



THE ARCHER

PO Box 3699
LONDON N2 8JA
Tel: 01426 923 549
e-mail:
The-Archer@England.com
or The-Archer@LineOne.net
<http://archer.tsx.org>

PUBLISHER
East Finchley
Newspapers

EDITOR

David Hobbs

SUB-EDITORS

Frances Loveday
John Dacam

FEATURES EDITORS

Diana Cormack
Daphne Chamberlain

EDITORIAL TEAM

Martin Earl
Brian Evans
Geoff Garfield
Claire Gates
Robert Jones
John Larimer
Noel Lynch
Helen O'Toole
Tony Roberts
Frank Tymkow
Len Willcocks

PHOTOGRAPHY

David Tupman

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Alison Roberts
Paul Northam

FINANCE

Sue Holliday

ADMINISTRATION

Pamela Kent
Toni Morgan

EDITOR AT LARGE

Paul Savill

Thank you to
Madden's Ale House
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 01426
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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 14th February is the
copy deadline for the
March 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
Wamer Cinema Village 020 84469933

*Calls to 09065 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 09065 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
Crime Stoppers 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 09065 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

Millennium baby

Britain's first New Millennium baby was born to an East Finchley couple just seconds after midnight on New Years Day.

Monstrat Abomide, a 29-year-old student nurse, gave birth to an 8lb 15oz baby girl, Tamera, at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead.

She and her partner, Jason Englefield, 28, have since moved from their home on the High Road to Hackney.

OBITUARY: Bob Welch



Bob Welch photo by Frank Tymkow

Everyone at the Archer was saddened by the death recently of Bob Welch. He was a well-known member of the local community and a good friend of this newspaper.

Robert David Michael Welch was born in 1941 and raised in Enfield.

He joined the army at the age of 17 and it was on a tour of duty in Germany that he met and married Billie (Sybille).

After seven years service he left the army and took up driving buses, then in 1979 the couple opened a pub at 130 High Road, East Finchley, which became Welch's Ale House.

Sadly, Billie died of cancer in 1991. Bob sold the pub four years ago and moved to Hert-

fordshire and from there to Chislehurst in Kent.

He died as a result of a stroke on January 18.

The funeral was on January 28 in a packed All Saints Church in Durham Road. It was a touching ceremony with a beautiful tribute read by his sister, Yvonne Comley, and he was buried with Billie in Southgate Cemetery.

Bob leaves two daughters, Sheila and Jackie, as well as a young son and four grandchildren.

Bob Welch - A personal tribute by Frank Tymkow:

I first met Bob on the day he opened for business. At last a real ale house in East Finchley and one close to home!

I found to my pleasure that mine host made everyone feel welcome. In addition, Bob's wife Billie was a fabulous cook and I felt I had found a home from home. That was in 1979 and I have been a regular there ever since.

Bob was always a bit of a lady's man, did not always do the right thing, drank too much and was just about the laziest landlord I know. Billie told him so in no uncertain terms, frequently in German!

Charity haul

One event that sticks in my mind was the year of the charity inter-pub pram race, which we sponsored. There were 13 pubs in East Finchley at the time and the 'baby' had to have half a pint in each one.

Naturally Bob could not resist getting involved as one of the pram pushers. He borrowed one of Billie's best dresses for the occasion and, unsurprisingly, both Bob and the dress came back in a right old mess!

Bob, we'll miss you: you always did it your way.

Long Lane development to go ahead

The battle to save Long Lane pasture has been lost after councillors voted to put the land up for tender.

Despite a demonstration and a petition of 1213 signatures, councillors insisted that the land would be of more use for social housing.

Cllr Kathy McGuirk (Lab, St Paul's) said, "It is simply not right to abandon people needing homes. Putting plants before people is not the answer."

Barnet Council has already started discussions with Fairview New Homes over a proposed development of 89 one- and two-bedroom flats and six special needs flats on the site.

Wood volunteer action

Many thanks to all those who attended the Cherry Tree Wood work party on 5 December.

The next practical works will be carried out on **Sunday 20 February**. Meet at the main park entrance at 10 am to continue the good work.

For further information call Lee Tyson Projects Officer on 01707 650041.