



THE ARCHER

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Thank you to
Madden's Ale House
for providing 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 news item,
memory or anecdote please
send it in to us at the above
address or leave a message
on our voice mail on 01426
923 549

THE ARCHER aims to publish on
the first weekend each month.
To maximise the chance of
publication, all contributors
are urged to submit their articles
early the preceding month:

The 14th January is the
copy deadline for the
February issue.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Utilities (for N2)

Eastern Electricity 0800 783 8838
London Electricity 0800 096 9000
OFTEL 020 7634 8700
Thames Water 0645 200 800
Three Valleys Water 0345 823 333
Gas consumers cncl. 0645 060708
Transco Gas Emerg. 0800 111 999

Councils

Barnet
Admin/Town Hall 020 8359 2000
Council Tax 020 8359 2766
Recycling & refuse 020 8359 4323
Health Authority 020 8201 4700
Com'ty Health Cncl 020 8349 364
Benefits Agency 020 8258 6500
Employment Service 020 8258 3900
Haringey Council 020 8975 9700

Leisure

Alexandra Palace 020 8365 2121
Cophall Sports Ctr. 020 8457 9900
E. Finchley Library 020 8883 2664
Gt North Leisure Pk. 020 8343 9830
Muswell Hill Odeon 01426 911885
Phoenix Cinema 020 8883 2233
Tourist Info Service 0990 992244
Wamer 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 7289 2360
E Finchley Advice Service 020 8444 6265
Gingerbread 020 8445 4227
Missing Persons Helpline 0500 700700
National Debt Line 0645 500511
NSPCC 0800 800500
Rape Crisis Centre 020 7837 1600
Relate 020 8445 0888
Samaritans 020 8889 6888
Refuge National Crisis Line 0990 995 443

Health Advice

AIDSHelpline 0800 567123
Alcoholics Anonymous 020 7352 3001
Barnet MENCAP 020 8203 6688
CancerLink 0800 132905
Carers National Assoc. 020 8343 3665
Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
Health Information Service 0800 665544
Homeopathic Helpline 09065 343404*
MIND 0845 600 6543
N. London Blood Service 020 8258 2700

OAP's Advice

Barnet Age Concern 020 8203 5040
Barnet OAPs Welfare 020 8441 4853
Contact (N2) 020 8444 1162
Counsel & Care 0845 300 7585
Help the Aged 0800 650 065

Crime

Emergency 999
Finchley Police 020 8342 1212
Golders Gr. Police 020 8209 1212
Muswell Hill Police 020 8442 1212
Crime Stoppers 0800 555111
Victim Support 020 8343 4435

Hospitals

Barnet General 020 8200 1555
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 0345 484950
City Airport 020 7646 0000
Greenline 020 8668 7261
LT Enquiries 020 7222 1234
Grey-Green 020 8800 8010
National Xpress 0990 808080
Heathrow 020 8759 4321

Animal Welfare

Nat Strays Bureau 09065 123999*
RSPCA 0990 555999



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

Best wishes for 2000
and the Millennium to
all The Archer readers.
But if the going gets tough
and you think I might be
able to assist, please contact
me via 38 Church Lane N2,
Tel 020 8883 0411 or visit an
advice surgery there, every
first Saturday 10-1pm.
Rudi Vis MP

Crime Diary
By John Larimer

The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) advises the following alleged incidents were reported as having occurred within the N2 postal code area during November, 1999: Burglary of dwelling, 9; Burglary of other than dwelling, 17; Theft of motor vehicle, 8; Theft from motor vehicle, 22; Criminal damage to motor vehicle, 21.

If you are the victim of a crime, or witness a crime being committed, ring 999. If you have any information about a crime or perpetrator of a crime and don't want to give your name, ring Crimestoppers, anytime day or night at 0800 555 111. For further information you can contact our MPS Crime Prevention Officer on 020 8733 5092.

Woodland management

One recent Sunday found a small but intrepid band of miscellaneous locals collected in Cherry Tree Wood to be shown and have explained to them the rudiments of forestry management.

Lee Tyson, from Countryside Management Service, brought 30 baby English oaks only about 50cms high for planting following the removal of bastard Turkey oaks.

Apparently it was fashionable in Victorian times to bring back exotic flora to expand our native variety and sometimes they tended to take over too much.

The silty clay was found to be amazingly dry at quite a shallow depth and in some parts was impossible to dig. However by brew-up time all the little oaks were in their new abode and we moved on to clearing intrusive ash trees growing on the railway bank and suffocating creeping foliage.

Light programme

It is important that trees do not have to compete too hard for light, so we need to go back to traditional woodland practices since early man cleared the original wildwood from about 10,000 BC.

Otherwise all the trees would eventually die around the same time, leaving no seeds from living healthy trees to regenerate strong stock. The bird, butterfly and plant life would have died out from the darkness and blocking of wildlife corridors, making the wood a less interesting place.

So the embryo work started is to encourage health, diversity and wildlife, and the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood trust more people will join them on the next open day in February.

Burglaries

Two men were arrested inside Holy Trinity Church, East Finchley, on Friday 19 Nov. They were charged with intent to burgle the church in Church Lane and burgling the neighbouring Shree Aden Depala Mitramandal community centre.



Alison Moore planting saplings.
Photo by Diana Cormack

Mrs Jenkins holds the bridge

By Daphne Chamberlain
We know now that a lot of you are worried and frightened about crossing the East End Road railway bridge. Some of you have already asked Barnet Council to take some action - but without success.

A couple of months ago, we urged ARCHER readers to take local grievances to the Finchley Forum. The last Forum meeting was on November 30, and Mrs Doris Jenkins of Beresford Road did just that.

She pointed out the danger of a pavement as narrow as 38 inches, bordering an extremely busy carriageway.

But who owns the bridge?

How was anyone going to get anything done, she asked, when nobody would take responsibility for the bridge?

Barnet Council told her it was owned by London Underground, while LUL insisted that it belonged to Barnet.

Barnet's Chief Traffic Engineer promised to discover the true owner. He told THE ARCHER that in similar situations LUL often owns the basic structure of a bridge, while the carriage-way belongs to the Local Authority.

What action do we want?

Once these preliminaries have been sorted out, how do we feel the problem should be addressed? Please let us know.

VOLUNTEER BUS DRIVER

Are you reliable, in robust health, cheerful, energetic, with a clean current driving licence and 2-3 hours to spare once per fortnight?

If so, EAST FINCHLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD CONTACT needs you! CONTACT is a local charity assisting elderly and vulnerable people in the local area. We need a volunteer bus driver to collect and return passengers (with their shopping) to and from a local supermarket on alternate Wednesdays. If you may be able to help, please ring for further info. Tel. 020 8444 1162.