



# Out & About...

with Noel Lynch

### Bravo Mrs Patell

Mrs Patell of Vin Wines, Long Lane, had a frightening experience recently. Some youths, with a gun, tried to "hold-up" her shop. At first she thought that it was a joke, but when she realised that they were serious, she chased them from the shop with a metal spike! What kind of society do we now have?

### Fly-posting

Readers may notice the reduction of fly-posting in the area. This is a result of the Council/Traders "Walk-round" in January. We pointed out the "black spots" and the Council officials promised action.

### Beware

There is a rash of pick-pocketing going on in East Finchley just now.

### New Shop

The former "Bargain Finders" shop has been opened under new management. As a Futon/Bedsettee/Cushion shop. It's always good to see new shops opening and we wish Mitesh and his staff many years of happy trading in East Finchley.

### Water

The contamination in drinking water is causing consternation in East Finchley. We believe that there have been scores of cases across Barnet, and seeing that it can take about a week to take effect, many people are worried and angry about the situation.

### Another publication!

The Archer is not the only title published in East Finchley. The other is "Nursing Notes" a newspaper for midwives at No 120 The High Road.

### Another new shop

The former "Ruffles" shop is now "Pinewood Antique Studios". John and Maureen are very pleased with business so far. As a neighbour, I'm also pleased, as the extra "Collectors" shop, is pulling in more customers to the area. People have commented that our parade now "looks like a mini Portobello".

### Where's Strawberry Vale?

Has anybody noticed the new road sign outside Strawberry Vale, pointing south stating "East Finchley 1 mile"?

### Credit Union

On March 19th a public meeting was held at the scout hut, New Trinity Road, to start a Credit Union. Barry Epstein of the Association of British Credit Unions, was the main speaker. A steering committee will now be formed. Anybody interested can contact me at the address below.

### Too true!

Slogan seen on a shop window "Buy now while shops last".

### Any news

If you have anything of news value suitable for this column, contact Noel at The Bargain Centre, 212 High Road, East Finchley, or phone 0181 883 0234.

## Dangerous Pavements

by Noel Lynch

**On the pavement outside the Texaco Garage East Finchley, Mrs Conick of Wellington Place, saw what she thought was a bundle of clothes.**

On investigation, it turned out to be an old woman, in her mid 90's, who had tripped over the uneven paving stones.

"She was just lying there, whimpering and bleeding" said Mrs Conick. "I tried hailing a car to help lift her, but dozens passed by without bothering!"

"Finally a young man stopped and helped lift her onto

the bus shelter. I got her a cup of water and cleaned her wound. She would not go to hospital, as she said she had no relatives.

"I finally got her home and was stiff for a week from all the lifting.

"These paving stones were marked weeks ago for replacement, but nothing has been done."

# Lost and Found

Thanks to an appeal in The Archer, Edna Crowley of Hobbs Green has discovered that Sunny, a Tibetan terrier, is alive and well.

Sunny, who used to be walked by Edna, disappeared after her owner died.

The terrier was found by the RSPCA and resettled with an East Finchley family. She now has a new home and a new name: Molly.

Says Edna: "She is happy and cherished and has plenty of company. Had I a magic wand, I couldn't have asked for more. Pauline has very kindly allowed me to keep in touch and my cup of happiness is overflowing."

Edna ran her appeal in the February edition of The Archer. Within days she received a telephone call.

*Editor's Footnote: To all readers - appeals in The Archer work.*



Sunny/Molly pictured with Pauline and Edna. Photo: Pamela Gibbs Photographic Services.

## Peoples Bank

By Noel Lynch

**East Finchley now has its very own Credit Union. We held a meeting last month at the Scout Hut in New Trinity Road and the guest speaker was Barry Epstein of The Association of British Credit Unions**

Many years ago I helped found a Credit Union in my home town, which is about the size of East Finchley. It now has assets of over £2 million and has two thousand members. Since Credit Union interest rates are a fraction of the banks, everyone uses it to finance holidays, education, business, pay off credit cards etc. I cannot stress enough the benefit to an area of a Credit Union.

A Credit Union is a non-profit making financial institute that is owned by, and operated for, its members.

### Non-profit

East Finchley's Credit Union will:-

1. Encourage members to save regularly
2. Provide convenient access to financial services at terms more favourable than at banks, building societies or money lenders.
3. Help educate members about sound personal financial habits.
4. Help revitalise the local economy
5. Help people to control their lives and finances.

### Major force

Credit Unions are a major force world-wide, particularly in Canada, USA and Ireland, where 1.4 million people are members. The biggest in Britain

is the Taxi Drivers Credit Union, which has assets of millions.

Credit Unions are highly regulated by Act of Parliament, and are actually safer than banks. Indeed, I've never heard of a Credit Union going bust!

Each Credit Union is separate, autonomous and completely in the control of its own affairs. Unlike the banks, a person's character is more important than what they own. A Credit Union prefers to deal with several small loans to individuals, than big loans to rich people.

The philosophy is that by working together, people can achieve far more than by individual effort. A Credit Union operates, not for profit or charity, but for the service of its members.

## Mc Cameras

**Martin infant school is to receive cash help from McDonald's.**

They will be paying for seven cameras, so that pupils can do photography projects on life at the school and a pictorial record of their visit to the Natural History Museum.

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