



A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Man attacked and robbed of scooter by street gang

By Janet Maitland

A man was assaulted and robbed of his scooter outside the tube station on Saturday 14 October at about 10pm. The 43-year-old victim was trying to ride his vehicle past a large group of youths when a few of them pushed him off it.

Some of the youths then attempted to ride off with the scooter, while others assaulted him. When the police arrived, a witness noticed that one of the youths was still at the scene and pointed him out to the police. The youth ran off but police chased him up the High Road.

"I heard all the shouting and saw a load of lads running up the

street and then police outside Iceland," said one witness. Another said: "Five lads have just run past me on Kitchener Road with balaclavas and hoods up being chased by a police car. We'd only just carried our 13-week-old baby into the house." A third said: "Police have blocked off both ends of Beresford Road and brought in a dog unit."

A police spokesman told us that they had detained a 15-year-old boy on Beresford Road and arrested him on suspicion of robbery. He was later released under investigation.

The scooter owner was treated at the scene by the London Ambulance Service and taken to hospital with a fractured toe. If anyone has any information please call 101 or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.



High-kicker: A Fun Palace visitor tries martial arts with help from the East Finchley Combat Academy. Photo Mike Coles

Fun Palace throws open its doors

A small green space became a massive Fun Palace with tons of fun for young and old when the Grange Big Local project hosted its latest neighbourhood event. There were craft activities, martial arts, bubbles, nail painting and live music on the Oak Lane open space, known as Tellytubby land, and in the grounds of the nearby Ann Owens Centre. Scores of families joined in the fun throughout the afternoon on Sunday 8 October.

Can you help light up the Xmas tree?

Sponsors are being sought to help buy and decorate a Christmas tree to light up the High Road this festive season.

Individuals and businesses are all invited to help fill the N2 stocking with a fabulous tree. Please contact Hilary Townley as soon as possible by email via the-archer@lineone.net or leave a message on *The Archer's* freephone line 0800 612 0748.

Sainsbury's back to drawing board

By Nick Allan

It's nearly a year since planning consent was granted to Sainsbury's to open a convenience store on the corner of the High Road and Leicester Road, N2, but no outward progress seems to have been made. The two vacant stores there have stood empty for close on two years.

As previously reported in *The Archer*, the programme of works was more complicated than at first thought, hence the delay in opening. When we contacted Sainsbury's again in October a spokesman told us the company

was 'revisiting' its plans for the Local store in East Finchley.

He said: "We are continuing to develop our plans for a new convenience shop on the high street {sic}. Unfortunately we have had to revisit

the works involved, as they are more detailed than we first thought. We are now working this through with our contractors and will be in a position to update the local community in the near future."

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