

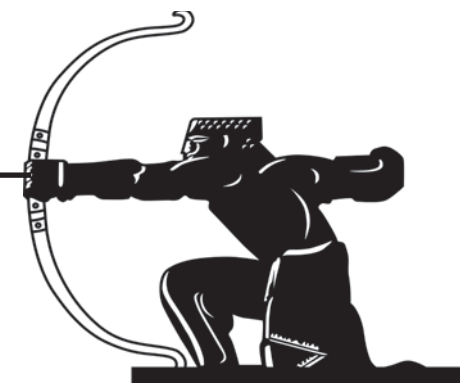


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The Archer

Local News is our Aim



November 2020 No. 319

A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.



We should be so lucky

Double rainbows are traditionally seen as a sign of new beginnings and good fortune so let's hope that these two that appeared dramatically against dark and brooding skies over a sunlit High Road on Thursday 15 October are omens of luck and renewal for East Finchley in these difficult times. Unfortunately, they weren't too lucky for our production editor Alison Roberts. Moments after taking this photo, there was a sudden downpour and she got absolutely drenched.

Phoenix reopening thwarted

Staff at the Phoenix Cinema have been forced to postpone plans to welcome back filmgoers in the first week of November by the return of lockdown. Nick Cave's Alexandra Palace concert film, called *Idiot Prayer*, had been due to open on Thursday 5 November. The cinema is now back on hold until the situation changes. For the latest information, visit the cinema's website at www.phoenixcinema.co.uk

Park project is given £22,000 to start work

By David Melsome

The Friends of Cherry Tree Wood have secured a £20,000 cash grant to roll out a raft of much-needed improvements to the park. The award was agreed in full by Barnet Council after 12 months of work by the Friends group.

surface' between the Summerlee Avenue entrance and the rear gate of the children's playground, an area that is currently very worn and in places prone to be a mud bath, and improve drainage around the noticeboard.

To enhance the flora and fauna of the park, the Friends

is looking for volunteers (no experience necessary) to work on the new flower beds and already-planted community orchard. To get involved, email: friendsofcherrytreewood@gmail.com

Tennis and basketball courts

September's issue of *The Archer* reported on the poor state of the tennis and basketball courts in the park. The Friends say a significant capital investment and possibly a big community fundraising push may be required to bring them back to a good condition. They are in discussions with Barnet Council and are appealing for anyone with fundraising skills to contact Roger Chapman on 07855 304488 or by emailing roger.chapman99@btinternet.com



In further good news, an additional £2,000 funding has been awarded to the Friends by innovation foundation Nesta for taking part in the Parks Community Empowerment programme.

The cash will be used to support a series of small-scale but vital improvements to the facilities in Cherry Tree Wood, which has been valued more than ever by local visitors this year as a place to exercise, relax and enjoy nature. The Friends plan to provide three new dual litter bins, a new noticeboard and, near the kiosk, a water fountain that can be used by people and dogs. They will lay a new 'granular

want to design and implement a nature trail for under 10s, refurbish two raised flower beds near the kiosk, plant a willow area to produce crop for basket weaving and purchase a bat monitor.

Roger Chapman, chair of the Friends, thanked local Councillors Alison Moore and Arjun Mittra for their support in promoting the bid and Councillors Hutton and Ryde who also spoke in favour of it at the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee.

Can you help?

The Friends are appealing for help with their social media content. And the new Cherry Tree Wood Gardeners Group

Shots fired at moving car

By Janet Maitland
A gun was fired at a car going down Coppetts Road N10 on Sunday 4 October. The driver crashed into a row of parked cars but fortunately wasn't hurt.

Police were called at approximately 9.35pm to reports of a road traffic collision and firearms discharge on Coppetts Road. There were no injuries and no arrests. Enquiries into the circumstances continue.

Anyone with any information that could help police is asked to contact 101 or tweet @MetCC and quote reference no CAD6659/4Oct. Alternatively, call the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 55 111 if you want to remain anonymous.

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