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Local News is our Aim

# THE ARCHER



**GLH**  
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*A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.*

## Road safety measures called for at accident black spot

By Diana Cormack

**Another accident at the Summerlee Avenue/Southern Road crossroads (see June ARCHER) left an East Finchley couple badly shocked and shaken.**

Robina and Stan Spinks were driving up Summerlee Avenue after helping at the community festival site on Saturday morning, 19 June. When they reached the intersection, a vehicle travelling from Southern Road on their right smashed into their car.

without slowing down. This junction is on a through route to Cherry Tree Wood which many children and families use on their way to the park. Locals fear a serious accident could occur if nothing is done about the situation soon.

### Poor signage

Part of the problem appears to be the road signs which, as the driver of the other car involved pointed out, are "Give Way" not "Stop" signs. He also felt that the white lines were faded and needed repainting. About ten years ago these lines were reversed in order to give vehicles on Summerlee Avenue precedence and to stop rat-running along Southern and Baronsmere Roads before the one-way entry from the High Road was created.

Mr Spinks told *THE ARCHER* that at first he believed their 2009 Picasso was a write-off. At the time of writing it is under repair whilst he and Robina are still having medical treatment for the after effects of the collision. Police did not attend the incident.



Stan Spinks with his damaged Picasso. Photo by Diana Cormack

The noise of the impact brought out residents to see what had happened. One told *THE ARCHER* they have wanted Barnet Council to improve safety at this junction for years because of the number of collisions and near-misses which occur there. He said they hear the screech of brakes indicating a near-miss three or four times a week, on average.

As well as motor vehicles, these incidents often involve cyclists who speed across



The Phoenix Team, L-R: Maurita Van Droogenbroeck (Front of House), John Wallcraft (Duty Manager, Front of House), Jodi Warren (IT, photographer), Paul Homer (Chief Executive), Eleanor Sier (Heritage Officer), Dan Badja (Catering Manager). Photo by Diana Cormack

## Phoenix spreads its wings again

The scaffolding has gone and the Phoenix Cinema staff are ready to welcome you through the doors once again. Years of fundraising and months of construction work have passed and now it's time for film-lovers to rediscover London's best local picture house.

Turn to our special reports on page 6 to find out more about what the new-look Phoenix has in store and read about the cinema's fascinating history. We also have a competition to win the new book that shines a light on the cinema's first 100 years.

The £1.1 million refurbishment project includes the complete restoration of the original Edwardian barrel ceiling and repairs to the art deco plaster relief wall panels created in 1938. The mezzanine floor above the foyer has been extended into a large public café and bar with an open-air terrace overlooking the High Road.

Architects HMDW and contractors Durkan have been racing to finish the work in time for the reopening night on 10 September. A gala reopening when guests will include the Phoenix's many famous patrons takes place later this month.

## Do you have a story for us?

You can send your stories, letters, and photos by email to [the-archer@lineone.net](mailto:the-archer@lineone.net) or by post to The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA. You can find out more about contributing and advertising at [www.the-archer.co.uk](http://www.the-archer.co.uk)

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