



Diana Cormack from The Archer presents a cheque to Lauren Mills at the Barnet Carers Trust. Photo Mike Coles

Archer medallions boost for Barnet Young Carers

The Archer 25th anniversary souvenir medallions, designed by our picture editor Mike Coles, sold well in local businesses over recent months. Thanks to everyone who bought one and thanks also to stockists Aliyah J, Black Gull Bookshop, Budgens, Cherry Tree Gift Shop, Margot's Bakery, Tony's Continental, Ryker Kids and the Phoenix cinema.

Our objective was to raise money to help the work of Barnet Young Carers, who assist young people whose lives are dominated by caring for a sick or disabled parent or family member.

Pictured is our writer Diana Cormack presenting a cheque to Young Carers Support and Outreach Officer Lauren Mills along with her colleague Keely

Dunning and Maivel Rodriguez Lopez, Head of Carer Services.

Maivel sent the following appreciation: "We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the generous donation of £600 that *The Archer* has kindly given to us in order to support our Young Carers Hubs & Activities. These activities happen monthly and they are an important space for young carers to be, learn, develop, have a break and, most importantly, be kids.

"Your donation will help us to continue offering this support to them, which many of them heavily rely on. On behalf of Barnet Carers Centre and the Young Carers team in particular, we thank you for helping us make a difference in children's lives."

There are hundreds of young carers in Barnet known to the support team but sadly many who are not. If you are a young carer or you know of one who may benefit from their help, contact the Young Carers Support and Outreach Team on 020 8432 2092 or email youngcarers@barnetcarers.org. They are based at Barnet Carers Centre, 303 Ballards Lane, North Finchley. For more information visit www.barnetcarers.org.

Do you have a story for us?

You can send your stories, letters, and photos by email to the-archer@lineone.net or by post to The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 2DE. Tweet us @TheArcherN2 and find us on Facebook. You can also find out more about contributing and advertising at www.the-archer.co.uk

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

LOCAL POLICE, LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Jan Lovell, of the East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood Team, updates us on the latest crime news. Jan and the team can be contacted by email at: EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk, or by phone on 020 7161 9014. Follow the team on Twitter @MPSEastFinchley.

Youths arrested

A call was received on Tuesday 20 March that five boys, one with a knife, were in the process of trying to rob people near East Finchley tube station. Officers were on scene within 11 minutes and noticed a group, matching the descriptions given, standing at the bus top near Cherry Tree Wood. As police approached two suspects ran off.

One suspect tried to discard a rucksack witnessed by an officer and a large combat knife was found. Two 15-year-old males were arrested on suspicion of robbery and possession of an offensive weapon. The intended victims were two 14-year-olds and one 13-year-old playing basketball in Cherry Tree Wood, being targeted for their mobile phones.

Extra patrols have been made and are continuing in and around the Cherry Tree Wood area at different times of day and evening, on foot and using vehicles, to continue the support of mainly our young people against robbery.

Drugs arrest

Also on Tuesday 20 March, a warrant was executed by local police as part of Operation Sceptre, an ongoing operation to prevent knife crime and associated crime activities. A known person was targeted who was believed to be selling drugs in and around Finchley.

During the warrant we seized a quantity of cannabis and other

items indicating drug supply equipment. We also seized some mace spray, ammunition and a "zombie knife". Intel was received indicating stolen motorbikes were at the address and two mopeds were identified which are believed to be stolen. One suspect was arrested and an investigation is under way into the offences of possession with intent to supply, possession of a firearm, possession of a bladed article, possession of ammunition, and theft of a motor vehicle.

Vehicle crime

We are still seeing an increase in thefts from vehicles. Check out your vehicle for valuables and please, please make sure you lock it, no matter how rushed you are. Most of the thefts in the last month have shown no damage to the vehicle. Two very honest residents admitted to not locking their vehicles; one of them had private CCTV which showed a male trying car doors, opening and entering theirs, taking things from it then trying the next car, which was locked.

Yes, there are such things as signal blockers which thieves can deploy to prevent vehicles from locking. This is why it's so important to physically check your vehicle is actually locked. Blockers are unlikely to have been used in these instances as blockers work for thefts on a close group of vehicles and this has not been the case here.



Hey, honey, good news!

Volunteers at Long Lane Pasture report that honey bees have now returned to the site after some months without the previous population of hives.

Deena, one of the plot holders on the allotments next to the pasture on Long Lane, has moved in her bees from a site about a mile away that was proving difficult to access.

The pasture volunteers say it is good news for the

allotments and surrounding gardens to have a hard working army of tireless pollinators that has arrived right on their doorstep. They ask pasture visitors to avoid disturbing or entering the bee enclosure at any time.

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2-3 Bedford Mews Bedford Road London N2 9DF