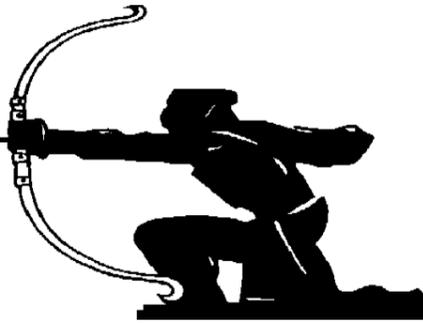


# THE ARCHER



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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.



Fund-raisers with The Mayor of Camden and John Marshall. Photo: Frank Tymkow

## £30,000 Walk

It looks as if a staggering £30,000 will be raised for the North London Hospice by the 418 people who walked from East Finchley to Westminster recently.

The walk organisers are daily counting the inflow of cheques with baited breath and everyone is guessing at the final sum.

At the time The Archer went to press, some 75 contributions totalling £8,500

had been sent to the home of the North West Support Group organiser, Mrs Gillian Newman.

The largest cheque received so far is £320 and the smallest, a fiver. "It all shows," says Mrs Newman, "what a wonderful community effort the occasion has become."

The walk was the second of its kind for The Hospice. Last year 135 people participated and raised £13,000.

This year's walk took place on a perfect spring day. It was seven-and-a-half miles long and took in nine parks and woods, starting with Cherry Tree Wood and finishing with St James' Park, ablaze with blossom for the occasion.

The organisation of the walk was praised by all participants. Drinks and sandwiches were supplied en route by volunteers, and at the end coffee and doughnut rings were donated by McDonalds.

## All Change for Strawberry Vale

Strawberry Vale residents are likely to vote for their homes to go into ownership by a private housing association.

By transferring from Camden and Islington councils to the Peabody Housing Association, they will receive £1.4 million government money and £2.4 million from the private sector to pay for

much needed improvements. Camden Council, in the midst of a financial crisis, are only able to carry out absolutely essential repairs on this neglected and run-down estate.

Residents will be voting during April. Mr Lee Welch chair of the estate's Tenants Association is sure it will be a 'yes' vote for transfer to the housing association.

## Teacher Cuts

Cuts in the education budget mean that Barnet schools are likely to have to make over 200 teachers redundant as well as having to cut back on books and other equipment.

Primary schools will be the

worst hit as their resources are even more limited.

As the cuts in staff come in to operation class sizes will be increased. The situation was described as "pretty dire" Patricia Taylor, spokesperson for the National Union of Teachers.

## Boot for Archer

"The Archer" will be represented at the car boot sale at Fortismere School on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April.

Come along between 10am and 1pm to pick up a bargain. It is your chance to help to support your community newspaper. We had some good things on our stall last time, so don't miss out!

## College Farm Saved

After a long fight to save College Farm, Chris Ower the tenant farmer, has won his battle and this well known farm has been saved.

Transport Minister John Bowis has now confirmed that Mr Ower has won the right to his agriculture tenancy.

The farm's owners, the Department of Transport, had planned to sell part of the site for housing redevelopment. Now it has been saved to the satisfaction of the many families who visit the farm during

the season. This all means that Mr Ower can now show proof that he has a permanent tenancy and the farm could become a charitable trust. So, with the help of local MPs John Marshall and Hartley Booth and the public, his long campaign to save the farm has rescued it from the developers.

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