

barnetfirst

issue 41 March/April 2010



Spring cleaning Barnet
See page 6

Contents

Leader's column	2
News in brief	3
Clean sweep for borough	6
Make your garden spring clean extra green	7
"I treat 'my boys' as my own"	8
My Barnet	10
Helping you make the right choices	12
Barnet pupils take centre stage	13
What's on in Barnet	13
Meet your members	14
Working hours	16

Barnet First is your magazine, bringing you news and features about what your council is doing for you. For editorial or advertising queries, or to make comments about the magazine, please contact Jade Asije on 020 8359 7737 or email barnet.first@barnet.gov.uk

Copies of Barnet First are delivered to every home in the borough. The magazine is printed on 100% recycled paper and can be recycled after use. The cost of designing, printing and distributing each magazine is just over 10 pence per issue.

Barnet First is also available in large print or on audio tape.

Leader's column



It's an honour to be able to write this column as Leader for the first time and, more importantly, to work on your behalf to develop and improve public services in Barnet. One of Barnet Council's child protection workers (in fact Robert Maynard who features on the back of this magazine) appeared recently on BBC Six O'clock News talking about the success of child protection services across the country.

A university study has demonstrated that almost every year since the 1970s has seen a drop in the number of children under 14 who have suffered violent deaths. While we all view one such death as a tragedy, this drop is hugely welcome. It demonstrates that in many cases child protection services are doing an extraordinary job. Put simply, social workers like Robert are saving lives and intervening in difficult situations to improve the lives of children on a daily basis.

In the last two years, notably since the tragic death of Baby Peter in another London borough, we have seen a dramatic rise in the number of children referred to social services.

This is in part down to better reporting from our colleagues in Barnet Police, but also because the public is more vigilant. It is no longer acceptable to walk by and turn away when someone else is abusing a child. Improved relationships between parts of the public sector, and greater support from the public, have enabled councils to improve many services over recent years.

As this issue of Barnet First makes clear, the work of council staff touches the lives of almost every resident. From steam cleaning our town centres and supporting foster parents as they look after some of the borough's most disadvantaged young people, to making it easier for older people in the borough to access the support we provide for them, the council's work reaches the lives of every resident.

L. Hillan

Lynne Hillan

News in brief

Vital funding boost for estate renewal



The regeneration of Stonegrove and Spur Road has received a huge boost with the award of millions of pounds of vital funding from the government's Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), subject to a final legal agreement between the HCA and Barratt Homes.

The investment of over £10m will clear the way for the construction of 36 homes for sale, 17 shared ownership properties and 45 social rented flats for existing residents on the estate.

Construction work on the new homes will begin later this year with completion early in 2011.

For more information on the council's regeneration programmes, visit www.barnet.gov.uk/regeneration-projects

Street blitz leads to arrests



Illegal traders using rigged scales to sell goods to unsuspecting Barnet residents were uncovered during a recent joint investigation between Barnet Council and the UK Border Agency.

The operation at a street market in Watling Avenue, Burnt Oak, not only resulted in the measuring equipment being confiscated and traders' stalls removed, but three failed asylum seekers were also identified, two of whom have now been removed from the country.

For further information on asylum and immigration in Barnet, visit www.barnet.gov.uk/asylum-immigration

'High quality' development plan for Colindale

After nearly two years of intensive work, the council's Area Action Plan (AAP) for Colindale has been praised as "high quality" by a government planning inspector. Subject to approval by a full council meeting on March 2, the plan will form the framework for substantial growth in the area, which could bring 10,000 new homes and 1,000 new jobs over the next 20 years.

For details of the plan visit www.barnet.gov.uk/colindale-area-action-brochure-dec07.pdf

Use your vote

With Local Government elections being held on 6 May this year and a Parliamentary General election due before early June, it is more important than ever for residents to ensure they are registered.

In order to be registered, you must be 18 or over and a resident of the London Borough of Barnet. If you are not registered you will not be able to vote in either election.

If you have difficulty participating on 6 May, registered residents can apply for a postal vote.

The last date to register to participate in local elections or to apply for a postal vote is 20 April 2010.

For further information call 020 8359 5577 or visit www.barnet.gov.uk/electoral-register





New play areas for Barnet's children

Young people from across the borough came together earlier this year to give the council their thoughts and ideas on what they'd like to see in their local play areas.

With a number of designs drawn up, eleven new play areas are now due for completion at Silkstream, Colindale Park, Bethune Park, Oak Hill, Cherry Tree Woods, Stoneyfields Park, Sunnyhill Park, Tudor Sports Ground, Swan Lane Open Space, York Park and Mill Hill Park.

For further information on things to do for children and young people in your local area, call FYi on 0800 389 8312 or visit www.barnet.gov.uk/extra-curricular-activities

More trees for Barnet

At the time of going to press, nearly 100 trees are set to have been planted along the busy Edgware Road, also known as the A5 corridor.

Dawn Redwoods, thought to be extinct until rediscovered in a remote part of China in 1941, have been chosen as they're known to be good urban trees, growing tall and straight and thriving in city air.



Money to plant and maintain the trees over the next three years has been provided from the Mayor of London's Street Tree Programme, aimed at making London greener, benefiting both Londoners' quality of life as well as helping tackle issues such as climate change.

For further information on the council's environmental policy, and how we're tackling climate change, visit www.barnet.gov.uk/environmental-policy

New equipment at 'al fresco' gym

Residents can keep up with their new year's resolution to keep fit, following the installation of four new pieces of equipment at the all weather gym at Oakhill Park in High Barnet.



The gym, which is based outdoors and free for all to use, has a surfer, leg press and space walker. And now, thanks to the Friends of Oakhill Park, has a skier, sit up bench, pull down exerciser and chest press.

The equipment – which uses hydraulics rather than weights – provides a safe and enjoyable way to exercise for all ages.

For more information on sports facilities in the borough visit www.barnet.gov.uk/sports-clubs-centres

Ofsted inspection results are great for Barnet College



Barnet College is celebrating after receiving the results of a challenging Ofsted inspection. In the 2010 report, Barnet College was graded "outstanding" in "Independent Living and Life Skills" and "Employer Responsiveness".

Overall Barnet College was given the thumbs up by Ofsted and rated "good" by inspectors with a grade 2 - a real credit for a college of its size and diversity.

For information about courses offered at Barnet College visit www.barnet.ac.uk

Barnet prepares for 'baby boomers' with extra school places



Four primary schools are working with Barnet Council to prepare extra school places ahead of the anticipated demand from this year's 'baby boomers'.

Woodcroft, Tudor, Monkfrith and Dollis Infant schools have so far agreed to prepare to accommodate up to 120 additional pupils, with each school taking an extra class of 30 pupils. Woodcroft and Tudor will have a temporary demountable classroom while Monkfrith and Dollis Infant schools will have small modifications to their buildings to create additional room.

Any parent living near these four schools who wishes to adjust their application for a primary school place in the light of this information can contact the School's Admissions team on 020 8359 7651 before the 12 March 2010.

Offers can be viewed online from 4pm on 16 April and will arrive through the post on 17 April.

For more information on primary school places visit www.barnet.gov.uk/education-primary-admissions

Calling groups who need support raising cash

If you're a community or voluntary organisation and need help raising funds, CommUNITY Barnet can now offer their support after Barnet Council awarded it £35,000 to support the Funding Advice Service.

The service is available to members of CommUNITY Barnet and offers one-to-one advice and consultancy sessions as well as regular training workshops. It also covers wider issues such as tendering for contracts, commissioning and marketing.

For further information about CommUNITY Barnet's Funding Advice Service call 020 8364 8400 or visit www.communitybarnet.org.uk



Take the success of your business into your own hands

Small and medium businesses in Barnet can take advantage of an online checklist to ensure they're organised and operating efficiently.

Launched by Business Link in London, the checklist covers areas such as finance and banking, sales and sales projections, customer relationships and staffing issues. The checklist can be completed in 15 minutes, with a summary and guidance provided at the end.

To access the checklist visit www.businesslink.gov.uk

Introducing new essential standards of care

From April 2010, NHS hospitals in Barnet will be expected to meet new standards of quality and safety that respect the dignity and rights of all patients.

The new independent regulator of health and adult social care, the Care Quality Commission (CQC), will be licensing services and monitoring standards across all health and adult social care services in England, with NHS trusts being the first to come into the system.

The 16 new standards include being involved in discussions about your care and treatment, experiencing care in a clean environment, and receiving co-ordinated care when you move between providers.

For further information visit the CQC website at www.cqc.org.uk

If you would like to speak to someone about any of the news featured here, please see 'Contacting your council' on page 15.



Clean sweep for borough

As part of the council's 'spring clean', crews are tackling 20 of the borough's busiest town centres, steam cleaning pavements, as part of a three month rolling programme

Although each town centre is swept on a daily basis, this extra work is carried out to make sure Barnet is as clean and green as possible.

Using high pressured jet washers, stubborn and unsightly marks, caused mostly by spilt food and drink, are being removed, refreshing the borough's streets.

Highways teams are also out and about repairing damaged roads and pavements following January's cold weather, repairing more than 1,200 potholes

during January alone. This averaged about 100 repairs each day, compared to the 1,000 potholes usually repaired in a typical year.

Crews are now repairing minor potholes within a maximum of 10 working days, but where potholes present a serious hazard repairs are made within four hours.

Dedicated graffiti removal teams are also continuing to target areas blighted by unsightly scrawls, such as shopping centres, main roads and town centres. And the borough's 206 parks and open spaces have been receiving a spruce up ahead of the summer season with ground maintenance crews shaping and weeding flower beds and floral displays.

- More than 517 miles of roads are mechanically swept each month across the borough.
- During the last financial year, the council spent £6.7 million on road and pavement maintenance, including £80,000 on pothole repairs alone.
- The council spends £5.1m each year cleaning the borough's streets.
- More than 80 staff work to keep the borough's greenspaces tidy.

Make your garden spring clean extra green

With spring just around the corner, many people's thoughts will soon start to turn towards their garden.

Barnet Council is offering residents the chance to sign up for a free green recycling bin to dispose of pruned branches and grass cuttings, as well as all leftover vegetable waste.

Food and garden waste makes up 35 per cent of all household waste in Barnet. By using the green bin fully, residents can divert a huge amount of waste from landfill and produce compost to help keep London's soil healthy.

The contents of the green bins are taken to London Eco-Park in Edmonton where it is composted and distributed for use across parks in the capital, as well as in agriculture.

However, if you would like to produce your own compost, Barnet Council also offers residents a subsidised composter or wormery.

Over 13,000 households in Barnet have already bought a subsidised compost bin. For further advice call 020 8359 7400.

For more information on services visit www.barnet.gov.uk/recycling or call 020 8359 4600

To report maintenance issues visit barnet.fixmystreet.com or call customer services on 020 8359 1000





“I treat ‘my boys’ as my own”

Seeing her children leave home when they turn 18 is a bittersweet moment for Rosemary Tighe. For although it can be sad to see them go, Rosemary takes great comfort from the fact that they'll soon be back.

The sound of the key in the front door usually means one of Rosemary Tighe's many foster children, or 'my boys' as she affectionately calls them, has returned home for some dinner, a cup of tea, or just a natter.

"I treat all my children as my own," says Rosemary of Ferncroft Avenue, Friern Barnet. "Once they're settled in they get their own front door key and come and go as they please. They help themselves to the fruit bowl or the cake tin and know they can talk to me anytime."

At a point in her life when most people are putting their feet up, Rosemary, 66, is throwing her energy into caring for teenage refugees. Since she started fostering in 1991 Rosemary has cared for 38 children, mainly refugees since 2000.

And it's this dedication which led to her receiving a string of awards including a thank you for her 'outstanding service to society' at Buckingham Palace in 2007.

Caring for children has always run through Rosemary's blood, first as a manager of a children's home for 16 years and then as an outreach worker for seven years. Once her two daughters left home, she approached Barnet Council about becoming a foster carer.

But as Rosemary soon found out, fostering children can be unpredictable and challenging.

"The first girl who came only stayed a few hours," she recalls. "She was on drugs and smashed up the house. I had to phone social services and ask them to take her away."

While the majority of her foster children have settled in well, there have been a handful of others who she has asked to be re-homed.

"I've had boys who have been aggressive and have had to leave," she recalls. "But on the whole I find boys much easier to deal with than girls as they don't tend to fight against me as much."

Often the children can be emotionally disturbed and their behaviour very demanding. "One boy came home at 4am every morning and missed a year off school," Rosemary recalls. "I stuck with him as I could see he was hurting inside and now he's turned his life around. Instead of thinking 'what have I done wrong?'"

as I would with my own children, I think 'what can I do to help?'"

From the moment her children set foot in her house, Rosemary sets down firm ground rules from having guests to stay to sharing the TV. She also teaches them to be independent, from cooking and cleaning to doing their own laundry.

"Although some may not like it at first, especially some boys who think it's woman's work, I explain 'that's the way it is, you have to do it' and they come round," she says.

When the children turn 18 it is time for them to move on and another child to fill their place.

"When I know they're going to leave I'll start buying little presents for their house," Rosemary says. "I feel proud when I see them settled into their new home that I've helped them stand on their own two feet and learned to trust again. Most of all, I look forward to hearing the key in the door and knowing they've come back to see me again."

Ahmed Zia, 16, who came to Rosemary as an Afghan refugee a year ago, said: "I really like it here. Rosemary is kind and I have made friends with the other boys."

For those thinking about fostering, there is an information evening on Monday 15 March 2010 from 6.30 to 8.30pm at Barnet House, Whetstone.



For more information on fostering call 020 8359 6274, email fostering@barnet.gov.uk or visit www.barnet.gov.uk/fostering



My Barnet

Describing herself as a 'true north Londoner' Shana Nieberg-Suschitzky sits back on her sofa, looks out at her well cared for garden and begins to tell us about her life in Barnet.

"I moved back here about four years ago after having my first child," says Shana, a writer and illustrator of children's books, who now lives in Finchley Central with her husband and two children aged two and six.

Shana was born at Edgware General Hospital and educated at Henrietta Barnet School, spending almost all of her childhood and teenage years in the borough.

"Henrietta Barnet is a very important element of my life. I originally wanted to be an architect from age six and going to Henrietta Barnet was such a strong impetus to continue down that route because it was so beautiful."

After studying architecture at Oxford Brookes University, Shana went on to live in Rome, Italy and various places across London before moving back to Barnet to 'form some roots again'.

"As far as the children are concerned, there's everything I need here. Although I love Paris and Rome, I find that with having children, the fact that I live 10 minutes from Victoria Park and Golders Hill Park is fantastic. It's less urban than other areas of London, but still close to the centre, and being part of a family, its got fantastic doctors, libraries and schools."

"My daughter goes to St Mary's CofE primary school in Dollis Park, which is really wonderful and is led by a great headmaster. It's got real warmth to it, providing an excellent education in a nurturing environment.

There is also a strong sense of community, of which I am very proud to be a part."

"There are so many things I love about the borough," says Shana. "When we moved to Finchley we loved our street and the area but we wished for more independent shops. A year later Jo and Al's Organic Café opened which we find irresistible and often frequent. They do the best coffee in the area. Park Way Patisserie is also great and does the best Chollah in the whole of London.

"I also love Totteridge. I think it's so nice that we're so close to the countryside, and the Orange Tree pub is fantastic!

"And there are some great entertainment venues too. We really enjoy going to the artsdepot – we just went to see Charlie and Lola, which was fantastic – and often go just for coffee and to hang out in the soft play area, which the children absolutely adore."

Finishing off with one more of her many favourite haunts, Shana concludes, "We frequently visit the Phoenix Cinema. My husband and I are absolute cinema buffs and it's so wonderful and a real treat to have such a beautifully preserved cinema on our doorstep."

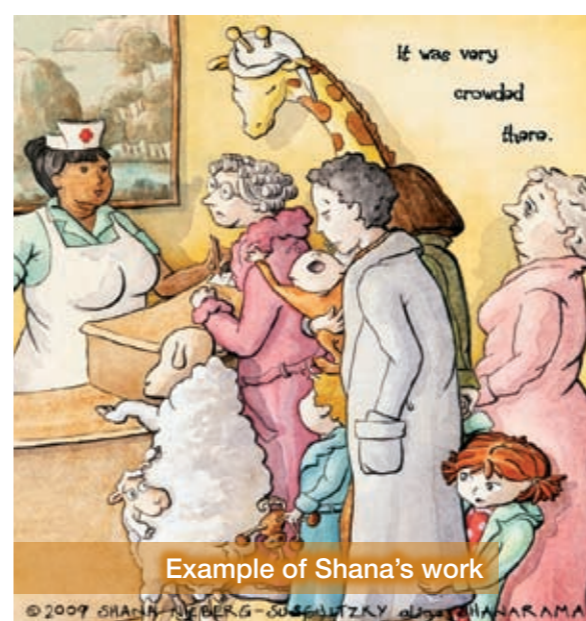
Tell us your story
If you would like to be featured in future issues of My Barnet, please email barnet.first@barnet.gov.uk with no more than 100 words describing your life in Barnet.



Shana working from home



Henrietta Barnet School



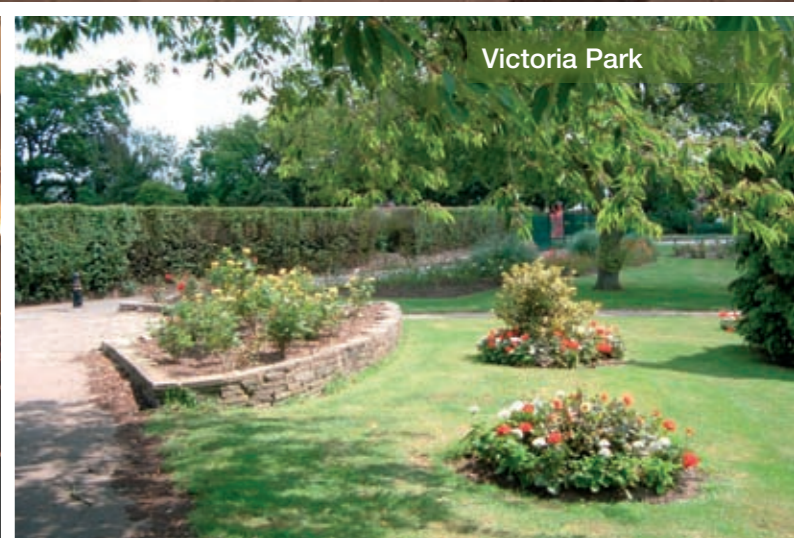
Example of Shana's work



Shana regularly visits the arts depot



Phoenix Cinema



Victoria Park

**PROMOTING
INDEPENDENCE**



Helping you make the right choices

Barnet Council is making it easier for residents who are disabled or older to reach Adult Social Services by launching a new single number and online facility for all social care needs.

Launched earlier this year, it is part of the council's move towards a more 'personalised' approach to social services needs, and makes it quicker for people to get to the services they need when they need them. Social Care Direct can be called for advice, information, emergency support requests, and to make a referral to Adult Social Services. The new website – Social Care Connect - allows people to find out about social care services and activities in

their area, review services and have discussions with other people who use social care services.

A number of people who use these services were involved in developing the website, and one of them, Adriana Quaradeghin, of Muswell Hill, spoke to Barnet First about the new portal.

She said: "I like the look of the website and think it is a really good thing for social services users.

"Some voluntary groups are able to help, but you can't always get an appointment. Having it on your computer is better, and provides accessible and instant information."

Call Social Care Direct on **020 8359 5000** or email socialcaredirect@barnet.gov.uk

To find out more visit the new website
www.socialcareconnect.barnet.gov.uk

WWW



**A BRIGHT FUTURE
FOR CHILDREN AND
YOUNG PEOPLE**

Barnet pupils take centre stage

Barnet holds its own High School Musical extravaganza later this month, as 75 schools and over 1,000 performers get ready to show off their talents at the Barnet Schools' Dance Festival.

The event, now in its 20th year, continues to grow and has become increasingly popular due to the development of the Schools Sport Partnership, and the provision of more specialist dance teaching and training in Barnet schools.

"It is an opportunity for the students to perform in a professional venue with lights and sound and to share their work with other performers," says Anne Fisher, who has managed the event almost since its launch.

14-year-old Emily Taylor, who studies advanced dance at Mill Hill County, added: "It's a good opportunity to perform in front of hundreds of people, show our talents and also see different styles of dance."

The Barnet Schools' Dance Festival takes place at the artsdepot between 8 and 12 March at 7pm each evening. To book tickets and for further information, call the box office on 020 8369 5454.



Mill Hill County students rehearse for their big performance

What's on
in Barnet
*March
April*

Aviation exhibition

Date: 6 March – 25 April

Cost: Free

Location: Church Farmhouse Museum
For further details call 020 8359 3942 or visit www.churchfarmhousemuseum.co.uk

Rock and Roll Circus (young rock bands concert)

Date: March 19

Location: artsdepot

For information on other events call 020 8369 5454 or visit www.artsdepot.co.uk

Working with Children and Young People Jobs and Career Fair

Date: 30 April

Location: Royal Air Force Museum

For further details call 020 8359 6392 or visit www.barnetpossibilities.co.uk

Higher Education Fair

Date: March 31

Location: Middlesex University

For more information call 020 8359 6496

Easter holiday activities

Date: 5 – 16 April

For information on free activities held during school holidays call 020 8359 7842 or visit www.summeruni.org

Go London 50+ roadshows

Information on sports and activities for 50+

Date: 26 April – 3 May

Location: Brent Cross Shopping Centre,
and Spires Shopping Centre
(12 April only)

For further information, call 020 8359 7818 or visit www.barnet.gov.uk/services-for-older-people

WWW

For further details on what's on visit
www.barnet.gov.uk/whats_on

Meet your members

Note: All codes are 020 unless otherwise indicated

Brunswick Park Ward

Lynne Hillan (Con) 8445 5101
 cllr.l.hillan@barnet.gov.uk
 (Leader of the Council and Conservative Group Leader)

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) 8364 8782
 cllr.l.mcfadyen@barnet.gov.uk

Charlie O-Macauley (Lab) 8200 7826
 cllr.c.omacauley@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details: Every Saturday at Burnt Oak Library and Customer Service Centre, 99 Watling Avenue, Burnt Oak HA8 10.30 – 11.30am

Childs Hill Ward

Jack Cohen (LibDem) 8446 7940
 cllr.j.cohen@barnet.gov.uk
 (Liberal Democrat Group Leader)

Monroe Palmer (LibDem) 8455 5140
 cllr.m.palmer@barnet.gov.uk

Susette Palmer (LibDem) 8455 5140
 cllr.s.palmer@barnet.gov.uk
 (Liberal Democrat Deputy Leader)

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 6503
 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, Friem Barnet Library, Friem Barnet Road, N11 10.30am – 12noon

Second Saturday every month, South Friem Library, Colney Hatch Lane N10 2 – 3.30pm

Barry Rawlings (Lab) 8445 6416
 cllr.b.rawlings@barnet.gov.uk
 (Deputy Leader of the Labour Group)

Surgery details: First and Third Saturday, South Friem Library, Friem Barnet Road, N11 10.30am – 12noon. Other Saturdays Friem Barnet Library, Friem Barnet Road N11 3DS 10.30 – 12noon

East Barnet Ward

Terry Burton (Con) 8368 8264
 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) 8444 3834
 cllr.a.mcneil@barnet.gov.uk

Alison Moore (Lab) 8343 0306
 cllr.a.moore@barnet.gov.uk
 (Leader of the Labour Group)

Colin Rogers (Lab) 8346 9887
 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

Darrel Yawitch (Con)
 cllr.d.yawitch@barnet.gov.uk

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

Finchley Church End Ward

Mike Freer (Con) 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 7 – 8pm (except August)

Garden Suburb Ward

Andrew Harper (Con) 8201 9527
 cllr.a.harper@barnet.gov.uk
 (Deputy Leader of the Council)

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) 07831 286 558
 cllr.d.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

Melvin Cohen (Con) 8209 0166
 cllr.m.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

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

Tom Davey (Con)
 cllr.t.davey@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
 (Deputy Mayor)

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 and times)

Hendon Ward

Maureen Braun (Con) 8906 0447
 cllr.m.braun@barnet.gov.uk

Anthony Finn (Con) 8202 9689
 cllr.a.finn@barnet.gov.uk

Matthew Offord (Con) 8202 5319
 cllr.m.offord@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details: First Monday every month, Hendon Library, The Burroughs, 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, 3 Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN4 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Bridget Perry (Con) 8441 5683
 cllr.b.perry@barnet.gov.uk

Wendy Prentice (Con) 8364 9249
 cllr.w.prentice@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details: Third Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN4 10.30am – 12noon

Mill Hill Ward

Wayne Casey (Lib Dem) 8906 8189
 cllr.w.casey@barnet.gov.uk

Jeremy Davies (Lib Dem) 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 (Call 8959 5182 for dates)

Oakleigh Ward

Sachin Rajput (Con) 8449 3610
 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 Friem Barnet Library, Friem Barnet Road, N11 10.30am – 12noon

Totteridge Ward

Brian Coleman (Con) 7983 4366
 cllr.b.coleman@barnet.gov.uk
 (Mayor)

Alison Cornelius (Con) 8445 5886
 cllr.a.cornelius@barnet.gov.uk

Richard Cornelius (Con) 8445 5886
 cllr.r.cornelius@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) 07983 358 910
 cllr.d.webb@barnet.gov.uk

Surgery details: Third Saturday every month, Chipping Barnet Library, 3 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, 3 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: Every Saturday at Community Focus, the artsdepot, Tally Ho Corner, North Finchley 10.30 – 12noon

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) 8344 2596
 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: Every Saturday at Community Focus, the artsdepot, Tally Ho Corner, North Finchley 10.30 – 12Noon

Contacting your MPs

Chipping Barnet

Theresa Villiers
 Office: 163 High Street,
 Barnet EN5 5SU
 tel: 020 8449 7345

Hendon

Andrew Dismore
 Office: St. George's Lodge,
 79 The Burroughs, Hendon NW4 4AX
 tel: 020 8202 2122

Finchley and Golders Green

Dr Rudi Vis
 Office: 38 Church Lane,
 East Finchley N2 8DT
 tel: 020 8883 0411

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

For information on councillor surgeries and meetings visit

www.barnet.gov.uk/councillors

or call 020 8359 2024

Contacting your council

Corporate Customer Services

tel: 8359 2000
 email: first.contact@barnet.gov.uk

Contact us and we will identify the correct service or person you are looking for.

Street-based services

tel: 8359 4600
 Contact us for information on refuse collection, holes in the road, abandoned vehicles and graffiti

Parking enquiries

tel: 8359 7446
 email: parking@barnet.gov.uk

Planning and licensing advice

tel: 8359 3000

Social Care Direct

tel: 8359 5000
 Single number for advice, information, emergency support requests, and to make a referral to Adult Social Services

Out of hours emergencies

tel: 8359 2000

Working hours

Robert Maynard, 48, has worked as a children's social worker for Barnet Council for seven years. He has a grown up son and lives in Haringey with his partner.

Q What drew you to the job?

A I liked what friends who were social workers told me; the fact no two days are the same and you aren't stuck behind a desk. That was 20 years ago, so they gave me good advice!

Q Describe your main responsibilities?

A Assessing children viewed to be 'at risk' by the police, schools, health visitors and members of the public, and advising on an action plan. There's a fine line between keeping a child in their home environment while making sure they're safe and cared for.

Q What's the hardest part of your job?

A If a child is at risk, I often have to make quick decisions about placing them with foster carers or relatives away from their immediate families. It can be quite upsetting when the child is very little and can't understand what's happening. But it's very rewarding to see things work out. It's also great bumping into some of the children I've worked with and they tell me how they're doing now.

Q Have you noticed a difference in the way people view social workers?

A Most people understand how difficult the job is. It's frustrating though that a lot of potentially good people have been put off considering becoming social workers following some of the unflattering press reports after the Baby Peter case.

Q Do you find it hard not to get emotionally involved?

A Yes. As a father myself it's impossible not to empathise with some of the parents and the children in a case, but in the office there is a lot of support.

Q What helps you unwind?

A Going to the gym, swimming and following Arsenal Football Club.

Q Who or what has inspired you through the tough times?

A Nelson Mandela - what a great example of someone being triumphant after facing adversity!

www

For more information about becoming a social worker, visit

www.barnetpossibilities.co.uk

