

Community news

 **BARNET**
LONDON BOROUGH

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**ARTS FESTIVAL
1999 - full
listings inside**



**Quality
Services-
GUARANTEED**



**European
Parliament
Elections
June 10**

International stars head for Barnet

Barnet Arts Festival - June 1999

The Barnet Arts Festival 1999 is set to be the biggest and brightest yet. International stars of theatre, comedy, music and dance are flocking to join the packed programme of events coming to the borough in June.

The Barnet Arts Festival, produced in association with The Bull Theatre, Barnet, is the biggest and most ambitious yet undertaken by the council's Arts Office. The month-long extravaganza boasts the best of the arts world in an eclectic programme designed specifically to be attractive to all

tastes and all ages. There is truly something for everyone.

Councillor Susette Palmer, Chair of the Community Development Policy Development Committee, said: "Barnet Council is delighted to present its second Arts Festival - a festival that builds on our

experiences two years ago to bring a true showcase of international talent to the borough.

"We hope the combination of energy and expertise we have put together will attract people from across the community. I've put the festival in my

diary - I hope you put it in yours!"

The star-studded line-up includes comedy from the likes of wild and rude Jenny Eclair, Simon Day from the Fast Show and 'Kosher Comedy' from the four wise Jews: Adam Bloom, Bennett Aaron, Mark Maier and Dan Antopolski.

Poetry will be read by celebrated performers and authors Roger McGough and Brian Patten. An international feast of dance comes from Africa, India and Australia as well as Spain and, of course, London: homegrown troupe Union Dance will perform their Dance Tek 23.

Music comes from ex-Eastenders star Paul Bradley and his band hKippers, as well as anarchist jazz-man George Melly, John Chilton's Feetwarmers, the Nigel Page Big Band, Girija Devi - the Queen of Indian Thumri music - the brilliant violinist Marianne Olyver, and the Japanese drumming troupe Mugenkyo. Jackie Clune performs her wonderful kitsch show 'It's Jackie' and the Reduced Shakespeare Company delight with their screamingly funny adaptation of all thirty-seven plays in 97 minutes. The Mill Hill Music Festival, St. Jude's Proms and the Community Festivals and a whole gamut of other events are taking part during June.

A full brochure should have come through your letterbox. If you haven't received your copy pick one up at your local library or phone 0181 359 3152.

Barnet learns from Lawrence Inquiry

Barnet Council is examining its policies, procedures and practices in light of the recent Macpherson report into the death of black teenager Stephen Lawrence.

New guidelines on combating racism and working more directly with the public through all sectors of the council's work - schools, housing and community care, for example - are set to be adopted.

Leader of Barnet Council Councillor Alan Williams said: "We will act swiftly to adopt the recommendations that affect us and continue to do everything in our power to fight racism wherever it rears its ugly head.

"Barnet boasts a wonderfully diverse ethnic mix and the council will do all it can to develop and bring together local communities."

TIP TOP: The Barnet Big Top is a fantastic state of the art innovative tent previously used by the Royal National Theatre Touring Company. This large and exciting structure will house the main Barnet Arts Festival events.



Council helps cut red tape

Representatives from Barnet Council and the Cabinet Office told a recent meeting of local traders that a partnership approach to business regulations could result in a better deal for local traders and residents.

Regulations covering such areas as health and safety, fair trading, food standards, building development and residential care could be better done if the council worked with the business community as partners and not opponents.

To achieve this, Barnet has embraced a government

project to create Local Business Partnerships and adopt simpler ways of dealing with statutory rules.

The aim of the partnership is to eliminate unnecessary red tape while helping businesses understand why regulations are needed and what their responsibilities are.

Enforcement will target those businesses determined to flout the law while ensuring that law abiding businesses would be at no competitive disadvantage.

"We see partnerships with business as an important part of the

council's drive to improve and create a viable local economy," said Leader of the Council, Councillor Alan Williams.

Local Business Partnerships are an important strand in ensuring small businesses in particular do not lose a competitive advantage through heavy handed regulation.

"We want to concentrate on helping and advising businesses on how they can meet their statutory obligations and minimise enforcement action," he said.

Environment Week 1999

Barnet's third annual Environment Week is to take place from June 3-11, it has been announced.

This year's theme is 'Young People and a Sustainable Environment' but the council hopes to attract people of all ages with a diverse array of environment-based events, competitions and activities.

There will be even more on offer than in previous years, including a woodland festival, an urban treasure hunt, business breakfasts and a schools environment summit.

A series of local environmental theatre and film performances will take place throughout the week, which also boasts fairs and shows in parks, litter picks, countryside walks and car exhaust testing for young drivers.

Kathy McGuirk, Chair of the Environment Policy Development Committee, said: "I'm delighted to see such a wide range of events taking place during Environment Week 1999.

"With the new Millennium just around the corner it's an opportunity for us all to think about how making a few small changes in our lifestyles can improve the environment for future generations."

(If you would like to take part in an event contact Local Agenda 21 officer Linnea Godfrey on 0181-359 4664. Look out for the Environment Week programme - it will be available in libraries soon.

Shoppers pledge to save planet for year 2000

Litter louts were asked to pledge themselves to their environment under a Barnet Council initiative for National Spring Clean Month in April.

Neighbourhood Management Officers took to the streets of North Finchley and Church End and challenged anyone seen dropping litter. Those doing so were asked to pick it up and sign a pledge not to repeat their offence or face a fine of up to £2,500.

Members of the public were also asked to complete a 'Planet Pledge' to make simple but significant changes to their lifestyles to help protect the environment.

These could include fitting energy-saving light bulbs, composting organic matter to reduce waste or thinking more carefully before buying over-packaged goods.

More than 1,000 pledges were handed to shoppers during the week.

Councillor Kathy McGuirk, Chair of the Environment Policy Development Committee, said: "Street cleansing and the removal of litter cost Barnet £1.8 million a year and it is vital the local community joins the council to play its part in tackling the problem."

"I'm delighted that so many people made this pledge and I hope we will all see the results in the weeks and months to come."

● Planet Pledge 2000 is being organised by Going for Green, a national charity which hopes to collate one million signed pledges by the end of the year. Readers can take the pledge by calling the Going for Green hotline on 0870 9090800 or visiting its website www.gfg.iclnet.co.uk



PLEDGING A GREEN FUTURE: Barnet's Neighbourhood Management Service asked more than 1,000 people to sign a 'Planet Pledge' in just one week.

Lottery cash for Welsh Harp

The Welsh Harp reservoir area is to be enhanced and enjoy greater public access thanks to a £420,000 Heritage Lottery Fund grant.

It is an important site for plant life and birds. It is also popular for boating and other sports and is home to Barnet's Youth Service Sailing Club.

Barnet and Brent councils made the joint bid for funds on behalf of the many community groups that support the Welsh Harp.

In all, 18 projects will benefit from the funds all designed to enhance the area and improve public access. The initiatives include nature conservation, visitor facilities, viewing platforms,

new signs and information points.

"We are delighted by this award from the Heritage Lottery Fund. This will enable us to tackle projects which when completed will

ensure this priceless local asset will continue to give pleasure to many thousands for years to come," said Councillor Ansuya Sodha, speaking on behalf of all the partners involved.



WELSH HARP: lottery cash

Town Centre manager appointed

A partnership between Barnet Council and a number of well-known High Street retailers has made the first of three appointments to a new Town Centre Management Team.

Alan Everitt took up his post as Town Centre Co-ordinator in April after a career in business consultancy and local government policy making.

The management team of three will be funded by the partnership for two

years. It aims to boost the prosperity of the borough by bringing a strategic and innovative approach to managing Barnet's 20 town centres.

Alan's first task will be to oversee a £1.2 million investment programme for town centre projects and pull together economic development and town centre initiatives into an effective partnership with retailers and the wider business community.

He said: "Barnet is a

great place to do business and I am very excited at the prospect of bringing the council and local firms together to make our 20 town centres even better places to shop and work.

"We have more retailers in Barnet than any other outer London borough. I hope to forge strong links between these retailers, the council and community groups to improve prosperity and community life in our town centres."

Active for Life at Dollis Junior

Barnet Council's Sports Development Team has linked up with the Health Education Authority's 'Active for Life' campaign to develop a healthy lifestyles project for schools. The campaign aims to encourage every adult to exercise five times a week for 30 minutes or as the HEA put it 'Feel good, look good, build it up to half an hour a day'.

The team joined forces with Dollis Junior School to provide a 'Healthy Activity Week' to get children more involved in physical activity. The programme involved fitness testing, a visit from Barnet FC's 'Football in the Community' scheme manager and a resuscitation workshop provided by trainers from Barnet Cophall Pools.

The week's events also included the Fitness for Life Scheme, which measured the fitness of each Year 6 child according to five categories; skill, stamina, suppleness, strength and speed. Feedback was given to the children, allowing them to see the relevance of the tests when applied to their favourite sport. Year 5 were visited by Sarah Price of the Barnet Cophall Swimming Club Training Scheme who ran the children through a flexibility and reaction time routine. She also answered questions about her training schedule which helped her achieve a Commonwealth Games bronze medal.

Sportability not Disability

The Sports Development Team is to step up its work coaching disabled and visually impaired youngsters as well as those with learning disabilities, in the run-up to the London Heathrow Youth Games in July. As well as working with the Hearing Impaired Unit at Hendon School, the team is organising a taster session on 9 June for visually impaired children in conjunction with Barnet's peripatetic teacher for the visually impaired. The half-day will give blind and partially sighted children the opportunity to take part in athletics and swimming.



The Team has arranged for an athletics coach to visit Mapledown School for children with severe learning difficulties in preparation for July's games.

Football coaching for young people (11-19 years) with moderate learning difficulties will be held every Saturday at Underhill Stadium until 3 July. Coaching is provided by Barnet Football in the Community Scheme.

At Oakleigh Primary School for children with severe learning difficulties, the Team will be sending in an instructor to coach Boccia. This is an adaptation of the French game of Boules and will feature for the first time this year in the Games.

The Team is currently recruiting for Moderate and Severe learning Difficulties, hearing impairment, sight impairment and physical disabilities teams for athletics and swimming for the London Heathrow Youth Games so if you would like to take part it would be good to hear from you. Do not worry if your skills need improving, we can provide coaching to enable individuals and groups to take part.

To contact the Sports Development Team just ring 0181 457 9908/9.

Unique £10 rebate scheme guarantees quality delivery of key council services

Barnet Council has pledged even higher standards for key services - new Quality Guarantees.

The new guarantees go one better than the standards set by the council five years ago, which laid out minimum levels of service for the first time ever. The Quality Guarantees are backed by the offer of a £10 rebate if the council fails to deliver what it promises.

The Quality Guarantees, initially covering street services, housing and refuse & recycling, mean that residents can expect quality standards all of the time. However, if the council fails to meet these standards and a resident complains we will take swift action to deal with the problem.

If we fail to do this and the resident complains again then they can claim a £10 rebate.

Council staff are set to benefit too: they will have a clear standard to work to.

The Quality Guarantees are part of an ongoing process to make sure that the services are cost effective, of a high standard, and meet the needs of the community.

Councillor Helen Gordon, Chair of the Policy and Implementation Committee, said: "We know how frustrating it can be if residents need to contact the council repeatedly to sort out a problem. That is why we are undertaking to put things right promptly when we are notified of mistakes -



and to pay a £10 rebate if we still get it wrong.

"We hope there will be very few occasions when it is necessary to pay the rebate but we are making this promise to send the important message to local people that we take standards and complaints seriously."

Every household will receive a copy of the Quality Guarantee booklet by the end of May. The scheme begins on 1 June with the £10 rebate taking effect from 1 August.



QUALITY GUARANTEED: The council's new minimum standards are backed by an innovative £10 rebate scheme

Celebrating Early years and Play

Parents and carers were given a chance to find out about all the services available to help, support and educate their children during their early years on May 15 and 16.

The weekend saw Barnet Council's Education Service, Barnet Health Authority, and other local groups exhibiting displays and promoting their services.

This event, organised by Barnet Council was an informative day for parents and carers with lots of activities for children. The whole event was free.

Former Councillor Stan Cross dies

Stan Cross, who served as a councillor for Woodhouse Ward from 1990 to 1998, died on 24 April following a heart attack. He was 53.

He was first elected to Barnet Council in 1990 and when control of the council changed hands in 1994 he took on the tough task of chairing the important Public Works Committee.

A keen cyclist, Councillor Cross was responsible for steering through many public works projects and spearheading the new council's commitment to large scale public consultation.

He earned the nickname 'Mr Consultation' for his efforts to involve the community in decision making.

He resigned his seat last November in order to spend

more time with his family in Cornwall.

Stan's work for the council is well known. He established a clear and progressive environmental agenda making the council consider for the first time green issues, Local Agenda 21, pollution and public and private transport problems.

Leader of the Council, Councillor Alan Williams, paid tribute to a good friend and colleague.

"We were all shocked and saddened to hear this terrible news. Our thoughts and sympathies go out to his family," he said.

"He was a close friend of mine and of many other councillors. We were all terribly distressed at the news.

"He was committed to this administration and its objectives and worked



tirelessly to consult and communicate with local residents helping them understand what the council was trying to achieve and seeking their support.

"We shall all miss his sparkling personality and dedicated concern for the most vulnerable in our community."

He leaves two teenage daughters. The funeral took place Monday, 26 April, at Truro, Cornwall

New deal on refuse collection

Barnet Council is to re-tender its refuse, street cleaning and recycling contracts to create a high quality service designed to meet the demands of a new decade.

Councillors have voted to accept the recommendations of a council Scrutiny Commission report that calls for fundamental changes in the way these services are delivered.

The Commission looked closely at the past performance and made a number of recommendations to radically reform the contracts.

Key recommendations include seeking tenders from organisations with a proven track record of strong management and innovative ideas, giving joint contracts for the street cleaning and refuse collection on a constituency area basis and joining in partnership with a specialist organisation to run a borough-wide recycling service.

The complex tendering procedure will begin at once with the aim of meeting a tight deadline for the new service to begin in March 2000.

Apthorp has OBE

Local businessman and benefactor John Apthorp, co-founder of the Milly Apthorp Trust, has been awarded the OBE.

The trust has donated more than £7 million to local causes since its creation 15 years ago, including capital projects such as Hendon Youth Sports Centre, Moat Mount Outdoor Centre, the Homeless Peoples Day Centre and the Multicultural Community Centre in West Hendon.

Voluntary organisations and individuals in the borough receive some £600,000 in grants annually which are administered by the council on the trust's behalf. For further details call 0181-359 2092.

Now in seventh year

FIREWORKS CONCERTS '99

June 25, 26, 27

June 25: A Little Light Music

June 26: Music from Around the World

June 27: 'Last Night of the Proms'

8.15pm each night,
Trent Park, Oakwood (opposite tube)

**Foundation
Philharmonic Orchestra**

BOX OFFICE

0181 362 6130

MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY

C656B

Unique deal sees new special needs unit at GM school

A unique solution has been found to resolve the problems faced by Church Farm Special School which was temporarily closed earlier this year.

In future, provision for pupils with emotional and behavioural difficulties (EBD) is to be managed by one of the borough's most outstanding schools, Mill Hill County High.

Following an Ofsted report last summer, Barnet Council took the decision to suspend the school which worked exclusively with children needing help with emotional and behavioural problems.

The council accepted the report's claim that the school was not providing the high standards expected and delivered in other parts of the

borough.

Now with the full backing of the staff and governors, the highly successful Mill Hill County school is to join forces with the LEA and create a partnership which puts the interests of the children first.

The new project brings many advantages. Those youngsters who can benefit will have the opportunity for

inclusion, their self-esteem will be enhanced through being at a high achieving school and Mill Hill County and the former Church Farm will together provide much better facilities than was ever possible before.

Leader of the Council, Councillor Alan Williams, welcomed the agreement, saying: "We believe the key to success in our schools is

quality management and highly skilled staff. We have both at Mill Hill County.

"Here is a successful school and LEA coming together determined to make a success of this venture for the benefit of the children.

"We are united in working towards the provision of high quality education for all our young people.

The new deal between Mill Hill County and the LEA has been welcomed by the Department for Education. It is believed to be the only such partnership in the country.

Pupils who at present are being taught in a number of other schools are expected to move in January 2000.

'Community Event' for Mayor's Charity Appeal

Mayor of Barnet Councillor Usha Chopra brought together the borough's diverse ethnic communities at the grand finale of the annual charity appeal on behalf of the North London Deaf Children's Society.

The event, held at Middlesex University Business School in Hendon on April 24, presented a showcase of the best talent from around the world - performed by local schoolchildren.

Displays included Irish folk dancing from the children of St Agnes RC school, Kathak dancing from India performed by three triplets - Ansiha, Davina and Serinha Sodha of the Sangam School of Dancing - and a performance from the QE Boys School Orchestra.

Councillor Chopra said: "It has been a delight to work closely with the North London Deaf Children's Society. My thanks go out to everyone involved in the appeal."



Not deaf to children's needs - an Indian dancer at the Mayor's Charity Appeal

Personnel team wins top award

Barnet's human resources staff have been named Personnel Team of the Year in a top national awards ceremony.

Winning the Local Government Chronicle 'Excellence in Local Government' award the team was praised for its position at the core of the council and its work to promote the borough as a

local employer par excellence.

Judges drawn from local government and the business community gave particular praise for the council's retention of Investors in People status, its Quality Employment Guarantee and the wide range of initiatives under way to invest in the skills and development of all Barnet's staff.



PEOPLE POWER Clockwise from top left - Robin Smith, Peter Dempsey, Tony Lampert, Christine Bennett, Rob Pinkham.

Leader of the Council, Councillor Alan Williams, said: "I would like to congratulate the Human Resources Unit for winning this prestigious award. Barnet Council has been the borough's largest employer for years - now it has received recognition that must place it at the top of the pile on quality, too."

Brent Cross Inquiry Opens at Town Hall

The public inquiry into the proposed expansion of the Brent Cross Shopping Centre continues at The Town Hall, Hendon.

The planning application involves a major expansion of the complex including new car parks, a bus station, the diversion of the River Brent and landscaping.

The Secretary of State ordered the inquiry because of possible conflicts and other issues related to government policies on development, transport and strategic planning.

The inquiry is open to the public and sits Tuesday to Friday from 10.00am and is expected to last until 11 June. For details, call 0181-359 2548.

BANK HOLIDAY 1999 COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

REFUSE COLLECTION

Households who would normally have their refuse collected on

MONDAY 30 AUGUST 1999 will have it collected instead on **SATURDAY 28 AUGUST 1999.**

Please have your refuse available for collection by 6.30 a.m.

Please do not overload your bin -

The lid must be closed.

For a special collection ring 0181 359 4600. There is a charge for this service. Barnet's Civic Amenity (Residents Waste) site at Brent Terrace off Tilling Road is open 8.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. daily throughout the holiday.

RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Because of the above changes in the refuse collection arrangements there will be no paper recycling collection on **SATURDAY 28 AUGUST 1999** the next paper collection will be on

SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 1999

and thereafter returning to fortnightly collections. There will be no other changes before Christmas this year.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

We collected over 6,000 tonnes of paper last year. If you are not on the scheme and would like to be, please contact our Customer Care Unit, telephone 0181 359 4600



Building safer communities

Barnet Council has adopted a new strategy to make the borough a safer place to live and work for the new millennium.

The new Community Safety Strategy, which was adopted by members of Barnet Council's Policy and Implementation Committee on March 17 recognises that although Barnet has the lowest crime rate per head in London local people's perception is often quite different.

The strategy will guide the council's policy on tackling crime for the coming year but also aims to tackle fear of crime and line up people's perception with the reality that Barnet is a relatively safe place to live.

The strategy, which has also been adopted by the council's community safety partners - the Metropolitan Police, Middlesex Probation Service and other local organisations - is the result

of six months' detailed analysis of crime and wide consultation with local people.

It details the ways in which Barnet Council and its partners will work together throughout the coming year to improve community safety in the borough, placing heavy emphasis on preventative work aimed at children and young people, combating domestic violence, racial harassment and abuse of drugs and alcohol.

Cllr Susette Palmer, Chair of the Community Development Policy Development Committee, said: "This strategy is your strategy - we have looked very closely at the reality of crime and nuisance in the borough and listened to what you have had to say about how we should tackle it."

"Barnet has less crime per head than anywhere else

in London and the responses we received to the Crime Audit published earlier this year show local people are aware of how relatively safe Barnet is.

"There is no room for complacency however, and I am confident this strategy will have a significant impact on crime, making our communities safer for everyone."

The strategy will be published in due course and will be made available in libraries and council offices.



Councillor Susette Palmer, who launched the Community Safety Strategy on 20 May

Park keepers return to Barnet

Park keepers return to six of the borough's parks this summer in a £106,000 Community Safety initiative to make our open spaces safer, more attractive and better used.

Six new staff will take up their posts before the onset of summer at Victoria Park, Childs Hill Park/Basing Hill Park, Watling Park, Mill Hill Park, Edgwarebury Park and Cherry Tree Woods.

Barnet Council's Corporate Plan promised to consider innovative ways to make sure parks are safe, pleasant and welcoming - including the introduction of park keepers - and Council-in-Committee voted to make that promise a reality.

Park keepers will provide a reassuring presence and perform a range of duties from dealing with vandalism and graffiti to inspecting paths, cycle ways and lighting.

They will liaise closely with local schools and friends' groups, maintain

play and sports equipment and even pick up litter.

The parks will be staffed between 11am and 8pm from Wednesday to Sunday with support from existing neighbourhood management staff on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Councillor Susette Palmer, Chair of the Community Development Policy Development Committee, said: "Urban parks are the essential green lung of city dwellers.

"Uniformed park keepers will make them safer, cleaner and even more attractive places for the recreation of Barnet citizens."

Barnet Council, which recently retained its prestigious Investors in People status, is to attach training opportunities to the new posts: at least one

Modern Apprenticeship will be offered and a package of training schemes in horticulture, grounds maintenance and other fields will be available.

The proposals were drawn up by the Community Development Policy Development Committee, which is now working on developing a programme of events to encourage more local people to make use of their parks.

A former groundsman's messroom in Hendon Park has been given a new lease of life as a refreshments kiosk.

The completely refurbished facility which sits in a newly-landscaped area, was opened in March by Councillor Susette Palmer.

CCTV sites named

Barnet Council has named the locations to benefit from Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) schemes.

Members of the Policy and Implementation Committee pledged last month to install security cameras on the Grahame Park Estate as part of the estate's ongoing Housing Improvement Work.

Station Road in Edgware and Golders Green town centre - areas identified as high-priority by independent charity Crime Concern during Barnet's recent Crime Audit - are also set to benefit from CCTV subject to consultation and financial support from local traders and businesses.

Councillor Susette Palmer, Chair of the

Community Development Policy Development Committee, said: "I'm really glad that we are able to get this important project off the ground. We look forward to fruitful discussions with the traders in both Edgware and Golders Green and giving the public the protection from crime they deserve."

Following the decision, the council will investigate the detailed specifications of the schemes and appoint specialist contractors to install and maintain the systems as well as seeking external Government and European funding contributions.

Tally Ho corner and Hendon Central were identified for a second phase of CCTV to be incorporated into future development plans.

London walk launched at Hendon

A new walk orbiting central London was launched on March 27 with the opening of the Hendon to Highgate section.

The 'Capital RING' will eventually link up 15 sections of parks, riversides and walkways to form a 72-mile walkers' circuit around the city.

The first stage connects Hendon and Highgate via Brent Park, Hampstead Garden Suburb, Cherry Tree Wood, Highgate Wood and Queens Wood.

It was officially opened by the Mayors of Barnet and Haringey and John Butcher, Chair of the London Walking Forum, at Cherry Tree Wood with a programme of walking-related activities.

Councillor Kathy McGuirk, Chair of the Environment Policy Development Committee, said: "I am delighted that Barnet is taking the lead in this important project and I am sure local people will enjoy



STEPPING OUT: The Capital RING is officially opened at Cherry Tree Woods, East Finchley, by (l-r) Cllr Usha Chpra, Mayor of Barnet, Cllr Sheila Peacock, Mayor of Haringey, and John Butcher, Chair of the London Walking Forum.

encountering the great outdoors that lies on their doorsteps.

"This first section boasts ancient woodlands, water-

ways that have remained unchanged for more than 700 years and elegant gardens and I hope it will encourage people to take the

cheapest, easiest and most relaxing exercise of all - a stroll through the countryside."

Trading Standards warn against local con artists

Trading Standards officers are warning residents to stay on their guard against fake builders and too-good-to-be true homeworking schemes this month.

'Cowboy' builders claiming to work for Barnet Council are lowering kerbs without permission and leaving local residents facing clean-up bills running into hundreds of pounds.

The conmen have targeted several local people, offering to improve access for vehicles by altering the kerb outside their homes.

But such work is likely to cause damage to underground cables or pipes and any such damage needs to be put right by the council. This can be expensive and whoever gave builders permission to do the work is liable to foot the bill.

Anyone looking to work from home should resist the lure of tempting homeworking schemes without ensuring the earning guides are realistic. Never pay to take part - no genuine employee will seek a registration fee. Advice on working from home can be obtained free on the National Group on Homeworking helpline 0800 174095.

BARNET CELEBRATES
The council is to compile a directory of all millennium events in the borough. Make sure yours is included!

Barnet Celebrates

Barnet Council has won a lottery award of £22,000 to put towards a Millennium 2000 event.

Thousands of Barnet residents are expected to take part in a series of events throughout the year culminating in an Arts Extravaganza in October 2000.

Professional artists will work with local people, schools and the community in workshops to help Barnet residents commemorate the changes that have made the 20th century so significant.

Throughout the year 2000 there will be events in every part of the borough, with a grand finale - a 33-hour, 2,000-minute non-stop celebration - planned for October 2000.

The lottery grant will help fund the workshops

and final event.

Councillor Susette Palmer, Chair of the Community Development Policy Development Committee, said: "This is going to be a marvellous experience both in the workshops leading up to it and the finale of the actual performance. As the culmination of Barnet Millennium Festival this will be a star spangled celebration of the artistic achievement of our borough."

Planning a millennium event of your own? Let us know.

Barnet Council is compiling a directory of local millennium celebrations and can offer advice on licensing, parking etc. Contact Pauline Varnals on 0181 359 2657.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Council adopts new Community Care Plan

Barnet Council has adopted a new Community Care Plan for 1999/2000 which details the quality care services it will provide to adults over the coming year.

The plan was drawn up in close partnership with Barnet Health Authority and local voluntary organisations and was approved by members of the Policy and Implementation Committee on April 14.

Key service areas to be developed during the year include extending the role of the Community Care Helpline, integrating housing and community care for vulnerable persons, increasing employment opportunities for people with learning disabilities and reviewing mental health services.

The plan will be published in two parts - a broad strategy and a detailed action plan - and the council's performance will be monitored by the Scrutiny Commission for Social Services for Older People.

Councillor Phil Yeoman, Vice-Chair of the Social Affairs Policy Development Committee, said: "The new Community Care Plan will ensure that we continue to provide the best quality care possible to those most in need, in partnership with Barnet Health Authority and local voluntary groups."

"It brings together the diverse community service we provide into one strategic plan to help us and our partner organisations provide a seamless package of care and support."

Regenerating Edgware

A disused community centre in Edgware is to be developed into eight one-bedroomed flats for adults with special needs by the Notting Hill Housing Trust.

Barnet Council is to sell Beaver Hall, in Fairmead Crescent, Edgware, to the trust in line with its Corporate Plan pledge to work in partnership with local housing associations to provide new affordable social housing.

Beaver Hall had been used as a community centre but recently closed after the

former Community Association fell into financial difficulty in the face of a lack of local interest.

Cllr Allan Turner, Chair of the Social Affairs Policy Development Committee, said: "The special needs housing scheme proposed by the Notting Hill Housing Trust is urgently needed."

"Beaver Hall has fallen into disuse and I am delighted to see it being used to provide appropriate housing for some of the borough's more vulnerable residents."

Trace your lost car

Barnet Council is responsible for enforcing parking regulations on roads across the borough. While a simple parking notice is usually enough, regrettably we do sometimes have to tow cars away if they cause a

major obstruction.

If you suspect your car has been stolen you can save vital police time by checking it has not been towed away first by calling TRACE on 0171-747 747.

Registry Office Choice

Couples tying the knot can now choose which of the borough's two registry offices they marry in.

Following the amalgamation of the registration districts on April 1, borough

residents are able to use either Burnt Oak or Wood Street Registry office.

Both offices are due to undergo extensive refurbishment and modernisation.

Three PCGs will cover the borough of Barnet: West Barnet, North Barnet and South Barnet.

'Meals on Wheels' volunteers bow out after 30 years

Barnet Council has thanked the WRVS volunteers who have provided its meals at home service to older residents for the last 30 years with a buffet at Barnet House.

The WRVS - Women's Royal Voluntary Service - set up premises in Salisbury Road, High Barnet, in 1961 and has provided a variety of services to the local community on behalf of the council ever since. Some volunteers have been involved for the entire 29 years.

The meals at home service, more commonly known as *Meals on Wheels*, provides more than 1,500 meals a day to older residents across the borough.

Regrettably, the WRVS Head Office decided earlier this year to withdraw from providing the service as it no longer proved viable due to the strain placed on them by a shortage of volunteers.

Barnet Council has to ensure the service is consistent and reliable and therefore had no alternative but to seek alternative



THANK YOU: Among the WRVS volunteers saying goodbye after the group's 29-year association with the council ended last month were (l-r) Joan Brookman, Eileen Botham, Mary Drury and Gladys Mayes.

voluntary sector partners. From this month meals at home are being delivered by Barnet Age Concern.

Councillor Phil Yeoman, Vice-Chair of the Social Affairs Policy Development Committee,

said: "We are very grateful for the continuous service provided since 1961 by the WRVS. We are sure the volunteers will be greatly missed by clients of the meals at home service."

"The meals rounds in

the High Barnet area have been taken over by Barnet Age Concern and I am confident they will provide the same level of commitment and quality of service our customers are used to."

Mental Health services to form community network

A new Community Network run jointly by Barnet Council and Barnet Health Authority to improve mental health day care services in the borough has been given the green light by Barnet Council and will be up and running by March 2000.

Following a lengthy consultation with service users, health care professionals and other local organisations, members of the Policy and Implementation Committee decided to integrate services with the health authority to provide seamless care for those

experiencing mental health problems.

The network will see services and group facilities provided at local community venues across the borough rather than concentrated in just two centres, Broadfields Mental Health Day Centre in Finchley and Station Road, Hendon, as at present.

These locations are yet to be finalised, but will be carefully assessed to ensure they meet the needs of users. A safe and secure service for those whose need is greatest will be ensured, with much of this support offered in

ordinary community settings - a new approach that will reduce the social exclusion so often experienced by people with mental health problems.

The network will cut down on the need for travelling across the borough and, it is hoped, attract new users who would benefit from mental health day services.

Cllr Phil Yeoman, Vice-Chair of the Social Affairs Policy Development Committee, said: "We have worked very closely with Barnet Health Authority, service users and their

relatives, staff and the voluntary sector to develop the Community Network."

"The network will offer an integrated, seamless and local community-based day service whilst ensuring the needs of existing service users continue to met."

Services at both Broadfields and Station Road will be maintained in full until the new network is fully implemented, when Broadfields will be closed. Station Road will continue to serve as a day centre and will host a wide range of group activities.

New primary care group put health professionals on frontline

Doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals have been placed in the driving seat of the health service with the introduction of new Primary Care Groups on April 1.

Created by the Government as part of its drive to modernise the NHS, the Primary Care Groups

(PCGs) will be responsible for the delivery of all primary healthcare - such as GP services. By bringing local health services under the direct control of the professional staff delivering them the PCGs will enable delivery to be more responsive to Barnet's needs.

Three PCGs will cover

the borough of Barnet: West Barnet, North Barnet and South Barnet.

Barnet Council will have a greater role to play - the Government has called on all PCGs to work more closely with other local authorities.

Councillor Phil Yeoman, Vice-Chair of the Social Affairs Policy Development

Committee, said: "The new Primary Care Groups have been introduced in an effort to improve local health services by making them more responsive to the modern needs of the borough."

"I welcome them and the opportunity they present for Barnet Council to stand up

for the interests of local people."

Key personnel at the PCGs are:

West Barnet

Dr Susan Thwaites (Chair),
Tim Hellings (Chief Executive)

North Barnet

Dr Philippa Curran (Chair),
Ruth Carter (Chief

Executive)

South Barnet

Dr Pat Thrower (Chair),
Janet McMillan (Chief Executive)

To find out more about PCGs contact the relevant Chief Executive at:
Hyde House, The Hyde,
Edgware Road, NW9 6QQ
or call 0181-201 4700.

barnet
arts
Festival
June
1999

Barnet Arts Festival



JENNY ECLAIR: Comedy's
sabre-toothed harridan



BLOOMIN' MARVELLOUS:
Adam Bloom



FAST: TV's Simon Day

Top comedy names queue up for festival

Comedy's sabre-toothed harridan Jenny Eclair, 'The Fast Show's Simon Day, and the four wise Jewish Comedians - Bennett Aaron, the Welshman from the lost tribe of Judaea, Adam Bloom from the famous restaurant of the same name and Mark Maier, distant relative to the legendary German goal keeper Sepp Mayer - together with their personal comedy accountant Dan Antopolski bring hilarious and rollicking humour to the Barnet Big Top.

Expect red lipstick, rude language and filthy jokes from Jenny Eclair, the only female winner ever of The Perrier Award. Simon Day, star of the much acclaimed television series The Fast Show will delight us with his caustic wit. He was recently nominated for The Writers Guild Award for Best contribution to the television series. He can also be seen in the Oscar winning film Shakespeare in Love.

Adam Bloom has been the toast of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Last year

took his third solo show to Edinburgh where it was a sell out success. Bennett Aaron is the only Jewish/Welsh comedian on the circuit whose first gig was at his local synagogue sandwiched between the Chief Rabbi and a Holocaust survivor. Mark Maier has performed stand up from around the world with his smooth cynical shows. Dan Antopolski, has been described by Time Out as the most imaginative comedian on display. All four are currently top of the London Cabaret Circuit with regular appearances at Jongleurs, the Comedy Store and The New Satachi Synagogue!

Jenny Eclair
Friday 25 June at the
Barnet Big Top at 7.45 pm
£10 (£7.50 concessions).

Simon Day
Friday 18 June at the
Barnet Big Top at 7.45 pm
£10 (£7.50 concessions).

Jewish Comedy
Sunday 6 June at Barnet
Big Top 7.45 pm £10 (£7.50
concessions).

EastEnders to East Europe

If you're an EastEnders fan you will probably know Paul Bradley as Nigel, the rather podgy 'nice but dim' nerdy fella. But there is a lot more to Paul Bradley than his infamous East End character.

Paul is the front man for the band hKippers. (The 'h' is silent.) The music is an eccentric fusion of jazzfolk, Eastern European and 'world' music. "We sing songs in Spanish, German and French. We don't look to America for our influences we tend to look to the East and Europe," explains Bradley.

Bradley started playing the guitar about ten years

ago when he met Oscar-winning musical director Stephen Warbeck who wrote the music for *Shakespeare in Love* and also composed the music for the TV series *Prime Suspect*.

The two teamed up with six session musicians and hKippers was born. Warbeck and Bradley had acted together in Manchester and at first the music was just a hobby.

It is now much more than that and the nine-piece band play regularly to enthusiastic audiences and critics.

Venue: Barnet Big Top
Date: Thursday 17 June 7.45pm
Price: £7.50 (£5 concessions)



Ex-EastEnders star Paul Bradley is front man for the band hKippers, who have played with a diverse array of groups.

The Queen of Thumri

Girija Devi is the Queen of Thumri music and one of the most outstanding Hindustani vocalists of her era. As the

prima-donna of 'Thumri' music she is recognized around the world for her incredibly rich and powerful voice and her exciting and

exhilarating performances.

Thumri music is a romantic form of Indian classical music, which has caught the imagination of Western music lovers over the last century.

In the Thumri tradition of music, emotion and erotic fantasy is the predominant theme.

Girija Devi is celebrated around the world and has been rewarded for her excellence by a plethora of awards. Certainly the unforgettable voice of Girija Devi rendered in full throated ease will continue to haunt music lovers for ever and we have a rare opportunity to experience her live at the Barnet Arts Festival.

Tuesday 8 June at the
Barnet Big Top 7.45 pm
£7.50 (£5 concessions).



QUEEN OF THUMRI: Girija Devi

Booking tickets

Barnet Big Top Box Office
Open 10am - 5.30pm
Monday - Saturday and
1 - 5.30pm on Sundays Tel:
0181 440 1647. The Bull 68
High Street, Barnet EN5 5SJ
Fax: 0181 364 9037

Booking

Advance booking is advised,
by post, telephone or in
person.

Concessions are available for
people in receipt of benefit,
students, children under 16,
pensioners and registered
disabled. Group discounts
are available - every party of
ten people booked at the
same time receives an
additional ticket free. Users
of wheelchairs can bring a
carer/facilitator for free.

By post

Please specify all booking
details including your
telephone number and
enclose a cheque for the
relevant amount made out to
Barnet Council. Enclose a
stamped addressed envelope
if you would like the tickets
sent to you. Send to Big Top
Box Office at the address
above.

By phone or fax

You can use your Visa,
Mastercard or Switch to
make advance reservations.
All credit card transactions
are subject to a £1 booking
fee for any number of
tickets. If you have any
problems getting through,
call 0181 359 3152 for
information on availability.

In person

Advance tickets are available
from the Big Top Box Office
at the address above and at
Cophall Pool, Barnet
Cophall for personal callers.
Cophall Pool is cheque and
cash purchases only and is
open 6.30am to 9pm
weekdays and 9am to 4pm at
weekends.

On the door

Subject to availability, tickets
can be purchased at the
Barnet Big Top up to one hour
before the performance for
that evening. Purchases must
be made by cheque or cash.

Festival administration and information

Tel 0181 359 3152
The Arts Office, Cultural
Services, The Old Town Hall,
Friern Barnet Lane, London,
N11 3DL

GETTING THERE

The Barnet Big Top is next
to Cophall Stadium and
on the same campus as
Cophall Pool.

By Car

The Barnet Big Top at
Barnet Cophall has easy
access from the M1, A1
(southbound), A41 and the
North Circular and is well
sign posted. There is plenty
of free parking adjacent to
the Big Top.

From South and East head
north from the North
Circular (A406) on the A1
(Great North Road). At the
junction with the A41 and
M1 (J2), double back to the
southbound side of the A1
by going all the way round
the roundabout beneath the
flyover. Remain in the left
lane as the entrance to
Barnet Cophall is soon
after the end of the flyover
next to a tyre garage.

From South and West, head
north from the North
Circular (A406) on the A41
(Watford Way). At the
junction with the A1 and
M1 (J2), take the last exit of
the roundabout beneath the

flyover to the southbound
side of. Remain in the left
lane as the entrance to
Barnet Cophall is soon
after the end of the flyover
next to a tyre garage.

From the North, if using the
M1, the junction 2 exit is
easiest. Immediately on
joining the A1, at the end of
the flyover, move to the left
lane and turn left into the
entrance to Barnet Cophall
next to a tyre garage.

From local roads the
entrance on Page Street may
be more convenient.

By Underground

Mill Hill East - Northern
Line then Shuttle Bus, 221
bus or taxi.
Hendon Central - Northern
Line then 186 or 113 bus.

Big Top Shuttle Bus

A free shuttle bus will
operate for evening shows
from Mill Hill East
Underground station to the
Barnet Big Top. This will be

available from 6.30 to
7.30pm and for a period of
one hour after the end of
the show.

By Bus

221 (Wood Green - Bounds
Green - North Finchley -
Mill Hill East - Barnet
Cophall - Mill Hill -
Broadway - Edgware).
Alight on Pursley Road near
Page Street.
186 (Brent Cross - Hendon
Central - Barnet Cophall -
Mill Hill Circus - Edgware
Station - Harrow). Alight at
junction of Watford Way
and Page Street.
113 (Central London - Swiss
Cottage - Hendon Central -
Barnet Cophall - Edgware).
Alight at junction of
Watford Way and Page
Street.

By Rail

Mill Hill Broadway -
Thameslink then 221 bus or
taxi.

By Taxi

Ask for Barnet Cophall or
Cophall Stadium. A free
telephone will be available
at the Big Top at the end of
performances to call
minicabs or taxis. Ask a
steward.

Disabled access

There is level access to the
auditorium. Disabled toilet
facilities are available and
there is a hearing aid
induction loop. Guide dogs
are welcome. Please inform
the box office or the festival
administration of your
access requirements.

The management reserves
the right to alter or cancel
the programme without
prior notice.

Late comers admitted at the
discretion of the Manager.

barnet
arts

Festival

June
1999

Barnet Arts Festival offers a diverse programme – from national, international and local artists, with theatre, music and visual arts. To make the most of the month – Buy a ticket in advance on **0181 440 1647**

Arrive early, enjoy a range of alcoholic drinks or organic fruit juices and a bite to eat in the Big Top bar.

Reserve your interval refreshments and beat the rush.

Newmedia artists exhibit their arts installation in the foyer tent.

Exhibitions of art by celebrities, professionals, twin towns and local schoolchildren will be on display in both the bar and foyer tents.

Take your seat, relax and enjoy the show.



Rarely do we get an opportunity to enjoy theatre and dance from the Aboriginal people of Australia, which is why it is such a treat to host the Bangarra Dance Theatre at the Barnet Arts Festival.

Bangarra are one of the leading contemporary dance companies in Australia. Its artists have come together from all over Australia to form this unique contemporary clan – a tribe that embraces both of Australia's indigenous peoples and speaks in an astonishing new language of dance and song.

The traditional dances and songs of men and women living within remote Aboriginal communities in Australia have been brought to Bangarra by brother and sister Djakapurra and Janet, who build a bridge between north and south, between rural and urban, between Aboriginal and Islander and between black and white.

Bangarra Dance Theatre was established in 1989 as a full time professional dance company.

Over the past eight years, under the Artistic Directorship of Stephen Page, Bangarra has emerged as an exciting and successful dance company taking its unique work to audiences both nationally and abroad.

Venue: Barnet Big Top
Date: Thursday 24 June at 7.45pm
Price: £10 (£7.50 concessions)

Barnet Council in partnership
with The Bull present

Barnet Arts



Drumming for rain is not something that we Londoners do very often, but if we had lived in rural Japan, Taiko, which literally means big drum, would have been very important. For over a thousand years Taiko drumming has been used in Japan to call for rain, beat off famine and plague and to celebrate the Japanese village festival.

Mugenkyo is Europe's first and only professional Taiko drum group. They studied under top Taiko masters in Japan and since returning to Britain in 1994 they have built up a solid reputation for their dynamic and powerful performances at theatres and festivals in Britain, Europe and Japan.

The exact history of Japanese Taiko is unknown but it is thought that Taiko has been used in Japan for well over 2,000 years. Reputedly, the first Taiko was used in war to intimidate and scare the enemy but it is more commonly known for its religious and ceremonial significance.

Mugenkyo was formed in 1994 on their return to Britain after two years of intensive study on the West Coast of Japan, the hotbed of Taiko drumming.

Mugenkyo is the leading force of Taiko on this continent and constantly strives to push the musical boundaries and developing style of Taiko drumming.

They tour throughout the year and have performed in festivals as varied as Glastonbury and Henley. They have also toured schools with their award-winning children's show. They have been featured on numerous programmes on national television and radio and have released an album to critical acclaim. In 1996 they received a Japan Festival award for outstanding achievement in furthering the understanding of Japanese culture in the United Kingdom.

Venue: Barnet Big Top
Date: Thursday 10 June at 7.45pm
Price: £7.50 (£5 concessions)



The African dance and singing troupe Black Umfolosi produce exquisitely close-harmonised acappella songs with an incredibly athletic fanfare of southern African dance. This all-singing, all-dancing eight-member company creates a memorable percussive routine.

They first performed outside Zimbabwe in 1990, and have now played to full audiences all over North America, Australia and Europe. They were voted the most popular artistes at the Commonwealth Games in Canada in 1994. In 1998 they delighted crowded houses at Expo 98 in Lisbon, at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, London and concerts throughout the UK, Europe and North America.

The music is firmly based in the Zulu township tradition of rich deep vocal harmonies, and is about love and life. The song, rhythm and dance originates from cultures and traditions as old as the river in South Africa, after which they are named.

Black Umfolosi's performance expresses ideas and concerns about life today; about peace, cultural co-operation, social and environmental issues. It is about township living. "Music is used to tell stories about

everyday life. It is a form of newspaper, it both criticises and praises the politicians," explains Black Umfolosi.

The reverberating, highly entertaining Gumbo Dance that originated in mining work-camps is a new tradition. With few words, they tell a story about the severe lives of African miners in Southern Africa. A favourite with audiences, it is a tale of low wages and bad working conditions. Created by miners in the South African diamond and gold mines, this song is a sign of disapproval against the drudgery of their labour and the arduous conditions under which they work.

Black Umfolosi is full of intense energy and brilliant choreographic planning.

The company's lead singer, Sotsha Moyo will even instruct the audience on how to dance, tempting members of the audience to join them on the stage. Moyo is a good teacher and it is not long before the audience is in full swing with Zulu verses commemorating Africa in a broad range of infectious musical styles.

Venue: Barnet Big Top
Date: Wednesday 16 June at 7.45pm
Price: £7.50 (£5 concessions)

Union Dance Company present UD Tek 23, the first original dance show to be inspired by the ultimate 1990s Sony PlayStation computer game, Tekken the most played game in the business. It is a mix of hip-hop, voguing, jazz and street dance and performed to music as diverse as Beethoven and Arrested Development.

The idea for the show came from hours spent on tour when the dancers played obsessively with the cult game Tekken. "There isn't much to do when you are travelling," explains Union choreographer Charemaine Seet.

"Some of our dancers pass the time with computer games." Their entire performance is now built around the game. "As a choreographer, I am fascinated by the movements you see on a screen," explains Seet. "I had a prejudiced view about computers until I saw a game."

Union was set up in 1984 and they have toured the United States, Indonesia, Turkey and Europe. They were the first British dance company to perform in the International

Ballet Festival in Havana, Cuba, in 1994.

The main characters of Tekken are warriors who come together from around the universe in trials and quests. "It is a dance of challenge," remarks New York choreographer Doug Elkins, "and for the dancer it's like learning a new dialect. It's very interesting to consider that fighting can be a very intimate thing, it can make you feel very vulnerable, even if it's in anger."

It is not about being a tough fighter but much more about the quality of the game and part of the quality is looking like you're almost out of control, of expressing that sense of mastery which is being slightly off balance but pulling it back at the last minute.

The Tekken Warriors is a dance troupe for the Millennium. For all people of all ages it delivers a diverse mix of contemporary culture with tomorrow's world of interactive mayhem.

Venue: Barnet Big Top
Date: Saturday 19 June at 7.45pm
Price: £7.50 (£5 concessions)

ts Festival June 1999



This is a splendid night's entertainment, caught as 'twere 'tween the bard, the Marx Brothers and pantomime.'

Shakespeare as you have never heard him before; thirty-seven plays in 97 minutes.

It might seem bizarre but this is Shakespeare with audience participation and performed with a wonderful blend of naivety, irrelevance and affection that is both refreshing and hilarious.

Titus Andronicus is presented as a cookery programme, Othello as a rap of all 16 of Shakespeare's comedies, featuring six sets of identical twins!

And the royal plays are crammed into a skit on American football, with the crown being passed from king to king, as they were each killed off.

It is certainly not a production for stony-faced Shakespeare purists. As one of the actors said at the finale of a past performance, "We hope you enjoyed the evening and if you didn't - lighten up."

Venue: The Barnet Big Top
Date: Wednesday 9 June at 7.45pm
Price: £10 (£7.50 concessions)



Bithika Raha brings Ashapura, which means fulfilment of hope to the Barnet Arts Festival.

It is a story based on the problem of child labour in the third world, told through an Indian dance drama.

Bithika runs a School of Indian Dance in Barnet, called Nrityakala, which means The Art of Dance.

Bithika is a classical dancer and her choreography is a unique combination of her knowledge of Indian music, her passion for literature, her skill in acting and a vivid imagination.

She has performed in the presence of Pandit Jawarhlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, the Prince and Princess of Gwalior and many other Indian dignitaries.

Bithika has always explored the relationship between literature, music, dance and story telling by emphasising the educational and artistic aspect of dance. She hopes that the activities of Nrityakala will fill a gap in the mainstream education curriculum.

Venue: Barnet Big Top
Date: Saturday 26 June at 7.45pm
Price: £7.50 (£5 concessions)



Jaleo, the Spanish Flamenco dance group, astonish with their fusion of acoustic guitar, rhythm and ignitable passion.

For over a decade they have captivated the attention of audiences of all ages and all walks of life with their universal appeal. And they return to the UK this year to recreate for the Barnet Arts Festival the magic and colour of Andalusian life which is the home and birthplace of flamenco.

There is a lot more to flamenco than tap shoes and castanets. Flamenco is a genuine Southern Spanish art, and it can be traced back several centuries.

History shows that flamenco comes from a very diverse background of cultural roots and

influences, which include Indian, Jewish, Byzantine, Arabic and South American.

Jaleo began touring outside Spain in 1988 and their authentic and charismatic approach to performance, sometimes serious, sometimes humorous but always sincere, has won them many followers and considerable acclaim from both the press and public. "Jaleo personified the true spirit of flamenco," wrote one critic. "they display incredible sound technique and a perfect awareness of tradition."

Venue: Barnet Big Top
Date: Saturday 5 June at 7.45pm
Price: £10 (£7.50 concessions)

For a full programme listing, turn over to page 10.

A Festival Programme should have been delivered to all Barnet residents. If you have not received one, pick one up from your local library or phone 0181-359 3152.



Compass Theatre's production of Sophocles' Electra is guaranteed to be vivid and raw. The production focuses on the uncompromising emotions, which are at the heart of the play.

Electra swears revenge on her mother and her lover for the politically ambitious murder of her beloved father, Agamemnon. Impotent until the return of her brother Oreste, Electra rages in frustration against her mother's vicious complacency and her sister's inaction. When the news arrives of Oreste's death in a chariot race, Electra determines to take control of her family's destiny through bloody vengeance.

Threaded with subversive dark humour it is a tale of dysfunctional love, carnal desire, loyalty and betrayal set within a family ripped apart by war.

The Compass Theatre Co was formed in Sheffield in 1981 and is one of Britain's major touring companies

Compass is committed to taking its work to the widest possible audience. During the last five years, Compass has mounted 13 new productions, given over 900 performances to 165,000 people and visited 156 venues. It is this commitment coupled with excellent acting and directing that gives the work such a strong base of audience and critical appeal. The Times said of Compass 'It is one of our best national touring companies.'

Venue: The Barnet Big Top
Date: Wednesday 30 June 7.45pm
Price: £7.50 (£5 concessions)

Community Festivals

Good music, vibrant dance, arena acts, and fun activities are all free at the Community Festivals during the Barnet Arts Festival.

All the Community Festivals have entertainment and live music, provided by both professionals and local talent. There is everything from children's theatre to big bands plus the Barnet Arts Workshop Tent which will visit the festivals to provide a creative outlet and fun activities for children.

Further information
0181 359 3152

Watling Festival

Sunday 6 June 12 noon - 8pm
Montrose Park,
Montrose Avenue, NW9
Always ambitious, the organisers of Watling Festival promise another bumper day of entertainment. Live bands, a helicopter and kiddies' rides are just a few of the attractions planned for this extravaganza in Burnt Oak. As a special attraction the funk from junk band Weapons of Sound will be performing and running workshops during the afternoon. The festival also features arena acts, a beer tent, stalls, a dog show and many other surprises.

East Finchley Community Festival

Saturday 19 June
12 noon - 8pm
Cherry Tree Woods, Summerlee Avenue, N12
Live entertainment and free family fun is promised at this festival. It features two stages, one for acoustic ensembles, the other for full bands as well as a beer tent, community stalls and other amusements. A special attraction is the festival's now famous tea and cake tent.

East Barnet Community Festival

Saturday 3 July 2 - 7pm & Sunday 4 July 1 - 8pm
Oak Hill Park,
Church Hill Road, EN1
This year's Festival has a special American theme. The weekend kicks off with an afternoon programme that includes a Barn Dance, the Texas Rangers and African Drums. On Sunday a full stage line-up runs with dance schools, line dancing and Barnet Folk Club. The day also features the Barnet Arts Workshop Tent plus many other attractions. The festival finishes with a jazzy, blues extravaganza with Big Chief who are regular performers at many of UK's high profile jazz and blues festivals.



Peter and the Wolf is a puppet show performed by Scotland's Clydebuilt Puppet Theatre.

It explores the famous story of an adventurous boy called Peter who comes to stay with his very cautious Grandfather.

All the favourite characters are present; the Wolf, the Bird, the Cat and the Duck who help Peter to explore his new environment and develop his own confidence to deal

with the world. It is a wonderful production using a variety of puppets from life sized to rod puppets that bring this favourite Russian story vividly to life.

Peter and the Wolf
Sunday 6 June at 3pm
Barnet Big Top £4 (on the day)
£3.50 (advance).
Age 5+. 55 minutes

Arts Festival Listings

June Date and Time	Event	Venue
Wed, 2-4, 7pm	Bram Stoker's Dracula (Theatre)	The Bull
Wed, 2-4, 9 pm	O.C.'ed (Out of Commission) (Theatre)	The Bull
Thurs, 3-5, 10am-4pm	Kaos Performing Arts Workshops	The Barnet Big Top
Thurs, 3, 7.45pm	Roger McGough & Brian Patten (Poetry)	The Barnet Big Top
Fri, 4, 7.45pm	Nick Page Big Band	The Barnet Big Top
Fri, 4-7, various times	Irish film season	at the Phoenix Cinema 0181-883 2233
Sat, 5-12, various times	Mill Hill Music Festival, programme available from libraries, shops in Mill Hill Broadway, or by phoning 0181-959 5013.	
Sat, 5, 7.45pm	West End Musical Medley	The Bull
Sat, 5, 7.45pm	Jaleo Flamenco	The Barnet Big Top
Sun, 6, 12noon-8pm	Watling Festival	Montrose Park, Montrose Avenue, NW9
Sun, 6, 3pm	Peter and the Wolf (Children's Theatre)	The Barnet Big Top
Sun, 6, 7.45pm	Jewish Comedy Night	The Barnet Big Top
Tues, 8-9, 8pm	Royal Hunt of the Sun (Theatre)	The Bull
Tues, 8, 7.45pm	Girija Devi (Music)	The Barnet Big Top
Wed, 9, 7pm	Survivors' Poetry Workshop	Chipping Barnet Library
Wed, 9, 7.45pm	Reduced Shakespeare Co. (Theatre)	The Barnet Big Top
Thurs, 10, 7.45pm	Mugenkyo (Music)	The Barnet Big Top
Fri, 11, 10am-3pm	Dance Workshop	The Barnet Big Top
Fri, 11, 8pm	Thriller (Theatre)	The Bull
Fri, 11, 7.45pm	Jackie Clune (Variety)	The Barnet Big Top
Sat, 12, 8pm	Kala (Dance)	The Bull
Sun, 13, 1pm & 3pm	The Very Hungry Caterpillar (Children's Theatre)	The Barnet Big Top
Sun, 13, 7.45pm	Marianne Olyver & Orchestra	The Barnet Big Top
Mon 14-17, 10am-3pm	Dance Workshops	The Barnet Big Top
Tues, 15, 7.45pm	George Melly & John Chilton's Feetwarmers	The Barnet Big Top
Wed, 16, 1pm	Singing Workshop	The Barnet Big Top
Wed, 16, 7.45pm	Black Umfolosi (Music)	The Barnet Big Top
Thurs, 17 June-4 July, various times	Summer Sculpture Exhibitions	The Bow House Gallery, 35 Wood Street, Barnet
Thurs, 17-24, various times	Proms at St Jude's 99	St Jude's Church
Thurs, 17, 7.45pm	hKippers & Judith Silver (Music)	The Barnet Big Top
Fri, 18-19, 8pm	Seven Months Apart (Theatre)	The Bull
Fri, 18, 7.45pm	Simon Day (Comedy)	The Barnet Big Top
Sat, 19, 12 noon-8pm	East Finchley Community Festival	Cherry Tree Woods, Summerlee Ave, N2
Sat, 19, 7.45pm	Union Dance Company	The Barnet Big Top
Sun, 20, 3pm	Peter Ox (Children's Theatre)	The Barnet Big Top
Sun, 20, 7.45pm	Installation Performance (Media Art)	The Barnet Big Top
Tues, 22-26, 8pm	Kingmaker Mods & Rockers 1964 (Theatre)	The Bull
Tues, 22-23, 7.45pm	Susi Earnshaw Theatre School (Children's Theatre)	The Barnet Big Top
Wed, 23, 2pm	Barnet Education Arts Partnership Exhibition Launch	The Barnet Big Top
Thurs, 24, 11am	Survivors' Poetry Workshop	Burnt Oak Library
Thurs, 24, 1pm	High above the Dark Night Sky (Children's Theatre)	The Barnet Big Top
Thurs, 24, 7.45pm	Bangarra Dance Theatre	The Barnet Big Top
Fri, 25, 7.45pm	Jenny Eclair (Comedy)	The Barnet Big Top
Sat, 26, 12 noon & 3pm	The Sound Collector (Children's Theatre)	The Barnet Big Top
Sat, 26, 7.45pm	Nrityakala (Dance)	The Barnet Big Top
Sun, 27, 2pm-10pm	Angelfest Youth Project	The Barnet Big Top
Tues, 29, 7.45pm	A Doll's House (Theatre)	The Barnet Big Top
Wed, 30, 7.45pm	Electra (Theatre)	The Barnet Big Top
Wed, 30 June-3 July, 8pm	Dona Rosita, The Spinster (Theatre)	The Bull

Read me

NATIONAL YEAR OF READING

Hendon Library

Barnet's Library Service is going from strength to strength. Already open for some of the longest opening hours in London, Barnet is boosting the service yet further. From September Hendon library, like Golders Green, will open for three hours (2-5pm) on Sunday.

Hendon library has also celebrated the first anniversary of the Multi-media Centre. In the first year over 12,000 people have visited the Centre at least once, with over 8,000 making use of the Internet and PC for hire service.

From the first weeks it was clear that there was enormous demand for the courses, particularly affordable basic skills courses for older people. To date 69 have been run and the demand shows no sign of abating.

Over the year particular groups have been targeted with special taster sessions and open days.

"People value the library service and that is why we are investing in it", said Councillor Susette Palmer, Chair of the Community Development Policy Development Committee.

Barnet's Project Junior Reader

Gruesome Goalkeepers, the Secret Garden and Rumble in the Jungle were some of the tales told to schoolchildren by Barnet based celebrities.

Barnet Project Reader gave schoolchildren a unique chance to improve their literacy skills by hearing prominent members of the local community such as MPs, Councillors, celebrities, council officers, and

business leaders read their favourite children's books.

The project, part of the council's programme for the National Year of Reading, showed that books are fun.

BEBP secured funding from the North London TEC to help the 500 hundred pupils and 25 schools that took part

When did you finish the last book you read? A week ago? A month? A year?

Since last September Barnet Council has been encouraging everyone to get into a good book. Taking part in National Year of Reading, Barnet Council has been providing schemes and projects to everyone to improve their reading skills.

Barnet Education Business Partnerships (BEBP) has placed a special focus on improving literacy skills of children, and especially boys who tend to read less than girls. One of the schemes Project Reader involved celebrities reading books with schoolchildren in the classroom.

During the National Year of Reading the council hopes

to ensure that more:

- Young children are introduced to books from an early age
- Children and young people read regularly
- Families read together
- People read for pleasure with increased understanding
- People talk about what they read.

The plan is that the Year of Reading will not simply end after twelve months but will be a kickstart for reading for many years to come.

Library donor gives £12,000 for partially sighted readers

Lifelong reader Margaret Spencer has been in and out of Barnet's library for more than 50 years.

Her daughter Jill was a librarian before she died two years ago and her granddaughter, Laura, who is now 15, is considering continuing the family's affair with books into its third generation.

In recent years Margaret's eyesight has been failing and she has been forced to resort to books on tape for the partially sighted to keep up her reading habit. Now she is

preparing to leave the borough and move to the Channel Island of Jersey. To thank the library service and the borough and in memory of her daughter Jill she has donated nearly £12,000 to Barnet libraries to boost their collection of books on tape.

She told Community News:

"We came here in 1946 when we got married and were living quite a long walk from the library.

"We loved books though and soon discovered High Barnet library. It was a very,

very unfriendly place then, probably due to the wartime conditions. It was run by a very old lady and she really was a dragon. She wouldn't let you take any children into the building at all. We were often looking after our niece and we would have to leave her outside! She wouldn't even let you speak. Things are very different now!"

"Jane Austen is my great love. I hungrily devour everything of hers, but I'm a reader generally: Cookery, Gardening and so on. I love - and thrillers: Dick Francis is

a personal favourite.

"The greatest benefit libraries gave me was when I gradually got to the point where I couldn't read even large print and someone suggested I apply for access to talking books and that's been a terrific help.

"The spoken word sometimes brings out the imagery of a book better than in written form and I just hope this gift enables more local people to enjoy the benefits of reading - even if their eyes aren't up "to the job!"

Quality Reads

Arsenal Football Club Vice-Chairman, David Dein, took time out from the Gunners to read Henry's Boots with Manorside Primary. The book was about a pair of football boots that could transform the worst player into the best player.

Photographs, right, from top to bottom:

There are books galore at Monkfrith school's new library. It houses many more books than the former library areas and gives pupils the chance to develop their library skills.

Front to back - pupils Laurie Flitton, Eren Aytac, Maria Fvantzouloub, Alexandra Hambis, and Antonia Pearce.

Mervin Archer, from Natwest Bank, shares the Boy Who Cried Wolf with St Joseph's pupils.

Gruesome Goalkeepers gets a reading by Andy Rubin, Chief Executive, Pentlands Industries, with Underhill Junior.



For information on where to find your local library, services offered and opening hours call the Action Point on 0181-359 4000.

New initiatives for the National Year of Reading

Story Sacks (right) help children enjoy books and become enthusiastic readers. A Story Sack contains, a picture book, a soft toy and item featured in the story, a cassette tape, a non-fiction book, scenery cards and a language game.



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: cllr.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. 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. 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

GEOFF COOKE (Lab)

Tel: 0181-446 5773.
Fax: 0181-446 8315. Surgery: Tuesdays at New Southgate and Friern Barnet Social Club, 31 Oakleigh Road South, New Southgate, London N11, 7-8pm. Also: Saturdays at 104 East Barnet Road, New Barnet, Herts., 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: 0181-440 6254. Surgery: Saturdays at Burnt Oak Library, Watling Avenue, Edgware, Middx, 10.30am-12noon.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

ALLAN TURNER (Lab)

Tel: 0181-952 2106.
e-mail: cllr.a.turner@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at Burnt Oak Library, Watling Avenue, Edgware, Middx, 10.30am-12noon.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

ALAN WILLIAMS (Lab)

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (LABOUR GROUP LEADER)
Tel: 0181-906 0576.

e-mail: cllr.a.williams@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at Burnt Oak Library, Watling Avenue, Edgware, Middx, 10.30am-12noon.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

CHILDS HILL WARD

JACK COHEN (LibDem)

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP LEADER
Tel: 0181-445 3981. 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)

Tel: 0181-455 5140.
Home e-mail: monroepalmer@cix.compulink.co.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: cllr.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.
Surgery: Saturdays at Grahame Park Library, The Concourse, Colindale, NW9 5XL, 10-11am.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

GILL SARGEANT (Lab)

DEPUTY MAYOR
Tel: 0181-455 1070. Surgery: Saturdays at Grahame Park Library, The Concourse, Colindale, NW9 5XL, 10-11am.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

EAST BARNET WARD

USHA CHOPRA (Lab)

MAYOR
Tel and fax: 0181-449 3231.
e-mail: cllr.u.chopra@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at 104 East Barnet Road EN4 8RE, 10.30am-12noon (the Labour Party Office).

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 104 East Barnet Road EN4 8RE, 10.30am-12noon (the Labour Party Office).

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

EAST FINCHLEY WARD

HELEN GORDON (Lab)

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE LABOUR GROUP
Tel and fax: 0181-444 2761.
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.
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. Surgery: Saturdays at East Finchley Neighbourhood Centre, Church Lane, East Finchley, N2, 10-11.30am.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

EDGWARE WARD

MALCOLM LESTER (Con)

Tel: 0181-349 2595.
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: 0181-905 4796
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: 0181-446 9066.
e-mail: cllr.james.chapman@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: 2nd Saturday of 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 of 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 of every month at Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Lane N11, 10.30am-12 noon.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

GARDEN SUBURB WARD

JOHN MARSHALL (Con)

Tel: 0181-922 7081
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.
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: 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.

ABA DUNNER (Con)

Tel: 0181-455 9960. Work Tel: 0181-731 9025
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.

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. Surgery: 3rd Saturday every month at Chipping Barnet Conservative Association, 163 High Street, Barnet, Herts. 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. Surgery: 3rd Saturday every month at Chipping Barnet Conservative Association, 163 High Street, Barnet, Herts., 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)

Tel: 0181-446 6639. Surgery: 3rd Saturday every month at Chipping Barnet Conservative Association, 163 High Street, Barnet, Herts., 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)

Home Tel: 0181-959 7878.
Work tel: 0171-465 5348
e-mail: steven.blomer@kcl.ac.uk
Surgery: 1st and 3rd Saturday every month at Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7 2HX, 1-2.30pm.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

BRIAN GORDON (Con)

Tel: 0181-202 0044. Fax: 0181-202 4145
Surgery: Last Thursday in every month at Hendon Conservative Association, 2 Apex Parade, Selvage Lane, London, NW7, 8.15-9.15pm.

Tel: 0181-381 3339
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

RUTH NYMAN (Lab)

Tel: 0181-959 3369. Work Fax: 0181-903 1943
Home e-mail: email.nyman@virgin.net
Surgery: 1st and 3rd Thursday every month at Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7 2HX, 3.45-4.45pm.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

HENDON WARD

MAUREEN BRAUN (Con)

Tel: 0181-203 1876.
Surgery: 1st Monday every month at Hendon Library, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ, 6.45-7.45pm.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

ANTHONY FINN (Con)

Tel: 0181-202 9689. Work Tel: 0171-328 3272.
Work Fax: 0171-328 2140
Surgery: 1st Monday every month at Hendon Library, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ, 6.45-7.45pm.

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

ANDREW SHERLING (Con)

Tel and fax: 0181-202 8630.
Surgery: 1st Monday every month at Hendon Library, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ. 6.45-7.45pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

MILL HILL WARD**ROGER AXWORTHY (LibDem)**

Tel: 0181-906 8863.
Surgery: Saturdays at Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, Mill Hill, London NW7 2HX, 10am-12noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

WAYNE CASEY (LibDem)

Tel: 0181-906 8189.
Home e-mail: w.j.casey@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, London NW7 2HX, 10am-12noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

JEREMY DAVIES (LibDem)

Tel and fax: 0181-959 6261.
Home e-mail: jeremy.e.davies@barnet.gov.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, London NW7 2HX, 10am-12noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

ST. PAUL'S WARD**KITTY LYONS (Lab)**

Tel: 0181-346 6843.
Surgery: Saturdays at the Labour Party Office, 331 Ballards Lane, Finchley, 11am-12.30pm. Tel: 0181-343 9854.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

KATHY MCGUIRK (Lab)

Tel: 0181-346 8255.
Work Tel and fax: 0181-343 9854.
Surgery: Saturdays at the Labour Party Office, 331 Ballards Lane, Finchley, 11am-12.30pm. Tel: 0181-343 9854.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

JIM TIERNEY (Lab)

Tel: 0181-346 3359.
Surgery: Saturdays at the Labour Party Office, 331 Ballards Lane, Finchley, 11am-12.30pm. Tel: 0181-343 9854.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

TOTTERIDGE WARD**BRIAN COLEMAN (Con)**

Tel: 0181-349 2024. Next surgery is 19 June 1999 10.30am-12noon at Totteridge Library, 109 Totteridge Lane, London N20 8DZ and 17 July 1999 10.30am-12noon at North Finchley Library, Ravensdale Avenue, London N12 9HP.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

or contact 163 High Street, Barnet (0181-449 7345)

KEVIN EDSON (Con)

Tel: 0181-446 8343. Next surgery is 19 June 1999 10.30am-12noon at Totteridge Library, 109 Totteridge Lane, London N20 8DZ and 17 July 1999 10.30am-12noon at North Finchley Library, Ravensdale Avenue, London N12 9HP.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

or contact 163 High Street, Barnet (0181-449 7345)

VICTOR LYON (Con)

Tel: 0181-446 4423.
Next surgery is 19 June 1999 10.30am-12noon at Totteridge Library, 109 Totteridge Lane, London N20 8DZ and 17 July 1999 10.30am-12noon at North Finchley Library, Ravensdale Avenue, London N12 9HP.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

or contact 163 High Street, Barnet (0181-449 7345)

WEST HENDON WARD**ARUN GHOSH (Lab)**

Tel and fax: 0181-202 6841.

Surgery: Saturdays at West Hendon Clinic,

West Hendon Broadway (entrance in Perryfield Way). NW9 10.30am-12noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

AGNES SLOCOMBE (Lab)

Tel: 0181-202 4074.
Surgery: Saturdays at West Hendon Clinic, West Hendon Broadway (entrance in Perryfield Way). NW9. 10.30am-12noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

ANSUYA SODHA (Lab)

Tel: 0181-906 1083 Fax: 0181-959 6035.
Home e-mail: ansuya@vishnu-marketing.demon.co.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at West Hendon Clinic, West Hendon Broadway (entrance in Perryfield Way). NW9. 10.30am-12noon.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

WOODHOUSE WARD**BEVERLEY PEARCE (Lab)**

Tel: 0181-440 0918.
Home e-mail: bevpearce@lyltonroad.demon.co.uk
Surgery: Saturdays at the Labour Party Office, 331 Ballards Lane, N12 8LT, 11am-12.30pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

BARRY RAWLINGS (Lab)

Tel: 0181-343 7259.
Surgery: Saturdays at the Labour Party Office, 331 Ballards Lane N12 8LT, 11am-12.30pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

PAUL ROGERS (Lab)

Tel: 0181-368 1427.
Surgery: Saturdays at the Labour Party Office, 331 Ballards Lane N12 8LT, 11am-12.30pm.
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY.

Community news

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

Editorial, design and production

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Advertising Sales

Contact Pauline Varnals
0181-359 2657

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 2325. Please leave your name and a contact telephone number with your message.

Housing block reopens after facelift

A New Barnet sheltered housing scheme was officially opened by the mayor of Barnet, Councillor Usha Chopra, and the Chair of the Social Affairs Policy Development Committee, Councillor Allan Turner, last month.

Vale Court, in Bulwer Road, has been modernised throughout following a thorough review of sheltered housing across the borough.

The original block comprised of 16 bedsits with shared facilities - it now boasts 14 self-contained flats all with new fitted carpets and electric cookers.

Councillor Turner said: "I am delighted to see this newly-modernised block open and providing such excellent facilities to ensure

the residents can continue to enjoy their independence."

Similar modernisation schemes are planned across the borough. Work is currently underway to install a new lift in The Potteries, a sheltered housing block near Mays Lane, Barnet, and due to begin soon on modernisation of The Garth, a block in Granville Road, Childs Hill. In addition, the council is examining ways of carrying out similar improvements to council residential homes.

"All residents of our accommodation, of whatever type, deserve the absolute best we can provide. We are determined to secure the investment to make that happen," added Cllr Turner.



WELCOME HOME: Mayor of Barnet Cllr Usha Chopra chats to Vale Court residents Eileen Pestell, 94 (left) and Jake Carroll, 93 (right).

Free Toy Safety Tests

Free safety checks on toys and pushchairs are taking place across the borough this summer as part of Barnet Council's pledge to reduce accidents and protect consumers.

Trading Standards officers will be on hand to

conduct a ten-minute safety test on pushchairs and offer advice on purchasing toys.

Checks will take place at Brent Cross Shopping Centre on July 1 and other venues to be arranged. Watch local press for details.

Women's Day Celebrations

International Women's Day was celebrated around the world on Monday, 8 March and Barnet Council played its part by hosting a series of events to mark the occasion.

Girls and young women aged 11 to 25 were able to try activities ranging from keep fit sessions and body care to surfing the internet

and receiving careers advice at the Grahame Park Youth Centre.

Other events to mark the day included a visit to Chipping Barnet Library by acclaimed writer Linda Leatherbarrow and women only sports sessions at Barnet Copthall Centre and Finchley Lido.

Council demands water safety law

Local Authorities and Chambers of Commerce in the areas affected by the 1997 cryptosporidium outbreak have grouped together to call on the government to legislate promptly over cryptosporidium in the public water supply.

Hundreds of people in North London and Hertfordshire suffered stomach complaints in February and March 1997 and the Three Valleys Water Company had to issue a warning to customers to boil their water.

Three Valleys Water was not prosecuted by the Drinking Water Inspectorate over the outbreak because

the evidence was not strong enough to satisfy a court.

Three Valleys Water is being asked to review its procedures to ensure it complies with the latest guidance from the government on reducing the risk from the waterborne parasite.

Barnet Council Leader, Councillor Alan Williams, said: "There is still local concern over cryptosporidium following the outbreak and so we have agreed to lobby government in partnership with other boroughs and the Chambers of Commerce on the need for greater controls to prevent cryptosporidium getting into water supplies."

Smoke Free Guide

The third edition of the popular guide 'Eat Smoke Free in Barnet' is out now with a bigger than ever selection of healthy venues across the borough.

Published jointly with Barnet Health Authority it is the most comprehensive listing yet of restaurants, cafes, bars and pubs which offer customers seating in no smoking areas.

Smoking is known to be a major cause of heart disease and other serious conditions while passive smoking, breathing other peoples smoke, is also associated with ill-health.

Young people and those with asthma and other conditions are known to suffer in smoke filled environments.

And people trying to kick the habit are not helped by others smoking on social occasions when for many the urge to smoke is greatest.

More than 70 eating places are listed ranging from traditional cafes and sandwich bars to fast food outlets, table service restaurants, pubs and bars.

It includes details of the type of speciality food served, whether vegetarian dishes and children's portions are available, those with wheelchair access and how much area is smoke free.

Copies of the guide are available from libraries, GP's surgeries, Action Points, restaurants or by calling Tamsin on 0181-359 4717.



KICK THE HABIT: Mayor of Barnet Cllr Usha Chopra launches the new edition of 'Eat Smoke Free in Barnet' at Barnet Football Club's Underhill Stadium.

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.

FESTIVALS

6 June, 10am-8pm

WATLING FESTIVAL Montrose Park, Montrose Avenue, NW9. One group of visitors will be the Texas Rangers, all dressed up and ready to greet you at the village they will set up in the park. Keeping the USA theme, especially for the children the American Gladiators together with the Bucking Bronco for them to have a go with. At 3.30pm London's Fire Brigade Parachute Display Team will be dropping in and the Virgin Air Ambulance (subject to emergency operational requirements) and Cabair will be offering helicopter rides from the park.

There will be the crazy humour of the North London Barmy Army with their military vehicles for you to explore; the Whitehorn Morris Dancers to show you Lancashire clog dancing; proposed Five A Side competitions run in association with Power League; Watling Festival Dog Show (BARDO (Barnet Association of Responsible Dog Owners) have joined forces with the Bushmead Dog Training and the Watling Ringcraft to run the Kennel Club licensed exemption dog show and for the first time Eukanuba have appointed us to run a heat for Rescue Dog of the Year Competition. All the funds raised this year will be given to the charity Hearing Dogs for the Deaf); traditional children's rides; a race of Thames Barges on the Silkstream; the Apollo Simulator; Des Turner's Punch & Judy Show; an exhibition of running Trams (trolley buses) in the marquee.

The Drunken Monk pub on site with a superb range of ales. You can feast all day at the Watling Festival from breakfast onwards - from a wide range of caterers including a spit roast. Enquiries 0181 959 8595.

19 June, midday onwards
EAST FINCHLEY COMMUNITY FESTIVAL, Cherry Tree Woods, N2. Live bands, clowns, stalls, food, beer. Details, 0181 444 2949.

2,3,7,8,9 & 10 July

'Much Ado About Nothing' at Little Oak Wood Open Air Theatre, Oakwood Road, NW11. Performances at 7.30pm, also 3pm on 3 & 10 July. Tickets sold only 'on door', £5, £3.50 conc. Enquiries, 0181 455 6669.

3 & 4 July, 1-7pm

John Biddall's Funfair from 1-4 July
EAST BARNET COMMUNITY FESTIVAL, Oak Hill Park, Church Hill Road, EN4. American weekend with Funfair. Fancy dress; circus skills; dog show; competitions; bands; line dancing; pony rides etc. £1 entrance for adults, 50p 0-16 yrs.

9-11 July

GRAHAME PARK FESTIVAL, Grahame Park, NW9. Fri, 2-3pm children's concert followed by community clothes sale. Sat. opening ceremony by Mayor 12noon; stalls during day; 7pm 'Cockney Night'. Sun morning church services; 2pm children's disco; 6pm free barbecue for community. Details, phone 0181 205 9865.

14 - 17 July
PENTLAND FINCHLEY CARNIVAL

14 July, All the Fun of the Fair from 5.30pm plus live

music on stage from 6.30pm; 15 July, baby show, children's fun day (children free); 16 July, hospitality afternoon for senior citizens and people with disabilities, from 7.45pm rock and country music and line dancing; 17 July, carnival procession with the carnival queen and marching bands, dog show, charity stalls, arena entertainment all afternoon. Further details, 01992 473633.

THE BULL

THEATRE

23-25 July, 8pm

Guy Masterson Productions 'Berkoff's Women', Edinburgh Festival Preview, directed by Josie Lawrence. Features excerpts from 'Decadence', 'Greek', 'East', 'Salome', 'Agamemnon' plus the World Premiere of a new short story 'From My Point of View'. £8, £6 conc.

28 July, 8pm

Brouhaha 'Well, Farewell', Edinburgh Festival Preview. A kaleidoscope of deep emotions, surreal physical theatre and frighteningly dark humour. Two extraordinary friends share an unexceptional life and an excruciating death. £8, £6 conc.

COMEDY

11 July, 8pm

AngelFest '99 Stand-Up Comedy Benefit Night. Featuring Bill Bailey, Andre Vincent, Pele Trash and three other acts. £7, £5 conc.

COMEDY - EDINBURGH FESTIVAL PREVIEWS

15 July, 8pm

Jason Freeman. £8, £6 conc.

16 July, 8pm

Simon Munnery 'The League Against Tedium'. £8, £6 conc.

17 July, 8pm

Bill Cronshaw and Sean Williams 'Thank You for that. Shall we Move On ...'. £7, £5 conc.

21 July, 8pm

Bound and Gagged present Omid Djalili. £8, £6 conc.

29 July, 8pm

Boothby Graffoe. £8, £6 conc.

COMMUNITY

7-10 July, 8pm

The Association present their new production. £7.50, £6.50 conc.

18 July, 8pm

Theatretrain Loughton present a musical extravaganza, singing, acting and dancing. £6, £4 conc.

22 July, 8pm

The North London Performing Arts Centre present 'The Wiz' (Edinburgh Preview) Funky musical sensation adapted from the classic novel 'The Wizard of Oz'. £7, £5 conc.

GALLERY

3 June-5 July

'Living Now' A mixed media photography exhibition featuring the creations of various groups using Community Focus an arts and photography centre for people with disabilities.

FOYER

10-17 June

Barnet College students 'Work in Progress', a range of media from painting and photography to installation work.

22 June - 6 July

Barnet Borough Arts Council 'Creative Embroidery, Patchwork and Quilting.

GALLERY AND FOYER

14 July - 27 Aug

'Absolute', a mixed media show of large paintings, etchings and installation by Asian artist Durgesh Srivastava

For details of the above listings and classes and courses contact The Bull, 68 High Street, Barnet EN5 5SJ, tel 0181 449 0048.

MUSIC

5 June, 7.30pm

David Kirby (clarinet), Brian Chapple (piano) Music by Gershwins, Rachmaninoff, Chapple (1st perf) St John the Baptist, High Barnet. Tickets £6 (£5 conc). Tel. 0181 447 1847/0181 449 3894 (All proceeds to The Saint JB Millennium Appeal)

26 June, 7.45pm

Finchley Choral Society performing 'From Byrd to Britten - an anthology of English Church Music' with Michael Hamm (conductor) and Richard Harvey (organ). All Saints Church, Durham Road, East Finchley, N2 7E (£5 children and students). Details, 0181 445 9666.

2 & 3 July, 8pm

The Good Companions Amateur Dramatic Society presents 'West End to Broadway', a musical revue including songs by Cole Porter, Noel Coward and Irving Berlin, at John Keble Hall, Deans Lane, Edgware. Sat. matinee at 4.30pm. Tickets £5 incl. light refreshments. Tel. 0181 958 5922.

Sundays, 18 & 25 July

'Jazz in the Park', Avenue House Grounds, Finchley. Free event. Details, 0181 359 3153.

MUSEUMS

Church Farmhouse Museum

Greyhound Hill, Hendon, NW4 Until 6 June, Exhibition 'A Century of Bears', a private collection of teddy bears, lots of bears to see and play with, also Rupert Bear Annuals 26 June - 5 Sept, Exhibition on The History of St. John's Ambulance Brigade. Tel. 0181 203 0130.

Royal Air Force Museum

Grahame Park Way, NW9. 5 & 6 June, Flight Activities Weekend; 10 July, Ladies Day. Phone 0181 200 1763 for more information on events.

GARDENS

19 June, 2pm

New Barnet Amateur Gardeners' and Floral Art Society SUMMER SHOW. St. John's Church Hall, Mowbray Road, New Barnet. Admission 50p. Also 10 June, 8pm, Mr Alec Cooper - 'Italian Highlights - Ancient Cities and Flowers' and 8 July, 8pm, Mrs Jeannette Bell - 'The Essence of Nature' (Floral Art). Lyonsdown Hall, Lyonsdown Road, New Barnet. Members £1.50, visitors £2.

26 June, 2.30-5pm

Totteridge Horticultural Society SUMMER SHOW. In the marquee on Totteridge Green will be summer flowers; flower arrangements by the Totteridge Floral Art Club; summer fruits and vegetables; the Totteridge W.I. exhibiting crafts, jam and baked goods; young people exhibiting in the children's classes; everyone is invited to 'Bring Your Own Rose' on the day. There will be cakes and

plants for sale. Admission to the marquee 50p, members free. The DaCapo Brass Band will perform on the Green, there will be local arts and crafts, gifts and refreshments for sale, side shows, pony rides etc. The flowers exhibited will be auctioned at the end of the show.

Gardens Open in aid of the Barnet Branch of the NSPCC

You are invited to visit the gardens listed below. Entrance is a maximum of £1 per person, unless otherwise stated (half price for children) per garden. Programmes available please ring 0181 343 9666

Sun, 13 June, 2-5pm
Arkley Manor, Rowley Lane, Arkley.
Sat, 26 June, 10am-4pm
7 Netherlands Road, New Barnet.
Sun, 27 June, 2-5pm

19 Moxon Street, Barnet.
The Bow House Gallery, 35 Wood Street, Barnet;
Barnet Parish Church, Wood Street. Only a matter of yards from the Bow House Gallery, the tower of St. John the Baptist Parish Church will be open to enable visitors to enjoy a wonderful view. On a clear day you can see St. Albans Abbey to the north and Crystal Palace in the south.

Sat, 3 July, 10.30am-3.30pm

52 Somerset Road, New Barnet.
Sat, 3 July, 11am-5pm

55 Somerset Road, New Barnet

Sat, 17 July, 2-5pm

Highwood Ash, Highwood Hill, Mill Hill, NW7 (on the corner of Highwood Hill and Totteridge Lane)

Sun, 18 July, 2-5pm

Neva Villa, Summer Grove, Elstree. Off Barnet Lane (no parking in Summer Grove, please use Fortune Lane or Elstree High Street);

St. Mary's Croft, Fortune Lane, Elstree.

Sun, 18 July, 2-5pm

Pennywell Cottage, Fortune Lane, Elstree (parking available in St. Nicholas School, and the Plough Inn, courtesy of the Manager);

60 Deacons Hill Road, Elstree (please park considerately).

Sun, 25 July, 2-5pm

23 Harmsworth Way, Totteridge, N20.

7 Byng Road, Barnet.

Sun, 1 Aug, 2-5pm

51 Cholmeley Crescent, Highgate, N6;

Highgate Allotments, Yeatman Road, N6 (behind Highgate Primary School, on North Hill);

5 St. Regis Close, Alexandra Park Road, N10 (entrance £1.50);

Finchley Allotments, Gordon Road, N3 (access from Nether Street, via Elm Park Road).

WALKS

Enquiries 0181-359 3052

6 June, 10am-12noon

Join Roy Beddard of the Welsh Harp Conservation Group for a circular walk of 3-4km to look at a wide range of water and land birds during the breeding season. Some time will be spent in observation hides, please bring binoculars. Boots/wellies will also be required. Meet at the car park at Woodfield Park, Cool Oak Lane, West Hendon.

6 June, 2.30-4pm

Spooky wildlife and an old nudist colony! Let Oliver Nalson explain these, as well as other secrets and delights of old Finchley on this casual, 2km stroll. Meet at the

United Services Club (War Memorial), Ballards Lane, (nr Kingsway) North Finchley.

13 June, 2-4pm

Discover the history of Hadley, where Edward IV secured his crown in the battle that ended in the War of the Roses. Join the London Borough of Barnet Leisure Services on this interesting 5.5km walk. Bus 84. Meet at the corner of Christchurch Lane and Great North Road (A1000) on Hadley Green.

27 June, 2-4pm

Enjoy guided walks (approx. 1km) and other activities at the Open Day on Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve, courtesy of the London Wildlife Trust and Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust. For further details phone Ann Brown on 0181 346 5011. Bus 107. Meet at Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve, Rowley Lane, Arkley.

4 July, 2-4.30pm

Join the London Borough of Barnet Leisure Services for a guided, 6km walk through Mill Hill's green spaces. Discover the history and ecology of this fascinating area. Buses 221, 240. Tube, Northern Line. Meet at the car park at Mill Hill East Underground Station, Bittacy Hill, Mill Hill.

7 July, 10am-12noon

Celebrate Barnet's Environment Week on this morning stroll (6km) through the Totteridge Valley and discover its rural heritage along the way. Bus 251. Meet the London Borough of Barnet Leisure Services at St Andrews Church, Totteridge Lane, N20

11 July, 11am-5pm

Scratchwood Woodland Festival Have fun at Barnet's Environment Week as you discover Scratchwood Local Nature Reserve and find out about its management. Enjoy guided walks (up to 3km) and activities along the woodland trails - fun for all the family. Phone the Countryside Officer for details on 0181 359 3052 Bus 292

18 July, 10am-12noon

Join Roy Beddard of the Welsh Harp Conservation Group for a circular walk (3-4km) to look for a range of butterflies and dragonflies normally active at this time of year. Bring binoculars as some time will be spent in observation hides. Bring wellies/boots too. Meet at the car park of Woodfield Park, Cool Oak Lane, West Hendon

18 July, 10am or 1.30-3.30pm

Choose the length of walk to suit you (6.5km, 10km or 16.5km) along this living link with lost London. Walk from Picketts Lock to Arnos Grove, starting at 10am (10km) or Arnos Grove to Monken Hadley Common, starting at 1.30pm (6.5km) A mini-bus will be available to take walkers back to the starting point. Please call 01707 650041 to book a place on the minibus which will take you back to the start. Meet the Enfield Ranger Service at Picketts Lock Leisure Centre, Meridian Way, Edmonton N9 at 10am or the CMS at Waterfall Road, Barnet N11 by the viaduct at 1.30pm.

24 July, 10am-12noon

Discover the hidden corners of Coppetts Wood and The Glebe Lands Local Nature Reserve with the Countryside Management Service on this 2.5km guided walk. Meet at the Coppetts Wood car park on Colney Hatch Lane (the B550) Friern Barnet

28 July

Teddy Bears Picnic at Monken Hadley Common as part of the national 'Forest Fever' programme. Details phone 0181 359 3052.

1 Aug, 10am-12noon

Enjoy a walk along the 6km of the London LOOP through Barnet with the London Borough of Barnet Leisure Services. Take in Monken Hadley's woodlands and finish at Cockfosters tube station. Bring money for return fare on the underground. Buses 84, 107, 263, 184, 34, 234. Meet at High Barnet Tube Station car park

BARNET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Forthcoming Events

6 & 7 July

Meet the Buyers 1999. For more details contact Annette Mitchell on 0181 882 0180.

9 July

Environment Week Breakfast. For more details about this event and for the latest information on events please contact Deidre Cavanagh on 0181 343 3833.

BOOK SALES in the following libraries

Friern Barnet, June 3, 4, 5, 8; Golders Green, June 10, 11, 12, 13; Mill Hill, June 17, 18, 19; Osidge, June 25, 26; Church End, June 24, 25, 26, 28, 29; Childs Hill, July 8, 9, 10; North Finchley, July 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, Edgware, July 22, 23, 24; East Barnet, July 30, 31; Burnt Oak, July 29, 30, 31; South Friern, July 27, 28, 29, 30, 31.

21 June, 7.30pm

British Epilepsy Association, Barnet Branch. Talk from Head Office Representative. Also 19 July, Quiz Evening, Trinity Church Centre, Nether Street, North Finchley. Details, 0181 444 4453 or 0181 445 8724

BARNET OPEN POETRY COMPETITION 1999

Over £500 in cash prizes, poems may be up to 35 lines in length. Special categories for 7-11s & 12-16s. Entry fee £1 each poem for Barnet residents, £2 each poem for non-residents. Special fee for school entries 50p each entry (minimum of 5 entries). Entries to be received by 8 October 1999. For entry forms and further details send a stamped, addressed envelope to Barnet Borough Arts Council, PO Box 2000, c/o All Saints Arts Centre, 122 Oakleigh Road North, London N20 9EZ. Also Anthology 1998 available. £5 incl P&P. Tel. enquiries on 0181-446 7989

EUROPE VOTES THURSDAY JUNE 10

Barnet's Chief Executive, Max Caller, has been put in charge of the whole London Region for next month's European elections.

As Regional Returning Officer he will be responsible for the conduct of the first London election ever to be held under PR (Proportional Representation) rules.

With years of experience behind them, Barnet's election team are well placed to lead a London operation on this scale.

Scotland, Wales and the rest of England have been to the polls already in local elections but the European ballot will be the only chance Londoners will have to vote this year.

The European Parliament is the only directly elected cross-country assembly in the world. It currently has 626 members from 15 countries.

In recent years the parliament's

powers over budgets and law making have increased considerably and it is now a big player in shaping the future of Europe.

Turnouts at past Euro Elections in Britain have not been good but there is an upward trend as more and more people realise how important Europe is becoming in their everyday lives.

European cash plays an increasingly important part in many projects now operating in Barnet and by voting in these elections residents will have more say in how this money is distributed.

HOW TO VOTE

European elections since 1979 have been based on constituencies made up of clusters of familiar Westminster constituencies.

Not any more. Britain is now divided into 11 regions with London

one of the biggest returning ten members to represent London Region as a whole.

You will no longer vote for named candidates. Instead the ballot paper - which will be much bigger than usual - will list each party or independent candidate standing.

Beneath each party heading all of that party's candidates will be listed in the order that they will be allocated seats.

You will have one vote as usual but you will put your cross in the box above the party list or independent candidate of your choice.

Specially trained staff will be on hand at all Barnet's Polling Stations ready to help if you have any problems.

Polling Stations will be open from 7.00 am to 10.00 pm.

HOW THE VOTES WILL BE COUNTED

Britain votes on Thursday, June 10 but most of the rest of Europe will vote the following Sunday.

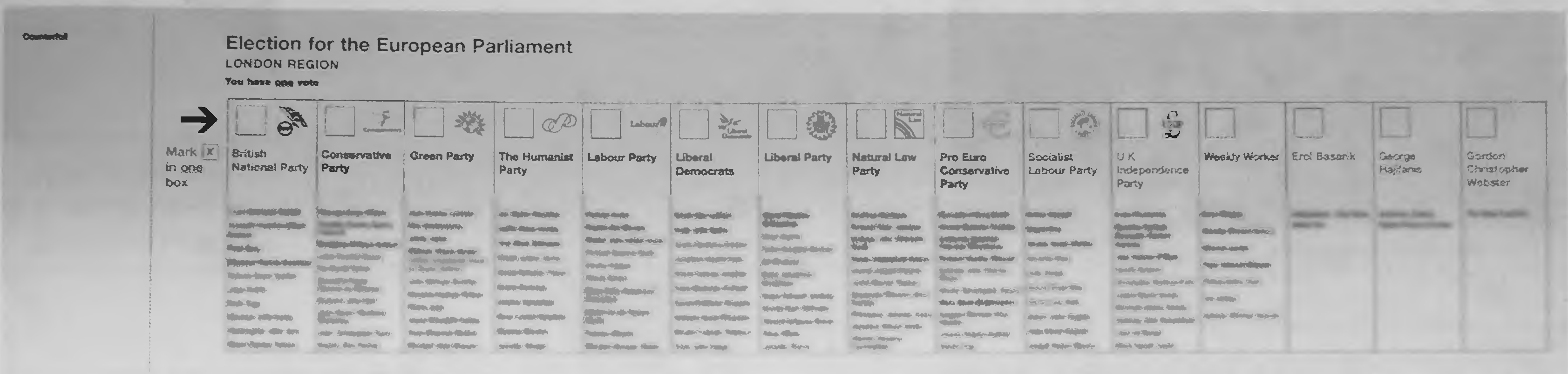
This means that after the polls close, London's ballot papers will be stored in a safe place until the count begins at 9.00pm, Sunday 13 June.

Each London borough will be responsible for counting the votes cast in the constituencies it covers.

The constituency results will then be sent to the Regional Headquarters at Alexandra Palace where the final allocation of seats will be calculated and declared.

This will be done using a system designed to distribute seats in proportion to the number of votes each party receives.

The ten members who will go to Brussels to battle for London will know their fate around midnight.



Mock up of the London Region Ballot paper for the European Parliament Election (actual size 28 inches by 7 inches)

A tale of two cities' suburbs...

M Jean Levain, Mayor of the Paris suburb Chaville, led a French visit to Barnet last month to mark the 40th anniversary of twinning links between the two boroughs.

The twelve-strong delegation - civic leaders and members of Chaville's 'Friends of Barnet' group - spent three days in the borough, visiting many of Barnet's landmarks and places of interest.

The visitors' whistle-stop tour included the Youth Sports Centre at Hendon, the Youth Theatre in East Finchley, Hendon Music Centre and a chance to meet members of the Barnet Youth Against Racism group.

During the visit a plaque was unveiled in memory of former councillor and twinning society chairman Victor Usher. The link between Chaville and Barnet

flourished during Mr Usher's 20 years of office.

Leader of Barnet Council Councillor Alan Williams said: "I am delighted to join our friends from Chaville to celebrate this historic occasion.

"Twinning links between the two boroughs have generated numerous bonds and ties, involving many people.

"There have been school exchanges, sports competitions, music tours and close co-operation on important projects - the recent work by the Barnet Detached Youth Team and the Chaville MJC springs to mind. Long may these fruitful links continue!"

Twinning links were born in 1958 when Friern Barnet Urban District Council established a municipal friendship with Chaville, a suburban town some six miles from the

centre of Paris.

A formal twinning ceremony took place in Chaville on May 3, 1959 and was confirmed in Friern Barnet in August the same year.

A major change came with the creation of the new London Borough of Barnet in 1964. This meant the English town was significantly bigger than its French counterpart, but friendship and shared knowledge have continued to flow both ways unabated.

Barnet's local Friends of Chaville Society organises regular visits to France and hosts visitors from Chaville during their return trips. If you would like to join the society, or plan to visit Chaville, contact the Friends' secretary: John Hart, 11 Mountview, Mill Hill, NW7 3HT or by e-mail on john.hart@virgin.net



TWIN TOWN HALL: Barnet's links with Chaville go back 40 years



FIRM FRIENDS: The Mayors of Barnet and Chaville, Cllr Usha Chopra (left) and M. Jean Levain, join forces to cut a cake commemorating 40 years of town twinning.

Green school entry to boost Barnet in Bloom entries

Three new categories introduced for the Barnet in Bloom '99 competition will make it bigger and brighter than ever before, say organisers.

Councillor Suzette Palmer, said "This ninth Barnet in Bloom competition is set to receive a record number of entries in a record number of categories.

"A carpet of flowers will soon emerge as residents, community groups and businesses make Barnet the borough that sets the standard for the London in Bloom competition. I look forward to seeing the results of their labours."

The final competition of the millennium was launched at a ceremony at the Hendon Hall Hotel, Hendon.

As well as awards for the Best Town Centre, Best Bloomin' Pub, Best Container Garden and Best Front Garden, prizes will be given for the first time for Best Floral Display, Best Balcony Display and the Best School Environmental Garden.

The closing date for entries is 25 June, 1999.

More information and further application forms are available from the address below.



BUSINESS IN BLOOM: Barnet in Bloom sponsors (l-r) Daniel Simons (Sampson and Partners Training), Hilary Chapman (Tesco Stores Ltd), Philippa Bassett (Earth Anchors Ltd) and Brian Geen (Filcris).

Copthall customer walks the Wall of China

Barnet Council's leisure service - TeamBarnet Leisure - is to give regular customer Angie Rosen free fitness training to help her walk the Great Wall of China for charity.

Angie, who came up with the idea during one of Barnet Copthall's 'Sunday Rambles', hopes to complete a gruelling 65-

mile stretch of the Great Wall in just ten days.

Angie is training hard and has already been pledged £1,500 for completing the walk. All money raised will be donated to The Children's Society, which aims to help improve the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable young people.

Celebrating play

Parents and carers congregated at Edgware Infant and Junior Schools over the weekend May 15-16 to find out about help, support and education services available to see children through their early years.

As well as giving local people a chance to celebrate the importance of early years and play, professionals were on hand to answer any child-related questions - from claiming the new working families tax credit to securing a

place at a local school.

Cllr Anne Jarvis, Chair of the Education and Children Policy Development Committee, said: "In organising this day Barnet Council is giving parents and carers help in making the right choices for their children during their early years.

"Working with other agencies and organisations we will be providing the answers to almost all questions at one event, so that should be a great help for parents and carers."

Turn back to the centre spread to find out more about Barnet Arts Festival June 1999



Arts Festival brochures are available free of charge from Barnet libraries or by phoning 0181-359 3152

BARNET IN BLOOM ENTRY FORM

Please return this form by 25 June 1999 to:
London Borough of Barnet Leisure Services
FREEPOST ND1237, 1 Friern Barnet Lane, London N11 3DL
Fax: 0181-359 3011 or 0181-359 2666
e-mail: leisure@barnet.gov.uk or public.relations@barnet.gov.uk

I wish to enter the: (please tick the appropriate box)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Best Front Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Best Container Garden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Best Bloomin' Pub | <input type="checkbox"/> Best Town Centre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Best Balcony Display (New '99) | <input type="checkbox"/> Best Floral Display (New '99) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Best School Environmental Garden | |

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No: _____

Where did you hear about this competition? (please tick appropriate box)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Times Newspaper Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Posters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leaflet in library | <input type="checkbox"/> Previous entrant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend of the Parks | <input type="checkbox"/> Community News |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other. | |


The Barnet in Bloom Competition is entirely self-supporting and relies upon the generosity of local businesses and individuals.

If you would like to make a donation or sponsor a category please tick this box.
I agree to abide by the rules.

Signature _____

Date _____






ALLOTMENT

gardening

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