



THE ARCHER

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Comments to THE ARCHER may be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication' within the text.

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USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Councils

Barnet Council:	
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 8359 3815
Muswell Hill Odeon	0870 505 0007
Phoenix Cinema	020 8444 6789
Warner Cinema	020 8446 9933

Transport

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

Hospitals

Barnet General	0845 111 4000
Coppetts Wood	020 8883 9792
Finchley Memorial	020 8349 7500
Oak Lane Clinic	020 8349 7000
Royal Free	020 7794 0500
St Luke's	020 8219 1800
Whittington	020 7272 3070

Health Advice

AIDSline	020 8363 2141
Alcoholics Anonymous	0845 7697555
Barndoc	0300 033 3777
Barnet MENCAP	020 8203 6688
Cancer Support	020 8202 2211
Drinkline	0800 917 8282
Drugs Helpline	0800 776600
MIND	020 8343 5700
NHS Direct	0845 4647

OAPs' Advice

Age UK	020 820 35040
Contact (N2)	020 8432 1415

Crime

Emergency	999
Barnet Police	101
Mus. Hill Police Stn.	020 8345 2148
CrimeStoppers	0800 555111
Victim Support	0845 303 0900
East Finchley Safer	
Neighbourhood Team	020 7161 9014

Help & Advice

Advice Barnet Project	0844 826 9336
CAB Money Advice	020 8201 7727
Carers' Line	020 8343 9698
Childline	0800 1111
Disability Info Service	020 8446 6935
Gingerbread	020 8445 4227
National Debt Line	0808 808 4000
NSPCC	0800 800500
Rape & Sexual Abuse	020 8683 3300
Relate	020 8447 8101
RSPCA Inspector	0300 1234 999
Samaritans	08457 909090
Refuge Crisis Line	0870 599 5443

Battle for a library

By Daphne Chamberlain

The year 2012 was one to remember for supporters of Friern Barnet Library. They kept its profile high and a service alive after Barnet closed it last April. National television, radio, newspapers, celebrities and the leader of the Green Party visited the 'people's library' on the green outside the deserted building. The council rejected petitions to re-open, in spite of abandoning plans for a proposed replacement library in the arts depot.

Then, in September, the building was indeed re-opened, but by friendly squatters. The new residents joined forces with library campaigners to run a public library service with thousands of donated books and audio-visual stock, and several extension activities. Barnet failed to evict them immediately, and council officials began negotiations (later broken off) to open a community library in Friary Park.

Eviction hearing

Then, campaigners succeeded in having the 1934 building added to Barnet's list of places of historical or architectural interest. However, a Barnet spokesperson said that this decision had no impact on the council's decision to sell it off. In fact, marketing was due to begin at the time of a full eviction hearing, scheduled for December. Barnet say they don't want to lose a financial

asset. The campaigners and squatters say they are running a service which should be provided by the council, in a building which is in better condition than when they took it over.

A full eviction hearing was scheduled at Barnet County Court between 17 and 21 December as this edition of THE ARCHER went to press.

All that glitters is not gold

By Janet Maitland
Barnet Boroughwatch is warning people not to fall for a street scam involving a gold ring. A local resident was outside his house saying goodbye to a friend when a man stopped and picked up a gold wedding ring from the pavement and looked at him.

The resident called to his friend to ask if the ring was hers. When she said it wasn't, he told the man who had found it that he would keep it in case it had been dropped by a neighbour. The man asked for some money for it and said something about having a baby at home. He refused and the man left.

The resident didn't realise it was a scam until he asked the builder working on his house if it belonged to him. The builder said the same thing had happened to him twice and that on the first occasion he'd given the man £5 for the ring, which wasn't gold. When they compared descriptions it sounded like the same man who is described as tall, thin, dark skinned, shabbily dressed and not able to speak English very well.

Drop-in centre for young people

A new service aimed at helping young people leaving care lead more independent lives has been launched in Barnet. The service, for young people aged 18 and over leaving Barnet Council's care, includes a new drop-in centre giving them the opportunity to meet up with their social workers on a regular basis.

Boosting skills

The centre, based at Woodhouse Road, North Finchley, will also provide workshops

aimed at boosting the young people's life skills including cookery and money budgeting classes.

- Beginners -

Tai Chi & Qigong

** 2 NEW COURSES** in East Finchley

Wednesday 16th January: 12.00 or 1.00pm (Trial session: £5)

James Drews is a qualified teacher and has been practicing Tai chi for 37 years. He is the author of 3 books on tai chi & is a member of the BCCMA.

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Planning Applications

Barnet Council

58 Abbots Gardens, N2
Single-storey rear extension including alterations to rear patio. Alterations to front entrance door and porch.

Southern House, 1A Bedford Road, N2

Conversion of upper floors from D1 (non residential) to a self-contained flat.

24 Cromwell Close, N2

Alterations to front access, including new ramp with railings between footway and front door.

Christ's College Finchley, East End Road, N2

Demolition of disused animal house, and proposals for new two-storey Sixth Form block. Single-storey dining hall extension and works to internal servery area, and works to facade and internal layout of reception area, providing a new entrance area. Additional hard play to tennis courts.

6 Hertford Road, N2

Conversion of garage into habitable space, including replacement of garage door with window to match existing. Ground floor extension to side and front extension, including glass canopy. Alterations to fenestration.

21 Trinity Road, N2

Single-storey rear extension.

Haringey Council

56 Creighton Avenue, N10
Certificate of lawfulness for refurbishment of loft, including new hip to gable, side extension to rear dormer and rear roof lights. Erection of single-storey ground floor rear extension.

8 Fordington Road, N6

Non-material amendment following a grant of planning permission for addition of one timber window into side elevation of new single-storey porch extension.

8 Shakespeare Gardens, N2

Partial demolition of conservatory and flat roof rear extensions, construction of new single-storey rear extension, relocation of front velux window, enlargement of roof dormer and associated internal alterations.

1 Southern Road, N2

Demolition of dwelling, and erection of two three-storey plus basement dwellings, with associated parking and landscaping.

2 Woodside Cottages, Fortis Green, N2

Replacement of single-glazed timber framed windows and rear door with double-glazed timber framed windows and rear door.

3 Woodside Cottages, Fortis Green, N2

Erection of two rear extensions at first-floor level.