



THE ARCHER

PO Box 3699
LONDON N2 8JA
Voicemail/fax:
Editorial: 08700 292405
Listings: 08700 292407
Advertising: 08700 293 991
Distribution: 08700 293 992
Enquiries: 08700 293 993

e-mail: The-Archer@
LineOne.net
<http://www.the-archer.co.uk>

PUBLISHER
*East Finchley
Newspapers*

EDITOR
Kevin Finn

DEPUTY EDITOR
Daphne Chamberlain

SUB-EDITORS
*Frances Loveday
Claire Warner*

FEATURES EDITORS
*David Hobbs
Diana Cormack*

EDITORIAL TEAM
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Robert Moore
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Sonia Singham
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ADVERTISING
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FINANCE
Sue Holliday

PRODUCTION &
DISTRIBUTION
*Alison Roberts
Pam Kent*

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 April is the copy deadline for the May 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
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 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



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

Arson attack

By Femke van Iperen
On 15 February at midnight in Hamilton Road, a 66-year-old man and 53-year-old woman were woken by a loud bang. On investigating they discovered the front door cracked by fire and flames entering the house. The fire brigade arrived within five minutes.

Both victims were taken to Whittington Hospital where they were detained overnight suffering from smoke inhalation injuries.

The police are treating the incident as suspicious. The fire allegedly started at the front door; a petrol can was found in a bin in the front garden and a box of matches at the front door.

Detective Sergeant A. Attwood said, "It was fortunate that the fire brigade were called so quickly. We can find no motive so far, we are not linking it to any other incidents and are keeping an open mind". The police are appealing for witnesses to come forward and can be contacted on 020 8733 5830.

Fatal collision

Police are appealing for witnesses to a fatal road accident on the A406 North Circular Road, at the junction with Finchley High Road, at 2pm on Tuesday, 5 March.

Three Asian students travelling eastbound in a white Ford Sierra were seriously injured when their vehicle apparently left the road and collided with a tree.

The driver, a 20-year-old man from Southall, was pronounced dead at the scene. His two passengers, both 19-year-old men from Hayes, suffered serious injuries and were taken to different north London hospitals.

The collision is being investigated by Alperton police traffic garage. Witnesses should contact the collision investigation unit on 020 8246 9820.

Beware one-day sales!

Barnet Council has warned that not all one-day sales are genuine.

Fake sales tend to be advertised by a leaflet the day before, which contains unbelievable offers at ridiculously low prices. These offers often include bankrupt and liquidated stock, which may be worthless and unsafe.

If you are not sure whether or not a sale is genuine, contact the Trading Standards hotline on 020 8359 4300. Venues for these sales tend to be pubs and local church and community halls.

You can find out more about these sales and general consumer matters by logging on to www.barnet.gov.uk.

Life Sentence

An East Finchley man has been sentenced to life imprisonment after being found guilty of murder.

An Old Bailey jury found Kristian Maher guilty of the murder of 23-year-old Hendon man Gary Osborne by a unanimous verdict.

Police were called at approximately 2.45pm on 9 April 2001 to Grahame Park Estate, Colindale, NW9, where they found Gary Osborne lying in the street with stab wounds to his chest. He was taken to Royal London Hospital by air ambulance but died an hour later from his injuries. A post mortem gave the cause of death as stab wounds.

26-year-old Kristian Maher of Myddleton House, The Grange, was found nearby with a stab wound. He was taken by London Ambulance Service to Barnet General Hospital where he was discharged and then arrested. The victim and Maher were known to each other.

Young life wasted

After the trial Detective Inspector Carol Andrews, from the Serious Crime Group team investigating the murder, said, "The murder of Gary Osborne was a tragic waste of a young life. Today's verdict is the just end to the distressing ordeal that Gary's family have had to face."

Local Trader held at gunpoint

By Femke van Iperen

According to February Police figures, East Finchley High Road businesses have been burgled eight and robbed six times since 1 December 2001. Increasingly, customers find themselves having to ring the doorbell for attention on entering businesses. It comes as no surprise that there has been yet another attack on a business. This time with a gun.

On Thursday 28 February, at around 5 pm, two men aged about 40 and rough-looking, entered a local High Road business, where a member of staff was working alone. The victim said; "As they were coming in, they showed me a gun." She was ordered to lie down on the floor, keep quiet, and then dragged to the back of the shop, where they demanded money.

Frightening ordeal

She added that she was surprised they did not take her credit card when they went through her bag, or any of her gold jewellery. She was further taken aback by their choice of a business where cash trading is

unusual. About eight minutes after entering the premises they left with only £50 in cash. Although she was not physically hurt, the incident had left the woman terrified and she was unable to return to work for two days.

The police, who were alerted immediately, arrived within ten minutes. Despite the pair's efforts to destroy evidence with a tissue, fingerprints were found. The men, one black and the other white, were described as approximately 6' tall. The white man was wearing a woolly navy-blue hat, a fleece (possibly blue), jeans and trainers. He was well-built, with a small beard.

The black man was wearing a hooded fleece and was slimmer in build.

Mobile update

Meanwhile, rumours about a mobile police station in East Finchley have been denied by the Police. Borough Commander Sue Akers explained the service would leave valuable officers inside and inactive. She commented, "We are looking actively for alternative ways to provide assurances for the public. A mobile station is just one of the options. It has been suggested to have these rotating around car parks, but no specific plan has been made for East Finchley. It is not on the agenda".