

New parking zone is 'nonsense'

Residents of Lynmouth Road, off Fortis Green, are up in arms over a new Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) installed on their street. Some claim that Haringey Council introduced the CPZ just weeks ago, but did not consult them properly about its implementation. Residents now say that the CPZ is causing them more harm than good.

Majority opposes scheme

Hassan Esfandiary, 62, a Lynmouth Road resident, said: "We carried out our own survey, and found that in Lynmouth Road it was 4: 1 against the CPZ.

"I even got a ticket outside my house because we were waiting for the disability living allowance, because we can't get a disabled parking permit unless we had applied for this first. It's meant to be for our benefit. It's all nonsense really isn't it? Absolute nonsense.

The retiree said that he was concerned about the undemocratic nature of the issue. He said: "We had no consultation. All the consultation we had about it was against it." Mr Esfandiary has lived in Lynmouth Road since 1972 and says he has never had any issues with parking until now.

Although unavailable for comment on Lynmouth Road specifically, Haringey Council issued a report of statutory consultation. In it, objections made to the introduction of the CPZ claim that it was unnecessary because there were no previous problems with parking in this area.

Council response

Haringey Council said: "Although only three roads expressed support for inclusion in the zone it was decided the other roads within the pro-

posed boundary should also be included in this process, as they will inevitably suffer from displacement parking if omitted from the scheme.

Talks of a meeting to address the issue are under way, but no further action has yet been taken in response to residents' concerns.

Obituary: Lois Sutherland, 1936-2010

Lois May Sutherland (neé Hardwick) died on 10 November, aged 74, at Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, after suffering a stroke and complications.

Born in Stratford, Ontario, Canada, she went to college where she met and married actor Donald Sutherland. The couple later divorced and Lois came to England where she worked for Ballet Ramtrained bert, as a teacher and taught at Our Lady of Muswell RC Primary School, before becoming headteacher at Highgate Primary School.

She was an avid film fan and friend of the Phoenix cinema and will be remembered as a unique friend, inspiration and

teacher. Anyone wishing to attend the commemoration ceremony



on 10 December at St Marylebone Crematorium, East End Road, at 2pm to celebrate her life should please contact Eric Albani (former pupil) for details on 020 8883 4403 / 07710 309 908 or eric.albani@bt.com.



Locked in the Wood

On Thursday 4 November a woman walking her dog was locked in Cherry Tree Wood. She managed to attract the attention of PCSO Officer Joe Mahoney of East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood Team who contacted Barnet. He waited with her in the dark until after 6pm when a council representative arrived with a key.

Signs at the park's three entrances state: "This is a locked park" but nowhere are closing times given. Ironically, a notice was on display stating that the gates will be locked at 4.30pm until 8.00am - but from 8 November. Locals view these timings with cynicism as a single mobile unit is responsible for locking several sites (see The Archer September 2009).

In the days when we had a park keeper, a bell was rung at closing time. Surely there should be some system of warning park users, thus preventing a potentially scary and distressing situation?

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By Ricky Savage, the voice of social irresponsibility

Are you ready for the morning after?

It's that time of year again. Time for Classic FM to release another CD of carols you love to loathe. Time for an overeating, over-spending, credit-crunching final blow-out before Slasher Osborne raises VAT and cuts jobs. And talking about jobs and Christmas, you can't avoid the weird world of the office party.

Office parties can mean anything from the ridiculous to the insane. There's the bankers' trickle-down effect, where the champagne trickles down rich men's throats, and the low rent pub crawl, where the office junior trickles down into the gutter. There's the high-tech techno party where the spotty kid from the post room photocopies his backside and the low-tech dancerama where the Lothario from sales falls head first off the table. You could even have an international incident where the entire workforce gets arrested for doing something vaguely obscene to Nelson's Column. And that's before they serve the food.

It doesn't matter what gets served at the office party because everyone will be so far out to lunch that they'll eat sand and think it's caviar. Sell-by dates are not just optional, they are there to be ignored. Food poisoning? Blame it on the cocktails and the maniac who came up with the weird mixture of Bailey's, Bacardi, vodka and lemonade.

Music may be the food of love, but at the office party it's karaoke and the girl from accounts who thinks she's the missing link between Britain's not got talent and the Z factor, violating the collected works of Cheryl Cole, in Japanese.

Which brings me to sex. Every office party worth forgetting has at least one unfortunate romantic moment that neither participant wants to remember and which probably involves the manager's office, a fax machine, a cherry trifle and a bowl of cashew nuts. And it will be on YouTube long before the office opens the next morning.

So, if you're going to an office party remember the wise words of my great aunt: "If God had meant us to behave at office parties he'd never have given us Alka Seltzer."

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Jo Sutherland





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