Letters

Climate change

Dear Editor,

I read with interest your article in September's edition about saving water during, I quote, "the hottest and driest summer on record". Many of us have been affected by hosepipe bans with gardens struggling and plants dying. There was even a grass fire at Alexandra Palace! Not to mention the difficulties faced by elderly family members and the youngest among us.

Extreme heat, drought and wildfires are happening right here right now! This poses a threat to our homes, our health and public services and ordinary people are paying the price. Whilst our community has to find ways to deal with the consequences, the science is clear that burning gas, oil and coal is driving the climate crisis and making extreme weather more frequent and more severe. All the while, companies like Shell are making billions in profit from the fuels driving the problem.Now Shell is pushing for approval of Rosebank, one of the biggest undeveloped oil fields in the UK, after approval was granted for the Jackdaw gas field.

After the summer we have just experienced, this would move us in exactly the wrong direction. Instead of allowing fossil fuel companies to keep profiting whilst the rest of us pay the price, the government should be investing in clean, renewable energy and moving us away from oil and gas. I feel that this is something we should all be pursuing, for ourselves, our community and for future generations.

Samantha Shaikh
Address supplied

Time for trees

Dear Editor,

During the summer I noticed that, while our very sheltered south facing back garden got hotter than open spaces, the East Finchley High Road was significantly hotter, although there are some patches of the road which are cooler by virtue of the shade provided by trees.

On 30 September The Guardian published an article highlight ing Environment Secretary Angela Eagle's pledge to make £53million available to, amongst others, Local Authorities and grassroots groups for tree planting. The aim is to plant half a million trees in three years, to help mitigate the effects of extreme weather conditions. This might be a good time to make the case for more trees to be planted along the High Road by the shops, to maintain the vitality of our shopping centre during the hotter summers which have been predicted.

Nick Vosper
Bedford Road,N2



Tree cover in the High Road

Community cinema

Dear Editor,

On Sunday 27 September I, along with over a hundred other audience members, attended a screening of Gentle Angry Women at the Phoenix. It was organised by Finchley CND and The Phoenix and was followed by a very informative Q&A. The film focused on three young women who joined the recreation of the march taken by women to Greenham Common 40 years ago to protest the siting of nuclear missiles at the base.

It was interesting to learn that in 1984, at the time of the peace camp at Greenham, the Phoenix screened the film Carry Greenham Home. The involvement of the cinema in local issues through special screenings and events is longstanding and we are lucky to have such a community-minded

Gail Coles
Lincoln Road,N2



The Phoenix audience for Gentle Angry Women

Miss takes and nothing is lost

By Nadia Savvopoulou

Isn't it a great feeling, the one that wraps up a bad outcome by tracing gracefully all the steps that brought it about? I think it is. Of course, I am talking about all the effort, care, and cost of attempting to grow something from seed and failing spectacularly.

Not knowing what the seed of something looks like, whether it's a bulb or tiny seeds that look like dust, comes with the lack of experimenting with growing stuff and not having set up one's own trusted sources of information (which only become trusted after experimenting). This knowledge could have saved me some disappointment.

In a year, I made three attempts to grow a favourite and expensive vegetable, globe artichokes on my East Finchley plot. The first time, the bag of seeds purchased from the nursery contained no seeds (I didn't know how big the seeds were supposed to be, so I thought, "Surely this bag of soil must contain something useful").



A mistake of artichoke proportions

Unsurprisingly, nothing grew. The next online order did contain said seeds. Leaves appeared within two weeks and kept growing strong. A first tiny artichoke poked its head from one of the six plants that were growing, but then stopped, never went to seed and never grew to full size either.



It took several weeks of denial for me to admit defeat. A few months later, attempting a third and final time, another online purchase from a different nursery proved to be equally futile, as my six plants only grew leaves and one even went to seed almost instantly, while the rest stopped growing. So, was the spot I picked to grow them wrong? The advice I followed suggested these plants need to be in a protected part of the allotment and receive some sunshine during the day.

These were the exact conditions I had. Was it the wrong time of year? According to the instructions on the packets, not at all, as I sowed exactly within the window suggested.

I think the answer came to me in a superficial way. Artichokes are sold at such a high price because every gardener knows they are cursed and no one but the worthy ones can grow them. This year, a seemingly healthy fox decided to curl up amongst my failed artichokes to take her last breath. This was the final sign to me to call it a day on this particular crop!

Odo no-no

Dear Editor,

Just in case no one else points it out, in Ricky Savage's often amusing feature last month on 1066 he mentioned William the Conqueror's half-brother Odo was Archbishop of Canterbury. In fact, he was Bishop of Bayeux and Earl of Kent after the invasion.

There was a Danish Odo (Oda) who was Archbishop of Canterbury from 941-958. Both, of course, worthy of mention.I always enjoy Ricky's articles so keep them coming.

Peter Kenny
Huttingdon Road,N2



Bishop: Odo of Bayeux. Image Wikipedia

Licensing Act 2003
Notice of Application

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT an application has been made to Brent Council (the Licensing Authority) for a Variation to the Premises Licence by Christiane Wilson in respect of

One One Six Wine Bar & Shop,
116 College Road, London NW10 5HD.

The details of the application are that the premises is updating its hours to sell alcohol and close at 11pm on Tuesday – Saturday.

Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of 9am and 4pm at Brent Council, Regulatory Services, Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley, HA9 0FJ or by visiting the authority's website: www.brent.gov.uk

Any interested party or responsible authority may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the above address within 28 days of the date below.

This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely Tuesday 3rd November 2026 for 28 consecutive days.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000.

Re-Griddable solution from page 9

Across:	Down:
STIR	SLOB
LODE	TORE
ORES	IDES
BEST	REST

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news@the-archer.co.uk

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