



Obstruction: The car on its side in Creighton Avenue.

## Car left on its side after collision

A car overturned in Creighton Avenue, N2, after apparently failing to negotiate one of the central islands in the 30mph zone.

No one was seriously injured in the incident on the morning of Thursday 4 July but a parked car was badly damaged. Thanks to *Archer* reader Mike Randall for the photo.

## Fairness Commission to tackle inequality and deprivation

By David Melsome

A group of community organisations, residents and councillors have joined together to establish a Fairness Commission in Barnet to look at tackling inequality and to consider how best to achieve a fairer, more inclusive and more prosperous borough.

Figures recently published in a study by Policy in Practice, which Barnet Council participated in, show Barnet had the highest percentage (25%) of low income families in London whose income does not meet their outgoings.

Founders of the Barnet Fairness Commission say they will focus on building community infrastructure and a thriving social enterprise sector, strengthening community cohesion and tackling hate crime, and addressing gender inequality and ending domestic violence and abuse.

### Commissioners who know the area

The Commission will be chaired by Lord Roy Kennedy of Southwark, shadow spokesperson in the House of Lords on Housing, Communities

& Local Government. The other Commissioners, all of whom either live or work in Barnet, are: Abdurzak Hadi, Barnet Citizens and Somali Bravanese Welfare Association; Rabbi Rebecca Birk, Finchley Progressive Synagogue; Cllr Ross Houston, Deputy Leader of the Barnet Labour Group; Anna Kyprianou, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean, Middlesex University; Richard Logue, resident and Liberal Democrat local election candidate in 2018; Julie Pal, Chief Executive of Community Barnet; Cllr Reema Patel, Barnet Labour Group Lead on Adults & Social Care; Imam Hamid Qureshi, Islamic Association of North London; Kate Salinger, resident and former Barnet Conservative councillor; and Christina Spybey, Christians Against Poverty.

### Involving the public

The Commission is being launched at a public meeting at 6pm on Thursday 18 July at the Trinity Church Hall in Colindale, with guest speaker, Catherine West MP, who set up the first Fairness Commission in Islington. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The Commission will run for a year and hold public sessions to take evidence from independent experts, local authorities and members of the public. Anyone can submit written evidence to the Commission by emailing [office@barnetfairnesscommission.co.uk](mailto:office@barnetfairnesscommission.co.uk) or by completing the online questionnaire at [barnetfairnesscommission.co.uk](http://barnetfairnesscommission.co.uk).

### Outcomes

The Commission will produce an interim report in early 2020 and a final report in summer 2020. The findings of the commission will be used to try and influence local and national policy, and suggest practical solutions that could be implemented by the community as well.

## TV licence fight goes on

Age UK have given us more news of the fight to retain free TV licences for over-75s. At the time of writing, they told us that over 36,000 campaigners had written to Tory party leadership contenders Jeremy Hunt and Boris Johnson, asking them to stick by their manifesto promise to defend the free licences.

Their statement continued: "Our petition has reached over 600,000 signatures and we're continuing to get stories in the papers every week. We're also

trying to make sure a question is asked about TV licences at all the Conservative leadership hustings. Thank you for all of your support."

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## 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](mailto:EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk), or by phone on 020 7161 9014. Follow the team on Twitter @MPSEastFinchley.

### Neighbourhood team

We are pleased to announce we now have a third ward officer, PC Sally Starling. We now have a full team for the first time in over a year, and with the support of PS Thompson we are off to a good start.

Sally had an early baptism of fire when she went with the three Finchley ward constables to execute a Misuse of Drugs Warrant, along with Barnet Gangs Unit. A quantity of drugs and a prohibited weapon were seized, a great result for East Finchley, taking these items off our local streets.

### Scam warning

People in East Finchley have been getting phone calls from thieves claiming to be police officers or bank officials. One local lady almost handed over £2,000. To make you withdraw your money they tell lies such as the following examples. There's been fraudulent activity at your bank by bank staff; a business such as a currency exchange or jewellers is fraudulent and they require your assistance to help secure evidence by purchasing jewellery or exchanging currency to hand over to the police; or your card has been compromised and used to buy goods so you're requested to withdraw money to keep it safe or to hand over your bank card to the police.

You will be told to lie about why you are withdrawing the money as bank staff are involved in the fraud. A courier will be sent to your address to collect the money and card the same day.

Remember that the bank or police will **never** ask you for your PIN or bank password, or ask you withdraw money and hand it over to them for safe keeping, or send someone to your address to collect cash or cards.

### Van security

We're still experiencing a rise in thefts of or from vans. If you need to keep a van loaded with tools, have a look at forensic property marking kits such as Select DNA, SmartWater and Selectamark, which are all approved by the police. You can also buy extra locking devices from [thatcham.com](http://thatcham.com) which are especially designed to secure work vehicles.



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- Beginners -

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James Drewe is a qualified teacher and has been practicing tai chi for 40 years. He is the author of 3 books on tai chi & is a member of the BCCMA.

Other classes: [www.taiji.co.uk](http://www.taiji.co.uk)

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