



## THE ARCHER

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*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 March is the copy deadline  
for the April 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 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 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 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

**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

## Fears for Missing Man

Police are appealing for information and assistance in locating a missing 93-year-old man from East Finchley. Vivian John Darby of Chapel Court was last seen at approximately 3 pm on Sunday 8 February on the High Road N2. Relatives have not heard from him since shortly before that sighting.

Mr Darby is described as white, about 170cm tall of fragile build with balding grey hair. At the time of his disappearance Mr Darby was wearing a plain green cardigan, grey casual trousers and a plain grey overcoat and has taken his bus pass with him.

He is believed to be healthy for his age, but is partially sighted and is hard of hearing, he also requires a prescription medication.

Mr Darby has never gone missing before and it is said to be out of character for him to be out all night.

Anyone who has seen Mr Darby or has any information

as to his whereabouts is asked to call Barnet Police on 020 8733 4421



Vivian John Darby. Photo courtesy Metropolitan Police Press Bureau

## Up, Up and Away

After three years as borough commander, Chief Superintendent Sue Akers is leaving Barnet. Ms Akers is about to embark on a training course that will see her promoted to the rank of commander and make her one of the highest ranking women police officers in London.

Her replacement as borough commander will be Mark Ricketts, who has been promoted and was previously a superintendent in Haringey.

## CRIME ROUNDUP

### Water Board Scams

The following two cases relate to elderly East Finchley residents who have been robbed by a thief posing as a water board official to gain entrance to their properties.

#### Cromwell Close

On Sunday 1 February an 82-year-old woman from Cromwell Close was robbed while in her own home. A man called at the victim's house at approximately 2 pm stating that he was from the water board and had come to turn off the water supply.

Once inside, he kept the victim talking in the kitchen whilst, it is believed, a second suspect entered the address and stole £130 cash and £1,000 worth of jewellery. After a short while the suspect left and the victim noticed the jewellery and money missing and called police.

The suspect is described as a white male, aged 30, 5ft 10ins tall, medium build, short, dark-brown hair. He spoke with an Irish accent and

was wearing a navy jacket and trousers.

#### New Ash Close

In a very similar case the following day, an 80-year-old female from New Ash Close was also robbed in her own home. A man called at the victim's home at 5 pm stating that he was from the water board and had come to turn off the water supply. He asked the victim to go upstairs and turn on taps in the bathroom. After a few minutes the suspect called out to the victim that he was going to check the water supply next-door and left. The victim then noticed that her purse containing £75 cash had been stolen.

The suspect is described as a white male aged 24, 5ft 6ins tall. He was wearing a blue bomber style jacket.

### Purse Snatch

Sippy Azizollah, whom readers will know from recent reports of her fund raising efforts for North London Lupus/ Lupus UK, was recently the unfortunate victim of a carefully carried out robbery in Muswell Hill.

#### Distracted

She was in her wheelchair when two women approached her in a shop. One stood in front of Sippy and pointed to the other woman standing behind who indicated that she wanted Sippy to move backwards, presumably to enable her to pass by the wheelchair. As Sippy manoeuvred, this woman kept gesticulating to her face, thus holding Sippy's attention. The women then left

the shop.

When she next went to get her purse from the handbag on her lap, Sippy was horrified to discover that it had gone. She has no doubt that she had replaced it after paying for some goods and that the two women had worked together to rob her.

The police told Sippy that there are gangs of criminals at work in many areas of London.