



Fruits of their labours

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Now an East Finchley resident, Tony's work on the stall gives him the freedom he needs to help care for his small son and cocker spaniel while his wife works full time in central London.

Tony's greengrocer brother is at Spitalfields before dawn and Tony collects stock from the former's shop in Highbury. Although he starts his working day at 6am, Tony said: "This work pattern is perfect for me and provides the flexibility to look after our son." He added: "The weather really affects our turnover. Bad weather means customers don't linger, and in good weather the wholesalers increase their prices."



Early starts: Tony and Julie.

The future

What of the future with Brexit ahead? "Wholesalers are already selling more British produce," said Tony. "Perhaps we'll go back to the days of more seasonal fruit and veg. But there's such a great community feel here in East Finchley and I'll certainly be staying around to serve my customers."

No to plastic

Tony is firmly committed to the anti-plastics cause and articles in *The Archer* have increased his awareness. He couldn't believe the waste he saw in Bahrain ten years ago where there was no re-cycling. "Lots of our customers say no to a plastic bag," said Tony. "The message is finally starting to get through."

Martin Primary gets it right

Martin Primary School in East Finchley is to receive a gold award from Unicef for its commitment to children's rights. Martin Primary staff have been working with Unicef UK since September 2016.

The Rights Respecting Schools Award shows a deep commitment to children's rights at all levels of school life and encourages adults to do the same.

Headteacher Rebecca Bakar said: "The award has had a very positive impact on pupils and the school as a whole. These values are embedded in daily school life and give our children the best chance to lead healthy,

happy lives and to be responsible, active citizens."

Unicef said schools who previously received rights awards reported improvements in pupil behaviour and well-being, leading to less truancy and bullying, better learning and improved academic standards.

Martin School is keen to support other local schools with the Rights Respecting Award programme. For more information, contact office@martinprimary.barnetmail.net.

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Overflowing bins: Photos taken around East Finchley by David Attfield, Einat Sohar and James Vernon

Have you seen litter and rubbish piling up?

Do you have any photo evidence of streets near you not being cleaned or bins not being emptied? One East Finchley man would like you to share them so that he can build a case against Barnet Council.

David Attfield started a campaign last year to get streets in East Finchley and beyond cleaned up, claiming that Barnet Council is failing in its obligations, cleaning less on a much lower budget than neighbouring Haringey.

Send your photos

Now he is asking for help in preparing evidence in support of a complaint about Barnet's performance to the local Government Ombudsman. In particular he is asking for residents to submit photos showing the cleanliness of their streets to dirtybarnet@gmail.com.

"My aim is to submit an overwhelming body of evidence showing that the neglect of streets in East Finchley is not temporary or isolated but is a widespread, ongoing problem," said David.

He acknowledged that Barnet Council had carried out some street cleaning in recent weeks, but said that many East Finchley streets remained dirty, full of weeds and generally looking neglected. Photos circulated on social media in April showing overflowing bins in The Causeway and The Walks.

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS
LOCAL POLICE, LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Jan Lovell, of the East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood Team, updates us on the latest crime news. Jan and the team can be contacted by email at: EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk, or by phone on 020 7161 9014. Follow the team on Twitter @MPSEastFinchley.

Changes in the team

It's time to say a fond goodbye to PC John Kenny after five years here in East Finchley. John will be retiring towards the end of this year, and has taken an administration post to finish his career with the Met.

John will be missed by us all, but especially by me for his diligence, thoroughness and attention to detail. John can always find any piece of information in any system if it exists! I will also miss his vast knowledge of policing, how to make a computer bend to my will and his dry sense of humour. Oh, and his tea-making.

PC Nikita Pittam

The team has a new member, PC Nikita Pittam. Nikita has been a police constable for two years and joins us in East Finchley after taking a career break. She is looking forward to getting to know the ward, the residents and businesses, and viewing ongoing issues with a fresh eye. You will see Nikita very soon out on the ward, so do come over and say hello.

Cherry Tree Wood

After consultation between Barnet Council and police we are very pleased to say that Cherry Tree Wood will remain a locked park. The park does not have any lighting and could be very dangerous for anyone straying in there after dark, or using it as an alternative cut through to Haringey. It would also be likely to lead to an increase in crime and anti-social behaviour, particularly during the summer months, and be difficult to police.

Vehicle crime

We are still getting a variety of vehicle crime; this week there was a theft of a car via a burglary where the keys were stolen. Remember to take all things of value from your vehicle. Van owners have had bags, phones and wallets taken from unlocked cabs. Do lock them away, even if you are just leaving the van for a minute.

Catalytic converter thefts, particularly from Toyota Prius cars, have increased. This is difficult to prevent and quite pricey too, but you may consider as an investment a Thatcham immobiliser and anti-tilt alarm at around £500. This is suitable for most cars but not for vans as the catalytic converter can be removed without lifting the van.

Burglary

Please do consider fitting an alarm and use it every time you leave the home empty. A family lost a lot last month after being out for only an hour.