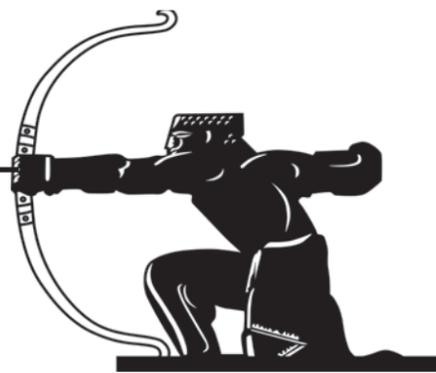




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The Archer

Local News is our Aim



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Station stallholders: Julie Badger and Tony Mackie outside the tube. Photo Mike Coles

Cab journeys must be safer for everyone

East Finchley resident Corrina Suri is launching a campaign to improve the safety of passengers using taxis. You can find it on Facebook and Twitter @camsforcabs. Here Corrina explains what lies behind it:

Picture this: You're out with friends, or visiting family, or finished a business meeting. It's quite late so you decide to do the sensible thing and book a cab. As it arrives, a sense of relief washes over you, knowing the journey will be quick, straightforward and safe.



Cab safety call: Corrina Suri

You exchange pleasantries with the driver. Then they start to ask personal questions. They comment on your appearance. They try to touch you, or ask for payment that doesn't involve cash. This happened to me recently. I emailed the driver's company and they did nothing about it, because there was no proof, no camera or audio to capture the incident. I'm not trying to sell you a sob story. I am a true believer in learning from a bad experience and doing something about it. That's why I am starting an official petition to demand cameras/audio in all licensed cabs. Making this the law will help identify those who have committed a crime, or at the very least act as a deterrent. There are all kinds of vulnerable people who use them, often alone: children, people who are intoxicated, the elderly, or those with

disabilities. How do they stand a chance against a predator? But let's not forget this is a two-way street. I have spoken to several drivers who have stated that they experience abuse from passengers on a day-to-day basis. They also need protection. If you believe in improving the safety of passengers and drivers, sign the petition @camsforcabs on either Facebook or Twitter. If there is anyone who would like to help, or if something like this has happened to you, please email your story to: camsforcabs@gmail.com. You can also message me through the Facebook page. Let's make cab journeys safer for everyone!

Fruits of their labour

By Ruth Anders

Everyone who travels by tube is familiar with the fruit and vegetable stall that has stood outside East Finchley Station for 40 years, offering fresh produce from apples to avocados.

When Tony Mackie's uncle gave it up five years ago, Tony decided to throw in his teaching job and take over.

With the benefit of his early experience helping his uncle, the stall has gone from strength to strength.

Trained florist and friend Julie Badger helps serve the eager queue, and it was her idea to introduce cut flowers. Between them they have built

up a loyal following, and Julie's welcoming smile is just what's needed at the end of a tiring day in town.

Flexible work pattern

After starting life in Highbury, Tony studied economics at Cardiff University. From there he moved on to 11 years of teaching in Oxford, Newport, Bahrain, Abu Dhabi and Hendon.

Continued on page 4

The place to live

East Finchley has been named as one of the best places to live in London in a list published by *The Sunday Times*. The annual ranking combines data on crime rates, house prices and school performance with knowledge from local residents.

East Finchley was found to be more desirable than traditional local favourites like Hampstead and Highgate partly because it's more affordable.

Topping the Best Places to Live Guide 2019 in London was the Isle of Dogs, singled out for its riverside location, for being a short walk from Canary Wharf and 15 minutes to the City, and for low house prices for a Zone 2 location.

The full list was: Isle of Dogs, Battersea, Belgravia, Bermondsey, Blackheath, Crystal Palace, East Finchley, Highbury, Leyton and Teddington.

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