



The air ambulance takes off from Cherry Tree Wood. Photo Mike Coles

Man injured in road accident

By Janet Maitland

A man was badly hurt in a collision between a car and a motorbike at the junction of Fortis Green Road and Durham Road on 19 August.

Two ambulances arrived at the scene of the accident at about 4.20pm and attended an unconscious man with head and knee injuries. The ambulance crews called an air ambulance, which landed in Cherry Tree Wood.

The injured man, who is in his late 20s, was taken by road to the trauma centre at St Mary's Hospital in Paddington as a priority. He was escorted by the doctor from the air ambulance.

Police closed the surrounding roads. They were reopened at 8pm after removing the crash vehicles, a grey Alfa Romeo and a blue Yamaha motorbike. No arrests were made and, at the time of going to press, enquiries were continuing.

Water leak worries near playground

By Diana Cormack

Despite emailing and phoning Barnet Council several times over the last few months, ARCHER reader Dr Anthony Inwald is still waiting for some action to be taken regarding his concerns about a water leak in Cherry Tree Wood.

The water by the playground appears to emanate from a damaged area in the adjacent asphalt path, possibly caused by a heavy vehicle, which is gradually deepening and is also full of water. **Health hazard**

His first email in late May told the council that "surface pooling next to the children's playground seems to be a breeding area for mosquitoes". In mid-June he thanked Customer Services for dealing with another problem reported in that email (the cleaning of dog litter bins) but asked if the source of the leak had been discovered and whether anyone had been made responsible for dealing with the problem. Their reply promised a full response to his enquiry within ten working days.

In mid-July he emailed his ques-



A large puddle of still water from a leak near the children's playground in Cherry Tree Wood. Photo Mike Coles

tion again and further underlined the "health hazard with loads of mosquitoes breeding in the stagnant water very near where children are playing."

Dr Inwald thinks the problem arose after work started on the pavilion earlier this year. He told THE ARCHER he had contacted Thames Water, who said that the leak was from a private mains under the park area.

At the time of writing THE ARCHER was still waiting for a comment from Barnet Council, as was Dr Inwald.

East Finchley Arts Festival

The East Finchley Arts Festival will be bringing music, poetry, opera, literature and film to All Saints Church in Durham Road and the Phoenix Cinema during its nine-day run this month.

You can find out more and book tickets at www.eastfinchleyartsfestival.org.uk or Black Gull Books at 121 High Road, N2. We carried full details of the line-up in our last issue so here's a quick summary of the programme:

- **Saturday 13 Sept, 7.30pm:** *A programme of Film Music - BBC Elstree Concert Band*
- **Sunday 14 Sept, 7.30pm:** *Jennifer Bate and All Saints' Choir*
- **Monday 15 Sept, 7.30pm:** *East Finchley Writers*
- **Tuesday 16 Sept, 7.30pm:** *PopUp Opera - Cosi Fan Tutte* (staged performance)
- **Wednesday 17 Sept, 7.30pm:** *Paprika*, Balkan Band
- **Thursday 18 Sept, 7.30pm:** *Shakespeare's Greatest Hits*
- **Friday 19 Sept, 7.30pm:** *Music and Poetry from the First World War*
- **Saturday 20 Sept, 7.30pm:** *Haydn Chamber Orchestra*
- **Sunday 21 Sept, 2pm** at the Phoenix Cinema: *Oh! What a Lovely War*
- **7.30pm:** *The King's Men*

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Wendy Felstead, left, with a coffee morning friend.

Over the garden fence

There's another name on the block with the arrival of Streetlife, a national social network that aims to let local people connect and share information.

Streetlife says more than 1,000 people in and around East Finchley have signed up to its free website, which it describes as "the online equivalent of chatting over the garden fence."

Hundreds of conversations have allowed local people to promote a ukulele club, find volunteers for a non-profit organisation which aims to help young people find work and spread the word about lost cats.

Wendy Felstead, a regular

user, helps organise a coffee morning for a group of friends who met through Streetlife. "I've only been in the area for 18 months and I've learned so much by making friends with people on the site," she says.

"The display of community spirit we've seen from East Finchley residents has been fantastic" said Nina Whittaker, Streetlife's head of communities. Find out more at www.streetlife.com

Raise funds for Age UK

Can you run a coffee morning, quiz night, race night, cake sale, or any other kind of fundraising event? Perhaps you like a challenge, and might skydive or run a marathon. Or do you have your own crazy idea?

Fundraising events are a great way to help Age UK Barnet to support older people who are lonely and isolated. If you can run a fundraising event please contact Lisa Dubow at lisa.dubow@ageukbarnet.org.uk, or on 020 8432 1415.

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