

**YOUR FREE NEWSPAPER
PRINTED AT NO COST
TO BARNET COUNCIL**

ISSUE No. 3 July 1995

NEW LIFE FOR OUR VITAL TOWN CENTRES



Four action 'agenda for change' town centre forums have been set up. The four forums have called on the whole community - businesses, community groups, special interest groups and the voluntary sector - to join them in the fight to bring new life back into our town centres. The first four forums are:-

1. Chipping Barnet, New Barnet and East Barnet
2. Edgware, Mill Hill and Burnt Oak
3. Golders Green and Temple Fortune
4. North Finchley

If you would like further information on the Town Centre Forums contact Paul Milliner on 0181-359 2895 or Manny Hodgson on 0181-359 2894.

The drive to breathe new life into Barnet's town centres, bringing new hope and prosperity for the whole borough, is winning support from all sectors of our local communities.

As part of the council's listening and learning drive, local communities are being urged to play their part in an agenda for change - and are now working with the council to make things happen.

Leader of the Council, Alan Williams, and Councillor Andrew Dickie, chair of Economic Development and Land Executive Committee, are spearheading this 'we are listening and learning' approach which has seen the creation of town centre forums in Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Golders Green and North Finchley.

"Others may talk about partnership at work - we are committed to making it a reality.

"Residents, special interest groups and your council working as one to breathe new life into the town centres which are the lifeblood of our

Investing in all our futures

communities." Councillor Alan Williams has told the launch meetings of all four forums.

He was calling for Town Centre Action Groups which, working with the council, would make things happen rather than being talking shops.

The last year has seen a new approach to regeneration and partnership in Barnet. Partnerships began around a bid to the government for much needed help and developed following Barnet's first ever real Economic Development Plan.

"In the months and

years ahead I want the partnerships we have created to bring real dividends for the business community and the residents of this borough.

"It will only happen if we are all truly committed to playing our parts in whatever way we can.

"We are determined to involve the business community, residents, special interest groups and councillors and council officers in these forums which are designed to breathe new life, hope and prosperity into our high streets and shopping centres.

"These forums will be action agenda-setting

workshops which highlight what needs to be done, by whom and by when.

"There is only so much this government allows a council to do, but what we can do, we will do to the limit.

"We are now and will continue to act as a catalyst for change - making it possible for business to flourish rather than inhibiting growth through lack of understanding of needs," he added.

Councillor Williams pledged that the council would play its full part in turning the ideas coming out of forums into solid action plans.



Eat and be safe

Barnet teamed up with local retailers to make Food Safety Week go with a bang. The week, from 12 to 16 June, was designed to highlight the simple things everyone can do to avoid food poisoning and keeping food safe from the time it is bought until it is eaten.

Councillor Jack Cohen, Chair of Development and Protection Committee, helps launch the week with three-year-old Simone Russell.

Barnet welcomes our new Mayor

Barnet's first-ever all women Mayoral team made the history books when they were sworn in on 9 May.

The Mayor of Barnet is Councillor Susette Palmer (pictured top right), ward member for Childs Hill. Born in Edgware, Cllr Palmer is married with three children and two grandchildren. The Mayor's Charity this year is Community Focus, an arts and activities centre for people with disabilities at Wiggins Mead on Grahame Park Estate, Colindale.



Agnes Slocombe (pictured right) is the new Deputy Mayor. Cllr. Slocombe, who was born in Barbados, represents the West Hendon ward of the Borough.

She has lived in Barnet for 30 years, has three children and works in a local health clinic.



COMMUNITY NEWS CONTACTS

**Barnet Council, The Town Hall,
The Burroughs, Hendon NW4 4BG**

Editor George A. Bennett

Graphic Designer David Malcolm

Business Manager Adrienne Davis

Editorial Co-ordinator Susan Segar

Please telephone the 24-hour hotline number **0181-359 2325** with any comments or suggestions you have about Community News or if you have a problem with its delivery.

Please leave your name and a contact telephone number with your message.

Ham & High

Advertising Catherine Kaplan 0171 433 6250
Jo Revitt 0171 433 6206

Production Jane Gibbons 0171 433 6211
Daniel Gee 0171 433 6217

Project Co-ordinator Helen Bull 0171 433 6247

Working for a better future

Looking for the right answers

Your Council's listening and learning commitment has been stepped up with a new wide-ranging survey of North Finchley town centre by property consultants Donaldsons.

Three surveys of the area aimed at helping the council plan future improvements, are being produced. These follow discussions of the North Finchley Town Centre Forum.

Special teams are asking residents, shoppers and business people for their opinions on issues ranging from transport and parking to spending habits and leisure.

Businesses will also be canvassed on their use of land and buildings and

late night opening.

Over 1,000 people are being asked to take part and have their say in local decision-making.

"These consultations

with local residents underscore this council's commitment to listening to the wishes and desires of its residents.

"With their help we

will help to make the town centre better for everyone," said Councillor Jack Cohen, Chair of Development and Protection committee.

BOOST FOR TRADE

Barnet Council has listened to a call for help from traders at a local market and responded by cutting fees.

The move, which reduces rates by £5 on stalls, shops and casual pitches at Watling Market in Burnt Oak, is geared to retaining existing traders while attracting new businesses.

A refurbishment and decoration programme is also to be carried out along with new signposting to the market.

The council will also listen and learn from the newly-created Traders' Association by discussing ways in which the market can attract more customers and traders.

SIGN OF TOWN CENTRE TIMES

Street signs giving town centres a distinctive identity are back on the agenda by popular demand. Barnet's new Town Centre Forums will make the decisions and even design the signs which will put our local shopping areas back on the map.

The move will make life easier for visitors to the borough and give a sense of local pride to residents.

"This will be welcomed by local businesses, who have been asking for such signs for some time, and by all those who want to see their local centres'

identities given visible expression," said Councillor Andrew Dickie, Chair of the Economic Development and Land Executive Committee.

"This is another example of how this council is listening and responding to the needs and wishes of

the business community and working with them to breathe new life into our town centres," added Councillor Dickie.

The move overturns the decision of the previous council which rejected plans for town centre signs despite requests from the

business community.

The proposal, only the first of many, will go before the new Town Centre Forums being set up for Chipping, New and East Barnet, for Edgware, Mill Hill and Burnt Oak, and for Golders Green and Temple Fortune.

"We are committed to Watling Market and want to see it thriving. These measures are aimed at stimulating trade and checking the recent decline in the number of traders," said Councillor Jack Cohen, Chair of Development and Protection Committee.

BARNET COMMUNITY NEWS

The Ham & High have been contracted to sell and produce the London Borough of Barnet's own free newspaper - the Barnet Community News.

Barnet is one of London's largest boroughs - with an overall population of around 300,000, and the Community News will be distributed to just about everybody in the Borough. (Guaranteed 95% distribution)

For the advertiser trying to reach residents of Barnet, Community News offers the most effective route, providing saturation coverage, high interest and high retention.

It will be kept, read and used by nearly everybody in the Borough of Barnet.

BARNET **Ham&High**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL HELEN 0171 433 0000**

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE FURRY KIND

Over a period of 20 years the Denis Bland Environmental Centre, situated on the northern edge of the borough, has been transformed from a school playing field to a seven-and-a-half-acre nature reserve aimed at children and welcoming 10,000 visitors a year. Here Community News reports what Barnet's 'Natural World' centre offers and why.

The first thing that strikes you on a visit to the Denis Bland Environmental Centre in Byng Road, Barnet, is the almost tranquil atmosphere.

A feeling of calmness combined with efficiency is enhanced by its attractive setting in the green belt looking out into Hertfordshire. It is a splendid place for youngsters to enjoy the plants, trees and wildlife.

Some of the animals are in their natural habitat in the fields, hedgerows, woodland and ponds. Others - from many parts of the world - are housed in the study centre.

As a member of staff explained: "Children need a relaxed atmosphere in which to learn about the natural environment and the animals need those observing and touching them to be calm and unflustered. For many of the youngsters handling animals other than dogs or cats is a new experience."

Close encounters of a furry kind are the highlights of their visit for many children although this opportunity is only available on certain days and times.

However, there was no



fur on the reptile with which youngsters on a holiday activity visit were getting acquainted when Community News dropped by. It was a Northern American Garter snake called Hiss.

There is a variety of small animals - birds, reptiles, amphibians, mammals and insects. Outside there are donkeys in two paddocks and poultry including a turkey which seems to enjoy being stroked.

The centre was opened in 1975 by Denis Bland, a secondary science teacher who worked with your council to provide practical environmental

education for children. Sadly, he died of cancer a few years later. The centre now has a staff of four.

A couple of years ago there was a plan to privatise the reserve but now the council is determined to retain it as a truly natural community resource.

Barnet's Natural World is open throughout the year for exploration of the environment and seeing the animals.

One area of special interest is the tree collection which has a wide variety of species from oaks at the bottom of a hill to pines and other conifers at the top.

Special events are held through the year for children and families including themed open days; children's holiday activities; nature walks with a guide and even birthday parties with a difference. An open day earlier this year raised £2,500. A large number of schools make use of this unique nature reserve. The centre works closely with them on National

Barnet's Natural World



Curriculum subjects and can offer a wide range of environmental education services in a number of areas of teaching, whether part of science, geography or art, such as:

- Visits lasting from an hour to a day
- Planned activity days, pond life days and close encounter animal sessions
- Books and equipment loans
- Project pack loans, including pond dipping
- Visits to schools (with or without animals)

- Specialist advice, information and training

Recent developments at the centre mean there will soon be 1,200 metres of all-weather paths around the reserve making it accessible all the year round for the first time.

Visitors with disabilities will now have access to all parts of the site.

For a small fee a child can take a long-term interest in the reserve by sponsoring an animal or even joining the Friends of the Denis Bland Centre.

This is a registered charity dedicated to its development as a resource for local people - especially children.

Subscriptions start at £2 a year for young people aged between six and 18 to a whole family at £10.

Corporate membership is available too.

If you would like to visit Barnet's Natural World it is best to phone first to check the programme for the day concerned on 0181 449 6691. It is an experience you will not forget.



Your council committees at work

10 July
Housing Committee

11 July
Education Committee

13 July
Economic Development and Land Executive Committee
Housing Consultation Forum*

17 July
Recreation, Leisure and Arts Committee
Community Care Consultation Forum*

18 July
Social Services Committee
19 July
Area Development and Protection Sub-Committees

List of Committee Meetings at The Town Hall, Hendon for the period 10 July - 31 August 1995
*These dates may be changed.

20 July
Children and Families Consultation Forum*

25 July
Public Works Committee

26 July
Personnel Executive Committee

27 July
Budget, Financing and Performance Review Executive Committee

2 August
Development and Protection Committee

3 August
Direct Service Organisations Executive Committee

3 August
Compulsory Competitive Tendering Executive Committee

22 August
Area Development and Protection Sub-Committees

29 August
Housing Committee

30 August
Policy and Resources Committee



Disabled Access



Loop system

WHAT'S ON

We welcome contributions to the What's On column. 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 accepted for the accuracy of information supplied for the column.

Until 3 September
Exhibition 'The Home Front'.
Daily life in Barnet 1939-45.
Church Farmhouse Museum,
Greyhound Hill, Hendon,
NW4. Tel. 0181-203 0130

Royal Air Force Museum
Hendon, NW9 5LL. Tel. 0181-
205 2266

18 July - 31 October
Wonderful Things - From
Flying Boats to Fighters
Exhibition focusing on the
Southampton, a unique
restored wooden-hulled flying
boat.

5 - 13 August
Flight Activities Week

15 August
The museum will
commemorate the 50th
Anniversary of VJ Day by
allowing free admission on
this day

First Thursday each month,
2-4pm
Barnet Sight Impaired
Group meet (support group
of those with partial or
complete loss of sight).
Blue Beetle Hall, St Mary's
Church, Hendon Lane. For
information phone 0181-
445 7748/346 3868

12 - 15 July
Pentland Finchley Carnival.
Victoria Park, Ballards Lane,
N3. Children's Day 13th,
Senior Citizens' Day 14th,
Carnival Procession 15th.
Fun fair and programme of
activities and entertainment.
For further information
phone 01707-662588

13 July, 8pm
Barnet Racial Equality
Council's AGM. Avenue
House, East End Rd, N3.
Guest speakers will include

Mr Herman Ousley, Chair of
Commission for Racial
Equality.

17 July, 7.30pm
Games Evening. Epilepsy
Support Group, Trinity
Church Centre, Nether
Street, N12. For information
phone 0181-959 2015

20 July & 17 August,
7.30pm
Barnet Federation of
Tenants' and Residents'
Association Meeting.
Cheshir Hall, Foster Street,
NW4

23 July, 12 noon
East Barnet Community
Festival, Oak Hill Park,
Church Hill Rd. Live music
and dance, sports activities,
children's theatre, face
painting, craft stalls and lots
more.

6 & 13 August, 3pm
Open air concerts, Avenue
House Park, East End Rd,
Finchley.
Bring your own rugs. Free
entry.

6 Aug: Pioneer Brass, jazz
and classical music
performed by a brass
ensemble featuring young

musicians from Guildhall
School of Music
13 Aug: Abaci Woodwind
Quintet, light classical music.
For further information phone
0181-359 3154

18 & 19 August
Friern Barnet Summer Show,
Friary Park, N12. Programme
of events and entertainment,
incl. bingo on 18th, barbecue
on 19th followed by
fireworks. For further
information phone 0181-368
6923

WALKS/ACTIVITIES with the
Barnet Parks Rangers. For
more information tel. 0181-
359 5091

Please note Moat Mount
carpark is southbound A1 (1
mile south Stirling Corner)
Scratchwood carpark is
northbound A1 (1 mile north
of Apex Corner)

16 July, 2.30-4.30pm
Basic conservation tasks at
Glebelands. Meet Glebelands
carpark, Summers Lane,
Finchley

23 July, 2-4pm
Stroll from Moat Mount to
Barnet Gate Wood. Meet
Moat Mount carpark

6 August, 2-4pm

Guided walk and birdwatch
at the Welsh Harp. Meet
Woodfield Park carpark,
Cool Oak Lane, West
Hendon

12 August, 11.30-2pm
Fun for the family. Teddy
Bears Picnic at Oakhill Park.
Bring your teddy and picnic
lunch. Meet Oakhill Park
carpark, Parkside Gardens,
East Barnet
27 August, 8.30-10pm
Come and search out bats,
moths, and owls at Welsh
Harp. Meet Woodfield Park,
Cool Oak Lane, West
Hendon

For children 8-12 years
(Barnet Rangers)

2 August, 11am-2pm
Create a mural/collage with
nature's materials. Meet
Scratchwood open space
carpark

11 August, 10am-3pm
A fun packed nature day at
Welsh Harp. Meet Woodfield
Park, Cool Oak Lane, West
Hendon

16 August, 11am-2pm
Tracking and countryside
looking. Meet Oakhill Park
carpark, Parkside Gardens,
East Barnet

18 August, 10am-3pm
A fun packed nature day.
Tudor Sports Ground
carpark, Clifford Road,
Barnet

25 August, 10am-3pm
A fun packed nature day at
Welsh Harp. Meet
Woodfield Park, Cool Oak
Lane, West Hendon
30 August, 11am-2pm
Learn the basics of
orienteering and map
reading around Moat
Mount. Meet Moat Mount
carpark

Barnet Chamber of
Commerce - Forthcoming
Events

10 July, 12.30pm for 1pm,
Younger Professionals
Lunch Club, Special Guest
Lennox Lewis

12 July, NLCC 'The Great
Fuel Debate'

19 July, North London
Enterprise Club, MPs
Question Time

21 August, NLEC, AGM &
Special Interest Groups

Please phone 0181-882
0180 for more details

Are you between 18 and 29 ?

Interested in Meeting New People,
Discos, Meals Out,
Quizzes, Holidays,
Lots More!

Barnet 18 Plus is the Answer

We meet every Sunday from 9pm,
Bull & Butcher Pub, High Road, Whetstone

For more information call
Mark on 0181 361 2827

Restaurant Français

"Le Saint Pierre"

Set meal £15.00 / £18.00

Open Tuesday to Sunday

12pm - 3pm 7pm-11pm

Pierre Boucon chef de Cuisine

23 Green Hill Parade, Great North Road,

New Barnet, Herts EN5 1EU

Tel: 0181 449 1478

WESSEX GARDENS
SCHOOL OF SWIMMING
SWIMMING LESSONS FOR
BABIES, CHILDREN & ADULTS

Wessex Gardens Junior School
Golders Green NW11

Mornings for ● Mothers & babies

● Ladies only

Afternoons & evenings for ● Children (3yrs.+)

● Boys only

● Girls only

● Adults

Special attention given to timid pupils
and aquaphobics

Warm water... small classes... expert tuition

for further details contact ALAN ROLFE

Tel: 0181 440 3808 0831 229667 mobile

ARKLEY VILLAGE HALL
BRICKFIELD LANE, ARKLEY

Now available most afternoons,
evenings and weekends for booking
functions, weddings, childrens
parties- sporting events, badminton,
indoor bowls etc.

Contact Mrs J Finch
440 3928

First impressions are lasting impressions. at Catherine Lodge
we have spared no expense in ensuring that we provide all
the comfort of a first class hotel, whilst incorporating the
highest care you would expect in a home of this quality

- LUXURIOUS SINGLE ROOMS WITH EN-SUITE FACILITIES
- 24 HOUR QUALIFIED CARE
- OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY & ENTERTAINMENTS
- PASSENGER LIFT: FOUR LOUNGES
- VISITORS WELCOME AT ALL TIMES
- 2 MINUTES FROM WOODSIDE PARK TUBE, BUSES & SHOPS
- SHORT STAY TRIAL RESIDENTS WELCOME
- CHIROPODIST, HAIRDRESSER, OPTICIAN & DENTIST VISIT

For further information or a visit to Catherine Lodge call:

081 446 4292

38-42 Woodside Park Road, North Finchley, London N12

Increase your child's education prospects, our
courses give an excellent foundation in the basic
skills for 4 - 13 years olds.

- Maths
- English
- Reading
- Spelling
- Handwriting

Prep. and Indep. School coaching.

For full details and a prospectus

☐ Peter on 0181 368 3569

VEGETARIAN
Rani
RESTAURANT

Most of our new customers are pleasantly
surprised.
Come and try us once you will not
miss the meat.

7 Long Lane, Finchley Central, N3 2PR

0181 349 4386/2636

GET ON THE RIGHT COURSE!

If you are an adult making decisions about
your educational or career choice

WE CAN HELP YOU

Career and educational Guidance for Adults is
a FREE service offering information and
individual help to Barnet residents

Contact your nearest office for an appointment.

Burnt Oak/Edgware 081 952 1006

Finchley Central 081 346 7714

North Finchley 081 368 1255

INSPIRE

Having trouble finding NHS dental care? Why not try our modern dental practice, maybe we can help?
Income Support: Family Credit: Under 17 do not pay.



● Childrens Play area

● NHS/ Private dental care

● Cosmetic Treatments

● Prompt emergency service

A Smith BDS 6 Lyttelton Road, London N2 OEF. 0181 201 8877

SECUREBASE

SECURITY PRODUCTS & ARCHITECTURAL
HARDWARE

SAFES SUPPLIED & INSTALLED
DOOR REPLACEMENT ● KEYS
LOCKS ● GRILLES ● ACCESS CONTROL
DIGITAL LOCKS ● ENTRYPHONE SYSTEMS
ALARM SYSTEMS ● ENGRAVING SERVICE

FREE SURVEY AND ESTIMATE

112 HIGH ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY, N2

FAX: 0181-365 2788



0181-442 0660

OPEN 8.00am - 7.00pm

MEETING ENVIRONMENT CHALLENGE

The Council is calling on residents to join forces in efforts to save the environment by thinking globally but acting locally over the coming months.

The main aim is to encourage people living and working in Barnet to take steps to reduce pollution and damage caused to the environment.

This follows on from the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, where world leaders signed a global environment and development action plan for the 21st century known as "Agenda 21".

Over two thirds of this plan cannot be delivered without the commitment and co-operation of local government. Each local authority is encouraged to adopt, by 1996, its individual "Local Agenda 21" strategy.

This means councils need to demonstrate how environmentally friendly initiatives can be achieved

ACTION PLAN FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

in their local area working with voluntary groups.

Barnet is setting up a pilot scheme in the Friary area which will provide a unique opportunity to test out various environmental initiatives developed and implemented together with the local community.

It will also pave the way for other "Neighbourhood Agenda 21" ideas promoted by residents, businesses, schools and other organisations in other parts of Barnet. The pilot scheme will be launched at an Environment Conference on 26 September.

"We are trying to

promote sustainable development - the concept of living and developing in ways which ensure future generations can continue to enjoy the earth's riches.

"We've now agreed a broad strategy for the work we want to do in terms of meeting our commitments by December 1996 - an important part will be working with local communities," said Councillor Joan Ryan, Chair of Policy and Resources Committee.

For more information on Local Agenda 21 initiatives, please ring 0181-359 4662.



MOVING EXPERIENCE

Efforts to ensure that council houses are fit for new tenants to move in as soon as possible after they are vacated are bearing fruit.

Figures for the last financial year show that Barnet has a total of less than one per cent vacant

houses. The Audit Commission's guideline value is 1.2 per cent and the borough's figure has been consistently below this.

Our picture shows the Turner-Court family moving into their new home in Nupton Drive, Barnet.

KLUNK-KLICK WINNER

The council's Accident Prevention Unit has identified a growing need in the borough for infant car seats and has come up with the Baby Renta-Seat scheme.

The council is working in partnership with Barnet Healthcare NHS Trust on the scheme which will run for an initial period of a year. Part of the Health of the Nation Accident Prevention Strategy, it will enable the loan of car seats for babies from birth to 10 kgs for a period of six months.

Parents and carers will be able to hire a seat for an initial cost of £15. This is made up of £5 returnable deposit and £10 which is payable to the loan scheme for replacement seats. The scheme is being operated in conjunction with the highly successful under-fives



equipment loan scheme launched last year.

This is the first of a number of multi-agency accident prevention strategies planned for this year with the aim of producing a real reduction in accidents across the

borough.

"Children under the age of six months are at risk when carried in the arms of adults or in carrycots in cars," said Councillor Stan Cross, Chair of Public Works Committee.

CELEBRATING THE PEACE

Thousands are expected to take part in Barnet's celebration parade and open-air Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, 9 July, marking 50 years of peace and the end of The Second World War.

It is a chance to celebrate peace and recall the sacrifices made by so many from the borough during the war which ended in Europe in May, and in the Far East in August, 1945.

The parade, representing service and civilian groups from all over the borough, will gather at The Town Hall, The Burroughs, at 10am and move off at 10.30am.

The march will continue along The Burroughs before turning into Watford Way where the Mayor and Deputy Lieutenant for Barnet will take the salute from the War Memorial.

It will then turn into Queens Road and gather

in Hendon Park where an inter-denominational service will begin at about 11.45am.

A number of roads will be closed to allow the march to pass, including the south-bound lane of the Watford Way.

Veterans are invited to join the parade, and the whole of Barnet is welcome to line the route or attend the service in what will be a fitting celebration of 50 years of peace.

CLOVELLY HOUSE



Private Residential Home

A quality of life is present at Clovelly, in a homely atmosphere where the contentment of residents is paramount.

- Qualified staff (24 hours)
- Long/short stay
- Lifts to all floors
- Occupational therapy
- Special diets catered for
- Extensive gardens & patio
- Beautifully decorated rooms
- Varied home cooking

For further information & brochure contact:

Tel: 0181-455 6775/1175

Fax: 0181-446 8986



Proprietor Mrs F. Thorn RGN
81-85 Torrington Park,
North Finchley, London, N12 9PN

TREASURE HOUSE OF HISTORY CATALOGUES FAMOUS

DID YOU know that the ballerina Anna Pavlova, the inventor of cine-film and William Wilberforce, the anti-slavery campaigner, all lived in the borough at some stage in their lives?

That information and a great deal more about the history of Barnet is stored in Barnet's information treasure house, tucked away almost out of sight in Church Walk between the synagogue and the Catholic church near The Town Hall, Hendon.

The council's Local Studies and Archives Centre holds written records dating back around 700 years to when Barnet was a scattered rural community eking a living from the soil.

On the first floor of an elderly building serving as Hendon Catholic Social Centre is stored a quarter-of-a-million documents, books, manuscripts, maps, prints, photographs and even picture postcards.

There are huge leather-bound tomes of parish records penned in beautiful copperplate contrasted by scribbled letters and diaries of individuals.

The shelves are packed with material providing a fascinating insight of the time when Barnet first

became important as a hay producing area to fuel the 'internal combustion engine' of the past - the horse.

The centre is run by experienced archivists Pamela Taylor and Joanna Corden, and local studies officer Jill Barber, who joined the authority nine months ago from the University of Wales at Aberystwyth where she managed the Open Learning Unit.

They are proud of the centre's records of famous people who have lived in the borough.

William Wilberforce is buried at St Paul's Church, Mill Hill, which he founded in 1833, despite the opposition of the 'cock-fighting parson' who came from a slave-owning family.

There is an extraordinary collection of local photographs and picture postcards depicting individual streets and houses. "At the beginning of the 20th century sending a postcard was the quickest and cheapest way of getting a message

Don't throw away your records plea

to someone - the equivalent of picking up the telephone today," explained Jill Barber. "We have a number of photos and cards that we are still trying to identify."

But what relevance has Barnet past for Barnet in the 1990s? "A great deal," said Jill Barber. "What has happened in the past tends to shape the future."

Who, then, are the centre's main clients? "Teachers and school-children working on GCSE or BTEC projects which require local research; people researching their family trees or those trying to trace a relative and commercial or professional people usually interested in a particular site."

Local historians make considerable use of the facilities and there has

been a flurry of research in recent months on what happened in the borough during World War Two. Those investigating this aspect of its history have not been disappointed because the years 1939 to 1945 are well documented.

For instance, there is a map with a coloured pin stuck in at every location where a bomb was dropped and an Air Raid Precautions (ARP) Damage Log, opened on 15 August 1940 to 21 January 1945.

Jill Barber would like to see more residents making use of the archives. "Quite a lot of people are not aware of our existence," she said.



Barnet's local studies & archive team, from the left: Pamela Taylor, Joanna Corden and Jill Barber. Below is one of the photographs which the team is trying to identify. Do you recognise this pub? If you do, please phone 0181-359 2876.



Barnet is in Bloom

Summer got off to a slow start this year and Barnet in Bloom contestants were worried their displays wouldn't be at their peak in time for the big day.

The advice from the judges is - don't worry. Although they began

visiting all the gardens from 19 June, they go back again to the outstanding entries before deciding on the winners.

The London in Bloom judges are visiting Barnet next week to give their opinion on this year's displays. They'll be look-

ing at the overall impression of the Borough's parks and commercial premises.

The council's gardeners have been busy planting out their traditional bedding displays, with stunning colour combinations.



Mill Hill School

London's Rural Day and Boarding School

- 1807 Foundation • HMC Member
- Leading academic pass rates 1994
- Fully co-educational from 1997

For further details and application forms, please contact:

The Registrar, Mill Hill School,
Mill Hill, London NW7 1QS

Telephone: 0181-959 1221

Fax: 0181-906 2614

Mill Hill is a registered charity no. 310034

PARTINGDALE SCHOOL AND NURSERY



The Paddocks
Frith Lane
London NW7 1PS

1-7 years

- ★ Open 8am - 6pm Mon - Fri
- ★ Summer holiday schemes
- ★ Full time and part time sessions available

Tel: 0181- 343 4849

THE MOUNT SCHOOL

Mill Hill London NW7 2RX
Girl's Independent Day School 5 - 8

- ★ Recognised as efficient by ISJC
 - ★ Small classes
 - ★ Wide range of subjects offered
 - ★ New laboratory block
 - ★ Affordable fees
- Some places are still available for September 1995

Telephone Admissions Secretary for details

on 0181 959 3403 or
Fax No: 0181 959 1503

The Mount School aims to provide a high standard of education and care for its pupils - Charity No 392591



COUNCIL KEEPS PLEDGE ON NURSERIES

Barnet continues its drive to keep its pledge to parents and toddlers by opening the second new nursery extension in less than two months.

This time it was the turn of Barnet Hill School which now boasts places for an extra 39 toddlers - with more to follow.

Councillor Anne Jarvis, Chair of the Education Committee, told parents and teachers that the places provided so far this year were just the beginning of a four-year programme.

"We still have a long way to go - our long term aim is to provide a nursery place for every pre-school

child whose parent wants one - but the pace at which we can go is restricted by cuts in local government funding.

"Despite this we think nursery education is so important that we will continue to meet our pledge of providing more nursery places every year with imaginative, creative schemes," added Councillor Jarvis.

As part of the expansion the school,

servicing the Dollis Valley area, now has an extra nursery nurse and a part-time teacher.

New play areas have been fitted with the latest play equipment, a shower and kitchen added inside and the reception hall completely refurbished.

The next stage in the programme will see new nursery classes at Brunswick Park JMI and Sunnyfields JMI.

RESPITE CARE BOOSTED

The council is increasing the staffing level at a respite home in the borough to meet a growing demand from children and parents.

The decision to turn five part-time posts at Valley Way House, Dollis Valley Way, to full-time has come after an increase in demand for more respite care for children.

Making the posts full-time will give the service greater flexibility to extend the service during holiday periods to provide much-needed support to parents.

It also means children will be able to receive care in the borough and not, as they have in the past, have to travel as far afield as Surrey.

The expansion will bring a number of benefits to parents as well as children. It will give relief to those who have other children, and

need a break from the stress of meeting the needs of their child with disabilities for 24 hours a day.

"Staff at Valley Way are known and trusted by children and parents and will provide appropriate care and activities to meet real needs. The expansion in staffing level will also give security and continuity for the children as well as reassurance for parents who know they will be well looked after," said Councillor Pam Coleman, Vice-Chair of Social Services Committee.

The move will extend an easily accessible local service to some of the children in the borough with most need. It is consistent with the council's values of

promoting equal opportunities and providing locally accountable services.

Valley Way House is a three bedroom respite care home which was set up to meet the needs of families caring for people with profound learning and physical disabilities. It first took in respite visitors in March 1993.

Celebrating Youth Arts

Barnet Youth Service will stage a week-long Arts Festival for young people aged between nine and 25 as its contribution to this year's National Youth Week from 23 October which has as its theme 'Celebrating Youth Arts'.

Widespread ignorance and fear of cancer is a barrier to treating and preventing it. But now new help is on the way to give 7 - 16 year olds the facts behind the illness - facts which could save lives.

Barnet schoolchildren have played a key role in the production of a new schools information pack 'Topic of Cancer' aimed at taking the mystery out of the disease and teaching youngsters how to avoid it.

The idea came from a group of Barnet teachers who responded to the demands of children in schools who wanted to know more about the causes and treatment of cancer and have such a socially important subject on the school agenda.

The schools pack was launched by the Cancer Research Campaign at a ceremony attended by teachers and pupils from Barnet schools at the Science Museum, South Kensington.

Youngsters fill vacant windows

With a splash of colour, children from Northside Primary School, Albert Street, N12, have done their bit to breathe new life into our town centres.

They held an exhibition of their artwork and chose the window of a vacant shop in North Finchley's High Street as their picture gallery.

The Northside youngsters have hit on an idea which is set to catch on and improve the image of other areas with empty shops.

The local estate agents who hope to let the shop (Maunder Taylor Char-

Educating youth on cancer

Children from Henrietta Barnett, St Michaels, Parkfield, St Mary's primary, Queen Elizabeth Girls and Whitefield schools took part in a detailed study to uncover the questions most asked by young people who want to protect themselves from getting the disease or who may need to understand and care for relatives who suffer from it.

"It would be a bold step to tackle head-on a subject which causes anguish to so many

grown-ups but it is a remarkable achievement to succeed in creating a package which is going to bring great benefit to young people all over the country," said Vice-chair of Education Councillor Rosemary Carney at the launch.

"This information package will help make young people feel able to talk about an illness which affects so many lives."

'Topic of Cancer' will be distributed nationally by the Cancer Research Campaign.

tered Surveyors) are the first in the borough to encourage this imaginative use of empty display windows while they await new tenants and have joined Barnet Council in staging the exhibition.

"This is a good example of how the community, the council and business can all come together to help stop the decline of local shopping centres and bring business and people back to the high street," said Councillor Andrew Dickie, Chair of the Economic Development and Land Executive Committee.

"Empty shops are an

eyesore and harm the image of town centre shopping streets both for prospective new businesses and for shoppers. Flyposting makes the whole situation worse. This new initiative cuts flyposting and gives a positive message about our talented youngsters and the vibrant ever-changing communities they live in.

"The North Finchley Town Centre initiative has a major role to play in helping local residents and business have real influence in the shaping of their local environment and it is especially important to involve the youngest residents since it is their futures we are trying to secure," added Councillor Dickie.

Fifteen children contributed paintings for the exhibition, all chosen from their normal school work. The pictures were changed regularly, to give other children a chance to show their work, until the shop is let.

There will be displays of young people's work in any arts form - drawing, sculpture, clothes design and collage, for example.

Also planned are evening events at which the youngsters can perform dance, drama,

cabaret, poetry, any type of music and video work.

Those youth leaders who think their members might be interested in taking part should ask the Youth Office (0181-359 3218) right away for a free ideas pack.



Caseworker Chris Bell shares a joke with one of her "extended family"

CARE THA

CARE IN the community is now a reality in the borough. Over the past year your council's Home Care Service has been reorganised and developed to offer a sophisticated, yet easy-to-access programme.

The Home Care Service is offered in two main forms: the traditional Domestic Service provided by home helps and the Personal Care Service, which includes a number of specialist teams, for residents who would otherwise most probably require residential care.

The Special Needs portfolio and Personal Care Service now provides cover for clients between 7.30 in the morning and 10.30 at night, seven days a week, compared with the Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm Domestic Service.

To administer these services effectively, the borough is divided into 'patches' each with its own management team.

These municipal services are in direct competition with private sector agencies. "But we offer borough

services which are second to none," declares Margaret Moore, Area Manager for Edgware.

"We have relationships built up over the years with the Health Authority, hospitals, GPs and nurses which the private sector cannot match. All applications to use them are assessed by our social workers."

The Domestic Service, employing 132 home helps serving 1,000 clients, incorporates shopping, collecting pensions and paying bills, laundry and ironing, heating of a meal (not preparation) besides housework.

The shopping service is specifically for those unable to monitor their needs for quantities and purchasing frequency. Shopping is done locally but if necessary care workers and home helps will travel further afield for specific items not available in the district.

Normal housework is undertaken on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis. However, where the client occupies only one room in the house and other members of the family live in the rest, only that room is cleaned.

The Personal Care Services incorporate the Domestic Service but comprise a variety of flexible services to meet the needs of those unable to look after themselves to varying degrees.

Daily visitor who makes home living possible

Chris Bell is a careworker, one of a 120-odd strong workforce whose daily efforts enable hundreds of mainly older, frail and disabled Barnet borough people to live in their homes in the community rather than in residential care.

A bright, friendly, energetic woman in her 40s, Chris has been with the council's Home Care Service for 11 years, first as a home help and now as a home care worker caring for those who are unable to do much for themselves.

Daily Visits

She has six people on her care programme, five of whom need visits at least once a day. "I am fond of them all," she said. "They are like an extension of my own family."

When Chris changed from being a home help to a careworker, she stayed with most of her 'clients' as they became in need of more assistance.

"Continuity is vital in providing this kind of service. Elderly and sick people need to see a familiar face daily - someone they know and

trust."

In many cases there is a need for more than one careworker to cover each individual client over a 24-hour period.

Chris and her colleagues do a demanding job as the following edited extracts from a report to her bosses about her work routine show.

These extracts, in which the names of her clients have been changed to protect their privacy and for security reasons, concern her activities on one Saturday.

8am: Arrived at Mrs Fieldman's. Debbie said she felt better as her new tablets were beginning to work. She thought her catheter had come out so I checked tube but found it was in order. Dealt with Debbie's toilet needs. Asked her to point out a particularly sore area to the nurse who was due to visit later in the day.

9.15: Arrived at Mr and Mrs Smithson's. Bob

Prepared Lunch

Started Debbie's breakfast and prepared her lunch ready for when I return. Made the bed and emptied the catheter bag.

9.15: Arrived at Mr and Mrs Smithson's. Bob

was not too good this morning - his breathing was very bad. I asked him to sit down for a while as I would see to Eileen but as usual he wouldn't listen to me.

Eileen was tucked up in bed. I wish Bob would not put so many heavy blankets on her bed as she gets so hot.

Washed Hair

With Bob's help I got Eileen out of bed and gave her a shower and washed her hair and blow dried it. Eileen is incontinent and I dealt with her skin care.

I managed to get her into the front room while Bob was preparing her breakfast.

After Eileen had her breakfast, I put her jacket on and Bob helped me get her into her wheelchair so they could go out as it was a nice day.

10.15: Arrived at Miss Brownston's. I was surprised that Daphne was already in her wheelchair. She has MS and does not normally get up until 11am as she can't get going until then.

I made breakfast and we had a chat. She is still worried about her health. She has written to the

hospital and they replied that they would have her in for two days to do some tests.

While Daphne is in hospital I shall need another job. I must remember to tell my manager.

Daphne seemed much better when I left.

11.25: Arrived at Mrs Linnett's. Susan is always cheerful and gave me a big smile. Made her a coffee and her bed.

Brought Shopping

I started her lunch and then sat and had a chat with her. Susan's memory seems to be bad lately. She could not remember that I had bought all her shopping the previous day.

I made her some sandwiches for her tea. After washing up, I left for my next call telling Susan I would be back tomorrow.

12.45: Returned to Mrs Fieldman's. The nurse was there treating Debbie's legs and dressing her bedsores. She seems to be going through it lately.

Made Debbie's lunch and then prepared her tea and left it in the cool bag. I emptied her catheter bag

and she was very cheerful when I left.

2.00: Arrived at Mrs Trinder's. Jose was still in her dressing gown. I made her a cup of tea and then talked her into letting me change her clothes so I could take them home for washing.

Made Jose her dinner. She said she was not hungry but with encouragement she managed to eat most of it, so I was happy.

Jose is very frail and because of the stroke she suffered a while back I worry about her. She was very tired so I told her to stay up for an hour or so and then go to bed for a sleep.

Made her some tea and a sandwich and left it on the table for this evening. I told her I would be back tomorrow.

Going Home

3.30: I am going home now. I need a strong coffee and to relax after hearing all about my clients' aches and pains. Then I must complete my paperwork.

Chris Bell commented about her report: "That Saturday happened to be one of my easier days."

IN THE COMMUNITY IT REALLY WORKS



A little hair care provides a morale boost for another client

WHEN A Council officer visited an 89-year-old woman in answer to her call for help about a defective window, he found she had been unable to get into the bath for 17 years because of her disability.

Your council stepped in with practical assistance, arranging for a shower cubicle with a seat and a fan to be installed. Mrs S. of West Finchley also received new bedroom windows.

This is just one example of the council's constant battle to help improve the quality of life for the borough's older

Grants help those in need

residents, lending a hand to owner-occupiers receiving means-tested benefits as part of the fair-deal-for-all corporate plan.

Many elderly people, often living in the family home on their own, have difficulty in finding the money for essential repairs and improvements.

In some cases, the council can assist through small minor works grants, up to £1,080, or charity

cash. In the past year, the council has seen 282 projects of this kind completed.

The 1,000th minor grant to be approved was to Mrs P, aged 84, of Barnet. The gas board had banned the use of her gas fire because of a defective flue. The grant will enable the chimney to be repaired.

Mrs Y had an accident in her Whetstone home which resulted in her being stuck in the bath for a long time. The

Environmental Health team arranged quickly through Social Services for a new power point to be fitted so a telephone life line service could be installed.

A Minor Works grant provided to help this 77-year-old lady put in other equipment such as smoke detectors, storage heaters, a louder door bell and new immersion heater.

If you, or someone in your family, need help or advice on available grants, please telephone Vivien Mallindine on 0181-359 4744.

Quality Care for people with high dependency

These include:

- washing, getting up, assisting to bed, showering, bathing, dressing and moving from bed to a chair or wheelchair
- preparing hot meals and light snacks
- assisting clients unable to feed themselves through illness or physical disability
- monitoring prescribed medication
- teaching living and social skills, especially to clients with learning difficulties where appropriate.

Among the specialist teams there is one providing home care services for people under 60 with physical disabilities.

Another is the Quick Response Hospital Discharge Team providing personal care for patients returning home. The Home Care Service is also able to respond to needs of clients with mental health problems.

Prolonged illness or hospitalisation, disability, old age or mental frailty are

among many reasons why people's homes become neglected to such an extent that clients' health and safety is affected. In such cases the Mobile Unit consisting of two workers providing an intensive cleaning service is called in.

The Mobile Unit may spend anything between half a day and 10 days making a property habitable again, performing tasks like removing rubbish, old and broken furniture; washing and cleaning carpets, walls and paintwork, cookers and baths and sinks; moving beds downstairs; clearing away old food and cleaning out food cupboards and 'fridges.

The unit works with the client wherever possible and will never undertake any task without the client's agreement.

Currently the council's home care services are run from offices in three different locations in the borough. However, all will be located under one roof in Hyde House, Colindale, hopefully before the end of the year.

Barnet's commitment to quality care for those in the community with most need is highlighted in the opening of a new residential home for people with multiple disabilities.

Matlock Close, off Chesterfield Road, Barnet

– which will provide care and support 24-hours a day for eight people with a very high level of dependency – is the result of close co-operation between the council and the local community.

"Parents of younger people with special care

needs voiced their demands through Mencap and the council listened.

This project – which is in line with Barnet's corporate values and the Community Care Plan – is our response to genuine needs and the positive result of working closely

with the community," said Councillor David Williams, Chair of the Social Services Committee.

The fully staffed residential home was opened by the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Ellis Hillman.

Matlock Close is being managed by Notting Hill Housing Trust with care services provided by Penta Housing.

"Most of those moving into the home have come from living with their own families, but others have come from residential schools or other homes. Parents will help staff in providing support for residents," added Councillor Williams.

Councillor David Williams, Chair of the Social Services Committee, met resident Mitra Savis at Matlock Close.



ENTERPRISING YOUNGSTERS SWEEP BOARD

Barnet schools scooped the coveted top prizes at this year's North London Young Enterprise Competition held at Alexandra Palace earlier this month.

Oak Lodge, Mapledown, Queen Elizabeth Boys, Cophall and Ravenscroft schools all reached the finals of the prestige competition which gives young people a chance to set up their own companies and make and sell their own products. The youngsters learn new skills, teamwork and how to solve problems.

Youngsters from Oak Lodge and Mapledown special schools took the Achievement Award for 'Team Enterprise' - a scheme launched two years ago by Barnet's Education Business Partnership.

Ravenscroft School won the 'Best Product' award and Queen Elizabeth Boys the 'Company of the Year'.

"With the council's Economic Development Plan already making great strides in bringing together the local community and business in a partnership to create a climate of enterprise to benefit the

whole community it is fitting that this spirit should also exist in our schools," said Councillor Anne Jarvis, Chair of the Education Committee.

"We are all investing in the adults of tomorrow and competitions like this help youngsters learn how to deal with real life problems as well as how to work together for the good of all," added Councillor Jarvis.



TENNIS FOR ALL

Want to play tennis but haven't got a racquet or the latest in designer sportswear?

Do you fancy a knockabout with your friends but feel excluded by a sport which seems too exclusive and only for the well-heeled? Not any more.

The council's campaign to make sport open to all took another step forward last month when Councillor Jo Salsbury officially launched two new-look tennis courts at Friary Park, Friern Barnet Lane, North Finchley.

"People will be able to hire tennis racquets and balls from the park cafe so that a lack of equipment need not be a deterrent to playing. This is another example of Barnet increasing access for all to its facilities," said Councillor Katherine McGuirk, Chair of Recreation, Leisure and Arts Committee.

Barnet Council joined Headstrong, the racquet company, at the launch in laying on free tennis coaching and competitions with prizes, balls and caps for all ages and levels of ability.

Our picture shows (left) four-year-old budding tennis star Nathan-Aarash Akhavan-Moodavi showing Councillor Jo Salsbury, Chair of DSO Committee, his racquet control.



SHA

SUTHERLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION LIMITED

Oaklands House, Old Oak Common Lane, London NW10 6DU
Tel: 0181-453 1177 Fax: 0181-965 8985

Shared ownership scheme at
AMBER GROVE off Prayle Grove, NW2

Close to Brent Cross shopping centre and the new Tesco's
Now available for shared ownership sale!

2 bedroom houses

@ 50% equity share from £38,000 plus rent and service charge

1 bedroom flats

@ 50% equity share from £24,000 plus rent and service charge

For information contact Astrid at

SUTHERLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Tel: 0181-453 1177 during office hours or leave a message on our ansaphone: Tel: 0181-961 2309 mentioning your interest interest in AMBER GROVE

"YOU DON'T HAVE TO WIN THE LOTTERY TO GET A HOME OF YOUR OWN!"

Do It Yourself Shared Ownership (DIYSO) helps council and housing association tenants to buy a home of their own. It works like this: you find a home on the open market and you buy it jointly with Notting Hill Home Ownership (NHHO). Then you pay a subsidised rent to NHHO on their part and a mortgage on your part. DIYSO really is a sensible low cost option and has already helped thousands of people to buy a home of their own.

It won't take much to find out if you qualify — just call our 24 hour ansaphone on:

0181-563-4777
(quoting reference D/36)

or fill in the coupon, put it in an envelope and send it to us — you don't need a stamp.

NOTTING HILL HOME OWNERSHIP

Freepost (PAM 5494) • London W3 8HQ



Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

What is your present accommodation? Please tick box

council tenant housing association tenant private rented living with relatives other



up to **£1,000** housing association tenants getting started payment*
up to **£2,200** council tenants
*may vary by Borough

D/36

PARTNERSHIP BRINGS MORE HOMES

The council has been working with housing associations to develop over 50 new homes for sale under the Shared Ownership Scheme and will help another 38 families to purchase under the DIYSO Scheme in the coming year.

Shared ownership means that residents buy a share in a property, usually with a mortgage, while a Housing Association owns the rest. You then pay rent to the Housing Association for the share that they own.

Recently completed schemes include new shared ownership properties at Summers Lane, N12 and Amber Grove, NW2.

Summers Lane, N12, is a Landmark Housing Association development in a very popular location. There are 9

Shared ownership and DIY schemes

one bedroom flats, 12 two-bedroom and 6 three-bedroom houses. Some two- and three-bedroom houses are still available for sale.

Amber Grove, NW2, is almost opposite Brent Cross Shopping Centre set back from the main road. There are 18 two-bedroom houses and six one bedroom flats. Following a successful open day at the site, organised by Sutherland Housing Association and the council, many of the properties have now been reserved. There are now only a limited number of one-bedroom flats and two-bedroom houses

remaining.

Any residents interested in the scheme should contact the council as soon as possible for further details.

Tower Housing Association are developing a small shared ownership scheme in Muswell Hill. Three two-bedroom flats will be available for sale in July. Please contact the council for further details.

Following last year's success, Barnet Council is again working with Notting Hill Home Ownership to offer the Do It Yourself Shared Ownership scheme this year.

Thirty-eight families will be given the opportunity to purchase a home of their own choice.

Do It Yourself Shared Ownership is a similar scheme to shared ownership, but you can choose the property you wish to buy. You can purchase a property anywhere in England.

If you are accepted on to the scheme you find a property on the open market, usually through an estate agent or local newspaper.

You will then purchase a share in the property and Notting

Hill Home Ownership will purchase the rest. You then pay rent to Notting Hill Home Ownership for the share that they own.

Places are still available on the DIYSO Scheme this year for council tenants, housing association tenants and homeless families.

Barnet Council tenants may also qualify for up to £2,200 to help with the cost of purchasing a home under the DIYSO Scheme.

With both shared ownership and DIYSO after the initial purchase and as your income increases, you can buy further shares in the property and eventually if you wish to do so, purchase outright.

The council and Metropolitan Home Ownership are currently planning a shared ownership development on the former STC car park site in Brunswick Park Road, N11. Twelve two- and three-bedroom houses will be ready in early 1997.

If you have any questions regarding shared ownership or the DIYSO Scheme, or would simply like more information please contact Frances Cross on 0181-359 4863 between 9am and 5.15pm or write to her at Strategy and Development, Community Services, Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, London N20 0EJ.

The council is working with a housing association to turn empty flats in Barnet into comfortable homes

The council is to give a £120,000 grant to the Family Housing Association to carry out improvements at 105 Hadley Road and 30 Churchfield Avenue.

Turned into self contained flats in 1970, they are owned by the housing association. The properties have been empty since 1993 when the association moved tenants to alternative accommodation before alterations and repairs could be carried out.

The council's grant

Empty Flats Get New Life

will enable the four flats to be refurbished to provide two two-bedroom and two one-bedroom flats.

"This is another example of Barnet's determination to fight homelessness throughout the borough. It also shows how we can work effectively with housing associations and other agencies," said Councillor Allan Turner, Chair of the Housing Committee.

Meeting special needs

The council's commitment to working with housing associations and other partners to provide better homes for people in the borough is highlighted in a new venture.

Brunswick Park Gardens in New Southgate will comprise 17 affordable family homes, as well as 23 homes for people with special needs.

Barnet will partner Birnbeck Housing Association, who are developing the scheme, and Park Gardens Supported Housing, a care charity, in providing social care to the special needs residents. These homes are to be

funded by the Housing Corporation.

The affordable family homes are being developed by Christian Action, (Enfield) Housing Association and West Hampstead Housing Association and will be funded by the council.

The council will receive 100 per cent nomination rights to the general needs housing and 75 per cent to the special needs housing.

"The scheme is in line with one of the council's main housing objectives - to integrate housing for special needs with general housing," said Councillor Allan Turner, Chair of the Housing Committee.



Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Susette Palmer, visits the Sangam Association for Women Open Day in Burnt Oak. Pictured, placing a welcoming garland on the Mayor, is the President of the Association, Kusum Lakhani.

Ham&High Supplements 1995

Watch out for these forthcoming supplements:

- ✓ Education.....25 Aug
- ✓ Jewish New Year 8 Sept
- ✓ Health & Beauty 29 Sept
- ✓ Autumn Homes & Gardens 27 Oct

Call the advertising department for further details

071-433 0000



X.U.K

ACTIVITY HOLIDAYS

for CHILDREN & TEENAGERS (3-17 yrs)
SUMMER

Residential (Suffolk): and Day Camps:
(Edgware North London Collegiate School
& Finchley Central)

**MULTI-ACTIVITY HOLIDAYS WITH OVER
90 SPORTS AND ARTS ACTIVITIES**

Inspected & approved by:
The British Activity Holiday Association and
the local authority under the Children Act

SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT!

Also available - Swimming courses in
Finchley at Poolside Manor

Phone 0181 349 1945/1444
for illustrated brochure

TRADES & SERVICES DIRECTORY

UNICORN
DESIGN & BUILD
-SERVICES-
Specialising in Interior
Renovation and Decorating

For a free estimate and to see our
portfolio call or fax:
0181 883 8211

corporate member:
The Guild of Master Craftsmen



ABLE MOVES
REMOVALS AND
STORAGE
NATIONWIDE
DOMESTIC AND
OFFICE

Free estimates,
full packing service

0171 372 4265 OR
0171 328 0621

established 15 years



CARPET CLEANING
CLEAN-BUILD SERVICES

*Stain removal, fitting,
re-stretching, re-seaming,
upholstery cleaning,
full insurance cover.*

Tel: **0181 340 8338**
Ask for Rosemary

GARDEN MAINTENANCE
RELIABLE AND EXPERIENCED GARDENERS

All types of gardening work undertaken.
- Fencing, Lawns, Patios, Maintenance -
Any size garden
- from postage stamp to estate -

GRASS HOPPER

FOR ADVICE AND ESTIMATES CALL
0181-883 7428 **0836 574834**

**D.J. BROWN
CONSTRUCTION**

- CONVERSION
- ROOFING
- EXTENSIONS
- BRICKWORK
- PLUMBING
- HEATING
- ELECTRIC WORK
- PAINTING & DECORATING

AND ALL GENERAL BUILDING WORK
FOR A FREE ESTIMATE CALL THE
PROFESSIONALS NOW ON:
0181 345 6001 (2 Lines)
0181 345 6199 (Fax)

**A IS FOR
ALTERNATIVE...**

Don't miss out on the
opportunity to advertise in
Mind, Body and Soul.

For more details contact
Lisa Denning on:
0171 433 6204

LOCAL PLUMBER-34 YEARS EXP
NO CALL OUT CHARGE
FREE ESTIMATES

Burst pipes, blocked drains, baths
and showers, immersion heaters,
washing machines etc.

Phone **0171 485 3040**
Fax **0171 485 3040**
Emergency **0973 302265**

*For more details on
how to advertise your
services on this page,
please call
Lisa Denning on
0171 433 6204*

ARTICLES FOR SALE

Sell things fast through the

Ham & High

USUALLY
~~£21.15~~

ACTUAL
SIZE
3X1
20 WORDS

NOW ONLY **£15** INC.



USUALLY
~~£28.25~~

ACTUAL
SIZE
4X1
30 WORDS

NOW ONLY **£20** INC.

Private advertisers only, one word per box. Please post coupon to Ham & High, 100A Avenue Road, NW3 3HF or telephone **Eve** on **071-433 6203/3888**

Please insert the enclosed advertisement in theSection,
commencing on Friday forweeks.
Please find enclosed a cheque/postal order for

Please charge my Barclaycard/Access/Amex No

Expiry Date

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE No

BARNET LIBRARIES TOPS

We say yes 4m times a year

Every three seconds a book, compact disc or video is loaned by one of Barnet Council's libraries.

Between 1 April 1994 and 31 March 1995 over four million items were loaned by Barnet's 17 public libraries. This is a five per cent increase on the previous year, and the highest since the early 1980s.

More than 3.75 million books, 100,000 videos, 200,000 cassettes and compact discs were loaned.

Barnet's computerised library catalogue handled more than three million enquiries; while infoLINK, the community information database had over 1.5 million enquiries, many via the dial-in service.

"Against a background of nationally declining library loans this continuing increase is a remarkable success for Barnet.

"These figures commend the work of all our dedicated library staff and others involved," said Councillor Katherine McGuirk, Chair of Recreation, Leisure and Arts Committee.

...and you all say we are the best

Barnet's libraries are providing excellent services residents want and need, according to a survey of over 1300 users.

Almost all (98 per cent) of users found staff helpful and courteous at the borough's 17 lib-

raries. Over 90 per cent felt their library was a clean, safe and welcoming place in good repair and easily accessible.

The survey of library standards carried out in all the borough's libraries during a week in spring showed services standards across the board to be high.

Over 90 per cent knew the full range of services offered by libraries, from books, newspapers, cassettes, CD's to videos photocopying and study areas.



Only the best will do for library users in Barnet - and the council is prepared to guarantee it.

Spearheading a new approach to setting and maintaining consistently high standards is the Borough's Library Service which has unveiled its new Quality Service Guarantee (QSG).

Barnet's libraries are among a range of vital services, from education to refuse collection, street cleaning to pest control, to be covered by Quality Service Guarantees.

Now when residents want to borrow a book, music cassette, CD or video, read a newspaper, use a photocopier or find a quiet place to study, Barnet's 17 libraries will be guaranteed to meet the existing high level of service.

The guarantee sets out what the council will provide, when the service will be available, the standards of those services -and what the council will do within set times to put things right if they do go wrong.

"Our residents have a right to expect the best. This guarantee sets out a framework for service delivery in Barnet which will meet the real needs of

ONLY THE BEST WILL DO

residents. Backed up by our formal complaints procedures, hot lines for services which enable residents to get things put right quickly and efficiently when they go wrong, the Quality Service Guarantees will mean that service at our libraries will improve - and services will continue to be designed and refined to meet the real needs of local people," said Councillor Katherine McGuirk, Chair of Recreation, Leisure and Arts committee. The guarantee will cover all 17 libraries and the Local Studies Centre. It will be available in braille and on audio tape. In addition, it will be translated into ethnic minority languages.

Mobile libraries, the Housebound Service and the Town Hall Information Centre will have separate Quality Service Guarantees.

Ham & High

NEW CAR GUIDE



ALFA ROMEO

ALFA ROMEO CENTRAL LONDON

62-64 Baker Street London W1
Tel: 071-486 2227
Service and Parts: 372 Ealing Road
Alperton Middlesex HA0 1HE
Tel: 071-486 2227



BMW

HEXAGON

Sales: 26 North Hill, Highgate, N6
Tel: 081-348 5151
Service: Browns Lane, NW5
Tel: 071-485 6011



FORD

CHALK FARM FORD

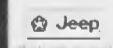
New & Used Car Sales, Contract Hire & Leasing, Parts, Rental.
Transit Specialist Dealer
74/77 Chalk Farm Road, London NW1
0171 485 8585



JEEP

CLIVE SUTTON JEEP

151 Park Road, Lord's Roundabout, St. Johns Wood, London NW8
Tel: 071-586 2000
Service and Parts:
Tel: 081-200 4455



ROVER

HOLOCENE ROVER

Sales, Service and Parts
128 Pentonville Road,
London N1 9TS
Tel: 071-278 2802/3/4
Fax: 071-833 1270



SAAB

BALLARDS OF FINCHLEY PLC

421 High Road, Finchley, London N12 0AP
Sales: 081-346 6696
Service and Parts: 081-368 0067



CITROEN

DAYS CITROEN

The name for Citroen in North London.
Sales, Service, Parts: 341 Finchley Road, Hampstead London NW3 6ET
Tel: 071-431 2020 Fax: 071-431 5234



FORD

CROUCH END MOTOR CO

50 Coleridge Road, London N8
Sales, Leasing, Service, Spares, Parts, Car Hire:
Tel: 081-340 1845
or 081-340 1900



LEXUS

HASSOP

291 Willesden Lane, Willesden Green, NW2
Sales, Servicing, Parts, Body Shop.
Leasing, Contract Hire
Tel: 081-459 0005



TOYOTA

HASSOP

291 Willesden Lane, Willesden Green, NW2
Sales, Servicing, Parts, Body Shop.
Leasing, Contract Hire
Tel: 081-459 0005



FIAT

FIAT MOTOR SALES LIMITED

372 Ealing Road, Alperton, Middx
Sales, Export, Service, Parts, MoT, Bodyshop, Car Rental: 081-998 8811
Also at: 103/105 Crawford Street
Tel: 071-723 8338



JAGUAR

HENLY'S (LONDON) LTD

Your Authorised Dealer
The Hyde, Edgware Road, London NW9 6NE
Sales/Service: 081-205 4031
Parts: 081-200 8363



LEXUS

JEMCA

Londons' Largest Dealership
The Hyde, Edgware Road
London NW9 6BH
Tel: 081-203 1888



VAUXHALL

WS DOWN LTD

Great North Road,
East Finchley N2
Tel: 081-883 7715
MoT while you wait



BARNET
ESTATE AGENTS
DIRECTORY

**barnard
marcus**

BARNET 0181 449 4545
WHETSTONE/TOTTERIDGE 0181 446 6888
NORTH FINCHLEY 0181 446 4143
MUSWELL HILL 0181 444 4215
HIGHGATE 0181 340 3424
KENTISH TOWN/CAMDEN 0171 485 6181

**Benham
& Reeves**

Offices at:
Hampstead Village 0171 435 9822
Highgate Village 0181 348 2341
Dartmouth Park 0171 284 0101

**MANN
& CO**

estate agents

BARNET
14 HIGH STREET,
EN5 5RU
TEL: 0181 441 7073

FINCHLEY
336 REGENTS PK RD,
N3 2LN
TEL: 0181 343 2220

**Wellington
Real Estate**

0181 455 3424
3 ACCOMMODATION RD
LONDON NW11 8ED

Ham & High

PROPERTY EXPRESS

THE COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE
FOR NORTH LONDON
PROPERTY.

CALL 0171 433 3888
TO ADVERTISE

BARNET

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS
DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL

0171 433 3888

BARNET

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS
DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL

0171 433 3888

Winkworth

SALES & LETTINGS

GOLDERS GREEN OFFICE

0181-458 8313

FINCHLEY OFFICE

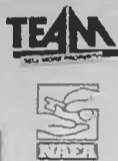
0181-349 3388

OFFICES THROUGHOUT LONDON



**Bernard
TOMKINS**

0181-883 0033
36 High Road
East Finchley N2 9PJ



Estate Agents Surveyors and Valuers

Ham & High

PROPERTY EXPRESS

THE COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE
FOR NORTH LONDON
PROPERTY.

CALL 0171 433 3888
TO ADVERTISE

STATONS

Are the agents for Hadley Wood,
Totteridge, Arkley, Cuffley and
surrounding areas.
Full details on request.
From Cottages to Country Estates.

1 HADLEY PARADE, HADLEY GREEN, BARNET, HERTS EN5 5SX
Tel: 0181 449 3383
Fax: 0181 441 2601

BARNET

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS
DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL

0171 433 3888

In a class of their own

Youngsters in libraries takeover

One-hundred-and-twenty schoolchildren aged between eight and ten from three local schools lifted the 'closed' shutters at appropriately named Childs Hill Library and ran their own place of learning and discovery for the day.

And instead of listening placidly to stories chosen and read by adults, the children were able to choose and read their own to an audience

of library users in a special storytime relay in the afternoon.

The library, which is normally shut on Wednesdays, was open specially for the event which was staged to mark Library Power.

Barnet's Library Service took part in Library Power, The Library Association's week-long campaign to promote children's libraries.

In a true role reversal, children opened the library, showed adults how to operate the computer system, the catalogue and the library's computer

information system (Info-LINK). They also gave advice on books and tried their hand at face painting with teachers as the models.

Also marking Library Power, libraries across the borough played host to three well-known book characters who met children visiting with their classes, or with their parents and carers.

Dilly The Dinosaur, Dr Xargle and Farthing Wood Fox visited libraries across the borough throughout the week.

Councillor Katherine McGuirk, Chair of Recreation Leisure and Arts Committee, launched the day.

DAD'S ARMY DAY IN BARNET

Barnet's Church Farmhouse Museum has gone back in time to celebrate the 50th anniversary of VE Day, with a nostalgic look at Britain at home during the Second World War.

From Anderson shelters to the Home Guard, black-outs to a replica of a wartime kitchen, the museum gives the chance to go back in time.

Residents in Barnet had to cope with food shortages, lack of transport, and were in continual fear of bombing raids.

The Home Front exhibition shows how they coped with these hardships.

It shows how families were encouraged to 'dig for victory' by growing their own vegetables and 'make do and mend' was the order of the day when clothes and furniture were involved.

The exhibition pays tribute to the people's war at home. Local residents have kindly donated, among other things, postcards, prints, gas masks and medals.

A wartime kitchen has been recreated in one of the rooms, using both exhibits from the museum, on Greyhound Hill, Hendon, and those from local residents. Another display shows exactly how much food an individual's weekly ration was.

The exhibition runs until 3 September. It is open between 10am and 5pm, Monday to Thursday, 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5.30pm on Saturday and 2pm to 5.30pm on Sunday. It is closed on Friday.

COMMITTEE NAME CHANGES

Barnet has changed the names of three of its committees. Over the last year their roles have altered and they are now dealing with subjects not reflected in their titles.

The Area Planning Sub-Committees will now be known as Area Development and Protection Sub-Committees.

The Town Planning and Research Committee will be called Development and Protection Committee.

The Land and Buildings Committee will now be known as Economic Development and Land and Buildings Executive Committee.



Councillor Katherine McGuirk

COUNCILLORS' SURGERIES

Telephone Numbers: all codes are 0181- unless otherwise indicated. No appointments are needed for those councillors holding regular surgeries. At Bank Holidays, surgery times may change. Please ring beforehand to check.

Political groups are indicated in an abbreviated form (Lab) = Labour (Con) = Conservative (LD) = Liberal Democrat

ARKLEY WARD

Anita Campbell (Lab) 440 2703
Pam Coleman (Lab) 449 6254
Linda McFadyen (Lab) 440 6254
1st and 3rd Monday every month 8-9pm
St Stephen's Church Hall, Bells Hill, Barnet
Every Saturday 10am-12noon
104 East Barnet Road, East Barnet

BRUNSWICK PARK WARD

Don Goodman (Con) 368 0383
Rene Palmer (Con) 368 7800
John Rawles (Con) 368 3522
2nd Saturday every month 10.30am-12noon
Monkfrith Boys' Club, Osidge Lane, N14
(Tel. 449 7345 - Chipping Barnet
Conservative Association)

BURNT OAK WARD

Rosemary Carney (Lab) 959 6757
Allan Turner (Lab) 952 2106
Alan Williams (Lab) 906 0576
Every Saturday 10.30am-12noon
The Labour Hall, Back Lane, Burnt Oak
24 hour answerphone 951 5771

CHILDS HILL WARD

Jack Cohen (LD) 445 3981
Jonathan Davies (LD) 203 6690
Susette Palmer (LD) 455 5140
1st Thursday every month 7-8pm
Childs Hill Library, 320 Cricklewood Lane,
NW2

COLINDALE WARD

Ellis Hillman (Lab) 202 7792
Gill Sargeant (Lab) 455 1070
David Williams (Lab) 343 1082
1st Saturday every month 2-3pm
St. Augustine's Church (small lounge),
Grahame Park, Colindale, NW9

EAST BARNET WARD

Usha Chopra (Lab) 449 3231
Anne Jarvis (Lab) 449 9001
Richard Soer (Lab) 441 0170
1st Monday every month 7-8pm
New Barnet Residents' Association
48-50 Victoria Road, New Barnet
Every Saturday 10am-12noon
104 East Barnet Road, East Barnet

EAST FINCHLEY WARD

Helen Gordon (Lab) 444 2761
Joan Ryan (Lab) 444 6400
Rudolf Vis (Lab) 444 4051
Every Saturday 10-11.30am
Neighbourhood Centre, Church Lane, N2

EDGWARE WARD

Julian Czarny (Con) 958 6999
Malcolm Lester (Con) 349 2595
Joan Scannell (Con) 959 5921
Contact councillors direct or Hendon North
Conservative Association
Tel. 959 1446

FINCHLEY WARD

Eva Greenspan (Con) 203 1598
Barbara Langstone (Con) 445 5443
Leslie Sussman (Con) 346 6775
Contact councillors direct or
Finchley Conservative Association
Tel. 445 4292

FRIERN BARNET WARD

John Carter (Con) 343 4005
Brian Salinger (Con) 368 1329
John Tiplady (Con) 445 5734
Contact councillors direct by telephone 7 days
of the week or through the Finchley
Conservative Association Tel. 445 4292

GARDEN SUBURB WARD

Frank Davis (Con)
Mohammed Khamisa (Con) 458 1996
Roy Shutz (Con) 455 2248
c/o Hendon South Conservative Association
or write to 20 Connaught Drive,
London NW11 6BJ
Contact councillors direct or Hendon South
Conservative Association Tel. 202 7484

GOLDERS GREEN WARD

Melvin Cohen (Con) 346 2550
John Hedge (Con) 203 0137
Michele Moulin (Con) 205 0531
Contact councillors direct or Hendon South
Conservative Association
Tel. 202 7484

HADLEY WARD

Mark Hayball (Con) 0956 343070
Liz Mammatt (Con) 361 9720
Kanti Patel (Con) 446 6639
3rd Saturday every month 10.30am-12noon
Chipping Barnet Conservative Association,
163 High Street, Barnet Tel. 449 7345

Liz Mammatt 1st Saturday every month 10.30am-12noon
New Barnet Residents' Association, 48-50 Victoria Road, New Barnet
Tel. 441 7044

HALE WARD

Andrew Dickie (Lab) 906 2807
Every Saturday 10am-12noon
Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue

Leslie Pym (Con) 959 5484
Sheila Scott (Con) 906 0825
Contact councillors direct or
Tel. 959 1446
Fortnightly on Mondays 6.30pm
Hendon North Conservative Association,
2 Apex Parade, Selvage Lane NW7 3JT

HENDON WARD

Edward Bunn (Con) 906 2793
Anthony Finn (Con) 202 9689
Fred Poole (Con) 203 0813
Contact councillors direct or Hendon South
Conservative Association
Tel. 202 7484

MILL HILL WARD

Wayne Casey (LD) 202 6105
Jeremy Davies (LD) 202 6105
Sheila Gottsche (LD) 959 3990
Every Saturday 1-2.30pm
Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue
Last Saturday every month 12noon-1pm
Canada Villa, Pursley Road, Mill Hill

ST PAUL'S WARD

Kitty Lyons (Lab) 346 6843
Katherine McGuirk (Lab) 346 8255
Jim Tierney (Lab) 346 3359
Every Saturday 11am-12.30pm
331 Ballards Lane, Finchley

TOTTERIDGE WARD

Kevin Edson (Con) 446 8343
Victor Lyon (Con) 446 4423
Victor Usher (Con) 445 4248
Contact councillors direct or Chipping Barnet
Conservative Association
Tel. 449 7345

WEST HENDON WARD

Nicholas Kissen (Lab) 200 9861
Gina Marks (Lab) 959 0525
Agnes Slocombe (Lab) 202 4074
1st and 3rd Saturday every month
10.30am-12noon
West Hendon Clinic, West Hendon Broadway
(entrance in Perryfield Way)

WOODHOUSE WARD

Stan Cross (Lab) 444 9178
Mel Packer (Lab) 361 4540
Jo Salsbury (Lab) 444 4482
Every Saturday 11am-12.30pm
331 Ballards Lane, Finchley

SKY DIVERS FAYRE SPECTACULAR

Daredevil skydivers made the Barnet Craft and Country Fayre at Cophall hit the heights of excitement. The Skydiving Spectacular, performed by a crack parachute display team, was the showpiece of an action-packed weekend catering for every taste and interest.

Zak Carlino's high wire display also got the pulses racing at the second annual Barnet Craft and Country Fayre at Cophall where sheepdog trials and falconry displays featured in the main arena alongside the Terrier Roadshow, Brookfield Shire Horses and performing ferrets. The displays took place twice each day - in the morning and afternoon.

A hundred craft stalls offered a wide variety of choice in the giant marquee. Punch and Judy gave children some traditional fun and games while angling enthusiasts took part in a fly-fishing demonstration with £700 prizes. Music was provided by Cophall Girls School.



WAR PENSIONS CASH DOUBLED

Veterans of two world wars have been given a cash boost by the council. The council has overturned the decisions of the previous administration and doubled the statutory award for war veterans.

With only weeks to go until Barnet's main celebration of 50 years of peace, the council paid tribute to war pensioners in the borough with this doubling of allowances.

The amount of war pension which will be ignored when calculating Housing Benefit and Council Tax relief will be doubled to £20 by the decision made by the council's Budget Financing and Performance Review Committee.

"This council acknowledges the debt we owe to our war veterans

and has always been unhappy the way government policies and the previous council administration combined to take away their rights to full benefits," said Councillor Rudi Vis, Chair of the committee.

"The government has reduced its relief to war pensioners leaving local councils to make up the difference. At the same time the government has slashed local council income leaving less money to go round.

"We are taking a step in the right direction and, if the government would let us and provides the much needed cash, we would go further," added Councillor Vis.

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL FOR EAST BARNET

Businesses large and small are expected to be lining up to take part in the East Barnet Community Festival - an initiative with the backing of Barnet Council, residents, community groups and the Hendon Times.

The committee formed to create day of community involvement in the local Oak Hill Park, on Sunday, 23 July, are now calling on residents, community groups, churches, youth groups and businesses to play their part in creating an event

which should become a highlight of the local calendar.

"We will be offering special rates for local charitable organisations to take stalls alongside those offering craft products - and stall costs which every small business in the borough can afford to support this vital community event.

"I am sure some of the major companies in the area will also want to play a part - maybe staging exhibitions of their services in larger mobile exhibition units - but the main emphasis will be on local organisations, firms and services," said Philip McGriskin, Chair of the East Barnet Festival Committee.

The committee is planning activities for the festival, but there are many ways local residents could be involved.

The organisers are looking for local talent. A stage area will be programmed with music, dance and cabaret so if any resident organises a performance group or knows of any local groups - get in touch with Naomi or Helene.

Stalls and tables will be

available at a nominal charge to charitable groups for display of information or fundraising. Contact Alison or Peter.

Have you got an idea for a side show, sports activity or game that could add to the festival? Naomi or Helene would be glad to hear from you.

Whether you have a specific skill such as an electrician or an artist or whether you could just help out on the day, give Phil or Roger a call. Help is needed with driving, stewarding, setting up, face-painting, decorating, running activities and much, much more.

There is lots to do - Join The Team.
Contacts

Alison Phillips
0181-440 7144

Peter Evans
0181-361 4001

Naomi Holloway
0181-449 9260

Helene Abrahams
0181-441 0700 daytime
01707 650780 evening

Phil McGriskin
0181-441 8003

Roger Biss
0181-441 4586 daytime
0181-360 5045 evening

UNITED FIGHT AGAINST BOROUGH CRIME

Without the support and enthusiasm of all sectors of the community Barnet crime figures will not drop fast enough.

This was the message from Metropolitan Police and Barnet Community Consultative Group.

"Some may say we have all done well - we have seen some crime figures falling.

"But we have not tackled head on the things really worrying residents - and we must do so. We now need to listen to the voice of the community - both young and old - and tackle the problems they believe we face," said Barnet Council's Chief Executive Max Caller reporting on the results of last year's work and outlining the challenges ahead.

"Crime, or at least the fear of it, is based on perception. The bad news stories about mugging and assaults, petty and major crime. It will never be based on the results of crime prevention measures introduced by the police and the local community unless we all shout about it - and share the successes with the communities making it a reality," said the chair of the group, Parmodh Sharma.

"We must increase the group's effectiveness through better co-operation, consultation and understanding between the police, local organisations and the community.

"We must all work as one to break down the

barriers - artificial barriers - which could be seen to divide us.

"We must never again be seen to be sitting in ivory towers away from the streets and communities we are here to help - and must also reflect the concerns and needs of ethnic minorities," said Council Leader Alan Williams.

"Where we and the police authority have a problem we should talk about it openly - we should tell the local people the facts", he added.

"This council is committed to listening and learning from the views of the community. It is obviously right that this group, whose work is at the very heart of

building on the borough's intrinsic clean, green and safe environment should involve the whole community," he added.

The listening and learning process was vital - police and the community, through the group and every available other avenue, needed to have open and frank dialogue if confidence was to be encouraged.

The group's new constitution now actively encourages the borough's youth, special interest groups, ethnic minorities and all those with an interest in the crime-free future of this borough of ours to work alongside the council and the police.