



FINCHLEY FORUM UPDATE

By Daphne Chamberlain

Baronsmere Road

The Finchley Forum on 23 May was jammed with traffic issues, but this was the one, which most concerned East Finchley. A petition against the planned no-right turns at the junction with the High Road had been received and noted. As no petitioner was present, it couldn't be discussed in full. However, Traffic Engineer Robin Hodsdon did say that the scheme, which was being implemented under the Experimental Traffic Act, would be monitored closely.

Orange spaces not personal

An Orange Badge holder queried the notice outside his home which marked out a space "for disabled drivers". He felt that the bay should be for only for himself. Robin Hodsdon replied that in law, protected spaces are for classes of people, not for an individual person. Even so, if it were possible to provide another disabled parking bay in the same road, without inconveniencing neighbours, he would do so. (Probably a big "if" in most of our roads.)

Finchley Market and Lodge Lane car park

Lodge Lane residents are furious about the proposed re-siting of North Finchley market in the public car park. They say that Lodge Lane is too narrow to cope with even its existing traffic, and the safety of children at Northside School is a constant worry.

Other people, including Councillor John Marshall, added that taking away public parking spaces is not going to improve the area, especially as the new Arts Centre will mean more potential car-parkers.

Robin Hodsdon's reply was that consultations are in progress about the entire North Finchley traffic problem. The Arts Centre will have its own inbuilt parking, and he thought that many daytime users will not be taking cars. There are about 400 parking spaces in North Finchley, and work is being done on better signing for them. He said that the idea was to direct drivers to specific parks.

Chair Kathy McGuirk said, "We should make sure that no more than 25% of the Lodge Lane parking space is lost if the market is re-sited there. The Council is aware of traffic difficulties in Lodge Lane." She added, "Anyway, the market's lease is coming to an end this year. Suggestions for an alternative site would be welcomed."

The next Finchley Forum will be on Monday 17 July, at Northside School (next to Lodge Lane car park), at 6.30pm.

Anybody wanna buy an 'ole?

Choice of 4 in East Finchley High Road, including one antique (8 weeks old) outside of Veggie's, or a more modern one available outside of A1 Chivers Bros.

well dug by four capable men; one digger operator, one shoveller, one cable binder and one foreman; all devoted to the production of this immaculately square hole, measuring approx. 2m x 1.5m at 1m deep.

Plenty of earth also available!

Reluctant sale due to lack of access to own shop
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But seriously, though guarded by plastic, these holes do constitute a danger to the public, and the sooner they're filled the better!

So although I realise that the problems might be quite complex, can the council please put

all available pressure on the electricity board to complete their excavations and get these holes filled in as soon as possible?
Lawrie Chivers.

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Emma Hamann

- A Tribute

Emma was an East Finchley child. From her home in Springcroft Avenue she first went to school at Tetherdown Primary before moving on to Fortismere for her secondary education. Like many others Emma wanted to travel the world, but before embarking on that great adventure she worked hard to broaden her experience and to gain qualifications in her chosen career.

Her "A" levels were followed by a foundation year at Chelsea College of Art, after which Emma studied at the London College of Printing where she succeeded in winning the national Vincent Steer Award. She went on to the Somerset College of Art and Technology where she gained a BA Hons Design (packaging). She was very happy in her work because she was doing something, which she had loved all her life.

Her stepfather Robin Dunn recalls how, even as a young child, she would create patterns and designs out of anything that came to hand and how she got those around her to join in. For Emma's enthusiasm was infectious and will forever be remembered by her younger half sister Rebecca and her other half siblings Ruth and Patrick, along with the pride they felt for their beautiful, irrepressible sister.

Zest for Life

Her zest for life attracted others wherever she went and friends, who became like an extended family, were constant visitors to Emma's home. She was also the lynch pin between her East Finchley family and that of her father Paul and her stepmother Marilyn. On her travels she kept in regular touch telling her mother Kay, in what was to be her last letter, that she had just had the best five months of her life.

But that busy, bright young life, which was just beginning to blossom into a brilliant future, ended tragically. Shortly after arriving in New Zealand for a wedding she was persuaded to give up her post-flight rest and come downstairs. Emma tripped and fell with someone else and both hurtled onto the tiled flooring below. Emma sustained major head injuries from which she did not recover, despite an emergency operation. Her mother Kay and father Paul flew out to be at



Emma's favourite photo of herself

Emma's bedside. Sadly, the hospital decided that there was no option but to switch off her life support machine.

However, evidence of Emma's life lives on. Two years ago she ran in the London Marathon to raise money for UNICEF (Emma had a particular way with children) and well over £1200 has been collected so far for that cause since her death. A suitable piece of Emma's artwork is to be displayed in the reception area of UNICEF's new London premises.

A tile wall constructed at the Outpatients' Department at Coppetts Wood Hospital, as part of Emma's "A" level work is to be relocated. In memory of her graphic design skills, the organisation Design and Art Direction have set up an annual Emma Hamann Bursary Award for aspiring creatives.

Star turn

Other plans are for a bench in Highgate Woods where Emma often ran. Her ashes are to be interred in Highgate Cemetery, where there will be a memorial stone. Some friends have dedicated trees to her memory and others have named a star after her.

Amongst the many tributes to Emma, two are particularly pertinent. Her friend and colleague Adrian wrote, "Emma will be remembered as like a summer's day - bright, warm,

invigorating, full of life... 'sunny'."

Her stepmother from her father's second marriage, Marilyn Wheatcroft, said, "Your beauty, both inside and out, and your energetic zest for life will live with us all for ever Emma."

Emma Rachel Hamann

4th May 1974 - 23rd March 2000.

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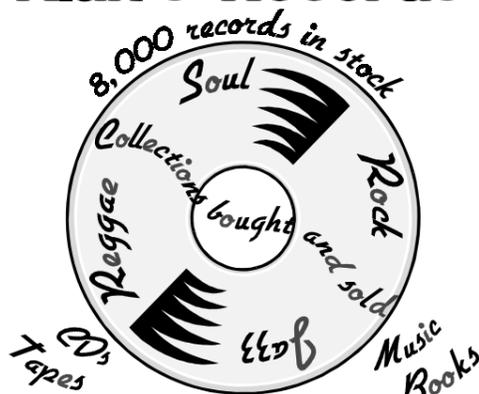
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