



Guess the gadgets and win a prize

By Daphne Chamberlain

Did you identify the Victorian apple peeler in our April issue? Awed congratulations if you did; and if you didn't, you are certainly not the only one.

Now local resident Maurice Collins has given us another challenge: five gadgets from his collection to identify. This time, though, we do have clues.

Maurice, co-founder of children's charity, Kith and Kids, is offering 10 signed copies of his book on historical gadgets as prizes.

How to enter:

Email what you think each gadget is to news@the-archer.co.uk marking your email 'Gadgets Quiz', or post them to Gadgets Quiz, The Archer, PO Box 3699, N2 2DE, remembering to include your contact details. The closing date to receive all entries is Friday 25 June 2021. Winners will be chosen at random from all email and postal entries. Answers will appear in our July 2021 edition.



1. Harmonious times in the classroom



2. Up with the larks



3. Used on the farm



4. Basic pain stopper



5. Ladies may figure this out

Mystery of the missing Archers

By Jane Marsh

The Archer distribution team were mystified last month when they were notified late one afternoon that the usual 10,000 copies had been delivered to their house... only to find nothing outside.

Frantic texts and emails were circulated and, eventually, contact was made with Sharman's, our printers in Peterborough, who promised to investigate.

Meanwhile, one of our readers in the county roads had a bit of a shock when she returned from work to find 50 large bundles of newspapers piled up in her front garden.

Luckily, she located the delivery note with the correct

address on and kindly contacted us, after which we were able to arrange collection and delivery to the right address in the next road.

Fortunately, despite the slightly delayed arrival, distribution of rounds to our team of deliverers was not affected. Thanks to all who helped solve the mystery and, drivers, remember always to follow your satnav carefully!

To bee or not to bee

By Ann Bronkhorst

In September 2020 there was a scary moment at the Market Place and Park Road playground in East Finchley: a swarm of bees was seen hanging from a branch. Lucie Chaumeton, the local beekeeper we wrote about last October, buzzed round to check it out but found the swarm had moved on. Sighs of relief from parents.

Capital Bee, a London organisation, explains that a bee swarm hanging on a bush or tree isn't preparing to attack us but is waiting for scout bees to bring news of a permanent home. If we don't disturb them they will soon leave.

Lucie thought, however, that the 'bees' in this case were probably wasps. Wasps don't swarm like bees but dozens of male wasps gathering round a queen might look like a swarm. By September, usually, bees would have found a place to hibernate or would have died, although last autumn honeybee swarms were seen later than usual.

Learn to love them all

Wasps hang around a bit longer than bees before dying or hibernating. Most of us like and protect bees but are uneasy, even fearful of wasps and hornets, as the many pest control ads on the

internet show. But wasps are the gardener's friend, providing natural pest control by feeding greenfly and caterpillars to their larvae. And, like the 'good' bees and many other insects, they do the planet an accidental favour by getting covered with pollen and spreading it around.

Bumblebees are easy to identify and are much loved. www.bumblebeeconservation-trust.co.uk can tell you which bumble is which (and much more) and Capital Bee even run a bumblebee rehoming scheme. To sort out all these bees and bee lookalikes, including soldier flies and the unfairly dreaded hornets, www.rspb.org.uk has plenty of photos and information. So put away the insecticide, plant some bee-friendly flowers and herbs for them now summer's here and help them survive.

The Archer on the move

The Archer's website is now easier to use on your mobile phone. Our online pages have been redesigned to make it quicker to find important information like contact details and deadlines, and simpler to read our latest edition or search and browse past editions of the newspaper in our archive stretching back to 1993.

So now you really can take The Archer with you wherever you go. Bookmark our website at www.the-archer.co.uk and if you have a QR reader on your phone use the code below to take you straight to our site.



East Finchley Baptist Church

We meet each Sunday for worship at 10.30 am. If you would like to join us please go to our website for further details. All welcome.

For more information please contact the Church Office
Email: office@eastfinchleybc.org.uk
www.eastfinchleybc.org.uk