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Peter Barnett at A Scott the fishmonger with his model from the V & A's 'Tower of Babel' with, left, Paul Jones. Photo Mike Coles

Fishmonger lands his own shop... in miniature

By Janet Maitland
Did you know there's been a fishmonger's at A Scott and Son on the High Road for nearly 90 years and, more recently, that a model of the shop was viewed by thousands of people at an exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum?

Lucky bid

The exhibition, called The Tower of Babel, consisted of 3,000 miniature buildings each depicting a real London shop. It was made by artist Barnaby Barford who cycled round London for a year taking thousands of photos of shops in every postcode. He then created ceramic transfers which he fired onto bone china to make tiny models which he stacked into a tower.

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Budgens car park could be built on

By Lawrence Robinson

THE ARCHER has learned of an upcoming planning application to redevelop the car park behind Budgens and Viceroy Close. Under the plans, about two-thirds of the car park will be covered by a three-storey block of flats.

Loss of amenities

At this stage there is no confirmation of who the developer is, or of when the application might be made. Some Viceroy Close residents have heard it is coming, however, and fear that the development will significantly reduce their quality of life by the loss of view, light, privacy and access.

There are also concerns that the redevelopment will be lengthy and therefore residents, along with the businesses below their homes, will have to live and work around a building site for upwards of a year.

Implications for whole area

The impact on the shops of Viceroy Parade is potentially serious. With reduced turning and parking space to their rear entrances, delivery vehicles for Budgens, Iceland and Amy's could have to move to the front of the shops, resorting to double-

parking on the High Road or blocking the east-bound lane of East End Road and risking major traffic congestion.

One resident claimed that, without a practical means of receiving deliveries, it was doubtful if the large supermarkets of Budgens and Iceland could have a long-term future in their current locations. The knock-on effect of them moving or leaving could be significant for the whole of East Finchley.

Previous applications refused

This potential planning application is the latest in a series of attempts to develop the car park site going back to 2000, the last being in 2009, which was refused by Barnet Council's planners.

THE ARCHER is keeping a close eye on the council's planning applications list and will report further if an application is lodged in this case.

Murder investigation after High Road stabbing

By Janet Maitland

Murder detectives are investigating the death of a 55-year-old man who was stabbed outside KFC on the High Road at 3pm on 30 December and died of his injuries in hospital on 13 January. Although formal identification has not taken place, officers have named the victim as Derek McAllister, who lived in East Finchley.

Police cordoned off Leicester Road for a search at about 4pm on the day. A few hours later, a 32-year-old man from Hill Road, Muswell Hill, was arrested and taken into custody. He appeared at Hendon Magistrates Court on 2 January where he was charged with GBH with intent. He remains in custody.

The police are appealing for witnesses or anyone with information to contact them on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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