THE ARCHER

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Thank you to The Bald Faced Stag 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 contact us at the above address.

Comments to The Archer may be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication' within the text.

Copy deadlines

August issue: 16 July September issue: 13 August October: 10 September

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 08457697555 Barnet MENCAP 020 8203 6688 **Cancer Support** 020 8202 2211 Carers' Line 0808 808 7777 Drinkline 0800 917 8282 Drugs Helpline 0800 776600 020 8343 5700 MIND 0845 4647 **NHS Direct**

OAP's Advice

Barnet Age Concern 020 8346 3511 Contact (N2) 020 8444 1162 Help the Aged 0808 800 6565

Crime

Emergency Barnet Police 020 8200 1212 Mus. Hill Police Stn. 020 8808 1212 CrimeStoppers 0800 555111 Victim Support 0845 303 0900 East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood 020 7161 9014

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 0800 800500 **NSPCC Rape & Sexual Abuse** 020 8683 3300 020 8447 8101 Relate **RSPCA Inspector** 0300 1234 999 Samaritans

ADVICE SERVIC

42 Church Lane, London N2 8DT. Tel/Fax: 020 8444 6265

General Advice.

Monday to Friday: 10am 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4pm.

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, Com-08457 909090 munity Centre 020 8883 4916 8444 0244/ 8489 8774

Bogus charity bags

Bogus charity bags are becoming more difficult to spot. Once it was possible to read the accompanying leaflets and realise that our freely donated goods were destined to be sold in East European and Third World countries, thus lining the pockets of some not so do-gooders.

Recently, bags that seem to be from well known charities such as children's hospitals and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution have come through local letterboxes. Reading the blurb carefully or checking the particular charity's website

Free parking for carers

Carers living in a restricted parking area can apply to Barnet Council for free parking permits for visiting paid care workers, GPs, nurses and support workers.

The permit must be kept at the carer's or service user's home, and given to the paid worker to place in their car on arrival. Application forms are available from www.barnet.gov.uk, by mailing parking@barnet.gov.uk, or by calling 020 8359 7446.

often reveals that yet another attempt is being made to benefit fraudulently from genuine

If you have doubts about the latest appeal to land on your doormat, contact Trading Standards via Consumer Direct on 08454 040506 or visit www.consumerd irect.gov.uk. Charity registration details can be checked with the Charity Commission on 0845 3000 218. Better still, take your reusable goods directly to local charity shops.

Do you have a story for us?

You can send your stories, letters, and photos by email to the-archer@lineone.net or by post to The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA. You can find out more about contributing and advertising at www.thearcher.co.uk

Protect yourself against pickpockets

By Janet Maitland

A spate of thefts in the Childs Hill and Mill Hill areas has sparked a warning to guard against pickpockets. There were five incidents on just one day in June and all of the victims were elderly women. One was on a bus, another was in a shop, and the rest were in the street.

"Pickpockets will try to distract you by pushing you or asking you a question," said Paul Hammond, of Barnet Boroughwatch. "Beware of people who get too close to you, particularly on buses, in shops and near cash machines.

Keep handbags at your front and make sure they're zipped up. A good tip is to tie a cat bell to the bag to act as an alarm; these are cheap and can be bought at pet shops. If you think someone is acting suspiciously, call 999."

Free swimming lessons

Non-swimmers over the age of 17 can now book up for a short course of free lessons.

These are available at pools operated by Greenwich Leisure (GLL) on behalf of Barnet Council, which include Finchley Lido Leisure Centre (telephone 020 8343 9830), Barnet Copthall Leisure Centre and Church Farm Swimming Pool.

Classes last for one hour, every week for six weeks, with qualified instructors who specialise in teaching adult nonswimmers. There are no more than 12 people in a class.

To find out more and to enrol go to www.gll.org. The enrolment system is online, but anyone without access to a computer can call 020 8317 5000, extension 4104.

OSTEOPATHY

The Twyford Practice

Osteopathic consultation and treatments in Fortis Green, N2.

Robin Kiashek, Osteopath and Naturopath, Bsc (Hons), Ost Med., N.D., M.R.N.

> For appointments: please phone 020 8815 0979 or visit: www.robinkiashek.co.uk for further information

Planning Applications

Barnet Council 30 Brim Hill, N2

Creation of a basement level. 131 High Road, N2

Change of use from A1 (Shop) to A3 (Restaurant), including single storey extension to the rear of 131 & 133 High Road, alterations to first floor access, and new kitchen extraction duct to rear.

172 High Road, N2

Extension to time limit for implementing planning permission C07742M/05 dated 20/07/05 for 'Conversion of existing upper 1st & 2nd floor and rear ground

floor to provide three self-contained flats'.

176 High Road, N2

Demolition of existing ground floor warehouse and construction of a two-storey dwelling and new vehicular access

65 Leslie Road, N2

Single storey rear extension and alterations to fenestration

Haringey Council 180 Creighton Avenue N2

Demolition of conservatory and part of existing double garage, and erection of rear ground floor and side first floor extensions.



James Drewe is a qualified teacher and has been practising t'ai chi for 34 years.

He is Vice-Chairman of the Longfel Taljiquan Association

Other classes (Tottenham Ct. Rd., Westminster, The City: WWW.taiji.co.uk email: james@taiji.co.uk phone: 020-888 333 08