



# Fly-tipping: people must change their behaviour



Uncollected: Piles of household items are left by the communal bins on the Font Hills estate, off Long Lane

By Julia Lawrence

Thank you to everyone who got in touch following our front-page report last month on the scourge of fly-tipping around the streets and open spaces of East Finchley. You told us about more hot spots where the problem never seems to go away.

Fly-tipping is rife on the corner of The Mead and Font Hill, off Long Lane, N2, says nearby resident Wendy Alderson. "Often it remains on the grass for so long that the grass dies. We do report and often the council will collect only for more to appear," says Wendy. Matteo Lanzini highlighted the

path between King Street and Wardell Court on the Grange Estate, where he often sees household items piled up. He wondered whether adding a bench and a few perennial plants would make fly-tippers think twice.

"I understand the challenges for Barnet Council to educate

and deter people from dumping rubbish in public spaces," said Matteo. "I am however surprised public money is being spent to regularly keep clearing items from some of the hotspots, people thinking of using it as dumping ground."

## Frequent eyesore

A reader in Elmshurst Crescent rang our free phone line (find



Take pride: Could this fly-tipping hotspot off King Street be replaced with a bench and planters?

the number on page 2) to say she and her neighbours often have piles of unwanted items left around their homes.

She has alerted the council many times and eventually they are picked up but in the meantime they are an eyesore. "I think the best solution is for the council to offer a free service, well-advertised, to pick up these large items from people's homes," she told us. "Currently people are put off by the charges.

The community skips do not work because many people don't have the strength to carry large items to where they are situated."

## Skip the skip

Tony Roberts, who lives in Sedgemere Avenue, agreed that Barnet Council's community skip service was not easy to use. "When the service was introduced we were notified that our skip would be at the bottom of Brookland Rise, which was really much too far away for us to carry anything; not only that, but if we didn't have the right paperwork we'd have to carry it back again!

We heard nothing since then and are surprised to learn from The Archer that there was a skip on Trinity Avenue, much nearer to where we live, in October! We were not notified of this."

Finally, Bob Davenport told us that the North London Waste Authority offers Barnet, but not Haringey, residents free collection of large, heavy household electrical appliances that cannot be easily carried by one person. These are limited to goods like fridges, freezers, ovens, televisions and dishwashers. Find out more at [www.anyjunk.co.uk/council-booking/north-london-waste-authority](http://www.anyjunk.co.uk/council-booking/north-london-waste-authority).



Eyesore: More rubbish left out in the open on the Font Hills estate

## From The Archer archives...

By Jane Marsh

### 10 years ago: February 2015

A 'forgery factory' was discovered in Western Road, N2, by police when they broke up an Albanian-led forgery network after a three-year investigation. Arsene Meci, owner of the house, and his associate Medi Krasniqi, received long sentences after pleading guilty to a variety of charges, having been described in court as "prolific forgers".

### 15 years ago: February 2010

Fires in two local homes highlighted the need for care in ensuring safety in the home. A kitchen fire in Trinity Road quickly spread to the rest of the property, and a resident died following a fire in a flat at Paul Byrne House in Helen Close. London Fire Brigade reminded readers that they offer free personal fire safety advice to local residents and can also fit free smoke alarms.

### 23 years ago: February 2002

Long-serving chief projectionist at the Phoenix Cinema, Peter Bayley, was awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours list. He started working at the Phoenix in 1960 and became chief projectionist four years later. His investiture took place on 27 February and, despite more than 40 years' service, Peter said he had no plans to retire.

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