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*Thank you to Madden's
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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 contact us at the above address.

Comments to THE ARCHER may be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication' within the text.

Copy deadlines

April issue: 17 March
May issue: 14 April
June issue: 12 May

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 02084466935
E.F. Advice Service 020 8444 6265
Gingerbread 020 8445 4227
National Debt Line 0808 808 4000
NSPCC 0800 800500
Rape & Sexual Abuse 02086833300
Relate 020 8447 8101
Samaritans 08457 909090
Refuge Crisis Line 0870 599 5443

Health Advice

AIDSline 020 8363 2141
Alcoholics Anonymous 08457697555
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. 08457711 7711

OAP's Advice

Barnet Age Concern 02083463511
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

Crime

Emergency 999
Finchley Police 020 8442 1212
Mus. Hill Police Stn. 02083452148
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

Action plan to tackle root causes of alcohol problems

The Barnet Safer Communities Partnership (BSCP) has set out an action plan aimed at halting the spread of alcohol misuse among the borough's young people and adults.

The council says "radical innovations" being proposed by the drugs and alcohol team include asking licensees to pay a voluntary levy, as already trialled by traders in Dublin, to help fund cleaning of the local area, policing and research into harm caused by alcohol.

There would also be a review and expansion of Barnet's alcohol-free zones and Pub Watch scheme, as well as an increased focus on issues such as teenage pregnancy and the effects alcohol abuse by parents can have on children within the household.

The BSCP compiled the strategy following figures estimating that 47,000 adults in Barnet drink at levels that risk harm to their health, and national statistics which have revealed that 40% of accident and emergency admissions to hospital are alcohol-related.

Work will go ahead in schools to warn young people of the sexual risk factors associated with excessive alcohol consumption, while parents will be targeted through advertising in pubs and clubs, and through information given out to young mothers and fathers and at antenatal groups.

Councillor Brian Salinger, the BSCP's chair, said: "Alcohol has been identified as one of the key contributing factors to anti-social behaviour and is a concern across the Safer Communities Partnership. Its effect on levels of crime and disorder and on accident and emergency admissions is clear to see.

"This action plan is aimed at the roots of the problem. Treatment, prevention and early intervention is the way forward to tackle the blight of alcohol abuse on our borough."

The draft action plan has been circulated to key members of the partnership and is due to go before the Safer Communities Partnership Board soon for approval.

Mail stolen from trolley

A group of men slashed the bags of a mail trolley while the postman was delivering the post in Twyford Avenue, N2 on 25 January.

They took around 300 items of mail and escaped by car. The postman managed to take the registration number of the 'getaway' car.

A small number of the stolen items were opened, their contents removed and the remainder dumped in a private car park around half a mile away in Oakridge Drive. One of our readers discovered the discarded mail and reported it to the police.

A Royal Mail spokesman told THE ARCHER that the recovered mail had been forwarded to customers, and asked that anyone with any information about the incident should contact the police.

High Road resurfacing

The High Road N2 is to be resurfaced from Bedford Road to East End Road, starting on 6 March. Work will be carried out between 8pm and 5am and is expected to take 4 nights.

An LBBC circular has been distributed around the affected area, and it warns of the need to park cars away from the High Road during the work.

Police warn car owners over key thefts

Barnet Police are issuing guidelines to drivers following a spate of thefts and burglaries where the targets have been cars parked outside homes. Since this January, there have been 383 burglaries reported to police, and 45 vehicles have been stolen.

Most modern cars have excellent security, forcing thieves to use the vehicle's keys to steal them. This often means breaking into the house or using rods or canes through letterboxes to remove the keys from just inside the front door. There are several things car owners can do to deter thieves. Firstly, if they have a garage, they should use it. The police point out that insurance companies often contact them to confirm details and, if a car is insured for overnight storage in a garage but is stolen from a street, this could reduce the value of the claim.

Secondly, if your car is especially valuable, consider getting a "Tracker" or other vehicle location device fitted, as insurance companies recommend. It may act as a deterrent or, if the vehicle is stolen, may enable it to be found before

much damage is done.

Finally, hide your car keys. Make sure they are kept in a safe place, not necessarily near the front door. To prevent the keys being hooked through the letter box there are letterbox cages and deflectors that can be bought and installed at minimal cost. Detective Chief Inspector Peter Edwards, crime manager for Barnet Police, said: "Car keys should not be kept near the front door or anywhere where they can be seen through ground floor doors and windows. It is essential that we get the message across to people." If you would like further specialist or personal advice on keeping your car and your home secure, contact PC Duncan Hillcoat, one of Barnet's Crime Prevention Officers, on 0208 733 5092 or visit www.met.police.uk/barnet

Planning Applications

East Finchley Underground Station

Refurbishment, repair and restoration internally and externally to listed building.

Corner of East End Road and access road to Christ's College School, N2

Installation of a 9.4m high telegraph pole with one integral antenna and associated equipment cabinet.

2 Lyttelton Road, N2

Demolition of existing petrol filling station and car showroom, and erection of a three-storey building with rooms in roof space (with associated dormer windows on front, side and rear elevations), comprising basement car parking and refuse storage, a car showroom on the ground floor, Class B1 office space on parts of first and second floors, and a total of

14 self-contained residential units on parts of first and second floors and third floor.

62-64 High Road, N2

Continued use as a coffee shop. Mixed use Class A1 / A3.

21 Lincoln Road, N2

Alteration to roof, including rear dormer window, and dormer window to rear wing to facilitate loft conversion.

67 Bedford Road, N2

Alterations to roof, including rear dormer window and roof extension to rear wing.

97 Abbots Gardens, N2

Part single, part two-storey side extension and single-storey rear extension.

9 The Bishop's Avenue, N2

Demolition of existing house, and erection of a two-storey, detached dwelling house with rooms in the roof space and lower ground floor.