



## 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 0120 8444 1341

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 May is the  
copy deadline for the  
June 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 8446 9933

\*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



East Finchley Playgroup

## New lease of life!

### East Finchley playgroup bounces back

Over the past few months, the East Finchley Playgroup has seen the number of children attending their morning sessions increase to a more satisfactory level - so that the future of the playgroup is no longer under the immediate threat of closure.

This resurgence has been helped by a major publicity drive, including articles in *THE ARCHER*, designed to ensure that all parents in the area know about the existence of the East Finchley Playgroup, but it still needs to supplement the fee income derived from parents with additional important fund raising activities.

#### Fayre play

Following an Easter Fayre held at the Methodist Church Hall, High Road, East Finchley, they plan to hold a raffle in mid-May. This will be based at The Windsor Castle, The Walks, off Church Lane, East Finchley where the prizes will be on display and the tickets for sale at the pub during the three weeks prior to the raffle.

The importance of play in the development of youngsters is vital and should not be under-estimated. The playgroup employs three fully trained and experienced staff who encourage the children to learn through play in a friendly and secure environment, giving them the necessary preparation for the school years ahead. Teachers from Holy Trinity Primary School Nursery make regular visits so that children can get to know them before moving on from the playgroup stage of their education. The playgroup is open on Mondays - Fridays from 9.30am to 12 pm. at the Methodist Church Hall, High Road, East Finchley (almost opposite the library).

For more information, contact Linda Clarke on 020 8444 6212 or Maureen Frankland on 020 8883 0609.



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

## Warning to Pet Owners

A cat has been shot in the neck by an air rifle in the vicinity of Cherry Tree Wood. The pellet was removed by a vet and, happily, the cat survived. The police have been informed and park keeper Chris Ward is aware of the incident.

It is believed that it happened somewhere in the vicinity of the children's playground and the park entrance. Some children have reported seeing birds and squirrels being shot at by boys, though they believed that was with catapults. Nevertheless, this should not happen and *THE ARCHER* hopes that everyone will be vigilant and quick to report any similar dangerous activities, which could harm humans as well as wildlife.

### THE ARCHER

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.

## Chess success

James Peet, aged 9, of Durham Road has been selected to represent England at chess.

He finished 4th in the English Primary Schools Chess Association Under-11 trials in Liverpool recently, having already become British Chess Federation Under-9 Mini Squad Champion and British Under-10 Rapid Play champion in 1999.

James, who attends Garden Suburb School, played his first tournament (in which he came 3rd in his age group) at Martin School, which he then attended. His coach is local resident John Fleetwood, who runs the Barnet and Finchley Junior Chess Club.

## Christian Aid

By Erini Rodis

Did you happen to see nineteen pairs of shoes laid out on a High Road bench one recent Saturday morning? Were you then asked for a donation of 10p, only to have it offered back at a return of 30p? On April 8 this confusing public awareness event was held by local Christian Aid as part of Jubilee 2000's call to cancel the Third World Debt.

The shoes represented a UN estimate that 19 thousand children die every day because the governments of the world's 52 poorest nations (including Nicaragua, Mozambique and Bangladesh) have been paying off debts at crippling interest rates to the Western world. Totalling 300 billion dollars, this leaves little to invest in their own citizens' welfare. Last year world leaders agreed to cancel a third of this debt, but Jubilee 2000, an organisation comprised of 70 different organisations (in-

cluding Oxfam, Cafod and Christian Aid) want it cancelled completely. They urge the public to write to Tony Blair and Gordon Brown in time for the next meeting of the G8 leaders in Japan on 23 July 2000.

In the meantime a frugal lunch at the Methodist Church, High Road, marks the beginning of Christian Aid Week, on May 14 at noon. If you would like more information on the week's events or the issues above please call John Barker on 020 8444 1931.