



Letters to the editor

Pavilion debate needed

Dear Editor,

I should like to refer to the article in July's edition entitled 'Pavilion plans change', which discusses a proposed future for the Cherry Tree Wood pavilion.

The long article seems to be almost entirely based on a question and answer handout produced by the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood Pavilion, which includes Sally Wigfield (not Whigfield, as printed), who wishes to run the pavilion. The handout wishes to be informative, but at the same time it is propaganda for the proposal.

However, the article does not enquire into the composition of the group that produced the handout. There is no mention of the tendering process. The article does not explore how the Trustees will be selected, nor their relationship to the proposed Community Interest Company.

As you are aware from your own letters pages, there is some opposition to the plans and perhaps a more rigorous debate is now appropriate.

Yours faithfully, R Reece, Address supplied.

Waste not, want not

Dear Editor,

I have been following Adam Justice-Mills' articles 'Every Little Helps' with interest. As a child I often stayed in Wales at my grandparents' house, which had no mains water or electricity, so have never been one to let the tap run while cleaning my teeth. Precious rain water was collected in butts and, when the pump at the bottom of our garden went dry, we had to carry water from a tap about half a mile away in the village. Woe betide us if we spilled any!

Nowadays, when taking a shower I wet my body, then turn the water off while I soap myself. If I shampoo my hair under the shower I use the lather as soap. Otherwise I use soap instead of shower gel etc as I think we pour so much more such stuff down the drain and into the oceans than we ever used to. Some of my friends and family do the same, but is it significant that we all seem to be of a similar age?

Yours sincerely, Diana Cormack, Cherry Tree Road, N2.

Wrong stop for Ally Pally

Dear Editor,

When the W7 bus reaches the bottom of Muswell Hill, in both directions, the announcement says 'Alexandra Palace'. To reach Alexandra Palace from either of these stops requires a 20-minute to half-an-hour walk up a fairly steep hill. I know because I have done it. I have twice contacted the customer service team about this in the past couple of months, but the announcement has not been changed. The correct announcement, which is used on the 144 bus and should be used on the W7, is 'Alexandra Park'.

The Alexandra Palace announcement should be made at the top of Muswell Hill. It is then a 12-minute walk through a park on more or less flat ground. Yours faithfully, Frank Gordon, Address supplied.

Speak up against speeding traffic

Dear Editor,

As a local resident, I am responding to the concerns about speeding traffic on Church Lane, N2 (THE ARCHER, August 2010). Having nearly been knocked down myself, I am very concerned by the speed some drivers accelerate to on what is a very narrow road.

It is a major cut through from East End Road onto East Finchley High Road and is used by fast-driving impatient commuters who have no regard for pedestrians crossing the road. It is also a main route for scores of young toddlers heading to nursery, and young primary school children walking to school.

I have emailed Barnet Council to consider erecting two schoolchildren road safety signs, one on the bridge and one further down near the East Finchley Neighbourhood Office. I urge as many people and parents of young children who use the road to also email the council and perhaps they will take notice and do something about the speeding traffic issue.

Yours faithfully, Angela Sheeran, Sedgemere Avenue, N2.

Red light means stop

Dear Editor,

I am shocked at the number of parents who take their children across roads despite the pedestrian signal being on red. If they can't be bothered to train them in road safety, how are they ever likely to train them in anything else?

Yours faithfully, Mary Smith, Eastern Road, N2.

Art exhibition helps hospice

By Claire Roth The Art Exhibitions supporting North London Hospice is running alongside the East Finchley Arts Festival at All Saint's Church, Durham Road until 10 October. It features works by many renowned London and international artists including Fred Jarvis, former TUC president and photographer, and Royal Academy member Peter Freeth.

Fred Jarvis recently exhibited 'Pictures for a Hospice' at the TUC in memory of his late wife Anne who was cared for by the hospice three years ago. He has captured all elements of his professional life from rallies to schools to General Election campaigns.

Peter Freeth has exhibited his engraving works widely in the UK and Europe and has taught etching at the Royal Academy Schools since 1966.

There will be a variety of other artwork for sale including contemporary paintings, sculpture and jewellery. The exhibition will be open on evenings when events are held, and from 12 noon at the weekends. A percentage of all works sold will be donated to the hospice.



Royal insight from Katie Nicholl

Lives of two princes

By Milena Ciric

Katie Nicholl, the Mail on Sunday's diary editor and royal correspondent, has released her debut book, documenting the lives so far of Princes William and Harry.

This definitive book about the brothers, William and Harry, hit the shelves in June this year to much critical acclaim. Katie, 33, who was born in East Finchley and still lives nearby, has written about the young royals for over a decade and her new book takes a peek into the intriguing reality of their lives.

It's who you know

The full-time journalist and author admitted that getting information about the princes was difficult. She said: "They have a very small, select and carefully chosen niche of friends, so actually getting information about them is incredibly hard."

"I think the key to getting into the inside track of their private lives is to know the people that know them and get them to trust you enough to speak to you."

Katie's unique set of contacts plays a part in her successful journalism career. She said: "I think I am very lucky. Luck is a huge thing and great contacts enable me to break great stories like Guy and Madonna's split."

Katie said she wrote this book because of the fascination she feels towards the young Royals and her unique knowledge about them. "I hope people that read the book will feel that they have gleaned an insight into the lives of the two men that I think will change the house of Windsor. And if I've done that, then I've achieved what I set out to do."

She added that she hopes that this will not be her last book and said: "With a royal wedding probably in 2011, the next book just has to be on William."

Review: Trinity College of Music

By Ken Carter

Three generations from the Trinity College of Music opened the East Finchley Methodist Church's season on Sunday 12 September. Alan Peach, piano, has taught both Viola da Cunha, mezzo, and Charlotte Keefe, trumpet/piano.

France, Germany, Spain, the UK and the US were all present. We heard folk songs, lieder, songs from American musicals, piano solos, duets, and much else.

In the Schumann lieder, Viola da Cunha sang with exquisite expertise, but on eggshells. She gave a flowing delicacy to Shur's song cycle, recent settings of poems silvery, brave and serene from a terminal cancer patient. Da Cunha came fully into her own, however, with the four de Falla songs whose raucous loudness had a thrilling, uninhibited splendour.

Charlotte Keefe was remarkable, lending a clear-toned distinction to all she touched: the lively yet sedate romanticism of Busser, the dance band 1930s lyricism of Night and Day and the jazz-tinged versions of My Favourite Things, A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square and Till There Was You. At the piano, she enjoyed Benjamin's Jamaican Rumba, too. Alan Peach accompanied expertly throughout.

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

Letters without verifiable contact addresses will not be reviewed or printed. Contact details can be withheld, however, on request at publication.

Japanese Acupuncture & Shiatsu advertisement listing services like Joint Pain & Sciatica, Migraines & Headaches, Digestive Problems, Back & Neck Pain, Insomnia, Anxiety, and Pregnancy, PMS. Contact: Ph 07795203107, Fiona Hurlock, www.fionahurlock.com

C.W. Andrew Pharmacy advertisement: Are you ready for the Winter? Have you had your 'flu jab? We provide a 'flu-vaccination service in the pharmacy. You may qualify for a FREE 'flu jab if you are over 65 years or have certain medical conditions. For more information please contact: C.W. Andrew Pharmacy, 32 High Road N2 Tel: 020 8883 1559 Opposite East Finchley Underground

Klages Plumbing & Heating Agency LTD. advertisement: CONTACT TELEPHONE No: 020 8346 7218 / 8636 KLAGE A NAME IN PLUMBING FOR OVER 40 YEARS

North London IT Support advertisement: COMPUTER ON GO SLOW? 0800 756 1400 www.N2cr.com Computer repair specialists: Apple Mac and PC Help LOCAL Computer Support. We are based in EAST FINCHLEY