



THE ARCHER

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Thank you to
The Old White Lion
for providing us with a
meeting place.

THE ARCHER team wishes
to thank all the generous
people who give up their
spare time, in all weather,
to deliver the paper for us.

Your contributions

If you have a news item,
memory or anecdote please
send it in to us at the above
address or leave a message
on our voice mail on 020
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THE ARCHER aims to publish on
the first weekend each month.

To maximise the chance of
publication, all contributors
are urged to submit their articles
early the preceding month:

The 8th October is the copy
deadline for the November
issue.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Utilities (for N2)

Eastern Electricity 0800 783 8838
London Electricity 0800 096 9000
OFTEL 020 7634 8700
Thames Water 0645 200 800
Three Valleys Water 0345 823 333
Gas consumers cncl. 0645 060708
Transco Gas Emerg. 0800 111 999

Councils

Barnet
Admin/Town Hall 020 8359 2000
Council Tax 020 8359 2766
Recycling & refuse 020 8359 4323
Health Authority 020 8201 4700
Com'ty Health Cncl 020 8349 364
Benefits Agency 020 8258 6500
Employment Service 020 8258 3900
Haringey Council 020 8975 9700

Leisure

Alexandra Palace 020 8365 2121
Cophall Sports Ctr. 020 8457 9900
E. Finchley Library 020 8883 2664
Gt North Leisure Pk. 020 8343 9830
Muswell Hill Odeon 01426 911885
Phoenix Cinema 020 8883 2233
Tourist Info Service 0990 992244
Warner Cinema Village 020 84469933

*Calls to 0897 numbers are
charged at £1.50 per minute.

Help & Advice

Barnet Racial Equality Council 020 8446 0445
Childline 0800 1111
Citizens Advice Bureau 020 8349 0954
Cruse bereavement care 020 7431 7122
Disability Info Service 020 7289 2360
E Finchley Advice Service 020 8444 6265
Gingerbread 020 8445 4227
Missing Persons Helpline 0500 700700
National Debt Line 0645 500511
NSPCC 0800 800500
Rape Crisis Centre 020 7837 1600
Relate 020 8445 0888
Samaritans 020 8889 6888
Refuge National Crisis Line 0990 995 443

Health Advice

AIDS Helpline 0800 567123
Alcoholics Anonymous 020 7352 3001
Barnet MENCAP 020 8203 6688
CancerLink 0800 132905
Carers National Assoc. 020 8343 3665
Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
Health Information Service 0800 665544
Homeopathic Helpline 0897 343404
MIND 0845 600 6543
N. London Blood Service 020 8258 2700

OAP's Advice

Barnet Age Concern 020 8203 5040
Barnet OAPs Welfare 020 8441 4853
Contact (N2) 020 8444 1162
Counsel & Care 0845 300 7585
Help the Aged 0800 650 065

Crime

Emergency 999
Finchley Police 020 8342 1212
Golders Gr. Police 020 8209 1212
Muswell Hill Police 020 8442 1212
CrimeStoppers 0800 555111
Victim Support 020 8343 4435

Hospitals

Barnet General 020 8200 1555
Coppetts Wood 020 8883 9792
Edgware General 020 8952 2381
Finchley Memorial 020 8349 3121
Oak Lane Clinic 020 8346 9343
Royal Free 020 7794 0500
St Luke's 020 8219 1800
Whittington 020 7272 3070
Western Eye Hosp 020 7886 6666

Transport

BR Enquiries 0345 484950
City Airport 020 7646 0000
Greenline 020 8668 7261
LT Enquiries 020 7222 1234
Grey-Green 020 8800 8010
National Xpress 0990 808080
Heathrow 020 8759 4321

Animal Welfare

Nat Strays Bureau 0897 123999
RSPCA 0990 555999



42 Church Lane, London N2 8DT.
Tel/Fax: 020 8444 6265

General Advice.
Monday to Friday: 10am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4pm.
Thursdays: 7pm - 8pm.
Immigration Advice.
Tuesdays: 7pm - 8pm by appointment only.
Legal Advice.
Tuesdays: 7pm - 8pm.
Councillors' Surgery.
Saturdays: 10am - 11.30am

Crime Diary

By John Larimer

The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) advises the following alleged incidents were reported as having occurred within the N2 postal area during July 1999: **Burglary of dwelling, 14; Burglary of other than dwelling, 5; Theft of motor vehicle, 6; Theft from motor vehicle, 12; Criminal damage to motor vehicle, 16.**

If you are the victim of a crime, or witness a crime being committed, ring 999. If you have any information about a crime or perpetrator of a crime and don't want to give your name, ring Crimestoppers, anytime day or night at 0800 555 111. For further information or advice you can contact our MPS Crime Prevention Officer, PC Peter Hayward, at 020 8733 5092.

Next big thing?

According to Highgate estate agents Keith Cardale Groves, East Finchley is starting to attract people priced out of Hampstead and Highgate.

Chris Underhill of Keith Cardale Groves considers that East Finchley has been overlooked in the past, but now is starting to be viewed as somewhere offering tremendous value for money. For the price of a two-bedroom flat in Highgate it is possible to buy a four-bedroom house in East Finchley, which makes this area seem like a bargain.

The only problem with the rising interest in houses in our area is the impact on prices. It is not long ago that we noted East Finchley's first £300,000 semi, now Highgate estate agents are describing £350,000 houses in the County roads as tremendous value and citing good schools, open spaces, local shops and the Phoenix as reasons to move here. For them the only down side is the lack of designer bars and restaurants to entertain the Hampstead and Highgate exiles in the evenings.

NEWS IN BRIEF

More eyes on crime

London Underground has submitted an application to Barnet Council to install additional CCTV cameras on platforms 1 and 4 at East Finchley Tube Station.

Marking Time

English Heritage has listed as of historic interest an 1889 marker of the parish of Finchley discovered by the Finchley Society.

The Society has also discovered markers of the boroughs of Finchley and Friern Barnet on the edge of Finchley golf course. The Society would like to hear from anyone who knows of other markers. Anyone who has any information on markers should contact Derek Warren on 020 8346 5258.

Trust appointment

The board of the Civic Trust has appointed Bill Tyler, President of The Finchley Society, as one of the two trustees representing local societies.

Bill Tyler is a founder member of the Finchley Society and was Chair between 1977 and 1982 before being elected President in 1993. Mr Tyler is a registered architect and is currently Conservation Officer with Hertsmere Council.

Say no to selection

By Naomi Burgess

When the Secretary of State for Education famously promised us "No More Selection", I for one breathed a huge sigh of relief. This was because three of our Barnet schools decide their whole entry by selection test and don't we all know families who have been affected by their admission arrangements?

The schools are the two girls' grammars, Henrietta Barnett and St Michael's Catholic Girls, and the one boys' grammar school Queen Elizabeth Boys.

Now we are offered the chance to ballot on changing their entry procedures. Schools like Mill Hill County, who admit a certain number of children by selection, are called partially selective as their admissions procedures are altered by an adjudicator.

Many of us would be happy to see an end to competition for school places. We don't believe that you can predict future success at 11, and don't want to see children feel failures at 11. All children are equally valuable however well or badly they perform on selection tests. Of course if the local children who score highly attend local comprehensives our exam results will be even better than now!

The vote in Barnet will be about admission to the three grammar schools. There are

two stages to this process. Firstly we need to trigger the vote, to do this we will need need 6000 signatures of eligible primary school parents. You don't need to be For or Against, to sign this.

Stage 2 will be the actual ballot, which will involve 30,000 eligible parents, 2000 of whom will be in outlying boroughs. Those entitled to vote, will be parents of children in those primary or junior schools, where more than five children in the last three years have won places and transferred to one of our three local grammars. It's a daunting task, 6000 signatures to trigger the ballot and then the actual ballot.

The non-political group, Barnet Parent's Federation, is holding a public meeting. There will be invited speakers highlighting their views on admission arrangements to grammar schools, further details about the voting process and an opportunity to sign the trigger petition. The meeting will be held at Underhill Juniors, Mays Lane, High Barnet EN5 on Monday 4 October at 8.30pm, and signing will start at 8pm.

Offers of help, including offers of space for posters in local shops can be made via Barnet Parents Federation at PO box 25525 London NW7 1WN, and myself via THE ARCHER, information is available from the above, and at local libraries.

Design awards

Do you know of any outstanding new buildings? Has any landscape grabbed your eye?

New buildings and urban design projects in Barnet are invited to compete for an award scheme for the best environmental design in Britain. The scheme is run by the Civic Trust and is one of the largest and

most comprehensive in Europe.

Entries are invited from all quality building and landscape projects completed between 1 January 1997 and 31 July 1999 and the deadline for entries is 17 September 1999.