



THE ARCHER

PO Box 3699
LONDON N2 8JA

Voicemail & Fax:

Editorial/enquiries: -
08717 33 44 65

Advertising/finance: -
08717 33 45 28

e-mail:

the-archer@lineone.net

website:

www.the-archer.co.uk

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EDITOR

Kevin Finn

EDITORIAL TEAM

David Hobbs

Diana Cormack

Daphne Chamberlain

Mal Jacobs

Sonia Singham

SUB-EDITORS &

PROOF READERS

Frances Loveday

Pam Kent

Tony Roberts

PICTURE EDITORS

Erini Rodis

Daniel Ferri

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Alison Roberts

Tony Roberts

Paul Northam

ADVERTISING

John Dearing

Toni Morgan

FINANCE

Sue Holliday

ADMINISTRATION

Toni Morgan

DISTRIBUTION

Alison Roberts

Pam Kent

HONORARY LEGAL ADVISER

Francis Coulson

Thank you to Madden's Ale House for providing us with a meeting place.

Your contributions

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.

If you have a news item, memory or anecdote please send it in to us at the above address.

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 8489 0000

Leisure

Alexandra Palace 020 8365 2121
Cophall 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 9178282
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 8200 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 6300
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 02086687261
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



Spot the car that's cheating the lights! Photo montage by John Dearing.

Running the Red Lights

By John Dearing

THE ARCHER has conducted a survey of driver behaviour at the junction of East End Road and the High Road, which is controlled by traffic lights. Each cycle of the lights consists of traffic passing north-south, or east-west. A note was made of each occasion that a vehicle crossed the white line while its controlling light was red, together with its direction, and a total of light cycles. The survey was conducted over three periods, in the morning and evening rush hours, and during the middle of the day, respectively.

While one might expect the occasional transgression, the actual proportion of light cycles when a vehicle jumped a red light was almost 50%! Little variation was found at different times of the day, and the level of traffic did not seem to have much effect, either. Vehicles entering from East End Road, and the High Road south were twice as likely to pass at red than vehicles entering from Fortis Green, and there were almost none from the High Road north. This may arise from some factor in the design of the junction.

Contempt

Overall it demonstrates a clear contempt for the authority of these traffic lights. Sooner or later, there is going to be a

nasty accident at this junction, unless the authorities take steps to reduce this anti-social practice. There are cameras mounted on the lights, but they appear to be of the CCTV variety, probably just monitoring traffic flows.

One obvious conclusion is that if cameras designed to catch and provide evidence to prosecute these people were installed at this junction, they would have a field day!

Note: This survey did not take into account vehicles crossing an amber light, those in the middle of the junction waiting to turn right, nor any borderline cases. Casual observation suggests that this happens at almost every cycle, in direct contraven-

tion of the Highway Code.

Those concerned about our streets may like to visit www.livingstreets.org.uk

More Freedom!

By Mal Jacobs

From 1 April 2003 any resident of the UK living in the Greater London area over the age of 60 is now eligible for a Freedom Pass. Also from 1 April a Disability Person/Freedom Pass is free at all times on buses, trams and the underground.

When in Rome

Just in case you are travelling a little further, British Senior Citizens now have free entry to Italy's museums and monuments including the Colosseum in Rome (was



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

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

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

North Circular Road No.1 for Noise

The UK Noise Association has published a study of Britain's noisiest roads, and the North Circular came out top for the second year running.

Noise levels vary from 70dB to more than 100dB at junctions when the lights turn to green. This compares with a speeding train, significantly quieter at 81dB, a crying baby at 90 dB, and a Formula 1 racing car, whose driver has to wear ear protection, at 110dB.

The North Circular Road, which carries 85,000 vehicles per day, is likely to remain notorious for noise all the while Transport for London continues to delay improvements to the road.

£5) and the Leaning Tower of Pisa (was £9). This has been achieved by a European court sitting in Luxembourg. The judges said the previous Italian ruling amounted to discrimination.