



LETTERS

Parking Mad

Dear Sir
Re: Car Parking in East Finchley/Baronsmere Road Traffic Scheme

While I appreciate that the residents of Baronsmere Road are finding life easier with the new Traffic Scheme, those of us who now have to gain access to the High Road via the junctions of Fortis Green and either Summerlee Avenue or Park Hall Road have to contend with selfishly parked cars on the junctions which, like Fortis Green before the zebra crossing was installed, are accidents waiting to happen.

The lack of commonsense shown by the council's Highways Department appals me. They have provided yellow lines on the corners of the minor roads but because they have not included the junctions with Fortis Green, cars park to the very edge of the corners thus blocking sight lines into Fortis Green and reducing these two-way roads to one lane. At Neighbourhood Watch Convenor Meetings the police tell us they are powerless to intervene - this is a Council matter not a police one. If the problem is a meeting of borough boundaries - Barnet and Haringey - don't the councils speak to each other?

If other residents in the area feel as I do, can we get a campaign going through the columns of *The Archer*, which has become a voice of some influence in the area during its relatively short existence.

Surely the cost of the yellow paint needed to put round these corners is less than the £25,000 cost of providing a zebra crossing and could be found in the £90,000 budget which Barnet has for minor road works. I would have thought these junctions would come under the category of potential danger spots to be prioritised, but if they can't afford the paint in its current budget, can *The Archer* start a fund to pay for it! As Daphne Chamberlain says in your January issue, "What price life?"

Joyce M. Arram
Neighbourhood Watch Convenor, Summerlee Gardens, N2.

Haringey's proposed CPZ in N2/N10

Dear Sir,

Martin Brophy exists. Honest! In the January edition of *The Archer* Jane Kleiner of Shakespeare Gardens asks for the whereabouts of Martin Brophy, leader of the recently created organisation, Muswell Hill Against the CPZ (controlled parking zone).

The implication of her remarks is that he does not exist. She wrote: "I've never heard of Mr Brophy. Where does Mr Brophy live? Is he in one of the affected roads?" Let me assure Ms Kleiner that he really does. He is a larger than life character heralded recently in the Muswell Hill Journal as a folk hero "a kind of Citizen Smith." Now, I know that Citizen Smith was a piece of fiction, but Martin was alive, well and very articulate when I wrote the article that appeared in December. He lives in Muswell Avenue, N10, telephone 020 8442 0496, email Martin@bear-

art.demon.co.uk. His road is targeted in Haringey Council's proposed CPZ scheme for Muswell Hill and parts of East Finchley.

I know he will not mind me releasing his address because he is using his home as the HQ for his new organisation and has already published many documents against the CPZ bearing that address. He has arranged public meetings, organised petitions, published leaflets believing that Haringey Council should not impose the CPZ in Muswell Hill as it has done in other areas of the borough. The council should postpone it, put in more research and work more closely with residents to find the most suitable solution.

As a resident of Fortis Green Avenue when I wrote the article, let me say I heartily agreed with him. If my opinions showed in the article written in my name as well as those of Martin, then good! But they were the opinions of the writer only and not the editor.

The CPZ questionnaire was put through the letterbox of my former home in Fortis Green Avenue last summer which I read and it made me furious. Its questions were written in such a way that by answering them a respondent was in fact endorsing the scheme. That's my view; it's not your view - and not necessarily the editor's.

Anyway, Ms Kleiner, let East Finchley have your views through *The Archer*. After all, a prime purpose of the paper is to be a vehicle for local people's views (and ex-locals! - if relevant to East Finchley). Now's your chance.

Yours etc
Paul Savill, Wales.

Warne memorial

Dear Sir,

Thank you for publishing Jessie Tanner's letter. It brought back many memories. My family moved to Hertford Road in 1946, when I was very young, but I can follow Mrs. Tanner's route along the High Road as if it were yesterday.

The entire High Road frontage between Hertford Road and Bedford Road was totally destroyed by the landmine, save for the Black Bess café, providing a play area that was The Alamo one day and a German bunker the next. I remember a brick bomb shelter being demolished there. One huge difference between the county roads then and now was the almost total absence of cars. We were only rarely interrupted in our games of football and cricket, played across the road with front gardens doubling as goals and stumps. Broken windows cost 7/6d!

The sweetshop next to Gibbs was Plummer's. My mother used to work at Gibbs and I had my first job, aged 10, at Pryce Bevan's, making lard in a cauldron at the back of the shop. A little further on was the Home and Colonial shop.

I did a paper round for Mrs. Pacey's newsagents (I believe she died recently, aged 98) and I also worked at C.W. Andrew's chemist shop after school for one shilling (5p.) an hour. I was very interested in chemistry then, and I was allowed (completely illegally, I'm sure) to dispense

prescriptions, including medicine for Owen Brannigan, a very famous opera singer in the 1950's. Near to Pacey's was Pearson's ironmonger's shop, with hundreds of small drawers containing every conceivable hinge, screw etc. I'm sure that Mrs. Tanner would also remember Chapel Street, which cut through to the playground near what was Merry Miller's bakery and Avenham Road, off Market Place.

Yours faithfully,
Roy Warne

Driven to distraction

Dear Sir

The blessed relief of the weekend of our street free of commuter parking comes to an abrupt end on Monday morning. It is nearly impossible to get my own car out of the garage onto the street for the obstruction of the commuter-parked cars. In the evening I watch them get into their cars with a smirk of satisfaction that they have saved parking fees and managed to ruin the peace of mind of the people in front of whose garages they have parked.

I leave notes on their windscreens telling them how awkward they make my entry and exit from my driveway and rarely do those repeat their offence. Some actually park across my driveway and for these I inform the police, who politely tell me that it is not within their concern and that their "resources" (I think they mean their personnel) are so stretched that they cannot deal with this nuisance but that I should complain to Barnet Council, which I do with the same result.

Can any of your readers suggest, or join with me in demanding, a solution.

The Archer, as always, is a good read, may it always be so in 2001.

Sincerely
Jack Shapiro
Brim Hill, N2.

Have you heard?

Dear Sir,

We have just chanced upon a small poster in the window of the Bald Faced Stag, informing us that they have applied for a late-night music and dancing licence. They want to remain open till midnight on Thursdays, and 1 am on Fridays and Saturdays.

Obviously, we are all very concerned, knowing about the volume that their speakers can reach, and all the other likely unfortunate consequences.

We have written to the Environmental Health Section (Entertainments Licensing) at Barnet House, 1255, High Road, Whetstone, N20 0EJ, outlining our grounds of opposition. Unfortunately, the deadline for objections was Saturday 17 February, although they will consider letters after that date.

Is this something *The Archer* could campaign about? We'd appreciate it if you could find space for this in the paper. We doubt if many people know about it.

Concerned Residents of Diploma Court
(Names supplied)

Any reader who feels strongly about any matter is invited to use this "Soapbox" column.

Please note that opinions expressed are those of the writer alone.



Little monsters

By Jane Needham

East Finchley is under siege - or so it seems!
In the space of ten days, pupils from Bishop Douglass School have smashed the windows of the homes of two of my immediate neighbours and all the windows of a neighbour's car, which had been left parked untaxed in the street.

Over the years we have had graffiti painted on our walls and fences on an almost daily basis, rubbish thrown into our gardens, fences kicked down, shrubs pulled up and bins set alight.

But how do we know who the perpetrators are? Quite simple - the children are almost invariably in uniform, bold as brass, on their way to the tube station at the end of the school day.

No respect

As a child I was taught to respect others and their property. These are supposedly children from good homes in an affluent part of London with a promising future ahead of them. So what is so wrong with their lives that they feel the need to cause such wanton destruction?

Childish pranks are always to be expected, but when they start causing a danger to the public and result in the elderly and vulnerable being afraid to leave their homes in the middle of the afternoon, something must be done.

Open all hours

Dear Editor

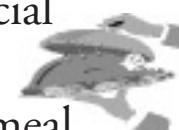
The Bald Faced Stag on the corner of the High Road and East End Road has applied for a late night music and dance licence. If they get this it will mean it will be open Thursdays until midnight, and Fridays and Saturdays until 1am. This is going to attract people from all other areas when their local pub closes.

They are going to be renovating the building and I have been told by Mr James from the Environmental Health Department that they are going to be putting in sound proof walls which only means they must be planning the pub to become a night club.

This will not only attract more people to the area, but there's a great chance of disturbance e.g. fighting and also damage to property as well as litter and graffiti.

Please help!
Worried resident
(name and address supplied)

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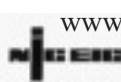
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