



East End Road rage

By Daphne Chamberlain

Traffic diversions on East End Road are giving grief to some East Finchley residents. Because the eastbound lane of East End Road is partly closed for gasworks until 30 November, the southbound 143 bus service has been diverted down Ossulton Way, reaching East Finchley station via Lyttelton Road and The Bishops Avenue.

Users of this service want to know why there was not enough advance publicity, why the exact diversionary route was not made clear, why disabled bus stops were not marked as such for a couple of days after the diversion started, why a temporary bus stop was not put at the top of Ossulton Way, and why the diversion is not down Deansway, as it is for cars.

Long journeys

Local resident Jean Gregory told us: "Since the closure of the sub post office, many elderly and/or disabled people have to collect their pensions from the East Finchley office. This can now mean two or even three buses, starting off in the opposite direction if they live between Ossulton Way and the High Road. If the diversion can't be down Deansway, at least a temporary bus stop at the top of Ossulton Way would be easier and safer."

Whose responsibility?

Transport for London is responsible for diversionary routing, publicity and bus stop siting. A spokesperson told THE ARCHER that, although it

was too late in this case, these comments would be passed to their local area manager. He also said that their operations team would have consulted with Barnet Council. Barnet told us that buses were not diverted along Deansway because of restrictions caused by resident parking bays.

Drivers have also complained that there are no notices in the High Road warning that the right hand turn into East End Road from Market Place is blocked, and no advance notices for eastbound motorists in East End Road until Deansway itself.

The siting of these notices is the responsibility of contractors carrying out the roadworks, but local councils can ask for appropriate signs before making temporary traffic orders.

A spokesperson from Barnet Council said, "The council inspects the area regularly and will continue to do so throughout the lifespan of the works. If signage is found to be defective or positioned incorrectly, the council works with the utility companies to correct the signage as a matter of urgency."

Local Café stays local

The popular Local Café is moving from its long-time home on the corner of the High Road and Lincoln Road to new premises close to the tube station.

The Local Café will take over the site formerly occupied by the Chez Nous restaurant. As we went to print, the café had reopened and was doing a roaring trade.

Run by Celal Ince and Niyazi Ozturk since 1991, the café employs nine people and is a focal point for the community. Sadly, Celal and Niyazi will not be making the move. They'll be handing over to new management but most of the café's staff will be on board again.

The move is happening because redevelopment plans

for properties in Lincoln Parade will mean some encroachment into the Lincoln Road premises. Two years ago, THE ARCHER reported that this would have meant the Local Café having to move its kitchen and toilet facilities.

The lease on the Lincoln Road site has not been renewed so the café owners were pleased to be able to move their business further down the High Road where they hope their loyal customers, and many new ones, will bring them many more years of busy custom.

Get your ARCHER Calendar now

The Archer Calendar is on sale now. You can order by post and it will be delivered free to your door, or you can find it, as they say, in all good retailers.

It costs just £5 so makes the perfect Christmas gift for friends and family, and of course, every home in East Finchley should have one.

Every month of the year has room for your appointments and a different photo taken somewhere in N2: beauty spots, landmarks and some really unusual views of familiar places.

Every penny from sales of the calendar will be used to support the work of our local charity Contact, whose staff and volunteers work hard to improve the lives of elderly and disabled people, and those living alone in East Finchley.

Thanks to all our readers who sent in photographs for the calendar and special thanks to Photobox.co.uk for designing, printing and posting it.

Calendar outlets

Here's a list of the shops and venues in the area that are stocking the calendar:

Lazy Sally Kiosk, Cherry Tree Wood; Phoenix Cinema; Black Gull Book Shop, High Road; Budgens, High Road; Lazooli, High Road;



Cherry Tree Gift Shop, High Road; Tony's Continental, High Road; 2 Destino, High Road; Kokos, High Road; Coral's the chemist, East End Road.

There may be more outlets by the time you read this so keep your eyes open for our calendar posters. You'll

also find the calendar on sale at the East Finchley Open Art Fair at Martin School on Sunday 16 November.

Or you can order by post. Fill in the form on page 11 and send it off to the address given and we'll do the rest. Please allow up to 14 days for delivery.

Goodbye, Mandarin

After many years of prawn crackers and sweet and sour pork, the High Road has lost one of its longest-established restaurants. The Mandarin has closed and the owners have moved on to pastures new.

No one knows exactly how long the Chinese restaurant and takeaway was in business but it is thought to have been at least 20 years.

As THE ARCHER went to print, the shutters were up and the premises were being cleared out. On the window, there was a note reading:

"Dear friends and customers, after many years of meet-

ing you all and cooking for you, which has given me the greatest pleasure, the Mandarin is closing its doors and I shall be moving on.

"I wish to thank you for your custom, support and friendliness. I shall miss the chatter and the stories we have shared.

"I expect some of us will bump into each other from time to time and I look forward to that. I wish you all well. From William and family. Thank you and goodbye."

Performance for charity

A charity theatre performance in aid of the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice will take place at the Chickenshed, Southgate, on Saturday 13 December at 3.30 pm.

The Twelve Days of Christmas tells the story of four homeless and parentless children who occupy a single room in their half-uncle Leonard's house. Chickenshed's award winning array of music, dance and exuberance turns a traditional Christmas song into a non-traditional treat. Tickets are from £14 and can be booked on 020 8449 8877 or visit www.chickenshed.org.uk.

VICTORY AUTO SERVICES

Air-Conditioning - Recharge & Servicing

Mechanical repairs, tyres, bodywork, clutches, exhausts
MOTs by appointment

109 Fortis Green East Finchley London N2 9HR
Tel: 020 8883 9707 / 0023 Fax: 020 8482 9179

HEALING

Kathryn Scorza
Registered Spiritual Healer

For appointments in East Finchley please call **07703 404 839** or email kathryn@spqrlondon.co.uk

Nicky Sharp
Osteopathy Clinic

Cranial and Structural Osteopathy and Acupuncture

All Major Insurers Accepted

For consultations and appointments:
Telephone: 020 8815 9433

260 East End Road www.nickysharposteopathy.co.uk
London N2 8AU e-mail: info@nickysharposteopathy.co.uk

EAST FINCHLEY ELECTRICAL
always lowering prices
Now in Stock:

**All Types of Heating Panel Heaters
Convactor Heaters & Fan Heaters**

LOCAL COUNCIL APPROVED CONTRACTOR & RETAILER

For all your electrical needs in the home, we turn up on time, guarantee our work and are unbeatable value.

115 High Road London N2
Tel: 020 8444 5630 or email sales@ef-elec.co.uk

Josephines
EXPERTS IN CREATIVE FLORAL DESIGN

For the freshest flowers around
Pop in and choose from the largest selection in the area
No excuses - to miss that special occasion

www.josephinesflowers.co.uk Tel: 020 8444 9569/020 8883 3598 60 High Rd, East Finchley London N2 9PN