



Nightmare of tube noise all day and night

Now the all-night service on the Northern line has started, residents living close to the tube lines will know if their predicted nightmare has come true.

Following preparation work with the objective of "smoothing down the tracks", residents in the Cherry Tree Wood area are reporting that the normal noise of the tube trains has been transformed into a screech which wouldn't be out of place in *Doctor Who*.

Since the track work was finished in late summer, the people most affected in Cherry Tree Road and Fordington Road have been complaining to Transport for London (TfL). Initially they were reassured that this noise normally subsides within a few weeks.

The unearthly screech comes from trains speeding up as they travel southbound into the tunnel between East Finchley

and Highgate. Leaves may be muffling the sound for some but bare branches over the winter could mean the noise travels even further.

Tessa Campos, of Cherry Tree Road, told *THE ARCHER* that engineers have visited, sound readings have been taken and tracks have been hand greased, all to no avail. She advises those who do not want their Friday and Saturday nights to become intolerable as a result of this noise to tell TfL.

Local councillors and MPs have been contacted about it and Andrew Dismore, Labour representative for Barnet on the London Assembly, is to raise the matter at the London Mayor's Question Time.

Are you keeping warm?

As the winter closes in, the Keep Warm and Well scheme offers a range of advice on topics from energy efficiency and tips for saving money on heating bills, to winter benefits and services available to eligible residents when their heating has broken down.

Barnet Council runs the scheme and additionally has a number of grants which can be used to improve the energy efficiency of homes or to repair broken heating systems for eligible residents.

Staying warm at home

Keep your house at the correct temperature to ward off ill health. For healthy adults, the main living room should be between 18-21°C (64-70F), or slightly warmer for older adults and vulnerable people at temperatures around 21°C (70F). Other areas of the house should be kept at a minimum of 16°C (61F).

You can also use a hot water

bottle, or layers of blankets to keep warm while you're in bed. Have regular hot drinks and soups.

Keep all doors shut to prevent draughts and pull your curtains at dusk to keep the heat inside. If your radiator is in front of the window, tuck the curtains behind it.

Go to www.barnet.gov.uk/winterwell to find out more, or ring the Keep Warm and Well Helpline on 020 8359 7441. If you know someone who you think would benefit from this information, you can print an A4 factsheet from the top of the Winter Well webpage, as above, to give to them.



Music maestros: left to right, clarinet player Som Howie, composer Geoffrey Hanson, cello player Sebastian Comberti and record company owner Geoffrey Simon. Photo Robert Carpenter Turner.

When two Geoffreys met...

By Ken Carter

Earlier this year, Geoffrey Hanson, artistic director of the East Finchley Arts Festival, was taking coffee in Amici in the High Road, talking with a family friend. From the next table, a man leaned towards them and asked with the hint of an Australian accent: "Are you talking about music?"

Talk between the three of them turned to the fact that Geoffrey H composes music, very good music, so far unrecorded. "That's fascinating," said the other. "My name is also Geoffrey, Geoffrey Simon. I live in East Finchley and I own a record company called Cala. Shall I make you a disc?"

Bringing it all together

Geoffrey H speedily set about raising the necessary funds to finance the project. He made his appeal to former students, choristers and friends and raised the necessary £14,000 through Friend Funding.

He knew just the place to record it: his festival venue All Saints' Church in Durham Road, whose excellent acoustics were recommended by Benjamin Britten, no less. He also had long acquaintance with two especially good groups of

musicians: the London Mozart Players and the London Ripieno Singers.

Geoffrey H invited Geoffrey S, an Australian conductor of international standing, to conduct them at the Arts Festival and at the subsequent recording sessions. The outcome of the chance meeting at Amici then was a CD of Geoffrey Hanson's music under the Cala label, going on sale soon for £10.

Grand launch

In exemplary performances, you can hear: *Five Nocturnes for Tenor and Chamber Ensemble* (Pablo Strong), *Concerto for Clarinet and Strings* (the brilliant Som Howie, from Australia) and *Odyssey for Cello and String Orchestra* (Sebastian Comberti). Also the London Ripieno Singers perform a setting of *Orpheus* (words by Osbert Sitwell) together with *Jubilate* and *Now Welcome Somer* (settings of Chaucer, Christina Rossetti, W.E. Henley and A. E. Housman).

The grand launch of the CD will be on Saturday 17 December at 7pm at the Black Gull Bookshop in the High Road.

The two Geoffreys will be on hand to greet you and encourage you to inspect the CDs.

CPZ review still parked

We reported in July that Barnet Council was conducting another review on the Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) affecting homes around the Cherry Tree Wood area, which has been a bone of contention with many residents for years.

A report on the outcome of the review did not feature as expected at the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee Meeting in October, so residents will now have to wait for the results until the next meeting in January 2017. Assuming, of course, that any conclusions have been reached.

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