



Out with the old, in with the new

By Sergeant Andy Matthews

January is the time to reflect on achievements, and to plan what's still to be done. In 2010, we'll be concentrating on burglary and vehicle crime. Look out for information on setting up new Neighbourhood Watches and a DNA protective marking scheme. And you might see us start patrolling on bicycles.

Crime down

Last year, total crime in East Finchley fell by 6%. The team seized £10,000 worth of Class A and B drugs. We made 16 arrests, including three for burglary and three for robbery. Five drug search warrants were executed, and two for dangerous dogs. Four anti-social behaviour contracts were issued.

Six youths were referred to a Targeted Youth Scheme, to help prevent them from embarking on a life of crime. Two PCSOs worked with young people to stop them offending.

We improved the way we share intelligence about anti-social behaviour with housing associations, so we can now tackle it better. A civil injunction was taken out on a persistent and prolific offender, which bans them from particular places. This had a big impact on local crime levels.



On patrol

We played a big part in setting up the Shield Project, a borough-wide scheme protecting vulnerable elderly people. We also set up static patrols in places like the tube station and Viceroy Parade at busy times, so we can talk to residents and learn about community issues.

The team now has a full complement of staff, with four new officers joining us since I started here in February: Eddie Man, Eddie Rose, Dora Theodorou, and Sam Hedger. Thanks for all your support. We wish you a happy and crime-free year.

The Safer Neighbourhood office is at 113 East Finchley High Road, N2 8AG. You can phone us on 020 7161 9014 or 07887 632767, email us at EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk or talk to the Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) you see on patrol.



Keith John of Contact waiting on table at the Christmas meal. Photo by Diana Cormack.

Contact at Christmas

By Keith John

East Finchley Neighbourhood Contact held its Christmas lunch at the Green Man Community Centre in December, a splendid turkey dinner with all the trimmings that was much enjoyed by all who attended.

Contact serves lunch every Tuesday at the Green Man Centre, and also serves a special lunch of halal food for Muslim ladies on Wednesdays.

New members are always welcome so if you would like more details phone Keith John on 020 84441162 or go to www.efncontact.org

A friendly welcome awaits you

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Farewell to Lincoln Parade

This picture, taken by Martin Addison, shows the last few days of Lincoln Parade, demolished two months ago to make way for a building development.



The demolition crews move into Lincoln Parade. Photo Martin Addison. Write to us at THE ARCHER, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA, or email the-archer@lineone.net

The demolition work revealed the size of the space behind the parade on the corner of Lincoln Road and High Road and briefly uncovered the fascia for Finchley Pet Stores, which traded for 40 years before closing in 2002.

One of the store's regular customers was the Sultan of Brunei, resident of The Bishop's Avenue, whose staff took large monthly deliveries of cat and rabbit food, along with fish food for the royal carp.

Do you have memories of the pet store, or perhaps of getting a hair cut at the Gents' Hairdressers almost next door? Let us know your Lincoln Parade memories and we'll publish them in a future issue.

Knowledge grows on tree

A love of books and reading is a top priority at Tudor School. On Tuesday 24 November, the school opened its new library. This calm, quiet space is called the 'Tree of Knowledge'.

Jude Stone, co-headteacher, said: "Developing a love of reading is paramount to improving the chances our children have for a better future. We are so happy to have a new space for reading in peace and quiet, a place where they can discover new authors, enter imaginary worlds and extend their learning."

Robert McCulloch-Graham, director of children's services at Barnet Council, was on hand to cut the ribbon to the library. Also present was Jonny Zucker, author of the popular *Max Flash* novels, who has worked with the school regularly over the past two years.

Mr Zucker spent the day reading to all the children in the school from the very youngest in Nursery to the eldest in Year 6. The opening ceremony was videoed and then watched by the whole school, who assembled in the main hall to join in the celebration. Waterstones in Barnet donated new books for the children to enjoy.



Robert McCulloch-Graham Director of Children's Services opens the new library.

Good old-fashioned food

More than 100 senior citizens enjoyed old time lunches and dinners of boiled bacon, carrots and pease pudding in a community project sponsored by Budgens East Finchley.

The old-fashioned meals were served to great acclaim at the Age Concern Ann Owen Centre in Oak Lane, the Green Man Centre, Strawberry Vale, and Paul Byrne House on the Thomas More estate. Demand was high, with an overwhelming number of requests to do it again soon.

Budgens say they are grateful to local people for their support during and after the recent alterations to their High Road store and are open to ideas for sponsoring or assisting events for all age groups in the community.

The store will once again be a sponsor of the East Finchley Festival this summer and regularly donates to the Finchley Community Development Trust and Contact East Finchley.

East Finchley Baptist Church

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please contact the Church Office
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