



Biting robber sentenced

By Janet Maitland

A 17-year-old youth who bit a boy on the face and then stole his mobile in East End Road last October was sentenced at Hendon Magistrates Court on 16 January. He received a 12-month Youth Offender Panel referral.

Because of the severity of the attack, which left the victim bleeding, the court heard that one option was detention in the interests of public safety. "But we are persuaded to give you a chance," said the magistrate.

At the time of the youth's arrest on 29 November, he was already on bail for another alleged robbery, and although he was given bail on curfew conditions, he breached these and was again arrested. He subsequently pleaded guilty to the offence.

Police informed *THE ARCHER* shortly after the recent sentencing hearing that the youth was now wanted by police again

after he failed to answer police bail to be charged with a drugs offence.

Binding contract

The aim of a Youth Offender Panel referral is to bind the offender to a contract which includes reparation to the victim or the wider community and a programme of activity to change his or her behaviour. Victims and their families are invited to participate either by attending panel meetings or having their views represented. If the contract is broken in any way, the offender is sent back to court with the likelihood that they will receive a more severe sentence.



Woman cut free from car

A driver was trapped in her car for two hours while firemen cut her free following a collision at the junction of Bancroft Avenue and Aylmer Road on Saturday 11 February. Her car was in collision with an HGV lorry travelling north.

The car driver was taken to hospital but her injuries were not life threatening, and the lorry driver was not injured. *ARCHER* reader Allan Ramsey photographed the aftermath of the collision, which is not thought to have been connected to the icy conditions at the time.



Band makes its sound heard

By John Lawrence

Rock and rockabilly group Sound of the Suburb have played regularly on the main stage at the East Finchley Festival and now they're taking their music to an even wider audience with the release of their first album.

The album, called not unreasonably *Sound of the Suburb*, was launched with a packed gig at Madden's Ale House in the High Road in late January and it's available to buy now at Alan's Records, in the High Road, and online via iTunes, Spotify and other download sites.

The band came together six years ago when they were all dads at Brookland Junior School. Since then they've been playing their mix of classic cover versions from all decades at local venues, parties and the festival. The line-up is Chris Berlingieri on lead guitar, Rafael Landicho on vocals, Steve Phillips on drums, Martin Ross on acoustic guitar and Mike Solomon on drums.

Original songs

Their album has ten original and self-penned tracks in a mix of styles including the rocking '70s *Girl* and the funny but poignant *The Ballad of East Finchley*. It follows on from an EP they released last year with their versions of tracks by The Beatles, Stray Cats, Steppenwolf and Cheap Trick.

Chris, of Durham Road, said it was thrilling to record their

own tracks. "When we did gigs at pubs, we always put a few of our original songs in the set and they went over well. We liked the songs we were coming up with, and before we knew it, we had enough for an album.

"We recorded the basic

tracks in one very long day at Livingston Studios in Wood Green and then mixed them at the home of our producer. People always get up and dance and have a good time at our gigs and we're hoping they like the album too."

Spring fair supports special cause

The regular Vintage Tea Party and Gift Fair held at The Boogaloo in Highgate on the first Saturday of each month is supporting The Eve Appeal in March, funding research into gynaecological cancers.

Entry to the event at 312 Archway Road, N6, is free and it runs from 11am to 5pm. Every month, there are vintage clothes and gifts to browse and buy from a collection of small local craftspeople and businesses, along with homemade cakes and refreshments to enjoy.

The fair is run by Susanna Guidone-Sorkin and Cristina Guidone-Charles, whose vintage goods business A Room in My House is based in King

Street Mews in East Finchley, along with Alison Stephens, who makes and sells seasonal jams and chutneys through her Delightful Pantry Company.

"We have been working extremely hard to establish a warm, welcoming and relaxed atmosphere," they said. "Together with the choice of shopping, this brings customers and stallholders back to visit us again and again. We're proud to be supporting The Eve Appeal."

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