

# *East Barnet Residents Association*

*Incorporating Friends of Oak Hill Park*

## **Chairman's Message**

And so another EBRA year begins! Can I thank so many of you for turning up to the AGM. It is an honour to be elected to serve a second year as your Chairman, I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead. I must take this opportunity to put on record again our Honorary Secretary, Rob White's, tireless unsung work for EBRA. From regularly corresponding with members day to day, collecting subscriptions to putting this newsletter together we'd be lost without his contribution. Similarly George Irons relentless campaigning on the Health Centre and Oak Park is invaluable. I'd also like to thank Sheila for her years as Treasurer and welcome Wendy as her replacement who I am sure will do more than fill her shoes.

We are all looking forward to the East Barnet Festival and hoping the weather will be glorious. We have decided, as a trial, to take our own small gazebo this year on Sunday 7th July. As well as taking memberships we will be running a bookstall so do pop along for some literary bargains and let us know if you have any books to donate for us to sell on the stand. We can collect from you.

Finally we will continue to press the Council to allow you to order smaller bins as they move to a three wheelie bin system this autumn. Enfield Council provides this option and we think Barnet should do. We have had positive indications but not a definite answer yet.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and look forward to your feedback, comments or suggestions.

*Daniel Hope*

## **Dates For Your Diary:**

**East Barnet Festival: Friday 5th, Saturday 6th, and Sunday 7th July** in Oak Hill Park;  
**Theatre in the Park** on Sundays in June July and August  
Full details at [eastbarnetfestival.org.uk](http://eastbarnetfestival.org.uk) (see page 5)

**Friend In Need (FIN)** quiz night on **Saturday 29th June** (see page 7)

**Neighbourhood Watch Roadshow** on **Saturday 29th June** 2-3:30pm at East Barnet Methodist Church Hall (see page 3)

**Barnet Museum** is celebrating its 75 years with Tea in the Park - on **Sunday 30th June** (see page 3)

## News Updates

**Brunswick Park Health Centre** - nothing has happened. NHS England and the GPs are still discussing the financial implications.

**Cat Hill Campus** - the Campaign For Cat Hill has launched a high court challenge against the plans to develop the former Middlesex University site as housing.

**Recycling** - the Council have not yet confirmed what the arrangements will be for supplying smaller blue bins to those householders who request them.

**East Barnet Residents' Association AGM.** At our AGM on 4th June the proposed minor amendments to our constitution were unanimously approved, and the revised text is available to view on our website [eastbar.net](http://eastbar.net). The following officers were elected: Daniel Hope - Chairman; George Irons - Vice Chairman; Rob White - Honorary Secretary; Wendy Alcock - Honorary Treasurer; Yvonne Ward - Newsletter Distribution. The following are Committee Members: Alan Kelley, James Bradshaw, James Mustard, Pauline Coakley Webb, Peter Robinson, Rosina Down, Sheila Solbé, Sue Scott, and Sussanne Hassel. The Revd James Mustard continues as the EBRA's President, and founder member Pat Gladwin is Honorary Vice President. Sheila Solbé stood down as Honorary Treasurer, and we would like to thank her for the many years of hard work she kindly gave to the Association.

Julia Hines, Chair of Age UK Barnet and John Wilks, Director of FIN gave a very interesting and informative talk about their organisations; you can read their article about this on page 6.

## Contacting the EBRA

Rob White is our point of contact: **Web:** [eastbar.net](http://eastbar.net)



At the Barnet Civic Awards held in Hendon in April, Revd Colin Smith of Brookside Methodist Church and Jane Chew head of St Margaret's Nursery School both received awards for their work for the community in East Barnet Ward. (Pictured with Cllr Barry Evangelis, left, and Cllr Joanna Tambourides, right)

## Barnet Museum Celebrating 75 Years

Barnet Museum is celebrating its 75 years at the Wood Street site by holding an event - Tea in the Park - on Sunday 30th June in the Court House Gardens immediately behind the Museum.

As well as selling tea and cakes there are musical events taking place. ChoirsR Us are singing at 2pm and the Barnet Band will play at 3pm and 4pm. The U3A Ukelele will be playing at 3.30 and 4.30 and Great British Musical songs with the Suzie Earnshaw theatre group will perform at 5pm. The Museum will be open and tea will be served from 1.30

The event is open to the public and is free.

At the Museum there is a special exhibition celebrating the 125th anniversary of QE Girls School and a new book about school is on sale at the Museum.

## East Barnet Festival - Organisers and Stewards needed!

The organisers of the East Barnet Festival are working on this year's Festival and Theatre in the Park. As the Festival gets larger, we need some more help.

The production consists of a lot of administration work, but also involves practical activities, such as site planning and preparation, coordination of field movements, skips, bins, traffic management. Volunteers are needed to help in these aspects. Could you take responsibility for organising and executing one of these areas?

The events at the Festival include music and dance, car show, dog show, sports, caterers, stalls and entertainers. All require preparation and stewarding. Are you able to spare some time to help in the planning and execution of the Festival? We especially need people on site in the week leading up to the main music and dance

Festival, which takes place on 6th to 7th July, as well as for the duration of the Festival.

The Theatre in the Park has professional productions, on Sunday afternoons, from June through to August this year and volunteers are needed to erect tents, fencing, gazebos and to assist the public at the events. All organisers, stewards and helpers are entitled to free tickets for a Theatre in the Park performance.

If you can spare some time to help make these community events a success, please contact us on the Festival Line (07071 781 745) or at: [stewards@EastBarnetFestival.org.uk](mailto:stewards@EastBarnetFestival.org.uk)

The Festival is also seeking more trustees and will be glad to hear from anyone who would like to serve the local community in this way.

***Ian Bartrum***

## Neighbourhood Watch - Roadshow & ANPR

Our next Burglary Road Show will be held on Saturday 29th June 2013 between 2 to 3.30pm The venue is East Barnet Methodist Church Hall. This is in East Barnet Village at the junction of Church Hill Road.

Experts from the police, council, NHW and the Community Safety Engagement Group will be on hand to give advice on all aspects of crime prevention. Just for attending you will be given a set of "jingling" ladies handbag bells (Imagine).

An update re Automatic Number Plate reading cameras (ANPR).

These are being installed across the borough by the council which is extremely good news. They will be working alongside the police on this. You may have already have seen the camera warning signs on major trunk routes within the borough.

ANPR is highly efficient and an excellent way of deterring criminals. It sends a signal that criminals are not safe in Barnet. For security reasons I am unable to give exact locations.

***Paul Hammond***

## Barnet Talking Newspaper

Have you heard about the Barnet Borough Talking Newspaper?

A weekly newspaper on CD for the blind or partially sighted within the Borough of Barnet. Recordings are made by a team of volunteers that work from a studio in the Muswell Hill area.

It's COMPLETELY FREE and delivered by post.

If you know of a person who is eligible and would like to receive the CD each week please leave their name, address & telephone number on 020 8883 8008 (Answer phone).

Alternatively, if you'd like to offer some support by way of a donation or your time then please phone them or email [BBTN@talktalk.net](mailto:BBTN@talktalk.net)

Registered Charity No: 274731

## Hampden Square - Regenerating



Work is continuing on the conversion of the former Venezia Bathrooms showroom into the new Tesco Express at Hampden Square. Long-term residents may recall that this used to be a Co-Op supermarket before that. A new shop ShoeZoo has opened just around the corner on Onslow Parade, and the owner Gerard Owen is optimistic that Tesco will help bring much needed customers back to the Square. ShoeZoo is an independent shoe shop for all the family with many famous brands and a children's fitting service. Their phone number is 020 8361 0565.

## East Barnet Community Festival

MUSIC & DANCE FESTIVAL **5th - 7th July** Fri 6-9pm Sat & Sun 12-8pm

After being washed away in the floods last July, we really look forward to the programme on the main Music Stage this year, again with welcome support from The Hadley Trust. We also have a great offer from Barnet Football Club's Supporters Trust to finance the Start-Up Stage for our young musicians, which required funding this year as Borough funds shrink. The support of these sponsors, together with Chas Lowe Estates and Bodens to Theatre in the Park and the local churches towards the tea tent, is vital to add to London Borough of Barnet's grant to meet the £30,000 expense of putting on the event. Income comes in at about £20,000, so the Festival has to find about £10,000 support each year.

Entry to the park is free, but extra support for the Festival's raffles and bucket collections is much appreciated, as are the raffle prizes donated by many local businesses and shops. Another major contribution comes from the stewards and helpers – more to join the rotas are always welcome to ensure the whole event runs smoothly. Get in touch by emailing [stewards@eastbarnetfestival.org.uk](mailto:stewards@eastbarnetfestival.org.uk)

Our brochure has the full programme, with support from our many advertisers Big Top dance tent is coming in again from Glastonbury with dancers from all over North London both days. New groups are Razzamataz, Footworks Dance and Sabihah Stars Belly Dancers from Stevenage, who took part in the Opening Ceremony at the Olympic Games.

In the tea tent there's acoustic music on Saturday with Punch and Judy nearby both days and a display by a cheerleader group on Sunday with an invitation to join them in a workshop. The refreshments are again arranged by Val Culkeen and her team, specialising in delicious home-made cakes.

Around the field are spread the Food Fair caterers, each offering a different menu, and an amazing variety of 70 or more stalls each day from community, charity and commercial groups on the field or in the Market Tent. To book, please contact 020 8441 1359.

Meet Candy and Sophia, Barnet's Festival Queen & Princess - attending both days at the Festival - and have your photo taken with them. Elected last year from a competition arranged by The Bull Theatre in Barnet, they're also at Barnet Museum's 75th Anniversary on 30th June (part of High Barnet's Summer Festival).

Special events on Saturday 6th July include a pre-festival Boot Camp at 11am near the Village in aid of Cherry Lodge Cancer Care and the Dog Show, judged by Chris King. On Sunday the Classic & Custom Car Show returns to Riverside Field and the Junior Schools Football Tournament is on the café field, organised by Barnet Football Club with their inflatable pitches. A Mobile Skate Park will be nearby on both days, near Oakhill Pitch & Putt. Hammonds Theme Park Fun Fair opens with wristband evenings Thursday and Friday and runs over the whole weekend, serving the 20,000 or so people that come along, making it a great social event for local people as well as a showcase for North London talent.

***Pam Edwards***

## Kingfisher in Pymmes Brook

In March, one of our residents wrote to say they had spotted a kingfisher perched on the bank of Pymmes Brook.

We are all encouraged to report sightings, and the stats are updated a couple of times a year. The Potters Bar and Barnets RSPB group website is [pottersbar-rspb.org.uk](http://pottersbar-rspb.org.uk) - please send reports to Ian Stewart, 104 Aberdale Gardens, Potters Bar, Herts. EN6 2JF - 01707 654429 - [i.stewart693@ntlworld.com](mailto:i.stewart693@ntlworld.com)

## Friend In Need & Age UK Barnet

### Supporting over 55s and carers

Friend in Need, based at East Barnet Baptist Church, Crescent Rd, EN4 8PS, New Barnet Community Centre and Age UK Barnet provide support and care for older people in the area.

#### What we do at the moment

Both FIN and Age UK Barnet offer a range of services, some of them practical support, and some of them social activities.

So, we can help with a Handyperson scheme (odd jobs around the house, like fitting grab rails, draught-proofing, or even changing light-bulbs, so older people don't fall off chairs and break a bone); Helping Hands (shopping, paying bills, collecting prescriptions); information and advice; toe nail cutting; gardening; shopping bus; lifts to or from hospital; information and advice, including form filling, letter-writing and welfare benefits advice; healthy living advice including nutritional support for older people who are underweight; falls prevention and carers support. Age UK Barnet also has a small personal grant fund, for people eligible for pension tax credit, to purchase items like a new bed, boiler, cooker or even a holiday.

On the social side, there are day centres; lunch clubs; befriending; digital/ IT classes; exercise classes (including dance classes at Lyonsdown Hall); mobile library services; day trips; and a variety of activities and classes.

#### What else would you like to see?

We want to provide services which are relevant to local people. If you have a burning desire for Pilates or Nordic walking, bridge lessons, current affairs, knitting or a book club, please let us know.

Age UK Barnet's popular Art and Music Appreciation groups started because there were a group of retired artists and art teachers who all mentioned that what they really missed was going to galleries. The group visits galleries and museums, like the Geffrye Museum or the Wallace Collection, and private homes with art collections, including the founders of the Caitlin Prize and a home with a stunning collection of 18th century antiques and paintings. We provide volunteer drivers and wheelchair pushers – even if clients do not usually use a wheelchair, the V&A may be too far to walk all the way round. There is no reason why we cannot add a sports appreciation group or a group interested in visiting gardens, if people wanted that.

We can also arrange volunteering opportunities. Both charities could not run without the support of volunteers, but we could arrange other things, like helping in primary schools, listening to children read or teaching knitting, woodwork or sewing to younger generations, please say.

The groups can be focused: if you want a men or women's only activity, one geared to a specific BMER group, or a social group for older LGBT people, just say.

Pop in and see what is happening, fill out a survey or just give us a ring. We look forward to hearing from you.

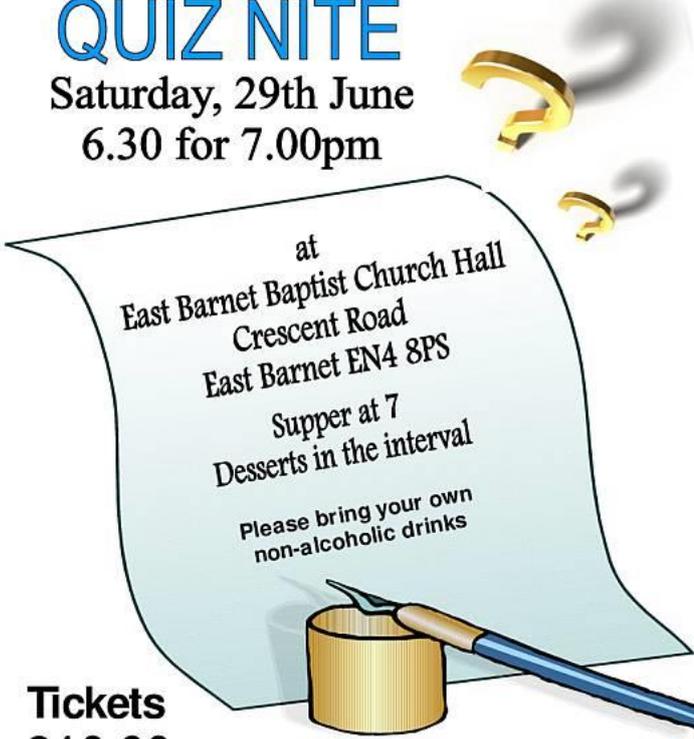
#### Contacts

John Wilks **Friend in Need** [fin@fin-eastbarnet.org.uk](mailto:fin@fin-eastbarnet.org.uk) 020 8449 8225

Amanda Radonich **Age UK Barnet** [amanda.radonich@ageukbarnet.org.uk](mailto:amanda.radonich@ageukbarnet.org.uk) 020 8432 1415

*Julia Hines*

**FRIEND IN NEED**  
**QUIZ NITE**  
 Saturday, 29th June  
 6.30 for 7.00pm



at  
**East Barnet Baptist Church Hall**  
 Crescent Road  
 East Barnet EN4 8PS  
 Supper at 7  
 Desserts in the interval  
 Please bring your own  
 non-alcoholic drinks

**Tickets**  
**£10.00** TABLES FOR 6, OR JOIN UP WITH OTHERS

Available from FIN Reception  
 TEL: 020 8449 8225

Avoid disappointment  
 Book early as tickets will be limited



Registered Charity No. 1090701

## Casserole Club

The Casserole Club has recently launched in Barnet. Troy Henshall, Director of Business Services at The Barnet Group, said: "This is an innovative, community-based approach to tackling the problems of social isolation and malnutrition. Casserole Club offers a chance for Barnet residents to get to know their neighbours over a good meal and will really benefit our community."

- Casserole Club helps people share extra portions of their home cooked food with others in their area who are looking for a fresh meal.
- Casserole members serve up tasty, home-cooked food to their neighbours, getting more people eating and cooking fresh meals while strengthening local neighbourhood relationships with every bite.
- If you live in Barnet and would like to cook for someone who lives locally, or know someone who is in need of a home-cooked meal, please sign up to cook at [casseroleclub.com](http://casseroleclub.com)

## Membership Subscriptions

Many of our members renew at our stall in the East Barnet Festival and we shall be there again on Sunday 7th July. If you are on the paper distribution and not sure if your subscription has expired please ask at the stall or phone me on 020 8144 8469 (please leave a message if no reply) and we will let you know.

We do encourage you to pay online by credit or debit card at [eastbar.net/subscribe](http://eastbar.net/subscribe) because this reduces the administrative effort of cash and

cheques. And of course if you would like to receive the newsletter by email, that saves the cost of printing, the big distribution effort, and is environmentally friendly. Also, if you let us have an email address then we can contact you much more efficiently as and when urgent matters arise. We do not send 'spam' and will not reveal your email address to anyone.

Alternatively, please fill in the renewal slip below and send or bring it to me. Thank you.

**Rob White**

I enclose £\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ years' subscription to the East Barnet Residents' Association (£2 per year per household)

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

**Please send cash / cheques (payable to "EBRA") to Rob White, 16 Woodfield Drive, East Barnet, EN4 8PA**

Jun 2013

## Bee Kind...

Some members may recall my love of flower and vegetable gardening and latterly wrestles with my evil hose-pipe. As they used to say in the magazines of my youth "New Readers Start Here".

Some time ago I "Adopted a Bee Hive" a fine organisation run by the "British Bee Keepers Association". They keep us informed about the bees' welfare. Also a local Hertfordshire bee keeper gives me more immediate news quarterly. I think we have been made aware through the media of how all these extremely necessary pollinators have suffered in the last two years of appalling weather. (One in three mouthfuls of the food we eat is dependent on them.)

A huge rosemary bush I have by my back door is conversely covered in flowers this year, more than ever before. Usually by this time it is buzzing with interested bees, bumbles, wasps and other flower-seeking insects. Sadly, this year I have seen very few, maybe the occasional bumble bee. I read that an average hive produced only 8 lbs of honey, compared with an average of 29 lbs in 2011. Yes! It's that bad. A fall of 72%

And so, if like me, you are way behind with the flower planting this year, please bear in mind flowers that attract bees and other pollinators. Runner beans. Have you ever met anyone who doesn't love them? There is still time to plant them - just. And so easy to grow. Flowery herbs, sweet peas, poached egg plant, any



open daisy-like flowers especially yellow ones.

There is a website [adoptabeehive.co.uk](http://adoptabeehive.co.uk) which may be helpful.

It would seem that planting flowers in drifts is the best way. I think limited as we are to small suburban gardens this is really a bit ambitious. And did you know that the stuff we use to kill ants also kills bees? I didn't when I used it to kill the black-coated workers. Oh sorry, that's PRUNES! So, please be kind to wasps and hover flies. They are pollinators too.

In passing, if you are feeling personally victimised by the march of the dandelions in your beds and grass this year, don't be - "we're all in it together". Now where have I heard that before?

*Yvonne Ward*

**And finally**, we have just heard from the Brunswick Park Safer Neighbourhood Team that the crime statistics for May showed a considerable drop in burglaries from the previous month. Excellent news!

Chas R **LOWE** ESTATES  
EST 1876

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Chas R Lowe Estates are proud to sponsor the East Barnet Residents' Association newsletters.