



Great plate: Royalty Lounge owner Medhat Sefein with his daughter Sandy. Photo Mike Coles.

## New restaurant is a family concern

By Diana Cormack

Another restaurant has joined the range of cosmopolitan eateries available in and around East Finchley. The Royalty Lounge, on the corner of Lincoln Road and the High Road, opened its doors on 1 June offering Lebanese cuisine as its speciality.

The chef and manager are Lebanese, as are the mother and her three children who run the business. When asked why they chose N2, Sara, Sandy and Steven Sefein and Johan Abdelmelik gleefully told us: "Because we used to live here!" The family were High Road residents from 1989 until 2011 and the children attended local schools.

With an extensive menu

clearly indicating vegetarian and gluten free, they are aiming to offer familiar dishes with a difference as well as a variety of speciality dishes. There is a selection of cakes to choose from and Lebanese wines are available. The air-conditioned restaurant is open from noon until late seven days a week and includes a covered outdoor area for shisha smoking.

## Neil McNaughton, 1946 – 2018

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our Archer team colleague Neil McNaughton. Neil was diagnosed with a brain tumour in March and, after treatment at UCH, he was moved to the North London Hospice where he passed away on 12 June.

Neil was born in Liverpool and attended Manchester University, after which he entered the world of publishing. Later he became a teacher, ending his career as a senior master at University College School. An academic, he wrote a number of books on economics and politics

as well as two novels.

His wide ranging contributions to *The Archer* over the last ten years give some indication of the depth of Neil's knowledge and his skill as a writer. We send our commiserations to his wife Tina and their families. Neil will be sadly missed.

## Contrasting choral works

By Marian Bunzl

North London Chorus's July concert will feature two contrasting sacred choral pieces by Italian composers usually associated with opera: Salieri's *Requiem in C Minor* and Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*.

In his day Salieri, though pivotal in the development of opera, was overshadowed by Mozart; his music has since been rarely performed, and today his name mostly conjures up the villain of Peter Shaffer's *Amadeus*. However, recently there has been a revival of interest in his music, and we are thoroughly enjoying engaging with the poetic setting and beautiful harmonies of his Requiem Mass.

Puccini, mainly known for his romantic operas, composed his *Messa di Gloria* as a graduation piece. Performed only once and never printed, it was rediscovered in 1952.

We will be joined by four distinguished soloists from the world of opera, accompanied by our regular orchestra Meridian Sinfonia and led by Murray Hipkin. We do hope you will join us in enjoying these wonderful works at St James' Church, Muswell Hill, on Saturday 14 July at 7.30pm. Book online at northlondonchorus.org/tickets or buy tickets from St James Bookshop and Les Aldrich Music Shop, Muswell Hill.

## Letters

### Pizza bike parking

Dear Editor,

We would like to respond to the letter regarding the Domino's motorcycles parking on Fairlawn Avenue in East Finchley (*The Archer*, June 2018). It is great to hear that Domino's feel that they have been "a proud part of the Fairlawn Road community for 30 years".

Perhaps during that time they would have realised that our street is called Fairlawn Avenue rather than Fairlawn Road. Not knowing the name of our street is a good indication of how close they are to our community.

The real community of Fairlawn Avenue have sent a petition signed by every single resident on the street asking Domino's to stop parking here. The Fairlawn Avenue community unanimously does not want Domino's to park on our street. This petition was sent to councillors Arjun Mittra and Alison Moore in October 2017 and to [Barnet Council environment committee chairman] Dean Cohen in February this year. As yet none of these councillors has addressed the issue.

Lastly, Domino's state in their response to the letter that they agree to "use one bay out of four". When we asked the manager of Domino's to move some of the eight bikes (using two bays) the day after *The Archer* was published she said she had no knowledge of this agreement or the letter that *The Archer* published and that Domino's would continue to use as much space as they needed on Fairlawn Avenue.

We welcome a discussion with Domino's and the local councillors to try to resolve this problem rather than argue about it in the newspaper.

Yours faithfully,  
Residents of Fairlawn Avenue.

### Class reunion

Dear Editor,

I was intrigued to read the article in the June *Archer* about David Smith retiring as a governor of Holy Trinity School. I was a pupil at the old school in East End Road in the 1950s and I have very fond memories of the school and the annual holidays down in Seaford.

I would love to make contact with anyone who was in my class at the school. I am at the following address.

Yours faithfully,  
Anthony Lazarus  
11a Holly Park Road, N11 3HA.

### Litter danger

Dear Editor,

I was particularly interested to read your articles about litter and fly tipping in the latest *Archer* (June 2018). We live at the north end of East Finchley and our twice-daily walk to Tudor School takes us past awful amounts of rubbish alongside Vale Farm Allotments between Avondale Road and the North Circular.

It's really a disgrace and some of the litter has been there since January. I can't let my toddler walk the route as there's broken glass and it's not safe.

I have raised cases with Barnet Council, and tried to raise awareness by sending almost daily images (see photo below) to Barnet Conservatives group via Facebook over the last month or two but to no avail.

Kind regards,  
Kate Arnot,  
Address supplied.



Tipping point: Piles of rubbish on Kate Arnot's walking route.

### Many hands

Dear Editor,

Now that it is clear that East Finchley streets have no regular litter picking service, I suggest that on a daily basis, everyone picks up any litter outside their home on the pavement and gutter, and also three extra pieces on their way to the tube or the shops. It can easily be disposed of in the large wheely bins on each street.

I have been doing this (to the amazement of passersby) but it would be even more effective if we all joined in.

Yours faithfully  
M Robinson,  
Address supplied.

Send your correspondence to: "Letters Page" The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 2DE or e-mail the-archer@lineone.net.

Letters without verifiable contact addresses will not be printed. Contact details can be withheld on request at publication. We reserve the right to abridge letters for reasons of space.

### Shop rage

Dear Editor,

Further to your recent reader's letter about road rage (*The Archer*, June 2018), I have now experienced very ugly shop rage locally.

One evening I went into Iceland where a couple in their 20s were straddling the entire 'entry' aisle. I politely said: "Excuse me please, may I come through?"

"No," came the man's aggressive retort. "We're walking at the same pace as you!"

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