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# THE ARCHER




**GLH**  
020 8883 5000  
CARS & COURTIERS

February 2010 No. 196  
ISSN 1361-3952

20p  
where sold

A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.



Flames rage in the house in Trinity Road. Photo by Duncan Phillips

## Kitchen fire spreads rapidly

By Janet Maitland

A kitchen fire that got badly out of hand has damaged a house in Trinity Road. The owner discovered smoke coming from his kitchen late in the evening

of 7 January. Despite his efforts to put the fire out, it spread extremely quickly and he had to escape the building.

The fire service was called

just after 10pm. Four fire engines and crews were sent from four North London fire stations. By the time they arrived, the flames had already leapt across the ground floor, up to the first floor, and onto the roof.

The street was engulfed in thick black smoke as fire fighters fought the blaze and tried to stop it spreading to the adjoining house. They managed to get the fire under control by 11pm and no one was hurt. The cause of the fire is not yet known and is under investigation.

The London Fire Brigade can come to your home and give you free personal fire safety advice about things like unsafe electrical wiring and where best to site smoke alarms. They will also fit a free smoke alarm where needed. If you or someone you know wants a home fire safety visit, ring 08000 28 44 28 or email at [smokealarms@london-fire.gov.uk](mailto:smokealarms@london-fire.gov.uk) You can also contact them via the website at [www.london-fire.gov.uk](http://www.london-fire.gov.uk).

## Safety and congestion fears spark junction plan

By John Lawrence

Major changes are being proposed for the busy traffic junction between the High Road, Fortis Green and East End Road. Barnet Council says it is responding to safety and congestion concerns at the location used by thousands of vehicles and pedestrians each day.

Under the scheme, the pavement outside Domino's Pizza would be narrowed to give large vehicles more room to turn left from the High Road into Fortis Green, and the Fortis Green pedestrian island would be removed.

Guard rails and bollards that currently line all four corners of the junction would be removed to improve visibility between pedestrians and motorists.

Highways manager Neil Richardson outlined the scheme in a letter hand-delivered to businesses and residents close to the junction on 25 January, as *THE ARCHER* went to press. Comments or objections were requested by 8 February.

Mr Richardson said removing the Fortis Green island and removing tactile paving on the two High Road islands would encourage pedestrians to cross in a single movement rather than stopping halfway on narrow refuges where they are at risk from passing vehicles.

Safety concerns were raised in March 2008, amongst other

times, when 93-year-old pedestrian Esther Copperman died after being in collision with a motorcycle as she crossed the junction.

The council's scheme is not yet finalised and no start date or duration have been given for the work. However, disruption for motorists and pedestrians can be expected.

A full list of the proposed changes is as follows:

1. Move the kerb line back at the corner of High Road and Fortis Green.
2. Remove the pedestrian island on Fortis Green.
3. Remove the guard rails on all corners of the junction.
4. Remove the steel bollards and renew existing paving on both sides of Fortis Green.
5. Remove the tactile paving on the two High Road pedestrian islands.
6. Improve the tactile paving at all pavement crossing points.
7. Provide road markings for traffic turning right from East End Road onto the High Road.
8. Relocate drain gullies away from the crossing points to remove any trip hazards.

Address your comments to: Neil Richardson, London Borough of Barnet Environment and Operations, Building 4, North London Business Park, Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP.

Tell us what you think of the scheme. Write to *THE ARCHER*, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA or email [the-archer@lineone.net](mailto:the-archer@lineone.net)



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