



THE ARCHER

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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 March is the
copy deadline for the
April issue.**

THE ARCHER

currently has a vacancy for an
Advertising Manager

Offered on a purely voluntary
basis. Please leave your name and
number on The Archer voice-mail
or e-mail us for further details.

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
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 09065 123999*
RSPCA 0990 555999

NEWS IN BRIEF

Engine failure

Finchley is left without its second fire engine in spite of a public campaign of protest.

The fire engine and 24 fire fighters left the fire station in Long Lane after home secretary Jack Straw gave the go-ahead to axe it.

A station spokesperson fears that lives will be lost due to the cuts. Barnet has now lost 50% of its fire cover.

Zebra update

Work on the Fortis Green crossing should have started by the time you read this.

THE ARCHER was told on 7 February to expect action "in two or three weeks."

Xkeys web

Cross keys, which runs summer camps for school children, has launched a website.

The camps are run in Finchley, Edgware and Suffolk. This half term there was a day camp at Christ College in East End Road. Visit <http://www.xkeys.co.uk>

Price hike

The price of Barnet Council's Meals on Wheels service could be about to go up from £2 to £2.30, an increase of 16%.

The announcement was made by Councillor Phil Yeoman at a Social Affairs briefing meeting.

However Barnet Council have said that the issue is still under discussion and that no final decision has been taken to increase the cost of the meals on wheels service.

Mercy Convoy

Finchley based charity Convoy of Mercy have sent another consignment of aid to Kosovo.

Two aid workers will drive the truck containing food, heaters, clothing and books out there and will spend ten days distributing the aid to the people of Kosovo. The charity, which is based in Squires Lane, has been sending aid to countries affected by conflict for the last seven years.

Pub change

Barnet Council's Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Team has announced a proposal to convert the Duke of Cambridge Public House, 72 Market Place, into six self contained flats involving a three storey side extension and alteration to elevations.

A circular dated 4 February outlining the proposal has been distributed to local residents.

Begging the question

Aggressive begging is becoming a problem throughout London, and Finchley and Barnet are no exceptions.

A spokesperson for Barnet Council said "You should not feel obliged to give money to asylum seekers or aggressive beggars or those begging with children".

"The basic needs of asylum seekers and families are met by local councils. The homeless and destitute can obtain help from local authority social services".

Stabbing

A schoolboy is recovering from a punctured lung after being stabbed following an argument with a student from another school.

The attack on Joseph Lebby, 15, took place around 4pm on Thursday 10 February at the Tally Ho bus terminal in North Finchley. The victim is a pupil at Bishop Douglass High School in East Finchley. He was taken to Barnet General Hospital.

Forum of words

The Barnet Civic Forum met recently to develop a community plan for the borough. They hope to have a plan ready by July.

Councillor Alan Williams said, "Although we do our best to work in partnership, the community plan will help us to focus on the bigger picture and help us to tackle issues that must be solved together".

Mayor's tale

Commenting on the forthcoming Mayoral Elections and the Greater London Authority he stated, "We need to take that into account in what we do as it will make a huge change in the way Barnet operates".

The finalised draft plan will be distributed to all residents in April.

Make a date

The next meeting of the Finchley Forum will be at 6.30 pm, Tuesday 28 March at The Old Barn, Tarling Road, N2.

The Forum is open to everyone, and is your chance to raise local issues with Councillors and Chief Officers.



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

Attempted rape charge

An East Finchley man has been committed to the Old Bailey to face charges of attempted rape.

Ciro Vaio, 26, of Deanery Close has been charged with attempting to rape a woman at Deanery Close in November 1998, Hendon Magistrates Court heard.

Mr Vaio, who is on conditional bail, will appear at the Central Criminal Court on 17 March.

Motorcycle death

A motorcyclist lost his life when he "panic-braked" and locked the front wheel of his motorcycle, an inquest heard on 7 February.

Christopher James Carlan, a 34-year-old electrician of East Barnet, broke his neck when he was thrown from his new 900cc bike into the path of a car on the Great North Road, East Finchley.

At Hornsey Coroners Court, the accident investigation unit revealed that Mr Carlan lost control of his Honda Fireblade after overtaking another motorcycle. The bike hit the back of a Mini travelling in front, propelling Mr Carlan into the path of a Renault travelling in the opposite direction. Mr Carlan was rushed to Whittington Hospital but was pronounced dead shortly after arrival.

Justine Smith, of Upper Holloway, who was driving the Renault said, "There were two motorcycles coming toward me on the opposite side of the road. The second bike went to overtake the first. At this point the second bike began to shudder and the rider came off... sliding across the road and hit the front of my car."

PC Eammon Desmond of the accident investigation unit said, "The bike was travelling at approximately 50mph and clearly Mr Carlan reacted to something. But, whatever it was, he overreacted to the situation and he panic-braked and locked the front wheel."

Coroner William Dolman recorded a verdict of accidental death.