



## THE ARCHER

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*Due to circumstances beyond The Archer's control, our fax and voicemail numbers are no longer available.*

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*East Finchley Newspapers*

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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 May is the copy deadline for the June 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

### Community Services

❖ Credit Union, Green Man Community Centre 020 8883 4916

❖ Careers advice, Green Man, Community Centre 020 8883 4916

❖ Toy library, Muswell Hill 020 8444 0244/ 8489 8774

❖ Web Design courses at the Green Man Community Centre see [www.marshalssoftware.com](http://www.marshalssoftware.com)

You can contact East Finchley's Community Police Officer, PC Paul Carter, at The Community Office, Golders Green Station, Tel: 020 8733 5562 or e-mail: [paul.carter@met.police.uk](mailto:paul.carter@met.police.uk)

## Police Warning

Information is coming from beats across the borough about a scam being run by a man or a woman, sometimes both together. They knock on the victim's door and, pretending to live in their road, they ask for a cab fare as they need to get somewhere urgently, etc.

Only the woman is described. She is said to be unkempt, in her early thirties, with a possible hospital identity band on her wrist. Times of their calls vary between late afternoon and the early hours of the morning. They are mostly targeting the elderly.

Regular readers will know

that East Finchley suffered a spate of such con-merchants not so long ago. If you are called on by these people dial 999 and tell the operator about them, and that local police are looking for them. No matter how plausible their excuse, do not give them money.

## Bogus tree contractors

Barnet residents are being urged to be on their guard against rogue contractors claiming to offer tree removal services on behalf of the council.

Barnet Council has received several reports of bogus firms cruising the borough and carrying out work while claiming to be acting on behalf of the council.

In one incident in Finchley, contractors called on a homeowner claiming the conifer tree in their front garden was affecting the pavement and that the council had sent them along to fell it and collect the fee for the work. Luckily, in this case, the property owner sent the firm on their way without any work being done before reporting them.

Another incident in Golders Green saw a firm actually remove a tree after carrying out unauthorised work.

Residents should be alerted that the council does not carry out any tree work on privately owned trees.

If anyone receives similar house calls or are contacted by

telephone by any private contractor making similar claims they should immediately contact the Tree Section at Barnet Council on 020 8359 4447 and the council's Trading Standards Office on 020 8359 4919.

## Choking risk

Traders and residents are being warned to be on their guard against sweets that could pose a serious "choking risk" to children.

Acting on advice from the Food Standards Agency, Barnet Council's Food Safety Team are urging people to stay away from "mini cup fruit jelly products".

The jellies come in small dome-shaped cups, about the size of individual mini-milk or cream cartons, have a rounded edge and are sealed with a foil lid.

Children tend to suck out and effectively "inhale" the sweet, which contains a soft, slippery type jelly with a hard,

fruit-flavoured gum at the centre. This increases the risk of choking, as does the fact that the sweets contain an ingredient called "kinjac" which does not dissolve easily and could stay stuck in the throat.

Over 400 letters have been sent by the Food Safety Team to small retailers in the borough who may stock these particular sweets which have been linked to a number of deaths from choking around the world.

The sweets have a number of different brand names including:

- \*ABC Mini Fruit Bites
- \*Fuji Coconut Flavor Jelly
- \*Healthy Konnyaku Jelly
- \*Jin Jin Konjac Coconut Mini Gel Snack
- \*New Choice Mini Fruit Gels
- \*New Century's Choice
- \*Rolin Mango Jelly Cup
- \*Troofy Gels
- \*Mongt Lee Shang Fruit Jelly
- \*Jan Fu Trading Co Lichee Jelly

Further information is available on the Food Standards Agency website at [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk)

## Support Your Local Chemist

On Sunday 19 May Paresh Shah will again be taking part in the annual Oshwal Pharmacists Sponsored Walk.

This year they are trying to raise money for three charities. These are Diabetes UK, Cerebra (Research into Brain Injury in Infants) and Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.

The event is sponsored by Sigma Pharmaceuticals

PLC and associated generic suppliers.

### Walk this way

If you would like to sponsor Paresh in the 10km walk, take a stroll to Andrews Pharmacy at 32 High Road and fill in the sponsorship form.

## EFAS achieves Quality Mark

The Guidance council has awarded East Finchley Advice Service the 'Quality Mark'.

EFAS is one of the first groups in Barnet to achieve this standard of excellence and hopes to be seen as an example for other small groups.

EFAS is open from 10am - 4pm Monday to Friday and 7 - 8pm on Tuesdays for legal advice. All advice is free.