



# Out & About...

with Noel Lynch

### Famous Old Girl

Emma of The Spice Girls went to Bishop Douglass School

### Departure

We believe that East Finchley's most famous resident. Samantha Fox, has now vacated her residence.

### Maniac

On a sunny afternoon, January 5th, an unidentified male stood in the middle of the High Road with a hammer and belted every car that passed. We are told that 6 cars were damaged, plus another in East End Road.

### Gone Home

Regulars of Howards Way Pub will miss popular manager, Tina Duffy, who has returned to Mayo. Her charm and elegance were a great attraction.

### Walk Around

Top officials of Barnet Council, joined members of the Traders Association, for a mobile meeting around East Finchley on Friday 17th January. We gave them a good 'ear-bashing' about improvements needed, but also we stressed East Finchley's strong points. I was quite impressed by the good will and willingness to help, on the part of the officials. We should see some action in the near future, Each official was presented with a copy of The Archer.

### Retro Logic

Over Christmas, the retro column advertised the dangers of drink driving on the side facing the pedestrians, while advertising alcohol on the side facing the drivers.

### Why Don't you Shop in East Finchley

A lady rang me recently, to say that she made a decision NOT to do her Christmas shopping in East Finchley, because of the lack of festive lights. Her point was that if the traders etc. could not be bothered to give the place some atmosphere then she would not bother either. The East Finchley Trade Association would like comments on other matters that would get more people shopping in the area.

### Why no Services

Residents of Wellington Place, Great North Road, are incensed that there is no road sweeping in their area. Many OAPs have been slipping on uneven pavements, having to do their own road sweeping. This is in spite of the repeated requests to Barnet Council, who is to happy to take Council Tax from the residents. If you have anything of news value suitable for the column, please contact Noel at 'The Bargain Centre' 212 High Road or phone 0181 883 0234.

### Apologies

Under Trade Winds (January Archer) my contact number for the Traders Association was given as 0181 883 02134 it should be 0181 883 0234

## Want to Meet The Queen?

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will hold a special Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday 15th July to celebrate their Golden Wedding.

The guests will be couples who were also married in 1947. Selection will be by ballot.

Couples wishing to enter

the ballot should apply in writing not later than Friday, 14th February, to the Clerk to the Lieutenancy, City Hall, PO Box 240, Victoria Street London SW1 6QP, enclosing a copy of their marriage certificate.

Invitations will be limited to gold wedding couples only. If assistance of a close relative is essential this should be made clear with the application.

# Happy Birthday to Us!

Now in its fifth year and approaching its fiftieth issue, The Archer is totally different from all other local newspapers.

The most apparent difference from a reader's perspective is its appearance: very few advertisements. Other local newspapers are crammed with advertisements, estate agents galore, up to 75 per cent sometimes. The Archer's policy is that no more than one quarter will be occupied by advertisements.

### Vive La Difference

Another main difference is the editorial content. Other papers circulated in East Finchley include other North London news, among all the advertising while The Archer, concentrates

on East Finchley and its borders. It focuses on local people and carries features that will hopefully interest local people.

Unlike all the other papers The Archer is a true community paper, the only one of its type in London, we believe. That is to say: it is produced for the East Finchley community by the community.

### Team work

All who work on the paper are volunteers. The active team is about 20 strong and is a mixture of East Finchley people who give up some of their spare time to produce The Archer.

All 15,000 words (the average issue word count) are written and most of the photographs are taken by the team. It is designed and laid out by the team. It is distributed to 7,000 letter boxes by the team.

### Penniless

No member of the team receives a penny for this work. Members do it because they like doing it and they believe in The Archer's declared aim to preserve and enhance the community.

*Footnote: We always need volunteers, everybody is welcome. If you would like to help, phone 0181 914 7280 for more information.*

## National Meals on Wheels Day

National Meals on Wheels day was celebrated throughout Barnet with a special menu for all who receive meals from this service.

The council provides about 390,000 meals per year to our elderly and house-bound residents. Last November the council started a new weekend service by providing hot meals to people living alone who can not prepare meal for themselves and do not have carers or relatives to cook for them.

### A Wide Choice

With an emphasis on a healthy diet there is a choice of meals, including Asian meals, and also to suit people on low fat or vegetarian diets.

### High Quality Service

"I am please that Barnet Council is now offering such a high quality to those most in need in the community" said councillor Helen Gordon, Chair of Social Services Committee. "Working in partnership with voluntary organisations, we are providing a first class service to local families" she added.

These meals are prepared at our local schools by council staff and delivered in partnership with "Finchley Age Concern".

## £100 Reward

One hundred pounds reward is offered for information leading to the location of Sunny, a Tibetan terrier who disappeared some months ago.

The East Finchley woman offering the reward is Edna Crowley who lives in Hobbs Green (telephone 0181 883 5121.) She used to walk this dog in the area for the owner who is now deceased. Sunny is 11 years old and has a slight limp.



Sunny: Where is she now?

## Big Fun Walk

Limber up for spring by joining the sponsored Big Fun Walk on Sunday 16th March 1997 to benefit the North London Hospice.

The 7.5 mile route from East Finchley to Westminster passes through the London Parks with comfort and refreshment stop en route.

Information and registration forms from Gillian, telephone 0181 458 9044 or from Vivienne 0181 203 5131 or Harold 0181 455 7983.

## Pension cut

A move to cut War Pensions by the Government is to be condemned by Barnet Council. They will put pressure on the Government to protect benefits for veterans and their families.

Councillor Rudi Vis, who is chair of the Finance Committee condemned these cuts which may have been concealed in the recent budget. This move to cut war pensions would be against Barnet's own campaign to encourage residents who have suffered illness or injury in war to claim benefits.

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