



The Muswell Hill Band gets in tune outside Budgens. Photo by Nick Young.

## Give us your brass

On a Saturday in late March, shoppers on the High Road were treated not just to a warmer-than-usual early spring day but also to a brass band playing on the pavement outside Budgens.

Their purpose? To help raise money for the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice, which provides practical and emotional support for life-limited and life-threatened children and their families in North London.

The Muswell Hill Band,

By Nick Young

which is part of North London Brass, described on its website as "London's independent brass band network", was established in June 2011 and has helped to raise money for local community projects ever since.

Players of all ages and abilities are welcome. "The band is for people who used to play and are coming back to it," explained conductor Paul Hooper. The band has players aged from 13 to 70, and hopes to be entertaining people at the East Finchley Festival this summer.

For more information about North London Brass, visit their website at [www.fourhillsmusic.co.uk/north-london-brass](http://www.fourhillsmusic.co.uk/north-london-brass). Further details about Noah's Ark Children's Hospice can be found at <http://noahsarkhospice.org.uk/>

## Credit card scam

By Janet Maitland

Police have issued a warning about an inventive new card fraud telephone scam. You receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from your bank, who informs you that their systems have spotted a fraudulent payment on your card or that your card is due to expire and needs replacing.

You may be asked to ring back using the phone number on the back of your card. But the fraudster keeps the line open at their end so that when you make the call you are connected straight back to them. You are then asked to 'cancel' your existing card or to 'activate' or 'authorise' a replacement card by keying your PIN into the handset. You are told that your card will be collected from your home.

In some cases a genuine courier company is hired to pick up the card from your home address. Once the criminals have your card and PIN they can of course now use them to steal your money.

### Dos and donts

Police advice is to remember that your bank will *never* ask you to authorise anything by entering your PIN into the telephone handset, nor will your bank or the police *ever* ring you to tell you they are coming to your house to collect your card, so *never* hand it over to anyone who comes to collect it.

You should never share your PIN number with anyone, and the only times you should ever use it are at a cash machine or when you use a chip and PIN machine in a shop/restaurant. If you think you have been a victim of this scam, report the crime to the police by dialing 101 and contact your bank or card company immediately.

## Book your stall at the festival

This year's East Finchley Community Festival will be on Sunday 24 June between 12 noon and 6pm in Cherry Tree Wood. If you are interested in booking a stall, it is advisable to do so as soon as possible. For more information, email: [eastfinchleyfestival@gmail.com](mailto:eastfinchleyfestival@gmail.com).

# Wheeled bins to replace recycling boxes

Household recycling in Barnet is to change after Barnet Council agreed on a new waste collection plan, to come into effect at the end of 2013.

Residents will no longer need to separate their recycling into blue and black boxes; instead they will be able to put paper, cans, plastic bottles, cardboard and glass in one new 240-litre wheeled bin. Weekly collections of recycling and household waste will continue as usual.

### Food waste

Residents will also be provided with internal and external kitchen caddies for food waste. The kitchen caddy will allow people to place all their food waste in one container. At present about one third of the contents of black wheeled bins is food waste which, when put into landfill, gives off methane gas, one of the most damaging greenhouse gases.

The caddies will be collected weekly along with black wheeled bins for other household waste that cannot be recycled or composted. Green wheeled bins for garden waste only will be collected fortnightly.

Arrangements for people living in flats are not yet clear but are likely to fit in with the new collections.

### Cost-cutting

Barnet Council says the new plan will reduce the projected increase in waste costs by £4.1 million in 2016/17. The council's target is for 43 per cent of residents' kerbside waste to be recycled by then.

The plans will not be implemented until the end of 2013 when the council's contract with its current recycling service ends.

THE ARCHER has published several letters in recent issues from readers complaining about the obstructions caused by the existing black and blue recycling boxes and the mess caused by rubbish escaping from them. However, there is also a warning in this month's letters on page 11 about the danger of having too many wheeled bins on our pavements.

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