



Letters to the Editor

Where do we park now?

Dear Editor

I'm writing this with considerable anger and bewilderment at our local council's decision to implement double yellow lines on Manor Park Road. There are not enough spaces to park on Manor Park Road as it is and now the council at 1pm on Wednesday 14 May decided to make matters worse.

Where on earth are we supposed to park our cars now? I have telephoned the council design team today and got the usual spiel that it's legal and everything was done through the courts without ANY resident's objection.

I didn't receive a letter from the council informing me of this matter and neither did any other local residents. No wonder there wasn't an objection because we never received the letters in the first place, but we all know what's coming next, don't we?

This is just the start of the council implementing parking restrictions to fleece more money from local people. It's an unfair and underhand move from our local council and I would like to see these lines disappear just as fast as they were painted.

Yours faithfully, Mr Gallagher Manor Park Rd, N2



Cracking the flags

Dear Editor,

We thought you would like to see this photo of the broken paving stones on the path leading from Edmunds Walk to The Causeway. This path is used by hundreds of people every day on their way to and from East Finchley station and there is an accident waiting to happen. Requests to Barnet Council for them to be replaced have so far been to no avail.

Yours faithfully, Norman and Nina Pampel, Edmunds Walk, N2.

Supermarket plan is not

Tesco

Dear Editor

With regards to the proposed new supermarket in Stag Court (The Archer, May 2008), I can reassure people that it was myself, an independent local businessman, and not Tesco or any other large multiple behind the planning application.

My intention is for a local supermarket for local people. I cannot see how this would therefore cause any impact on traffic.

I believe that this would be a benefit to the local community especially for elderly residents who have trouble getting up to the main shopping area, particularly in winter.

I take issue with the suggestion that "hundreds of local residents were horrified" by the plan. The only objection I am aware of was organised by another retail outlet in East Finchley High Road. Surely competition is healthy for the area and not the reason to refuse a planning application.

Contrary to your suggestion, local people have in fact indicated to me that a local supermarket would be welcomed here and are not opposed to the plan.

I hope I have allayed any false fears and put to bed any misplaced rumours that this is to be a Tesco store or some other large chain, which I am concerned, may have been behind any objection and petition.

Yours faithfully, Sarfra Dostezad, Exchange Close, N11

Quake rocked me

Dear Editor,

Referring to your article on the earthquake (THE ARCHER, May 2008), being a bad sleeper I was sitting in my kitchen having a cup of tea and reading a book when the chair I was sitting in rocked twice. It felt as though someone was pulling it from the back of me and was quite a strange feeling.

Yours faithfully, P Cornell, Old Farm Road, Strawberry Vale, N2



We're on the ball

Dear Editor,

We thought it was all over for Stanley Road field: years of neglect and the council trying to sell it for housing. Luckily, opposition was strong but I was still surprised to hear about a football match this April (The Archer, May 2008).

Roger and Kate Chapman, of the Friends of Stanley Road Field, had been there a week earlier and worked hard to hack down shrubs and fill in potholes so a match could be played. Other members were there on the day of the match, asking people if they would like the games to become a regular event.

Considering all the controversy about younger folk not having enough places for recreation, I find it slightly surprising that no one has mentioned the nearby Market Place playground, but that is missing a lot of equipment and is unsuitable for anyone over 12. It is not practical to use for sport either, so COME ON, STANLEY FIELD.

Yours faithfully, Jake Eiseman-Renyard, Fortis Green, N2

Football heroes of Stanley Road

Dear Editor,

Having seen your article about the football match on Stanley Road playing field (The Archer, May 2008) I could not resist sending this picture of the football team of Holy Trinity School taken on the field in 1962.

My son being one of them makes me wonder how many of these young men recognise themselves today. Like my son, they must be around 57 years old.

I do enjoy your paper every month. Many thanks.

Yours faithfully, Gwen Nutting, Sedgemere Avenue, N2.

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Wildlife Diary

By Linda Mitchell

Last winter was incredibly mild. I recorded days in January and February as HOT! Towards the end of November, birds fed constantly at the feeder. Once again the parakeets took control, but jays, blackbirds, dunnocks, etc, retrieved bits as they fell.

By January the squirrels had again perfected the art of leaping from the apple tree onto the nut feeder. It is quite a long drop, and it was such a sight to see both squirrel and parakeet hanging on at the same time. The parakeet was completely undeterred. By the time I had run for the camera, both had vanished.

In late February, a pair of swans flew across, heading towards Hampstead. Not such a beautiful sight was the sparrow hawk, which has visited several times.

Fox cubs chase each other around the garden at night, oblivious to the mayhem they cause in the flower borders.

As the weather warms up the frogs will return, I hope, along with ladybirds, butterflies and bees. I saw a TV report that said many species of butterflies may be wiped out, due to the constant rain we had last summer. Apparently it affected their life cycle badly.

It is about three years now since I saw any sign of the hedgehog. I wonder if any other people still see them in their gardens.

Let's hope this summer will be drier than last year, and that we can all enjoy the wildlife in our gardens.

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