



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 January is the copy deadline for the February 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

Shunt in Fortis Green

by John Dearing
Late on Friday 16 November on Fortis Green, a car ran into the back of a taxi, causing considerable damage to both vehicles although neither drivers nor passengers were apparently hurt.

According to a witness, the taxi was waiting to turn right into Western Road, when the car behind failed to stop.

In the Dark

By John Dearing

At 23:20 on Saturday 1 December, all mains electrical power was shut off abruptly in the centre of East Finchley. From a vantage point in the centre of the village, the black-out could be seen to extend most of the way to the A1 in the south, and west along East End Road (apparently as far as Sedgemere Avenue). Northwards, the black-out extended to about Kitchener Road.

By the light of the silvery moon...

As the moon had been full the previous evening, and the cloud cover was light, the blacked-out High Road was bathed in a ghostly, silvery glow, in ways really quite romantic. Whether this had any effect upon those affected by the enforced early night remains to be seen (probably sometime in the first or second week of

September 2002). Customers in the restaurants and pubs in the High Road could be seen leaving cheerfully, but carefully, in the unexpected dark; the usually raucous club crowd continued their revelry on the street, but they clearly could not see well enough to break anything!

An hour or so later, the lights came on in East End Road, to the west of Market Place, but the remainder of the area remained without electricity until 02:25 on the Sunday. According to TXU Energi, a network fault caused the "main feeder to trip in the primary sub-station, affecting all the secondary sub-stations in the area".

Missing Girl fears

Concern is growing for a 15-year-old girl who went missing from her home in N10 on Christmas Eve.

Bintou Sabally left her home at Nicoll Court, Sydney Road, N10, at about 4pm after a disagreement and has not been seen or heard from since.

Bintou, who may be using the name Amie Magatty, is black, about 5ft 3in tall, with short black hair, slim build and was wearing a grey hooded top, dark blue jean jacket, black jeans and blue Nike trainers.

She did not take any clothing, personal belongings or money and has no access to money.

Anyone with any information should call Colindale Missing Persons Unit on 020 8733 4592.

Supermarket Sweep

By Diana Cormack and David Hobbs

Details of two proposals for a Waitrose store to be built on land extending from Brompton Grove to Baronsmere Road have been revealed. (See December's ARCHER).

At a committee meeting of the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood, Colin Rogers, prospective Labour councillor for East Finchley, said that the initial plan was for a three storey car park with one level underground near the park entrance (opposite East Finchley tube station) and a two storey shopping block on the rest of the land.

Sweeping changes

This was changed, altering the position of the car park to the Baronsmere Road end, with spaces available for 100 - 150 vehicles. Potential customers would come from Highgate, Muswell Hill, Hampstead Garden Suburb, Hornsey and East Finchley.

Unfortunately, Mr Rogers was unable to show any copies of the as yet informal plans, because Waitrose wanted them back for modification. So it

appears that only interested local councillors, whom he says were called in following an approach to Barnet by Waitrose, have seen them. It is likely that East Finchley High Road would be upgraded if such a high profile store were built here.

Local needs, local views

Waitrose itself appears to be eager to accommodate local needs in its proposals. For instance, it could include public toilets and a drop-in Barnet council centre. Moreover, Mr Rogers stated that if all their plans came to fruition, Waitrose might provide up to £1,000,000 with which to improve the locale!

Dr Rudi Vis, MP for Finchley and Golders Green, told THE ARCHER that hundreds of thousands of pounds would be available for the development of East Finchley if the council allowed the supermarket to be built. He is very much in favour of the opinion of local people being taken into account and feels that it is unlikely to happen if it is against the wishes of the majority.

However, an informal survey at East Finchley tube station showed that many people do seem to want a Waitrose store. Their views need to be measured against those who believe that it would have a detrimental effect on our present High Road traders and would also bring traffic, pollution and parking problems. Let THE ARCHER know what you think.

Designer Values

By Femke van Iperen

On Saturday 8 December at 7 am two teenage boys were walking down the High Road to East Finchley tube station when they were mugged by four youths.

The muggers asked the boys to produce their mobile phones; but then told the boys they could keep them. The models were too dated. The father of one of the attacked boys said, "This would almost be funny, were it not sick."

Oldmobile

The police, with public offices only in Colindale, Ballards Lane and Golders Green, initially took no more than a phone statement as the criminals had disappeared. A later meeting produced pictures of potential criminal candidates, but with no result yet. Thus it seems that the best and only advice people can take is to stick with their old mobile phone model, or at least not make phone calls publicly with their latest chic version. Even faced with loss of status among peers this seems the better option.