



THE ARCHER

PO Box 3699, London N2 2DE

www.the-archer.co.uk Email: the-archer@lineone.net

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Voicemail (messages only) 0800 612 0748 for editorial and general enquiries or 0800 612 4027 for Advertising enquiries only

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Copy Editor

John Lawrence

Production Editor

Alison Roberts

Picture Editor

Mike Coles

Editorial Team

Diana Cormack

Daphne Chamberlain

Sub Editors

Ann Bronkhorst

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Finance & Advertising

John Dearing

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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Comments to THE ARCHER may be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication' within the text.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
Transport for London	0843 222 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
Barnodoc	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
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
RSPCA animal clinic	020 8365 3910
Samaritans	08457 909090
Refuge Crisis Line	0870 599 5443

Stop the library cuts

Continued from front page.

East Finchley Library Users Group (EFLUG) has responded immediately, saying that none of the council's three options is acceptable. More than 80 library users, ranging in age from 94 to young students, met at short notice in Martin School last month. They have now formed active working parties and staged a protest demo. Group membership is zooming upwards; Facebook and Twitter are buzzing with messages of support.

... and questions

All options involve unstaffed 'open' libraries, which open and close automatically and operate self-service. Campaigners are asking whether a library can be called 'open' when it can only be accessed by scanning a library card and entering a PIN code. Staff will be present in peak times (late afternoons and weekends), but outside those times it seems that the libraries will be effectively closed to non-members, or to people who want to drop in on impulse, or for use as community meeting-places.

Open libraries will stay open from 7am to 10pm. Will a CCTV camera be enough to reassure people nervous about safety? Edgware will run a pilot open project from mid-December.

How can Community Libraries run successfully without the secure lease and professional help for which the brilliant volunteers who took over Friern Barnet Library have been asking, without success?

Find EFLUG on Facebook and loveEFLibrary on Twitter. To join the campaign, contact Polly Napper at pollynapper@btinternet.com.

Footnote: An online petition against the cuts, not connected to EFLUG, can be found at <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/no-to-closure-of-barnet-libraries>

Library service: the options

These are the options for the future of the library service put forward by Barnet Council:

- Four core libraries at Barnet, Church End, Colindale and Hendon. All others reduced to about 540 sq ft on average. Current opening hours extended by 50% across network, but libraries staffed for only half of current opening hours.
- East Finchley, Burnt Oak, Childs Hill, Mill Hill, Osidge and South Friern to close. Remaining libraries based around 'travel hubs' that at least 95% of population could access within 30 minutes travel time. Staffed for 60% of current opening hours. New opening hours 7am to 10pm.
- East Finchley, Mill Hill, South Friern and Edgware to be offered to local groups as community libraries. Space reduced to about 540 sq ft. Burnt Oak also reduced in size. Other libraries staffed for 50% of current opening hours with hours extended to 7am to 10pm.

Hospital bus latest

By Daphne Chamberlain

Provision of a bus to Finchley Memorial seems to depend on local GPs moving their surgeries into the hospital.

Transport for London will not divert any existing buses. The hospital stated that they had sought advice at the planning stage of building, but there had been no requirement to include a bus in their travel plan. All their planning conditions had been met and signed off.

However, Friends of Finchley Memorial and The Finchley Society have told Barnet that they support local people and organisations who are concerned about the lack of a bus to the hospital entrance.

Their joint survey, carried out last April, suggests that many patients who are currently driving or being driven to the hospital would switch to a bus that went up to the door. This would also help ensure that the car park remains adequate when the GPs' surgeries and clinics move in.

Barnet's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has asked the local Community Health Partnership to report back on a survey into an on-site bus service they propose to hold when the GPs move in.

Leisure passes for carers

Any registered carer, whether an adult or a child, now has free access to Barnet's GLL-operated leisure centres.

This includes free swimming at Cophall, Finchley Lido and Church Farm, as well as concessionary discounts on badminton, group exercise classes, and many more activities. To get a pass, just email the Prevention and Wellbeing Team at preventionandwellbeing@barnet.gov.uk.

Phoenix flies high

The Phoenix Cinema was recently ranked alongside the London Coliseum and Wilton's Music Hall as being one of the 10 best cinemas or theatres in London.

Find the full list at <http://tinyurl.com/momwkek>

Planning Applications

Barnet Council

234 East End Road N2

Roof extension, with side and rear wrap-around dormer, and three roof lights at front to facilitate loft conversion.

6 Hertford Road, N2

Single-storey rear extension. Depth 5m from rear wall, eaves height 2.3m, max. height 3.3m.

18A Lewis Gardens, N2

Continued residential use.

1 Lincoln Road, N2

Single-storey side/rear extension.

1-169 Old Farm Road, N2

Replacing single-glazed steel framed windows and doors with double-glazed with aluminium frames. Raising roof parapet

150mm, with new roof edge protection guardrail set back behind parapet.

100 Ossulton Way, N2

Converting garage into habitable room, including side infill extension.

11 Park Gate, N2

Single-storey rear extension and patio.

Haringey Council

5 Twyford Avenue, N2

Two-storey rear extension.

Verge adjacent to 64 Aylmer Road, N2

One 15m high street furniture design telecommunications monopole, with one ground level equipment cabinet and development ancillary thereto.

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