

+  
L. Lassez

Thursday  
06.06.13  
www.times-series.co.uk



55p where sold

# HENDON & FINCHLEY TIMERS

Covering Hendon, Finchley, Golders Green and Colindale

**PLUMBATH**  
2b The Grove, London  
NW11 9SH  
(020) 8209 1401  
sales@plumbath.co.uk

Playground plea  
Page 5



■ Squatters have created makeshift homes in the remains of the former Hendon Football Club ground

Picture NL36391 by Peter Beal

# 'We're sick of it'

## Neighbours call on council to clean up squatter site

by **CHRIS HEWETT**  
chewett@london.newsquest.co.uk

A "refugee camp" of Eastern European migrants is blighting the lives of neighbours who say more needs to be done to clean up the site.

Up to 40 squatters are living in the demolished Hendon Football Club ground, in Clarendon Road, Brent Cross, which has been empty for several years.

Rubble and materials at the council-owned property have been used to construct rows of up to 15 temporary huts occupied by the squatters, believed to be largely of Eastern European descent.

Neighbours say the occupants are littering around the site, creating an eyesore, and nightly fires that they use to cook food are causing a disturbance.

Police have been instructed to carry out regular visits to the site but neighbours say Barnet Borough Council is failing to adequately deal with the problem.

The authority has evicted squatters on at least three occasions in the past but a permanent solution has not been found.

Shirley Davey has lived opposite the football ground for the past 60 years and has contacted the council regarding the latest occupants on several occasions.

She said: "It has been like it for months with these huts up. I contact the council but nothing is done. You look out of your window and it's all you can see. I'm sick of it."

A council spokesman said: "The council is aware of the squatters living on the site. "Over a number of years we have been working closely with the police, who visit the site regularly,

the leaseholder and homeless charities to clear the area and repatriate the squatters.

"Despite repeated attempts to secure the site, it has been illegally re-occupied by squatters on at least three occasions.

"The council has been trying to sell the freehold of the site for a number of years, but this has been delayed due to a number of legal challenges. We are currently working towards the eventual disposal of the freehold interest in the site."

Father-of-one Edward Espino, of Clarendon Road, said he had sympathy with the desperate occupants of the run down ground.

The 46-year-old said: "We feel sorry for them — no-one wants to live like that. But it is not the sort of thing you want to be living opposite.

"Someone needs to come down and provide some help to these people and clean the place up. This is our home."

**Weekend Markets**  
at Avenue House and Gardens in Finchley,  
East End Road, N3 3QE

**02083467812 (Option 1)**

**Saturday 8th June**  
North London Artisan Market | Artisan Produce & Street Food  
10am until 3 pm

**Sunday 9th June**  
Avenue House Sunday Market | Artisan Produce, Crafts & Sunday Lunch  
10am until 4 pm

**g | o t e c h**  
making it easy

**free design and consultation**

**0208 445 1515**

kitchens@glotech.com  
glotechkitchens.com

646 - 648 high road,  
finchley, n12 0nl  
we are open monday to  
saturday 9am to 5:30pm

**Wembley Windows** **FENSA** 10 YEAR GUARANTEE

Manufacturers and installers of UPVC and aluminium windows, doors & conservatories

**0800 833574** Trade and commercial enquiries welcome

Over 30 years of experience [www.wembleywindows.co.uk](http://www.wembleywindows.co.uk)

**ST**

[www.gjfitd.com](http://www.gjfitd.com)  
[info@gjfitd.com](mailto:info@gjfitd.com)

From a single room to a house remodel and beyond...

**Real Estates**  
SPECIALISING IN RESIDENTIAL SALES

Woodside Park, Totteridge, Whetstone, Oakleigh Park, Finchley, Mill Hill, Arkeley.

**Woodside Park Office**  
**020 8445 6387**

**Totteridge Office**  
**020 8445 3132**

[www.realestates-wsp.co.uk](http://www.realestates-wsp.co.uk)