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THE ARCHER




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CARS & COURIERS

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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Have your say on the future of East Finchley

By Daphne Chamberlain

The recent Localism Act has introduced a new right for communities to draw up their own neighbourhood plan. This will allow residents, employees and business people to come together through a neighbourhood forum, and say where they think new houses, businesses, community facilities and shops should go, and what they should look like.

Sport East Finchley, supported by the Community Trust, is leading the way in setting up an East Finchley Neighbourhood Forum.

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Horace the legend

As we went to press, it was confirmed that Horace, one of Finchley's best-known characters, had died. He collapsed outside the Whittington Hospital on his way to an appointment and doctors were unable to save him.

Horace was a familiar sight for around 30 years on the High Road in East Finchley and North Finchley and often travelled on the 263 bus. He remembered the names of hundreds of people he spoke to over the years and often fired off his high-volume catchphrase "Best of luck!"

The former Martin School pupil, who lived on the Grange estate, is thought to have been in his late 40s. Word of his death on 24 September spread quickly among the traders and residents who knew him and floral tributes were laid outside McDonalds in North Finchley. An online petition was started asking Barnet Council to lay a bench in his memory.

Social media sites were flooded with tributes. Jesta la Naghten wrote on Facebook: "Best of luck to you in your next life, mate. Touched so many people's lives and always made things a little brighter. Thanks for being a legend and a man we all knew growing up. RIP, Horace".

What are your memories of Horace? Write to us at the-archer@lineone.net, or The Archer, PO Box 3699, London

N2 8JA, or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TheArcherN2



Valerie Regnet makes friends with homeless cat Tabby Tom. Photo by John Lawrence

Cuddlesome new home for Tabby Tom

There was a happy ending for at least one of the homeless cats brought along to the Animal Aid & Advice charity shop open day on Sunday 9 September.

Grizzled old gentleman Tabby Tom was rescued from the streets and looked after by the charity for several months before being picked out by cat lover Valerie Regnet and given a new home by her daughter Jennifer.

Valerie, of Talbot Avenue, said: "When Jennifer and Tabby Tom locked eyes, it was love at first sight. He has moved into her flat and is now enjoying a well-deserved, spoiled life."

The shop was busy on the open day with people coming in to see the line-up of kittens and cats looking for loving owners.

Founded in north London in 1971, Animal Aid & Advice is a voluntary group that raises all its own funds to support its animal welfare work. The charity always has animals in need of rehoming. If you can make

a donation or offer a home to a homeless cat, pop into the shop close to the Phoenix Cinema,

visit www.animalaidandadvice.org or telephone 020 8444 6290.



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