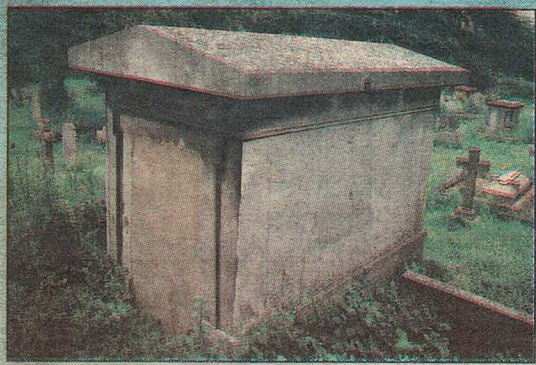


YOUR AWARD-WINNING FREE NEWSPAPER

Thursday, June 19, 1997

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Is this Dracula's birthplace? p16

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Fancy dressing (left): p17

Barnet Council vacancies: p92,93,94

TV p40/41

Shoppers stirred, but not shaken



Pierce Brosnan, aka 007, stalks Brent Cross car park

James Bond would have escaped without getting a speck of dust on his jacket.

But shoppers browsing at Brent Cross on Monday were not so unruffled. When they spotted thick smoke spreading from the car park next to Fenwick the fire brigade was

called in.

A stunt scene for the new Bond movie, *Tomorrow Never Dies*, which involved three cars being blown up in the car park, had misfired. The cost of 150 technicians and stunt men were evacuated.

But nothing fazes Hendon firefighters, who are all as cool as Bond himself. At

Hendon firestation a spokesman said: "It is routine to send three appliances to Brent Cross if the alarm is raised there."

"We assisted the film's own fire crew, but there was nothing serious to worry about." All blown out of proportion, perhaps.

• For more on the Bond-shoot see p25

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Court rejects final appeal against eruv

Eruv campaigners in the borough were cautiously optimistic this week following a High Court hearing which appears to have signalled the end of a five-year battle.

In a ruling on Monday, Mr Justice Laws rejected an application by anti-eruv protesters to overturn Barnet Council's decision to allow the eruv.

But protestor Elizabeth Segall denounced the decision yesterday and warned: "This is not the end of the matter as far as we are concerned."

The judge rejected the application for judicial review because it was brought outside

by chief reporter
JEREMY KAY

the legal time limit. However, legal sources speculated he also had doubts about the merits of the argument of racial discrimination.

Under Rabbinical law Orthodox Jews cannot work on the Sabbath. The eruv, which consists of thin wire suspended from poles, would create a boundary in which minor tasks would be allowed on the Sabbath.

In January this year the council paved the way for the United Synagogue Eruv Committee when it approved of all but a handful of the 39 pole sites, which are expected to be granted when they are resubmitted.

Eruv supporter Edward Black said yesterday: "It was always our view that the challenge was without legal merit. We are proceeding with the details necessary to implement the eruv."

Mrs Segall said: "The judge showed little interest in or understanding of the case. He said the eruv was no different from a mosque, but a mosque is on private land. An eruv is on public highways, forcing people to go through these gateways."

Hundreds of anti-eruv petitioners argue the proposed 11-mile perimeter, which stretches from Golders Green and Hendon to East Finchley and Mill Hill, will create a ghetto.

A spokesman for Barnet Council praised the High Court ruling, adding: "In our view this case should never have been brought."

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