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THE ARCHER




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CARS & COURTIERS

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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Graffiti spree defaces Cherry Tree Wood

By Maria Pereira

Following the excellent work carried out by volunteers in Cherry Tree Wood (*THE ARCHER*, December 2008) it was sad to discover almost 40 trees had been vandalised over the Christmas period. The initials 'JS' were spray painted in silver in 18 - 24 inch letters on tree trunks and also on The Lazy Sally café.

The damage on the trees ran from the entrance opposite East Finchley station all the way up the main pathway to Highgate Woods, where it continued on the fencing. Fortunately the trees inside Highgate Woods were spared, either because the gate was locked or the paint ran out.

Barnet Council were quick to come and clean up the trees, although it will still take some time given the scale of the problem and because the paint is on bark rather than brick.

Park keeper needed

Sally-Anne Wigfield, who runs the café, was very upset that her kiosk had been damaged (not for the first time).

She told *THE ARCHER*: "We are used to graffiti on buildings and walls here and there, but on the trees it has a far more dominating effect in an otherwise tranquil area." She believes that a permanent park keeper is needed. However, two years ago Cherry Tree Wood lost its park keeper and many residents feel that having one could cut down on incidents like this.

Costly vandalism

The organisation Friends of Cherry Tree Wood, a charity that has been running for 20 years, helps Barnet to maintain the park. A representative said: "It is infuriating because money spent on dealing with this could have been used to improve the Wood." The culprits have yet to be caught.

Members of BCTV (the British Trust of Conservation Volunteers) are scheduled to be working in Cherry Tree Wood again on 9 February and 10 - 11 March.

Why we need a park keeper, see Letters, page 11.

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Longer route for 263

As we were going to press, *THE ARCHER* learned that the 263 bus route will be extended to the Nag's Head, Holloway, from 7 February.

There has been a long campaign to improve the 263 bus service, the only bus running the length of the High Road in East Finchley. This extension will take it beyond its current southern terminus at Archway.

Look out for more details on this story in our next issue.

Recycling for flats

People living in blocks of flats will be able to take advantage of Barnet Council's recycling service for plastic bottles and cardboard from this month.

The council began pavement collections via blue boxes for these materials in December but flats were not included.

Barnet Council has told *THE ARCHER* that communal green-coloured wheelie bins for recycling plastic bottles and cardboard will be offered to blocks of flats from this month.



Image supplied by London Transport Museum

A sign of snow

By Betti Blatman

A London Underground attendant clears the snow at East Finchley tube station back in the harsh winter of 1962. The long range weather forecast tells us to expect more cold snaps in February but will we ever get snow like this again?

The photograph comes to us from the archives of the London Transport Museum. The museum's latest exhibition is The Art of the Poster - A Century of Design, bringing together more than 60 original artworks to celebrate 100 years of outstanding poster design for the capital's public transport network.

The multimedia exhibition features film, touch screen interactives and original quotes from the artists themselves, and is accompanied by a lively talks

and events programme and a new book.

London Transport Museum is at Covent Garden Piazza, London WC2E 7BB and you can catch the exhibition until 31 March. For more details, contact the museum on 020 7565 7299 or visit www.ltmuseum.co.uk.

By the way, do you recognise the London Underground worker in the photograph? Get in touch with THE ARCHER if you do. Our contact details are on page 2.

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