



Election 2000

By David Hobbs

To no one's surprise Ken Livingstone has been elected Mayor of London, beating the Conservative candidate, Steve Norris, on the second count. On what was a bad night for the Labour Party, Frank Dobson came third, only 20,000 votes and 1.2% ahead of Susan Kramer of the Liberal Democrats.

In the London Assembly elections Labour won six of the 14 constituencies and their total of nine seats was due to receiving three extra top-up seats from the party list. This compares with the Conservatives who won eight of the constituencies and received only one extra seat to also give them nine seats.

Assembly line

Here in East Finchley we are part of the Barnet and Camden London Assembly constituency and, even though six of the seven parliamentary seats in the constituency are held by Labour, the Assembly seat was won by the Conservatives. Brian Coleman (Con) scraped in ahead of East Finchley councillor Helen Gordon (Lab) by only 551 votes.

In the Mayoral election in the constituency Steve Norris came second with 27.7% of the vote compared with Frank Dobson's 12.8% in fourth place, behind Susan Kramer. Ken Livingstone's support at 38.8% was considerably ahead of all of them.

Green garage

On a very local note, Noel Lynch of Noel Lynch's Bargain Centre came close to being elected to the Assembly. He was fourth on the Green Party list but, unfortunately for Noel, only the first three Greens were elected to the assembly.

Results for Barnet and Camden

Mayor	Votes(1st Pref)	Votes(2nd Pref)
Ken Livingstone, Ind.	51,649 (38.8%)	13,368 (12%)
Steve Norris, Con	36,826 (27.7%)	14,858 (13.4%)
Susan Kramer, LD	17,096 (12.8%)	33,144 (29.8%)
Frank Dobson, Lab	16,978 (12.8%)	17,125 (15.4%)
Darren Johnson, Grn.	3,564 (2.7%)	16,621 (15%)

Assembly First-past-the-post

Brian Coleman, Con.	41,583	32.9%
Helen Gordon, Lab.	41,032	32.5%
Jonathan Davies, LD	22,295	17.6%
Miranda Dunn, Grn.	14,768	11.7%

Assembly London List

Conservative	37,795	29.4%
Labour	37,352	29.1%
Liberal Democrats	19,376	15.1%
Green	16,789	13.1%

Turnout was 35%.

Taking steps for others

By Diana Cormack

Not only does pharmacist Paresh Shah use his hands to dispense medicines to help people when they are suffering; he uses his feet too! Every year Paresh takes part in the Oshwal Pharmacists Charity Walk. This is a 10km walk to raise funds for chosen charities.

This year the money will be for three causes: -

1. "Get Kids Going" which provides sports and mobility for disabled children
2. Brace: Alzheimer's Research
3. The Prostate Cancer Charity.

If you would like to help,

pop into the C.W. Andrew Pharmacy at 32 High Road, East Finchley where sponsorship forms are available. The walk takes place on Sunday 25 June. *The Archer* will be letting you know how much money Paresh raises.

Trading Standards warn of bogus charities

Bin these bogus flyers

Barnet Trading Standards is advising residents to be wary of a company based in Hounslow, which goes by the name of Starling Ltd, which has been delivering flyers to homes in the area asking for unwanted clothes to sell in charity shops in poorer countries.

In fact, the company has no links with any charitable organisation. The Council's Trading Standards officers are advising people to bin the flyer as the London Borough of Hounslow is investigating the matter.

People worried about this or any other consumer problem should contact Trading Standards on 020 8359 2606. They can also visit Trading Standards on line at www.barnet.gov.uk/trading_standards.

Open for business

Low cost financial services have arrived in East Finchley with the launch of a local credit union. Finchley Credit Union was launched on 13 May at East Finchley Library and is now open for business.

The event was attended by Barnet Council leader Alan Williams and Rudi Vis MP and attracted 87 new members all in one afternoon.

Community credit unions provide an opportunity for local people who have difficulty gaining access to traditional financial services and who wish to borrow or save relatively small amounts. It also benefits the local community by offering borrowing at lower rates than the high street banks and enables others to invest in the community by using it for some of their savings.

Membership of the credit union is open to anyone living in East, North and Central Finchley.

The credit union will be opening regularly at the Neighbourhood Centre, 42 Church Lane, East Finchley between 7pm and 8.30pm on Wednesday evenings and between 10am and 12 noon on Saturday.

For more information contact Kim George on 8444 8673.



Rudi Vis MP at the launch of the Finchley Credit Union with Chairman, Kim George (left). Photo by Martin Earl.



Hendon College Bakery and Cake Decoration students showed their support for the new credit union by making this cake decorated with the credit union logo.

Wild flowers and wellies

Once again Cherry Tree Woods has had a visit from Lee Tyson of Countryside Management Services and the Cherry Tree Woods volunteers.

This time we were starting to get an area cleared ready for wild flower planting next year. It is over near the railway line but was real "wellie" country and we were not surprised to see a mallard and his mate on the old football pitch. The stringy clumps of grass were strimmed and then raked clear, and we'll be going through the same operation in the Autumn.

Wanton

We also planted three more oak trees to help replace at least one pulled out by persons unknown who may well be con-

nected with the unspeakable vandal who shot the woodpecker. Another tree was a horse chestnut donated by a resident whose children had grown it from a conker.

The picnic/quiet area near the café was also discussed further with Council officials but unless we can arrest the wanton destruction, should more expense be incurred on targets for further abuse?

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