

# THE ARCHER



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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

## Top Dog

The RSPCA in London has given a dog a top award after she saved her family from a house fire in East Finchley.

Trine, an 18-month-old King Charles Spaniel, was given the RSPCA animal medallion for vigilance by the Society's council member for London, Alan Anyon, in Finchley recently.

Trine alerted her owners, Robin and Kirsten Chapman, of Eastern Road, to the fire last December.

The couple were asleep in bed upstairs when Kirsten woke up and realised Trine was in an agitated state - walking and running in circles. Kirsten then smelt smoke and immediately woke her husband. They realised something was burning and smouldering under the bed so they called the fire service.

Within five minutes two fire engines arrived and the

fire was extinguished. It was discovered the cause was a faulty electric blanket that had been left plugged in. Minor damage was caused to the floor and bed but the Chapmans were uninjured, although very shaken.

Trine was unaffected by the fire but it was due to her actions that the incident was not far worse.

After the ceremony Mr Chapman said: "Trine saved our lives and we are very proud of her."

Regional manager for the RSPCA in London, Roy Leason, said: "If Trine had not smelt the smoke and woke her owners the fire could have been a lot worse and Mr and Mrs Chapman may have been hurt. Trine is a very vigilant



Kirsten & Robin Chapman with Alan Anyon of the RSPCA and Trine

dog and we wanted to honour her brave act."

Trine received a certification, medallion and tag from the RSPCA for her vigilance.

## Ram Raid in East Finchley



Scene of devastation: PA Music's shop front after the attack.

An East Finchley shopkeeper is picking up the pieces after thieves ram-raided his shop stealing over £3,000 worth of lighting and sound equipment in the early hours of the morning.

The raiders reversed a stolen vehicle, possibly a silver transit van, into the shop front of P.A.MUSIC at 172 High Road at around 4am on 3 June. The shop front was completely smashed and the burglars left with items, which included large loudspeakers and the cash drawer from the till.

P.A.MUSIC's owner, Andy Lowe, who has lived in East Finchley most of his life, has been hiring and selling lighting and sound equipment for over 11 years from this shop.

"The shop is all boarded up now. With the damage caused and business lost, the bill for repairs will be four or five times the value of the equipment stolen", he said. "The clear-up and installation of a new shop front will take several weeks, however we are trading as near to normal as possible in the circumstances."

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