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THE ARCHER



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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.



Damp but determined: The Big Fun Walkers set off from the tube station. Photo Karen Plum/courtesy of North London Hospice.

On their heels for the hospice

Despite the cold and rain on Sunday 6 April around 1,000 walkers walked seven and a half miles across London in aid of North London Hospice.

Big Fun Walk participants set off from East Finchley underground station and made their way through many of London's Royal Parks before being welcomed to the finishing point at Storey's Gate in Westminster, where a host of entertainment, including a jazz band, and much-needed refreshments, were waiting.

Jo Balkin, who was walking as part of the 'Angela's Angels' group, said: "We are taking part in the walk in memory of my dear friend Angela Moon-

shine, mother of Sophie and daughter of Betty, who died at the hospice last Christmas. The care that Angela received was outstanding. It means an enormous amount to us to be here today."

North London chief executive Pam McClinton said: "Thanks to everyone who made the event such a success. This is a vital event for the Hospice, raising about £120,000 every year. In such a challenging fundraising environment, and with more than £7 million to

raise every year to continue to provide our specialist care, every walker and every penny raised really counts."

All money raised will go towards providing specialist care and support to terminally ill patients and their families in the boroughs of Barnet, Enfield and Haringey.

Burglaries: We're not even in the top 50!

By Janet Maitland

We reported in March that a survey conducted by the price comparison website Moneysupermarket ranked N2 fifth overall on a list of UK postal districts where homes are most at risk of burglaries. Twelve of the top 20 districts most at risk were in Greater London.

In order to see how the Moneysupermarket survey compared with recorded crime, *THE ARCHER* asked the Metropolitan Police to provide us with the top 20 burglary hotspots in Greater London. Not only was N2 not in the police top 20 in 2013, it wasn't even in the top 50.

Burglaries drop in N2 and N10

We ranked 122nd with 167 recorded burglaries, a big improvement on 2012 when N2 nearly scraped into the top 50, ranking 52nd with 237 burglaries.

Muswell Hill, which ranked third in the country in the Moneysupermarket survey, was seventh in the police top 20 in 2012. But in 2013 burglaries dropped substantially, taking N10 out of the top 50 and down to a rank of 64th.

The Moneysupermarket survey is not based on police data about crime rates for burglary, but on insurance claims for burglary made over the last two years. And Moneysupermarket's crime rates are based on the rate of claims per 1,000 households, rather than the police method of rate per 1,000 population.

Nevertheless, the lists should not be that different. But only five of the Moneysupermarket's 12 London postal districts that featured in their UK top 20 were included in the police top 20 for 2013, and only three in 2012.

Explaining the difference

We asked Moneysupermarket how they would account for this.

"The volume of claims was not a factor when we ordered our postcodes," said Moneysupermarket spokesperson Nicola Parry. "We grouped the policies by postal district, and then within each district we proportioned out which policies did and didn't have a claim to achieve a rate per thousand households. The ones with the highest rates were ranked top and so on." Ms Parry also thought that some of the difference might be explained by the fact that not everyone whose home is burgled and reports the crime to the police is insured.

However, the Moneysupermarket figures may still have an impact on us all. A high proportion of insurance claims in an area give it a higher risk profile, potentially leading to more expensive policies for everyone living there.

On page 2 we print the top 20 postal districts for burglaries, with figures provided by the Metropolitan Police.

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