

**JEREMY LEAF & CO.**

Professional Sales & Lettings  
AT COMPETITIVE RATES  
020 8444 5222  
eastfinchley@jeremyleaf.co.uk

Local News is our Aim

# THE ARCHER



**GLH**  
020 8883 5000  
CARS & COURIERS

December 2009 No. 194  
ISSN 1361-3952

**20p**  
where sold

*A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.*



The Archer calendar 2010 is on sale now. Dave Pearson's photo of East Finchley Station in the snow is January's picture. Turn to page 3 to find out where you can buy your calendar.

## Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year

The Archer team would like to wish all our readers and advertisers a very merry festive season and a happy and prosperous 2010.

Special thanks to all our contributors in 2009 and to the army of volunteers who distribute the paper to almost 10,000 homes across East Finchley each month.

**Prime Locations** .....The Right Choice

Estate Agents - Valuers - Residential Sales - Lettings - Management - Cyprus Properties  
40 High Road East Finchley London N2 9PJ Tel: 020 8883 9090 Fax: 020 8883 8580  
Email: enquiries@primelocations.co.uk Website: www.primelocations.co.uk

Call us for a Free Valuation. Family Business you can Trust.

**EVERYTHING ELECTRICAL**

For a friendly professional service  
call us free on 0800 279 3463

MERRY XMAS  
TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS

38 High Road, East Finchley, London N2 9PJ  
www.everything-electrical.com

**PRICKETT & ELLIS** ESTD 1766

82 High Road  
East Finchley  
N2 9PN

020 8883 0033

highroadn2@prickettandellis.com

Estate Agents and Valuers. Established 1767

## People's protest heads off parking changes

By John Lawrence

**The force of the protests against plans to extend parking restrictions around East Finchley High Road has led Barnet Council to scrap the proposals and leave the Controlled Parking Zone unchanged.**

More than 2,000 people signed a petition against the plan to extend parking restrictions from one hour a day to eight hours a day. Dozens more wrote directly to the council to complain, and many traders and residents voiced their concerns at a local forum meeting.

Barnet Council says it recognises the strength of feeling against the changes and the claim that they could seriously affect businesses in the High Road, and will therefore keep the status quo.

### Lucky Friday 13

Dino Loizou, of East Finchley Electrical, who spearheaded the campaign, said: "Everyone is ecstatic and so relieved. If this had come in, it would have made life difficult for shoppers and residents, and wrecked the livelihoods of many traders."

Continued on page 3

## Archie's Olympic status

Archie has been chosen as a London landmark for the 2012 Olympic Games. Your votes meant the much-loved statue atop East Finchley station beat three other famous Barnet buildings and icons.

Six million people pass under Archie every year to use the station and he's one of the most dynamic statues in London so it's fitting that he won the public vote. He will be featured in a set of Landmark London pin badges, along with other icons from the capital. They go on sale next year in time for Archie's 70th birthday.

The Archer statue topped a shortlist that included the Royal Air Force Museum in Hendon, St John the Baptist Church in Barnet and the Ancient Yew Tree in Totteridge.

### Giant huntsman

Unveiled by sculptor Eric Aumonier in July 1940, Archie points his arrow towards the 17.3-mile Northern line tunnel, which runs all the way to Morden. Originally there was a matching arrow at Morden station, but it was stolen not long after the station was opened.

Standing 10-foot tall, Archie was intended to commemorate



Iconic Archie. Photo by Rob Steinberger

Finchley's ancient association with hunting in the nearby Royal Forest of Enfield.

Barnet's Cabinet member for Community Services, Cllr Richard Cornelius, said: "I think Barnet's residents have made a very appropriate choice to mark the London Games. They have chosen a well-loved local landmark seen by thousands every day, which depicts one of the oldest sports to be represented at the Games."

Jeff Ellis, general manager for the Northern line, London Underground, said: "We're very proud that a landmark on top of one of our London Underground stations is going to celebrate the London 2012 Games."

**VICTORY AUTO SERVICES**

**Air-Conditioning - Recharge & Servicing**

Mechanical repairs, tyres,  
bodywork, clutches, exhausts  
MOTs by appointment

109 Fortis Green East Finchley London N2 9HR  
Tel: 020 8883 9707 / 0023 Fax: 020 8482 9179

Royal Motor Industry Federation

• Visit your community newspaper on-line at [www.the-archer.co.uk](http://www.the-archer.co.uk) •





## THE ARCHER

PO Box 3699  
LONDON N2 8JA

WWW.THE-ARCHER.CO.UK

e-mail: THE-ARCHER  
@LINEONE.NET

**Voicemail & Fax:**  
(messages only)

Editorial/enquiries: -  
**08717 33 44 65**

Advertising/finance: -  
**08717 33 45 28**

**PUBLISHED BY**  
*East Finchley*  
*Newspapers*

**CHAIR**  
*Kevin Finn*

**COPY EDITOR**  
*John Lawrence*

**EDITORIAL TEAM**  
*Diana Cormack*  
*Daphne Chamberlain*

**SUB EDITORS**  
*Ann Bronkhorst*  
*Wendy Devine*  
*Pam Kent*

**PRODUCTION EDITOR**  
*Alison Roberts*

**PICTURE EDITOR**  
*Mike Rubens*

**FINANCE &  
ADVERTISING**  
*John Dearing*

**DISTRIBUTION**  
*Toni Morgan*  
*Anna King*  
*Pam Kent*

**PRINTED BY**  
*Sharman & Co Ltd*

*Thank you to The Bald  
Faced Stag for providing  
us with a meeting place.*

*THE ARCHER team wishes  
to thank all the generous  
people who give up their  
spare time, in all weather,  
to deliver the paper for us.*

### Your contributions

If you have a story for us, please  
contact us at the above address.

Comments to THE ARCHER may  
be published unless clearly  
marked 'Not for publication'  
within the text.

### Copy deadlines

January issue: 11 December  
February issue: 15 January  
March issue: 12 February

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### Councils

**Barnet Council:**  
Admin/Town Hall 020 8359 2000  
Council Tax 020 8359 2608  
Recycling & refuse 020 8359 4600  
Primary Care Trust 020 8201 4700  
Benefits Agency 020 8258 6500  
Employment Service 020 8258 3900  
**Haringey Council** 020 8489 0000

### Leisure

**Alexandra Palace** 020 8365 2121  
**East Finchley Library** 020 8359 3815  
**Muswell Hill Odeon** 0870 505 0007  
**Phoenix Cinema** 020 8444 6789  
**Warner Cinema** 020 8446 9933

### Transport

**Nat. Rail Enquiries** 0845 748 4950  
**City Airport** 020 7646 0088  
**London Transport** 020 7222 1234  
**National Express** 08705 808080  
**Heathrow Airport** 0870 000 0123

### Hospitals

**Barnet General** 0845 111 4000  
**Coppetts Wood** 020 8883 9792  
**Finchley Memorial** 020 8349 7500  
**Oak Lane Clinic** 020 8349 7000  
**Royal Free** 020 7794 0500  
**St Luke's** 020 8219 1800  
**Whittington** 020 7272 3070

### Health Advice

**AIDSline** 020 8363 2141  
**Alcoholics Anonymous** 0845 7697555  
**Barnet MENCAP** 020 8203 6688  
**Cancer Support** 020 8202 2211  
**Carers' Line** 0808 808 7777  
**Drinkline** 0800 917 8282  
**Drugs Helpline** 0800 776600  
**MIND** 020 8343 5700  
**NHS Direct** 0845 4647

### OAP's Advice

**Barnet Age Concern** 020 8346 3511  
**Contact (N2)** 020 8444 1162

**Help the Aged** 0808 800 6565

### Crime

**Emergency** 999  
**Barnet Police** 020 8200 1212  
**Mus. Hill Police Stn.** 020 8808 1212  
**CrimeStoppers** 0800 555111  
**Victim Support** 0845 303 0900  
**East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood Team** 020 7161 9014

### Help & Advice

**Childline** 0800 1111  
**Disability Info Service** 020 8446 6935  
**E.F. Advice Service** 020 8444 6265  
**Gingerbread** 020 8445 4227  
**National Debt Line** 0808 808 4000  
**NSPCC** 0800 800500  
**Rape & Sexual Abuse** 020 8683 3300  
**Relate** 020 8447 8101  
**RSPCA Inspector** 0300 1234 999  
**Samaritans** 08457 909090  
**Refuge Crisis Line** 0870 599 5443

EAST FINCHLEY  
ADVICE SERVICE

42 Church Lane, London N2 8DT.  
Tel/Fax: 020 8444 6265

**General Advice.**  
Monday to Friday: 10am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4pm.

**Legal Advice.**  
Tuesdays: 7pm - 8pm.

**Councillors' Surgery.**  
Saturdays: 10am - 11.30am

### Community Services

❖ **Credit Union**, Green Man Community Centre 020 8883 4916  
❖ **Careers advice**, Green Man, Community Centre 020 8883 4916  
❖ **Toy library**, Muswell Hill 020 8444 0244/ 8489 8774

## Raid on cannabis factory in Durham Road

By Janet Maitland

**A cannabis factory was raided in Durham Road on 14 October. Police seized 30 plants and arrested a 25-year-old man and a 32-year-old woman who have been bailed pending forensic examination. The plants were growing in an upstairs bedroom with windows covered in plastic.**

"The police were there all night," said a neighbour. "The next day a team of officers filled an unmarked white truck with lights and fans."

"It's a wonderful result," said Safer Neighbourhood

Sergeant Andy Matthews. "Large quantities of illegal drugs have been prevented from getting to the streets. Thirty plants may not sound very much, but they have a street value of £24,000."

## Planning Applications

### Barnet Council

**Budgens Store, Viceroy Parade, High Road, N2**

Installation of two internally illuminated fascia signs and five window vinyl graphics.

**48 Church Lane, N2**

First floor rear extension.

**44 High Road, N2**

Conversion of first and second floors into two self-contained flats. Extension at second floor level.

**332 High Road, N2**

Single storey side and rear extension. New bin store to side.

**Land adjoining 37-39 Leslie Road, N2**

Demolition of existing garages and erection of a two-storey building comprising two self-contained flats plus rooms in roof space.

**304 Long Lane, N2**

Two-storey rear extension. Internal alterations to include conversion of third bedroom into WC and shower room.

**Newstead Children's Centre, 1 Fallows Close, N2**

Retention of doors on rear elevation. Installation of fascia signs.

**12 Rowan Walk, N2**

Alterations to roof involving dormer windows to both sides and rear. Conversion of garage to a habitable room with associated external alterations to the front.

**7 Summerlee Avenue, N2**

Single storey rear extension including formation of a patio area, following demolition of existing conservatory.

**9 The Bishops Avenue, N2**

New front entrance gates and brick wall to replace existing. New cycle and bin stores to front driveway.

**Turquoise, 42 The Bishops Avenue, N2**

Part demolition of wings to existing listed detached dwelling. Erection of new two-storey wings within similar height and cross section of original wings. Demolition of existing garage and outhouses and erection of new single storey ancillary facilities. New site entrance gates, bin store and forecourt paving. New doors and windows at ground floor and a new window to side facing 14 Rowan Walk at first floor level. Flat skylight over garage.

**Land Rear of 2 Market Place, Viceroy Close, N2**

Erection of three three-storey houses.

### Haringey Council

**37A Aylmer Parade, Aylmer Road, N2**

Conversion of existing maisonette located on two floors to form one one-bedroom flat and one two-bedroom flat, and conversion of loft into habitable space with insertion of three roof lights to front / rear of property.

**48 Aylmer Road, N2**

Erection of single storey rear ground floor extension, erection of rear dormer window and insertion of roof light to front roof slope.

**16 Shakespeare Gardens, N2**

Erection of single storey rear extension and erection of single storey side extension with alterations.

**23 Shakespeare Gardens, N2**

Installation of photovoltaic panels on rear flat roof of property.

**33 Springcroft Avenue, N2**

Erection of single storey rear extension.

## Limber up for the walk of the year

**The next Big Fun Walk in aid of the North London Hospice takes place on Sunday 21 March 2010. It's a great day out for family and friends who walk almost eight miles through London's most beautiful parks.**

There is no fee to join the walk but you must register in advance and every adult is asked to raise at least £25 in sponsorship or donations.

Last year, the hundreds of walkers who took part brought in more than £137,000 to support the vital work of the hospice, based in Whetstone. It provides medical and social care and support for patients with terminal illnesses and support for their family and carers.

No charge is made for the

hospice care and only about 22% of its £5.6million annual running costs are covered by the local authority.

The Big Fun Walk sets off from East Finchley station and finishes at Storey's Gate in Westminster. You can walk at your own pace and even take your dog.

Walkers can register online at [www.bigfunwalk.co.uk](http://www.bigfunwalk.co.uk) or by telephone on 020 8202 5586. Get signed up and start raising money now for this excellent cause.

## OSTEOPATHY

at

## The Twyford Practice

*Osteopathic consultation and treatments  
in Fortis Green, N2.*

**Robin Kiashek,**  
**Osteopath and Naturopath,**  
**Bsc (Hons), Ost Med.,**  
**N.D., M.R.N.**

**For appointments:**  
**please phone 020 8815 0979**  
**or visit:**

**[www.robinkiashek.co.uk](http://www.robinkiashek.co.uk)**  
**for further information**



## T'ai Chi & Qigong

**Wednesdays: 1.05-2.00pm**

(Trial session: £5. 12-week course)

at The Finchley Youth Theatre, 142 High Road, East Finchley, N2 9ED

James Drewe is a qualified teacher and has been practising t'ai chi for 34 years.  
He is Vice-Chairman of the Longfai Taijiquan Association

**[www.taiji.co.uk](http://www.taiji.co.uk)**

email: [james@taiji.co.uk](mailto:james@taiji.co.uk) phone: 020-888 333 08





# ARCHER Calendar

## 2010 on sale

**THE ARCHER Calendar 2010 is on sale now. There are 12 superb shots of life in East Finchley to enjoy all year round and, at just £5, it makes the ideal Christmas or New Year gift for family and friends.**

Thanks to Photobox.co.uk printing them free of charge, every penny made from the sale of the calendars will go to support the work of the Bobath Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy in East End Road. It provides therapy, treatment and emotional support for families affected by this debilitating condition.

### Buy your calendar now

Thanks to all the local traders who are selling the calendar. You can buy it along the High Road at the Black

Gull bookshop, Budgens, the Cherry Tree gift shop, Kokos, Lazooli, Tony's Continental, as well as the Lazy Sally kiosk in Cherry Tree Wood and at Village Vets and Coral Pharmacy in East End Road. Look out for **ARCHER** Calendar 2010 posters in shop windows.

Turn to page 15 and use our form to order by post. Send us your name and address, along with payment, and the calendar will be delivered straight to your door. Delivery is free.



Phil Bye took this picture of Oskar and Kasper at Fuel Lands Allotments. It is June's image in *THE ARCHER* Calendar 2010.



Decisions, decisions in Chorak by Sylvie Clarke is April's picture in our 2010 calendar.

## Children in Need supports Noah's Ark Children's Hospice

By Diana Cormack

**The Noah's Ark Children's Hospice was selected as one of only four charities in London to benefit from November's Children in Need appeal. The hospice's community outreach service provides life-limited youngsters and their families in north London and south Hertfordshire with vital support.**

This includes delivering care sessions involving specialist play workers, access to the guidance of a social worker and a family support volunteer programme. The development of services that can help families in their own homes is a priority and a siblings' programme and the provision of a bank of trained respite carers are planned.

During Children in Need week the family support programme featured in several television news broadcasts. Last year, on its very first application, it received a grant to be spread over three years.

### Expansion plans

The anticipated telethon funding comes at a significant time for one of the charity's long term aims, namely the ability to complement its community based support by offering families access to

services within a hospice.

To this end they have recently tendered for a site and are finalising the legal processes. By the end of this year they hope to take possession of the land occupied by the Denis Bland Nature Reserve in Byng Road, Barnet.

Lorraine Feldman, press officer for Noah's Ark, told *THE ARCHER*: "It is incredible for us, just looking at where we are and where we've been. This will really make a difference to all our families."

Noah's Ark is selling Christmas cards and alternative presents and their funds are being helped by a charity performance of Pinocchio at the Chickenshed Theatre on 8 January. For more information and offers of help visit [www.noahsarkhospice.org.uk](http://www.noahsarkhospice.org.uk), phone 020 8449 8877, or email: [info@noahsarkhospice.org.uk](mailto:info@noahsarkhospice.org.uk)

## CPZ plans scrapped

Continued from page 1

He was told of the council's decision when he and a group of traders and residents met with council leader Mike Freer and cabinet member for environment and transport Councillor Andrew Harper on, of all days, Friday 13 November.

Councillor Harper said later: "The leader and I had a meeting with a cross section of traders and residents and the overwhelming consensus was to maintain the status quo. We're happy to go along with their views, as that, let's face it, is the point of consulting."

### Downcast down south

However, the situation for residents in roads south of Fortis Green is not so clear. Many wanted the all-day CPZ

around their homes to be rolled back to a 2pm-3pm restriction. This is not currently part of the council's plans and residents look likely to have to wait some time for a full consultation process.

The current 10.30am-6.30pm restrictions were introduced three years ago to deter visitors to The Institute from taking residents' parking spaces. Many say this has never been a major problem and a one-hour restriction to deter commuters is sufficient.

## Council spending online

**Barnet Council is set to publish all its spending of more than £500 online. Councillors have agreed that expenditure should be published quarterly in arrears on the council's website during the next financial year, allowing residents to see how their money is being spent.**

## Nicky Sharp Osteopathy Clinic

**Cranial and Structural Osteopathy and Acupuncture**  
**All Major Insurers Accepted**

For consultations and appointments:

**Telephone: 020 8815 9433**

260 East End Road [www.nickysharposteopathy.co.uk](http://www.nickysharposteopathy.co.uk)

London N2 8AU e-mail: [info@nickysharposteopathy.co.uk](mailto:info@nickysharposteopathy.co.uk)



**KATHRYN SCORZA**  
**HYPNOTHERAPY**  
**SPIRITUAL HEALING**

Kathryn Scorza  
Registered Hypnotherapist and  
Spiritual Healer

Contact me for more information or to  
make an appointment

07703 404 839  
[kathryn@kathrynskorza.co.uk](mailto:kathryn@kathrynskorza.co.uk)  
[www.kathrynskorza.co.uk](http://www.kathrynskorza.co.uk)



## EAST FINCHLEY ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

would like to thank all our customers for their support over the last year and wish them a Happy Christmas & a Prosperous New Year.

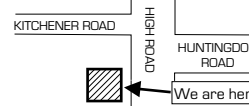


LOCAL COUNCIL  
APPROVED CONTRACTOR & RETAILER

For all your electrical needs in the home, we turn up on time, guarantee our work and are unbeatable value.

115 High Road London N2

Tel: 020 8444 5630 or email [sales@ef-elec.co.uk](mailto:sales@ef-elec.co.uk)



## Josephines

EXPERTS IN CREATIVE FLORAL DESIGN

**Hand Made Christmas Arrangements, Wreaths and Cards**  
**For the largest selection of flowers and plants in the area,**  
**Come join us at this Special Time of Year**

[www.josephinesflowers.co.uk](http://www.josephinesflowers.co.uk)

Tel: 020 8444 9569/020 8883 3598

60 High Rd, East Finchley, London N2 9PN







*Caged Light*, by Adam Justice-Mills, one of the art works inspired by the Phoenix Cinema. Copyright © 2009 Jodi Warren Photography.

## Artistic eye on the Phoenix

Artists from the East Finchley Open (EFO) group helped to raise cash for the Phoenix Cinema by staging a week-long exhibition.

People browsed the unique pieces of art and money raised from their sale was given to the cinema's restoration fund.

All the prints, drawings, paintings, sculptures and glass works had been inspired by a special event at the Phoenix when the EFO artists were allowed to wander at will, capturing any elements of the cinema that caught their eye.



*Phoenix Encounters* by Hazel Turvey, one of the artworks inspired by the Phoenix Cinema. Copyright © 2009 Jodi Warren Photography

## Could you be a key individual?

By Sergeant Andy Matthews

**The backbone of Safer Neighbourhood Policing is the key individual networks (KINs), people who are representative and influential within the local community. They let us know the feelings and concerns of local residents.**

We are always looking for people who are able to speak for others in the community. It could be your street, shop or workplace, playgroup, place of worship or youth group, and would only need a little of your time. We try to speak with all our KINs monthly and ask them to complete a questionnaire with us twice a year. To find out more please contact us (details below).

### New recruits

In late-summer, two new police officers joined the team in East Finchley: PC Eddie Rose and PC Eddie Man, fondly known as 'big' and 'little' Eddie.

Eddie Rose has 14 years' experience with the Metropolitan Police, working with the Territorial Support Group and the Crime Squad.

Eddie Man has been with the Met for 15 years, largely working in CID and Crime Squads and has accepted the new challenge of the SNT with great enthusiasm.

### Shield project

We are continuing to develop ways of protecting elderly and vulnerable residents from crime. The team uses its local knowledge and crime data to identify those at risk of crimes such as distraction burglaries, rogue traders and mail scams. Officers then make appointments to visit and provide advice and information about security and new crime trends. Immediate neighbours are also contacted to raise awareness of vulnerable people living nearby. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this project, please get in touch.

The Safer Neighbourhood office is at 113 East Finchley High Road, N2 8AG. You can phone us on 020 7161 9014 or 07887 632767, email us at [EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk) or talk to the Police Community Support Officers you see on patrol.

## Be alert to 'police' scam

By Janet Maitland

**Barnet police have issued a warning about a new scam being carried out by thieves trying to steal bank and PIN details.**

Someone claiming to be a police officer rings and says they have been informed by the householder's bank that there has been fraudulent activity on their account. Then they say that a police officer will come to the address so the householder can hand over their bank card and PIN number. This is all a hoax.

Four such crimes have been reported so far and are being

investigated. The police advise anyone who receives such a call to ring off immediately and phone them on 0300 123 1212. They also remind everyone never to disclose their PIN number to anyone.

If you know of anything that could assist police in identifying the people carrying out this scam, call 020 8733 5033, or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## Burglar caught in the act

By Janet Maitland

**A 35-year-old man has been arrested and charged with burglary after a 999 call from a neighbour led to him being caught red handed.**

Police responded to the call within minutes and found the burglar in the kitchen. He had used a sledgehammer found outside to break into the property in West Finchley.

"This is an excellent example of how the public can help us catch offenders," said Detective Inspector John Cracknell. "It's also proof of why it's important to lock your tools away. If the sledgehammer hadn't been left outside, the suspect might never have attempted entry."

Police advice is to bring indoors tools, such as hammers, ladders and screwdrivers, which could be used by burglars, or lock tools in a garage or garden shed, where they cannot be seen.

## Support for lesbian and gay community

By Janet Maitland

**Barnet police have appointed a dedicated police sergeant to support lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) residents across Barnet in all matters related to policing.**

The appointment of Sergeant Adrian Ball means these residents now have an identifiable contact who understands any concerns they may have in dealing with the police.

He can be contacted on 020 7161 9010 or at [lgbt.barnet@met.police.uk](mailto:lgbt.barnet@met.police.uk)

## Don't be fooled by rogue traders

By Janet Maitland

**Every year thousands of people are fleeced by rogue door-to-door traders masquerading as professionals.**

"A good builder will never knock on your door asking for work, so never say yes to anyone on your doorstep touting for work," advise the Trading Standards Institute and the Federation of Master Builders (FMB).

If you do need work done on your home, first ask friends and neighbours for a recommendation. Alternatively, check the FMB website [www.fmb.org.uk](http://www.fmb.org.uk)/findabuilder or call the free-phone number 0800 152 522 for a FMB builder.

Be very specific about what needs doing and don't be afraid to ask for references. Get at least three quotes and make sure these include everything: materi-

als, removing rubbish and making good after the work is completed.

### Draw up a contract

It is also wise to draw up a simple contract so that there's a clear record of what's been agreed. Include a plan of what you will pay and when. Never pay the full cost up front. If possible, use a credit card to pay at least £101 of the contract price because this offers more protection. You can download a free sample contract on [www.fmb.org.uk/why/contractsNew/](http://www.fmb.org.uk/why/contractsNew/)

If you've been ripped off, or can't resolve a complaint about the work, contact Trading Standards on 08454 040506.



east finchley  
**smiles**  
expert general & cosmetic dentistry

**NHS CHECK-UPS £16.50**  
(this includes x-rays where necessary)

**NHS EXEMPT PATIENTS AND CHILDREN UNDER 18 ARE FREE**

**new NHS list now open**

member of the  
BDA and the BDHF



smile with confidence

**020 8444 3436**

144 The High Road, East Finchley, London N2 9ED  
[www.eastfinchleysmiles.co.uk](http://www.eastfinchleysmiles.co.uk)





# Buses at the crossroads?

By Daphne Chamberlain

**Just as East Finchley Bus Watch gathers influential allies and support across the board for another service along the High Road, Transport for London has announced a severe cut in its transport budget.**

Bus Watch Secretary Hazel Burnett spoke to *THE ARCHER* about this crisis in a long, hard campaign. She told us: "We are getting support from the Green Party, including London GLA member Jenny Jones, Labour and LibDem Finchley Parliamentary candidates Alison Moore (Barnet's Labour Leader) and Laura Edge, Barnet Conservatives' Cabinet member for Environment and Transport Andrew Harper, and Mayor Brian Coleman. With the London Mayor's cuts to the transport budget, though, we face a very hard battle.

"TfL now recognise us as a consultative group, but still deny the finding of their own Travelwatch that the High Road bus service is inadequate. I have lived in this area for 25 years, and have never found the High Road service satisfactory. I was always hearing complaints at bus stops, but nobody did anything about it."

## Six-year campaign

Joining Agenda 21's traffic section gave Hazel the push to call for a public meeting at the library in 2003. It was so well attended, and people had so many ideas, that East Finchley Bus Watch grew from it. Quite soon, it linked with West Haringey Bus Watch, who have had great success in helping improve the 102 and 234.

Hazel added: "We are fighting for everyone who uses the service. Non-drivers, commuters, people with no other form of transport, shoppers, hospital visitors, people with disabilities, people returning from an evening out who live a long way

from the Underground.

"So, please, East Finchley people, let TfL know your own factual experiences of waiting for just one service along this busy main road. The more letters that arrive on TfL desks the more attention we will get."

## Leader's support

One letter that may get attention has been written to

the Mayor of London by Cllr. Freer, Leader of Barnet Council at the request of Cllr. Harper, after the Bus Watch meeting. In his letter Cllr. Freer asks for TfL to look at improving public transport links in East and North Finchley

Contact Hazel on 020 8444 6824 if you want to help win the battle of the buses.



Miss Jamaica UK Jessica Ramsey-Thompson with her mum Noreen, left, and well-known Jamaican singer Marcia Griffiths. Photo by Allan Ramsey.

# Jessica takes the crown

**Fame came to Jessica Ramsey-Thompson very unexpectedly. She was shopping with a friend in central London when a talent scout stopped her and asked whether she'd considered entering the competition to find Miss Jamaica UK.**

Never scared of a challenge (she auditioned for The X Factor last year), Jessica, of Bancroft Avenue, thought she'd give it a go and ended up walking away with the crown. The 19-year-old graphic design student now has a busy year of foreign travel and promotional events ahead of her.

Miss Jamaica UK is a long-

established London-based competition open to young women with a Jamaican background. This year, 15 made it to the final line-up.

Jessica's dad Allan said: "She only got into the competition at the last minute to make up the numbers. She was very natural all the way through and I think that helped her win."

# I'm a celebrity, get me back to East Finchley!

East Finchley was well represented in the most recent series of TV jungle show *I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!* Model Sam Fox, who used to live in Lancaster Gardens, and actress Lucy Benjamin, who used to live in Fordington Road, were both among the contestants.

## Greene Driving School

East Finchley N2

From **£17.50** x 2 Hr lessons

**Safe driving for life**

**Low Co2 footprint 114**

**Eco & Low Maint Tuition**

**Pass Plus 4 cheaper**

**Insurance.** [Greenedriving.co.uk](http://Greenedriving.co.uk)

Call **John M.I.M.I**

**0773 851 4406**



# GEMINI PHOTOGRAPHIC



**For all your digital & film needs. Canvas, Poster prints, Personalised gifts, Including our new Xmas card range!**

58 High Road  
East Finchley,  
N2 9PN  
Tel: 020 8883 6152  
Fax: 020 8883 7761  
[thcgemini@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:thcgemini@hotmail.co.uk)

Technician in on Wednesdays 2.30-6pm  
Fridays & Saturdays 10-6pm  
**FREE** estimates on repairs, cleaning and servicing.

Wishing all our customers a very merry Christmas!



**Gentlemens Barbers**

Wish all their customers a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

50 High Road, East Finchley, London N2 9PJ

**t: 0208 815 5557**



Photo by Simon Dewhurst - courtesy of Barnet Council.

# Support for carers

**Do you look after someone who is disabled or ill, whatever their age, or an older person, but you are not a paid care worker? Then you are a carer and Caring with Confidence is for you.**

Part of the government's New Deal for Carers, this new programme in Barnet aims to help improve your health and wellbeing and that of the person you care for. It is designed to give support, advice and information and is a great opportunity to meet other carers and share experiences, whilst fitting around your life and caring responsibilities.

There are seven sessions to choose from. Each lasts three hours and covers different aspects of a carer's life. For

carers in Barnet aged 18 or over the programme is completely free, including lunch and, where needed, associated travel and respite costs. The sessions are in various venues with disabled access around the borough.

Find out more and book your place now. Call Adult Social Services on 020 8359 7863 or email [caringwithconfidence@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:caringwithconfidence@barnet.gov.uk). You can also visit [www.caringwithconfidence.net](http://www.caringwithconfidence.net) to do your sessions from home instead.

# Rogue trader warning

By Janet Maitland

**Barnet Trading Standards and Neighbourhood Watch has issued an alert about rogue traders operating in the borough. The two men claim to be builders, but charge huge amounts of money for either shoddy job or no work at all. They call themselves Phillip and Michael Delaney and drive a white van, registration number NA53 BFFV. Should you come across them, do not let them do any work and call the police on 0300 123 1212.**

**Do you have unwatched video footage of your children growing up or of special family events?**

**Let me take that footage and make you a film you'll want to watch again and again  
Perfect as a unique gift!**

To see examples of my films:  
[www.jonathansumbergfilms.com](http://www.jonathansumbergfilms.com)  
Tel: 020 8444 5175  
Mob: 07768 422466



# Finchley Carpet Cleaner

- Professional Carpet Cleaning
- Oriental Rug Cleaning
- Stain Removal

*Competitive Prices*



- Also We Do Removals

Tel: 020 8815 9508

Mob: 07930177510

# Do you suffer with bowel problems?

Cecilia Holmes R.G.N. R.C.T. is a trained nurse and colonic therapist. She can help.

Colonic Hydrotherapy treatments help with I.B.S. Constipation, headaches and candida problems. After a colonic you will have better energy levels.

Alternatively home visits are available to administer herbal enemas and massage, a gentler, but longer route to cleansing the bowel, but just as effective.

email: [colonicssc@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:colonicssc@yahoo.co.nz)

tel: 07533 750 400 or 020 8444 8702





# Keep warm, stay safe, be green

Age Concern Barnet is holding a Winter Warmer open afternoon at the Ann Owens Centre to give help, information and advice on energy efficiency and related issues.

There will be a presentation showing practical ways to stay warm and reduce your energy bills, and an information stand from the Community Police on how to guard against bogus callers.

You will be able to sign up for a free energy audit of your home by fully trained volunteers from the Community Volunteer Service and meet Barnet Council's sustainability team to find out about recycling in Barnet.

In addition there will be information on grants and

benefits available such as free loft and cavity wall insulation and winter fuel payments and some energy saving freebies provided by the energy company EON.

The afternoon runs from 1.45pm to 4pm on Thursday 10 December at the Ann Owens Centre in Oak Lane, N2. All over-55s and their families and carers are welcome.

For more information contact Amanda Radonich on 020 8432 1415 or amanda-finchley.acb@btconnect.com

## An easier winter for the elderly

Have you got a tap that needs fixing, curtains or blinds to put up or a lightbulb that needs changing? If the answer is yes, help could soon be at hand through the expansion of a scheme to provide practical "handyperson" help to older residents. Barnet Council is giving an extra £52,000 to the Age Concern Barnet's Handyperson Scheme. It provides repair work free of charge and customers only pay for any materials required.

Councillor Richard Cornelius, Cabinet Member for Community Services, said: "Very often, the way to keep someone feeling happy and safe in their home is down to simple house maintenance issues." To contact the Handyperson scheme, call 020 8203 5040.

**EAST FINCHLEY SCHOOL OF ENGLISH**

- Flexible course days and times
- Courses in General English & Exam Preparation
- Small classes with a good nationality mix

**FREE TRIAL LESSON**  
upon presentation of this voucher

\* This voucher cannot be exchanged for cash & ONLY one voucher can be used per person. Kindly contact the school beforehand to pre-book trial lesson.

Accredited by the  
**BRITISH COUNCIL** **ENGLISHUK** member

**www.efse.co.uk**

Southern House, 1a Bedford Road, East Finchley, London, N2 9DB  
t: +44 (0)20 8983 8567 f: +44 (0)20 8983 8567 e: mail@londonlanguageschool.co.uk

Seasons Greetings to all our customers

**The cherry tree**

Come and visit us for all your Christmas needs.

Gifts  
Cards  
Wrapping Paper  
Decorations...

Elegant and inspired gifts for all occasions



Hunk of burning love: not Mayor Brian Coleman but Elvis and guests at Home Instead

## Guests get all shook up

Elvis arrived in the building at Home Instead Senior Care in Finchley to celebrate their 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary. Barnet Mayor Brian Coleman, Mayoress Gladys Coleman and guests were treated to the fabulous singing talents of local Elvis impersonator Mario Kombou.

Home Instead Senior Care in High Road, N12, is owned and managed by Dale and Diana Bevington. Dale commented: "It appears that everyone

loves Elvis and it was great to see so many of our elderly clients joining in. We were really impressed: they put us to shame as they knew all the words!"

## Schools get festive

Two primary schools are getting ready to host their Christmas fairs. Holy Trinity School, in Eagans Close, will be opening its doors on Sunday 6 December from 12noon to 2.30pm and Martin Primary School, in Plane Tree Walk, on Saturday 12 December from 12noon to 3pm.

Holy Trinity will have games and activities, plenty of bargains to buy, the ever-popular tombola and a big-prize raffle, as well as fantastic home-made food. Father Christmas will be paying a visit too.

Martin Primary will have stalls, games and activities and plenty of treats from the international food table. There will be amazing items to bid for in a silent M-bay auction and, of course, Father Christmas will be there again.

## Christmas Services

### All Saints' Church

Sunday 20 December, Christmas Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies, 6.30pm; Christmas Eve, Thursday 24 December, Children's Christmas Service with Carols, 3pm, Sung Midnight Mass with Blessing of the Crib, 11.30pm; Christmas Day Friday 25 December, Mass of the Dawn, 8am, Sung Mass of the Day, 10am.

### St Mary's Catholic Church

Thursday 17 December, Advent Penitential Service & Sacrament of Reconciliation, 7.30pm; Sunday 20 December, A Service of Carols & Readings, 6.30pm; Thursday 24 December, Christmas Eve, Mass with Morning Prayer, 10am, Christmas Mass for Children & their Families, 6.30pm, Midnight Mass, preceded by carols, 11.30pm; Christmas Day Friday 25 December, Mass at 8.30am, 10am and 12noon; Saturday 26 December, St Stephen's Day Mass with Morning Prayer, 10am, Vigil Mass, Feast of the Holy Family, 6.30pm; Sunday 27 December, Feast of the Holy Family Mass at 8.30am, 10am and 12 noon.

### Holy Trinity Church

Sunday 20 December, Carol Service by Candlelight, 6pm; Thursday 24 December, Christmas Eve, Blessing of the Crib, 6pm, Midnight Mass, 11.30pm; Friday 25 December, Christmas Day, Christmas Mass, 10am.

### East Finchley Baptist Church

Sunday 20 December, All ages together Carol Service "Expect the unexpected", 10.30am, Carols By Candlelight, 6pm; Friday 25 December, Christmas Day, Christmas Morning Family Service, 10.30am.

### East Finchley Methodist Church

Sunday 29 November, Advent Sunday including lighting the Advent candle ring, 10.30am; Sunday 13 December, Christmas Gift Service for Deptford Mission and Homeless Action in Barnet, 10.30am; Sunday 20 December, Christingle service, 10.30am, Carols by Candlelight, 5pm; Friday 25 December, Christmas Day, Celebration Service, 10.30am.

## Pharmacies open over the holiday period

25 December, 10am-2pm: CW Andrews, 32 High Rd, East Finchley, N2 9PJ. Tel: 020 8883 1559.

28 December, 10am-2pm: Gordon Smith, 176 Long Lane, Finchley, N3 2RA. Tel: 020 8346 1917.

1 January, 10am-2pm: Cootes Pharmacy, 110-112 Ballards Lane, Finchley, N3 2DN. Tel: 020 8346 0051.

## Your chance to honour outstanding citizens

**Nominations for this year's Barnet Civic Awards have opened, giving people the chance to nominate an individual who they feel deserves recognition for their outstanding achievement and contribution to the borough.**

Now in their tenth year, the annual awards run by Barnet Council recognise the commitment and hard work of men and women living or working within the borough who regularly give up their own time to make a positive difference to the lives of others.

All nominees will receive a certificate, with those deemed to have made the greatest contribution to borough life presented with a framed vellum by the Mayor of Barnet at an awards ceremony in March 2010.

Nomination forms are available from Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, any of the borough's libraries, North London Business Park reception or by downloading a copy from [www.barnet.gov.uk/civic-awards](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/civic-awards). All entries must be received by 31 December.





# Plan for polyclinic expansion is blocked

By Janet Maitland

**Barnet Council has refused planning permission for a larger medical centre on East End Road. Cloverdale Estates, a property development company, were given permission for the centre last September, but then submitted plans for a much bigger building.**

The site of the planned centre is on Metropolitan Open Land, which has building restrictions similar to those applying to the Green Belt.

In November we reported that the Mayor of London had decided that the application did not comply with the London Plan for new developments. His objections were not about the size of the building, although the developers

want to make it twice as big. He was concerned about access, transport, parking and sustainability.

## Safeguarding Open Land

Similarly, Barnet Council has refused permission because sustainability issues were not properly addressed. However, the planning department was also concerned that the number of enclosed cycle parking places now required because of the increased size

of the centre would mean that the open character of the land would be spoilt.

"The important planning facts are that existing permission is for a centre of under 1,000 square metres, no higher than a single storey, and that the land is Metropolitan Open Land," said Councillor Colin Rogers.

Planning permission for a centre of under 1,000 square metres still stands.



Adam and his son Dylan.

## Guerillas on the loose

**Keep an eye out for this sign around East Finchley. If you see it next to a bed of neatly planted winter pansies or nestled in amongst the first crocuses, then it means N2's very own guerrilla gardeners have swung into action.**

A group of green-fingered but anonymous people have got together to bring a splash of colour to the drab and untended corners of our public spaces. When they find a spot that needs some tender loving care, they bring their own tools and



plants and set about giving it a natural makeover. Guerilla gardening is a growing trend across the UK as more people realise they can do something themselves to bring beauty to urban life. If you'd like to get involved yourself, contact the group by email at [n2gardeners@gmail.com](mailto:n2gardeners@gmail.com).

## Drugs raids net major haul

By Janet Maitland

**Drugs with a street value of £9,000 were seized by police during early-morning raids at three addresses on 29 October. Police were acting on intelligence received by the Safer Neighbourhood Team.**

One of the raids was at Cecilia Close, N2. "There were about 20 police with sniffer dogs," said a neighbour, who asked not to be named.

The largest quantity of drugs, mainly cannabis and cocaine, was found at a house in Regents Park Road. The other house raided was in Hale Lane, Mill Hill. No arrests were made.

"Although the suspect was not at any of the three addresses searched, the evidence has been secured," said Sergeant Andy Matthews of the Safer Neighbourhood Team. "I am confident that he will be apprehended in the near future. In the meantime his ability to deal drugs has been dealt a severe blow. This is a great example of the team listening to public concerns."

## Fathers reunited

By Diana Cormack

**Many parents find that, instead of the mother being the main carer, it suits their situation better for the father to take on this role. Adam Porter, of Leslie Road, thoroughly enjoys looking after his two-and-a-half year old son Dylan, but earlier this year he did have a problem and *THE ARCHER* came to his rescue.**

An article in our August edition featured Lydik Grynfeldt who, two months earlier, had set up a club for dads taking care of children while their partners were at work. It was just what Adam was looking for.

### Minority men

He said: "When I went to playgroups I felt like an outsider; I felt uncomfortable with some of the women there because I was in the minority and I still am." Adam met Lydik at the Methodist Church Toddler Group, which scored top marks in a London survey for being father-friendly. He joined The Dads' Club and shortly afterwards, when Lydik went back to work, he took over its running.

Apparently there are only three such groups in the capital and East Finchley has the largest. It is for full or

part-time carers and provides friendly and informal contacts for Muswell Hill and Highgate too, with activities being held in these areas. Cherry Tree Wood is a favourite spot but winter weather means that the club needs an indoor venue. Newstead Children's Centre in Fallows Close has offered a share of its premises at weekends, but this is usually when families spend the most time together.

On the day of his interview with *THE ARCHER* Adam, who describes himself as a full-time dad, appeared on Channel Five's "Live from Studio 5" to give his views on Wayne Rooney's self-confessed lack of nappy-changing skills. He sees the club as a social network that can give help and support to first-time fathers and to those with young children. It also helps children to socialise. Find out more by contacting him on 07957 441 435 or at <http://thedadsclublondon.blogspot.com>



Thank you for your support this year



**BOBATH CENTRE**  
FOR CHILDREN WITH CEREBRAL PALSY

[www.bobath.org.uk](http://www.bobath.org.uk)

Registered Charity 229663

The Bobath Centre, 250 East End Road, London N2 8AU

### Midhurst Butchers

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

2 Midhurst Parade,  
Fortis Green, London N10  
Tel. 020 8883 5303

### TELEPHONE FAULTS REPAIRED

50% CHEAPER THAN BT \* the POST OFFICE \* TALK TALK etc  
HOME \* OFFICE \* FACTORY  
LINES \* EXTENSIONS \* EQUIPMENT - TESTED & REPAIRED

Call RON COLLINS 0208 883 9325 \* 07748 278728  
email: [roncallsaver@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:roncallsaver@yahoo.co.uk)

### Counselling and Psychotherapy - Space for Thinking

Experienced NHS Practitioner - supervised  
Provides confidential therapy dealing with depression, anxiety,  
trauma, abuse, relationship issues and many more...

Offers short and long term therapy.

Free initial consultation and competitive rates.

[dragana\\_savcic@hotmail.com](mailto:dragana_savcic@hotmail.com) tel: 020 8292 9480 mob: 077 3955 8155

### CASH FOR TRASH



Do you want to sell your old stuff on eBay and turn it into cash?  
Are you mystified or worried?  
Let me help you whether it's a car  
(we usually get better than dealer prices)

unwanted items such as cameras, computers, jewellery, furniture or even designer clothes.

I work on a no sell no fee basis.

Why not email or

call me for a free chat.

Tony Joseph

07957 494573 - 0208 883 7296

e: [tonyjoseph99@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tonyjoseph99@yahoo.co.uk)





# Masters of watchmaking

Michael Clerizo is an American writer who has lived in East Finchley since the late 1980s. In October his book *Masters of Contemporary Watchmaking* was published by Thames & Hudson (£55.00) Over a cup of tea, Roger Stone asked Mr Clerizo a few questions.



## Why a book about watchmakers?

Most people know about big watch brands like Rolex and Patek Philippe. Not many people know that there are still a few people out there who can make a watch from scratch, working on their own or with a few others in a small workshop. It's those people I wrote about.

## How did you go about writing the book?

I visited the watchmakers, interviewed them, spent time in their workshops. I tried to get under their skin and find out what makes them tick. That's a bad pun but very much intended.

## Did you spend a lot of time in Switzerland?

Yes, but I also wrote about watchmakers in Spain, France, Germany, Hungary, Finland. Something most people in this country don't know is that for 150 years London was the world centre of watchmaking. The Swiss used to mark their watches "Made in London" because that's where the best watches were made.

## When did that happen?

About 1650 to 1800. The point is that this great tradition is continued in the work of two watchmakers: George Daniels who is now in his 80s and Roger Smith who is in his late 30s. They both live on the Isle of Man.

## How long did it take you to write the book?

About a year to research and write. After that, finding all the images and working with a designer named Aaron Hayden at Thames & Hudson took almost another year. The book has 672 illustrations and 493 are in colour. And it's big, about a foot square and weighs a little over five pounds. Putting together a book about watches takes time. Sorry about the second bad pun!

### LEASEHOLD REFORM HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACT 1993

2, Netherfield Road, Finchley, London N12 8DP

A person claiming to be the Freeholder or Successor in Title to either Mr. James Joyce or Mrs. Gemma Joyce should contact:

Forsters LLP  
31 Hill St.  
London W1J 5LS

Ref: JMR/CAR/25865.8

### ALL SAINTS CHURCH

35a Durham Road, East Finchley,  
London N2 9DP

#### Sunday 20 December

6.30 pm Christmas Carol Service  
*followed by mulled wine and mince pies*

#### Christmas Eve

3.00 pm Children's Christmas  
Service with Carols

11.30 pm Sung Midnight Mass  
*with Blessing of the Crib*

#### Christmas Day

8.00 am Mass of the Dawn

10.00 am Sung Mass of the Day

Vicar: Fr Christopher Hardy SSC  
020 8883 9315

[www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk](http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk)



Art Society President Henry McMillan with his painting, 'Congratulations'. Photo by Daphne Chamberlain.

## Diamond of a show

By Daphne Chamberlain

**Congratulations to Finchley Art Society on celebrating its 60th anniversary with a diamond of an exhibition. The Society is open to anyone who paints, in any style or medium, as a hobby or professionally.**

It was started by Paul Smyth, who started painting at the age of seven and had his work hung in the Royal Academy. By the age of 65, he had completed 4,000 pictures, of which 280

can be viewed online. Opening the current exhibition last month, his granddaughter Barbara Pearce said he would have been delighted that the Society is flourishing and how it has encouraged artistic talent in so many people.

### Art by all ages

As an art teacher, he would have been particularly thrilled by the stunning exhibits from children, one as young as five. These were from local schools, invited for the first time to contribute.

Other exhibitors included Henry McMillan, described by a colleague as "the backbone of the Society", who has held every post on the Committee and is the current President. The Society arranges exhibitions twice a year, painting

days out in the summer and an annual coach outing to houses or gardens of interest.

Trinity Church Hall in Nether Street, North Finchley is the Society's base, and visiting artists give monthly demonstrations there. It is also open to both members and interested enquirers on Monday evenings, when a model, who can be anyone in the community, and a still life are available to paint.

Meetings on Wednesday afternoons are at St Mary's Church Hall, Hendon Lane, N3.

For details, contact Pam Taylor on 020 8349 4991 or at [pamtay@gmail.com](mailto:pamtay@gmail.com), or visit [www.finchleyartsociety.org.uk](http://www.finchleyartsociety.org.uk). To discover more about Paul Smyth and his work, visit [www.finchleygallery.com](http://www.finchleygallery.com).

## Double celebration for Guides

By Ellie Franklin

**In October, 4<sup>th</sup> East Finchley Guides celebrated 100 years of Guiding across the world. We also celebrated our own unit's first birthday. We can't believe we have been going for a whole year. I've been coming since the first night.**

Guide leaders Toni, Kristy, Amy and Lucy planned the party and made it a fun night for all.

Everyone got involved and brought a treat so there was lots of food. Parents, siblings and Guides were invited and joined in the evening's activities. It was a very exciting night. We had displays of the activities we have done in the past year and the different guiding connections in all our families.

To commemorate the occasion Councillor Mike Freer planted a tree in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church and unveiled a plaque detailing the special milestones. Cllr Freer had donated £500 to the unit (and others in Barnet) to spend on celebrations for the Guiding centenary. As well as the party, 4<sup>th</sup> East Finchley Guides spent some of the money on a behind-the-scenes tour of CBBC.

One of our centenary activities was a project learning about the Railway Children, a charity for runaway children. We learned about their work, why children run away and raised £73 for them. Find out more at [www.railwaychildren.org.uk](http://www.railwaychildren.org.uk).

### East Finchley Baptist Church

Just off the High Road in Creighton Avenue N2 9BD



**Sundays at 10.30 am**

**Come & Celebrate Christmas with us!**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

**10.30am - 11.45am:**

**All Ages Together Carol Service**  
**"Expect the unexpected"**

**6pm - 7.15pm: Carols by Candlelight**

**Christmas Day (Fri. 25<sup>th</sup> Dec)**

**10.30am - 11.15pm**

**Christmas Morning Family Service**

For more information please contact  
the Church Office, Tel: 8883 1544 or visit  
our web site: [www.eastfinchleybc.org.uk](http://www.eastfinchleybc.org.uk)  
Minister: Simon Dyke

**Visitors always welcome**

East Finchley Baptist Church







## Coldfall calling

By Ann Bronkhorst

**Coldfall Wood feels far safer to visit now that there are encouraging notices, paths and bridges as well as more daylight. But if you do spot something anti-social or dangerous happening in the wood, whom should you call?**

Haringey Council has disbanded the previous Police Parks Constabulary and a new system is in place. Police officers with off-road motorbikes patrol all the Haringey parks, varying their routes and responding to calls when there are incidents, with further back-up from the Met when needed.

### Three numbers

In an emergency, the public are asked to phone 999. This might include, for example, a motorbike being ridden in the wood or on the field in a dangerous manner, stolen vehicles, and aggressive or criminal behaviour.

If a crime may have been committed but there is no emergency, phone 0300 123 1212;

for example, if a fence or building has been damaged but there is no sign of the culprits.

The Safer Neighbourhoods number, 020 8721 2506, should be used for long-term problems where just leaving a message on an answering machine would be sufficient. Examples might be people drinking on the field in growing numbers, or rough sleepers starting to use the wood.

Notices giving police contact numbers are displayed at several of the Creighton Avenue entrances. Carrying those numbers with you, along with your mobile, is good advice for walkers even though Coldfall Wood is crime free most of the time.

## Tudor School is transformed

**Tudor School has been busy improving its environment since the summer term. With the addition of a second Reception class to help Barnet Local Authority cope with the increased demand for places this September, a new mobile unit has been erected giving not just one new classroom but two.**

The second new classroom is being used for a variety of activities enjoyed by the whole school community. A weekly family numeracy group meets in there where parents and children can enjoy learning together and the children have opportunities to do creative work in a larger space.

The outdoor areas for Foundation Stage (ages three to five) children have been improved. Children in the Reception unit now have access to a larger, safe and enclosed outdoor learning space and the Nursery children are enjoying a new

canopy allowing them access to the outside all year round.

If you have a young child, visit the Nursery Open Afternoon on Monday 7 December from 1pm to 3pm to see what Tudor can offer or call the school in Queen's Road, N3, on 8 346 6010, to make an alternative appointment.

The main school has not missed out either. A total refurbishment of the shared area has created a self-contained library, with additional work-stations for children to work in groups. Improved ICT facilities have transformed the learning environment.

## Cat rescuers play the waiting game

By Betti Blatman

**During July, I tried to ignore a particular cat which was a persistent visitor to my garden. Then I noticed a kitten one day, two kittens the following day and then four kittens, which I couldn't ignore.**

As I've never had a cat or known much about them, I didn't have a clue what to do and contacted Animal Aid who sent their cat catcher within a few hours. I was advised to leave out food to establish a routine for the cat and kittens, which would assist in catching them, but it still took an entire week of daily visits by the cat catcher during sunshine, rain and thunder before they were found.

Late one night, after I'd held

a ladder for the cat rescuer to climb over the garden fence to locate the last missing kitten, it was eventually found and all were medically checked before being re-homed.

I was very impressed by the dedication and care shown to the cat and kittens and would highly recommend their service if you find yourself with a similar predicament. Contact Animal Aid and Advice at 48 High Road, London N2 9PJ or 020 8444 6290.

## Slimming club reaps rewards

**A slimming club is celebrating after being named the area's warmest and most friendly slimming group no less than seven times in 2009.**

The Slimming World group, which meets on Tuesdays at 5pm and 6.45pm at the East Finchley Baptist Church in Creighton Avenue, earned the accolades from the national organisation, which is itself celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Two members won the prestigious "Woman of the Year" award. They were Laura St Clair-Charles, who lost four stone to reach her target weight in October, and Stacey Sadler-Clark,



Above: finalists (6.45pm session) Beth Hickman, Nathalie Gillies and Nicky Kay with winner Stacey Sadler-Clark.

Left: finalists (5pm session) Samera Aidrus-Shaith and Betty Mason with winner Laura St Clair Charles.



with a weight loss to date of six stone.

Natalie Hanna, the group's consultant, said: "I am so proud of the entire group. They have worked exceptionally hard this year to make changes in their eating habits and the results on the scales have been fantastic."

The group of men, women and children has already lost a combined weight of 234 stone and are gunning for the 300 stone mark before Christmas.

### Readers' discount

January sees a new launch for the club with an "Extra Easy" eating plan. The club offers specialist help for people with diabetes, pregnant or breast-feeding women and vegetarians.

Slimming World is offering a special discount for readers of *THE ARCHER*. Bring along a copy of the paper to any group and receive £5 off the joining fee of £10. For details, call Natalie on 07889 252548 or e-mail nma@btconnect.com

## 'ello, me old china

By Betti Blatman

**Whilst visiting China Repairers in August for a quotation to repair broken china, I found to my surprise that my dentist's retired colleague was working there. Gill Epstein became an apprentice china restorer and enjoyed it so much that she stayed on. Her dental background has assisted her in coping with very difficult and challenging repairs.**

Despite the current recession, China Repairers are still very busy but their premises in The Old Coach House, King Street Mews, are due to be developed soon and they may have to relocate temporarily or

close for building works.

If you have any china requiring repair or restoration, please contact proprietor Virginia Baron on 020 8444 3030, 07973 121043 or virginia@talktalk.net

# TONY'S CONTINENTAL

EST 1971

140 HIGH ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY, N2 TEL: 020 8444 5545

**Hand Selected Christmas Trees**

**Health Foods**

Organic: Soya milk  
Bread  
Oat Cakes  
Rice Cakes  
Juices  
Organic English Flour  
including Spelt & Rye

**NEW**  
We now stock  
ECO-VER products  
with a refill service

**26 Varieties of Oil**  
including: Rapeseed,  
Sesame, Flax,  
Walnut &  
16 types of  
Olive Oil

**40 Varieties of Grains & Pulses**

**Specialist Cheeses**  
including: Ricotta  
Buffalo Mozzarella  
Fetta  
Halloumi  
Goats Cheese

**Fresh loose olives**  
from self-serve counter

**Fresh Fruit & Veg & Specialist Bread Daily**

**Organic Eggs & Breakfast Cereals**

**Mediterranean Dips & Delicacies**

**Offering finest quality, variety & exceptional value for money. ...more than just a Green Grocers**





## You never know who's reading *THE ARCHER* over your shoulder

Diana Cormack had the feeling she was being watched when she stopped off at the statue of the late comedian Eric Morecambe in the seaside town from which he took his name.

### SHORT STORY

## Places I'll remember

Forty-five years ago in 1964, The Beatles set a record when they occupied the top five places in the US charts. This short story by Carola Groom recalls the Fab Four in their heyday.

When I see black-and-white footage of teenage girls chasing through the Liverpool streets, screaming, and falling on the Beatles' car just after the Fab Four have leaped inside and locked the doors - It's on every TV nostalgia fest; I get lots of chances - When I see it, I look at the faces. My eyes flick over as many as I can in the time, as if they are mugshots: not her, not her, nor her - oh, too late, oh well. I'm searching for Elaine O'Connor, and I've never found her. If the process were slow enough for words they might be: too fair, too dark, too thin, too fat, too short, too... Too earthbound. Too little glimmering. Too much that is not my Elaine.

There is a kind of collective likeness. You've seen those girls. Amateur versions

of teenagers yet to come; also versions, still, of their mothers. Each time, I notice some fresh detail of innocence. The scrubbed cheeks. The hand-knitted cardies.

Elaine tried to force her frizzy hair into the regulation helmet shape, rows of hairgrips framing her face. Rolled up the carpet, put on a stack of singles and danced. I sat in the corner, looking up.

On her walls, pictures of them torn from magazines. They were our boys, of us. They had made the universe to centre on our own city's streets. Every girl had to select a favourite, and be faithful to him unto death. Ringo was left to me. I was just the neighbour's kid Elaine minded sometimes so had last pick. But I did not understand

## Over the fence

An occasional column from county road gardening gurus, Dan de-Lyon and Daisy Cheyne.

Daisy: You don't seem quite your sunny self today, Dan. Everything all right?

Dan: Well, to be honest, I'm feeling pretty poeey.

Daisy: Oh, Dan. Too much port wine and overripe pheasant, is it?

Dan: No, Daisy, not that. It's - how can I put it - excrement.

Daisy: Oh, so was it the prunes then?

Dan: No, it wasn't. It's those birds at Pigeons' Corner. One of these flying rats dropped a big doodah on me.

Daisy: Crikey, I hope you won't be coming down with hydrophobia. At your age it could be serious.

Dan: You see, Daisy, I popped to the High Road in search of an organic avocado and as I passed those feral pigeons having an alfresco picnic dropped by some idiot, they all flew up and lo and behold an incontinent bird christened my newly acquired linen jacket from the Hospice charity shop.

Daisy: And then what happened, Dan?

Dan: I returned home only to find a large freshly produced stool deposited on my front gate step by a local hound with no toilet training.

Daisy: And did you see the culprit, Dan? You know John Betjeman, who lived in Highgate, used to call them 'turd droppers'.

Dan: Yes, Daisy, I did know that. But my story gets worse. Having dealt with the offending whoopsy I retired to my garden arbour where Mrs de-Lyon pampered me with a calming tisane. No sooner had the first sip restored my yin and yang than my eye spotted a mysterious mound in the freshly laid bark garden.

Daisy: Oh, Dan! Surely not in the bark garden?

Dan: Yes, Daisy. It was a local moggie's tell tale visiting card, neatly raked up. On closer inspection, I do believe our feline visitor had had sardines for supper.

Daisy: I can now see why you are in a state, Dan. Oh, my doorbell's rung. That'll be my order for 20 bags of manure all the way from the Hertfordshire farm Mr Cheyne and I visited last week. Good for the roses, you know. Must dash.

Dan: Arghhh. Take me away. I am surrounded by stools and nincompoops. Take me away. I must go to Mandalay...

## Restaurant on film

A new film exploring the criminal underside of London features scenes shot in the sedate surroundings of Muswell Hill. *Jack Said* is a British film noir starring Danny Dyer, David O'Hara and, in a cameo role, snooker player Jimmy White.

Several scenes were shot in the Rendezvous Restaurant in Muswell Hill in May after the assistant producer, who is a local resident, identified it as a suitable place to film.

The movie tells the story of Jack, an undercover police officer who uses his friend to infiltrate a criminal gang, the double life he must lead and the sacrifices he must make. *Jack Said* was in cinemas in October and is out now on DVD and Blu-ray.

## Hair salon growing

After a busy first three months, the Jo Sutherland Hair Studio on East End Road is growing. It has recruited Adeline Leblanc to work with Ms Sutherland as its first permanent junior stylist to meet future demand, in time for Christmas. Ms Leblanc has worked for several up-market salons and also happens to speak excellent French.

The studio has been chosen by Matrix of the US to preview its latest colour product Dream Age, three months ahead of its national launch, and it now also offers clients a new range of planet-friendly, socially responsible products.

## More tiny tales

Some time ago we published a selection of your best tiny tales, told in 50 words or less. Well, the stories are still coming in so here's another collection. Thanks to everyone who has put pen to paper.

### Quick fire

By John Boyd

The soldier heard the zip as the first bullet passed close.

He heard the crack as the next passed closer.

As the third entered his skull he was starting the thought: "Should..."

Lowering his weapon his enemy was finishing the thought: "...have moved quicker, mate."

### The Last Supper

By Elizabeth Thomas

Sarah and Tom finished eating. "That's the last meal I'll ever cook for us," she announced.

"How come?" he asked. "Because I found out about your affair," snapped Sarah, "So I poisoned yours."

"But mine looked smaller," said Tom, "So when you were in the kitchen, I swapped plates."

### Unaccounted

By Robert Winton

"The charity's accounts," said the chairman, "show a £250,000 deficit. Where's the treasurer?"

"I've just had a note from him from Brazil with a photo of the villa he's bought," said the secretary.

"When will he be back?"

"All he said was: 'Thanks for everything'."

### Snow

By John Alexander

Thirty hectares of virgin mountain snow shone brilliantly in the morning light.

Half a mile below, villagers and tourists gazed on its phenomenal beauty.

Half a mile below, they heard the crack and groan as it began moving.

Beauty became swift advancing menace.

They began to run.

It soon arrived.

## The Storm Remembered

By John Boyd

Winter 1940, a violent storm.

Freezing waves crash over the young sailor clinging to the hatch he's struggling desperately to secure. If he fails the vessel sinks, all perish.

Summer 2008, a care home.

The old man ducks, grunts and clings on as yet another freezing wave thunders onto him.

DO JOIN US THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

**EAST FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

197 High Road, London N2 (opp. Creighton Ave.)

[www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk](http://www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk)

***Carols by Candlelight***

***Sunday 20 December, 5.00 p.m.***

**Christmas Day Family Service - 10.30 a.m.**

tel: 020 8346 1700

e-mail: [info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk)





## A whole lotta soul

By Lucy Chamberlin

She's performed on *Britain's Got Talent*, topped the Pops as a backing singer, set up her own record label, run workshops for children and adults and tackled the thorny issue of knife crime, all because of her remarkable voice and steely determination. Meet East Finchley resident Angela Anuforo.

Angie A, as she prefers to be known, started out as a receptionist with Island Records after studying to be a radio journalist. Having built up an enviable contacts list and started jamming with various bands, she set up a record label and started to release her own songs. Completing a course in music workshop skills reignited her passion to do something for herself, and to give back to the community.

Angie's powerful vocals and versatile sound secured her a place on *Britain's Got Talent* and with Amy Winehouse's *Love is a Losing Game* she reached the second round. Despite advice from Simon Cowell, however, she got no further, but says the experience was valuable.

### Connecting with kids

When a prolonged spate of knife crimes led to a public outcry last year, Angie resolved to do what she could to help. She said: "It's mostly down to poverty and lack of opportunity. These kids have nothing to do. They live in a culture of fear, but underneath they're just normal kids."

Angie holds children's workshops to motivate them, gets them singing and writing their own songs, and uses rap to get the boys involved too. Her song *Free* (on her Myspace page) is about returning to a childhood place in later years, and she obviously has a strong connection with the children she



Angie A wants to make a difference using the power of singing.

coaches. "They're impressed I got onto Britain's Got Talent," she laughs.

### Singing away stress

She has regular gigs in North and West London and also works with adults, providing one-to-one coaching, teambuilding and community choirs. Her long-term aim is to get London singing, as she believes it can have a profoundly de-stressing, congenial effect on any community.

Meanwhile, her next move is to organise a group adults singing workshop (anyone is welcome, however inexperienced: email [infoanj@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:infoanj@yahoo.co.uk)). Angie's next gigs are in Jackson's Lane, Highgate and Finsbury Park. For more information visit [www.myspace.com/1angiea](http://www.myspace.com/1angiea).

## Cruel computer theft

By Janet Maitland

The speech and language computer of a six-year-old cerebral palsy sufferer was stolen from the car park of the London School for Children with Cerebral Palsy in Muswell Hill, N10 on Tuesday 29 September at around 3.45pm.

The equipment allows the boy to speak and is believed to be useless to anyone without a similar disability. The computer is called myTobii and was in a large black case, padded on the inside, with a

small keyboard and mouse.

Anyone with any information is asked to call Haringey police on 0300 123 1212 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

## Re-opened library is unmissable

By Daphne Chamberlain

The future of local libraries has been of particular interest to East Finchley in recent years. South Friern, our neighbours between Muswell Hill and the North Circular, have been without their popular library for a while, but it has now re-opened in its new form, sporting wireless internet and self-issue terminals. It also contains a memorial to someone well known in East Finchley.

### Striped jewel

The new library is certainly easy to spot. It's the green-striped building on the corner of Sutton Road. "Green-striped in a Victorian suburb?" queried Barnet's Mayor Brian Coleman at the official opening. He went on to describe it as vibrant and lively, "a jewel in Barnet's crown, albeit a garish one."

Opinions among library users were divided, and not only about the exterior, which some love.

Though the inside is very attractive, well-planned and accessible, the stock is certainly smaller. "About 2,000 to 3,000 items fewer, but we're going for quality rather than quantity," Keith Baxter, Divisional Manager for Adult Services, told me. He also stressed that users had access to stock in all Barnet Libraries although, unlike some other London boroughs, they are charged for reservations.

### Commemorating

#### Ian Harvey

The return of lapsed members and the enrolment of over 1,000 new users show that the area needs its library. One of the most tireless campaigners for South Friern not to be forgotten was the late Ian Harvey, from Friends of Barnet Libraries. The small meeting-room at South Friern Library is dedicated to him.

The Friends have provided chairs for the Children's section and a coffee machine. Friends' Chair Molly Harris told *THE ARCHER* that Ian "worked very, very hard."

"Ian did a lot of canvassing for the new library, reminding the Council how much we needed one," she said. "He started the series of monthly



A jewel in Barnet's crown. Photo courtesy Friern Barnet & District Local History Society. [www.friern-barnet.com](http://www.friern-barnet.com)

talks for the public, transferring them to East Finchley while South Friern was being constructed." These talks on any and every subject, with

refreshments including Ian's hand-baked biscuits, which always carried a symbol to do with the talk, were very popular at East Finchley.



Wendy Longworth & Associates physiotherapy practice offers a variety of treatments at the clinic, or off-site, in patients homes, nursing homes, private hospitals and other organisations.

- Back Pain
- Neck Pain
- Whiplash Injury
- Sciatica
- Sports Injury
- Frozen Shoulder
- Arthritis
- Tennis Elbow
- Sprain or Strain
- Rehabilitation
- Neurological
- Stroke

[www.eastfinchleyclinic.co.uk](http://www.eastfinchleyclinic.co.uk)

East Finchley Clinic  
2-3 Bedford Mews  
Bedford Road  
London N2 9DF

**020 8883 5888**

FAX: 020 8444 8874

## Proteus Professional Cleaners

Making your life easier



GENERAL DOMESTIC AND OFFICE CLEANING  
CARPET WASHING · UPHOLSTERY  
AFTER BUILDERS CLEANING · SPRING CLEAN

WE WORK SEVEN DAYS A WEEK AT VERY REASONABLE RATES  
FULLY INSURED COMPANY

For a quote call 07859 946 435  
info@proteus-professional-cleaners.co.uk

## Xmas French

### market

The French market returns to East Finchley for the weekend 18 - 20 December.

**Acupuncture & Shiatsu**

Effective Treatment for Conditions of Pain, Stress and Anxiety

Appointments  
**07795 203107**

Utopia  
1A LEICESTER MEWS, N2 9EJ  
Squires Lane Medical Practice  
2 SQUIRES LANE, N3 2AU

**Fiona Hurlock** MRSS MACS  
[www.fionahurlock.com](http://www.fionahurlock.com)

**JO SUTHERLAND**  
HAIR STUDIO  
EXPERIENCE | TECHNOLOGY | PASSION

WELCOME  
**ADELINE LEBLANC**  
OUR TALENTED, YOUNG, NEW STYLIST.

**BOOK NOW**  
AND GET A FURTHER 10% OFF  
ADELINE'S GREAT VALUE PRICES

TEL: 0208 444 9440  
119 EAST END ROAD - NEAR OSSULTON WAY.

**Klages Plumbing & Heating Agency LTD.**  
CONTACT TELEPHONE No: 020 8346 7218 / 8636

**KLAGE**  
"GREETINGS FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON"

**brera gardens**

- garden design
- maintenance
- hard landscaping
- interior & office plant displays
- soft landscaping
- East Finchley based

Mob. 07939 557 934 Tel. 020 8365 3615  
Email: [breragardens1@btinternet.com](mailto:breragardens1@btinternet.com)





## YOUNG ARCHER



Year 4 pupils from Manorside Primary School with the gowns they designed for the Blue Peter Send a Smile campaign.

## Blue Peter badges all round

By Julia Bramson

**Year 4 from Manorside School went on set at the Blue Peter studios on Wednesday 21 October to help launch the Blue Peter Appeal 2009/2010.**

### Girl about East Finchley Cereal killer

By Fay Sanders

**From the outset I knew it was going to be no ordinary trip to Budgens. Bringing my bike was definitely a mistake, given I'd left my lock in the office. After the long uphill ride from central London to East Finchley, I was feeling too jaded to go home and then come back out again. I flashed the security guard an impervious smile as I sidled past him, hoping his gaze would not reach as far as my bike, which after all, is pretty light and small.**

"Sorry, you can't bring your bike in, it's too busy in here." Crestfallen, I braced myself for cycling back to my flat, followed by a takeaway pizza. "Leave it here, I'll keep an eye on it," he added cheerfully.

I wasn't expecting that. Before I knew it, my shiny new racing bike was towed away to the fruit and veg zone and propped up against a crate of bananas. "Don't worry, I'll keep an eye on it," he insisted.

#### Baby-minding

I didn't want to offend him. As I edged away, like a mother reluctantly leaving her baby in the charge of a total stranger, I turned around a couple of times to check he was still guarding my bike. I decided to whizz around the aisles as quickly as possible.

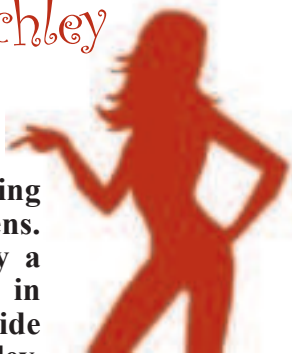
Deprived of the usual time I would take to mull over potential purchases, I flung each product I came across hastily into the basket. It was only at the till, with my bike safely in my vision again, that I realised I had accumulated rather a large collection of products.

#### Space-saving

The friendly security guard ambled over to join me at the till. He was clearly not prepared to stand back and watch me try to cram my bulky shopping into my smallish rucksack and began gleefully tearing off packaging to save space, dropping the items into my bag.

To my utter dismay, before I could stop him he had torn the box clean away from my Fruit 'n' Fibre, complete with special offer voucher.

As I bitterly decanted my cereal into a plastic box later that evening, I rued the fact that for the next 500g of cereal I would be unable to stare sleepily at the box as I chomped on my cereal and listened to Radio 4. My bike was safe, but breakfast time wouldn't be the same.



Operation Smile, a UK-based charity, changes the lives of children in developing countries by performing repairs on cleft lips and palates. The Blue Peter "Send a Smile" appeal is asking children to recycle old t-shirts and create customised medical gowns, usually costing £3, to free up more money for operations in India.

#### World-wide birth defect

In the weeks before the visit to Blue Peter, Year 4 watched a moving film about the effects on children of what is the third most common birth defect globally. These effects include problems with eating, drinking, and speaking.

Having seen the film, each child designed a hospital gown to take along with them to the BBC studios and the class produced a talking book. During the programme Year 4 were on the studio floor creating gowns and getting involved. Andy, one of the presenters, spent time talking to the children and going through the talking book with them.

#### Ambassadors

A letter from the Blue Peter team revealed that they were very impressed with the effort that went into the children's handiwork, and that the talking book was passed around the staff and was even displayed in team meetings. The children were described as "a credit to the school and a joy to have on the programme".

This was a fantastic opportunity for Year 4 who proved to be superb ambassadors for the school and truly earned their Blue Peter badges.

## Teaching life in China

By Helen Morrison, head teacher at Martin Primary School

**Earlier this year, I had the good fortune to be selected by Barnet Local Authority as one of four head teachers to visit China as part of a delegation of more than 100 head teachers from all over the UK. The trip was funded by the British Council and supported by Hanban, the executive body of the Chinese Language Council International.**



Mrs Helen Morrison, Headteacher at Martin Primary School, proudly shows her copy of THE ARCHER to Martin's partnership school in the Shunde district of China.

Martin Primary School has been chosen to partner with Longjiang Experimental School in the town of Longjiang, just outside Shunde in southern China. It is a primary school with 1,500 pupils in a relatively affluent area of China known for its furniture production.

#### Outstanding

I spent four fascinating days at the school, with a detailed itinerary starting early in the morning until late into the evening, my first day being marked by a spectacular flag-raising ceremony performed by pupils and staff. As well as being able to observe daily life in the school, I observed several lessons, none of which was less than outstanding.

After every lesson, whole staff teams were released so that we could meet to discuss what I had seen and share good practice. I was also treated to a truly inspiring stage performance from the children that

included acrobatics, dance, traditional Chinese drama and Kung Fu.

#### Surprises

My trip was full of surprises and my preconceptions about China were frequently shattered. I expected lessons to be very formal and teacher-led with children sitting in rows, but was pleasantly surprised to see very similar practice to the UK's. Staff expressed the desire to 'modernise' their teaching and everywhere I went I saw happy, relaxed and enthusiastic children. I saw real scope for my school to learn much from our partner school and vice versa.

Before I left we agreed future aims for the partnership at a formal ceremony. Short-term aims are for Martin Primary children to have the opportunity to make friends through email communication, to learn Mandarin and to celebrate festivals together, preparing them for a successful future as international citizens.

## Your chance to play the Royal Albert Hall

**Young musicians are being sought across the borough for a prestigious concert at the Royal Albert Hall in April 2010.**

A total of 1,500 children from 30 Barnet primary and secondary schools, bands and orchestras from three music centres will take part in the massive Barnet One Voice concert, which is being supported by the English Pocket Opera Company.

The concert will represent music from across the borough and will include Barnet's own performance of Bizet's *Carmen* in the second half of the performance. *Carmen* workshops with Eng-

lish Pocket Opera Company will take place at Hendon Music Centre, St Mary's High School, Downage, Hendon on Saturday 5 December; and at East Barnet Music Centre, Westbrook Crescent on 9 January 2010.

Young people wishing to play in one of the groups or sing in one of the choirs can email the event co-ordinator at lynn.holman-fox@barnet.gov.uk or contact the Music Office on 020 8359 6310.





Sylvia and Ian (standing) with the rest of the Team Buzz riders make it to Milan.

## Two-wheel tour of Italy

Sylvia Ross and Ian Jackson saw Italy from the saddle when they took part in a 1,000-mile ride up its west coast from Sicily to Milan, taking in Naples, Rome and Pisa on the way.

They were part of Team Buzz, a group who are raising money for the charity Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY). Two of the team unexpectedly lost siblings to Sudden Adult Death Syndrome at very young ages.

With the help of Bike and Run in East Finchley, Sylvia and Ian got their bikes ready for the 12-day ride. A support vehicle of volunteers drove each leg with them and pitched tents ready for the evening.

Sylvia said the most spectacular section of the ride was

the Amalfi coast, the hardest part was riding through Milan across 10 miles of wet cobbles after a thunderstorm and the sorest part was her bottom for the whole of the second week.

CRY also help to raise awareness of heart defects, which claim the lives of 12 fit and healthy young people each week in the UK alone. To find out more about the ride and other fundraising events, visit [www.teambuzz.co.uk](http://www.teambuzz.co.uk). To support the team with a donation, go to [www.justgiving.com/teambuzzitaly](http://www.justgiving.com/teambuzzitaly).

## Surge of support for saving Fortis Green Allotments

By Sheila Armstrong

In September, *THE ARCHER* reported on Thames Water's plans to sell off the site occupied by the Fortis Green Allotments to create space for two blocks of flats and 18 houses on the land.

As planned, the company did auction quite a few of its properties on 7 October, mostly to developers, but not the Fortis Green Allotments. Thanks to swift and determined action by the allotment holders, the Muswell Hill site was not put up for grabs on that day.

### Trust formed

Amid a lot of local support and messages from celebrities, TV presenters Monty Don, formerly of *Gardener's World*, and Kate Humble of *Autumnwatch*, among them, the Fortis Green allotment holders have formed a trust to help them buy the land from Thames Water.

Two members of the Trust, Sarah Martin and Ruth Griffiths, have finally met with the company to ascertain how the sale will be conducted and have had some initial discussions on price. Importantly, Thames Water has agreed to reply.

### Fighting fund

Meanwhile, the Fortis Green Community Allotments Trust is fundraising, initially to cover legal fees. Donations are always welcome. The Trust has

first refusal and, once a price for the land is known, fundraising will begin in earnest. A first-stage lottery bid has been put forward as part of the Big Lottery Fund's Local Food

Programme.

For an update on the campaign go to [www.savefortisgreenallotments.com](http://www.savefortisgreenallotments.com) where you can sign up for a newsletter or sign the e-petition.

## KALASHNIKOV KULTUR

By Ricky Savage, the voice of social irresponsibility

### Not just for Christmas

It's that time of year again, time for overspending and overeating and overdrafts. Time for wall to wall tinsel, CDs of carols you've come to loathe, mince pies, turkey and stupid stickers announcing that a dog is not just for Christmas. Problem is, a dog is just not a good idea any time of year.

As our leader and superhero Brown Gordon flies at the speed of light to Copenhagen to turn the world green it's time to ask ourselves what we can do to help create a green Christmas. And it's not just us; our pets can help, starting with man's best friend.

The reality is that your average pooch is not eco-friendly. The paw print of a medium-sized pooch is more than twice that of a gas-guzzling 4x4. Just think of the damage a whole pack of fox hounds can do to the planet, never mind what they can do to a fox.

Don't feel too smug about your cat, because it's a double whammy. One cat does as much damage as a Ford Focus. Keep several of the little monsters and you may as well drive a Porsche. A cat is a full-on killing machine and the average mog terminates an average of 25 small birds, mice or frogs a year.

Hamsters? Keep two of them and you damage the environment as much as a 46-inch plasma screen TV does and that's before they die inconveniently and have to be given a full requiem mass.

So, what pets can you keep? What makes for a good, green Christmas pet? The best bet is to get one you can eat. You can't go wrong with rabbits. Get a matching pair, let them do what rabbits do and then eat the offspring. Or how about chickens? You get eggs as well and little chickens and Sunday lunch. Or follow in the footsteps of Gerard de Nerval who used to take his pet lobster for walks round Paris. Probably a great way to work up an appetite, for lobster perhaps?

## Web Design Up to £300 Off

A Website represents your interests..

..and from £245 including Domain/Hosting!

Beat the Crunch, make your business Grow!

info@andysweb.net 07963 256 275  
www.andysweb.net

## LAYZELLS SOLICITORS

### LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Would you like your family or friends to be able to help with your finances or personal welfare as you get older?

LAYZELLS SOLICITORS

255 Muswell Hill Broadway, N10 1DG

have been practicing in this area for over 50 years.

Please ring our Sally Bentley on 020 8444 0202 if you would like to discuss this further - home visits can be arranged if needed.

## KF COMPUTERS & IMAGING

### FUJIFILM DIGITAL

93 HIGH ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY, N2 8AG

02088159898

- LAPTOPS & PCs SALE & REPAIR
- CUSTOM BUILT COMPUTERS
- DATA RECOVERY/BACKUP
- REINSTALL SOFTWARES
- WIRELESS/WIRED NETWORKING
- ALL ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE
- SAME DAY SERVICE
- FREE LAPTOP/PC CHECKUP

- PHOTO PRINTS ANY SIZE
- CUSTOM SIZE AVAILABLE
- CANVAS PRINTS & MOUNTING
- DIGITAL CAMERAS & FRAMES
- ALBUMS TRI/MONO PODS
- QUANTITY DISCOUNTS
- BEST QUALITY & PRICES

6 PASSPORT/ID PICTURES £4.99 ONLY

## Obituary: Frederick Racklyeft

Tutor Frederick Racklyeft died peacefully in his sleep aged 58 at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, on 14 November after a short illness. He will be fondly remembered by the many students he taught in the years he lived in London.

Mr Racklyeft, of Ossulton Way, was the much-loved son of Madge and the late Frederick, husband of Sharon, cherished brother of Gill and Paula, and devoted uncle of Kester, Justin, Alex and Adam.

The funeral service has already taken place. Donations can be made to The British Heart Foundation, c/o F J Luxton & Son, Funeral Directors, Ottery St Mary, Devon, EX11 1BE.

## Cree Godfrey Wood Solicitors

Commissioners for Oaths

Hours: 9.30am to 5.30pm.

email: [admin@creegodfreyandwood.co.uk](mailto:admin@creegodfreyandwood.co.uk)

28 High Road, London N2 9PJ

Tel: 020 8883 9414 / 9496 / 0989

[www.creegodfreyandwood.co.uk](http://www.creegodfreyandwood.co.uk)

## Jennie Mann FLOWERS



- ◆ Hand tied bouquets ◆ Planted arrangements
- ◆ Orchids ◆ Vases and Containers ◆ Scented Candles
- ◆ Gifts ◆ Homewares ◆ Events ◆ Corporate
- ◆ Deliveries throughout northwest London and beyond

63a Church Lane, East Finchley, London N2 8DR

tel: 020 8365 2284

email: [info@jenniemann.co.uk](mailto:info@jenniemann.co.uk)

[www.jenniemann.com](http://www.jenniemann.com)





## Regular Events

### SPORT & FITNESS

- ❖ **Finchley & Hornsey Ramblers Group** Call Vivien 8883 8190
- ❖ **Glebelands Indoor Bowls Club**, Summers Lane N12. New and experienced bowlers welcome.
- ❖ **Keep fit for the Retired** on Wednesdays, Christ Church N12. Call Bridie 8883 5269
- ❖ **Pilates** in East Finchley, qualified teacher. Contact Dee on 8883 7029
- ❖ **Pilates class** Wednesdays, 2.15-3.15pm at Youth Theatre, N2. Ring Penny Hill 8444 2882.
- ❖ **Tae Kwon Do** at The Green Man Thursdays 7-9pm 07949 612 706
- ❖ **Yoga, breathing & relaxation.** Weekly drop-in classes - N2, N6, N10. Phone Judy on 07956 375607.
- ❖ **Yoga**, pregnancy yoga, meditation classes. Call Sunnah 07941 321 772 or see [www.stretchingpeople.co.uk](http://www.stretchingpeople.co.uk).

### MUSIC, DANCE & CREATIVE ARTS

- ❖ **Art Classes.** For info call Henry on 8888 5133.
- ❖ **Ballroom Dance Classes**, Wednesday eves for beginners & improvers. St Mary's Church Hall, N3. 8444 0280.
- ❖ **Ballroom & Latin American Dance Classes** - beginners and Improvers. Wed & Fri eve, Bishop Douglass Sch. 8207 2323.
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call 8883 7110.
- ❖ **Creative writing classes** in informal, friendly atmosphere. Tel Sallie Rose 020 8444 7217.
- ❖ **Drama Classes** for 11-18 year olds. Mondays at 6.30pm. Contact Carolyn on 07905 481682
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers Group**, Weds at the Old White Lion. Contact Carola 8883 5808 or Lilian 8444 1793.
- ❖ **East Finchley Poetry Writing Workshops.** Monthly on Saturdays. Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club: Live jazz on Mon** 7 & 21 Dec at 8.15pm, Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3.
- ❖ **Line dancing** Tuesdays from 8.30pm at The Constitutional Club. Call Maureen 8440 8530.
- ❖ **Memory Lane Singing Club** - friendly singing club meets every Friday in Finchley. Call Valerie 8458 4508.
- ❖ **Over 50s Tea Dance** at Christ Church, North Finchley. Every Weds, 1pm. 020 8444 0280.
- ❖ **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church, Ballards La. Call 8888 4412.
- ❖ **Salsa lessons** Mondays, EF Methodist Church. Call Ronnie Raul 07958 605 773 [e:ronnieraul@rocketmail.com](mailto:e:ronnieraul@rocketmail.com)
- ❖ **Street Dance** every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages Contact Lorna 07976 203669.
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
- ❖ **Tap Dance** for children at Old Barn on Mondays, Call Sharon 8349 4613
- ❖ **Traditional music** at EF Constitutional Club on 2nd Monday each month from 8.30 pm. Free to join in or just listen.

### CLUBS & SOCIAL

- ❖ **Bingo evening** at the Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2. Sundays at 8pm.
- ❖ **Bingo Club** Mondays 7-9 pm, Green Man Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5459
- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **Dads' Club:** Get-togethers for dads looking after young children in East Finchley. Adam 07957 441435.
- ❖ **EF National Childbirth Trust** contact Ruby Yang or Patrizia Canwell at [eastfinchleynct@googlemail.com](mailto:eastfinchleynct@googlemail.com)
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** on Weds afternoons, call 7722 6209.
- ❖ **Friends of Cherry Tree Wood** [www.cherrytreewood.co.uk](http://www.cherrytreewood.co.uk) or 8883 7544.
- ❖ **Highgate Film Society**, call 8340 3343 or email: [admin@hlsi.net](mailto:admin@hlsi.net).
- ❖ **LGBT?** 1st Weds every month in a local pub. Relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. Email [efinchleylgbt@hotmail.com](mailto:efinchleylgbt@hotmail.com) for info.
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495
- ❖ **Jewish Friendship Club** for over 60s, Tuesdays 1-3pm at Muswell Hill Synagogue, Tetherdown. Call Anita Shaw 8886 6140.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, contact 8883 4390
- ❖ **Old Barn pre-school club**, contact 8349 4613/1961
- ❖ **Parent & Toddler Group**, Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professionals. Call John 8883 8114.
- ❖ **Stepping Stones**, interactive play session for under 3's. Karen 07957 278860.



Kat and Lou want to make laugh not war.

## Are you having a laugh?

By David Melsome

**Fancy relieving the winter gloom with a dose of comedy? Then get along to the Alexandra pub in Fortis Green where a new comedy club is taking off.**

Katrina Thompson and Lou Sanders have set up Make Laugh Not War and want it to be a monthly must-see. The pair have been comedy partners for many years and have often played at the Edinburgh Festival.

Their new comedy night offers a full line-up of stand-up comics and will be at the Alexandra on a Sunday evening once a month. Their debut there was on 22 November as *THE ARCHER* went to press and was in aid of the Bobath Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy on East End Road. We hope to carry a review in our next issue.

Katrina, of Kitchener Road, said: "The idea is that everyone we have on stage is an up-and-coming local stand-up. We'll have all different styles. Stand-up isn't just political or alternative any more." For dates and details visit [www.makelaughnotwar.co.uk](http://www.makelaughnotwar.co.uk)

## December at the Phoenix

By the Phoenix Cinema's Paul Homer

**Looking back at this column in December 2008, I wrote that I hoped we would begin our Centenary Restoration Project in 2009. Well, we didn't, but we have got very close to doing so. We almost raised all the money and as I write we are planning for the builders to be on site in mid-February. We simply couldn't have got this far without all the fantastic support that we've had from our community, including many readers of *THE ARCHER* and of course the paper itself, so we're grateful to you all.**

It's important, though, to remember why we're embarking on this project. It's to give you, our customers, the cinema you deserve with better facilities and to give everyone in East Finchley a greater sense of pride in their community by creating a landmark building. By next summer we hope you'll see the fruits of all our work.

But the main reason we're here is to bring you great films and we'll continue to do that with December's line-up. We wanted to do something a bit different for Christmas this year and so instead of a seasonal film we're showing a wonderful, heart-warming classic: *The Red Shoes* by Powell and Pressburger.

Our big film for late December is *Nowhere Boy*, directed by Sam Taylor-Wood, the biopic of the early life of John Lennon and his relationship with his mother and his aunt. We hope to have a preview screening of the film with Sam in early December.

Sunday matinees this month include a double bill of Pixar's

*Up* with Buster Keaton's *The Balloonatic*, two films we felt were just perfect played together. We also continue to bring you In the Night Garden screenings for younger audiences on Monday and Friday mornings.

Contact our box office on 020 8444 6789 or visit [www.phoenixcinema.co.uk](http://www.phoenixcinema.co.uk).

## Kessler commemorated

**On Sunday 13 December, a statue of St Cecilia, the patron saint of music, is to be dedicated to the memory of viol maker and instrument expert Dietrich Kessler at All Saints' Church, Durham Road, during the 10am service.**

East Finchley Arts Festival director Geoffrey Hanson has made a musical setting of some words written by East Finchley poet Fleur Adcock for the occasion.

## What's On...

E-mail your listings to: [the-archer@lineone.net](mailto:the-archer@lineone.net)

### Sunday 6 December

• **Christmas Fair at Holy Trinity School**, Eagans Close, N2, from 12noon to 2.30pm. Come along for games, Christmas gifts and great food.

### Tuesday 8 December

• Join the **Jewish Community Centre** to celebrate the eight nights of **Chanukah** with eight intimate, funny and moving stories from eight storytellers. True stories, no notes, no hiding, from eight brave and fascinating folk, including true tales inspired by the number eight; 8pm, The Forge, 3-7 Delancey Street, London, NW1 7NL. Price: £6 in advance, £8 on the door. Tickets and information: 020 7431 9866.

### Saturday 12 December

• **Christmas Fair at Martin Primary School**, Plane Tree Walk, N2, between 12noon and 3pm. Fantastic range of stalls, games and activities: something for everyone to enjoy. There will be a silent M-bay auction, refreshments will be available and Father Christmas will make a special guest appearance.

• **Jewish Community Centre Bar Mitzvah Disco.** Enjoy live music, DJs and oure-magician Miki Shaw. Dress: your own bar/batmitzvah outfit; 8pm till late, The Adelaide, 143 Adelaide Road, London NW3 3NL. Price: £12 in advance, £15 on the door. Tickets and information: 020 7431 9866.

### Sunday 13 December

• **An Evening with Maureen Lipman**, an informal and unique experience with actor and writer Maureen Lipman, all proceeds to North London Hospice, 8pm, Middlesex University, The Burroughs,

Hendon NW4 4BT. Tickets £20 (including wine and nibbles) from North London Hospice Fundraising Office, 47 Woodside Ave, N12 8TF (tel: 020 8446 2288) or Peter Kraushar, Northern Heights Support Group, 2 Lauradale Road N2 9LU (tel: 020 8446 2288). Please make cheques payable to North London Hospice.

### Friday 18 December to Sunday 31 January

• **Ovation** presents **High Society**, with music and lyrics by Cole Porter. *True Love, Who Wants to be a Millionaire and Well, Did You Evah?* are just three of the fabulous songs in this show. Upstairs at the Gatehouse, Highgate Village, N6. Evenings at 7.30pm, Mid Week Matinees and Sundays at 4.00pm. Tickets priced £10-£15, concessions available. Box office 020 8340 3488.

### Friday 8 January

• Charity performance of **Pinocchio** in aid of Noah's Ark Children's Hospice; 7.30pm at Chickenshed Theatre, Chase Side, Southgate N14 4EP. Call the Appeals Office on 020 8449 8877 to reserve tickets (£18 adults, £16 concessions).

### What's on at artsdepot

**The Truth about Hardeep Singh Kohli**, Saturday 5 December, 8pm.

**Jim Moray**, Saturday 5 December, 8pm. **Sunday Buzz: The Blackthorn Band**, Sunday 6 December, 1pm. **Folk in the Foyer**, Friday 18 December, 8.30pm. **The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus**, a magical festive tale for families and children, Saturday 5 December to Sunday 3 January. Box office: 020 8369 5454.

## Review: Tumbleweed Comedy Club

By Julia Lawrence

**It's a classic format, on which many of today's comedy greats including Jo Brand and Jack Dee were first blooded. The Comedy Club: a gathering, in the back room of a pub, of well-aled regulars to boo, heckle and hopefully encourage a programme of fledgling comedians, keen to raise a few laughs and maybe quit the day job some day.**

Thousands of comics have died, horribly, up there, yet many brave veterans have survived to make Radio Times TV listings this Christmas. It's a format that works well, and was brought to the Old White Lion on 4 November by compere and East Finchley resident Alex Perkins.

The Tumbleweed Comedy Club is informal, friendly, and extremely popular. The standard of comedy varied widely, which is part of the appeal. The audience cannot help wondering if they are watching the next big thing.

Thankfully for the performers at the White Lion, heckling N2-style was minimal and polite. There were no on-stage massacres and only a smattering of 'rolling tumbleweed' awkward silences (presumably the inspiration for the club's name).

After the club's debut, I hope the outrageously inappropriate and rude singing funny lady Carly Smallman will remember her night at the Old White Lion some day. I also hope she comes back to entertain us again. We saw her here first.

## Review: James Lisney at the Red Hedgehog

By Ken Carter

**Securely insulated against Archway Road's rumble, a large room welcomes you at the Red Hedgehog. James Lisney tries out new programmes here, for preference. The venue's sonorous Yamaha is a delight to play and the fine acoustics expose each mistake.**

Schubert's ten last *Impromptus/Klavierstücke* on 24 September were powerful, authoritative and exhausting. Then on 4 October, Lisney juxtaposed the very last sonatas of Haydn, Beethoven and Schubert. Even in his 80s, Haydn demands a robust, mercurial, virtuoso performance. Beethoven in his 50s lets the beast roar from the depths,

and then transports heavenwards his wonder at man's suffering, ever more simply stated. In his 30s, Schubert writes melodies of undreamed beauty in rumbling cascades.

Lisney has riveting dynamism and meticulous, open-eyed lyricism. Each piece is an exhilarating panoramic journey. Don't miss Lisney.





Send your correspondence to: "Letters Page", The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA or e-mail the-archer@lineone.net.

Letters without verifiable contact addresses will not be reviewed or printed. Contact details can be withheld, however, on request at publication.

## Letters to the editor



A sign of good taste - see right. Photo by Dan Selinger.

### Pavilion let us down

Dear Editor,

The major reason Cherry Tree Wood was not awarded a Green Flag this year was the derelict and dangerous state of the former pavilion. If Barnet Council intend to apply for a Green Flag again next year, they should demolish it before someone is killed or injured by a falling tile and restore its site to woodland.

Yours faithfully,  
Judith Filkin,  
Park Hall Road, N2.

### Pavilion objections are petty

Dear Editor,

THE ARCHER goes from strength to strength in reflecting the diversity of life in East Finchley. I do so hope in the New Year that the people who would rather see the Cherry Tree pavilion remain neglected and unused, or even demolished, will think again. How much more positive it would be to support the imagination and hard work of Sally-Anne Wigfield in trying to make something of this building, not for personal or commercial gain (as some seem to think) but, as clearly stated, as a social enterprise to benefit all who might use it.

If anyone wants to see how a comparable successful scheme can contribute to the revitalisation of a park then visit Manor Gardens in Lewisham. The objections have been trifling, disparaging and petty. If the scheme came to fruition the park might even get its coveted Green Flag at last.

Yours faithfully,  
Alexandra Rook,  
Address supplied.

### Café is best where it is

Dear Editor,

The pavilion in Cherry Tree Wood is under heavy tree cover, some of which would need to be cut back if the building were to be made habitable, and more still if it were not to be in shade the majority of the time.

The existing café benefits from a sunny and tranquil position, away from the noise of the High Road. If there were no existing derelict building, there would be no question that any café would be best located where the current one is.

It would be most regrettable if the council's inability to fund demolition and the claimed 'threat' to securing Green Flag status combined to result in our café being moved from an ideal location to a most unsuitable one.

Yours faithfully,  
Pete Crockford,  
Baronsmere Road, N2

### Lazy commuters cause parking problems

Dear Editor,

I note the condemnation of the proposed parking restrictions near East Finchley station. However, I wish to point out that I live very near the station and always have trouble in parking my car outside my home.

Although I have a disabled badge, if I leave to go shopping a commuter will immediately take my place and often not leave until the evening. The parking permits displayed on most car windscreens are 'M' and this means that their residences are very near to the station. Is this due to laziness or selfishness on their part that residents in my road lose the ability to park near to their own homes? I would welcome the restriction on parking in roads nearest to the station.

Yours faithfully,  
Name and address supplied.

### Parking proposals are anti-democratic

Dear Editor

At the recent residents' forum, it was quite clear that there is massive opposition to the plans to increase parking restrictions in East Finchley. This opposition starts with the Summerlee Gardens area, which for years has suffered from completely unnecessary restrictions, going on to the county roads where they propose to stop the ability to park for a short time in order to shop in East Finchley, and many more unnecessary changes, in spite of a majority of votes against.

What is needed is just a one-hour no-parking time in all the roads, during weekdays, to stop commuters using the roads all day. All the rest is just another attempt to squeeze more money into the Council's hands, so that it can be used for such worthwhile purposes as increasing the "attendance" payments to Councillors.

I am not even in the zone, but it will stop me visiting the local shops and friends who live in the restricted roads. The only way to stop this anti-democratic money-grabbing action is to let the local Conservatives know that they will be voted out of office at the next elections if they go ahead, and to vote for any party which promises to reverse these schemes.

Yours faithfully,  
Barry H White  
Fordington Road, N6.

### Nursery recommended

Dear Editor,

If any readers are looking for a wonderful local nursery to drop off their child each morning, the Old Barn Pre-School, in Tarling Road, East Finchley, comes greatly recommended. This nursery is for children aged from two years to five years. The sessions run from Monday to Friday from 9.30am-12.30pm. The Old Barn is not run for profit, meaning that each session is very reasonably priced at £13 per morning.

I was looking for just this type of

activity last February for my younger son, Ben. He was two years old at the time, too young for school nursery (which starts at three years) but so ready for 'something', as was I. The chance to drop off my beloved younger boy in a happy and safe environment, hopefully get some jobs done myself in the meantime, or even have a cup of coffee, greatly appealed. The Old Barn came recommended by my Health Visitor so we gave it a try.

What a happy discovery the Old Barn was. This intimate playgroup has now been running for 25 years and boasts a fantastic team of ladies, many of whom have been with the nursery since the start. The staff are professional, hard-working, attentive, fun and most of all, warm. The children also benefit so much from the activities, toys and outdoor space on offer.

There are spaces available, so for further details about joining the playgroup please call any of the following mobile numbers: 07977 846922 / 07711 654669 / 07805 171003. We have since left the Old Barn as our little boy has moved on to school. How we will miss it. We certainly plan to keep in touch.

Yours faithfully,  
Dr Debbie Linton  
Summerlee Avenue, N2

### A sign of good taste

Dear Editor,

We moved to the area earlier this year and were horrified by how many leaflets and flyers were dropped through our letterbox, anything from currys to estate agents to window cleaners to dog walking services. We never looked at any of them so it was a massive waste of paper and we decided to put a sign up to stop them from being delivered. The thing is that we love THE ARCHER, and we didn't want to miss out on that, so we mentioned that on the sign too. It has worked a treat. We rarely get any leaflets for things we don't want but can always catch up with the local gossip. I recommend that everyone makes one of these signs.

Yours faithfully  
Dan Selinger  
Brim Hill, N2.

### Pavements are trip hazards

Dear Editor,

We must be one of the only countries in the world where Local Authorities waste enormous sums of the tax payers' money putting down useless pavements. Nowhere else is sand used as a base for (inferior) paving stones. There are examples on Aylmer Road and Sheldon Avenue.

When it rains, the sand is washed up and out from the cracks and before long the stone is wobbling just in time for someone to catch their feet and trip. Inferior because they are pre-constituted and crack easily; nothing like the old York stone.

Yours faithfully,  
Neville Robinson,  
Aylmer Road, N2.

## THE ARCHER Calendar 2010

Please send me THE ARCHER Calendar 2010.

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

Postcode: .....

Telephone: .....

Email address: .....

Number of copies ..... at £5.00 per copy.

I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to 'The Archer'.

All proceeds to The Bobath Centre for children with Cerebral Palsy.

Post this order form to:

The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA

Please note: Delivery is free. Allow at least 14 days for delivery.

# Budgens

of East Finchley

Visit your new look independently owned **Budgens supermarket** in High Street, East Finchley

#### Expanded Range

- Fresh Fish
- Fresh Meat, Poultry
- Fresh Dairy Produce
- Chilled Ready Meals
- Specialist Cheese
- Lunchtime Snacks
- Fresh Baked Bread

- Groceries
- International Foods
- Wines, Beers & Spirits, Including Chilled Selection
- Newspapers & Magazines
- Fresh Flowers
- Car Park

#### Services

- Free Cash Dispenser
- E-Top Up
- Instant Digital Photo Processing

#### Opening Hours:

Mon - Sat: 7am - 11pm

Sun: 12pm - 6pm

We look forward to seeing you soon

[budgens.co.uk](http://budgens.co.uk)





Shoes, Trainers, Sandals, Bags and Luggage

Complete Repair Service by a craftsman  
Same day if required

Key Cutting

1 Manor Park Rd. N2, behind 88 Church Lane, opposite Trinity Church  
Tel: 07956 329 150 Open 12-7pm

# THE ARCHER

Published by East Finchley Newspapers, P.O. Box 3699, London N2 8JA. [www.the-archer.co.uk](http://www.the-archer.co.uk)

## Two books for your Christmas wish list

By Daphne Chamberlain

Every Christmas present wish list should include a good book, so here are two with a local flavour.

Mari I'Anson's *Finchley Sketchbook*

Professional artist Mari, now based at Finchley Central, lived in East Finchley for several years. A member of the Finchley Art Society and The Finchley Society, she is well known for her illustrations of life abroad, particularly India and Mexico. Now she has used her talent for recording people and places to commemorate Finchley as it is today.

The Finchley Society is backing publication of the *Finchley Sketchbook*, which costs £15. It should be on sale at Waterstones and Waitrose, and possibly in the libraries. Copies may also be available from Mari I'Anson, tel. 020 8346 7011, or David Smith, tel. 020 8883 4154.

*Show Time Too*, a second anthology from East Finchley Writers

Fresh from their successful evening of reading at the East Finchley Arts Festival, our local writing group have launched another compilation of their work. We don't get the bonus of their performance skills, but this collection of 47 pieces comes to energetic life on the printed page. This is an extraordinarily powerful collection of very individual writing, plus an introduction to each of the contributors. It would be unfair to single out any one piece. Just read them. There are things here you'll remember for a long time.

East Finchley Writers meet every Wednesday at The Old White Lion. Please contact Carola on 020 8883 5808 or Lilian on 020 8444 1793 for further details. Their smart, glossy paperback, priced at £6.01, is available via [www.lulu.com/rgoldswain](http://www.lulu.com/rgoldswain).

## Improved road works planning

Barnet is to introduce a new scheme aimed at making the location and timing of road works more organised and co-ordinated.

Any utility or other company needing to carry out works will have to apply for a permit from the council. The council will then be able to set certain conditions on timing, co-ordination or the amount of road space to be left available to other road users during the works. Any companies who break the terms of their permit or work without a permit may be fined.

## STEWART DUNCAN

OPTICIANS SINCE 1962

20% DISCOUNT

ON SPECTACLES AND LENSES  
WITH THIS VOUCHER ONLY.

020 8883 2020

126 High Road, East Finchley, N2 9ED

Offer valid until 24<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

You have to present this voucher with your purchase. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer. Sight tests and contact lens checks excluded from the offer.  
Ask in store for more details.



ACTIVE CHIROPRACTIC  
HEALTHCARE CLINICS

BACK PAIN - NECK PAIN - SHOULDER, ARM & LEG PAIN  
SCIATICA - SLIPPED DISKS - TRAPPED NERVES  
PROBLEMS WITH JOINTS & MUSCLES - SPORTS INJURIES

for a full consultation with

Mark Warren, BSC, MChiro, ICSSD

Member of the British Chiropractic Association  
Associate Member of the British Chiropractic Sports Council

Call us on 020 8444 0666

MASSAGE - ACUPUNCTURE - REFLEXOLOGY - REIKI - YOGA - PILATES  
98 High Road, East Finchley N2 9EB  
[www.activechiropractic.org.uk](http://www.activechiropractic.org.uk) [info@activechiropractic.org.uk](mailto:info@activechiropractic.org.uk)



*Room on the Broom* is the latest hit show from Tall Stories. Photo © Simon Turtle.

## Room for drama as new theatre company sweeps in

By John Lawrence

There is a new theatre company in town. The world-renowned Tall Stories have set up home at The Institute next to East Finchley station. Most famous for their long-running production of the children's favourite *The Gruffalo*, they are now staging another Julia Donaldson classic, *Room on the Broom*.

Tall Stories are famous for their storytelling skills and their clever use of puppets. All the characters and creatures in the new show are portrayed

by just four actors. Their productions have been big hits in London and Edinburgh and have toured as far afield as America, Poland, China, Sin-

gapore and Australia.

### Community connections

The company moved here from its former home at the Compass Theatre in Ickenham in order to be nearer central London. It is run by Toby Mitchell, who grew up in Highgate, and Olivia Jacobs, who lives in High Barnet.

The Institute offers them office space and a rehearsal studio, as well as the chance to work closely with the local community.

Toby said: "We'd like to establish good connections with artsdepot and we want to work with primary schools nearby when we're developing and previewing our shows."

For 2010, Tall Stories are devising a history of the universe and stars for five-year-olds, to be called *Twinkle Twinkle*.

### Smoke alarm

The company has already created some drama since arriving in East Finchley. On one of their first days at The Institute, an actor accidentally set off a smoke button on a witch's cauldron and the whole building had to be evacuated.

Find out more about Tall Stories at [tallstories.org.uk](http://tallstories.org.uk). *Room on the Broom* runs at the Pleasance Theatre, Islington, until 3 January 2010.

**SECUREBASE**  
DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY

Est 1988

CCTV

Access Control

Intercom Systems

Intruder Alarms

Locks Doors

Safes Grilles

+ EMERGENCY

LOCKSMITHS

WHY NOT HAVE  
Your Security Problems Solved!  
A FREE ALARM SURVEY



020 8442 0660

112 High Rd • East Finchley • London N2

[www.securebase.co.uk](http://www.securebase.co.uk)