



Now We Are 10 ~ The Archer 1993 - 2003

Local News in Our Area
THE ARCHER
January 1993 Number 1 (Pilot)

Policing East Finchley

What a dangerous area we live in, no wonder the Insurance Companies treat East Finchley as a high risk area.

Today I attended a press briefing for the first time at Golders Green Police Station given by DC Ian Laverie and Sgt Howard Forbes. And very hospitable they were too, gave each of us a cup of something, but from the caters, there wasn't any string hanging out so I believe it was coffee.

Festival to go ahead

Despite Funding Problems

East Finchley Community Festival could lose its grant in 1993 in line with Barnet Borough Council's newly adopted policy on the funding of community and community events. However, the event is planned to go ahead in June 1993 and, weather permitting, will be a most enjoyable day. The event was cancelled two years ago because of the council, who claimed that it had been cancelled. After the council hearing, and subsequent court case, the council was forced to pay the costs of the event on a fine day and many local residents thoroughly enjoyed the day.

If Barnet continues to support, organisers will have to make up the £100,000 that was paid to the council in 1991 and which the council effectively donated to the 'Indians' dance.

Bookies Pay Out As Crime Business Booms

Golders Green police warned residents to be extra-vigilant this Christmas as they said it was a branch of William Hill the bookmakers in East Finchley were setting traps to lure in punters who had decided to have a gamble last month, and as a result paid out to the tune of £2,000 in cash.

Chief of increasing number of local victims of crime, William Hill on the High Road, suffered a forced entry through their front door. Once inside, the perpetrators were able to play the firm's safe onto a trolley and simply wheel it out of the rear entrance, along with its contents. In the same week, Waters the greengrocer in the High Road had a 'hefty loss' when his 'two

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A lot of the information was given on background and not the printed because the people concerned have all been told. However, I thought you some might be, remember, all this was over one week, not an entire month.

Rape in East Finchley - Trial seen in 14 months

Domestic violence - death may occur - N2

On Sunday May, two fifteen year olds were sent to a by a 14 year old man in a weekly rape who was holding himself with both hands.

Out Case: Racist telephone calls, RT changed the number

Charity bus stolen by two young boys from Waltham the Green grocer in the High Road.

Angry drunk refused service by Shillington Indian Restaurant punched and shattered the plate glass window as a farewell gesture.

Bedroom Avenue N2, ground floor flat in broken into, TV, video, telephone answering machine, and microwave oven, bath window forced.

Deception Case N2, ground floor flat broken into, TV, microwave and jewellery stolen. Kitchen window smashed. Front door locked so thieves had to force the broken window.

Campanelli Case N2 - Window forced, cash, computer, video camera stolen, forced window for entry whilst owners slept.

Deception Case N2 - Top floor flat broken into, pushed in door, camera's lenses etc stolen to the value of nearly £3,000.

East End Road N2 - Sub PO broken into £5,000, stolen cash, £200 cash, cigarettes and lighter to value of £500 whilst owners in flat upstairs.

High Road N2 - Andrews the chemist, ground floor, wooden panel below window smashed. Police to use pair of legs, step, pushing inside and called police who turned up within three minutes. Nothing stolen but £200 damage.

Kilburn Road, N2 - Began water-bombing of the £200,000 terrace, police, policeman. Home help called police, not caught.

Claydon Avenue N2 - Sublet Case forced entry by young girls.

Where thought

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Chen Hsien (owner)

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Why the strange name?

Deciding to create a new community newspaper is one thing, but giving it a catchy and meaningful name is something else. This was the predicament that a small band of volunteers found themselves in just over ten years ago. A brainstorming session ensued during which a number of ideas were discussed. Many obvious names such as East Finchley Recorder or N2 Echo came up, but were quickly dismissed. We needed something that represented East Finchley, and also reflected the fact that the newspaper was different.

What is different? Well, consider this. *THE ARCHER* is produced by local volunteers; nobody gets paid for any aspect of the newspaper, except the commercial printing firm that actually produces it on Newsprint. Yet it is written, designed, edited, transcribed, typeset, photographs are taken, meetings are attended, local news items investigated, people are interviewed, advertising is sold and designed, and, eventually, it is pushed through your letter box. Some people believe that we are supported by government or other grants. This is not true. The only source of income is from payments made by local businesses and organisations in return for display advertising, and from the occasional donation from generous readers. So, that is one big difference when comparing *THE ARCHER* with other local newspapers.

The other big difference is our content. We intended to



Archie photo by David Tupman

be, and believe we are, a cross between a local newspaper and a 'Parish' newsletter. We have no political affiliation, no religious connection and try to represent the views of all the population of East Finchley.

Vive la difference

So, being different, we needed a different name. Late into the evening we started thinking about local landmarks, and eventually the statue by Eric Aumonier,

standing proudly on our tube station came to our attention. No one knew the name of the statue; it was, simply, 'The Archer'. A brief silence ensued, followed by several pairs of eyes lighting up with enthusiasm. The rest is history.

'*THE ARCHER*' is a different name for a newspaper. Like the organ itself, the name is unusual, local and quirky. Long may it remain so.

Seems like a long time - a brief history of *THE ARCHER*

Former Editor, David Hobbs, takes a personal look at ten years of *THE ARCHER*.

Is it really ten years since that first conversation in the pub that led to the start of *THE ARCHER*? Have we really printed and delivered nearly one million papers to the residents of East Finchley? Well, it looks like we have and this is what filled those pages.



Issue 2 - March 1993

1993

January

Andrew Taylor founds *THE ARCHER*. The first issue is a small, A4 paper printed by J.G. Brysons of East Finchley. We call for "someone in every street to be our street representative".

March

The first tabloid issue printed by Eastway Offset - our printers to this day. No photos; Kevin Finn starts his first stint as editor and Andrew Taylor writes that *THE ARCHER* was launched to "enhance the community atmosphere".

June

We reveal plans for a Red Route through East Finchley and preview the festival. Edna Hobbs explores the murder of "Lord" George Sanger in 1911.

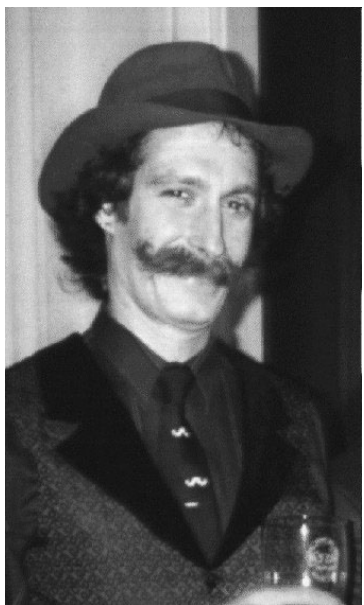
July

The paper gets a "new look" with more photos as Malcolm Griffiths redesigns it. Festival and the campaign to save Finchley Lido covered.

August

More people join and, after our infamous "team building" meeting,

Andrew Taylor leaves. Paul Savill takes over as editor, Kevin switches to advertising and Peter Maslen becomes Chairman. We start our long war on the pigeons. Welch's bar manager Mark Penfold and his handlebar moustache are featured.



Mark Penfold photo by Frank Tytmkov

September

It's the last chance to save the lido and the brothers Chivers celebrate 25 years in East Finchley.

October

Designer Malcolm Griffiths sets up his own paper, the Muswell Record.

December

Early plans for a CPZ, the lido debate continues.

1994

February

Recognition at last! The Guardian says, "Whilst other titles stumble from one issue to the next, East Finchley's community newspaper goes from strength to strength".

March

We get "political" and preview the



July 1994 - The paper gets a facelift.

local elections. Local residents object to plans to convert Park Lodge into a centre for the homeless.

April

We become the official festival newspaper; report on protests against plans for Park Lodge and Daniel Atrill gets a facial. Sunflower competition launched.

May

There's a four page profile of East Finchley, David Tupman writes about our "ship shape tube" station, the editorial team make a personal point about the closure of the toilets in East End Road.

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June

Redevelopment of the Lucas site announced.

July

Festival fever, protesters win their battle against the homeless centre.

August

Alison Roberts and Pete Maslen take over production of *THE ARCHER* and the Cats' Protection League complains about our editor's gardening methods, pointing out that "The anti-cat bazooka is not something we recommend".

Michael Kreisky remembers The Goons and proclaims that "Blue-bottle was here".

October

Helen Davis wins our sunflower competition with her 11-foot high monster. Elsewhere there's more on the Lucas site.

November

Vandals destroy the statue of Henry Croft, the original pearly king in St Pancras.

December

"Support your Local Shops!"



Making a point or taking the pee? May 1994. Photo by David Tupman

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