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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 Comments to THE ARCHER may be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication' within the text, email or voicemail.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 February is the copy deadline for the March 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
Relate 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

Beware of the matrix

The Office of Fair Trading (OFT) has issued a warning to consumers about Web sites running 'matrix schemes'.

These promise the chance of getting a valuable 'free gift', such as an iPod, to people buying a low value product such as a CDROM containing ring tones, for considerably more than it is worth.

However, each buyer joins at the back of a queue to receive their 'free gift', and each 'free gift' is despatched to the person at the front of the queue only when up to 100 further buyers have joined at the back of the queue.

In other words, the queue grows at up to 100 times faster than 'free gifts' are despatched, and the vast majority of buyers never receive one.

Buyers are encouraged to recruit further buyers in order to speed up the arrival of their 'free gift'. This has led to some people actually advertising on auction sites on behalf of the schemes!

John Vickers, OFT Chairman, said, "These waiting-list schemes require many more people to join than will ever receive their 'free gift'. The schemes will ultimately collapse and the vast majority of people who have joined will lose out. Don't be misled into buying by the remote prospect of a 'free gift'."

Licensing policy on-line

Barnet Council's Licensing Policy is now available online at www.barnet.gov/licensing.

It sets out how the council will deal with licensing the sale of alcohol in pubs, off-licences and restaurants, as well as public entertainments and the sale of hot food at night.

Postal thefts in East Finchley

By Betti Blatman

On Friday, 14 January, a postman left his trolley unattended in the alleyway at side of Ian Michael Hair Design in East End Road, while delivering mail to flats above the shops, and returned to find it had been stolen. Two young men in a car were seen to snatch the trolley.

East Finchley Sorting Office staff confirmed that the police had been informed and that a similar incident had occurred five minutes earlier in Fortis Green Road. They claimed that postal trolleys are locked and sealed, and 90% of mail turns up at a later date after the dumped trolley has been located. When the retrieved mail is delivered it is accompanied by a letter from Royal Mail explaining the reason for the delay.

These incidents do raise the question as to how safe is our mail these days, and who compensates for the lost 10% of mail?



Five Bells party ends in fracas

Like a number of pubs in the area, The Five Bells in East End Road held a party on New Years Eve. It all started happily enough, but at around 9.30pm a fight broke out amongst some of the revellers, with around 20 people involved.

Various items were broken including a couple of lamps and a picture frame, and glass was scattered about. The police were called and arrived at 9.36pm. Unfortunately the culprits had already left, and nobody was found who was willing to make

any allegations to the police.

The landlord had little option other than to end the party and close the pub, well before midnight, which was a great disappointment to a lot of people.

Local Planning Applications

Former Red Lion public house, Red Lion Hill, N2

Demolition of existing pub, and erection of a three-storey block (plus basement level) to provide five one-bedroom flats and two two-bedroom flats.

5 Chambers Gardens N2

Single storey rear extension.

Oak Tree, Oak House, The Grange, N2

Change of use to community flat (Class 3)

6 Trinity Avenue N2

Alterations to roof, including side and rear dormer windows to facilitate loft conversion.

2A Fortis Green N2

Demolition of existing single storey car sales building, and erection of three-storey block, including rooms in roofspace, to provide two studio flats and two two-bedroom flats.

1st Floor Flat, 35 Park Hall Road N2

Alterations to roof, including addition of rear dormer window to facilitate a loft conversion.

55 Summerlee Avenue N2

Alteration to roof, including hip to gable end and rear dormer window, to facilitate loft conversion.

30 Baronsmere Road N2

Loft conversion, including rear dormer window and rooflight to front.

12 Neville Drive N2

Single storey rear extension. First floor side extension over part of existing garage. Alterations to roof, including new roof over side extension, addition of rear dormer window, front dormer windows, side dormer window on east elevation, and addition of two rooflights to east elevation.

10 Ludlow Way N2

Alterations to roof, including rear dormer windows and rooflights to side, to facilitate loft conversion.