



## Letters

### Pavilion should have been saved

Dear Editor,

Regarding your front page story on the demolition order on Cherry Tree Wood pavilion (*The Archer*, January 2019) I grew up in Lynmouth Road when the wood had a park keeper who lived in the cottage by the gate.

The pavilion was used as football changing rooms then. Later, I and many hoped that the pavilion would open as a cafe or community space with cafe. Up the other end the small kiosk struggled with space and security so a more substantial building would have been better.

The battle to get Tory Barnet Council to do anything dragged on and on. Then I understand materials to renovate it were stolen. There are so many well-off people who live in and use the park I feel they could have come together to help. I moved away many years ago but my mother, now 90, still lives nearby.

**Yours faithfully,  
Barbara Crowther,  
Address supplied.**

### Thanks for the party

Dear Editor,

Maybe there are other N2-ers whose main contact with Bishop Douglass School is feeling rather overwhelmed by over-exuberant students getting on the 143 bus after school. However, I took the opportunity of responding to their November invitation and attended the school's Christmas party for elderly residents.

I cannot praise enough their warmth, hospitality and generosity. There was a traditional meal, crackers, carols and bingo. Lovely cheerful pupils acted as hosts, waiters and 'back staff'. They were interesting, bright, polite and delightful.

It was such a pleasure and humbling to enjoy with them this annual event and to hear about their hobbies, GCSE and A-level and post Bishop Douglass plans. Very many thanks to all.

**Yours faithfully,  
Name and address supplied.**

**Send your correspondence to: "Letters Page"  
The Archer, PO Box 3699,  
London N2 2DE or e-mail  
the-archer@lineone.net.**

### Phoenix is favourite

Dear Editor,

A visit this week to the Everyman cinema in Muswell Hill made me realise how much more welcoming the Phoenix is. People keep going on about how the Phoenix should be improved, but it's so much more customer-friendly than these glammed-up local rivals.

It does have a lift, even if it's a bit ramshackle. The Everyman doesn't, even though there are many more stairs to climb. This was a real ordeal for one of my friends. One of the staff said it was because the building is listed, but I know of other listed buildings with lifts.

Such a shame that we had to visit on a day when the film was showing at the Phoenix at a time we couldn't make. I'm a loyal fan of the Phoenix, and always make it my first choice.

I'm not impressed by the seating at the Everyman either. It's so low that some people with mobility problems have a struggle to get up. What's more, not everyone wants to share a sofa with a stranger, or have someone else's drink by their elbow.

I'm really hoping we keep our lovely little local cinema.

**Yours faithfully,  
Eveline Nicholas,  
High Road, N2.**

### Phoenix could be a theatre too

Dear Editor,

The need for the Phoenix to continue as a cinema is paramount. However, I wonder if consideration could be given to it being used for other productions and performances, which has already happened on isolated occasions in the past.

Could the orchestral pit be reinstalled, so that it could be used for operatic and musical productions by visiting and local companies? Likewise it could be used for plays.

In this way it might have a wider audience appeal and serve as a local arts centre. Such a renewed plan might attract funding more readily.

It is, I believe, the largest public performance area in East Finchley and an extension of its use and facilities would enhance its value to the community.

**Yours faithfully,  
Geoffrey Hanson,  
Director, East Finchley Arts Festival.**

# New vet service for pet owners who need a helping hand

By David Broome

**A new veterinary service to help the pets of owners who need a little financial assistance has been launched by the RSPCA in collaboration with a Finchley vet**

The service will be hosted by Andrew Monchar's Two by Two Veterinary Centre at 178-180 Long Lane, N3, providing a range of services at reduced prices for animals belonging to clients who would otherwise be unable to afford basic veterinary care.

### Need for change

The RSPCA took the decision to partner with Two by Two after finding that its existing Small Animal Clinic in Park Road, N2, was no longer able to meet the needs of local pet owners.

A spokesperson for the RSPCA Finchley branch said: "The RSPCA East Finchley Small Animal Clinic has been open in the area since August 1963, but it became clear that due to falling demand the service needed reviewing. Additionally, tighter regulations, along with limitations due to the size and age of the building in Park Road, made developing the service onsite difficult."

### Good facilities and parking

Two by Two Veterinary Centre, founded in 2017 as an independent practice, has oper-



*Pet remedy: Vet Andrew Monchar tends a patient with the help of RSPCA clinic manager Michelle.*

ating and X-ray facilities, a large waiting area and consultation rooms, and also benefits from easier parking. The new facilities means routine procedures can also be carried out onsite, at a lower cost to the client than would usually be offered at a private surgery.

The RSPCA said its relative proximity to the existing clinic means that it should be easily accessible to those already using the branch facilities. This new

service also complements the existing C4 free cat neutering scheme supported by the branch and veterinary surgery.

Appointments can be booked by calling 07928 628771 and further information on eligibility can be found on the RSPCA branch's website at [www.rspca-finchleygoldersgreenhendondistrict.org.uk](http://www.rspca-finchleygoldersgreenhendondistrict.org.uk). Appointment times will be Tuesday from 10.30am to 12pm and Thursday from 4.30pm to 6pm.

## Joyce Arram, 1935 – 2018

**The Archer team was saddened to learn of the death of Joyce Arram who passed away at the Whittington, the same hospital where she was born 83 years ago, following a fall at her home in Summerlee Gardens, N2.**

Joyce will be much missed in the Gardens, having been the power behind many communal events such as the annual firework party and trip to the pantomime. Her involvement in East Finchley activities included the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood and Neighbourhood Watch and she contributed her views on local and borough issues with letters to the editor of this paper, where her picture often appeared in reported events.

Raised in Kentish Town, Joyce was evacuated to Wales when she was six, developing a lifelong friendship with the junior school deputy headteacher Olwen Harler, who took her in. In later years Olwen left Joyce her cottage in Carmarthenshire, a place she dearly loved and visited often. Joyce fully embraced the Welsh culture, joining many societies there and participating in village life.

After attending Camden School for Girls, Joyce began a long career in the legal profession, starting as a Managing Clerk and becoming a Legal



*Good neighbour: Joyce Arram*

Executive. She was an Honorary Vice-President and Council Member of the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives, a deputy president of the Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association and an executive member of the Liberal Democrat Friends of Israel Committee. Joyce was one of the first women to be admitted to the National Liberal Club and stood for the Lib Dems in local council elections.

A keen gardener, Joyce belonged to the Royal Horticultural Society as well as the

National Trust, English Heritage and was on the council of the Royal Society of Arts. Her charity and voluntary organisation work led to her meeting many well-known people. A devoted daughter, Joyce looked after her mother until she died.

Joyce was a remarkable and distinguished woman and an ace networker who attended City Women Network events into her eighties. She enjoyed spending time with her family and is much mourned by them and her many friends.

## Coming soon to arts depot



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