



## A year in the life

Here's a reminder of the news, events, people and pictures that made the pages of *The Archer* in 2006.

Our reporting team relies on you to tell us what's going on so if you have any news for us in 2007, get in touch by email to the-archer@lineone.net, by post to *The Archer*, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA, or by phone on 08717 334465. Thank you.



From January: Travel writer Chris Haslam is pictured reading *The Archer* during a trip to the Antarctic to survey penguin numbers.

### January

Strong feelings are shown at a public meeting on the future of **Stanley Field** when Barnet Council is urged to resist building on the playing field next to Holy Trinity School and to restore it as a leisure facility for the whole community. We interview **Bernhard Herzberg**, the oldest student in England at the age of 96, who is tackling his second Master's degree at the University of London. He is undaunted by having to produce essays of 3,000 words.

Two brothers are charged with the murder of **Jacqueline Queen**, 39, whose body was discovered in a grassed area in Elmshurst Crescent, near the junction with East End Road in November 2005.

We report the opening of beauty therapists **Utopia**, in Leicester Mews, and **Mandana** at Jennie Mann's in Church Lane.

### February

East Finchley Library Users' Group launches a campaign to save **East Finchley Library** from staff cuts, shorter opening hours and a reduced service as part of cuts to Barnet's library budget.

A shotgun and a cache of ammunition are discovered on **The Grange** estate hidden in an alcove behind rubbish bins.



From February: Wildlife makes itself at home as a sparrow hawk is caught feasting on a wood pigeon in the back garden of a house in Hertford Road.

Campaigners win the first round of their battle to prevent three **mobile phone masts** being installed in the bell tower of Holy Trinity Church in Church Lane.

We report on the reopening of the café in **Cherry Tree Wood** under the management of Eileen Cannon.

### March

The site of the **Finchley Manor Garden Centre** on East End Road goes up for sale and demolition crews move in on the **Red Lion pub** in Elmfield Road.

Hundreds of people sign a petition to safeguard the **Local Café** on the corner of Lincoln Road and High Road which is at risk of losing its kitchen space to a neighbouring development.

The new **police patrol base**, home to the East Finchley Safer Neighbourhoods Team, opens in the High Road.

We report on the success of Martin Junior School pupil **Olivia Chemutai Koimur**, the first girl to win the Charlotte Coleman Scholarship at the North London Performing Arts Centre.

### April

London Underground announces that **Northern line** passengers will face six months of disruption as the East

### June

**East Finchley** is praised by the Evening Standard for being 'hip and family friendly'.

Artists from the **East Finchley Open** group stage an exhibition of poetry and artwork on the railings of Stanley Field to protest at plans to build on the land.

Gift shop **The Cherry Tree** and the **Monkey Face** bar open on the High Road.

Actress Barbara Windsor starts the fundraising walk for **Jack Brown** from East Finchley tube station. Jack is suffering from a rare form of cancer and needs £200,000 to fund treatment in America.



From July: TV presenter and former England footballer Ian Wright is pictured at Bishop Douglass School filming scenes for a Channel 4 show on children and exercise.

### July

We report on **Fleur Adcock**, of Lincoln Road, who was awarded the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

Representatives from The East Finchley Community Development Trust, The Walks Residents Association and Holy Trinity School meet Barnet Council leader Mike Freer to discuss the future of **Stanley Field**.

A sofa supplied by **Jane Elliott**, of Baronsmere Road, becomes the centrepiece of the lounge on Channel 4's Big Brother.

### August

Two performance groups complain that they were unfairly left out of the stage programme at the **East Finchley Community Festival** in June. Our article prompts a flood of letters in support of the festival organisers.

**Melvyn Friend**, of Manor Park Road, a model maker behind the Daleks and many other scenes in the new Doctor Who series, is honoured by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts for his team's work.

Barnet welcomes its new Borough Commander Detective Chief Superintendent **Stephen Kavanagh**.

### September

Six people are sentenced for their part in a £1.7million burglary in **The Bishops Avenue**. A safe was dragged from the living room and cars worth £400,000 were stolen from the drive.

Daily Mail 'Plantsman of the Year' Award winners **Patsy Joseph** and **Paul Harrington**

open their East Finchley garden to the public.

The **Phoenix Cinema** follows a summer of free films for children by bringing back its popular Saturday morning Kids Club showings.

### October

In a reference taken to include **East Finchley Library**, Barnet Council leader Mike Freer warns that libraries housed in listed buildings will need to be replaced with new models in multi-functional buildings.

We interview **David Millard**, general manager of the Northern line, about the continued

weekend tube closures, which have been extended into November.

East Finchley family **Kate Fuscoe** and **James Johnson** head off with their children Miles and Joseph for a year's voluntary work in Mozambique.

Actress **Maureen Lipman** pays tribute to the life and work of her late husband Jack Rosenthal in a special event at the Phoenix Cinema.

### November

Ambitious plans to open a **City Academy** in North Finchley in 2008 are revealed, potentially widening the secondary school choice for pupils in East Finchley.

Italian restaurant chain Ask puts forward a proposal to turn the former **Barclays Bank** building on the corner of Fortis Green and the High Road into a takeaway restaurant.

East Finchley artist **Eti Wade** sees her photographs of her six-year-old son Yonatan put on show at the National Portrait Gallery.

### December

A campaign is started to put **East Finchley** on the map by publicising the many new shops and attractions in the community.

We report on two new businesses which have opened their doors: **La Rugoletta** Italian restaurant in Church Lane and **Fiori** florists in the High Road.

Hugely popular children's author **Michael Rosen** reads his best work to schoolchildren at Martin Schools.

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Finchley branch is closed at weekends for vital engineering work.

**Gable Lodge**, an eight-bedroom luxury house on The Bishops Avenue, stars as the home of the contestants in the BBC TV show *The Apprentice*.

Barnet Council decides to go ahead with cuts to the service at **East Finchley Library** despite protests from users.

**Noble Sage**, the first gallery in the UK to specialise in contemporary south Asian art opens in Fortis Green, and **Cochin** south Asian restaurant opens on the High Road.

### May

The borough of **Barnet** is branded 'lifeless and dull' in the Time Out London for Londoners book.

Two men are charged with murder following the death of 38-year-old **Colin Brown** on The Grange estate in April.

We report on the anger of residents on **Creighton Avenue** who had a green Ford Transit van parked outside their homes without moving for 11 months.