



## The Archer

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Copy deadlines - May: 11 April, June: 16 May; July: 13 June

## BE PART OF IT Volunteers wanted

Compiled by Lynn Winton

Could you spare an hour or so a week to chat to an older isolated person? **Age UK Barnet** is looking for befrienders to offer friendly chats, support and companionship. The charity also needs walking buddies to help older people to get out and about again after losing the confidence to leave their homes. Please contact Lisa on 020 8432 1422 for this and other volunteering opportunities.

The **North London Hospice** shop in the High Road, N2, would love to hear from people of all ages who are interested in helping out. The hospice shops play a large part in raising essential funds. There are places for students from 16 years old which can help with work experience. Please drop into the shop and speak to the manager Anastasiya.

Can you help keep the **Grange Big Local's** Warm Spaces initiative going as a coffee morning all the year round? It created a warm and welcoming get together within Taring Road Community Centre now that it has a lovely kitchen. If you would like to help please get in touch with **Karen** on 07902 900639 or [karen@grangebiglocal.org](mailto:karen@grangebiglocal.org)

**North London Festival** ([northlondonfestival.org.uk](http://northlondonfestival.org.uk)) takes place annually in the Free Church, Hampstead Garden Suburb from mid-March to mid-May, nurturing young musicians at all levels and ages. The festival needs help to staff the reception desk, direct performers and their parents/teachers and manage back-stage practice rooms. There is also the bonus of listening to these talented youngsters. Contact Rosemary Cook at [enquiriesnlf@outlook.com](mailto:enquiriesnlf@outlook.com)

**Finchley Foodbank** is on the lookout for volunteers. Roles range from receiving deliveries to sorting food donations to restocking shelves and staffing Tuesday and Saturday sessions at St Mary's Church on the High Road, N2. Find out more at [finchleyfoodbank.org.uk](http://finchleyfoodbank.org.uk) or email [finchleyfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:finchleyfoodbank@gmail.com)

If you'd like your organisation to be included in this column please email [news@the-archer.co.uk](mailto:news@the-archer.co.uk)



Green and pleasant: But pollution has been found in the Mutton Brook near Lyttelton playing fields.

Photo Mike Coles

## Probe into pollution levels in the Mutton Brook

By Cobi Jacobs

**Much has been made of the poor quality of Britain's waterways, but now evidence of pollution can be seen close to East Finchley.**

In June 2024, Earthwatch, an international environmental charity, tested Britain's lakes, ponds and streams using 'citizen science'. More than 2,600 volunteers, each with a testing kit in hand, went out to local bodies of water to test for phosphates and nitrates.

Participants within the East Finchley area uncovered unusually high levels of these chemicals within the Mutton Brook stream. The waterway that flows from Cherry Tree Wood to Hendon remains confined in artificial channels for much of its course but briefly emerges

in the Lyttelton playing fields.

Although no pollution is visible from the surface, ecologically speaking, these chemicals could significantly impact local wildlife and lead to a process known as eutrophication.

### Testing

Participants in the project tested the brook at two places, within Lyttelton playing fields and near the North Circular, finding similar levels of nitrates at both spots but higher phosphate levels near the North Circular, clear evidence of pollution.

The cause of the higher levels of phosphates there could be a result of a Thames Water drainage outfall pipe located nearby. The Archer has asked Thames Water to comment.

The next round of Earthwatch's water testing takes place in April 2025, at which point the Mutton Brook will be tested again. The testing process is open to any willing volunteers and is free to take part in. If you want to test your local water, search for the Great UK Water Blitz and order a test kit.

## Cyclist collides with parked car

**A cyclist was taken to a major trauma centre with potentially life-changing injuries after crashing into a parked car.**

The London Ambulance Service were called at 10.50am on Saturday 8 March to reports of a road traffic collision on Great North Road. London's Air Ambulance was dispatched immediately,

landing in Cherry Tree Wood a few minutes later.

An ambulance crew, a paramedic in a fast response car and an incident response officer treated the cyclist at the scene

and then took them to hospital by road as a priority. Police attended and wrapped the parked car in police warning tape. The road was cleared an hour or two later.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### Barnet

#### 40 Leopold Road, N2

Single-storey rear extension with one roof light following demolition of the existing conservatory

#### 66 Chandos Road, N2

Single-storey rear extension with four roof lights, pitched roof and extension of the existing patio with new handrails following demolition of the existing conservatory

#### 74 Brendon Grove, N2

Single-storey rear extension.

Addition of flue to rear. Internal alterations

#### Bus shelter in front of 66-68 High Road, N2

Installation of an internally illuminated double-sided, freestanding advertising panel located within the bus stop

#### 72 Durham Road, N2

Single-storey side/rear extension with five roof lights. Erection of a rear outbuilding.

#### 20 Manor Cottages Approach, N2

Two-storey rear extension. Two-storey side infill extension

### Haringey

#### 9 Aylmer Road, N2

Installation of garden room with waste and water



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