



Letters to the Editor

Fight the pavement tax

Dear Editor,

Regarding the pavement tax in your front page article in July's edition, I am just writing to say that of course the shops and cafes should be allowed to put goods and tables and chairs outside their premises.

As you say in your article, the pavements are perfectly wide enough to cater for these items and still leave plenty of room for pedestrians, people with prams, wheelchairs, etc.

They add to the feel of East Finchley. The village atmosphere would be harmed tremendously if as a result of a tax imposed purely to raise more revenue - which I am sure we would not see spent on improvements to the area - shops were not able to continue as they are at present.

Please try and get everyone to put up a good fight against this!

Yours faithfully,

Kate Barnett,
Baronsmere Road, N2.

Tasty temptation

Dear Editor,

Regarding "We don't need another supermarket" (Letters, THE ARCHER, July 2008), I agree with Pauline Dorrington except for her apparently dismissing a fruit and veg shop that sells groceries too.

We are thrilled to have available Tony's Continental, which supplies real fruit and vegetables. For example, have you tried their celery, dirty, unwashed but crunchy and smelling as it should? And if you can pick up a loaf of their great breads which you find nowhere else, surely that is a benefit. Just try it.

Yours faithfully,

Lorna Roberts
Address supplied.

Questions over pavilion plans

Dear Editor,

As local residents living very close to the proposed new pavilion in Cherry Tree Wood (THE ARCHER, August 2008) we welcome the new plans. However we have a few concerns.

The bottom end of Park Hall Road is prone to flooding after heavy rain. What would be the impact of the new pavilion on a drainage system that is currently unable to cope during bad weather?

Your article refers to "major trees retained...". Of the trees that are going to be lost, do any have tree preservation orders?

There is a terrible litter problem in Cherry Tree Wood resulting in a large number of vermin. How would the rubbish and waste from the new building be managed?

What would happen if, in the future, further development was sought that may, for example, require more direct access from Brompton Grove, or an extended kitchen facility? Are there any safeguards that can be put in place now to limit any such developments?

The proposal is that the building be demolished and rebuilt but how can this be achieved with current access from Summerlee Avenue? Access from Brompton Grove would, as far as we can see, demand strengthening of the unmade orphaned road that is Brompton Grove where it joins Park Hall Road and would cause much noise pollution and disruption.

Yours faithfully,
Jeannie Cummings and Carl McChesney
Park Hall Road, N2.

In a word...

Dear Editor,

Regarding the pavilion plan for Cherry Tree Wood, hurrah! Let's hope it happens. Let's make it happen. It will be a great asset to the community.

Yours faithfully,

Ros Goldfarb,
Southern Road, N2.

Who will pay?

Dear Editor,

As the pavilion in Cherry Tree Wood may contain asbestos, what provision will be made for its safe demolition, as it is so close to the children's playground, and to houses?

And who will bear the cost of the demolition?

Yours faithfully,

Judith Filkin,
Park Hall Road, N2.

Junk mail not welcome

Dear Editor,

Next to the letterbox on my front door I have attached a notice, which quite clearly states "No junk mail". Large amounts of junk mail are regularly shoved through the letterbox in spite of the notice.

Yesterday's delivery of this rubbish came just as I was about to leave the house. I picked it up from inside the hall, went outside, remonstrated angrily with the man who had delivered it and handed the rubbish back to him. I pointed to the notice on the door.

The man who had delivered it smiled sheepishly and explained in perfectly good English that he could not read English and had therefore not understood my notice. I suggested that he should learn to read English as soon as possible.

He worked for a company by the name of Regal who describe themselves as "The company that delivers - the premier door-to-door distribution service". Their address is Regal Distribution, Unit 2, Towers 13.P. Carey Way, Wembley, HA9 0LQ.

Henceforth I propose to return all their junk mail to Regal. I shall not be paying postage costs for this. There is quite considerable annoyance in my area at the amount of junk mail that is received. I suggest that if other inhabitants of north London share my anger they should also return REGAL's rubbish to them.

Yours faithfully,

Name supplied,
Park Hall Road, N2.

The signs are not good

Dear Editor,

I'd like to comment on a cycling incident that happened on Monday 11 August along the Causeway near the station. I witnessed this as a cyclist hurtled down the busy footpath, causing an accident. I too am a cyclist who rides to the station but I "walk cycle" down the Causeway extremely slowly behind pedestrians, never overtaking.

As a consequence of the accident community police were at the station fining people on the spot for being on a bicycle. I was informed by the police officer that it was an offence and there was an incident. I totally understood and accepted the fine.

My issue regards the signage and general cycling education, which may be a matter for the local council and the Mayor of London to consider. The signage of a bicycle shape

Send your correspondence to: "Letters Page", The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA or e-mail the-archer@lineone.net.

bordered by a red circle is very misleading. True, in the Highway Code this means "no cycling" but I would reckon that 8 out of 10 people could have misinterpreted the sign on The Causeway.

I would encourage the council to add "No Cycling", so that it is crystal clear. I would also ask the local council and the Mayor of London to consider introducing an educational measure or a refresher of the cycling proficiency test.

Until councils invest in educating cyclists and in clearer signage, especially with more and more people taking up cycling due to environmental and health benefits, there will be accidents. I would also urge community police to show more tolerance with cycling offences and to hand out leaflets that help educate people like me. The counter argument is that I should be more of a responsible cyclist but I would imagine many people just jump on a bike and assume it's similar to walking rather than driving.

Yours faithfully,

Kish Parmar,
Hamilton Road, N2.

A little sharpener required

Dear Editor,

Do any of your readers know where I can get my two pairs of dull gardening shears professionally sharpened at a reasonable price? Those who used to sharpen them have all gone out of business so I do need some help.

Yours faithfully,

Barbara Huggan,
Market Place, N2.

Please get in touch if you can help Barbara. See our contact details above.

Free smoke alarms

By Janet Maitland
The London Fire Brigade is carrying out free fire safety visits in Barnet. As part of the check, they will fit a free smoke alarm.

Their campaign targets vulnerable people in boroughs throughout London where fires and fire deaths are high.

"Getting a smoke alarm and regularly testing and maintaining it, as well as planning your escape route in the event of fire, can dramatically decrease the risk of death or serious injury," said a brigade spokesperson.

If you would like a visit, call the freephone number 08000 28 44 28, or email smokealarms@london-fire.gov.uk

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OBITUARY

Kathy Dew

By Daphne Chamberlain

We were sad to learn of the death of Kathy Dew, youngest daughter of Alfred Abrey, who ran the laundry in The Walks. The Abreys were featured in our East Finchley Families series in 2000, for which Kathy gave us a lot of information.

She was born on 20 April 1919 at Veranda House, on the corner of the Stanley Road footpath. From here, her father ran Ye Olde Palace Hand Laundry. Kathy remembered bathing in one of the wooden tubs in which the washing was done with scrubbing brushes, before being dried in the one-acre garden.

Both her parents came from Melbourn, Cambridgeshire. Her mother died when she was two, and Kathy herself was brought up in Stansted by her aunt, returning to The Walks when she was 17. The family story is that she became a Tiller girl, before marrying Cyril Dew.

Their daughter Patricia (Pat Ruskin) was the administrative assistant at local charity Contact for six years, and Kathy worked for over 20 years at Sims, in Oak Lane, finishing up as personal assistant to the management. She was a member of the Friendship Club at Oak Lane Health Centre, and worshipped regularly at Holy



Kathy Dew. Photo courtesy of Anthony Abrey

Trinity Church.

Kathy lived in New Oak Road until moving to Stroud, Gloucestershire, a few years ago, to be with her daughter. It was there she died on 22 June this year, at the age of 89. Her nephew, Anthony Abrey, told us: "She had been ill for some time, but, typical of her, she did her best not to let it get her down. She was a wonderful person and aunt, always ready to help others, and will be missed greatly. She died peacefully with all her immediate family around her."

Hot, hot, hot

By Betti Blatman

On a Friday evening in August, I spent an enjoyable evening with friends at Fahrenheit, a Caribbean restaurant and lounge bar at 230 Archway Road, Highgate, listening to live jazz featuring Wendy Long, an exceptionally gifted pianist and composer, accompanied by Dimitris Moudopoulos on trumpet, whilst enjoying an excellent range of delicious Caribbean food.

Although the owner, Angela, opened three years ago, during the past year she has re-invented Fahrenheit and refurbished it with obvious attention to detail in the new décor. She will be organ-

ising regular Friday live music evenings. Fahrenheit is open Tuesday to Saturday from 6pm to midnight. Telephone 020 8347 0333 or visit www.fahrenheit-restaurant.co.uk.

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Dr D Freshart BDS (England), MSc (London)
Dr A Marmad 205 (Dentist)

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