



Council calls on citizens for ideas on the environment

By David Melsome

Barnet Council is asking residents to help answer the question of how we can be more sustainable now and in the future by becoming one of 40 members of its Citizens' Assembly. The borough's first-ever assembly will begin later this month, after invitations were sent to a mix of 8,000 households across Barnet.

The council says the aim of the Citizens' Assembly is to work with residents to create ideas and make recommendations towards becoming a more sustainable and net zero carbon borough by 2042.

Environment and Climate Change Committee Chair Cllr Alan Schneiderman said: "If you do receive an invitation please do sign up. We are keen to hear from a broad range of residents from across the borough, and you do not need to have any knowledge of sustainability to take part."

"We know how much this means for everyone in Barnet and I can't wait for the first meeting and to hear the range of opinions and ideas."

Ideas gathered this spring

The recommendations from the assemblies will be presented in summer 2023. In parallel to the Citizens' Assembly, the council will also be launching a Young People's Assembly, aiming to recruit 20 young people aged between 11-17

years old from across the borough. Requests for expressions of interest went out to schools last month.

The first assembly session takes place on the evening of Tuesday 21 February with seven more following through April and May. The council says it will make a selection from those who apply to take part to make sure the group is representative of people across the community.

Given the significant commitment, residents will be paid for their time. For more information on the assemblies and to follow progress as they take place, visit <https://engage.barnet.gov.uk/barnet-citizens-assembly>

Songwriter seeks performers

By Diana Cormack

Lyricist Anthony Abbey featured in *The Archer* in August 2021 when he was looking for people to play and perform his songs, preferably in a community setting. He is still writing the words and sending them to his former music teacher, who lives in Australia, to write the tunes.

But now there is a difference in that some of his recent compositions are aimed at children. Visit anthonyabbey.com to hear his 'fun songs for young people and for the young at heart'. A couple of these have been broadcast on Australian Broadcasting Corporation Children's Radio and more of Anthony's songs can be heard on YouTube and Spotify.

If you are interested in performing in any of them, call him on 020 8201 7986 or use the contact details on his website, above.



N2United committee members enjoy a Christmas celebration



N2United: seven years of forging community links

With the news that community and business network group N2United is winding up (see story on page 1), Ruth Anders looks back at its achievements over the last seven years.

Since its inauguration in October 2015, when it began life as The East Finchley Local Business Network, N2United has promoted and supported local businesses, organisations and independent initiatives in East Finchley.

Through its monthly meetings, N2United brought the community together to discuss and debate important matters such as the introduction of cycle lanes, local environmental issues, parking and the East Finchley Festival. The monthly meetings became a true forum for East Finchley businesses and residents alike. They were lively, informative and above all fun social occasions including a popular speed networking session.

Meetings also featured talks, advice and training on topics including social media, retail marketing, data protection, sustainability, working from home and the impact of Covid-19. Specialist business advice was regularly provided by local accountants TaxAssist. Meetings continued during the pandemic via Zoom.

Achievements

The network helped launch countless new business start-ups and community projects and has created a focal point for local traders, high street shops, home workers and enterprises with the purpose of promoting their businesses and expanding their customer bases.

Amongst many successes were the launch and promotion of the East Finchley Town Team, No2PlasticsN2, N2 Food Project, the Exchange Bookcase in EF Station and recycling project Bin There Donate That. N2United also instigated the N2 Noticeboard on Facebook and Community Calendar on website ILoveN2.co.uk, plus the Be Part of It volunteers column in *The Archer*.

Thanks go to many

N2United co-founder and chair Nick Allan said: "It has been a true community endeavour filled with lasting accomplishments made possible by a connected community. I would like to thank original member

and co-founder Hat Townley for her initial efforts in bringing the local businesses together, the N2United Committee, our local councillors, *The Archer*, our venues, and everyone who participated in our meetings for their help and support."



Many venues (Top to bottom): The launch of East Finchley Town Team in The Engine Rooms Event Space, Great North Road. The launch of No2PlasticsN2 at The Clissold Arms, Fortis Green. A networking meeting at The Constitutional Club in The Walks.

N2 market returns

The forecourt of Bottles'n'Jars and Hexagon Classics on Great North Road, N2, will once again be the location for a seasonal market featuring food and drink and local crafts.

Local traders wanted

The date is set for Sunday 23rd April, 12-5pm. Organisers HR Events are inviting applications from stallholders, in particular local produce, as well as crafters and makers and hot food vendors. See www.ILoveN2.co.uk/stallholders for details of how to apply.

Beginners & All Levels
Tai Chi & Qigong
Classes (E. Finchley)
& LIVE STREAM
Wednesdays am & pm
(Trial session: £5)
james@taiji.co.uk
07836-710281
www.taiji.co.uk

Japanese Acupuncture Clinic Finchley
www.japaneseacupunctureclinicfinchley.com
1 Bedford Mews, East Finchley N2 9DF

Marian Fixler 07966 411582	Fiona Hurlock 07795 203107	Julian Ormerod 07947 409809
-------------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------------

Acupuncture & Moxibustion Chiropractic & Yoga

Music in the Suburb

This year's Proms at St Jude's in Hampstead Garden Suburb will run from Saturday 24 June to Sunday 2 July with a full programme of classical and jazz evening concerts, plus five free lunchtime concerts and a literary festival running alongside. The full listings will be announced next month with tickets going on sale to the public in April.