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Local News Is Our Aim

THE ARCHER



GLH

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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Not Down This Road

By Daphne Chamberlain

About 250 children and adults marched down the High Road last month to "save our library". Organised by parents and governors of Martin School, the march was in protest against moving East Finchley Library into the proposed Waitrose development.

Armed with balloons, streamers, squeakers, badges and a concertina, and banging toy swords against shields and wooden spoons against saucepans, they were impossible to ignore. "I've never seen anything like it in the High Road," said one shopkeeper.

Too far

The distance between the proposed library site and the school was the marchers' main concern. This journey down the High Road lasted 25 minutes, but, as Chair of Governors Theresa Harrison told *THE ARCHER*, "If you add on time to get ready, we estimate that it will take at least 40 minutes - and that's only one way."

Ms Harrison continued,

"Many children never visit the library until they are introduced by the school. Why should the library be the public service linked with the new development? Surely, if it goes ahead, another Council provision - perhaps including public toilets - could be used instead?"

Missing out

Esme Girling, aged 9, said, "I don't think they will be able to bring classes down here. It's too far, and they won't risk the danger." 8-year-old Maria Boucema thought that some children would miss out altogether on "all the lovely books" if their mothers were pregnant or too busy to take them.

Not everyone on the

march was connected with the school. Robin Liston of Southern Road believes that "developers are hovering like vultures round East Finchley. We have a perfectly good library already, and they haven't even bothered to find out what refurbishing it would cost." Another non-affiliated adult, Judith Filkin, is concerned that a library at the far end of the borough would be used by a disproportionate number of Haringey readers.

The march ended with a demonstration outside GLH, which was filmed by BBC cameras.

Afterwards, Theresa Harrison told us, "The response was fantastic - absolutely overwhelming."



The head of the protest march reaches East Finchley Library.
Photo by Diana Cormack

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Mange Outbreak

By Frank Tymk6w

I recently noticed a sign in the RSPCA window which concerns local residents, especially dog owners. The Stanley Road playing field (behind the Wilmot Centre and Holy Trinity school) is, apparently, contaminated with Mange Mites!

There are two varieties of this condition, *Demodetic Mange* and *Sarcoptic Mange* (commonly known as Sca-

bies), but it is not clear which type affects the playing fields. *Demodetic Mange* produces symptoms of inflamed skin and bald patches, and failure to effect prompt treatment can result in a dog becoming permanently bald. It is contagious only in the first three days of infection.

Sarcoptic Mange is much more serious, and causes skin irritation and scabs, and is contagious, not only in dogs but also humans. Early treatment to your dog by the vet is also essential. Some people in contact with infested dogs may get itchy patches, but these will usually clear up when the dog is treated. This form of mange is threatening the UK population of foxes. Local residents are advised to keep clear of the area, especially dog owners.

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