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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 story for us, please send it in to the above address. Comments to The Archer may be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication' within the text, email or voicemail.

14 May is the copy deadline for the June issue.

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 020 8446 6935

 E.F. Advice Service 020 8444 6265

 Gingerbread
 020 8445
 4227

 National Debt Line 0808 808 4000

 NSPCC
 0800 800500

 Rape & Sexual Abuse 020 8683 3300

 Relate
 020 8447
 8101

 Samaritans
 08457
 909090

 Refuge Crisis Line 0870 599 5443

Health Advice

 AIDSline
 020
 8363
 2141

 Alcoholics Anonymous
 8457697555
 7555

 Barnet MENCAP
 020
 8203
 6688

 Cancer Support
 020
 8202
 2211

 Carers' Line
 0808
 808
 7777

 Drinkline
 0800
 917
 8282

 Drugs Helpline
 0800
 77√600

 Health Info Service
 0800
 65544

 MIND
 020
 8343
 5700

 National Blood Ctr. 0845711
 7771

OAP's Advice

Barnet Age Concern 020 8346 3511 **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 Western Eye Hosp. 020 7886 6666

Crime

Emergency 999
Finchley Police 020 8200 1212
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

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

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

Pay and display behind Budgens

At the end of March, the Viceroy Close car park at the rear of Budgens had parking bays painted across the central part and double yellow lines painted around the perimeter. A few days later, a ticket machine was installed and notices erected at the entrance announcing a pay and display scheme and renaming the car park Viceroy Court.

The terms of the scheme are simple: 50p for the first half-hour or £1 for the first hour and then £1 for every subsequent hour. The charges apply 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Failure to display a valid ticket may lead to vehicles being clamped with a release charge of £60. This compares favourably with council bays on the High Road where charges are 30p for 15 minutes, rising to £2.50 for a maximum of 90 minutes, applying between 8am and 6.30pm.

However, at Viceroy Court the ticket machine and notices

were covered up for over a week and while the display on the machine just says to pay with coins, at the time of writing it does not take any money or issue tickets.

Some local residents have approached LB Barnet planning department, who have advised them that, while the line painting and the installations are not against planning regulations, should Viceroy Court charge for public parking, this could be regarded as unauthorised change of use of the land, and could be subject to an investigation.

Ring tone rip-off

By Deborah Hill

You may remember an annoying advert that was on the television all over Christmas. I certainly do! I wonder how many people did what I did, and got caught out?

I followed the advert's instructions to get a trendy ring tone for my mobile phone by texting a short message to the given phone number. A day or two later, I received a text message. When I tried to open it to read it, it disappeared!

I have the correct hand-set but I do not have GPRS which you need to be able to download ring tones like this. That was disappointing, but of little consequence. I wondered casually how much I would be charged, despite not having received the ring tone.

Warning

Soon I found I was receiving text adverts from the ring tone company concerned at the rate of approximately one per week. When my bill arrived, I was horrified to find that not only had I been charged £3 for my text to request the ring tone, and £3 for the text that disappeared, but also £3 for each of the text advertisements.

I finally found out how to stop the adverts (you text "STOP" to a given number in this particular case) but by then I had accumulated a total bill of about £30 for something I never received, plus lots of annoying adverts that I did not want!

I cannot believe this is legal, but I understand that it is, so let this be a warning to you. Take special care before you do what I did!

Planning Applications

4 Maya Road N2

Single storey side extension **20 Baronsmere Road N2**

Alterations to roof, including rear dormer window to facilitate loft conversion.

The Grange Estate N2 Installation of replacement PVC windows.

Land adjacent to 1-12 Norfolk Close N2

Submission of details pursuant to Condition 9 (Contaminated Land) and Condition 10 (installation of extraction system, airconditioning units of plant, and ventilation openings) of planning permission C15598/05, dated 25/02/04.

40 Fortis Green N2

Alteration to roof, including rear and side wrap-around dormer window to facilitate loft conversion.

18 Howard Walk N2

Conversion of garage into habitable room.

107 Brim Hill N2

Conversion of garage into habitable room. Single storey rear extension and link extension to converted garage.

Land adjacent to 373 High Road N2 Erection of four-storey block,

to provide 6 two-bedroom and 2 one-bedroom self-contained flats, with associated off-street parking.

8 Heath View Close N2

Installation of railings above existing front extension, to provide a balcony. Associated installation of new first-floor windows.

Vale Farm, Long Lane N2

Submission of details of airconditioning and ventilation pursuant to Conditions 8&10 of planning permission C10784AS, dated 11/02/04.

55 Summerlee Avenue N2

Alterations to roof, including formation of side and rear dormer windows to facilitate loft conversion.

The Bungalow, Cherry Tree Wood, Fordington Road N6 Single-storey side extension.

Any ideas about the 263?

By Daphne Chamberlain

After the survey by London Transport Users Committee on the 263 bus, what does East Finchley Bus Watch do next? Anyone with an opinion on how to move forward would be welcome at the next Bus Watch meeting.

As reported in *The Archer* last month, LTUC found that the bus service between East and North Finchley is inadequate.

The report put a measure of blame on Barnet's traffic policy, but Barnet maintained that their decision not to give priority to buses kept traffic flowing more smoothly

LTUC told *THE ARCHER* that they are not recommending a

second bus service along this stretch of road. They think Transport for London would say it was not financially viable.

Bus Watch will decide what to do next at a meeting at the Green Man Community Centre, Strawberry Vale, at 7pm on Monday 23 May. Anyone interested is welcome. For further information, contact Hazel Burnett on 8444 6824.

Don't get scammed

If you use email a lot, you may have noticed mails coming from various banks asking you to confirm your banking details for security reasons.

These emails are not genuine. There are known to be internet fraudsters operating who are keen to get their hands on your personal banking details and passwords.

We have spoken to two banks who assured us that they would never send out this type of mail and that they were investigating its origins.

So therefore please do not respond to these types of mails. Instead, delete them immediately.