



Letters to the editor

Danger junction should be widened

Dear Editor,

I write in support of your correspondent Pete Eiseman-Renyard (*THE ARCHER*, April 2010). Now the pavement on the north east corner of the High Road and Fortis Green cross-roads has been circumsised, sooner or later an articulated lorry will cut across it and demolish the front of Domino's. I just hope that nobody gets hurt.

For some years in the 70s and 80s there was a plan to widen this junction. It proposed moving the Bald Faced Stag, covering the pigeon corner flowerbed with tarmac and demolishing the shop now occupied by Domino's (some readers may remember that this shop was empty and derelict for many years).

I don't know why this plan was abandoned. Maybe it was another casualty of the high-handed Department of Transport intervention described by Mr Eiseman-Renyard. Since then there have been several attempts to improve traffic management in this area, none of which can be truthfully described as successful.

The inability of Transport for London and Barnet Highways Department to relieve the awful traffic congestion and its consequential impact on local bus services, is an embarrassment to both organisations, who must rue the failure to widen the junction 30 years ago.

If they are serious about improving this junction, the crossing should be made a boxed junction; all turning, both left and right, by all traffic should be proscribed; the separate pedestrian cycle should cease (since it would no longer be needed), and the junction should be policed by highly visible cameras.

However, since there are an awful lot of people who lack the wit to understand how this would work, and would get most upset about it, I doubt it will ever happen, even if there is a really bad accident at some point in the future.

**Yours faithfully,
John Dearing,
Address supplied**

Where did they go?

Dear Editor,

Does anyone have any idea what happened to numbers 1-8 of Chapel Court in East Finchley? I would really like to know as this has puzzled me for years.

**Yours faithfully,
Tracey Carroll,
Address supplied.**

Please contact us at *THE ARCHER* if you know the answer to Tracey's question.

Power to the people

Dear Editor,

Nick Clegg, our new deputy Prime Minister, recently said "power from the politicians to the people". Now the post-election dust has settled a little, a small group recently discussed how we might further the debate on setting up a local council in the East Finchley community (*THE ARCHER*, March 2010). Although a locally elected town/village council would be free of party politics, it would work with our local councillors who have much knowledge of the area and would provide a direct link with Barnet Council.

A local council could contribute to services and voluntary groups, currently struggling to obtain funding from Barnet, such as the East Finchley Welfare Service (*THE ARCHER*, May 2010). Perhaps some form of community transport to the Royal Free

Hospital could be funded. Community groups, local centres, youth projects, luncheon clubs, Cherry Tree Wood, local festivals, crèche or nursery facilities, could all be possible recipients of some financial support from a local council.

Local traders could also benefit from working with an East Finchley council, which would have some powers to improve the street appearance and help in any negotiations with Barnet Council.

As a next step, we would like to address and meet up with as many groups as possible, to explain more. If you run any local group, service or facility, or are involved with church or other faith groups, please get in touch by email to harriett2@btinternet.com or via *The Archer*.

**Yours faithfully,
Harriet Copperman
Diploma Avenue, N2.**

Locking nuts are no answer

Dear Editor,

Regarding your article 'Lock up your wheels' (*THE ARCHER*, May 2010). A neighbour in our road had his wheels stolen twice from his Ford Focus and all his wheels had locking nuts. Even his alarm did not go off and no one heard a thing.

So locking nuts are not the answer. Perhaps a police presence would help but where are they? Surely by now they know about this car crime being carried out in East Finchley?

**Yours faithfully,
Name supplied,
Elmfield Road, N2.**

Grant a last wish

Dear Editor,

A person's last wish can be very simple, yet is often the hardest to grant. The HoneyRose Foundation is a registered charity dedicated to raising money and organising special days for terminally ill people over the age of 40. The foundation is the only charity in the country dedicated to helping this age group. The HoneyRose Foundation has helped over 580 families and their loved ones. The heart-warming appreciation from the people who enjoy these specially organised days, is a reward like no other. The HoneyRose Foundation was founded in memory of three friends of Lynn Duffy who all died of a terminal illness. Nicola Honey passed away aged 21 of a rare ovarian cancer, Karen White was 27 when she lost her battle with a brain tumour and Rose Clark fought lung cancer until she was aged 57. The HoneyRose Foundation is a non-profit organisation that relies totally on finances provided by fund-raising events held throughout the year and donations. More information can be obtained at www.honeyrosefoundation.co.uk.

**Yours faithfully,
Emma Mehmet
HoneyRose Foundation**

Fr. Ronald Jordan

All Saints Church in Durham Road was packed on 25 March for the Requiem Mass of well-loved local priest Father Ronald Jordan. The service was conducted by The Reverend Peter Wheatley, Bishop of Edmonton, assisted by Father Christopher Hardy, vicar of All Saints, and included the music of Fauré's *Requiem*.

'Father Ronnie' lived in East Finchley for 35 years, serving in an honorary capacity at Holy Trinity Church and, for the past 12 years, at All Saints. He had previously been vicar of St Michael's in Bowes Park, Wood Green.



Beloved by many, a walk down the High Road with Father Ronnie was like a royal procession as he stopped to chat and to admire babies and dogs alike. He was a loyal and devoted friend, gladly giving of his time to those who appreciated his wisdom.

Many will remember him for his compassionate counsel at the time of bereavement and for the sensitive way he officiated at the funerals of many local people. His friends appreciated his Rabelaisian sense of humour and the wicked twinkle in his eyes. He leaves a widow Gillian, a daughter Katharine, and many grieving friends.

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All set for a special party. Photo by Samantha Check

Take the strain out of your tea party

By Diana Cormack

Only a couple of months after returning to work following maternity leave, Samantha Check was made redundant. Like many others, she was on the look-out for a suitable job. Then, driving along Long Lane, she spotted an empty shop and realised that acquiring it could bring an inspirational idea to fruition.

Sam had always loved the ritual of afternoon tea and all that went with it. Why not open a place of her own where people could come to take afternoon tea? So Tea Party was born and private parties for all sorts of occasions are now held in the gorgeous room at 143 Long Lane.

Children's after school parties are popular and there is a dressing up box for those younger ladies. Whether you

want a girlie get-together for a chat, a hen or a pre-wedding party, a baby shower or a birthday bash (whatever age is being celebrated), Sam can supply the food, drink, decorations and even live music. There is the added pleasure of everything being served on vintage china.

Visit www.teaparty.uk.com; email Samantha@teaparty.uk.com or call 07779 635 876.

THE ARCHER 200 quiz answers

- Q1: (b) January 1993 as a pilot A4 sheet. *THE ARCHER* went to the current A3 tabloid sized format in February 1993.
- Q2: (d) *THE ARCHER* led with policing, describing crimes and bad behaviour!
- Q3: (b) Hartley Booth MP for Finchley 1992-1997.
- Q4: (d) Eric Aumonier (1888-1974) the British sculptor whose work appears on TfL's Headquarters at 55 Broadway, SW1, and the Daily Express building, Fleet Street, among many others.
- Q5: (a) East End (Finchley) station opened on the Great Northern overground line from Finsbury Park in 1867. It was renamed East Finchley in 1886. The current station dates from 1939.
- Q6: (c) The Finchley Athenaeum, East Finchley's first cinema, was located at 170 High Road, N2, between Hertford and Bedford Roads and next to the Black Bess temperance hotel.
- Q7: (b) 1915. Cherry Tree Wood, formerly known as Dirthouse Wood, once formed part of Hornsey Park, the Bishop of London's hunting park.
- Q8: (d) 1974, the year of two UK general elections, the resignation of US President Richard Nixon and the invasion of Cyprus by Turkey.
- Q9: (b) Margaret Thatcher, who was elected MP for Finchley in 1959, opened the first flats in Prospect Ring in April 1960.
- Q10: (b) Tony's Continental store at 140 High Road was established in 1971 by Tony Athanasiou and run by his family.

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