



# The Archer hits 25 years of neighbourhood news

The first edition of *The Archer* 25 years ago this month was a four-page black-and-white A4 issue, pictured below, which quickly became the essential source of truly local news for East Finchley and soon turned into the 12-page monthly newspaper it still is today. When *The Archer* was born in 1993, East Finchley and the country as a whole was in the thick of a recession. These extracts from an article in our second issue explain the thinking that brought the paper into life... and they are as relevant today as they were 25 years ago.



them. They are a condensed but important manifestation of the character of the people who make up the community, and are read as avidly by visitors as they are by residents. The result was a pilot issue in January 1993.

Mistakes have been made (all the more since none of us on the team has any newspaper experience) but the reaction was positive from those that had seen it. Regular publications are planned and you are holding what is hoped to be among the first of many editions.

There are around 9,000 letter boxes in East Finchley, which represent a population of 27,000 adults (no figures are available for children). It is them (or should we say you) who will make or break the paper. It will only work if we publish the sort of material that you want to read, and we can only do that if you tell us what you want to read.

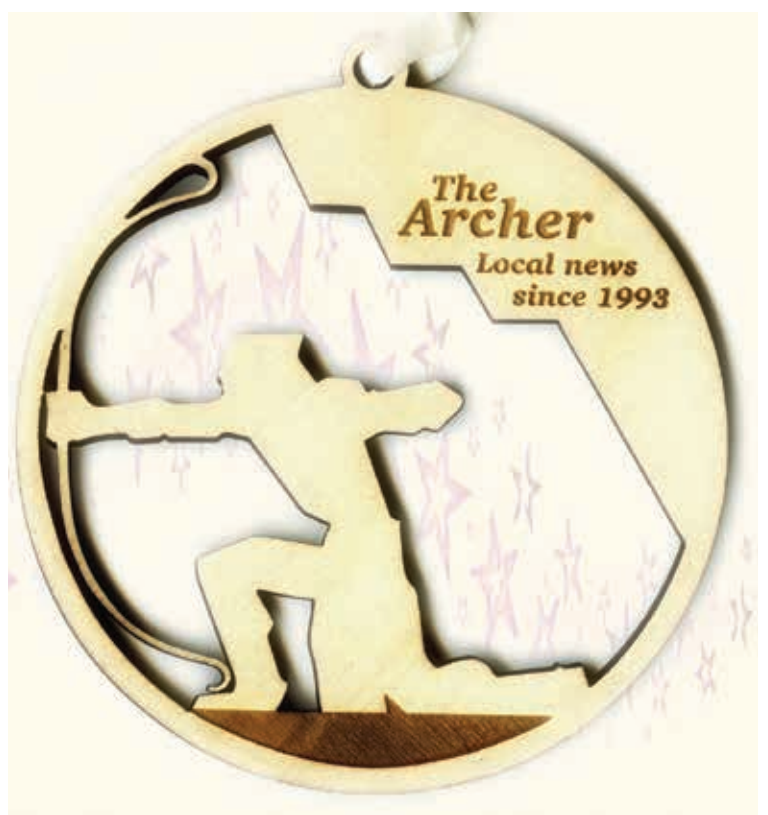
One final word: the paper is free, but printers and paper merchants require payment. The staff on the team donate considerable amounts of time for no payment. The Archer is funded by advertising paid for by our local businesses. They have not been immune to the recession, so please let them know if you have seen their advert or offer in *The Archer* so that they will realise that it is being seen and advertise again. The publisher and editor wish to thank all advertisers for their support in making this paper possible.

This copy of *The Archer* comes to you as the result of one man's idea being bounced off a friend. The inspiration behind it was the feeling that although East Finchley is at present a friendly community with the atmosphere of a village, it seems to be in the oblivion of a London suburb.

Perhaps, we thought, if we

had our own truly local paper we could not only preserve but possibly enhance the community atmosphere that without a shadow of a doubt already exists.

Many of us, when we were younger, received copies of a parish magazine or similar publication. These were really enjoyable. People actually looked forward to receiving



On sale for charity: Our 25-year medallion

## Archer 25<sup>th</sup> souvenir in support of young carers

You may be shocked to know that around 4,000 young carers, many of whom are hidden and unacknowledged, are estimated to live in Barnet. A young carer is one who gives regular care and emotional support to a parent, brother, sister or someone else in the family.

This means that a lot of people aged under 18 are looking after someone who cannot manage without their help, a situation which may be detrimental to the young person's own circumstances.

### Find your medallion here

*The Archer* has produced a souvenir birthday medallion which is kindly being sold for £5 by High Road outlets Aliya J, Black Gull Bookshop, Budgens, Cherry Tree Gift Shop, The Phoenix, Ryker Kids and Tony's Continental plus East End Road's Margot Bakery. The money raised from this will be donated to Barnet Young Carers. Coincidentally, on 25 January, in the same month as your local community newspaper celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, there is to be a nationwide Young Carers Awareness Day.

### Practical local support

Challenges for young carers can include problems with school attendance, poor educational attainment, bullying, social isolation, low self-esteem, feelings of anxiety,

guilt and anger as well as difficulties with health.

Individual support, with mentoring and counselling, is available for all young carers living in the borough, whatever the amount of care they give. It is provided by a specialist Young Carers Support Team and Outreach Officers. They involve the wider family if necessary with a full assessment of everyone's needs and devise plans providing on-going support which is subject to regular reviews.

More support is offered by the Barnet Young Carers and Siblings (BYCAS) project, which includes giving young people the chance to find time to relax away from home with clubs and outings, where they can meet and chat to others. At present approximately 350 youngsters are registered with them.

All the above services are based at Barnet Carers Centre at 303 Ballards Lane, North Finchley. Contact them on 020 8343 9698 or find more information at [www.barnetcarers.org/young-carers](http://www.barnetcarers.org/young-carers).

## Care can be different

Care and kindness are at the heart of all we do as we strive to support older people to live their lives to the full through our specialist residential, dementia and day care services.

- **Apthorp Care Centre:** New Southgate, N11 1EQ
- **Dell Field Court:** Finchley, N3 2DY
- **Meadowside:** North Finchley, N12 7DY

To find out what makes us different, call us on:  
**020 8242 9443 / 07721 128 885**  
 or email: [enquiries@fremantletrust.org](mailto:enquiries@fremantletrust.org)

[www.fremantletrust.org](http://www.fremantletrust.org)

A registered charity and not for profit organisation. (Registration No. 1014986).

The Fremantle Trust

A friendly welcome awaits you

## EAST FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH

197 High Road, London N2 8AJ (opp. Creighton Ave.)  
 tel: 0208 346 1700 [www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk](http://www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk)

### Sunday service at 10.30 a.m. with Crèche

Worship Music Social events Wheelchair friendly  
 e-mail: [info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk) Room hire tel: 020 8444 9887