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## Roy and Joe get down to some hard work

In spite of rain and mud two horses, with their master Matt, worked steadily in Coldfall Wood through most of last month. Sometimes we'd see Roy the Suffolk Punch, shown here, sometimes Joe the glossy black Shire horse.

Each had his admirers (home-going schoolchildren especially) but neither stood around posing as there was serious log-hauling and woodland work to be done in the newly-coppiced area and the east-west ride (see last month's ARCHER).



Roy the horse tucks into breakfast before his days work.



Roy with his master, Matt in Coldfall Wood. Photos by Mike Coles

## Smell of fresh bread

By Nick Young

A new company has recently started delivering artisan-baked bread to houses in East Finchley, Muswell Hill and Hampstead Garden Suburb. Its name is Poppy & Rye, and it aims to deliver a variety of high-quality bread products to your doorstep on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

You may have seen them at the East Finchley Christmas Festival – but you'd have had to be quick, as they'd sold out by midday.

Robert Paul, one of the founders of Poppy & Rye, explained the company's philosophy to THE ARCHER: "It's surprisingly difficult to get your hands on fresh, handmade, baked goods delivered to your door," he said. "We bake into the early hours, delivering straight from our oven to your door, to ensure you receive a wonderfully fresh morning delivery."

Collaborating with the

award-winning Bread Factory, one of London's leading artisan bakeries which is renowned for using natural ingredients and no artificial preservatives, Poppy & Rye already has "hundreds" of customers who receive their orders "straight out of the oven" via an old-fashioned delivery van. "We've been amazed by the warm response and interest in Poppy & Rye," said Robert, who added that he has plans to expand the service to cover other parts of London.

For more details, visit the company's website: www.poppyandrye.co.uk

## Psalms and prayers

By Marian Bunzl

North London Chorus's forthcoming concert is an eclectic collection of works based on psalms and prayers.

We will perform Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, commissioned for the 1965 Festival at Chichester Cathedral, the texts taken from the Book of Psalms, sung in the original Hebrew; Korngold's Passover Psalm; Schubert's dramatic setting of Miriam's Song of Victory; and Mendelssohn's much-loved Hear My Prayer.

These diverse and wonderful works disprove the old adage: it truly is the Lord, not the Devil, who has the best tunes.

We are also truly blessed in our soloists, our patroness, the international opera singer Janice Kelly, and Adrian Rolet, head chorister at St. Margaret's Westminster. (The Lord also has the best singers!)

The concert takes place at St James' Church, Muswell Hill, on Saturday 15 March at 7.30 pm. Tickets available from 0203 468 1213 and from St James Bookshop and Les Aldrich Music Shop, 98 Fortis Green Road, Muswell Hill.

## So...

... I was cycling along Spaniards Road on the way home from work late one night at the end of February. Dark, cold, no one else on the road.

Suddenly I was aware of a presence alongside me and glanced to my right to find a policeman was keeping pace with me on his motorbike. Was I being pulled up for some offence? No, in fact I found myself in a rather jolly conversation.

We both kept one eye on the road and shouted across at each other as we rode.

The officer, well wrapped-up I have to say, sympathised with me on the problems of finding good enough gloves to keep your hands warm in winter's wind chill.

He was a cyclist himself, he said, and knew this part of London well. Then he left me with something to think about.

Spaniards Road being long and straight, he said, meant it was probably the only road in north London where a rider could break the 20mph speed limit. With that enigmatic remark he wished me a safe ride home and accelerated off.

Naturally, as his red lights vanished into the distance, I pressed hard on the pedals and tried to do just that.

David Melsome

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