



Rubbish pile “an eyesore and a hazard”

Our article documenting the rising tide of litter locally (‘Are East Finchley streets getting more untidy?’ in *THE ARCHER*, May 2016) sparked a response from reader Kate Barnett.

Kate has been emailing Barnet Council for weeks about the large amount of rubbish being left around the commercial bins where her road Baronsmere Road meets the High Road.

Kate says: “It’s there nearly every day and it’s a complete eyesore. It’s a hazard for everyone, particularly the elderly or those with prams and buggies, as the bins and rubbish are on the pavement and the road next to a tree which almost completely blocks a way through. That’s not to mention the health hazard from rubbish spread around the road and pavement.”

Kate was keen to know why the bins couldn’t be moved to the alleyway behind the nearby

shops and put out only on the day of collection.

After some weeks a response arrived from Barnet Council to say there is not enough room for the bins at the back of the commercial premises and that they are therefore placed at the widest section of pavement.

The council claimed that black bags of rubbish left around the bins were from residents living above the shops and were collected daily.

Kate and other residents of Baronsmere Road who share her concerns will no doubt be keeping a close eye on the situation to see if the unsightly piles of rubbish can be properly managed.

See Letters, page 11.



Unsightly piles: Rubbish mounts up on Baronsmere Road

Open house

East Finchley Open artists will be throwing open the doors to their homes and studios once again this year to welcome visitors over two weekends. A string of venues across East Finchley and Muswell Hill will be open for viewing, browsing and buying art works including jewellery, photos, textiles, paintings, sculptures and more. A full list of venues is available at www.eastfinchleyopen.org.uk.



Tribute: Edwina and Nigel Roberts last year

Open season for gorgeous gardens

The Open Gardens season is with us again, giving people a chance to enjoy the creativity and share the knowledge of some talented host gardeners, all in aid of caring charities like Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie and Parkinson’s UK.

Local organiser Susan Bennett, who regularly opens her garden in St Regis Close, N10, says gardeners support each other’s events by donating plants, serving tea and manning the gate.

A tribute to Nigel

She particularly remembers the help given to her by East Finchley couple Edwina and Nigel Roberts, who created their fabulous garden from scratch in two years. Sadly, as plans were afoot for this summer season, Nigel died suddenly at the gym, aged 62.

Edwina is holding a pop-up event inviting the public, friends and colleagues to celebrate his achievements. It takes place at their home at 58 Summerlee Avenue, N2, on Sunday 3 July from 2pm to 6pm. Admission is £3.50 (free for children) and there will be delicious

home made teas, plants for sale and a stall with jams, pickles and produce donated by fellow allotment holders.

June openings

Locally, Caro and David Broome’s garden at 79 Church Lane, N2, will be the first to open, on Sunday 12 June from 2pm to 6pm. The couple have two notable new features for 2016: a



Electric-tree: David Broome’s new installation

redesigned front garden and an ‘electric tree’ designed by David.

Caro and David will have plants for sale, homemade cakes and a raffle with prizes donated by local businesses, as well as a children’s treasure hunt with small prizes for everyone who takes part.

Susan Bennett and Earl

Hyde’s garden at 5 St Regis Close, Alexandra Park Road, N10, opens on Sunday 19 June from 2pm to 6.30pm, with homemade teas, a plant sale and a chance to see the tea house in their oriental garden. The garden has wheelchair access.

Find details of the full list of garden openings in the area at www.ngs.org.uk.

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