



Barnet goes green

By Sheila Armstrong

Barnet Council has started a green waste recycling scheme. Green waste is, at least for the moment, garden waste only: hedge and tree prunings, timber up to three inches in diameter, grass clippings, dead flowers and weeds.

Extra waste can be tied in bundles and left next to the new green bin but don't bag any waste either inside or outside the bin. This green bio-degradable waste will go directly from the refuse van to a site in Edmonton and eventually to Essex to be composted. As it will then no longer be the property of Barnet Council it will not be sold back to us in the form of cheap compost as in other boroughs. At least not yet.

Sharing wheelies

Residents can order their green bin now and leave it at the kerbside on the allotted day as normal. Assisted collections automatically transfer to the green bins. If your garden can't accommodate another wheelie bin you might consider sharing one between several neighbours or you can still take garden waste to the Civic Amenity and Recycling

Centre in Summers Lane. Only green waste in green bins is being collected at the moment so it's no good leaving bags of it at the kerbside.

As for any other green waste you may have, for instance food waste, you can compost this yourself. The council sells compost bins to residents at half the normal retail price. The good news is that by the end of 2005 (and hopefully as early as this summer) Barnet Council plans to extend the green garden waste scheme to include food or kitchen waste.

When this happens they will allow householders to put their kitchen waste into their green bins in compostable bags. Householders with gardens too small to warrant a whole green bin could also use these. Watch this space!

For more information contact the Recycling Hotline on 020 8359 7400 or e-mail recycling@barnet.gov.uk.

Body found on North Circular Road

Police are appealing for witnesses after the body of a woman was found lying on the westbound A406 North Circular Road at Henlys Corner in Golders Green.

The road was closed both ways for several hours following the discovery on Friday 25 February at about 3am, causing traffic disruption over a wide area during the morning rush hour.

The woman was taken to the Royal Free Hospital where she was later pronounced dead. A post mortem held the same day gave the cause of death as head injuries.

Police have identified her as Jun Xue Zhang, aged 33, of the Heilongjiang province of China.

She had only been in the country a matter of days and had been working in a medical centre in Golders Green. They believe that her family, including her six-year-old daughter, are in China.



The woman about to board a bus in Golders Green Road, the previous evening. Still CCTV footage from the Metropolitan Police.

She was last seen boarding a number 82 bus in Golders Green Road at about 9.30pm the previous evening, heading north towards Ballards Lane, but it is not known where she alighted nor where she went in the hours before her death. One possibility is that a vehicle or vehicles may have been in collision with her. Police are appealing for anyone who may have seen her in the area to contact them. She was approximately 5ft 3in., wearing a dark grey knee-length quilted coat with a fur lined hood and dark trousers and carrying two white shopping bags. Her English was very limited.

Sergeant Mark Donnelly of the Collision Investigation Unit at Alperton said, "I am aware of a white van, which stopped close to where the body was found for about ten minutes. I am appealing for the driver of this van to come forward, and for anyone who

remembers seeing a white van close to Henlys Corner early on Friday morning to contact me." Anyone with information should contact Sgt Mark Donnelly at Alperton Traffic Garage on 020 8998 5319.

263 bus report - responses

(continued from page 1)

By Daphne Chamberlain

Barnet Council says:

A spokesperson for Barnet Council told *THE ARCHER*: "In Barnet all transport users are treated equally, and we aim to keep all traffic moving and reduce congestion. We feel that bus priority measures should only be used where appropriate and necessary. In Barnet there are limited locations where bus priority can be used without having negative effects.

"Some bus schemes can make congestion worse, as was found with the bus lane between The Bishop's Avenue and East End Road. Since removing this bus lane last May, delays have been reduced.

"The Council is looking

at schemes to improve traffic movement, but has to work within the limits of funding and available land. Enforcement of parking is done on a borough-wide basis, taking into account all priorities, including bus routes, town centres and resident parking."

East Finchley

Bus Watch says:

Hazel Burnett of Bus Watch told us: "I'm pleased that the problems along the route have been recognised. I hope that the organisations concerned get together urgently to implement improvements, but why doesn't the report recommend another bus route?"

Why no other bus route?

The Archer asked Tim Belenger, Lead Officer for London Transport Users Committee this question. Repeating that a change in local policy was vital, he said that installing another bus route, primarily to benefit the solo stretch, would probably not be considered financially viable by Transport for London, which was currently clamping down on routes not "pulling their weight". Re-routing part of an existing route might mean that some people were left too far away from a bus service.

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