



Saluting Barnet's veterans

Report and pictures on page 3

contents



3

3 Barnet celebrates Veterans Day



4

4 Spotlight on your ward – Golders Green



6

6 Green Flag to fly high as Barnet has six of the best!



7

7 Barnet's new homes plans move on apace



8

8 Cracking down on crime



9

9 Can you recycle more?



10

10 Barnet Civic Awards: a chance to say "Thank you"



11

11 Aerodrome Road project begins



12

12 Extra Care Housing is coming to Barnet



16

16 Awards for Barnet

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Message from the Leader

Many newspaper column inches and much broadcasting airtime has been devoted recently to refuse collection.

Councils around the country have switched to picking up waste every fortnight instead of every week. They say this will help them increase recycling.

I believe it is very important that local decisions are made locally so I don't criticise other councils for making that move but I can assure Barnet residents that we have no plans to follow suit.

My fellow councillors and I very rarely receive complaints from residents about Barnet's high-quality weekly refuse service. You don't have to just take my word for it either, an independent review also concluded that the service performs very effectively.

When it comes to recycling, Barnet residents have shown us they are already among the best in the country. The figures prove this. In 2002, the recycling rate stood at eight per cent. It is now running at around 32 per cent and we are on course to hit our tough target of recycling 40 per cent of household waste by 2010.

We can still improve further. The council offers a comprehensive service. It's not just about paper, cans and glass. You can put aerosols, mobile phones, foil, clothes, shoes, batteries, engine oil and Yellow Pages in your Black Box every week. I would like to see people make more use of the green wheeled bins available for food and garden waste too. But household waste isn't the full story.

The rubbish we throw away at home accounts for less than 10 per cent of the UK waste stream. Far more is contributed by businesses, construction firms especially.

Recently the council hosted an event and we talked to companies in the borough about how they can help us recycle even more.

This is an excellent start, but wouldn't it be more effective if we could extend the enormously successful compulsory recycling scheme to Barnet's businesses?

I would certainly welcome councils being given greater powers to implement innovative schemes in their local areas and make even greater inroads on this extremely important issue.

Councillor Mike Freer
Leader of the Council



Barnet celebrates Veterans Day



No shortage of lively conversation over lunch in the Town Hall

The council marked national Veterans Day for the first time in June with a day of celebrations.

It began in Hendon Park where Barnet's Mayor, Councillor Maureen Braun, dedicated a "Veterans Avenue" of lime trees to those who served their country. Assisted by the Representative Deputy Lieutenant of Barnet, Martin Russell Esq, she unveiled a plaque, located at the start of the avenue, listing the 16 conflicts between World War II and Iraq (2003).

They then went on to present official Veterans Badges to over 30 of the borough's veterans, who qualified by having served in one of the armed forces before December 1984.

Several of Barnet's councillors received their badge, as well as Freeman of the Borough and former Mayor Leslie Sussman MBE, and the Mayor's husband, Rene, who was a lieutenant in the Royal Pioneer Corps at the time of the Suez crisis in 1956. Each veteran who stepped forward was escorted by a pupil from Bell Lane School in Hendon.

At midday the guests moved on to a Veterans Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's Parish Church, Hendon. The service ended with cadets from Sea Training Corps, Training Ship Broadsword, forming a guard of honour outside the church.

Finally the Mayor held a luncheon reception at Hendon Town Hall, where old friendships were rekindled and new friendships forged.



Light floods through St Mary's Parish Church's beautiful stained glass window upon ranked standard bearers



Reliving memories of VE Day



A standard bearer sets the pace in Hendon Park



The Mayor presents a Veterans Badge to her husband Rene



Standing to attention outside St Mary's Church



A veteran receives her commemorative badge from the Mayor

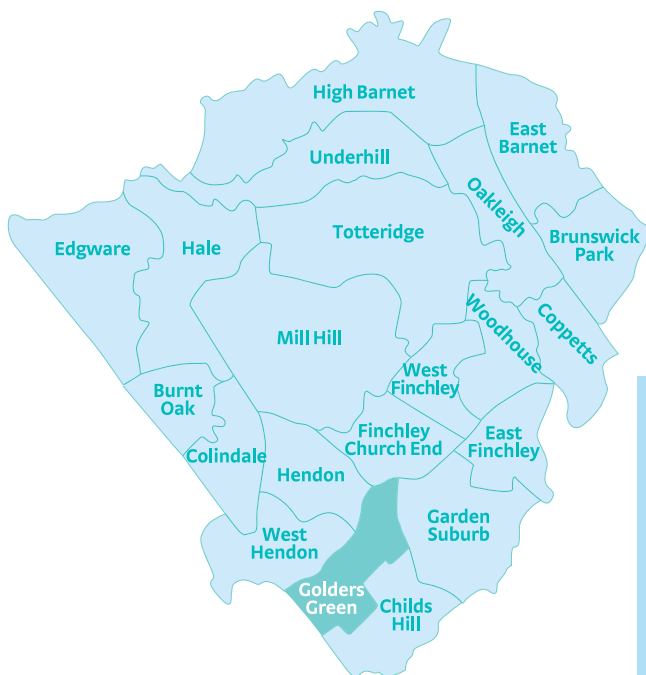


Woodstock School children performing *Hiawatha* in a local park at the time when Oliver Postgate was a child at the school.

Spotlight on your ward

Golders Green

In this issue we turn the spotlight onto Golders Green, which is situated in the south of the borough.



The ward stretches from the tracks of the Midland Railway in the south to the Mutton Brook in the north.

In the 1860s, the Midland Railway Company built Claremont Road to provide access to railway construction. The railway workers' cottages called Brent Midland Terrace were built after 1897. They provided houses for the more important workers on the railway such as drivers, and senior firemen. They are curious in that they have their back gardens (in the form of little allotments) at the front of the house, and the back yard opens out onto the street. This was so that the sight of washed underwear hanging up to dry in the yards of the terraces would not offend passengers on the railway!

Clitterhouse Park had originally been part of Clitterhouse Farm – the word “clitter” originates in the word clay. The farm sold land for Hendon sewage works in the 1880s (where Tesco and Whitefield School stand today), and Hendon Fever Hospital (1890-1929), now the site of Marble Grove. Shortly after 1926 Hampstead FC (Hendon FC from 1946) rented some of the land from Hendon Urban District Council.

Where the Golders Green Estate is today once stood Handley Page's Cricklewood Aerodrome acquired in 1917. Handley Page developed and tested Britain's first bombers which had been requested by the Admiralty to be a “bloody paralysers of an airplane”. The result was the o/100 (because of its 100 foot wingspan). For 10 years from 1919, passenger flights were made to the continent (Paris), but despite its popularity with the flying public it proved too dangerous in an area which was quickly developing as a suburb. The land became Laing's “Golders Green Estate” in 1929. Jean Simmons, the film star, was brought up on the estate, and went to school at the Aida Foster School in Temple Fortune.

Did you know...?*

- Golders Green has the second highest population of Barnet wards – just over 16,000 people – and the highest number of people per household (2.8)
- The ward has the second highest proportion of children aged under five and of people under 19
- 10% of Golders Green workers are employed in the education sector, the second highest proportion in Barnet
- Golders Green has the second highest percentage of single pensioner households in Barnet - 16% of all its households.

* Figures taken from the 2001 census.



Clitterhouse Farm from the air shortly after it had been sold in the 1920s.



The White Swan. Much of the original 18th century building remains, obscured by the Edwardian front.

In the middle of the ward is Golders Green Road. The White Swan pub existed by 1756. The house we see today, although it has an Edwardian front, has earlier, possibly 18th century, fabric. Further down the same road was Sucklings, the blacksmiths. Robert Suckling, a black smith, is mentioned in the census of 1821, (of which the Barnet Local Studies has a rare copy). The last blacksmith, "Alf" Wheeler died in 1940, but the Suckling family continued to work metal on the site until quite recently.

Along the road, where Eagle Lodge is today, was Woodstock School, an unremarkable prep school, except that it was where Oliver Postgate, inventor of Ivor the Engine, Bagpuss, and Noggin the Nog, went to school. Appearing on BBC radio's Desert Island Discs, he remembered the school with some affection.

The Decoy Brook, which rises in Turners Wood, gives its name to Brookside Road and further up in Oakfields Road is St. Barnabas Church. Originally built in 1915, it was extended and rebuilt in the 1930s. The Carmelite Monastery was established in Bridge Lane in 1908.

The point furthest north in the ward is Mutton Brook, and the park walk. This was created in the 1930s and was inspired by a trip to Cologne made by Alfred Pike, Mayor of Finchley, in the 1930s. Pike had been taken for a walk round the city walls, which had been converted into gardens, and realised that Finchley Council could do the same. It became a joint project between Hendon and Finchley.

*** The information for this feature was provided by Barnet's Local Studies and Archives Centre, 80 Daws Lane, Mill Hill, NW7 4SL.**

Tel: 020 8359 3960 or email: library.archives@barnet.gov.uk

What's in Golders Green?

Parks

- Clarefield Park, Claremont Way. Facilities include a children's play area, gardens, wildlife interest, water feature, basketball and a multi-use sports court
- Clitterhouse Recreation Ground, Claremont Road. Facilities include a children's play area, football, cricket and rugby
- Princes Park, Princes Park Road. Play area, gardens, tennis

Schools

- Claremont Road Primary School, Claremont Road
- Menorah Primary School, Woodstock Avenue

Allotments

- Hospital Fields, Hendon Way

Leisure

- Golders Green Library, Golders Green Road
- Hendon Leisure Centre, Marble Drive

Recycling bring banks

- Tesco car park, Tilling Road.

Your councillors

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

Councillor Dean Cohen (Con) has been a ward councillor since 2006.

Tel: 07887 778509

Email: cllr.d.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

Councillor Melvin Cohen (Con) is Barnet's longest serving councillor – he was first elected in 1982. He was Barnet's Mayor in 2003/04 and is currently Cabinet Member for Planning and Environmental Protection.

Tel: 020 8209 0166

Email: cllr.m.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

Councillor Chris Harris (Con) has served the ward since 1998.

Tel: 07949 592512

Email: cllr.c.harris@barnet.gov.uk

Meet your councillors

Barnet's councillors hold regular advice surgeries to give residents the chance to discuss any topics they wish to raise. You can meet your Golders Green councillors on the second Sunday of every month between 2.15 and 3.15pm at Golders Green Library, Golders Green Road, NW11, and on the fourth Sunday of each month at Hendon Sports Centre, Marble Drive, NW2 between 12 noon and 1pm. No appointment is necessary.

clean, green and safe

Blooming great!



John Barrett, of Crispin Road, Burnt Oak, (pictured) was one of many first-time entrants to this year's record-breaking Barnet in Bloom competition – and emerged as winner of the "Best Front Garden" category.

The Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Maureen Braun, will present the prizes at the official awards ceremony next month. Barnet's finalists will also be entered in the London in Bloom competition.

You can see all the winning gardens in all their glory at www.barnet.gov.uk/events/barnetinbloom

Barnet in Bloom is a free-to-enter gardening competition, open to all of the borough's green-fingered residents. If you would like to take part next year, please call Jane Bamber on 020 8359 2493 or email jane.bamber@barnet.gov.uk to be included on the 2008 mailing list.

Hundreds enter schools recycling contest



This year's recycling poster competition has attracted over 500 fantastic entries from children aged four to 13.

There were three age categories – covering nursery age to school year two, years three to six, and years seven and eight.

There were many strong posters in each category but after much deliberation Danny Reich, of Menorah Primary School in Golders Green, won first prize in the youngest category, Dan Moran, of Mathilda Marks Kennedy School in Mill Hill, triumphed in the middle category, while the oldest and overall winner was Nikita Taylor, of The Compton School in North Finchley (pictured with her winning design).

All the winners won a trip to the i-recycle Centre in Islington where they will learn more about the importance of recycling. Nikita's design will be displayed on poster sites around the borough in October.



Green Flag to fly high as Barnet has six of the best!

Green Flags can flutter at six of Barnet's parks this summer after they were chosen to fly the prestigious pennant in recognition of their outstanding high standards.

The Green Flag Award scheme is the national standard for parks throughout England and Wales where excellence is the name of the game.

This award builds on last summer's achievement when Barnet's first four Green Flags were awarded and follows the introduction of our Premier Parks policy in September 2004.

Following our sixfold success, the Green Flag will fly at:

- Old Court House Recreation Ground, High Barnet
- Hendon Park, Hendon Central
- Mill Hill Park, Mill Hill
- Oak Hill Park, East Barnet
- Friary Park, Friern Barnet
- Victoria Park, Finchley.

Old Court House, Hendon, Mill Hill and Oak Hill have successfully retained the Green Flag status bestowed last year, while Friary Park and Victoria Park have achieved the accolade for the first time.

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

Barnet's Cabinet Member for Environment, Councillor Matthew Offord, said: "Barnet residents are now enjoying some of the best parks in the country and this further success is proof of this.

"Only the elite green spaces around the country are awarded Green Flags so I am delighted that the council's hard work to provide top quality parks continues to be highlighted."

There are 16 Premier Parks in Barnet, offering a wide range of facilities, with one within a mile of every home in the borough. Visit www.barnet.gov.uk/premier-parks to find your nearest.

Looking forward: An artist's impression of the new market square planned for Stonegrove



Barnet's new homes plans move on apace

Another of Barnet's big four regeneration schemes has reached an important milestone as developers are in the final stages of completing a planning application for 937 new homes at Stonegrove and Spur Road.

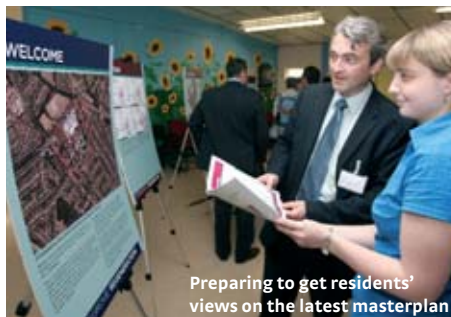
The move follows consultation by the Barratt building group, who are in partnership with the council and Family Mosaic housing association, to revitalise the estates.

A series of exhibitions have given residents the opportunity to have their say in how they want their future to be shaped, and the developers say their final vision reflects much of the feedback received.

The plan envisages a new neighbourhood of 937 homes, a community square for local events, a new community hall and church, parking areas, high quality landscaping, changed traffic access, private and communal gardens and open spaces, and sustainable eco homes.

The partners say they want to provide a place which local people value and choose to live. They have set out to create homes which are welcoming and well thought through, in a well-designed and well-built development.

The plans for Stonegrove and Spur Road will go out for statutory consultation before they are considered by the local planning authority. This will give everyone in the area a chance to see the details of the plans in an exhibition provided by Barnet Council.



Preparing to get residents' views on the latest masterplan

The council's other major projects are also making good progress:

- The first residents are moving into new homes at Grahame Park, and work on the first major stage of the regeneration will begin next year
- A planning application for the huge £4.5bn scheme at Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon is expected shortly and work could start in 2009
- And promoters Warden, along with the council, are almost ready to procure a development partner for the Dollis Valley scheme, which could see a start on site before 2010.

Have you got X appeal?

Have you replied to your voting registration form yet?

Every household in the borough should have received a form asking for the details of all people living in the property who are eligible to vote, and it is essential that you reply to the council as soon as possible.

If you are over 18, British or Irish, or from one of the Commonwealth or EU countries, you should be registered to vote.

It couldn't be easier to register – you can do it over the phone, online or by posting the form back to the return address.

And don't forget that by not registering, you could face difficulties getting bank accounts, credit cards, mortgages or even a mobile phone contract. You will also be unable to vote in local, London or general elections.

For more information, call the electoral registration helpline on 020 8359 5577 or email ero@barnet.gov.uk Alternatively, log on to Barnet Online – www.barnet.gov.uk

Barnet competes in Europe's largest youth games



Young people representing Barnet were among the winners at this year's London Youth Games where over 20,000 young people from across the capital competed for a medal in the highly-acclaimed sports event.

Ryan Searles, 17, won the gold medal for 50m backstroke and Jenny Budden won silver for 50m butterfly.

Bronze medallists included Guy Ben-Aroya and Ralph Maron for table tennis, Lucy Colt, Natalie Ekweogwu and Hannah Taylor for squash and Chekina Makasi for the disability long jump.

Cracking down on crime

Crime and anti-social behaviour are falling in Barnet after a year of close partnership working between the council and the police.



“Closer working with the police through the Safer Communities Partnership Board will, I am sure, bring many more problems under control.”

Figures show a 15% decrease from 2005/6 to 2006/7, with particular success around vandalism, car crime and theft.

However, community safety chiefs are not complacent, and are tasking the council's new Community Protection Group with solving residents' day-to-day problems of anti-social behaviour, graffiti, flytipping and other environmental crime.

The group – set up in April – is currently planning a blitz on illegal flower sellers and illegal street traders, and is also establishing stronger links with the borough's 21 Safer Neighbourhoods teams.

CCTV is continuing to be rolled out across the borough, with recent installations in Whetstone and East Finchley bringing the borough total to 116 cameras.

Councillor Brian Coleman, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Community Engagement, said: “Residents quite rightly highlight problems such as anti-social behaviour, vandalism and graffiti and these are the tasks that the new Community Protection Group has been tasked with, likewise problems around licensed premises.

“Closer working with the police through the Safer Communities Partnership Board will, I am sure, bring many more problems under control.”

Meanwhile, you can help yourself stay safe by following these crime prevention tips:

- Burglary – carefully dispose of all obvious high value item packaging from outside the home after taking delivery of new items
- Keys – never leave keys where they can be reached through the letterbox. This could attract what is known as a ‘fishing rod’ burglary. Sticks or bamboos are used to hook and remove keys from the hallway
- Lighting – consider the use of internal security lighting. Leave lights on or use timer units to switch lamps on at preset times
- Holidays – ask a trusted friend or neighbour to look after your home when you're away
- Mobile phones – make sure you keep your phone out of sight when not in use, use your phone's security lock and make a note of your phone's IMEI identification number – you can find this by typing *#06# into your telephone keypad.

Do even more – online!

Three exciting new services have recently been introduced to Barnet Online – www.barnet.gov.uk



The website is now speech-enabled, meaning that visitors can now listen to its content using a tool called Browsealoud.

The free service makes the internet easier for people with low literacy and reading skills, English as a second language, dyslexia and mild visual impairment.

When you move your mouse over the text on the website, Browsealoud reads the word, sentence or paragraph to you, highlighting the text on the screen as it goes.

It can be customised to allow you to choose a male or female voice and change the speed, pitch and volume of the reader. Other features include a text magnification display option and talking dictionary. Visit www.barnet.gov.uk/help-browsealoud for more information.

Do you want to get your opinion across about important issues in the borough?

Well, you can now take part in online polls on our website.

The quick and easy polls, found on the homepage, aim to act as a “temperature gauge” of opinions on current and topical issues.

The first poll was set up to gauge satisfaction levels of our website visitors on health services for women in the borough.

Did you know that you can now email the content and web address of a Barnet Online page to yourself or a friend?

Look out for the “@Email this page” link at the bottom right hand corner of most pages.

New syllabus for religious education

Barnet will introduce a new religious education syllabus into community schools at the start of the new academic year.

The syllabus will be available to view on the council's website – www.barnet.gov.uk and in hard copy at Barnet libraries from September. See the website for a full list of libraries.

Can you recycle more?

Barnet is renowned across the country for its prowess in recycling, but there is so much more that you can do in addition to putting out your black box every week.

The council recently surveyed the make-up of residents' rubbish and astonishingly discovered that nearly a third of it is made up of recyclable food waste.

You can help us reduce this figure by taking part in our kitchen and garden waste collection service, or by taking advantage of our subsidised composters or wormeries.

Composters are an easy way of disposing of a lot of your kitchen waste while making rich, organic compost for your garden. Wormeries do a similar job, but can break down a larger variety of food products to produce liquid plant feed and compost through their built-in active colonies of tiger worms.

Councillor Matthew Offord, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, said: "Anyone can compost at home. You don't need to be an expert gardener.

It's an easy way of saving money and helping the environment at the same time.

"Barnet residents have shown they can rise to the recycling challenge. Now is the time to go even greener."

Composters are available for between £15 and £40 and can be bought by calling 08451 306090.

Wormeries cost £20 or £30. Call 01884 841515 to order yours.



Plastics – looking to the future

Here in Barnet, we collect 11 items through the black box recycling service, but many residents ask why we can't collect plastic from their home?

Unfortunately the current collection vehicles do not allow the council to effectively collect plastics. Plastics are often difficult to compact and are much lighter than other products such as glass.

Collecting large volumes of plastic would need a vast increase in the number of vehicles we use. This is just not possible at present but with a new recycling contract to begin in October 2008 we will have the opportunity to bring in new vehicles.

The council is working hard on drawing up the new contract for recycling, and the inclusion of plastic bottles and cardboard is being strongly considered because we know that residents are keen for us to collect these materials.

Keep checking your copy of Barnet First over the next year for more news on potential changes to the way we recycle.

Don't forget to WEEE-cycle

Keen recyclers now have an environmentally friendly way to get rid of all their unwanted electrical and electronic equipment.

Visitors to the Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre in Summers Lane, North Finchley, can now drop off white goods and small electrical items like toasters and hair dryers, in addition to fridges, freezers, fluorescent tubes and computer monitors and TV screens, which have been collected for some time. Ask a member of staff where to put these on arrival.

The new facility was introduced as part of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive, which became law on 1 July.

For more information on the WEEE Directive, visit Barnet Online.

Barnet's first single equality scheme

Barnet's first single equality scheme is now in place. It is part of the council's commitment to make all equalities issues integral to everything it does.

The new scheme builds on the council's existing track record of promoting equality. It shows how it will promote race, disability and gender equality and be sensitive to how its services can affect people differently.

The council has used residents' feedback to advise it on how services can be improved to meet their needs. This will be monitored regularly to ensure services continue to do this and make changes and improvements where needed.

Disability Equality Advisory Group looks for new members

Barnet Disability Equality Advisory Group (DEAG) was set up in June as an independent advisory group to act as a 'critical friend' to the council to help it meet its public duty to promote disability equality.

The group is now looking to recruit members from different disabled communities in the borough so that it represents Barnet's diverse disabled community.

If you are interested in becoming a member please contact the chairman, Jaspal Dhani (Director of Disability Action in Borough of Barnet) on 020 8446 6935 or email him at j.dhani@sky.com

Breast screening service now up and running

Update on the Breast Screening Service from Barnet Primary Care Trust

The North London Breast Screening Service, based at Edgware Hospital, restarted in May following a temporary suspension.

The service provides breast screening for women aged 50 and over as part of the NHS Breast Screening Programme.

The service recommenced on a gradual basis. It was done this way to make sure Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust got it absolutely right, allowing women to be confident in the safety, reliability and effectiveness of breast screening in north London.

So far each woman attending routine screening has had her mammogram double-checked and to date there has been 100% compliance with national standards.

Women who have been waiting longest while the service was suspended will be prioritised for screening as work takes place to bring the screening programme fully back on track. By October 2007, all clients whose appointments were cancelled due to the suspension will have been re-invited.

Women are asked to let the trust know if they need to cancel their appointments so it can be rescheduled.

No woman will miss her opportunity to be screened. In October, the trust will be operating a new three-year plan, which will work towards inviting all women over 50 to a breast screening appointment during that period.

If women are concerned about breast changes or symptoms they should consult their GP. If considered necessary, your GP will refer you to a local hospital for screening and assessment within a two-week period. You can also contact the help line on 020 8676 3267, which was set up through NHS Direct to deal with questions about the service. NHS Direct can also put women in contact with their Health Advisors if they have any concerns.

The trust regrets any undue anxiety and inconvenience the temporary suspension has caused over the past few months. It hopes people are reassured that their local NHS is doing everything it can to resolve the situation.

Barnet Civic Awards: a chance to say “thank you”

Don't miss your chance to thank someone who makes a difference to borough life. Barnet residents are being asked to send in nominations for the council's Eighth Annual Civic Awards by the closing date of 30 November 2007.



Those nominated for their positive impact on the community will be honoured at a prestigious ceremony at Hendon Town Hall in February 2008.

The Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Maureen Braun, who will present the awards, said: “Barnet's Civic Awards ceremony gives everyone the opportunity to honour the people who contribute so much to our lives – yet often remain unacknowledged.”

Last year the council received 44 nominations, with each receiving a certificate in recognition of their nomination. There were also six outstanding nominees who received a framed vellum.

The awards are open to all men and women who live or work in the borough. Previous award winners or serving councillors are not eligible for nomination.

Call 020 8359 2493 or email jane.bamber@barnet.gov.uk. You can also download forms at www.barnet.gov.uk/civic-awards.

Health services – your chance to have your say

A major consultation is taking place in Barnet on the future of health services in the borough.

Barnet, Enfield and Haringey PCTs are asking local people and organisations for their views on a list of possible options for the future of healthcare in Barnet before a final decision is made.

All households in Barnet have now received a consultation summary and questionnaire through their door asking them to voice their views.



Responses can be made by:

- completing the form
- online at www.behfuture.nhs.uk
- going to a consultation event (see website for details)
- collecting a questionnaire from a local NHS organisation including GP surgeries, accident and emergency, outpatients and libraries in the borough
- phoning in a response to the questionnaire on freephone 0800 321 3391
- writing to: Freepost RRKR-AEAG-SCXA, Your health, Your future, Centre for Health Management, Tanaka Business School, Imperial College, London SW7 2AZ.

The consultation exercise ends on 19 October 2007.

Expect some disruption as Aerodrome Road project begins

Engineers will start work in September on an ambitious project to dramatically improve transport links to part of the borough.

Replacing two Victorian railway bridges spanning Aerodrome Road in Colindale will allow buses to use the route, provide pedestrians with a footway on both sides of the road and enable traffic to flow more easily in both directions.

This project is vital to support the regeneration of Grahame Park, which will see 3,000 new homes in the coming years.

Although efforts will be made to keep disruption to a minimum, there will be times when the road has to close. This will mostly be in the evenings and at weekends.

The first night time closure is planned for Monday 24 September from 8pm until 6am the following day. Starting on Saturday 3 November, there will also be a series of weekend closures from 10am on Saturdays to 8am on Mondays.

Traffic will be diverted via Grahame Park Way, Bunns Lane, Page Street, and the A41.

Between the end of September and end of January 2008, movement on Aerodrome Road will be restricted to westbound (towards Colindale) traffic only.

The same diversion above will apply.

The first bridge will be replaced between Saturday 29 December and Monday 31 December and the second between Saturday 12 January and Monday 14 January. Aerodrome Road will be closed over these weekends from Friday morning until Monday lunchtime.

Some train services may also be affected. Please check with the train company when you buy tickets.

Councillor Matthew Offord, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport,



said: "Every effort is being made to carry out the project causing as little inconvenience as possible.

"Every effort is being made to carry out the project causing as little inconvenience as possible"

"I know some people will still be affected and I sympathise.

"Of course after these

few months of longer journeys we can all look forward to the massive benefits this work will bring, not least in cutting the queues that form at the existing bridges at busy times."

Details of road closures will be updated on Barnet Online and signs about the closures will be installed in Aerodrome Road.

Updated behaviour code for councillors

Barnet's councillors have signed up to a code of conduct outlining the standards of behaviour expected from them in their public lives.

Agreed by full council, the code applies to all 63 councillors and other council committee members.

Its introduction is part of a national overhaul of rules governing council members, partly prompted by calls from councillors nationwide that existing rulebooks restricted both their human rights and ability to represent their constituents.

The code will now not apply to councillors' private lives, except for conduct that leads to a criminal conviction. Other changes are aimed at making it easier for councillors to effectively communicate their ward residents' needs and opinions, by relaxing the rules on disclosing interests. Now, if the councillor's personal interest is one also held by the majority of ward residents, he or she faces less restrictions speaking on the matter.

Equality and discrimination laws have also been tightened, and the new code spells out clearly that bullying is prohibited.

Keeping to the code of conduct is a legal obligation – anyone breaking the rules faces sanctions up to a maximum penalty of a five-year suspension from their role.

The code of conduct is part of the council's constitution and can be found in full on Barnet Online.

Chinese government visit to Barnet



Photo used with the kind permission of Sing Tao Daily

Eleven Chinese government official leaders visited the council in July, to find out what makes local government tick in the UK.

The delegates, from the Standing Committee of the People's Congress of Henan Province, were met by Councillor Andrew Harper (pictured), Barnet's Cabinet Member for Policy and Performance, and senior officers from the council, who talked about the way the council makes decisions, how we consult with our residents, formulate policy and monitor effectiveness and performance.



Extra Care Housing is coming to Barnet

Extra Care Housing is a new way of supporting older people to live in their own home by offering an environment in which care and support are close at hand, but where an independent lifestyle can be retained as far as possible.

It's housing which offers self-contained flats for rent or sale, together with communal facilities (such as a lounge, café, hairdressing or treatment rooms) and where care, as well as support services, are available from a staff team based on site 24 hours a day.

The council has recently commissioned two schemes – in East Barnet and Burnt Oak – due to be completed in early 2008.

Currently being built by Sanctuary Housing Association and Catalyst Communities Housing Association, there will be a total of 102 flats, mainly for rent but also a few for sale. The flats for rent will be targeted principally at older people on low or moderate incomes,

who need help with daily living tasks and personal care. The leasehold flats for sale are for those who wish, for example, to use the value of their home to secure the care they need in older age.

The council is now starting to collect names of interested people for the schemes, as moving house is a big decision for many older people and they will need time to think about options.

If you think that Extra Care Housing would be a good choice for you or someone you know, please contact the Older Adults Duty Team on 020 8359 2440 or email olderadults.dutyteam@barnet.gov.uk

If you would like information about the leasehold flats that are for sale in East Barnet contact The Property Studio on 020 8441 3030.

Barnet Hearing Advice Service – can you help?

Adapting to hearing loss and using a hearing aid can be difficult and traumatic.

Many people issued with hearing aids give up on wearing them, which increases the sense of isolation and frustration that hearing loss often brings.

The Barnet Hearing Advice Service, run by Barnet Council and the audiology departments at Barnet General and Edgware Hospitals, aims to offer support to people who use NHS hearing aids.

Trained volunteers are on hand to provide support, information and advice about managing a hearing loss and maintenance of hearing aids through home visits or at the drop-in sessions.

And the service is now recruiting more volunteers so it can help even more housebound users.

Volunteers receive ongoing updates, support, guidance, advice and paid expenses, as well as the satisfaction of knowing they have helped people manage their hearing loss, which makes a real difference to the quality of lives.

If you think you or someone you know could benefit from the service, or want to volunteer, please contact the Barnet Hearing Advice Service co-ordinator on 020 8359 4694 or email hearing-advice@barnet.gov.uk

Hearing Advice Service drop-in sessions:

- Mondays 1-3pm, Finchley Memorial Hospital, Granville Road, London N12 0JE
- Wednesday 1-2.30pm, Boyne Avenue Surgery, 57 Boyne Avenue, Hendon NW4 2JL.

First disability badminton club in London opens in Barnet

A new badminton club for people with disabilities has opened at Barnet Burnt Oak Leisure Centre, Edgware.

The club is open every Wednesday between 5 and 7pm for people with all disabilities aged 16 plus. Disabled people, whatever their level of badminton, are welcome.

Meva Singh, who represents both England and Great Britain in the national disabled badminton team, and is affiliated to the new club, said: "The club is the first of its kind – no other London badminton club has a disability provision. Who knows, maybe through the club we will find potential players for the 2012 Paralympics."

The club is supported by Barnet Council, Barnet MENCAP, Badminton England, Greenwich Leisure Limited and the London Sports Forum For Disabled People.

For further information, contact either Chris Oak at Greenwich Leisure Limited on 020 8201 0982, email: chris.oak@gll.org or Jon Train on 01895 264 322, email: jontrain@badmintonengland.co.uk



What's on in Barnet during September and October

Leisure/pastimes

Hampstead Garden Suburb 100 years until 7 September

Church Farmhouse Museum, Greyhound Hill, Hendon, NW4 4JR. Celebrating the centenary of Hampstead Garden Suburb. For details and opening times, please call 020 8359 3942. Admission free.

Friern Barnet in "The Times Online"

26 September 7.45pm

St John's Church Hall, Friern Barnet Lane, N20. An illustrated talk by Hugh Petrie. Cost: members free; £2 for non members.

Piero della Francesca

30 September

14 Litchfield Way, NW11 6NJ. Anglo Italian Cultural Circle event. Pat Barker, a teacher of sculpturing, talks about the artist. Cost £3.

Barnet and Finchley Photographic Club

Thursdays 8pm

37 Salisbury Road, High Barnet, EN5. The club meets every Thursday. Annual subscription £45 – newcomers are welcome to try the group for three weeks before committing. Contact Mr Charles on 020 8449 6809 for more information.

Almshouses

24 October 7.45pm

St John's Church Hall, Friern Barnet Lane, N20. A talk by Peter Wilcocks. Cost: members free; £2 non-members. Free light refreshments.



Miscellaneous

Finchley Army Cadet Force

Every Monday and Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm

Finchley Cadet Centre, 444 High Road, Finchley, N12 0AE. A national youth organisation for young people aged between 12 and 18 providing challenging, adventurous and fun activities, including military tactics, physical training, first aid and much more. Cost: free.

Barnet Plus Social and Leisure Group

Sunday nights 8.45pm

The Railway Tavern, 3 East Barnet Road, New Barnet, EN4 8RR. Social and leisure activities for 18 to 35-year-olds. More details: visit www.barnetplus.com or call Mark on 020 8361 2827. Cost: free.

Council meetings – dates for your diary

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

September

- 3 Cabinet Resources
- 5 Planning and Environment Committee
- 10 Cabinet Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 11 Council
- 17 First Class Education and Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 18 Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee; Tackling Crime and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 19 Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee; Supporting the Vulnerable in our Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 20 Audit Committee; Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee; Finchley and Golders Green Residents Forum
- 24 Hendon Residents Forum
- 25 General Functions Committee; Chipping Barnet Residents Forum

October

- 8 Planning and Environment Committee
- 16 Cleaner, Greener, Transport and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 18 Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 22 Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 23 Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 29 Cabinet
- 30 Licensing Committee
- 31 Cabinet Resources Committee

Meet... your members

Note: All codes are 020 unless otherwise indicated.

Brunswick Park Ward

Lynne Hillan (Con)

8446 5954
cllr.l.hillan@barnet.gov.uk

Andreas Tambourides (Con)

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

Surgery details:

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

Lisa Rutter (Con)

8445 3829
cllr.l.rutter@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

Burnt Oak Ward

Claire Farrier (Lab)

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

Linda McFadyen (Lab)

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

Charlie O-Macauley (Lab)

07796 284110
cllr.c.omacauley@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

Childs Hill Ward

Jack Cohen (LibDem)

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

Monroe Palmer (LibDem)

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

Susette Palmer (LibDem)

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

Surgery details:

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

Colindale Ward

Danish Chopra (Lab)

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

Gill Sargeant (Lab)

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

Zakia Zubairi (Lab)

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

Surgery details:

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

Coppetts Ward

Mukesh Depala (Con)

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

Kate Salinger (Con)

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

Surgery details:

First Saturday every month,
Friern Barnet Library, Friern
Barnet Road, N11
10.30am – 12noon
Second Saturday every month,
Hollickwood School,
1.30 – 3 pm

Barry Rawlings (Lab)

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

Surgery details:

First and third Saturday every
month, St Peter Le Poer Church,
Albion Avenue, N10 10.30am –
12noon

Other Saturdays, Friern Barnet
Library, Friern Barnet Road, N11
10.30am – 12noon

East Barnet Ward

Terence Burton (Con)

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

Robert Rams (Con)

8446 7291
cllr.r.rams@barnet.gov.uk

Joanna Tambourides (Con)

8361 9154
cllr.j.tambourides@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

First Saturday of each month,
New Barnet Community Centre,
48-50 Victoria Road, New Barnet,
EN4
10.30am – 12noon

Third Saturday of each month,
East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill
Road, East Barnet, EN4
10.30am – 12noon

East Finchley Ward

Andrew McNeil (Lab)

cllr.a.mcneil@barnet.gov.uk

Alison Moore (Lab)

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

Colin Rogers (Lab)

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

Surgery details:

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

Edgware Ward

Helena Hart (Con)

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

Joan Scannell (Con)

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

Richard Weider (Con)

8958 0640
cllr.r.weider@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

Finchley Church End Ward

Michael Freer (Con)

Leader of the Council
(Conservative group leader)
8359 2059
cllr.m.freer@barnet.gov.uk

Eva Greenspan (Con)

8203 1598
cllr.e.greenspan@barnet.gov.uk

Daniel Thomas (Con)

cllr.d.thomas@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

Garden Suburb Ward

Andrew Harper (Con)

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

John Marshall (Con)

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

Jazmin Naghar (Con)

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

Surgery details:

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

Golders Green Ward

Dean Cohen (Con)

07887 778509
cllr.d.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

Melvin Cohen (Con)

8209 0166
cllr.m.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

Christopher Harris (Con)

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

Contacting your MPs

Chipping Barnet

Theresa Villiers

Office: 163 High Street, Barnet, EN5 5SU

Tel: 020 8449 7345

Finchley and Golders Green

Dr Rudi Vis

Office: 38 Church Lane, East Finchley, N2 8DT

Tel: 020 8883 0411

Hendon

Andrew Dismore

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

Tel: 020 8202 2122

Greater London Assembly

Member for Barnet and Camden

Councillor Brian Coleman

Office: City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London, SE1 2AA

Tel: 020 7983 4367

Surgery details:

Second Sunday every month, Golders Green Library, Golders Green Road, NW11
2.15 – 3.15pm

Fourth Sunday every month, Hendon Sports Centre, Marble Drive, Brent Cross, NW2
12noon – 1pm

Hale Ward

Jane Ellison (Con)

07976 257599

cllr.j.ellison@barnet.gov.uk

Brian Gordon (Con)

8931 5062

cllr.b.gordon@barnet.gov.uk

Hugh Rayner (Con)

8958 3364

cllr.h.rayner@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

First Thursday every month alternating between Edgware Library, Hale Lane, Edgware, HA8, and Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7 (call 8958 3364 for locations)

Hendon Ward

Maureen Braun (Con)

Mayor

8906 0447

cllr.m.braun@barnet.gov.uk

Anthony Finn (Con)

8202 9689

cllr.a.finn@barnet.gov.uk

Matthew Offord (Con)

Deputy Leader of the Council (Conservative group deputy leader)

8202 5319

cllr.m.offord@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

High Barnet Ward

Duncan Macdonald (Lib Dem)

8344 2674

cllr.d.macdonald@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

Second Saturday every month at Chipping Barnet Library, Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN4
3.30pm – 4.30pm.

Bridget Perry (Con)

8441 5683

cllr.b.perry@barnet.gov.uk

Wendy Prentice (Con)

8364 9249

E: cllr.w.prentice@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

Mill Hill Ward

Wayne Casey (LibDem)

Deputy Leader of the LibDem Group

8906 8189

cllr.w.casey@barnet.gov.uk

Jeremy Davies (LibDem)

8381 0089

cllr.j.davies@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

John Hart (Con)

8381 0083

cllr.j.hart@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

Selective Tuesdays, Mill Hill Library, Hartley Avenue, NW7
6 – 8pm

Selective Saturdays at Canada Villa, Pursley Road, NW7 10am – 12noon. Ring for dates.

Oakleigh Ward

Sachin Rajput (Con)

8381 0096

cllr.s.rajput@barnet.gov.uk

Marina Yannakoudakis (Con)

8445 8175

cllr.m.yannakoudakis@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

Brian Salinger (Con)

8368 1329

cllr.b.salinger@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

First Saturday of every month at Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Road, N11
10.30am – 12noon

Totteridge Ward

Brian Coleman (Con)

8349 2024

cllr.b.coleman@barnet.gov.uk

Richard Cornelius (Con)

Deputy Mayor

8445 5886

cllr.r.cornelius@barnet.gov.uk

Caroline Margo (Con)

8371 9312

cllr.c.margo@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

Underhill Ward

Fiona Bulmer (Con)

8344 2672

cllr.f.bulmer@barnet.gov.uk

Daniel Webb (Con)

8349 2256

cllr.d.webb@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

Anita Campbell (Lab)

8440 2703

cllr.a.campbell@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

West Finchley Ward

Ross Houston (Lab)

8343 7451

cllr.r.houston@barnet.gov.uk

Kath McGuirk (Lab)

8209 1462

cllr.k.mcguirk@barnet.gov.uk

Jim Tierney (Lab)

8346 3359

cllr.j.tierney@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

West Hendon Ward

Julie Johnson (Lab)

8203 3531

cllr.j.johnson@barnet.gov.uk

Agnes Slocombe (Lab)

8202 4074

cllr.a.slocombe@barnet.gov.uk

Ansuya Sodha (Lab)

8959 6035

cllr.a.sodha@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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

Woodhouse Ward

Geof Cooke (Lab)

8446 8407

cllr.g.cooke@barnet.gov.uk

Anne Hutton (Lab)

8883 0996

cllr.a.hutton@barnet.gov.uk

Alan Schneiderman (Lab)

8731 9680

cllr.a.schneiderman@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details:

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



Awards for Barnet

Awards season it truly was for Barnet Children's Service as schools, teachers, and council officers were showered with awards to acknowledge their outstanding contributions.



Angela Duffin (second right) receives her award from actress Amanda Mealing (left)

First up were the UK Teaching Awards where four Barnet teachers celebrated at a glittering awards ceremony held at the glamorous Café Royal.

Chosen from 6000 nominations to become finalists, Cynthia Jacobs from Kisharon School won the Special Needs Teacher of

the Year category, Marian Hossell from Brunswick Park Primary in Southgate was commended in the Lifetime Achievement category and Kate Webster from Queen Elizabeth Girls School, Barnet, was commended for Headteacher of the Year in a Secondary School (all pictured above). Bridget Costi (not pictured) from The Pavilion Centre in Friern Barnet was commended for Teaching Assistant of the Year.

Several schools were also commended for their achievements over the academic year including Bell Lane Primary in Hendon for its

short film "Boring School", which won the Choice Award at the annual Cineclub Award Ceremony; Church Hill Primary, in East Barnet, received a Secure Environments award after making security a part of school life and Barnet Hill Primary became the Middlesex County FA Charter Standard Primary School Winner for 2007.

Lastly, Angela Duffin, a leaving care worker, received a highly acclaimed Believe in Me award for her work in the care system and the positive impact she has had on young people's lives.

Angela was nominated for the award by one of her care leavers and was one of 20 winners chosen from thousands of nominations across the country.

These awards, all appreciated and deserving, add to the numerous awards given to schools, the council and staff every year – testimony to the good work Barnet is doing.

"I congratulate all the awards winners on their well deserved success," said Councillor Fiona Bulmer, Cabinet Member for Children's Services. "We can be really proud that we have so many dedicated and talented people working in Barnet who do such a brilliant job in supporting children and young people across the borough."

Engaging Muslim youths

This year the council was awarded £96,000 from the Government to work with young Muslims to increase their confidence and capacity.

In partnership with Ayesha Community Education, Somali Family Support Group, Paiwand, Iftiin, local mosques, Barnet College, Middlesex University, Barnet Council for Voluntary Services, the Metropolitan Police and Greater London Pensioners Group, the council is using the money to fund six projects including:

- **community research** – using local young people to develop research skills by finding out about the values and opinions of Barnet's Muslim communities
- **training for imams, youth workers and other agencies** – two courses running concurrently; one for public services to understand how they can deliver even better services to our local communities, the other to increase confidence among local Muslims to challenge the misrepresentation of Islam by extremists
- **working with Muslim young people** – through a youth work programme run between Barnet Youth, Connexions and local community organisations
- **support to women's groups** to increase Muslim women's resilience and confidence to support their communities in the face of terror.

The programme runs until next March.

If you would like to know more about these projects log onto www.barnet.gov.uk and click on the contact us link at the top of the home page.

Barnet foster carer goes to Palace

Rosemary Tighe, a foster carer for the last 16 years, is pictured at the annual Royal Garden Party with Ylber Pirani, 24, who she looked after for two years.

Held at Buckingham Palace three times a year, Rosemary, from Friern Barnet, was chosen to attend to mark her outstanding service and contribution to society.

She said: "Attending the party was not just a lovely day out, but also very rewarding to realise that my work with young people over the years has been recognised and appreciated."

Rosemary and Ylber were part of a party from the council who attended the event. It also included councillors Andreas and Joanna Tambourides and Councillor Lynne Hillan.

