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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 story for us, please send it in to the above address. Comments to THE ARCHER may be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication' within the text, email or voicemail. 14 September is the copy deadline for the October issue.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Councils

Barnet
Admin/Town Hall 020 8359 2000
Council Tax 020 8359 2608
Recycling & refuse 020 8359 4600
Primary Care Trust 020 8201 4700
Benefits Agency 020 8258 6500
Employment Service 020 8258 3900
Haringey Council 020 8489 0000

Leisure

Alexandra Palace 020 8365 2121
East Finchley Library 020 8883 2664
Muswell Hill Odeon 0870 505 0007
Phoenix Cinema 020 8444 6789
Tourist Info Service 0870 128 8080
Warner Cinema 020 8446 9933

Transport

BR Enquiries 0845 7484950
City Airport 020 7646 0088
London Transport 020 7222 1234
National Express 08705 808080
Heathrow Airport 0870 000 0123

Help & Advice

Childline 0800 1111
Disability Info Service 020 8446 6935
E.F. Advice Service 020 8444 6265
Gingerbread 020 8445 4227
National Debt Line 0808 808 4000
NSPCC 0800 800500
Rape & Sexual Abuse 020 8683 3300
Relyate 020 8447 8101
Samaritans 08457 909090
Refuge Crisis Line 0870 599 5443

Health Advice

AIDSLINE 020 8363 2141
Alcoholics Anonymous 0845 7697555
Barnet MENCAP 020 8203 6688
Cancer Support 020 8202 2211
Carers' Line 0808 808 7777
Drinkline 0800 917 8282
Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
Health Info Service 0800 665544
MIND 020 8343 5700
National Blood Ctr. 0845 7711 7711

OAP's Advice

Barnet Age Concern 020 8346 3511
Contact (N2) 020 8444 1162
Help the Aged 0808 800 6565

Hospitals

Barnet General 020 8216 4000
Coppetts Wood 020 8883 9792
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

Crime

Emergency 999
Finchley Police 020 8200 1212
CrimeStoppers 0800 555111
Victim Support 0845 303 0900
E.F. Community Police Officer:
PC Paul Carter (Golders Green)
Tel: 020 8733 5562, e-mail:
paul.carter@met.police.uk



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

Motorbike fire

By Frank Tymkow

While passing the alleyway behind the Herbert Wilmot Centre on 2 August smoke alerted me to a blazing motorbike that was being put out by three fire tenders.

Onlookers told me that this was the second stolen bike in a month, and that the police have a good idea as to the perpetrators, but cannot act until they catch them at work. Meanwhile these blazes put the Centre at risk.



Firefighters survey the damage. Photo by Frank Tymkow

Fatal bus crash

Police are appealing for witnesses to a fatal collision involving a bus in Golders Green to come forward.

At approximately 3.50 pm on Saturday 21 August a double-decker Rail Route Replacement bus was in collision with a single-decker route 210 bus, opposite the King Alfred School, North End Road NW11. Both vehicles were travelling west, towards Golders Green. It is believed that the double-decker then mounted the pavement and was in collision with two pedestrians.

The first pedestrian, 61-year-old Bent Hjerting, who was originally from Norway, was pronounced dead at the scene. His 10-year-old son Harald, was taken by air ambulance to Royal London Hospital with chest injuries, and later transferred to St Mary's Hospital, Paddington where he is reported to be in a

critical but stable condition with his mother at his bedside.

The driver of the double-decker bus was taken to hospital with cuts and bruises and later discharged. Five other passengers from the two buses were taken to hospital, but there are also believed to be about 27 other passengers who left the scene with minor injuries.

Sergeant Andy Nelson from Alperton Collision Investigation Unit said, "These are the people who can really help us establish how this tragic collision occurred and it is extremely important that you come forward and tell us what you saw." Anyone with information is asked to contact Alperton Collision Investigation Unit on 020 8998 5319.

Keep your car safe!

Do you own a high value or high-powered car? Barnet Police are issuing guidelines to owners after a spate of thefts where the target has been the car parked outside the house. Since 12 April this year, police have reported some 44 burglaries of this type. In other burglaries the car has not been stolen, but the keys have, and owners have had to take measures to stop thieves returning to help themselves to the car.

Most modern cars nowadays have excellent security, forcing thieves to have to use the car keys to steal them. They may break into the house to steal the keys or use rods or canes through letterboxes to remove them from just inside the front door.

What can car owners do?

If you have a garage, why isn't the car in it? Out of sight is out of mind. If thieves can't see your car, they can't be tempted to steal it. Have a clearout in the garage and throw away the old bits and pieces 'that will come in handy someday', making room for the car, which is worth a lot more! Insurance companies will often contact police to find out details of crimes and if your policy is dependent upon the car being

stored overnight in a garage and it wasn't, they may reduce the value of the claim.

If your car is high powered or high value, consider getting a 'Tracker' or other vehicle location device fitted. Insurance companies will recommend this action and while it may not stop the vehicle being stolen, it may act as a deterrent and there is a good chance the car could be found before too much damage is done.

Make sure your keys are kept in a safe place, preferably not near the front door. To prevent the keys being hooked through the letter box there are letterbox cages and deflectors that can be installed at minimal cost.

If you would like further advice on keeping your car and your home secure, contact PC Duncan Hillcoat, one of the Crime Prevention Officers at Barnet Police on 0208 733 5092. Or visit the website at www.met.police.uk/barnet

Pickpocket strikes in East Finchley

By John Dearing
Recently a local resident visited the Post Office in the High Road to buy some stamps. Initially she placed her purse on the counter, but then replaced it in her pocket.

While leaning over to look at the birthday cards, her purse was picked from her pocket. Fortunately she doesn't keep much money nor any credit cards in her purse, but it was annoying and distressing all the same. She told THE ARCHER "I want to warn people that crimes like this are taking place, even in a quiet place like East Finchley."

Attempted break in at Budgens

On the morning of 8 August, between 0.15 and 0.45am, there was an attempted break in at Budgens in the High Road.

Two suspects were seen trying to enter the premises via the rear of the building, in the Viceroy Close car park. It would seem that they failed to achieve entry and left the scene. One is described as about 25 years of age.