country, as the new Sports Colleges attract extra Government support to help provide first class sports facilities for pupils at the school and for the wider community.

Tony Currie is a former pupil at the school as was another guest former Olympic athlete David Bedford, showing what a fine sporting tradition the school already has. Also

present was Saracens rugby player Tony Rock.

Sports College status will help improve even further the school's existing sports facilities, employ and train specialist PE staff and provide more extra-curricular sports activities. The funding will also pay for a major refit of the gymnasium and changing rooms, a new physical activity centre with equipment for the disabled and computerised health and fitness monitors.

Barnet Council leader Alan Williams described the successful bid as a major contribution to raising school standards in the borough. He said: "This council wants the best for all children in all our schools. We are striving to raise standards across the board and the success of this bid underlines our commitment to achieving the best for all our children in all subjects."

Roll up to make your mark on the millennium

...AND YOUR NAME SHALL LIVE FOR EVER

THE passing of the Millennium is a once-in-a-lifetime event, which is why Barnet Council has come up with a way for residents to leave behind their own special mementos.

Your council hopes to produce a Millennium Roll which will provide an everlasting reminder of the residents who lived in the borough during the twentieth century.

The Domesday Book does not list Barnet so we want to improve on that by asking everyone who lives in the borough to sign the Millennium Roll.

This would be a simple list of names which will be preserved and reopened at some point in the future, perhaps in the year 2100, for the interest of our descendants.

It will also ask them to create a fresh Roll which will be handed on to succeeding generations alongside ours.

Signing it would be entirely free of charge and voluntary.

The Roll would be made available in a number of public places throughout the borough, to make it as easy as possible for people to make their mark.

Your council would also see that as many of those who cannot get out and about would get the chance to sign as well.

The Roll would be made available early next year and close late in the year.

The only proviso would be to live in the London Borough of Barnet.

Signing it would both affirm your pleasure in living here, mark the Millennium for you personally and provide a tiny amount of immortality.

If you would like more information or have any comments on the Millennium Roll, please contact

The Millennium Marketing Officer, London Borough of Barnet, The Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, London NW4 4BG or phone 0181 359 2325.



"We will always prosecute anyone who feels they can knock down listed buildings in this borough with impunity"

Cllr. Beverley Pearce, Chair of the Environment Policy Committee

School fined for knocking down listed building

SCHOOL PAYS THE PRICE FOR DEMOLISHING PART OF LISTED BUILDING - COUNCIL WINS PROSECUTION

PARDES HOUSE School in Finchley has been fined £5,000 with £10,378 costs for demolishing a listed building.

The school ordered the destruction of three Fives Courts in the grounds of the former Christ's College, now occupied by Pardes House. They formed part of the Grade Two listed Christ's College complex.

Fives is a once popular form of squash played on a court with high walls on three sides. Although the game has gone out of fashion, the courts, built about 1866, were important because of their historical and social links.

Pardes House moved into the former Christ's College site in 1991 and eventually began to undertake some necessary repairs.

Part of the plan was to incorporate the courts into new classrooms. Discussions took place and promising ideas made but no application for planning permission was received.

Later, the school began to clear some derelict buildings from the site. It was at this stage, in July 1998, that the courts were demolished leading to an outcry from residents.

Barnet Council quickly issued a summons against the school which pleaded not guilty to the charge claiming the courts were demolished for reasons of safety.

The Justices at Hendon Magistrates Court did not accept the defences offered by the school and it was found guilty of altering a listed building after a two day

hearing which ended 17 September. Sentencing was adjourned until today.

In addition to the fines and costs imposed on the school, the chair of governors, William Stern, was fined £3,500 and fellow governor Stanley Klore, £1,500.

Councillor Beverley Pearce, Chair of the Environment Policy Committee, said, "I am very pleased that the courts have viewed this demolition as seriously as Barnet Council. The ruling should send a strong message to all those entrusted with the care of listed buildings.

"We will always prosecute anyone who feels they can knock down listed buildings in this borough with impunity," she added.

IN BRIEF

Youth Centre Opening
HENDON Youth Sports Centre in Marble Drive, NW2, is now open at 6.45am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for fitness, sport, bookings and casual climbing.

Headteacher changes
THE staff room door at schools in Barnet has been revolving thanks to a number of headteachers starting this term.

Mike Horton has returned to All Saints, NW2, after his secondment to Grahame Park, while Heather Blackmore is acting head for one term only to cover for Grainne O'Reilly-Askew's secondment as head at Grahame Park.

Gillian Pettinger is now headteacher at Clitterhouse Infants and Neil Marlow takes up the same post at Moss Hall Junior.

Jude Hall is now headteacher at Tudor after a number of years as deputy head and a couple of periods as acting head at Barnfield.

Teresa Tunnadine starts her headship at The Compton after being deputy at the school and Kevin Hoare, who was deputy at Finchley Catholic High, becomes headteacher.

Millennium Green project will transform wasteland

A DERELICT site surrounded by industrial land is on course for transformation into a green oasis, following a decision by the Resources Executive Committee to approve £115,000 for preliminary works.

The site, at Claremont Road, has secured funding from the Millennium Greens programme, which aims to enable 250 communities nationwide to create public open spaces to mark the millennium. To qualify for Millennium Green status, projects must: be community led; have demonstrable public support; be available for recreational use by all; be accessible to disabled people; and be vested with the local community for perpetual use as an open space.

Residents already involved in the Childs Hill and Cricklewood Local Agenda 21 Neighbourhood Partnership have formed a Millennium Green Trust and act as custodians of the one-acre site, which has lain overgrown and unused since 1987 when it was originally identified as a potential public open space.

Barnet Council has consulted the local community on the proposal for the site, and officers and members are working in close partnership with residents to develop it. Plans for the Green include a paved entrance created from recycled materials, a sculptural picnic and seating area, a viewing area for disabled people, a meadow and marsh, and a water feature. The site will be accessible to wheelchair users and visually impaired people.

Chair of the Community Development Policy Committee Cllr. Susette Palmer said: "This project is a great example of successful partnership working with our local and business communities and also reflects our commitment to improving quality of life by greening the borough. The plans are original and exciting, and many of the ideas came from local residents."

Funding for the project has come from the Millennium Commission, English Partnerships, and money available to the council under planning agreements with respect to Donoghues/Railtrack, Tesco, Hendon Way and Production Village, Cricklewood Lane.



LUKE, the Golden Retriever, proves a winner with women from the Elderly Asian Group at Barnet's Community Care Fair. He is also pictured with his owner Jean McVey who visited the highly successful showcase for council, health authority, voluntary and private services at the RAF Museum at Colindale. The fair was opened by the Mayor Cllr Jack Cohen, council leader Alan Williams and Barnet Health Authority chairman Antony Jacobson. Cllr Phil Yeoman, the council's lead member for social services said, "The fair gives residents the opportunity to get involved in community care. It shows our commitment to working in partnership with them and organisations providing care in the borough. 'Working together to support those most in need is a value the council strongly believes in.'"

Watch out for telephone card swindle

INTERNATIONAL telephone card users may face hidden charges, Barnet's Trading Standards Division is warning.

Following a growing number of complaints by residents, Trading Standards have unearthed several misleading claims in posters advertising cheap international calls. An alarming 50 per cent of cards tested gave less time than advertised, while a quarter of the rates actually charged were different from those advertised.

"We've been getting up to 30 complaints about these cards each month," said Councillor Beverley Pearce.

"Our tests have found several anomalies, mainly concerning hidden charges which are affecting many of the borough's communities.

"A typical three minute call to New Delhi may be advertised at 25p per minute. But one company we looked at charged an extra four pence per minute for calling via 0800 access, plus a connection charge of 70p,

making a total cost of £1.57 - more than double the 75p the customer would be expecting.

"We're not saying that all these cards are poor value, but it's well worth asking to see the full price list in stores advertising the service," she said.

Other hidden charges include:

- extra connection costs
- prices increased from those advertised, without notice
- premium rates for the customer services number
- paying for a whole minute - even if the call lasts only a few seconds
- heavy surcharges for using the card from a phone box
- cards expiring earlier than expected
- paying for calls from the moment the phone rings - not when the call is connected.

Anyone with a complaint about international phone cards should contact Barnet's Trading Standards team on 0181 359 4919.



The English School of Falconry

Falconry & Activity Days
The Ideal Birthday, Anniversary and Christmas Gift

An Experience You Will Never Forget!

Experience the Thrill of Flying a Magnificent 'Bird of Prey'

Falconry & Hawking Experience

Experience the thrill of flying a team of Harris Hawks, Eagles, Goshawks or Longwing Falcons. Under the supervision of a practising falconer you will have the chance to fly and handle the birds. Throughout the day you will see these truly impressive birds flying free in natural surroundings.

Activity & Experience Day

You will have the opportunity to acquire knowledge about the birds, to hold and get to know individual birds. Learn about equipment, food, health and the law regarding birds of prey with a practical demonstration on free flying hawks, falcons and owls.

Then the opportunity to fly birds yourself!

For further information please call:
01908 281229

All things bright and beautiful in Barnet



THIS year's Barnet In Bloom was the biggest and best ever.

We received more than 100 entries from green fingered enthusiasts in the ninth year of the competition. They mesmerised the judges with their displays, adorning the streets of Barnet with colourful containers, flower decked balconies and fragrant gardens.

There were categories for town centres, schools, pubs and ordinary residents.

Ron Raymond had turned his humble suburban garden in Great North Road, Barnet, into one that would put the grounds of many stately homes to shame. He picked up the Best Front Garden Award. Second prize in that category went to Mr and Mrs E Down, at Grove Court, Hadley Ridge, Barnet and third was Ben Bannister, of Watford Way, Hendon.

The winners of the Best Container Display were Marc and Matt, of Stanhope Avenue, Finchley, with St Patrick's Social Club, The Broadway, Hendon, coming second. Third prize went to Mr and Mrs C Hill, of Brunswick Park Road, New Southgate, who won last year.

White Lion double

The double was done by the White Lion, St Albans Road, which for the second year running was Best Bloomin' Pub. They were given tough competition from The Claddagh Ring, the highly popular Irish pub in Church Road, Hendon, which came second and The Railway Bell, East Barnet Road, which came third.

The Best Floral Display was won by Norman Davis, of Lawrence Street, Mill Hill, for a wonderfully colourful display. Second in the category was Vanessa Knill, of Sherrards Way, Barnet and third was Helen Fletcher, of Hervey Close, Finchley.

Schools took part for the first time this year. Summerside Junior Mixed Infants, Crossway, North Finchley, were the winners of the Tesco sponsored Environment Garden category.

Runners up were: Manorside Junior Mixed Infants, Squires Lane, Finchley; St James Catholic High School, Great Strand, The Hyde; Livingstone School, Baring Road, New Barnet; Dollis Junior School,

Top to bottom:
Best Balcony; Best Container Garden; Best Bloomin' Pub, Best Front Garden; Best town centre and Best Floral Display

Barnet

Mill Hill and St Agnes R.C., Thorverton Road, Cricklewood.

And to show that you do not need a large garden to be an avid gardener, the category for Best Balcony Display was won by Mrs J Stark, The Highlands, Abbots Road. Second was Mrs Terry Barrett, of Falcon Court, Station Road, and third was Mrs N Cohen, Riverside Drive, Golders Green Road, Golders Green.

Shopping Centres

There is always tough competition between Barnet's 20 shopping centres for Best Town Centre Award. This year it was won by The Spires Shopping Centre, in Barnet. The competition reflects Barnet Council's commitment to improving the environment for all to enjoy. It shows that everyone can do their bit to make the borough a brighter place to live.

This year's sponsors were JC Decaux, The Times Newspaper Group, Earth

Anchors Ltd, Tesco, Drakeford Print and Design DTP Bureau, Sampson & Partners Fencing, Filcris, Clifton Nurseries Ltd, Aylett Nurseries Ltd and Len Fowler (Trophies) Ltd.

The Hendon Hall Hotel hosted the launch and is also the venue for the presentation ceremony on November 1.

Now you have the chance to make next year's competition even more successful on its 10th anniversary by filling in the entry form printed below.

STOP PRESS:

Barnet won the Most Improved Borough prize in the recent London in Bloom competition.

The Spires Shopping Centre was first in its category and Big Wood and Little Wood was first in the Wildflower and Environment Trophy. The Hendon Hall Hotel was third in the Best Floral Hotel competition.



Barnet in Bloom Entry Form

Please return this coupon by 23 June 2000 to
The London Borough of Barnet, Leisure Services,
FREEPOST ND1237, 1 Friern Barnet Lane N11 3DL

I wish to enter the

- Best Front Garden
- Container Garden
- Best Bloomin' Pub (please tick appropriate boxes)
- Best Town Centre
- Best Balcony
- Best Floral Display

Name

Address

Telephone Number

Facelift for Church End Town Centre

SHOPPING won't be a chore for visitors to Church End Town Centre, Finchley - thanks to improvements to the street environment.

Church End's facelift will include smart new black and gold livery for lamp columns, traffic light posts, railings and cycle stands, as well as work to standardise street furniture, giving the centre a stronger identity. The improvements are the second phase of a programme to brighten up the town centre, which began with welcome signs. Local retailers from the Ballards Lane Traders' Association, as well as the Local Agenda 21 partnership, worked with Barnet Council to decide on the enhancements to the area.

Councillor Kathy McGuirk said: "These improvements show our commitment to investing in town centre regeneration, and follow successful schemes elsewhere in the borough. After all, it makes sense that shoppers will be attracted by a bright, safe and clean street environment, which will also benefit local residents."

Other improvements planned for the three-month programme include removing clutter like redundant street signs, as well as landscaping work in the Ballards Lane/Long Lane area.

Exhibition at Church Farmhouse Museum

Two new exhibitions are showing at Church Farmhouse Museum.

Carnival Glass is an exhibition of press-moulded glass bowls, plates and vases given an iridescent and metallic finish in a range of colours.

The second is Strange Barnet: Phantoms, Forgers and Funny Faces which looks at the borough's history including stories of witches covens in High Barnet to the Hendon Nudist Riots.

Smoking out the rogue traders

RETAILERS selling tobacco to children in the borough are being 'smoked out' in a sting operation led by Barnet's Trading Standards Service. Young people under the age of 16 pose as customers in the exercise - chiefly targeted at tobacco retailers who have already come to the attention of Trading Standards.

Retailers have been sent a letter reminding them of their responsibilities under the Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) Act 1991 and of the council's determination to prosecute offenders. Following strict Home

Office guidelines, the children attempt to buy cigarettes. They will be shadowed by members of the Trading Standards team who will be checking for three offences:

- * selling packets of cigarettes
- * opening packets and selling cigarettes individually
- * failing to display the warning "It is illegal to sell tobacco products to anyone under the age of 16".

It is an absolute offence to sell tobacco to children - the council does not have to prove that the seller knew the young person was

underage. "But the main point of the exercise isn't just to punish guilty traders," said Councillor Beverley Pearce, Chair of the Environment Policy Development Committee. "More importantly, the council is committed to reducing the sale of cigarettes to children and young people." To support the operation, an educational outreach programme is running concurrently at schools and events throughout the borough.

The children have been instructed to tell the truth in their dealings with retailers and their safety will be uppermost throughout the exercise.



Weapons of Sound get into the groove at the Woodland Festival

Barnet shows its true colours in green week



Rappers from Christchurch School get down to the "bear necessities"

BARNET'S third annual Environment Week was the biggest ever attracting almost 50 events and wide involvement and interest from residents, especially young people.

The week was launched by Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jeremy Davies, on 3 July when the pedestrian area at Tally Ho in North Finchley was turfed over for the day to make way for street entertainers and activities from tree sculpting to face painting.

This year's theme was 'Young People and a Sustainable Environment' with events designed to involve schools, youth groups and young people showing how we can all do our bit to improve and protect the environment.

Councillor Kathy McGuirk, Vice-Chair of the Environment Policy Development Committee, said: "The week was a great success. We hosted a wide range of events and activities so there would be something for everyone.

"I was delighted so many local people took part and I hope it translates into positive action to safeguard our fragile environment. Barnet Council is committed to a package of environmental initiatives all year round - reducing car journeys, recycling and forging new Agenda 21 partnerships with communities across the borough.

"Environment weeks give us a chance to raise the profile of this area of our work and encourage more and more people to get involved," she added. Highlights of the week drew 400



Children's after school play facility now boosts working parents too

A new, improved after school play service in the Grahame Park area is proving a big hit with children - and parents. The Log Cabin Adventure Playground, off Lanacre Avenue, is the focus of a comprehensive service in which staff collect up to 20 children aged 5-12 from local schools and escort them safely to the playground. On offer there are excellent facilities, equipment and a wide range of play, sports and arts activities.

Increased funding by the council this year has allowed for the higher level of service, which also includes Saturday opening and holiday play schemes. Local families have responded enthusiastically, as the play provision makes it easier for parents to work - and gives them peace of mind.

youngsters to a Schools Environment Action Day, more than 350 people to the Scratchwood Woodland Festival and big crowds to a fashion show using recycled materials. The business community joined in with a successful Business Breakfast at the Holiday Inn and the week was sponsored by Marks & Spencer and Three Valleys Water.

Other events included an Urban Treasure Hunt, Green Film Weekend at the Phoenix Cinema, conferences, walks, litter picks and cycle rallies.

It was a major opportunity to raise awareness. Councillor McGuirk summed it up when she said, "If all those who took part made a few simple changes to the way they do things at home, at work, when shopping or travelling about, then it would all add up to a huge difference in the borough's environment."

ENVIRONMENT WEEK WORD SEARCH COMPETITION

Karen Stone, 13, from Hendon, won first prize in the Environment Week Wordsearch Competition.

Her task was to find 29 words hidden in an environmentally themed word grid and write in a short catchy phrase how they cared for the environment.

Karen's winning phrase, chosen out of over 150 correct entries, was 'Walking not driving and saving not wasting'.

Her prize is a Halfords Mountain Bike and cycle safety equipment.

Runners-up Tanzila Al-hadad aged 14 from Hendon, and Amy Darby, aged 12 from New Southgate, each received a CD-Rom on sustainability and a green goodie bag.

Soon life might not be so grim

The art of progress in North Finchley

NORTH Finchley could soon undergo at £35 million revamp bringing more than 100 much-needed jobs to the area.

Exciting plans, which include an arts centre, shops and housing are earmarked for Tally Ho Corner. The area has become shabby in recent years and suffers fumes from traffic congestion and has lost many big name shops.

Now that may all change, but Barnet Council first of all needs to know what you think. A contact address is given below for your comments. This will be followed up with consultation meetings, of which you will be notified, leading to the submission of the planning application.

Inter-cultural arts centre aim

THE stars of tomorrow could soon be treading the boards in North Finchley if the arts centre gets the go-ahead. There has long been the need for a venue for up and coming artistes in this part of the capital and the site of the old Gaumont Cinema, Tally Ho Corner, has been earmarked for the project.

It could bring enormous cultural, economic and environmental benefits to an area in need of regeneration. The aim is to provide an accessible, inter-cultural arts centre offering inspiring, innovative and educative work together with national and international communities.

A partner was chosen in July and they are now working up detailed designs that are practical and affordable.

The current plan is for a main auditorium, a studio theatre, art

gallery, various dance, drama, art and photographic workshops. Barnet College would have space for new and expanded courses as would Community Focus, a group that enables people with disabilities to take part in the arts and photography.

A wide variety of food and drink would be served at bars and cafes within the centre. The intention is that the area will be a hive of activity day and night and a reason in its own right for visiting North Finchley.

Above, below and around will be a mix of commercial and residential uses which will also help regenerate the area and subsidise the cost of the arts centre. The likelihood is that at ground floor level there will be a range of shops; bus facilities will also be incorporated. There is already a great deal of interest from retailers in the shop units and detailed discussions will follow.

A fitness centre is also planned and flats earmarked for above the centre will provide high quality homes that will help revive North Finchley town centre.

The road to success

TRAFFIC and parking are key issues in the plan to breathe new life into North Finchley.

We need you to tell us about your views and experiences living, shopping and working in North Finchley to identify any problems and possible solutions you would like to see.

North Finchley is a typical High Street layout with a busy road running through the centre. To the south where the proposed arts centre would be is a one way gyratory which allows Ballards Lane and the High Road - both



up north ... Finchley that is!



busy roads - to merge into a single road.

The High Road has to cater for large volumes of traffic passing through the town centre or traffic wanting to come to North Finchley as well as those wishing to park for the shops and local businesses.

Barnet Council surveys show there are both traffic movement and parking problems that need improving if North Finchley is to be regenerated. In addition to motor traffic, pedestrians, public transport users and cyclists need to be considered.

The busy High Road can be difficult to cross and unpleasant for pedestrians particularly those with young children or disabilities. Similarly, buses and bus stops are affected by traffic jams and illegal parking which causes delays and problems to passengers. The same problem exists on residential side

roads with rat running and parking by non-residents.

Tell us what you think

FOR the High Road, we need to know what improvements you think are necessary to move traffic better, stop obstructions, help pedestrians, improve public transport and assist cyclists.

For the side roads and if you are a resident, tell us whether you feel there is a problem with traffic flows and parking and how you would like us to deal with it.

Would you like to see traffic calming in your road that would not affect through movement? Or would you prefer restrictions to stop motorists using your road, even though it might make access more difficult for you?

Finally, would you like to see parking controls to give priority to

residents and their visitors? Should traders and town centre workers be allowed to park in your road?

Encouraging growth and prosperity

NORTH Finchley could become a considerably more pleasant place to work, shop and live with better street furniture, railings and more trees.

These physical improvements will encourage more shops and restaurants to improve their appearance leading shoppers and traders to invest in North Finchley making it a place of growth and prosperity.

The arts centre, with its events and places to meet, will encourage the town centre to be seen as more than shops, which belongs to the community and is at the centre of community life.

North Finchley is fortunate in having these opportunities available. Now we need YOU to become involved to make it work.

If YOU want to make your views or suggestions known, please either write to
Public Consultation, London Borough of Barnet, The Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 4BG or contact the following e-mail address:
emma.gaydon@barnet.gov.uk.

STOP PRESS: Your views will be reported in later special editions of Community News for North Finchley. Because of the sheer volume of replies expected it may not be possible to respond to every single communication. However, we will endeavour to answer them as soon as possible.

COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES

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

ARKLEY WARD

ANITA CAMPBELL (Lab)

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

PAULINE COAKLEY WEBB (Lab)

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

PAM COLEMAN (Lab)

Tel: 0181-449 6254. e-mail:
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Surgery: 1st and 3rd Saturday
every month at Chipping Barnet
Library, 3 Stapylton Road,
Barnet EN5 4QT, 2-3pm.
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

BRUNSWICK PARK WARD

GEOF COOKE (Lab)

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

LYNNE HILLAN (Con)

Tel: 0181-446 8634. Work Tel:
0181-452 7222.
Work Fax: 0181-450 3232.
e-mail: ashurst@Londonweb.net
Surgery: 2nd Saturday every
month at Osidge Library,
Brunswick Park Road, London
N11 1EY, 10.30am-12noon.
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

ANDREAS TAMBOURIDES (Con)

Tel and fax: 0181-368 5417.
Surgery: 2nd Saturday every
month at Osidge Library,
Brunswick Park Road, London
N11 1EY, 10.30am-12noon.
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.



BURNT OAK WARD

LINDA McFADYEN (Lab)

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

ALLAN TURNER (Lab)

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

ALAN WILLIAMS (Lab)

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

CHILDS HILL WARD

JACK COHEN (LibDem)

MAYOR
Tel: 0181-446 7940.
Surgery: 1st Thursday every
month at Childs Hill Library,
Cricklewood Lane, London
NW2, 7-8pm. Also: 2nd Tuesday
every month at Kent Hall,
Westcroft Way, London NW2, 4-
5pm.
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

MONROE PALMER (LibDem)

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP
LEADER
Tel: 0181-455 5140.
e-mail:
cflr.m.palmer@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: 1st Thursday every
month at Childs Hill Library,
Cricklewood Lane, London
NW2, 7-8pm. Also: 2nd Tuesday
every month at Kent Hall,
Westcroft Way, London NW2,
4-5pm.
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

SUSETTE PALMER (LibDem)

Tel: 0181-455 5140. Home Fax:
0181-731 7670.
Surgery: 1st Thursday every
month at Childs Hill Library,
Cricklewood Lane, London
NW2, 7-8pm.
Also: 2nd Tuesday every month
at Kent Hall, Westcroft Way,
London NW2, 4-5pm.
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

COLINDALE WARD

DANISH CHOPRA (Lab)

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

NATHANIEL RUDOLF (Lab)

Tel: 0181-346 1175.
email:
cflr.n.rudolf@barnet.gov.
uk Surgery: Saturdays at
Grahame Park Library,
The Concourse, Colindale,
NW9 5XL, 10-11am.
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

GILL SARGEANT (Lab)

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

EAST BARNET WARD

USHA CHOPRA (Lab)

Tel and fax: 0181-449 3231
e-mail:
cflr.u.chopra@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at Labour
Party Office, 104 East Barnet
Road, New Barnet, EN4 8RE
10.30am-12noon
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

OLWEN EVANS (Con)

Tel: 0181-368 1986. Surgery
1st Saturday every month at The
Community Centre, Victoria
Road, New Barnet, 10.30am-
12noon
Also: 3rd Saturday every month
at East Barnet Library, 85
Brookhill Road, East Barnet,
EN4 8SG, 10.30am-12noon
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

ANNE JARVIS (Lab)

Tel and fax: 0181-449 9001.
Surgery: Saturdays at Labour
Party Office, 104 East Barnet
Road, New Barnet, EN4 8RE,
10.30am-12noon
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

EAST FINCHLEY WARD

HELEN GORDON (Lab)

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE
LABOUR GROUP

Tel and fax: 0181-444 2761
e-mail:
cflr.h.gordon@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at East
Finchley Neighbourhood Centre,
Church Lane, East Finchley, N2,
10-11.30am.
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

ALISON MOORE (Lab)

Tel: 0181-343 0306
Fax: 0181-349 2953.
e-mail:
cflr.a.moore@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at East
Finchley Neighbourhood Centre,
Church Lane, East Finchley, N2,
10-11.30am.
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

PHIL YEOMAN (Lab)

Tel: 0181-444 9216.
e-mail:
cflr.p.yeoman@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at East
Finchley Neighbourhood Centre,
Church Lane, East Finchley, N2,
10-11.30am.
NO APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY.

EDGWARE WARD

MALCOLM LESTER (Con)

Tel: 0181-203 3144.
Surgery: every Tuesday at Edgware Library, Hale Lane, Edgware HA8 8NN, 6-7pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

JOAN SCANNELL (Con)

Tel: 0181-959 5921. Fax: 0181-906 0112.
Surgery: every Tuesday at Edgware Library, Hale Lane, Edgware HA8 8NN, 6-7pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

ANTHONY SPENCER (Con)

Tel and fax: 0181-958 4867
e-mail: cllr.a.spencer@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: every Tuesday at Edgware Library, Hale Lane, Edgware HA8 8NN, 6-7pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

FINCHLEY WARD

EVA GREENSPAN (Con)

Tel and fax: 0181-203 1598.
e-mail: fingold@london.web.net
Surgery: 1st Wednesday every month at Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, N3, 7.30-8.30pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

BARBARA LANGSTONE (Con)

Tel and fax: 0181-445 5443.
Mobile Telephone: 0958 626255.
e-mail: fingold@london.web.net
Surgery: 1st Wednesday every month at Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, N3, 7.30-8.30pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

LESLIE SUSSMAN (Con)

Tel and fax: 0181-346 6775.
e-mail: fingold@london.web.net
Surgery: 1st Wednesday every month at Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, N3, 7.30-8.30pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

FRIERN BARNET WARD

JAMES CHAPMAN (Con)

Tel: 0181-361 6232.
e-mail: cllr.james.chapman@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: 2nd Saturday every month at Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Lane N11, 10.30am-12 noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

BRIAN SALINGER (Con)

Tel and fax: 0181-368 1329.
Work Fax: 0181-368 1105.
Mobile Telephone: 0956 337878.
e-mail: bsalinger@aol.com

Surgery: 2nd Saturday every month at Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Lane N11, 10.30am-12 noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

JOHN TIPLADY (Con)

Tel: 0181-445 5734.
Surgery: 2nd Saturday every month at Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Lane N11, 10.30am-12 noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

GARDEN SUBURB WARD

JOHN MARSHALL (Con)

Tel: 0181-445 2597.
Surgery: 4th Monday every month at Fellowship House, Willifield Way, London NW11, 7.30-9pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

JAZMIN NAGHAR (Con)

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

Dr. PETER SKOLAR (Con)

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

GOLDERS GREEN WARD

MELVIN COHEN (Con)

Tel: 0181-343 7382. Work Fax: 0181-445 0979. e-mail: cllr.m.cohen@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: 2nd Sunday every month at Golders Green Library, 2.15-3.15pm. Last Sunday every month at Hendon Sports Centre, 11.15am-12.15pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

ABA DUNNER (Con)

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

CHRISTOPHER HARRIS (Con)

Tel and fax: 0181-731 8303
e-mail: fingold@london.web.net
Surgery: 2nd Sunday every month at Golders Green Library, 2.15-3.15pm.

Last Sunday every month at Hendon Sports Centre, 11.15am-12.15pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

HADLEY WARD

KATIA DAVID (Con)

Tel: 0181-361 9805.
e-mail: cllr.k.david@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: 3rd Saturday every month at Chipping Barnet Conservative Association, 163 High Street, Barnet, EN5 5SU, 10.30am-12noon. Tel: 0181-449 7345. Fax: 0181-449 7346.
Also: 4th Saturday every month at Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Road, Barnet EN5 4QT. 11.30am-1pm
Tel: 0181-359 4040.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

LIZ MAMMATT (Con)

LEADER OF CONSERVATIVE GROUP

Tel and fax: 0181-361 9720.
e-mail:

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

KANTI PATEL (Con)

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

HALE WARD

STEVEN BLOMER (Lab)

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

BRIAN GORDON (Con)

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Fax: 0181-202 4145
Surgery: Last Thursday in every month at Hendon Conservative Association, 2 Apex Parade,

Selva Lane, London NW7 8 15-9.15pm. Tel: 0181-381 3339

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

RUTH NYMAN (Lab)

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

MILL HILL WARD

ROGER AXWORTHY (LibDem)

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

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

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DEPUTY MAYOR

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

ST. PAUL'S WARD

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

JIM TIERNEY (Lab)

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

TOTTERIDGE WARD

BRIAN COLEMAN (Con)

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e-mail: cllr.b.coleman@barnet.gov.uk
Next surgery is 20 November 1999 10.30am-12noon at North Finchley Library, Ravensdale Avenue, N12 9HP, 0181-445 4081 and 18 December 1999 10.30am-12noon at Totteridge Library, 109 Totteridge Lane, London N20 8DZ, 0181-445 5288.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY or contact 163 High Street, Barnet (0181-449 7345)

KEVIN EDSON (Con)

Tel: 0181-446 8343. Next surgery is 20 November 1999 10.30am-12noon at North Finchley Library, Ravensdale Avenue, N12 9HP, 0181-445 4081 and 18 December 1999 10.30am-12noon at Totteridge Library, 109 Totteridge Lane, London N20 8DZ, 0181-445 5288.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY or contact 163 High Street, Barnet (0181-449 7345)

VICTOR LYON (Con)

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Next surgery is 20 November 1999 10.30am-12noon at North Finchley Library, Ravensdale Avenue, N12 9HP, 0181-445 4081 and 18 December 1999 10.30am-12noon at Totteridge Library, 109 Totteridge Lane,

London N20 8DZ, 0181-445 5288
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY or contact 163 High Street, Barnet (0181-449 7345)

WEST HENDON WARD

ARUN GHOSH (Lab)

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Surgery: Saturdays at West Hendon Clinic, West Hendon Broadway (entrance in Perryfield Way), West Hendon, NW9, 10.30am-12noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

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Surgery: Saturdays at West Hendon Clinic, West Hendon Broadway (entrance in Perryfield Way), West Hendon, NW9, 10.30am-12noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

WOODHOUSE WARD

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

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NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

PAUL ROGERS (Lab)

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Surgery: Saturdays 1 Friern Park, North Finchley, N12 (portacabin), 11am-12.30pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

Mill Hill told to cut pupil selection

PLANS by Mill Hill County School to extend the selection of new pupils on the basis of academic ability have been quashed following objections by local parents to the Secretary of State.

The announcement brings to a close a dispute which began in May when the school declared its intention to start selecting some of its pupils according to "aptitude or ability".

This would have meant 30 per cent of new pupils each year being selected following a test in "technological ability" and 15 per cent given to those with formal qualifications in music or dance.

Accepting the objections raised by local parents and the council, the government's adjudicator said the admission arrangements seriously limit the opportunities of local pupils to attend Mill Hill County High.

'Good news for local parents and the future of Barnet,' says Cllr. Williams

In his report the adjudicator said: "I consider that the admissions criteria which prioritises siblings, and then aptitude and ability for 45 per cent of entrants, for this over subscribed school, creates a situation where local pupils who could otherwise expect to be admitted are being denied admission.

"I am convinced by the objections of parents that partial selection at Mill Hill County results in children having to travel unreasonable distances to schools which are not their choice," he added.

The school has been instructed to remove the criteria which reserved ten per cent places for those qualified in music, five per cent in dance and 30 per cent on technological aptitude.

This is to be replaced with a maximum 10 per cent of places reserved for pupils with an aptitude in music, dance or technology. The adjudicator says this will give the school flexibility in deciding its own priorities and

will maximise the use of available resources. Leader of the Council, Councillor Alan Williams, welcomed the decision and said it was a vindication of the stand taken from the outset by parents and the council. "Local parents are denied choice and children are denied entry to truly comprehensive education when a school creams off the most able and socially privileged youngsters in the borough."



Cllr. Alan Williams, Leader of Barnet Council

Barnet schools off to flying success at Heathrow Games

EVERY year the Heathrow Youth Games provide sporting opportunity for those who would not normally get the chance to display their talents and take part in a great sporting experience.

The games now consist of 34 sports with a total of 50 teams. This year Barnet's Leisure Team made an all-out effort and managed to enter teams for nearly every category.

The Mini Games is for primary school children and there are eight events including boccia - a game developed for children with cerebral palsy and based on French boules.

All the teams are mixed boys and girls and in total there were 223 children aged eight to 11 years from Barnet schools.

This year the Barnet team won the rugby and the Leisure Management Team focused on seven key areas in the 11 to 19 years age group to improve results in specific sports and help those without a formal club structure.

School governor killed in SA crash

HEATHER Salter, a governor at Northside primary school was among the victims of the South African coach crash on 27 September.

Originally from Wrexham, Heather was a widow who lived in Barnet for more than 30 years. A retired teacher who worked at a school in Haringey, she became a governor at Northside in 1996.

Councillor Anne Jarvis, Chair of Education, said, "Heather was a very committed governor at Northside and was working to recatalogue the library there in her role as the school's literacy governor.

"She will be sadly missed at the school, where staff and governors were stunned at the news of her death. Our sympathy goes out to her family and friends at this difficult time."

Week highlights refugee plight

REFUGEE Week is due to take place in Barnet from 9 November. Various events are being planned, including a discussion on the Immigration and Asylum Bill at The Bull Arts Centre on the opening day from 10 til 12 noon. Other events being organised are a Refugee Festival Day on 14 November, a collection of poetry to be read and drama carried out at schools and a leading book shop.

People from numerous ethnic backgrounds are expected to attend to share their experiences of living in a new country having fled their homelands.

London Driver Improvement Service

BARNET has beaten off stiff opposition to win the Metropolitan Police contract to run the London Driver Improvement Service. The scheme is an alternative penalty imposed on drivers found guilty of driving without due care or attention.

MEETINGS OF COUNCIL, COMMITTEES etc

25 October - 14 December 1999

- Notes:**
- (a) Normally, meetings will commence at 7pm and will be held at the Town Hall, Hendon unless otherwise arranged.
 - (b) Other arrangements operate for Area Forums and Area Sub-Committees. Each Area Forum takes place every two months. To find out details for one near you ring 0181 359 2018.
 - (c) Meetings not included will be arranged as and when required.

OCTOBER

25 (Mon) Scrutiny Commission - Education and Children (Barnet College)
Scrutiny Commission - Central Services

26 (Tues) Finchley and Golders Green Environment Sub
Hendon Area Environment Sub

27 (Wed) Community Development Policy Development Committee

NOVEMBER

2 (Tues) 6.30pm. Edgware and Mill Hill Area Forum, The Watling Centre, 145 Orange Hill Road, Edgware

6.30pm. Golders Green Area Forum, St Michael's Church Hall, The Riding, Golders Green Road, NW11

6.30pm. Whetstone Area Forum, The Council Chamber, The Old Town Hall, Friern Barnet Lane, N11 3DL

3 (Wed) Resources Executive

8 (Mon) Scrutiny Commission - Recreation, Leisure and Arts

9 (Tues) Corporate Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee

10 (Wed) Policy and Implementation

11 (Thurs) Scrutiny Commission - Housing

Superannuation Fund Management Advisory Panel

15 (Mon) Scrutiny Commission - Recreation, Leisure and Arts
Consultative Conference (Avenue House)

16 (Tues) Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub (Friern Barnet Lane)
- Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub (Avenue House)
- Hendon Area Planning Sub

17 (Wed) Special Council Meeting

23 (Tues) Chipping Barnet Area Environment Sub (Barnet House)

29 (Mon) Scrutiny Commission - Recreation, Leisure and Arts

Scrutiny Commission - Education and Children

Scrutiny Commission - Social Services (Older People)

30 (Tues) Barnet Area Forum

Finchley Area Forum

Hendon Area Forum

DECEMBER 1999

2 (Thurs) Council-In-Committee (then Council)

7 (Tues) Environment Policy Development Committee

8 Dec (Wed) Policy and Implementation

14 (Tues) Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub (Friern Barnet Lane)

Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub (Avenue House)

Hendon Area Planning Sub

WHAT'S ON

We welcome contributions to the What's On page. Write to: The Editor, Community News, Barnet Council, The Town Hall, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BG. We reserve the right to shorten entries and no responsibility can be taken for the accuracy of information supplied for the page.

7 November
Rotary Club of Mill Hill Firework Display at Barnet Cophall Stadium and Playing Fields, Great North Way, NW4. Doors open 4.15pm. There are stalls and Barnet Schools Band will play before the display which starts at 6.15pm opened by The Mayor of Barnet, Cllr. Jack Cohen who will fire the first rocket. Entry tickets bought before the event, £3 per person. Available from Barnet Cophall Pool, off Great North Way, entrance in Page Street, NW4, Finchley Lido, Great North Leisure Park, and Mill Hill Wines, 85 The Broadway, Mill Hill. Tickets sold at entry £5 per adult, £3 per child under 14 yrs. Fundraising event for local charities.

THE BULL
68 High Street, Barnet EN5 5SJ.
Tel. 0181 449 0048.

THEATRE
23 October, 7pm
Project One 'The Distance' inspired by the lives of Yuri Gagarin, Gherman Titov and Sergei Korolev, three figures who played a major part in Russia's first space launch. Exploring their reactions and relationships to a changing moment in our history. The Distance also looks at themes of achievement, failure, heroism, science and faith and is performed to original music. £7, £5 conc.

30 October, 8pm
'Apples and Snakes Live on Tour' - poets and performers whose work jumps from the page to the stage, featuring Courtia Newland reading from his fascinating collection of short stories. African and Caribbean stories and songs from Jan Blake, seductive poetry from Vanessa Richards and music from Julie Dexter, the Perrier Young Jazz Vocalist award-winner from J-Life. £8, £6 conc.

4 & 5 Nov, 8pm; 6 Nov, 2.30pm & 7.30pm
The Brookland Players present 'Sylvia's Wedding'. After ten years of courting, Gordon proposes to Sylvia and throws his family and Sylvia's into turmoil. With wedding preparations underway, all looks set for success...but fate intervenes. Bookings on 0181 348 2921. £7, £6 conc.

11 November, 8pm
Scarlet Theatre 'Seagulls'. Meyerhold's Russian company of artists are terrified of imminent arrest while they rehearse The Seagull. Their final performance. A hundred years later a company of British actors re-enacts their fate for the sake of entertainment in collaboration with Polish writer Andrzej Sadowski and director Katarzyna Deszcz in this story of love and drama. £8, £6 conc.

12 & 13 Nov, 8pm
One Nation... in association with Watermans 'Don't Look at my Sister...Innit!' An updating of this sharp and wacky Asian comedy show created by Hardial Rai and Neran Persaud. Crossing sketch and sitcom, it tackles the taboos most ignore and pokes a finger in the eye of all that Asian traditions hold dear. £8, £6 conc.

18 November, 8pm
Theatre Centre and Royal Exchange Theatre 'Big Baby'. It begins with an 18th century tumble in the hay and ends in crimes too terrible to mention. An outrageously dark comedy. Big Baby is the story of a miraculously gifted child born to humble parents who grows - in every sense - to be a marvel of the age. A tale of perverted genius swollen to monstrous proportions that sounds a terrible warning for the future that awaits us all. Brendan Murray's curious tragedy is for young people aged 14+. £8, £6 conc. Family ticket for 5 £25.

19 November, 8pm
The Kala Chethena Kathakali Troupe 'Kathakali & Theyam'. This troupe of Indian artists capture the magic of South India. The programme starts with an ancient Theyam dance ritual - the first time Theyam has toured in the UK. A performance of ancient tradition, Kathakali is highly visual drama and storytelling performed to vibrant percussion. £8, £6 conc.

20 November, 8pm
Brighton Theatre Events 'Fever Pitch'. 45 minutes each way of fast, funny and exhilarating theatre - Nick Hornby's bestseller returns to the stage. From the rootlessness of 60s suburbia and through the Highbury turnstiles, Hornby was instantly fixated with Arsenal Football Club. Fever Pitch is his tale of families, football, class, identity and joy. £8, £6 conc.

4 December, 8pm
Red Shift 'Hamlet - First Cut'. Red Shift return to the work of Shakespeare with a radical take on Hamlet. Using the First Quarto Edition, which was collected from the actors who originally performed it, some believe this is the closest we can come to the play as seen by Shakespeare's public. This very contemporary Hamlet is a fast paced Godfather-type thriller set in a world governed by paranoia and surveillance with an eerie post-industrial landscape, costumes by Red or Dead and a bold percussive soundtrack. £9, £7 conc.

COMEDY
28 November, 8pm
Jewish Comedy Evening in aid of the Jewish AIDS Trust. with Matt Lucas, Sasha Baron-Cohen, Paul Kaye and Adam Bloom and Friends. Bookings on 0181 200 0369. £15.

3 December, 8pm
Stewart Lee. A show full of radical new comedy that's fresh and quirky. £9, £7 conc.

DANCE
23 October, 1pm
Masterclass (Workshop). A 2 hour practical class led by Badejo Arts exploring contemporary African dance techniques. This one-off class is linked to the evening performance (see below) and is a unique opportunity to work with this company. Admission free to those booking for the evening performance.

23 October, 8pm
Badejo Arts 'Tilawa' (meaning from

the source), is Badejo Arts' first ever platform of contemporary African dance. It celebrates the achievements of pioneering African dance choreographers in Britain, many of whose work can be seen in this varied programme of trios, solos and duets blending traditional Nigerian dance with British contemporary dance. £8, £6 conc.

31 October, 8pm
Shree Ensemble 'Arpan' and 'Flames'. In the first half of this double act, vibrant Kathak dancer, Anurekha Ghosh dances a traditional solo to live musical accompaniment. The second half features the first ever showing of Ghosh's new piece Flames in which her company, comprising some of the new wave of British and Asian dancers, explore some of women's dominating obsessions. Performed using a beautiful combination of Western contemporary and Indian classical Kathak dance. £7, £5 conc.

MUSIC
24 October, 8pm
The Burning Bush. An evening of early and traditional Jewish music. On an exotic array of instruments, the group's musicians play a programme which reflects the moving and colourful world of Jewish music through the centuries. £9, £7 conc.

29 October, 8pm
Edward II. 7-piece EII create an electric atmosphere with their multicultural sound and irrepressible spirit. Spicing dance tunes of old England with the sexy grooves of cool skanking reggae, breezy Caribbean dance rhythms and funky brass sounds. £9, £7 conc.

7 November, 8pm
Theo Travis Quartet. Concert part of national tour promoting Theo's new CD recorded live at Ronnie Scott's. Featuring material from this and his current CD 'Secret Island'. £7, £5 conc.

14 November, 8pm
Top Hat Entertainers present 'Old Time Music Hall'. With this performance Top Hat are raising money to provide the Coronary Unit at Barnet General Hospital with selected and much needed equipment. £7, £5 conc.

26 November, 8pm
Juan Martin & Partha Sarathi Mukherjee. Flamenco guitarist Juan Martin in a specially commissioned collaboration with tabla player Partha Sarathi Mukherjee. Reintegrating the classical music of North India with the Gypsy traditions of Southern Spain in a rich and stirring mix of rhythmic passion. £10, £8 conc.

5 December, 8pm
Big Chief. Eight-piece band with a spicy gumbo of jazz, blues, funk, ska and township. £7, £5 conc.

11 December, 8pm
Bernard Butler. Acoustic performance from the guitarist and songwriter Bernard Butler. Playing songs from his debut album People Move On (which went gold in the

UK) and previewing tracks from his new album Friends and Lovers. £10, £8 conc.

LITTLE BULL
(All shows £3.50 in advance, £4 on the day, unless otherwise stated)

The Little Bull Club. Thanks to the generous support of Sainsbury's. The Bull is delighted to offer children the chance to earn free tickets for Little Bull shows and events. Simply pick up a free membership card and wallet at the box office, or ask for more details.

27-31 October, 12noon & 3pm
Half Term Show. Half Moon Young People's Theatre 'Eclipse. A Tale for Winter'. If you missed the Eclipse in Cornwall, don't worry - it's brought here for you! In this imaginary journey through the wintry landscape, set in a beautiful world of snow and ice, this enchanting piece of theatre for children is combined with new music from around the world. Ages 3-8.

27-29 October, 11am & 2pm.
Half Term Workshop. 'The Eclipse Experience'. Pre-show workshops. Venture into the multi-sensory world of the Eclipse with this exciting and fun dramatic journey through the Eclipse-scape. Ages 4-7. £2.50, £1.50 each additional sibling.

7 November, 3pm
Edinburgh Puppet Co. 'The Little Circus'. A show for children to take their parents to! The tale of a clown with a fear of heights in this visual adventure through the colourful world of puppetry with spectacular, funny and peculiar circus acts! Ages 5+.

14 November, 3pm
Norwich Puppet Co. 'Pinocchio'. In this unique re-telling of Collodi's classic tale, Japanese Mask, Chinese Glove, Marionette and Shadow puppets combine to create a world of illusion. Ages 5+.

17 November, 1.30pm
Schools Performance. Pop Up Theatre 'Lucky You'. Lydia has a fascination with computers. Flip makes all his decisions on the flip of a coin. As they surf the internet, they enter an amazing 3D game with the chance to win their heart's desire! As the children begin a rollercoaster ride through cyberspace, this cutting edge drama gives the audience a chance to get involved and determine the fate of our heroes. Ages 7+.

21 November, 3pm
Kazzum. 'The Flying Chestycoffs Attempt Swan Lake!' Come and see the infamous red-nosed duo as they grapple with tu-tus and tights, pas de deux and pirouettes in this hilarious clowning adaptation of the famous ballet. Great fun for all the family! Ages 3+.

28 November, 3pm
Little Angel Theatre. 'Go Noah Go!' Inspired by the famous John Agard book, this is a new treatment of the Bible story. Mr and Mrs Noah will be there along with the elephants, zebras, beetles.... Ages 3-9.

5 December, 3pm
Lantern Theatre. 'The Golden Goose'. Follow the fortunes of Tom the Woodcutter as he tries to win the hand of a princess who can't laugh, and step into the Enchanted Forest to discover a world of magic and music. Comedy, catchy songs and audience participation combine in this new version of the original Grimm fairytale. Ages 4+.

12 December, 3pm
Banyan Theatre 'Cinderella Ashputtel'. Stylish and playful reworking of the Cinderella story going back to the heart of the original story using exquisite puppetry, storytelling and music where everyday objects are magically transformed. Ages 4-8.

Kazzum in association with The Bull presents 'The Jungle Book' Christmas Show. The Bull enters the next millennium with one of the classics from the last century with this delightful adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's story. All the favourite and well-loved characters will be there - Mowgli the man-cub, Shere Khan, Baloo, Bagheera, Akela and Kaa in this brand new, colourful adaptation. Suitable for ages 4+. December 1999, 15-17, 11am, 2.30pm; 18, 2.30pm, 7.30pm; 19, 2.30pm, 6pm; 21-24, 11am, 2.30pm; 26, 4pm; 29-30, 11am, 2.30pm. January 2000, 5-7, 4.30pm, 7.30pm; 8, 11am, 2.30pm; 9, 2.30pm, 6pm. Ticket Prices: afternoon and evening shows, £8, £6 conc; morning shows, £6, £5 conc. School shows (opening 3 days) £3. Tuesday 21 December pay what you can (no pre-bookings).

GALLERY
Until 28 October
Artworks Group 'Regeneration - Paintings and Sculpture'. Bringing together the work of three mature students - Miltzie Green, Julie Scarr and Terry Sadler from the University of Hertfordshire. A common thread running through the work is an interest in landscape and the organic, although their response through metal, wood, stone and paint denotes a very different engagement with it.

4 Nov-1 Dec
St. John Fuller 'Magic Moments'. St. John Fuller's large photographs and light boxes containing cine film represent a given moment in time.

8 Dec-6 Jan
'Entropy'. Martin Blazey's exhibition of over a hundred colour 10cm x 10cm photoprints displayed at varying heights, a composition of structured images that are manipulated and operate in a dimension between the mundane and the abstract.

FOYER
Until 25 October
Roshini Kempadoo 'Sweetness and Light - Photoconstructions'. As part of Black History Month this provocative exhibition assesses the impact and enduring legacy of colonisation and the European expansionist past.

4 Nov-1 Dec
Gaia Persico 'Segni - An Exhibition

of Paintings'. Gaia Persico's paintings combine Zen and Mediterranean influences.

8 Dec - 6 Jan
Tim Webster's 'Even Serpents Shine' photographs, by laser-transferring images onto reflective metals, mainly sheet aluminium, the cold modernistic elements of metal take on an ethereal quality. The work is cosmopolitan, urban and post-industrial combining images of London, Manchester and Stockholm.

Millennium Art Competition. In aid of the Young Families Appeal for Barnet Cancer Care. Paintings and drawings on the theme of Past Present or Future. Open to anyone over the age of 16. The Exhibition will be held at The Bull in February 2000. Applications forms available at schools, colleges, libraries and selected shops in the borough. Or ring Barnet Cancer Care on 0181 216 4204.

MUSIC
-Recorded Music Society Meetings. East Barnet Library Recorded Music Society. 2 Nov. 'Gently does it' - Valerie Nelms, 16 Nov. 'In Concert' - Cathy Gilbert, 30 Nov. 'Music on the eve of a new century' - Liz Hart, 14 Dec. Christmas party and requests. Meetings at East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill Road, East Barnet, EN4 8SG. Details, Hon. Secretary, 0181 361 9050.

Friern Barnet Library Recorded Music Society, 4 Nov. 'Nostalgia' - Neville Jones; 18 Nov. 'Liszt: the father of modern music' - Anthony Cutbush; 2 Dec. 'Our recent releases' - Simon Briggs of Les Aldrich; 16 Dec. Christmas Party. Meetings at Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Road, N11 3DS. Details, Hon. Chairman, 0181 444 7215.

Hendon Library Recorded Music Society. 26 Oct. 'Echoes of the past: a trawl of 78rpm rarities' - Andrew Youdel; 9 Nov. 'My search for lovely music: the result' - David Clements; 23 Nov. 'Music and Wolfgang von Goethe (born 1749)' - Hugh Cameron; 7 Dec. Christmas Party. Meetings at Hendon Library, The Burroughs, NW4 4BQ. Details, 0181 958 5353/0181 450 8305.

6 November, 7.45pm
Finchley Choral Society performing works by Elgar, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Parry, Rutter and Vaughan Williams with George Vass (conductor), Michael Bundy (baritone) and Richard Harvey (organ). Tickets £8, £6 concs. Also 11 December, 7.30pm, Finchley Choral Society conducted by George Vass joining Moss Hall Junior School Choir conducted by Barbara Honeyball for Family Carols with Richard Harvey (organ). Tickets £5, £3 concs. At All Saints Church, Durham Road, East Finchley, N2. Details, 0181 445 9666.

13 November, 7.45pm
Hendon Music Society present the Coull String Quartet. Programme includes quartets by Haydn and

continued on page 16

WHAT'S ON

continued from page 15

Wendelssohn and shorter works by Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Dvorak and Bach. Also 4 December. Nash Ensemble Programme will be Haydn Piano Trio No. 1, Faure Piano Quartet in C minor and Brahms Piano Quartet in G minor. Trinity Church, Hodford Road, Golders Green. Tickets £9.50 (children free, senior citizens/students/UB40s £7.50). (Facilities for the disabled and hard of hearing). Apply with cheque and see to Hendon Music Society, 3 Southfields, Hendon, NW4 4LX.

Barnet Folk Club meet at King George Pub, High Street, Barnet, 1st Wednesdays of month, 8.30pm. Details 0181 441 3620.

Chipping Barnet Folk Dance Club alternate Mondays, 7.45pm, Church House, Wood Street. Details. 0181 449 1805.

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

Rhythmic Midi Music Project. Youth project based in the Clitterhouse area working with 9-25s, teaching garage and jungle music. Chances to perform at festivals and other music events. Details, 0181 202 5533.

Memory Lane Singing Club. Therapeutic and lively singing sessions of the Golden Era at St. Mary's Church Hall, Hendon Lane, N3. Fridays 12.30pm & at Wesley Hall, Stapylton Road, Barnet. Wednesdays, 4-6pm. Tel. 0181 449 0011.

Barnet Schools Music Centres, Saturday mornings, Finchley (strings) and East Barnet and

Hendon (Woodwind/Jazz) Details, 0181 445 6831.

MUSEUMS

Church Farmhouse Museum, Greyhound Hill, Hendon, NW4 Until 14 Nov. Exhibition 'Carnival Glass', 'poor man's Tiffany' press-moulded glass treated with iridescent metallic dye (1908-1930) from a large private collection. Tel 0181 203 0130.

Barnet Museum, 31 Wood Street, Barnet. Until 30 Nov. Exhibition '800 Years of Barnet Market'. Open 2.30-4.30pm Tues, Weds, Thurs and Saturdays 10.30am-12.30pm & 2-4pm. Tel. 0181 440 8066.

Royal Air Force Museum, Grahame Park Way, NW9. 25-29 October. Half Term Activities. Phone 0181 200 1763 for more information on events.

ARTS

Until 29 October
Finchley Art Society Annual Exhibition, East Finchley Library, High Road, N2. Weekly meetings at Trinity Church Centre, Nether St., N12, Mondays, 7.30pm & St Mary's, Hendon Lane, N3. Wednesdays, 1pm.

Barnet Borough Arts Council Exhibitions and What's On. The exhibitions show paintings and drawings by local artists, and a What's On stand on the 80 or so drama, music and visual arts societies who belong to BBAC. 15-20 Nov. Broadwalk Shopping Centre, Edgware; 6-18 Dec, Chipping Barnet Library behind The Spires Shopping Centre. Enquiries to Barnet Borough Arts Council, c/o All Saints Arts Centre, 122 Oakleigh Road North, N20 9EZ, tel. 0181 445 8388.

20 November
All Saints Arts Centre, Autumn Craft Fair, 122 Oakleigh Road North, N20. Details, 0181 445 8388.

Scarlet Theatre Seagulls

Milldon Art Society, Wednesdays, 7.30pm, Union Church, Mill Hill Broadway. Details, 0181 346 7481.

GARDENS

11 November, 8pm
New Barnet Amateur Gardeners' and Floral Art Society. AGM. 2000 Seed Catalogue. Wine and biscuits. Members £1.50, Visitors, £2. Also 9 Dec, 8pm, 'Christmas with Candles', Mrs Anne Birch. Members £2.50, Visitors, £3. Meetings at Lyonsdown Hall, Lyonsdown Road, New Barnet.

WALKS

For further details phone 0181 359 3052/3317. All children attending any activity must be accompanied by an adult.

24 October, 2-4pm
Explore Moat Mount's Woodlands. Join Catherine Cairns, Countryside Officer and Paula Cheesman, Countryside Management Service for a 5km walk in Moat Mount and Barnet Gate Wood. Meet in Moat Mount car park.

27 October, 10am-12.30pm
Children's Environmental Art at Scratchwood. Meet Carole Baker and the Countryside Officers in Scratchwood car park. Suitable for 7-11 year olds. Phone 0181 359 3317/3052 to book.

31 October, 5-6.30pm
Hallowe'en walk. Woodland folklore in Scratchwood. Join Mel Lloyd, Countryside Officer and David Dench, Countryside Management Service for a spooky woodland trail. Bring a torch and a hot drink. We'll bring the biscuits. Meet at Scratchwood car park.

7 November, 2-3.30pm
Find a fungus in Scratchwood. Meet David Thomas, fungal expert and Mel Lloyd, Countryside Officer, to discover the secret world of decay in Scratchwood. Meet in Scratchwood car park.

5 December, 10am-12noon
The Holly and the Ivy. Follow the nature trail and discover the history and ecology of Big Wood, an

ancient wood. Meet Temple Fortune Hill entrance to Big Wood

BARNET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Forthcoming Events

28 October, 6.30pm.
Network Meeting. The Euro and your business. Free.

4 November, 6.30pm
Barnet Network Meeting. Marketing without money - a 45 minute presentation. Refreshments. Members £5.50, non-members £8.

9 November, 6pm
Barnet Network Evening. A visit to London Luton Airport for a tour of the new terminal. Refreshments. Free.

17 November, 6.30pm
Members' Evening. Changes and challenges with Dale Carnegie. Everyone welcome. Members £5, non-members £7.50.

18 November, 6.30pm
Network Meeting. Security on the Internet sponsored by Demon Internet. Free.

1 December, 6.30pm
Network Meeting. Improving Profit Margins sponsored by Berg Kaprow Lewis. Free.

8 December, 12.30pm
Barnet Network Buffet Lunch. Pre millennium Tension - an overview of stress and anxiety in the workplace sponsored by Grovelands Hospital. Members £5, non-members £7.50.

13 December, 6.30pm
Barnet Christmas Network Meeting. An evening with Barnet Football Club. Refreshments. Members £5, non-members £7.50.

for more details on events please contact Deirdre Cavanagh on 0181 343 3833.

College Farm Trust. Special entertainment and events held 1st Sunday of each month. Details, 0181 349 3811.

28 October, 8pm
Council of Christians and Jews. Golders Green and Hendon Branch. Brains Trust. Panel: Judge Dawn Freedman, Professor David Latchman, Dr Peter Rudge, Sister Margaret Shepherd. At Trinity Church, Hodford Road, Golders Green, NW11. All welcome. Refreshments.

15 November, 7.30pm
British Epilepsy Association, Barnet Branch. Creative writing and /or craft evening. Trinity Church Centre, Nether Street, North Finchley. Details, 0181 444 4453 or 0181 445 8724.

18 November, 8pm
Sternberg Centre for Judaism, Van Der Zyl Memorial Lecture 'When that... great day comes' by Rabbi Mark Winer, Chairman: Rabbi Professor Jonathan Magonet. Admission free. donations welcome. Also Leo Baeck College. Autumn Semester. 'Themes from the Book of Deuteronomy', Tuesdays, 11.15am-12.45pm. The course offers the opportunity to study Torah readings.

26 Oct, A Study of No Interest; 2 Nov, Divorce and Remarriage by Rabbi John Rayner; 9 Nov, More Unrelated Ordinances; 16 Nov, 39 Stripes, No Muzzle & Yibum, Rabbi David Soeten Iorp; 23 Nov, The Errant Hand, False Weights and Amalek, Dr Diana Lipton; 30 Nov, First Fruits and Tithes, Rabbi David Hulbert; 7 Dec, What to Do After Crossing the Jordan, Rabbi Harry Jacobi; 14 Dec, Blessings and Curses, Rabbi Stephen Katz. Individual sessions £6. Leo Baeck College, Sternberg Centre for Judaism, 80 East End Road, N3 2SY. Tel. 020-8349 4525

BOOK SALES
19-23 October, South Friern Library, Colney Hatch Lane, N10 1HD Tel. 0181 883 6513.

26-30 October, North Finchley Library, Ravensdale Avenue, N12 9HP. Tel. 0181 445 4081

2-4 November, East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill Road, East Barnet, EN4 8SG. Tel. 0181 440 4376.

4-6 November, Childs Hill Library, 320 Cricklewood Lane, NW2 2QE

Tel. 0181 455 5390.
4-6 November, Burnt Oak Library, Watling Avenue, Edgware, HA8 0UB. Tel. 0181 959 3112
9-13 November, East Finchley Library, 226 High Road, N2 9BB. Tel. 0181 883 2664.

18-21 November, Golders Green Library, 156 Golders Green Road, NW11 8HE. Tel. 0181 359 2060
25-27 & 30 November, Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Road, N11 3DS. Tel. 0181 368 2680.
25-27 November, Hendon Library, The Burroughs, NW4 4BQ. Tel. 0181 359 2629.

2-4 December, Grahame Park Library, The Concourse, Colindale, NW9 5XL. 0181 200 0470
7 & 8 December, Totteridge Library, 109 Totteridge Lane, N20 8DZ. 0181 445 5288

9-11 & 13 & 14 December, Church End Library, 24 Hendon Lane, N3 1TR. Tel. 0181 346 5711
16-18 December, Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7 2HX. Tel. 0181 959 5066.

Company of Players are returning to their refurbished building and seek new members for their January panto. Tel. 0181 440 6858.

BARNET BOROUGH TALKING

NEWSPAPER is a weekly talking newspaper which takes its items from local newspapers covering this very large borough.

The editorial team try to report on as wide a range of local issues as possible. The audio tape usually starts with items specifically aimed at the visually impaired, such as RNIB news on talking books, special hotel holidays, audio described performances at London theatres, etc.

The service is free and Royal Mail delivers and returns your tape every week free of charge. A small number of tape players are available for loan.

For more details, please telephone Elisabeth Moore on 0181 445 3532 or Brian Parnell on 0181 440 1682.



Kathakali