



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.

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:

14 July is the copy deadline for the August issue.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Utilities (for N2)

Eastern Energy 0800 783 8838
London Electricity 0800 096 9000
OFTEL 020 7634 8700
Thames Water 0845 920 0888
Three Valleys Water 0845 782 3333
Gas consumers cncl. 0645 060708
Transco Gas Emerg. 0800 111 999

Councils

Barnet
Admin/Town Hall 020 8359 2000
Council Tax 020 8359 2608
Recycling & refuse 020 8359 4600
Health Authority 020 8201 4700
Com'ty Health Cncl 020 8349 4364
Benefits Agency 020 8258 6500
Employment Service 020 8258 3900
Haringey Council 020 8975 9700

Leisure

Alexandra Palace 020 8365 2121
Cophthall Sports Ctr. 020 8361 8658
E. Finchley Library 020 8883 2664
Gt North Leisure Pk. 020 8343 9830
Muswell Hill Odeon 0870 505 0007
Phoenix Cinema. 020 8883 2233
Tourist Info Service 0870 126 4018
Wamer 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 8446 6935
E Finchley Advice Service 020 8444 6265
Gingerbread 020 8445 4227
Missing Persons Helpline 0500 700700
National Debt Line 0808 808 4000
NSPCC 0800 800500
Rape Crisis Centre 020 7837 1600
Relate 020 8445 0888
Samaritans 020 8889 6888
Refuge National Crisis Line 0870 599 5443

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
Drinkline 0800 917 8282
Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
Health Information Service 0800 665544
Homeopathic Helpline 09065 343404*
MIND 020 8343 5700
N. London Blood Service 020 8258 2700

OAP's Advice

Barnet Age Concern 020 8346 3511
Barnet OAPs Welfare 020 8441 4853
Contact (N2) 020 8444 1162
Counsel & Care 0845 300 7585
Help the Aged 0800 096 2541

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 8216 4000
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 0845 484950
City Airport 020 7646 0000
Greenline 020 8668 7261
LT Enquiries 020 7222 1234
Grey-Green 020 8800 8010
National Express 08705 808080
Heathrow 020 8759 4321

Animal Welfare

Nat Strays Bureau 09065 123999*
RSPCA 0870 5555999



Left to rot - abandoned vehicle in Viceroy Close. Photo by Diana Cormack

All quiet on the Viceroy Close front

By John Dearing

The planning application for permission to build a flat block on the open space behind Budgens (as previously reported in *THE ARCHER*) appears to be in limbo. Enquiries made to the Barnet council planning office reveal no progress on its consideration, and no date for any hearing by the planning committee has been forthcoming. Indeed one council source has suggested that the application, in its present form, will fail.

Meanwhile, the threat to remove all the dumped cars, restrict the use of the space to those who have purchased expensive permits, and enforce this with clamping, has failed to materialise, despite the appearance of several notices to this effect. Attempts to contact the new management company to find out what is happening, have failed. Perhaps they have just got bored with it all!

The *status quo* prevails, with ever-growing potholes, heaps of rubbish, several dumped cars gently disintegrating and the usual outbreaks of parked cars blocking access during business hours.

Phone mast re-sited

An application by a phone company to put up a monopole on the pavement outside the Five Bells on East End Road has been turned down by Barnet Council on grounds of siting and appearance.

Commenting on the refusal, Conservative Councillor John Marshall told *THE ARCHER*,

"I very much welcome this, as there is now a trend to consider these applications in a much more sensible way than when they were automatically being approved."

Don't fence us in

ARCHER readers who took their families to the Lido at half-term were dismayed to find the outside pool out of action and the grass area fenced off.

One mother said, "You get a nice day, with the sun shining, and you have to sit on the concrete".

A spokesman for Barnet Cophthall told us, "The Lido was not actually due to open until 1 June, but we wanted to take advantage of the fine weather. Unfortunately, the pool could not be used because some tiles had dropped off the wall. We had to fence off the area for safety's sake, and a notice was put up to explain."

The grass area was opened up at the beginning of June, and the pool was back in use shortly afterwards.

Abandoned Vehicles

Barnet Council may soon be offering a free collection service for residents who want to get rid of their clapped-out vehicles. A pilot scheme is being introduced in three areas in the autumn and, if it is successful, the Council will consider extending the service throughout the borough.

Meanwhile, there will be blitz operations by the combined forces of the police, neighbourhood management officers and the licensing authority (the DVLA) to remove and crush unwanted cars in key hot spots.

It can take several weeks of checks to find the owner before an abandoned car can be crushed. However, any vehicle which is dangerous and also untaxed will now be removed and destroyed after the seven-day notice has expired.



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

You can contact *East Finchley's Community Police Officer, PC Paul Carter, at the Community Office, Golders Green Station, on 020 8733 5562 or e-mail him at aul.carter@met.police.uk*

People's Network

Barnet Council has won £457,000 in Government funding over the next two years, as part of the People's Network project.

The People's Network is a national initiative for all public libraries which will enable the public to access computers linked to the Internet and also a wide range of Information Communications Technology, to support their information, training and learning needs.

Barnet Online, the Council's website, gets two million hits a month, and is developing new features regularly.

A Council spokesman said that access through the Web is the key to modernising the way it provides services.

Barnet is committed to installing two hundred computers for public use in the borough's libraries. Every library will have public computers for access to the Internet and IT, and the Council has been awarded further funding to train library staff in the use of the technology.

The number of abandoned cars is increasing rapidly, following a dramatic slump in scrap value. The Council has removed and scrapped over 3,200 in the space of a year, and successful "blitzes" have been carried out in West Hendon and Grahame Park.

Residents can continue to help the Council make Barnet a safer and cleaner place by reporting dumped vehicles to the clean-up hotline - tel: 020 8359 6035.