THE ARCHER - 08717 334465



Farmers' market is back

By Daphne Chamberlain East Finchley Farmers' Market is starting up again on the first Sunday in March.

Organiser Wayne Atkinson wants to thank everyone who supported the market last year, and apologises for not updating his information banner outside Martin Primary School.

He told us: "I know some people turned up in January. expecting that we would follow straight on from the advertised autumn markets. I should have put up another notice to prevent this, and I'm really sorry that

those people were disappointed and inconvenienced.'

Wayne is changing his schedule from the second Sunday in the month to the first. So the next market will be on Sunday 2 March, in the Martin School playground. The programmed time is from 10am to 2pm, but the earlier you arrive the better the choice.

Wayne can be contacted on 07757 980 848 or at info@green-artisan.org.uk.

Not a pretty sight

By Diana Cormack

"What a welcome to East Finchley!" commented Eugenia von Piccardio when she brought THE ARCHER's attention to the state of the newspaper stands outside the tube station.

Over the years these have increased in number to 15 on the pavement by the High Road pedestrian controlled crossing. Their contents offer a range of subject matter that varies in popularity, leading to some stands being emptier than others. Many of these partially empty stands are being used by people who seemingly ignore the litter bin at the end of the row of stands as well as two others nearby on the station's concourse.

Discarded bottles, cigarette packets, food containers and their contents, in fact anything which belongs in a litter bin can end up either in one of the stands or on the surrounding pavement.

This is the footway used by bus and tube passengers who may have come to East Finchley to visit the Phoenix or the Noble Sage Art Gallery, to eat in one of our restaurants or shop in one of our speciality shops.

"It is not very nice for visitors or locals to look at,"



What a loada rubbish! Photograph by Diana Cormack

Eugenia said. At the time of writing a phone call was made to Barnet Customer Services, which said they would try to

clear up the problem. It is hoped that this will discourage people from putting their litter in the wrong place.

GEMINI PHOTOGRAPHIC

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On your marks

Sales shopping and Christmas gifts may mean you have new and possibly expensive items in your home. How can you make your property safe?

Property marking deters thieves and helps the police return stolen property. Valuable items carrying an indelible identification are harder to sell on and, if found, police can trace them straight back to you.

First identify those items that can be safely marked and are of value to you; include any treasured possessions regardless of their cost.

Then, using a permanent etching tool or an Ultra Violet (UV) pen, write your postcode and house or flat number, or the first two letters of the house name. UV pens are preferable if etching would reduce the value of the item, but when exposed to sunlight for a long time the UV mark will fade and can also be washed off certain items.

Ceramic marking pens will work on glass, china or any glazed surface. They do not cut or scratch the surface but leave a permanent mark. UV pens, ceramic markers and etching equipment can be found in the home security sections of most DIY stores In addition, note the serial numbers of all TVs, videos, audio systems, computer and camera equipment and keep the numbers in a safe place together with make and model numbers.

a ruler next to the item to indicate size. Make sure the light is good and the item is in focus. You don't have to give a name and address when getting the photos developed in a shop.

Keep the photographs in a safe place or ask a close friend or relative to look after them for you. Do not send them to the police unless any of your items has been stolen.

Finally, remember to mark property in your shed or garage using these methods.

Into the woods

Ray Poole, Manager of Highgate Wood for the past 15 years, retired last month.

www.cityoflondon.gov.uk.

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Under his stewardship, Highgate Wood won the prestigious Green Flag award. The Highgate Wood Events Diary for 2008 is now on display at the park gates, and on the website. Type 'Highgate Wood' into a search engine, or visit the Living Environment and Open Spaces section at

Security snaps

Marking jewellery and antiques is difficult and could reduce their value; instead, take photographs. Use a nonreflective background and put

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