

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR****Closure of Baronsmere Road and proposed CPZ**  
Dear Editor

Contrary to what we have read in recent editions, some of us residents of Eastern Rd who object to the above schemes, do so for reasons other than those put forward by previous letters.

Our road is (as pointed out in your January edition) already used as a rat run and a car park and we don't believe that this will necessarily get worse.

However, both these schemes have been instituted by BARNET council, supposedly for the benefit of Barnet residents. Those of us who live in Western, Eastern, Lynmouth etc are represented by HARINGEY instead.

Because of this, we have received absolutely NO notification of any of these schemes from Barnet council, even though we will be affected just as much - if not more - than the other roads south of Fortis Green. If you all get parking permits, what are the implications for us Haringey folk? No one seems to care.

Naturally, we spoke to Barnet council - who told us they had meant to contact us but didn't get round to it (thanks!) Haringey tell us it's a Barnet scheme so they can't help at all.

At least those people who live in LB Barnet are being given a chance to have their say. Perhaps someone will eventually listen to the rest of us.

Yours despairingly  
Disgruntled Eastern Road residents

**Church Lane Bridge**

Dear Editor,

In December's edition, P. Brown wondered whether I had opened a huge can of worms. Well, I haven't thrown it away.

The bridge in Church Lane is *definitely not two-way* - except for cyclists. In the last couple of months, following local requests, Barnet has at last put up a sign for drivers coming from East End Road. This makes it clear that the road has become one-way from that point (just before the bridge), but that cyclists may be approaching, though if I were one I wouldn't even think of it.

Not only is anyone coming from the opposite direction hidden by the hump-backed bridge, but drivers are still forced over into their path to avoid parked cars on the left side of the road.

And another thing - I do know that the very beginning of Church Lane (coming from East End Road) is two-way, and I have always entered it on the correct side of the road!

Anyway, thank you for the letter, P. Brown. It raised some interesting points.

Daphne Chamberlain,  
Features Editor, The Archer

**Arrow route**

Dear Editor

Can anyone explain why the traffic arrangements in the High Road between East Finchley station and the Bald Faced Stag have been so messed up?

The arrow on the High Road which indicates the way into the station yard is not the entry which everyone used to use, and it is not the entry which is used since the arrow appeared. In addition, it is much more difficult, using that entry, to steer across the yard into the car park.

Next, there is the problem of the bus lane going north from the station. Vehicles keep out of the lane when traffic is light, but in the evening rush hour, just when the lane would be of most use to buses, it is almost always full of traffic. This means that if you keep out of the lane, as you should, you have somehow to get into the top of the left-hand lane, where the bus lane has ended. You are usually not welcome, and this can be a difficult and even dangerous manoeuvre.

All along the High Road, from Creighton Avenue to the station, are regulatory notices, which are not enforced. The bus lane is just one more. So why are they put up? Will the Controlled Parking Zone really be controlled? Can anyone out there tell us?

Yours sincerely  
Robert Winton  
Creighton Avenue, N2.

**Greetings from Down Under**

Dear Editor

Just a note to say what a pleasure to read *THE ARCHER* and get news of East Finchley.

*THE ARCHER* as a newspaper is a good read. Whilst the web page is a goldmine of information. It is one of the great benefits of the information age that I can get news of my old school (Martin) and East Finchley in general out here in Australia. I liked the photo gallery, which featured Peter Bayley from the Phoenix, and was sad to see the demise of the librarian Mr Randle.

Both of these were of interest to me as I was previously a manager of the Phoenix, and am now a librarian at the National Library of Australia.

Yours  
Edgar Crook

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**Families of East Finchley**

By Daphne Chamberlain

**"Nobody stays long in one place nowadays. People move on all the time." How many times have we heard that? I'm beginning to realise, though, that the very reverse is true of quite a few East Finchley people.**

I've met a surprising number of born and bred East Finchleyans (or should it be Fincunians?), whose families have lived here for several generations. In many cases, they can go well back into the century before last.

One of the nicest aspects of working on the recent Strawberry Vale building mystery was meeting some of these long-time residents. Several of them had known each other in the past, and were interested to hear that "so - and - so" was still in the area.

There must be many more of you out there. We would be delighted to hear from you.

*If you indulged too much over the winter holiday, this might make you feel better!*

**In praise of plumpness**

By John Kerkhoven

For me no skinny little frump with bones like dagger points. Give me a lady who is plump with smoothly covered joints.

I can't resist a dimpled knee, and firm pink cheeks and lips. A silky-soft skin that's for me, all over ample hips.

Ah! Rubens ladies; what delight, big-breasted, bare and bold. Keep Lowry's matchsticks out of sight, there's nothing there to hold.

Thin feels like half of her's not there. Plump's always gorgeous, clothed or bare.

*From "Poetry by the East Finchley Writing Workshops", which accompanied their exhibition at the library in November.*



Arthur Wood with children from Martin School

**OBITUARY ~ Arthur Wood**

By Daphne Chamberlain

Gardeners of all ages will be sad to hear of the death of Arthur Wood, former chair of East Finchley Allotments Association.

Mr Wood, who was 84, had been involved with the Association for more than 40 years. He took over the allotment which his father-in-law had worked for the previous 30 years. It was a welcome contrast to what was then his day job - running two shops (furniture and removals) in Islington's Hornsey Road.

He loved the peaceful, rural atmosphere of East Finchley Allotments. When I met him, a couple of years ago, he had not long come out of hospital. "Directly I came up to the allotment," he said, "I felt so much better."

It was the pleasure of gardening he wanted to share with Martin School children. He regularly took classes round the allotments -

something which he obviously enjoyed. One of his favourite stories was about the time he told one child in a class to pick a carrot. The others, thinking they were all supposed to do it, followed suit, successfully stripping one bit of his patch!

Sean Cassidy, former Secretary of the Association, told me, "He was a lovely person, always ready to pass on tips and share his knowledge with others. He knew more about gardening than most of us ever will, and he was one of the best chairmen we've ever had."

Some of that knowledge was passed on to *ARCHER* readers in the articles he wrote for us.

His great love was flowers; he was a regular judge at the Highgate Flower Show and he was secretary of the Edgware Dahlia and Chrysanthemum Society. He propagated dahlias, including the Rokesly Radiant and the Rokesly Mini, and a medium cactus called the Rokesly Royal.

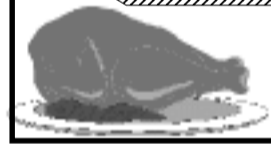
Several of his exhibits at the Wisley Trials won awards. By all accounts his own garden, in Hornsey, was a picture. Some of the credit there must go to his wife, also a keen gardener, who turns her hand to everything - including digging!

Our sympathies go to Mrs. Wood, her daughter, grandson and granddaughter. I met him only once, but remember him as a charming person.

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