



No justice or answers for door kick victims



Terrifying experience: Stills from doorcam footage shows schoolboys attacking the front door of one of the homes in Ludlow Way, N2

By Lynn Winton

In our May issue, The Archer reported on a series of disturbing incidents when several residents of Ludlow Way, N2, had their front doors kicked by a group of pupils from Christ's College Finchley school in East End Road.

These crimes were attributed to a TikTok phenomenon called the Door Kick Challenge, where people are encouraged to post videos of themselves taking part.

Shaken by the violent attacks on their homes, the East Finchley victims, led by Alvin and Gina Lennard, have repeatedly asked the school to let them know what consequences the perpetrators have faced, to no avail. In the face of what they call a "deafening silence" from

the school, they have now engaged a lawyer to represent them. Gina, who was the practice nurse at Heathfields Medical Centre in Hampstead Garden Suburb, is still suffering flashbacks and anxiety. The couple told The Archer: "All we want to ensure is that these boys are made to face up to what they did for the sake of their own future. 'We are older and wiser enough to know that this kind of criminality in school age youths doesn't bode well for them. The

school hopes to brush it under the carpet by refusing to engage. Some satisfaction would have come if we had received some form of apology. After all, the boys were in uniform, but this was rejected out of hand. "Our other suggestion, to have some supervised meeting so we could help the boys understand what it was like to be on the receiving end, was also rejected out of hand. The police, having initially treated the case as an attempted break-in, have closed

the case. Now we simply don't get any response at all. "They have just clammed up." Alvin and Gina have asked for information from Christ's College Finchley as to how, if at all, they dealt with the guilty pupils. Alvin said: "The school's officials have consistently hidden behind the fact they have a duty of care towards its pupils, apparently irrespective of whatever they do. I wonder if this would extend to theft or shoplifting? Talk about spare the rod and spoil the child." The couple's solicitor Mark Fairweather, of Fairweather Law, said: "My impression is that the boys are being protected when they should be required to meet the

victims and at least get to understand the consequences of their actions. Residents are understandably concerned that the whole matter, which has traumatised at least one householder who I have spoken to at length, is being brushed under the carpet."

The Archer has contacted Christ's College Finchley to ask them to respond to the victims' concerns. We have received no response.

The school's website states they "support the development of pupils into well-rounded, compassionate and aspirational young people" who "contribute positively to their community and society".

Pollinator project starts to grow

By Matteo Lanzini

Readers may remember the Mini Meadows grassroots initiative reported in The Archer at the end of last year. This pilot campaign proved such a great success, with many pockets of wildflowers emerging through the neighbourhood this past spring, that its organisers decided to take it to the next level.



The Finchley Pollinator Project has recently launched '600 Mini Meadows in 60 Days' and applications are now open at

<https://join.minimeadow-movement.org>. Participants will be able to collect free seeds from local libraries from 1 August, with seeding recommended during September and October to witness blooming in spring 2027. Everyone in Barnet is welcome to join, individual residents as well as local groups and organisations. As was the case last year, no gardening experience is needed and there will be guidance and support available

along the way. The broader and bigger scope of this year's initiative means more volunteers are needed to support it and make it another success, with flexible roles like community lead, materials donations coordinator and sign-up champion available by registering via the project's website, as above. Organisers told The Archer: "Many people care about biodiversity, but don't know where to start. This project is something anyone can do - even a pot of wildflowers can become a valuable source of food and shelter for pollinators."

With recurring heatwaves, droughts and record temperatures across London and the UK, there is no better time to bring everyone together to restore local biodiversity by supporting bees, butterflies and insects. Join in if you can or spread the word to play your part.

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