



CCTV review as burglars target shops

By Janet Maitland

CW Andrew Pharmacy on the High Road, N2, was burgled over the Easter bank holiday weekend, the latest in a string of attacks on small businesses around East Finchley. Alerted by the alarm at 4am on Easter Monday, CW Andrew staff rushed to their shop only to find the door smashed in and cash stolen. Owner Paresh Shah told us his family-run pharmacy was also broken into last August.

Over the last couple of months burglars have tried to break into two other shops on the High Road. “Both had shutters which kept them secure and deterred the suspects,” said Jan Lovell, from the East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood police team.

Attacks on local businesses

In the last 18 months several small businesses in N2 have been broken into: the now-closed New Local Café twice in 24 hours by different burglars, the East Finchley tube station shop, the Ella Food Centre, the N2 Food Centre and now CW Andrew, for the second time in less than a year. Last July the King Street Food and Wine shop, off Church Lane, was also burgled by thieves forcing their way in despite the locked metal shutters.

Camera locations to be reviewed

ACCTV camera close to CW Andrew covers a large area and

is one of several cameras on the High Road. We asked Barnet Council where their cameras are positioned and a spokesperson said they “weren’t in a position to confirm exact locations”, but added that the council was undertaking a comprehensive review of its CCTV cameras to “ensure they’re in the right places to monitor and deter crime.”

The review will take into account crime statistics and involve the police, parking services, libraries, Barnet Homes and Street Scene services.

East Finchley councillor Arjun Mitra said there was now a more streamlined process for requesting CCTV and added: “However, what would make a big difference is the government properly funding the Met Police.”

You can find current police security advice for businesses by going to www.met.police.uk and searching for ‘business crime prevention’.



Freeze frame: Linda Dolata alongside her nine-year-old self as she appeared in the winter 1963 documentary.



Fame at last after 59 years on ice

By John Lawrence

Deep in the bitterly cold winter of 1963, Linda Dolata’s mother took her and her brother to play in Waterlow Park, Highgate, so that they could try out the new toboggan made by their father.

While there, a man with a large cine camera asked Linda to toboggan down the slope, fall off and turn to laugh at the camera. He said the clip would be on TV some time. Linda never saw herself on television... until 59 years later when earlier this year Channel Five aired a documentary called *The Big Freeze, Winter '63*. Linda happened to watch it and there suddenly was the footage of her nine-year-old self having fun in the snow.

Linda, an expert naturalist and botanist living in Leopold Road, N2, said it was worth the wait: “It was a complete surprise, except that I had a tiny hope as I remembered the film being taken very well. I had to watch it a couple of times to be certain but when I showed my brother and sister they recognized me instantly.”

That unmistakable grin

The clincher for Linda was the glimpse of her practical dad’s wood, steel and rope handiwork on the beautifully made toboggan she was riding.

“I was delighted to see it as I’d always had a hunch I would one day, but a bit sad too to think that my mum had made the time to take us but she wasn’t also on the clip.” After re-watching it several times, Linda realised there

could be no doubt it was her. The clip ends with her shooting a gap-toothed grin at the

cameraman, and Linda has an official school photo from that year with the exact same look.



The weight of snow and ice stretched the copper telephone wires until they reached the ground. East Dundry Lane, Somerset, January 1963



Workshops: Angie Anuforo with leisure centre partner Annalisa Cellini at the Clissold Arms, Fortis Green

Angie’s Jubilee knees-up

Local singer Angie Anuforo has been awarded community funding from the National Lottery to support her singing group project that helps bring people together as well as improve their wellbeing.

She is using the award to fund her Better Breathing and Keep Calm and Sing workshops, along with special dance and live music performances to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee weekend at the Copthall Leisure Centre, Hendon, on Thursday 2 June at 2pm, and at the Clissold Arms in Fortis Green, N2, on Sunday 5 June at 5pm.

Angie says: “I would like to thank the National Lottery for their amazing support plus all

the wonderful people who buy lottery tickets. It’s been great to re-connect and partner up with local organisations with this project called ‘Connect 2 ReConnect’.”

Tickets for the Clissold Arms event are available via Angie’s website at www.angieskeepcalmandsinggroup.co.uk where you can also get in touch if you would like to try her regular socially-distanced in-person workshops at artsdepot, North Finchley.

Our councillor to be mayor

Congratulations to Councillor Alison Moore who, with Labour having gained overall control of Barnet Council, has been selected as the next mayor of the borough.

Alison has represented the East Finchley ward for over 20 years, during which time she has also served on the London Assembly. Her inauguration into her new role was due to take place at the end of May.



P R I S T I N E

CURTAINS • BLINDS • UPHOLSTERY
TAILORING • DRY CLEANING

Need new curtains? Book your free consultation now!

Step 1:

Pick your fabric

Step 2:

Choose your style

Step 3:

Pristine measure your window

Step 4:

Finalise your order

07415 799900 pristine-drycleaning.com

A Local Handyman

available for general household & garden maintenance.

No Job Too Small

Free Estimates

Call John on: 0789 010 3831
or: 0208 883 5325