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Local News is our Aim

THE ARCHER




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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Homes struck by burglary epidemic

By David Melsome

Since the start of the year, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of residential burglaries occurring in East Finchley. Most have occurred in the streets around Cherry Tree Wood and in the county roads that run eastwards from East Finchley High Road.

The number of burglaries and attempted burglaries in January alone was 13 with February witnessing a further 11. To date, there have been six burglaries reported since the beginning of March. It is hoped that, with increased police patrols in the main areas, a corner has been turned and burglaries will now decline.

In most cases entry is being gained from the rear, by forcing either a rear door or window. On occasions entry has been gained when these have been left closed but unlocked. In a smaller number of instances, entry is being gained by forcing the front door or windows. The peak times for this to occur are between 1-3pm and 6-8pm.

Most commonly, the items

being stolen are laptop computers, digital cameras, jewellery and sometimes car keys.

The East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood Team, with the support of local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, is asking residents to stay on guard and to dismiss any stereotypical ideas of what a burglar may look like.

As Sergeant Alex Kay points out: "There is no such thing as a typical burglar; they can be any age up to 70 years and from a diverse range of backgrounds. Many have access to cars and some will even carry out surveillance on a target address. We would urge all residents to review their home security and report anything suspicious to the police."

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Martin School teacher Clare Lewis skydiving for charity. See page 5.

Clare Lewis and her tandem instructor high above the clouds in Oxfordshire. Picture by Matt Abram from the Hinton Skydiving Centre.

Ironing out The Kinks

By Diana Cormack

Since the sudden closure of The Clissold Arms on Fortis Green, speculation has been rife about the fate of the hostelry where Ray and Dave Davies, founders of The Kinks, gave their first public performance. More to the point, fans of a certain age are wondering what is to become of the memorabilia displayed there in what has been described as a shrine to the sixties pop group.

Within the collection are various signed records, record sleeves and photos donated by fans over the years, including *THE ARCHER'S* Sippy Azizollah. It is feared that these could be sold off.

The new tenants want to turn the premises into a gastro pub, which rather goes against the grain, since it was only last year that the Campaign for Real Ale gave the Clissold one of its first 'Pubs in Time' awards.



Now it looks as though "time" will be called on this historic pub which Kinks fans from all over the world visit to pay homage to their Muswell Hill musical heroes.

The Clissold is due to reopen in the summer. Only time will tell if the memory of The Kinks will be allowed to linger on there or if it will fade slowly away into the Waterloo Sunset.

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