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# THE ARCHER




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



Generation game: The mums and daughters at Finchley Cricket Club

## Mums and daughters at the crease

For a second year, Finchley Cricket Club is running Club20 evenings that give mums and daughters the opportunity to learn the sport in a fun and friendly atmosphere.

The Club20 format is a quick-fire, no-experience-required form of the game. Last year, 25 mums and older girls who had never played cricket before signed up to play. Plus there's an enthusiastic section for younger girls on Friday nights, with an emphasis on inclusivity and fun. Girls of all abilities including complete beginners are welcome.

Finchley Cricket Club, which plays in East End Road, N3, is one of the oldest clubs in London, established in 1832, and was one of the first to offer cricket to women and girls as well as men and boys. For further details visit [www.finchleycricket.co.uk](http://www.finchleycricket.co.uk)

## Watch out! Gangs of thieves on motorbikes are about

People are being warned to protect their mobile phones and other valuables while out walking after a gang of thieves on motorbikes tried to rob a mother just after she had dropped her children off at school.

The woman was walking past East Finchley Library when two young bikers on a scooter or small motorbike mounted the pavement and attempted to snatch her mobile phone out of her hand.

Luckily they only managed to knock the phone out of its case so she didn't lose it but she was left very shaken.

### Two bikes involved

Fellow mum Erini Rodis saw the incident and watched as the would-be thieves sped off down Creighton Avenue.

Erini said: "There were two vehicles and both had passengers riding pillion. One mounted the pavement while the other stayed on the road."

There are reports that the motorbike gangs have been seen operating or riding around the King Street area of East Finchley and around the Grange estate.

Another of Erini's friends said that she had been targeted in the same way when she was walking along Dukes Avenue in Muswell Hill.

She said: "I got my phone stolen just like that. Two guys came from behind on a motorbike, climbed the pavement, grabbed my mobile phone out of my hands and drove off. Be extra vigilant, especially women."

Michael Haynes, who works at East Finchley tube station, said he had heard of a group of young men walking in Cherry Tree Wood early in the evening of Saturday 12 March who had been "jumped on" for their phones.

Police advise everyone to keep their mobile phones and valuables secure in a bag or inside pocket at all times. Checking your phone while walking can make you vulnerable to opportunist thieves.

## Wi-fi black hole

East Finchley has missed out in a new Barnet Council scheme to bring free wi-fi to the borough's town centres. We're not on the list of 14 areas that now offer 30 minutes of online time.

Barnet Council says the Free-Barnet WiFi scheme is part of its ongoing commitment to support town centres and develop the borough's digital infrastructure.

The selected areas are Golders Green, Temple Fortune, Brent Street, Hendon, Church End, West Finchley, North Finchley, Mill Hill, Edgware, Burnt Oak, Friern Barnet, Oakleigh Road North and Whetstone.

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