

THE ARCHER



The Archer's
NEW
voice mail
number is:
0181 914 7280

ISSN 1361-3952
November 1996 No. 43

20p

A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Traders' Union

By Sue Holliday

With the praiseworthy aims of revitalising East Finchley's shopping areas and improving the quality of local people's lives, local traders are forming an association.

This decision was taken at a recent meeting of prominent local traders in Chivers Brothers' AI Motor Stores in the High Road.

Laying the ghost

The tone of the meeting was set by Mr. Laurie Chivers who called for positive action to prevent East Finchley becoming a "ghost town of boarded-up shops".

The local traders' initiative was taken on receiving a letter from Barnet Council inviting them to work "in partnership to breathe new life into the town centre and shopping areas".

The new association will be canvassing all local traders for support.

Local parking could and should be improved, believe traders. Two options were discussed: time zones and "fishtail" parking on at least one side of the High Road.

Traders called for the removal of redundant street furniture such as unused bus shelters and a stop to more advertising stands.

Barnet Council is encouraging landlords to offer short-term agreements instead of long-term leases on shops.

On forum

A new town centre forum covering East Finchley, North Finchley and Church End Finchley is being launched to bring these centres together.

The council states that its strategy is aimed at "resur-

recting and sustaining" shopping parades which have suffered largely from increased competition from the superstores.



Photo: David Tupman.

John Dacam goes in search of the perfect cornish pasty in East Finchley. Read his review on Page 3.

Pasty-Faced:

McProtest

Protesters supporting a world-wide day of action against McDonald's, held a demonstration on 16 October outside the company's European headquarters in the High Road.

Thirty protesters picketed, including one dressed with discarded items of McDonald's packaging and one dressed as a McDonald's worker chained to a mock-up of a burger.

Bags of litter were returned to the company to highlight the problems of waste, pollution and litter, all of which the protesters claim are caused by the company's packaging.

Court out

This action highlights the drawing to a close of the longest civil trial in British history which began back in June 1994 and is set to run until the end of this year.

In what is a David versus Goliath trial two activists of the London Greenpeace Movement, Helen Steel and Dave Morris, are being sued by McDonald's for libel over what has been printed in their leaflets and fact sheets.

At the conclusion of this trial, the judge will be making

a ruling on all the issues involved. McDonald's are claiming costs of over £6 million, as are the defendants in their counterclaim.

Ronalds way

McDonald's are applying for an injunction to stop Ms Steel and Mr Morris from repeating the criticisms they made in their fact sheets and if they breach this it could lead them to being jailed.

Fire station closure

A decision by the Government to close the Finchley rescue unit means that North London will be left without a rescue unit any nearer than Euston.

Twenty fire-fighters and their life-saving equipment will leave their Finchley base in Long Lane.

Government funding cuts have forced London's fire brigade to make £2 million savings over the next three years.

The original plans were to close four fire stations in the City, but because of public opposition this was scrapped, but has been replaced by the plan to close the Finchley fire rescue unit.

Officers at the Finchley station who have been fighting for over nine months in a campaign, supported by Barnet Council and Euro MP Pauline Green, are all very disappointed and the Fire Brigade Union spokesman, Mick Bailey, stated "The cuts have been forced on us by the Government. We are all very disappointed. There won't be redundancies but 20 people will be moved from Finchley station to elsewhere in London".

DENNIS ROSEN AND ASSOCIATES

HighPoint
DENTAL PRACTICE

- Friendly local dental practice
- Full range of routine and cosmetic treatment
- Families, nervous patients and children are especially welcome
- Emergencies seen same day
- Latest technology and materials in a comfortable, anxiety-free environment
- Holistic treatment available
- Hygienist

N.H.S. & PRIVATE PATIENTS WELCOME

Tel: 0181-340 4878/8687

82 North Road • Highgate Village • London N6



BUY ONE
GET ONE
FREE

collection only

205 EAST FINCHLEY
HIGH ROAD, N2
0181 442 0999

Bernard TOMKINS

36 High Road
East Finchley N2 9PJ

0181-883 0033

Properties urgently required - now is the time to sell!

Estate Agents and Valuers • Established 1873



THE ARCHER

PO BOX 3699

London N2 8JA

Tel : 0181 914 7280

Fax: 0181 444 7176

e-mail:

archer@finn.netkonect.co.uk

PUBLISHER

East Finchley Newspapers

Editor

Paul Savill

Assistant Editor

Pamela Kent

News Editor

Len Willcocks

Features Editor

David Hobbs

Pictures Editor

David Tupman

Sub Editors

John Dacam

Mark Harrison

Adrian Talton

Advertising

Simon Manning

Peter Maslen

Production

Alison Roberts

Peter Maslen

Young Archer Editor

Diana Cormack

Contributors

Neil Barnes, Daphne Chamberlain, Faith Coller, Gwen Conacher, Ros Daitshell, Robert Doe, Jan Dreger, Cathy Featherstone, Adam Fidler, Lynn Fidler, Kevin Finn, Edna Hobbs, Sue Holliday, Sarah Laitner, R.E. Mack, Sam Martin, Delia Maslen, Toni Morgan, Paul Northam, Katerina Pasternak, Linda Soper, Louise Story, Frank Tymkow, Lee Welch, Pat Welch, Claire Wilmans, Quentin Wilmans.

Thanks also to Kieran and Margaret Madden of Madden's Ale House for providing us with a meeting place.

Your contributions

If you have a news item, memory or anecdote but are nervous of writing it, phone 0181-914 7280 and we'll get someone to help you.

Slow, children!

To make roads outside schools safer, Barnet Council plans to create 20mph speed limit areas which, it is hoped, will make it safer and encourage parents to walk their children to school rather than use the car.

This will have the effect of cutting the amount of traffic on these roads, and also help to lower pollution levels.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Utilities (for N2)

Electricity 0181-905 1144
Gas escapes 0181-346 9191
Water 01707-277111

Councils

Barnet

Admin Town Hall 0181-359 2000
Elderly 0181-444 4411
Children/family 0181-449 5511
Housing 0181-446 8511
People in hospital 0181-440 5111
Noise 0181-444 4411
Pest Control 0181-446 5111

Haringey

0181-975 9700

Police

Emergency 999
Finchley 0181-342 1212
Golders Green 0181-209 1212
Muswell Hill 0181-340 8055

*Calls to 0897 numbers cost a minimum of £1.00.

Help & Advice

Aids Helpline 0800-567123
Alcoholics Anon. 0171-352 3001
Benefits Agency 0800 666555
Carers Nat.Assoc. 0181-343 3665
Childline 0800 1111
Citizens Advice Bureau 0181-349 0954
Contact (N2 help) 0181-444 1162
Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
East Finchley Advice Service 0181-444 6265
Gingerbread 0181-445 4227
Help the Aged 0800-289 404
Message Home (confidential for runaways) 0500 700 740
Mind 0181-446 6470
NSPCC 0800-800500
National Strays Bureau (details of lost dogs) 0897 123999*
Rape Crisis Centre 0171-837 1600
Relate 0181-445 0888
Samaritans 0181-889 6888
Victim Support 0181-343 4435

Hospitals

Barnet General 0181-200 1555
Coppetts Wood 0181-883 9792
Finchley Mem. 0181-349 3121
Oak Lane 0181-346 9343
Royal Free 0171-794 0500
St Luke's 0181-219 1800
Whittington 0171-2723070

Transport

LT Enquiries 0171-222 1234
Greenline 0181-668 7261
Grey-Green 0181-800 8010
National Xpress 0171-730 0202
Heathrow 0181-759 4321
Euston/St Pancras 0171-387 7070
Kings X 0171-278 2477
Charing X/Victoria/Waterloo/Liverpool St 0171-9285100

Other

E. Finchley Library 0181-883 2664
Mus. Hill Odeon 01426 911885
Phoenix Cinema 0181-883 2233

Lead Story

To adopt a more flexible approach to the control of dogs in Highgate Wood, the Corporation of London, owner and manager of the popular open space in Muswell Hill, is proposing to make changes to the bylaws.

A dog-eared leaflet explaining the proposed changes is available from the Highgate Wood office in Muswell Hill Road, N10 3JN.

Pack drill

The bylaws will require dogs to be kept on leads in the sports ground. In other areas dogs will be allowed to run free unless a Keeper considers that a nuisance is being caused to other users of the Wood. Dogs will not be allowed in the children's playground or the flower garden at any time.

The bylaws will also require that each owner removes his or

her dog's faeces from the sports ground and the footpaths. Exceptions are made for dogs accompanying registered blind persons.

Dogmatic

The Corporation must apply to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation of the proposed bylaws before they can be put into effect. Anyone wishing to make a representation about the confirmation of the bylaws should write to the Department of the Environment, LEQ1 Division, Room A213, 43 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 3PY.

Child Development Centre at Oak Lane

By Daphne Chamberlain

Local parents of disabled children are disgusted by Barnet's decision to scrap plans for a child development centre at Oak Lane.

They are convinced that what their children need is a "one stop shop", where all forms of therapy would be available under one roof.

The proposed centre would also have included a toy library, operated by a paediatric occupational therapist. Since the closure of the toy library at Whetstone, families have to travel to Grahame Park. They say that the toy library there is difficult to find, often closed, and not in pleasant surroundings.

Two years ago, money was earmarked for the development of the Oak Lane Centre, which was intended to be a co-operative venture. The parents were

going to have a good deal of input, and some of them have already been on courses with this in mind.

But now Barnet has decided that rising costs have proved impossible to meet from existing resources.

Fiona Phillips, chair of Barnet Health Authority, says that the Authority "remains deeply committed to providing quality services for Barnet's disabled children and their families".

It has been decided to set up an information network on childhood disability and family support, but no more concrete proposals have emerged.

Art Searching

Ambitious plans for a new Arts Centre to be built at Tally Ho Corner, North Finchley, took a big step forward after a decision by Barnet Council to fund a full feasibility study.

The Centre would hold major entertainments while also giving a much-needed venue to art groups which at present are being forced to work outside the borough.

Councillors on the Recreation Leisure and Arts Committee have agreed on a sum of £20,000 for this scheme.

Holy Trinity School's 150th anniversary

To mark the beginning of the 150th Anniversary celebrations at Holy Trinity School, East Finchley, a tree will be planted in the school grounds on Tuesday 12 November by a former pupil, Dr Robert Anderson, now the Director of the British Museum.

Dr Anderson was a pupil at Holy Trinity School from 1948 to 1955. He continued his education at Woodhouse School before taking a chemistry degree at St John's College, Oxford where he stayed to prepare his Doctorate. He then moved to Edinburgh as Curator in the History of Science, before returning to London as Head of the Chemistry Department at the Science Museum, South Kensington. His next job was as Director of the National Museum in Edinburgh from 1984. Since 1992 Dr Anderson has been Director of the British Museum.

As an 11-year old boy, young Robert would go off on Saturday visits with his school friend,

SERVICES for East Finchley

Councillors' Surgery. Neighbourhood Centre, Church Lane - Saturdays - 10:00-11:30am

General Advice. Advice Service, 42 Church Lane - Monday to Friday - 10:00am to 12:30pm and 1:30-4:00pm

Immigration Advice. Advice Service, 42 Church Lane (by appointment only) (0181-444 6265)

Legal Advice. Advice Service, 42 Church Lane - Tuesdays 7:00-8:00pm.

Stop gap

Help is on the way to enable small local organisations to apply to Europe for the funding and cash assistance they need for help with their projects.

Because these smaller organisations have few resources, they are often forced to wait until their projects are underway before the promised funding arrives.

This means their projects cannot get started as they cannot afford to finance their plans in advance.

Loan arranger

Barnet is to make it easier for them to get this funding from Europe by offering interest-free loans while waiting for their grants to arrive.

The Economic Development Committee have agreed to give up to £10,000 cash in advance to organisations caught in the trap of not being able to start because of lack of funds.

"This scheme will give a welcome boost to many small groups who would not get the European help and support they deserve and are entitled to", said Councillor Andrew Dickie.

Roger Vyvyan, to the wonderful world of the South Kensington museums. Robert would go into the Victoria and Albert Museum while Roger would spend the morning in the Science Museum. The two boys would meet up for lunch and exchange notes. Little did the young Anderson realise that one day he would be Director of the world's most famous museum!

The tree planting will take place at 9.30am on Tuesday 12 November. Parents and friends of the school are being invited to attend this short but significant ceremony at the school.

Further information from the school on 0181 883 1824 or from David Smith on 0181 883 4154.



Out & About...

with Noel Lynch

Hit-man?

A well-known "face" around East Finchley will be named as an international hit-man, in a book soon to be published. He denies the allegation.

EastEnders in East Finchley

On Thursday 14th October, viewers of BBC1 will have seen Cindy Beale leave Albert Square to a hide-out in France. However, she is not in France, but in East Finchley. In real life, Michelle Collins has just taken up residence near the High Road, bringing the total of past and present EastEnders stars to three: Michelle, Steve McFadden and Susan Tully.

Big Promotion

Robert Wong, former resident of Summerlee Avenue, is now deputy manager of Merrill Lynch Bank of Singapore. He is a frequent visitor to East Finchley to visit his mother.

Van Gogh

An art historian tells me that Vincent Van Gogh lived for a while in East Finchley. Some of us have visions of finding an attic full of his masterpieces!

Phantom bus stop

Does anyone know why the bus shelter is still outside my shop when the actual bus stop was moved many months ago? Not a day goes by that I don't have to inform some hapless traveller that the bus stop is 100 yards up the road.

Tara's Theme

East Finchley's connection with the Olympics? Well, the beautiful BBC introduction music was written by Hertford Road resident, Steven Spiro! The CD is selling well.

A snip

Nash Auctions of North Finchley had an unusual item to sell at their recent Monday auction. Estimated at £300/£500, the silver circumcision set developed an epic bidding duel between a Moslem dealer and a Jewish dealer. The latter was finally victorious at £5,200, which was not bad for something that cost £11 at a boot sale! I'm told that it has since been sold again, this time for £11,000.

Leaving us

Mandy Smith has sold her residence in Creighton Avenue. Of all the personalities we have served at The Bargain Centre, Mandy is probably the nicest.

Dosh

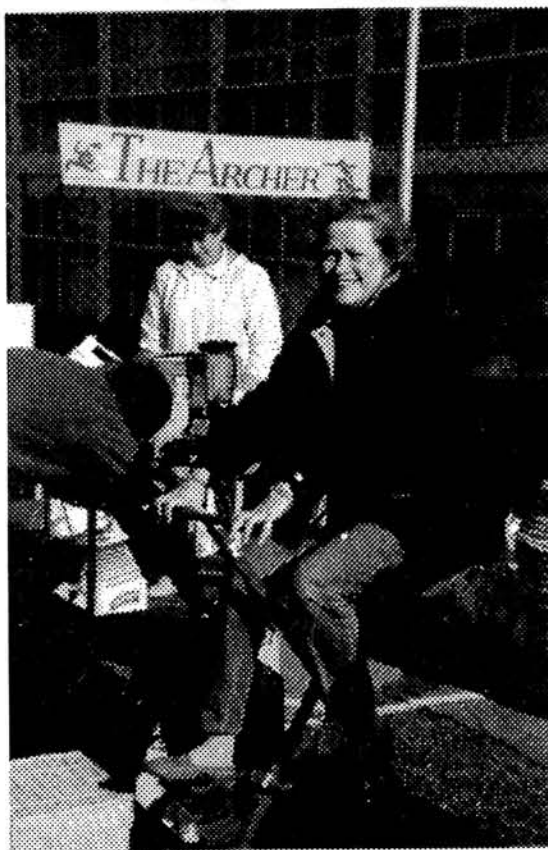
The boot sale at Martin Schools figured recently on the Channel 4 programme "Dosh". It was interesting to see so many familiar faces. However, the presenter was a bit too optimistic in her ideas about prices. A lot of people visited here, last Sunday, for the boot sale, but were disappointed to find that the next sale is not until March.

New Association

The founding meeting of The East Finchley Traders Association took place recently at Chivers Brothers Shop. See details on the front page of The Archer. A six-man steering group was elected. We need more help. Details from Chivers Brothers or from myself at The Bargain Centre.

Any news?

If you have anything of news value, suitable for this column, please contact Noel Lynch at The Bargain Centre, 212 High Road or phone 883 0234.



Trying out the goods at the car boot sale. Photo: Sue Holliday.

Car Boot Sale

On Saturday 19 October, Fortismere School Association held a car boot sale, organised by parent Sue Walker, on the south wing car park off Twyford Avenue. Money raised from the hire of pitches went to the school fund. Money raised by The Archer stall gave a much-needed boost to our funds. Our stall was mostly manned (or should that be womanned!) by Pam Kent, Toni Morgan and Diana Cormack with just over £100 being made in three hours. Thank you to the people who provided things to sell or who helped in other ways. Thanks also to those who came along on the day to spend their money.

News Flashes

*A new youth club for both able-bodied and disabled youngsters over 11 years of age has been opened at the Old Barn Community Centre in Tarling Road.

The club was opened by Olympic silver medalist, Jackie Agyepong, on Friday 18 October for the young people of Barnet. For details call Barry Rawlings on 0181 349 4613.

*Finchley Memorial Hospital have installed a new access ramp and walkway for wheelchairs and a conservatory costing £30,000.

The walkway will provide access for wheelchairs and will also help disabled and elderly patients to learn to walk using their Zimmer frames.

*Two local men who work for the privatised refuse collection contractor, Service Team Ltd, suffered serious injury in the course of their work and Barnet Council are to be prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive.

The council face a maximum fine of £20,000 if they are found guilty of a breach of safety regulations.

The contractors, who have since lost the contract, face a similar charge.

*East Finchley resident, Danny McAvooy, was crushed between the bin lift and the rear of the dustcart back in March 1993.

The other man injured, Dean Aris from Whetstone, had his foot amputated after the wheel of a bin went over it.

The case is to be heard at Barnet Magistrates Court on 7 November.

= Save our Cornish Pasty Campaign =

Poor Taste!

By John Dacam

The Archer is launching a "Save our Cornish Pasty Campaign"... British food lover, John Dacam, recently tried Cornish Pasties available in the High Road and was shocked by what he found. If you agree, disagree or wish to comment on food in N2, write to The Archer.

Britain has, for some time, had a poor reputation for food: a fact which is annoying to those of us who appreciate its great roasts, pies, game dishes, puddings, desserts etc.

However, when we have something outstanding, like the Cornish Pasty, we seem to be content to let it degenerate into a mass-produced farrago.

Disgace

The Archer tried five makes of pasty readily available in the High Road, but found it impossible to recommend any of them.

One of these brands used to be an acceptable pasty, but this is now gristly and covered in the same uniformly disgraceful, damp-cardboard pastry as all of the others.

Two of the others were simply tasteless while the one

tasted only of sausage meat and another tasted like mouth-wash.

Do it Yourself

Roll out 12 ounces of shortcrust pastry into four six-inch discs. Finely chop (do not mince!) threequarters of a pound of chuck steak, a small onion and two or three potatoes and pile them onto the pastry, adding salt and pepper. A little diced turnip or swede is an optional extra.

Moisten the pastry edges and form the pasties, then brush them with beaten egg.

Cook them fast for 10 - 15 minutes at gas mark 7 (425) then turn the heat down to gas mark 2 (300) and cook them for another 30 - 40 minutes.

So, food manufacturers, how hard was that?

A new, Whiter Lion?

The White Lion, one of East Finchley's oldest and most historic pubs, is to have a face lift. Work has already started on the refurbishing.

Funeral Directors

Family funeral business - 24 hour service
Arthur W Luck & Sons,
3 Church Lane, N2 Tel: 0181-883 2429

20% off dry cleaning

for senior citizens

only at
Pristine

71 Viceroys Parade
High Road East Finchley
N2 8AB

0181 883 0427

NEXT TO POST OFFICE

AUGEAN CLEANING

CARPETS ! UPHOLSTERY ! CURTAINS

Complete peace of mind. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back.

12 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE & QUALITY SERVICE
RUGS & FINE FABRICS A SPECIALITY

OTHER SERVICES
Flood & fire damage
Anti-static treatment
Flame retardant treatment
Carpet protection
5-year fabric guarantee

TELEPHONE
QUENTIN WILMANS

0181 371 0360

FOR FREE ADVICE & FREE QUOTES

Cree Godfrey Wood

Solicitors

Commissioners for Oaths

Hours 9:30am to 1:00pm & 2:00pm to 5:00pm.

Telephone 0181 883 9414

0181 883 9496 & 0181 883 0989

Facsimile 0181 444 5414

28 High Road London N2 9PJ

Andrew Miller & Co

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

AUDITOR

ACCOUNTS

PERSONAL & BUSINESS

TAXATION

FINANCIAL ADVICE

0181 444 1662

RING NOW



Buying? Selling? Renting?

Open 7 days a week

146 High Road,

East Finchley

0181 883 0077



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF EAST FINCHLEY UNDERGROUND STATION

Behind the Line

It's sad but probably true that most travellers take their local tube station and its staff totally for granted. Yet the complexity of getting trains through London and back boggles the mind. Claire Wilmans investigates.

Because East Finchley Station is a 24-hour operation it is hard to see where one day ends and the next begins. The first driver and guard (a crew) book in at 04.45 at one of the depots at Highgate, High Barnet, Golders Green, Edgware or Morden. They are the reservoirs which feed trains into the Northern Line system each day. Every train has its own number on the front and follows the same route and schedule, or duty, each day. The crew boards the train assigned to them and runs through a list of safety checks in much the same way pilots check their planes before take off. Once they are satisfied all is well, they take their train onto the track and into service at 05.30.

Frequently, a new timetable comes into effect. Before this, a dedicated London Transport Department sits down with a powerful computer and works out the number of runs up and down the branches of the Northern Line each of its 84 trains must follow each day and night to meet the timetable so customers can go where they want, when they want. This task is doubly complex because they must also ensure crews work no more than 78 hours in any two week period and that the duties get crews to those few Northern Line stations which have canteens at the right times for meal breaks.

Direct Line

Once the duty schedules have been worked out it is over to East Finchley's three duty managers to run everything "train-side" and keep crews and duties to the timetable by sorting out any delays or problems which come up and calling into service the spare crews East Finchley keeps on standby to cover as and when necessary.

East Finchley's four station supervisors manage the station staff and all things "station-side", meaning customers and anything to do with platforms and ticket hall. Station supervisors, as well as the Duty Managers, are on hand 24 hours a day to deal with anything from a track inspection if a driver reports something unusual to advising customers on the best way to get to Swakeley's Station.

Dawn patrol

At 05.30 the first of East Finchley's three station assistants comes in to present a smil-

ing face to the first customers. The first cleaner signs off having been at work since 22.30 picking up litter, washing the booking hall floor tiles or blacking steps which must be done when no-one is about so as to avoid accidents. The paper sellers set up their stall at 06.00 and the cafe opens its doors at 06.30 when the booking clerk takes up position to sell the 3,000 tickets bought at the station on average each day - 64,000 every four weeks. Staff estimate four times that number of customers come through East Finchley daily if you count season ticket and travelcard holders. With the shop opening at 07.00, the station is ready as the morning rush hour begins.

During this time, crews have been booking in at the Northern Line depots and taking trains into service as the number of trains working the track builds up to the morning peak. Between 07.30 and 09.30 there will be 84 trains at some point around the Northern Line. At 07.00 the duty manager and Station Supervisor who have taken the station through the night shift, change. At 08.00 the second station cleaner arrives to keep the bins on the station empty and the areas train-side, such as the mess room and the duty manager's office, spick and span.

From 08.30 crews begin changing over at East Finchley to let those on the first duties take a meal break at the canteen which for planning reasons (East Finchley station is a 1930s listed building) is that clutch of Portacabins you can see in the car park!

Peak Load

By now customer numbers are at their peak, trains are coming through to town at the rate of four every ten minutes and the office staff who work station-side are coming in. Two train crew managers (TCMs) run the day-to-day business, supported by two administrators. The pay clerk re-allocates duties to cover annual leave and people going on courses and supplies the TCMs with much of the information they use to run the business.

Drivers hold several licences in order to work and go on courses regularly to keep these safety critical licences, as they are known, up to date. These cover competence to drive a train, a medical, written and oral communication skills and knowledge of rules and regulations. All staff refresh track skills every two

years so they can deal with hazards and take customers along electrified track safely should the need arise.

At 09.30 the paper stall has sold out and the service winds down from the morning peak with 24 trains coming out of service and back to their depots to be swept, allowing crews to take lunch breaks. The type of customer also changes with bright-eyed senior citizens, families and others taking advantage of one-day travelcards giving unlimited trips in a day for £3.50.

Lunch comes and goes with some crews on early duties going home and fresh crews booking in to bring trains back into service for the afternoon peak between 16.30 and 18.30 when all 84 trains will be back in the system to get people home. At 13.00 the fruitseller and florist get to work outside and the cafe closes at about 15.00 once the lunchtime rush is over.

All change!

Mid afternoon and then again at 23.00 duty managers, station supervisors and station assistants change shifts. The second cleaner departs at 16.00. Office staff station-side leave at 17.30, the shop closes and the service begins to wind down for the night. A third cleaner comes in for an hour to keep things under control and then the first cleaner is back at 22.30.

There is a "second wave" of customers later in the evening as they come through East Finchley on their way to a night out. The last train northbound is at 00.55 and town bound at 00.09 after which the booking office and hall closes, the station assistant departs leaving the duty manager and the station supervisor on shift. By 01.30 the last crew has booked off and all trains are in their depots being cleaned, having their routine fortnightly check by train technicians or being serviced which is usually done at Morden or Golders Green.

At night, the network belongs to the engineers carrying out routine maintenance on track or tunnels which cannot be worked on whilst there is traffic around. Engineers also carry out work for the Northern Line project enlarging tunnels to accommodate the new carriages for one-man operation.

All too soon 04.45 rolls around and the cycle of life at East Finchley Station starts again.

BABYTALK

Mother's Help

By Edna Hobbs

The library isn't the first place you think of as a must for mothers, but our library offers help in a variety of ways.

Most obvious perhaps are all the books on pregnancy, birth and parenting. There are many very helpful manuals, but two unusual books stand out as of particular interest.

The first is *Dream Babies*, a look at baby manuals through the ages. Fashions come and go, some of the things mothers subjected their babies to believing that they were doing the right thing are really horrifying, like feeding them thin gruel instead of breast milk, which was thought to coarsen the spirit, or leaving them in near freezing

temperatures all day to harden them up. Seeing how wrong the "experts" have been through the ages makes it easier to trust your own judgement with confidence.

The other really interesting and helpful book is *Green Parenting*, this offers practical guidelines for bringing children up to be fulfilled human beings rather than mindlessly destructive consumers. I am not dedicated enough to follow all the measures suggested, but is so full of good ideas, that it will continue to be an inspiration.

Child minding

On sale in the library for £1 is a booklet called *Under Fives* in Barnet which gives information about everything to do with pre-schoolers in the borough. This includes clinics, childminders, recreation, advice, health, playgroups - names and addresses of contacts are all clearly listed.

To improve your child's mind, the library now sells laminated posters of, among others, the alphabet, numbers and nursery rhymes. They are all A3 size and sell for £2.50.

During the longer holidays special activities are arranged, like "Old MacDonald had a Farm" and "Teddy Bear's Picnic" this August. These are advertised by leaflet in the library.

Every Wednesday afternoon from 2.30 - 3pm there is a special storytime for under fives. And of course there is an excellent range of books and tapes to keep children of all ages entertained.

Toy time

For under £5 annually you can join the Toy Library, which meets upstairs every Friday (except August) from 2.30 - 4.30. Small toys cost under 50p to borrow and large ones - like seesaws and kitchen sets - under £1. This is a good way to test toys before buying and also gives your child access to a wide range of toys without breaking the bank or cluttering the home.

Church News

Christmas Fairs

St Mary's Catholic Church, Saturday 30 November from 10.30am onwards.

All Saints, Durham Road, Saturday 23 November.

Unity

As part of the call to Christian Unity there will be a talk and discussion on the Churches Together book "Called to be One".

This will be in the Wesley Hall, New Barnet on Tuesday 19 November at 8.00pm. The talk will cover the challenge to unity, renewal and the churches mission in the light of the Pope's encyclical letter. The speaker is Sister Cecily Boulding.

Churches Together in Finchley will have a talk on the Holocaust by Andrew Aarons at the Finchley Methodist Church in Ballards Lane, N3 on Thursday, 21 November at 7.45pm with slides and refreshments.

POETRY CORNER

Voyage

We lined the gunnel of the deck
All of us staring with sad happy faces
At a sunset frowning in a tranquil sea,
Where the ocean blended with the sky
And no-one spoke and nothing broke the silence
But the old ship's creaking like a restless tree,
Lost as we were in our memories.
And all around us a silent fleet
Of white sails shivering in the wind
That blew us to the other side
To a far horizon where a sun was setting
And we with it into eternity.

Paddy Coss, Vale Farm Estate



SHOP OF THE MONTH

Finchley Pet Stores

By Pamela Kent

Did you know that the world's richest man is a regular customer of one of East Finchley's small shops?

Well, the Sultan of Brunei does not exactly call in person at Finchley Pet Stores in Lincoln Road.

But every month his staff takes delivery of 12 boxes of cat food, four bags of rabbit food and a large cylinder of food for the carp which reside in palatial comfort at the Sultan's mansions in The Bishops Avenue and Winnington Road.

Never mind the mega size of the Sultan's empire, which processes thousands of bills every month; those from Peggy Darvill's pet shop always get paid on time!

49ers

Peggy and her husband opened their first pet shop in East Finchley 47 years ago, renting a very small area of another shop just past Barclays Bank. When the business grew they moved to Lincoln Road where Finchley Pet Stores has become one of the longest-trading establishments in the area.

The shop is stacked with every kind of pet food imaginable from bird seed to dog biscuits and, if she doesn't stock a particular item, Peggy will always point her customers in the right direction.

Apart from pet food, Peggy sells treats, toys and all kinds of accessories including a wide variety of dog leads, feeding bowls, cages, baskets and bedding. There is also a medical section to cater for the more common pet ailments such as worms and fleas.

Tropical fish are a very popular commodity and the shop stocks a wide variety, all kept in carefully controlled conditions with each breed separated to avoid confusion and fighting! Also in the livestock area are young budgies and, depending on what's available, kittens, gerbils and hamsters. But don't ask for mice! These are about the only animals Peggy has an aversion to.

Simon stays

Until a few years ago the shop had a resident cat named Simon who appeared one day and stayed for five years. He actually belonged to a lady in Leicester Road but decided that it was more convenient to live



(Pet) Food for thought - Peggy Darvill. Photo Sue Holliday.

where the food was. Peggy agreed with the owner to keep him. It was obvious that, after returning him on a number of occasions, he had really decided to dig his paws in.

Members of the cast of EastEnders often pop into the shop and Katie Boyle was a frequent customer before moving out of the area.

Everyone is welcomed into the shop with a smile and some just call in for a chat. Peggy's most unusual recent enquiry was for dry cleaning a pair of trousers - of course, as usual, the customer was pointed in the right direction.

High on the hog

Another unusual request came from a television presenter who wanted a collar and lead for a hedgehog. This was duly supplied but, Peggy hastens to add, not personally fitted.

Peggy has managed to look after the business almost single-handed since its beginning in 1949 and all the well-fed pets in the area will be pleased to know that she has no intention of retir-

ing. She has seen many changes in East Finchley over the years, but pets are increasingly a feature of family life and there will always be a need for shops like the Finchley Pet Stores. 1 Lincoln Parade, Lincoln Road. Open Monday to Wednesday and Friday from 8.30am to 6pm; Thursday 8.30 to 4pm and Saturday 8.30 to 5pm.

Editor's footnote: Surely the shop should qualify for the sign: "By appointment to the Sultan of Brunei" and carry his symbol?

KALASHNIKOV KULTUR

Hypocrisy begins at home...

By Ricky Savage, the voice of social irresponsibility
These are mean and vicious times as our immoral leaders wrap themselves in the Shroud of Turin and rant on and on about how much more "Christian" they are than their opponents. The sound of John "Oh dear" Major pontificating about how only the Tories are on the side of righteousness when his government is up to its ears in sleaze gives hypocrisy a bad name. Saint Anthony of Blair claiming that God would vote "New Labour" just proves my point. Basically, politicians have less morals than the average cat. All they are after is another load of votes and a chance to screw it all up for the rest of us.

It's not as if they've got any ideas either. The whole moral agenda is being driven along by the tabloids and is being set by the widow of some school teacher who, quite clearly, has touched a chord with the complaining classes. What bugs me is what gives this woman some unique insight into modern society? Is it because she was married to the headmaster of a Catholic school? I hope not, but I do hear the sound of moral elephants trampling over our civil rights in the name of some spurious self-righteousness. The Tories are trying to seize the moral high ground and are going to set morality lessons in schools. Gillian Shepherd has already insisted that such things as the family and marriage should be central to this whole scam which would be further proof of their hypocrisy if it wasn't so frightening. She even went further and called for caning to be reintroduced and the only thing that surprised me about all this, was that Jack Straw didn't decry it for being too weak and demand public flogging for not doing your homework.

These moral elephants are probably going to advocate capital punishment, the outlawing of abortion and promote the hounding of gays and lesbians as part of building a whole new moral order. In other words, they are going to find scapegoats for what they have done in promoting in-

dividual greed above all else. Alright, so society as we used to know it is up shit creek and something needs to be done, but let's not return to the repressive 1950s, let's make damn sure that civil rights aren't eroded to win elections and let's remember Margaret Thatcher said there was no such thing as society and then set out to make sure that it was true.

Nouveau Décor Ltd.

Antique Furniture

Sales-Repairs-Re-upholstery
Soft Furnishing Service
Curtains-Bedspreads-Blinds

20 High Road, London N2
Telephone 0181-883 0755

Midhurst Butchers

Certified organic meat at reasonable prices
Free-range poultry
Home-made sausages (including Boerwors)

2 Midhurst Parade,
Fortis Green, London N10

Tel. 0181-883 5303

FREE
MACHINE HIRE

CARPET CLEANING



FREE hire of machine when you purchase Hagerty Carpet Shampoo from
PRISTINE
Dry Cleaners
71 Viceroy Parade
High Road
East Finchley N2 8AB
0181-883 0427

Christmas Greetings

Christmas time will soon be here
Full of festive joy and cheer.
Through The Archer you can send
Seasonal greetings to a friend,
A neighbour, colleague or relative
Just to be celebrative!

For just £2.50 you can buy a Christmas box in The Archer. Write with your message, cheque and details of where we can contact you to:- The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA or phone our voice mail on 0181 914 7280 with your message, name and telephone number before 25 November.

Valantique

Specialists in original lighting and fenders
(LARGE SELECTION OF STOCK)
Also decorative antiques and small furniture

opening hours

Tues-Sat 11.00am - 6.00pm
9 Fortis Green, East Finchley, London N2
0181 883 7651

LEVERTON & SONS LTD

Independent Family Funeral Directors since 1789

Owned and Managed by our Family for Eight Generations

1 Denmark Terrace, Fortis Green,
Muswell Hill, N2 9HG.
0181 444 5753



Peter Byers, M.B.I.F.D & Mrs Jean Leverton
Muswell Hill's Only Independent Funeral Director.
We are pleased to recommend Golden Charter Pre-Paid Funeral Plans



young archer

School News

Holy Trinity J.M.I.

12 November is an important day for Holy Trinity because the first of a series of special events celebrating the school's 150th anniversary is taking place.

Dr Robert Anderson, Director of the British Museum and a former pupil of the school, is going to plant a tree in the school grounds at 9.30am.

The original school, situated in East End Road, was founded in 1847 by the National Society (Church of England) and was the first industrial school in the country. (It now houses the Bobath Centre). The present building in Eagan's Close was opened in 1975 by the then Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP and dedicated by the Rt. Rev and Rt. Hon Gerald Ellison, Bishop of London.

Former pupils are being contacted in order to produce a book of memories, achievements, etc. Present pupils are making suggestions for the contents of a time capsule which is to be buried under the tree. Perhaps The Archer readers would like to send us in their list of ten suitable things to be put in a time capsule?

Martin Junior School

Recently, pupils were "In the News" on Radio 4 when an item was broadcast featuring their School's Council. The Council is made up of sixteen children - two from each class covering the junior age range of seven to eleven years. They meet every Friday lunchtime to discuss various issues, concerns, problems and ideas affecting the school.

The Council started four years ago when elections took place with candidates making speeches putting forward their

ideas in front of the whole school. Now each class holds its own election in the classroom and the children themselves decided that there should be an equal balance of sexes.

The school is going to be sent a tape recording of the programme in which the sixteen council members can be heard in discussion as well as answering questions put to them by the interviewer.

Martin Infant School

Parents and staff have put in a lot of time and effort converting a spare classroom into a bright and welcoming library. It was decorated by the school caretaker and the carpeting was supplied by a helpful parent, while two professional librarians kindly indexed the books using the Dewey system.

On the walls are colourful pictures from favourite books, painted by the pupils. Alongside the usual books you would expect to find there are extra-large books, dual language books and a listening corner where children can put on earphones to listen to stories on tape, following the text if they wish.

The official opening of the library took place in the middle of Book Week in October. It was performed by Mr Michael Foreman, the popular children's author and illustrator. He delighted the children by telling them how he gets his ideas and by reading to them from his books including his most recent "The Little Reindeer". He also described the making and production of one of his books. This probably came in handy as each class made a book especially for the new library.

Another exciting event during Book Week was when both

By Diana Cormack

staff and children came to school dressed as characters from books. They were also able to buy books at a special shop set up in the hall. What a great week to encourage children (and their parents!) to enjoy books together.

clever clogs corner

Why can't these hurt you?

1. A fishing smack
2. A policeman's beat
3. A French stick
4. A it single
5. A walnut whip
6. An eye lash
7. A Christmas box
8. A lightning strike
9. A Norfolk punch
10. A Suffolk punch

Answers. Because it's...

1. a sort of fishing boat
2. the regular route he patrols
3. a long, narrow loaf of bread
4. a song which gets into the charts
5. a kind of walnut-topped chocolate filled with cream
6. a protective hair on the edge of your eye lid
7. another way of saying Christmas present
8. a sudden decision not to work
9. a sort of mixed drink
10. a breed of heavy horse

joke

By Peter King, Holy Trinity School, Year 6

There once was a bus driver who was rubbish at his job because he never stopped at any stops. so the police brought him into court and sat him in the electric chair and the judge said "Do you have any last words?" and the bus driver said "No".

At that the judge turned on the electricity. But the electricity didn't touch the bus driver but killed everyone else. Why was this????

Because he was a bad conductor!

BACK TO School



BYKIT FRIEND (10)

Halloween Nightmares

Halloween Halloween
Have you seen
The monsters in the dark
Or is it someone
Having a lark?
Fiery faces
Witches big and small
Shadows seen
Six feet tall.
Pumpkins and masks
Make it scary
Hands and feet
Oh! so hairy.
See the ghosts
See the witches
Dancing in the night
Keep one eye open
In case you get a fright.

Marc Slinger
Holy Trinity School
Class 6

The Archer is to hold an auction

to coincide with the re-opening of the

White Lion

in December (date to be confirmed).

Your chance to bid for a signed Arsenal football

Full details of this exciting event will be featured in the December issue of *The Archer* - so that's something to look forward to!

FOR ALL YOUR CLEANING NEEDS



PRISTINE CLEANERS

71 HIGH ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY N2.
Next to Post office

up to
20% OFF

- *Duvets
- *Pillows
- *Rugs
- *Bed spreads
- *Loose covers
- *Blankets
- *Nets
- *Curtains

Free collection & Delivery on orders over £20.00

TEL: 0181 883 0427

To Beat or Not to Beat?

By Diana Cormack

The recent controversy over children taking parents to court for hitting them brought back some painful memories of my childhood days.

Smacking children wasn't frowned on then; in fact many people considered it the normal, accepted way of instilling discipline. However, it isn't the actual blows which remain at the forefront of my memory but the strange, verbal threats which sometimes preceded them. If someone says they're going to knock some sense into you, then another time says they're going to knock you senseless, it's difficult to know whether you're supposed to have any sense or not. Except perhaps a sense of injustice!

Future shock

But one saying which really puzzled me was "I'll knock you

into the middle of next week". If that did happen, I used to wonder, would there be anyone else to play with? Were any of my friends likely to be knocked into the middle of next week at the same time? Or would there be children scattered randomly around who would be too far away to make contact with each other? One advantage though was that there wouldn't be any school because, in those days, no one was likely to knock a teacher into the middle of next week!

And what about food? It wouldn't be in the shops yet, so I'd have to raid the larder and who knows what the punishment for that might have been

when they eventually caught up with me? Worse still, what if my birthday fell between this week and the next? Not only would I miss out on a party and presents, but I'd be a week younger than I should have been as well.

Presumably their time would catch up with mine and we'd start off again together, until the next time!

I can't honestly say whether or not the threats and smacks were of any benefit to me or my parents. But they certainly made me determined that any children I might have would never have to undergo such treatment, so some good has come out of it, for my daughter at least.

To all our readers: What do you want The Archer to be?
What Now, Dear Reader?

The Archer will be four years old soon. This is an achievement by any standards. But back-slapping, as much as we like it, is not enough to carry us through another year.

We need our readers to help us by telling us what they expect The Archer to be. So tell us what you like about the paper, what you dislike, what you would like it to contain, what to exclude. Whatever, tell us.

Bear in mind that The Archer is not like any other local paper. It is produced entirely by volunteers, a team of East Finchley residents who meet every Saturday. It is a paper for the community by the community.

We have just received a letter from an interested reader who has touched on so many important issues. We publish his excellent letter (Pros and Cons, right) in the hope that it will spark off further thoughts among our readers about what The Archer should be.

So, please help us by sending your ideas and comments or ring the editor on 883 8846. Better still, consider joining us and complete the coupon below or ring 914 7280 and leave your name and number.

Yes! I wish to become an Archer volunteer.

I am interested in: (tick all that apply)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> | Proof Reading | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Research | <input type="checkbox"/> | Typing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> | Production | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Editing | <input type="checkbox"/> | Advertising | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sub-editing | <input type="checkbox"/> | Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Don't know / willing to try anything | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Name.....

Address.....

Telephone number.....

Send your completed coupon to:
 The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA

Contact - AGM

East Finchley Neighbourhood Contact gives notice of an ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to be held at the Methodist Church Hall, High Road, N2 on Saturday 7 December 1996 at 2.45pm.

Afternoon tea will be served after the Meeting.

All who are interested in helping people in need of assistance are welcome to learn of the work these Volunteers do for local people.

Professional word processing

Documents, letters, theses, dissertations, manuscripts, audio transcriptions and faxes professionally generated on Word for Windows 7 and HP Laser Jet 5p by educated Legal Secretary who will also correct spelling and grammatical errors and execute re-writes.

E-mail service.

Rate: From 50p per 100 words (minimum fee £5.00)
 Free Collection & Delivery
 Tel: Dee on 0181-444 8093

PURE BALANCE MIND & BODY CENTRE

Invites you to come and experience

The REIKI Method of Natural Healing

to be held on 24th November and the last Sunday of each month

FREE

(All donations to The North London Hospice)

1a Leicester Mews, Leicester Road, East Finchley N2 9DJ.
 Tel: 0181 883 3416. Opening times: 1 pm - 6 pm.

MEMORY LANE SINGING CLUB

Is looking for new members, male and female. The club is constantly in demand to provide entertainment for local charities. (Songs from the Roaring 20s-50s).

We meet on Tuesdays at the Methodist Church, Ballards Lane, Finchley N12 (opp. Victoria Park) from 11-1pm and on Friday at St Mary's Church Hall, Hendon Lane, Finchley N3, from 12.30-2.30. For further details ring 0181-883 8501

Pros and Cons

Dear Sir

Thanks for keeping The Archer going...!!

Why can't you have a proper address to save me postage or fax costs? It would be so easy, for example, for me to leave a letter in some pub or cafe...

I like your paper to the extent that it provides a community service. I admire the greatly improved writing skills that you have mustered during the past year or so.

The Archer is the place for local advertising, but unfortunately papers like The Archer are constantly in danger of becoming anodyne servants of those that feed it with copy and advertising revenue, and thus losing the interest and support of its readers. I believe that the more you become a community service the more support you will gain.

I feel that the editors should make more effort to reflect our daily realities. There appears to be a serious lack of communication in this regard, and there is just no editorial drive to speak to people (for example in queues at the Post Office).

Too much of The Archer would be equally relevant to a resident of Golders Green or Cockfosters. All this sort of stuff should be cut out.

In the long term I would like The Archer to be financed more by local clubs, churches, groups and business subscriptions and less by advertising. Get your revenue from as many different sources as possible.

It appears from the columns of your paper that organisations such as the Finchley Society, schools, the political parties, churches, synagogues and many other places of worship do not keep regular contact with you and you do not with them. Why is there this breakdown?

I would like to see a clear editorial policy declaration as

to what The Archer is trying to do. This is surely the heart of the matter. People will respect what you want to do even if you can't yet match up to your aims. Such a policy statement would help me to see where I can contribute to your excellent efforts.

I have been reading The Archer since it started, trying to see how I could help. I still don't know. I wonder if there are others like me.

Best Wishes.

**Anthony Ormerod
 The Causeway, N2.**

Apathy of Residents

Dear Sir

I am very busy, but must correct the article by "Footslogger" (Issue 42 of The Archer) which blamed local residents for their "apathy".

There was daily attendance by the Solicitor from Camden, and the Architect who designed Strawberry Vale, both pointing out most cogently the disaster of the scheme.

A Village Society was formed which now runs the East Finchley Festival, meeting sometimes twice a week to discuss how to campaign against the NCR scheme; local teachers, lecturers, ordinary people. One person was suffering from a terminal illness yet turned up and spoke so eloquently as to the harm the road development scheme would do; housewives, members of a tenants' association, all sorts of kind, good, ordinary people, attending every day and reading thousands of transcripts put out by the Government, contesting so-called "cost benefit analyses" produced by experts in parliamentary jargonese to prove the wonders of this proposed "improvement" scheme; one inspector resigning as he failed to cope with the dedication of people who had no spare time, yet turned up to fight this strange

"inquiry".

This "development" was not wanted by the local residents, but if they raised their voices for just a tiny moment, the police "escorted" them out of the Church Hall where the inquiry was taking place.

If you have the time from your own busy life, and can obtain back-copies of the Hendon Times of that era you will not find apathy. People tried to counter the expertise of the Government by taking traffic measurements at points along the High Road, and the NCR itself, before going to work themselves, and after work.

Many of these dedicated people, fortunately for the Community, are still resident in Finchley. How terribly sad that such a battle can be interpreted as "apathy".

Name and address supplied. N2

Bridge so near

Dear Sir

The recently formed Tetherdown Duplicate Bridge Club has got off to an excellent and enthusiastic start. We have so far held three sessions of seven tables at Tetherdown Hall, Muswell Hill. Our sessions are interesting and stimulating under the able direction of Kay Berry.

Many bridge players consider duplicate bridge to be the most enjoyable form of the game. It appears therefore that our club is filling a need by offering afternoon duplicate bridge in the locality.

Two clubs

Assistance in starting the club came from Tetherdown Bridge Club and Highgate Bridge Club. Duplicate bridge has been played for many years in both clubs, but it is largely from publicity in local newspapers all over North London that we have acquired enough new players to make the club viable.

Our first general meeting, followed by duplicate bridge, takes place at Tetherdown Hall on Thursday 9 January 1997 at 1.30pm. In the meantime we are still looking for new members and hope to recruit up to another fifteen or twenty players. They will of course, all be welcome to come to the general meeting as well as to the playing sessions. Ring 0181 883 3644 for details.

**Henry & Mary Barnett
 Southern Road, N2.**

Local Badminton Group

seeks new members of good playing standard. Meeting Monday evenings in NW11. Please phone 0181 458 7625.

At The Old Barn Centre:-

- For children age 5 to 13:
- *Breakfast Club
- *After school care
- *Holiday playscheme care
- *Teacher training days
- For All:
- *Hall for hire
- *Meeting room for hire
- *Karate clubs
- *Lip-reading courses
- *Badminton club
- *Bridge club
- Also nursery and parent & toddlers group
- Contact Mandy or Barry on 0181 349 4613, Mon-Fri, 10-6.

Join the Fun

Barnet 18 Plus Group, a social and activities group offers people aged between 18 and 29 the chance to make new friends and enjoy a wide range of fun activities, locally and nationally.

Many new members joined the group recently and experienced a packed programme of fun events including Quick On The Draw, Play Your Cards Right, Famous Faces, Music Quiz, Who Am I?, 10 Pin Bowling, Chinese Meal and Two Discos.

Any active and outgoing person aged from 18 to 29 is welcome to join the group. If you want to find out more, ring Mark on 0181 361 2827 or go any Sunday at 8.45pm to the upstairs room of the Bull & Butcher Pub, 1277 High Road, Whetstone, N20.

Barn Dancing

at Union Church Hall, Northiam, N12 (nr junction with Longland Drive and Laurel Way) on the first Wednesday of each month 8.15 pm until 10.30 pm. £2 includes tea or coffee and biscuits
 Wednesday, 4 December
 Phone Bernard Chalk on 0181 440 3116



THE ARCHER

Published by East Finchley Newspapers - P.O. Box 3699 - London N2 8JA. Telephone 0181-914 7280



What's On...

Arts

Battersea Arts Centre (BAC), Lavender Hill, Battersea, London SW11 5TF are staging the British Festival of Visual and Devised Theatre, and looking at the programme there is an amazing amount to go and see. There is Young BAC and a darkroom club giving access to black and white processing and printing. Call 0171 223 6557 for more info.

All Saints Art Centre, 122 Oakleigh Road North, London N20 have a programme packed full of drama, life drawing, painting & drawing, children's art & craft, juggling & circus skills, yoga, whist, dancing, tea dances, singing for beginners and choir. There is a craft fair on 24 November and there are shows on too, such as Sherlock Holmes and The Adventure at Sir Arthur Sullivan's. Call 0181 445 8388 for more details.

Dance

The Holborn Centre, 3 Cups Yard, Sandland Street, London WC1. A 5-day intensive course with Gill Clark and Scott Clarke 16 - 20 December 1996. Both were founder members of the Siobhan Davies Company. Call Fiona Millward on 0181 809 7898 for full details of the classes or write to her at 40 Conway Road, London N15 3BA.

Youth

Finchley Youth Theatre is a door to a world of energy and self expression. Eight Autumn projects are running for ages 5 - 25 with most ending in live performances. To get involved, call Cassie Konyils on 0181 883 9957. See also details of What's On at The Jackson's Lane Community Centre. The Jackson's Lane New Youth Club offers a variety of activities including pool, table tennis, music and five-a-side football plus the chance to chat to people of your own age and sharing your interests. The club also

By Claire Wilmans

offers information and advice in a friendly and relaxing atmosphere. Tube, 263 bus or take a stroll to The Jackson's Lane Community Centre.

Cinema

Phoenix: 25 October to 7 November *Twelfth Night*. 8 - 14 November *Breaking the Waves*. 15 - 28 November *The First Wives Club* and 29 November - 12 December *The Pillow Book*. **Kid's Shows** feature *Independence Day*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Toy Story*, *Twister*, *The Secret of Roan Inish*, *The Little Princess* and *Dragonheart* (you don't have to be a kid to go!). Sunday matinees feature, *Twelfth Night*, *Stealing Beauty*, *Fargo* & *Trainspotting*, *Dekalog*, *Steam on the Screen* and *Jane Eyre*. Call Box Office for details 0181 883 2233 or 0181 444 6789.

Warner Brothers: We don't have the advanced programme, but call 0181 446 9977 for full programme details of features, Saturday Kid's Club and Thursday's "The One to Watch" presentation.

Ramblers' Association

The programme to December includes 33 walks through interesting and varied parts of the autumnal countryside. Some are out of London but many are not. Call Christine Morris on 0181 445 9958 for a programme and get going!

Community

The Jackson's Lane Community Centre has a range of activities going on through the Autumn and Winter as well as a Cafe and Bar. Call 0181 340 5226 to find out more. The centre is at 269a Archway Road, opposite Highgate Tube, on the 263 bus route. It is also a live venue for shows and dance. Call the Box Office on 0181 341 4421 for details.

Richard Littlejohn and Jackson's Lane

By Daphne Chamberlain

Richard Littlejohn, that well-known social commentator, recently developed an urge to visit a church hall. Full of happy anticipation, he picked up the activities brochure for Jackson's Lane Community Centre - and his hopes were extinguished.

"Whatever happened to whist drives and bring-and-buy sales?" he asked his Daily Mail readers. "This is a portrait of a society based on self-obsession, New Age nonsense and spiritual and sexual incontinence."

Mr Littlejohn cited courses such as Irish step dancing, African drumming and circus skills - "Three of our most popular and long-running classes," confirmed Jackson's Lane Press Officer, Nick Read. "Since the article we've had quite a few new enquiries".

Mr Littlejohn is concerned that patrons of the Centre have

no sense of their own identity. They may even want to learn the Argentinian tango! I can reassure him on one point, though. So far, none of the classes have got mixed up.

I wondered what else the "sexually confused and quasi-educated" of Archway Road were doing this autumn. A good many of them are planning a Christmas Day party for pensioners and registered disabled. Jackson's Lane Centre has arranged these Christmas parties for the last 21 years. Anyone interested in attending or helping should ring 0181 340 5226.

Phoenix Film Competition

Compiled by Anthony Tuck, with thanks to Phoenix General Manager, Dennis Crowley

The Phoenix is offering two free tickets to the FIRST person to answer two movie questions on stirring sea sagas:

1. Who played the model aeroplane designer in the film: THE FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX?
2. Which State of the USA was the setting of the film: THE PHOENIX CITY STORY?

The FIRST PERSON to present the coupon with the correct answers to the PHOENIX CINEMA Box Office wins two free tickets for any show Tuesday to Thursday.

Good luck!

Answers plus the winner's name and address will be published in next month's Archer.

Answers to November Archer/Phoenix film competition

1.....
2.....
NAME:.....
ADDRESS:.....

ANSWERS TO OCTOBER QUIZ

1. TERENCE STAMP made his screen debut in a film adaptation of the Herman Melville sea story, BILLY BUDD.
2. GREGORY PECK played Captain Ahab in MOBY DICK.

Congratulations to M. RANDALL of 33 Summerlee Gardens, N2 who chipped in JOHN BARRYMORE who played Ahab in the 1930 film version.

The Archer Quiz

Devised by Adam and Lynn Fidler

A little quiz where each answer contains either the word East or Finchley (but mainly East).

1. A film about Paradise
2. American river
3. A great tea trading company
4. "Dead, dead and never called me mother"
5. Forgotten country ravaged by murderous regime
6. Teeny pop group and London post code
7. Village near Exeter or suburb of New York City
8. Novelty Trad-Jazz hit in 1960s
9. "Make my day, punk!"
10. Underground station not on the Northern Line
11. Rudyard Kipling quote (including reference to Samuel Clemens!)
12. Place that is Close to the Court in the Park down the Lane O by the Way

- Answers
1. East of Eden
 2. East River
 3. East India Company
 4. East Lyme
 5. East Timor
 6. East 17
 7. East Village
 8. Finchley Central
 9. Clint Eastwood
 10. East Acton
 11. "Oh, East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet"
 12. Finchley

RICHARD ANTHONY

Quality Hair Stylists

15% off

styling products with this advert

202 High Road, N2 9AY
0181 442 1888

MUSWELL HILL BOOKSHOP

Now holds regular author readings and discussions. If you would like further information or to join our mailing list contact us at:



72 FORTIS GREEN ROAD, N10
0181-444 7588



SHOE SURGEON

THE SHOE REPAIR SPECIALIST

ALL REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN:

- Cowboy boot restoration
- Orthopaedic
- Shoe stretching
- Handbag repairs
- Key-cutting, dog & cat discs

110 High Road,
East Finchley,
LONDON N2 9DH
Tel: 0181-444 1092

20% off
with this voucher
on
all repairs

Cootes

PHARMACY

Watch straps and batteries
now sold and fitted

134 High Road, East Finchley, London N2 9ED Tel: 0181-883 0073