



Letters

Town Square

Dear Editor,

Thank you for showing the plans for the new town square area outside Budgens and Iceland in the High Road (*The Archer*, March 2023). I agree that this area is in need of refurbishment. Those of us who visit Muswell Hill regularly will know they have made a success of the wide pavement area outside the Odeon Cinema, which is regularly used for market stalls and community events. We could certainly do the same in East Finchley. My only criticism of the designs you published is that the 'grove' of trees on the corner would take up valuable space. I appreciate that it's nice to have some greenery but they would be on the widest and potentially most useful part of the pavement. Trees around the edge of the square would be more than enough.

Gillian Best,
High Road, N2

One zone

Dear Editor

I agree completely with those residents opposed to the new parking zone restrictions. They are not necessary and just a money-making exercise for the Council.

What would be really useful for us would be to make the whole residential area homogenous, rather than splitting it up into mini area zones, as is currently the situation.

As Kensington and Chelsea have done this for many years, there is no reason why our council couldn't manage it also.

Norman Weiss
Address supplied.

Day in the life

Dear Editor,

I read the news today, oh boy. Four thousand five hundred holes in Barnet, Londonshire (Ricky Savage, *The Archer*, March 2024).

David Brindle,
Durham Road, N2.



Wildlife friendly: An example of a Suburb garden that harnesses naturally growing plants for biodiversity

Biodiversity on our doorstep

There are ambitious plans afoot to have Hampstead Garden Suburb officially recognised as the most biodiverse area of urban Britain. Dominic Rose, the resident spearheading the campaign, hopes that in turn other neighbourhoods will be motivated to nurture and support the wildlife around them.

"It is commonly thought that to impact diversity you must accept an unruly garden. This could not be further from the truth," says Dominic. The scientific lead on the project is ecologist Dr Stephen Head, who is the founder head of the Wildlife Gardening Forum.

Dr Head will speak at the

launch to be held at St Jude's Church, Central Square, NW11, at 7pm on Monday 29 April. The event is free and includes a drinks reception but booking is strongly advised on Eventbrite by searching for 'Britain's biggest living garden', or use the QR code below. Find out more at www.britainsbiggestlivinggarden.org

Send your letters to:
news@the-archer.co.uk

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.



Open to view: Susan Bennett and Earl Hyde's garden in Muswell Hill

Visit best back gardens in town

By Susan Bennett

"From those to whom much is given, much is expected." For my husband Earl Hyde and I, opening our garden for the National Garden Scheme since 1996 has been fundamental to that ethos. Last year, we contributed £8,500 towards the £3.4million donated to the scheme's beneficiaries, providing critical support to nursing and health charities.

So, I am thrilled that we are able to open our garden again this year. Described as "a cornucopia of sensual delights" and featured on TV's *Britain's Best Back Gardens*. A warm welcome awaits, whatever the weather.

Come and refresh your spirits, indulge in Earl's delicious home-made cakes and tea, peruse our pottery studio where many of the garden's architectural features were made, and take home plants from our plant sale to enhance your own gardens.

Our garden at 5 St Regis Close, Alexandra Park Road,

N10 2DE, is open on Sunday 28 April, Sunday 30 June and Sunday 4 August from 2pm to 6.30pm. Admission is £5, children free, and dogs on leads welcome. Groups of 10-60 are welcome by arrangement. Contact suebearlh@yahoo.co.uk and let me know if you are inspired to open your own garden for the National Gardens Scheme.

Other local gardens open this spring are 7 Deansway, N2, on Sunday 5 May, and 66 Abbots Gardens, N2, 92 Hampstead Way, NW11, and 5 Hill Close, NW11, all on Sunday 19 May. Find full details at ngs.org.uk

A helping hand for patients through the NHS maze

By Lynn Winton

Asmina Remtulla, who lives in East Finchley, is Chair of the Barnet Primary Care Group. This consists of a team of volunteers dedicated to improving care for patients in Barnet.

Recognising that there is a wealth of confusion and anxiety about how to get help when you and yours are feeling ill, she and her team have produced an easy-to-navigate leaflet with all the guidance and contact num-



Left to right: vc fxc vChair of the Barnet Primary Care Group Asmina Remtulla, Primary Care Group members Margaret Singer and Sue Blain, and CEO of Community Barnet Julie Pal

bers for when your GP practice is closed.

Asmina explained: "Patients need to know the right place to go when they need treatment, but when it is not an emergency. The outcome will save the NHS precious resources by patients

attending the appropriate facility."

Use the QR code here to download the leaflet to your phone or computer. You can also pick up a copy at many GP surgeries and pharmacies in the area.



All Saints' East Finchley

Living the Catholic Faith in the Church of England



All Saints' Church, Durham Road,
East Finchley
Church of England

You are welcome to join us for:

Sunday mass at 10.00 a.m. and
Weekday masses as advertised on the website.

Or join our live-streamed services on our Facebook
page:

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsef/>

Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

For more information,
contact the Vicar, Fr Ian Chandler, on
020 8883 9315

Email: vicar.saintsabounding@gmail.com
or check out our website:
allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk