



THE ARCHER

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Thank you to Madden's Ale House for providing us with a meeting place.

Your contributions

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.

If you have a news item, memory or anecdote please send it in to us at the above address.

14 February is the copy deadline for the March issue.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Utilities (for N2)

Eastern Energy 0800 783 8838
London Electricity 0800 096 9000
OFTEL 020 7634 8700
Thames Water 0845 920 0888
Three Valleys Water 0845 782 3333
Gas consumers cncl. 0645 060708
Transco Gas Emerg. 0800 111 999

Councils

Barnet
Admin/Town Hall 020 8359 2000
Council Tax 020 8359 2608
Recycling & refuse 020 8359 4600
Health Authority 020 8201 4700
Com'ty Health Cncl 020 8349 4364
Benefits Agency 020 8258 6500
Employment Service 020 8258 3900
Haringey Council 020 8975 9700

Leisure

Alexandra Palace 020 8365 2121
Cophthall Sports Ctr. 020 8361 8658
E. Finchley Library 020 8883 2664
Gt North Leisure Pk. 020 8343 9830
Muswell Hill Odeon 0870 505 0007
Phoenix Cinema 020 8883 2233
Tourist Info Service 0870 126 4018
Warner Cinema Village 020 8446 9933

**Calls to 09065 numbers are charged at £1.50 per minute.*

Help & Advice

Barnet Racial Equality Council 020 8446 0445
Childline 0800 1111
Citizens Advice Bureau 020 8349 0954
Cruse Bereavement Care 020 7431 7122
Disability Info Service 020 8446 6935
E Finchley Advice Service 020 8444 6265
Gingerbread 020 8445 4227
Missing Persons Helpline 0500 700700
National Debt Line 0808 808 4000
NSPCC 0800 800500
Rape Crisis Centre 020 7837 1600
Relate 020 8445 0888
Samaritans 020 8889 6888
Refuge National Crisis Line 0870 599 5443

Health Advice

AIDS Helpline 0800 567123
Alcoholics Anonymous 020 7352 3001
Barnet MENCAP 020 8203 6688
CancerLink 0800 132905
Carers National Assoc. 020 8343 3665
Drinkline 0800 9178282
Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
Health Information Service 0800 665544
Homeopathic Helpline 09065 343404*
MIND 020 8343 5700
N. London Blood Service 020 8258 2700

OAP's Advice

Barnet Age Concern 020 8346 3511
Barnet OAPs Welfare 020 8441 4853
Contact (N2) 020 8444 1162
Counsel & Care 0845 300 7585
Help the Aged 0800 096 2541

Crime

Emergency 999
Finchley Police 020 8200 1212
Golders Gr. Police 020 8209 1212
Muswell Hill Police 020 8442 1212
CrimeStoppers 0800 555111
Victim Support 020 8343 4435

Hospitals

Barnet General 020 8216 4000
Coppetts Wood 020 8883 9792
Edgware General 020 8952 2381
Finchley Memorial 020 8349 3121
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

Transport

BR Enquiries 0845 484950
City Airport 020 7646 0000
Greenline 020 86687261
LT Enquiries 020 7222 1234
Grey-Green 020 8800 8010
National Express 08705 808080
Heathrow 020 8759 4321

Animal Welfare

Nat Strays Bureau 09065 123999*
RSPCA 0870 5555999

EAST FINCHLEY ADVICE SERVICE

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

**Contact East Finchley's
Community Police Officer,
PC Paul Carter, at
The Community Office,
Golders Green Station,
Tel: 020 8733 5562 or e-mail:
paul.carter@met.police.uk**

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

Residents Fear More Road Deaths

Residents of the 'county roads' are petitioning Barnet council to install speed cushions to slow traffic cutting through between the High Road and Fortis Green. People living in the roads say it is only a matter of time before somebody is knocked down and killed.

The petition was started by Michael McMenemy, of Huntingdon Road, who claims to have strong backing from both parents and children. "It took a woman's death on Fortis Green to get a pedestrian crossing," he said. "We are not prepared to wait for a funeral before anything happens here."

Anne Isaac, also of Huntingdon Road, describes the incident when her eight-year-old son, Fred, saved his younger brother Jack. "The lorry must have been doing 60 mph," she said. "Luckily, Fred had the sense to grab Jack and pull him out of the way. It's really getting very bad. I'm not a great one for these local battles, but I think this has just got out of hand."

Several pets have already been run over. Residents say the danger is increased by the difficulty vehicles have in passing

each other in the roads, with cars typically being parked along both sides. Drivers accelerate to get to the end of the roads before somebody comes the other way.

Speed bumps or what?

The petition has been presented to the council's local 'Agenda 21' partnership, but Peter Hale, its traffic and transport co-ordinator, is warning that the council's leadership does not seem to favour speed bumps, and that residents may have to consider other ideas.

"The new administration is still working out their policy, but we think they are not keen on any kind of speed cushion," he says. "I've lived in the county roads myself and I'm well aware of the problem. It's a tricky one."

"We're not going to let this put us off, though. We have got to decide how best to use this petition."

New Contractor for Station Car Park

London Underground has signed a new five-year contract with a private firm, Vinci Park Services UK Limited, to manage a number of its car parks across London, including the one at East Finchley.

Vinci will be responsible for day-to-day management and running of the car park, and have promised a number of improvements, including lighting, fencing and a better surface.

They also intend to replace the signs and Pay-and-Display

machines and ensure that all stations are covered by CCTV. Their ambition is to achieve the Police-assessed 'Secured Car Park' award. We offer them our encouragement in achieving this goal, but do wonder whether a rise in parking fees might be in the air.

Traffic News

High Road and Fairlawn Avenue

Alterations to the traffic flow between the Underground and the Bald Faced Stag may be in the pipeline. Improved signs and physical measures to enforce the one-way system in Fairlawn Avenue will be considered in the 2003/2004 Traffic Budget. This is in response to a petition with 36 signatures, which was presented to the November Finchley Forum.

The Council is also considering shortening the High Road bus lane, in order to reduce the right turn queue and eliminate the temptation to rat-run through Fairlawn Avenue.

FINCHLEY FORUM REPORT

14 January at Northside School

By Daphne Chamberlain

Bishop Douglass School extension

A Manor Park Road resident complained about lack of planning consultation. She said that she learned about proposed extensions when a neighbour drew her attention to a notice in the street.

Speaking later to *THE ARCHER*, she told us that she had to travel to Hendon Central library to see development plans, as they were exhibited there and at Whetstone - but not at East Finchley.

School worries over T.A. site

Fears were expressed that the proposed building of 140 flats on the former Territorial Army site would make it even more difficult for children to be accepted for the schools of their choice. One speaker said that his daughters were refused entry to the Compton School, although they lived very near. The good news that the Compton is being extended could be nullified by the influx of families in the proposed flats, which would be between the North Circular and the Warner Village. He was told that this was being taken seriously by the planning committee.

Public toilets in the Arts Depot?

Several people wanted verification that toilets in the Arts Depot would be open to the public, as had been implied at the last Forum. The answer was that they would be available only to users of the Depot. In which case, it was pointed out, they should no more be listed as public toilets than were those in pubs. Councillor John Marshall asked whether public conveniences were included in the plans for the revamped North Finchley shopping centre. This was not known.

War shelter at Friern Barnet Town Hall?

There were objections about the proposed sale of the former Friern Barnet Town Hall. In light of the 'safe rooms' at Buckingham Palace, it was suggested that the World War 2 building, complete with reinforced steel, bomb-resistant basement with its own air-filter system, should be kept as a shelter for 600 people, while doubling up as a museum. Deputy Chief Executive Brian Reynolds said he would still recommend it for sale.

The next Forum is at 6.30pm on Wednesday 19 March at Avenue House, N3