



# Try this autumn outing on

## two wheels

By Greta Brambilla

If you enjoyed our last cycle route to Golders Hill Park (*The Archer*, August 2020) here is another one to try, this time to Alexandra Palace. It can be done in an hour and, as before, begins at All Saints' Church in Durham Road, N2. Please be sure to obey any No Cycling signs on the pedestrian paths along the route.

From All Saints', cut through to Twyford Avenue, turn right and head for Fortis Green. There make a left, then a right onto Western Road, before turning left onto Southern Road and then right down the hidden pathway (Indigo Walk) ahead.

Keep going, following Fordington Road and turning right at Woodside Avenue. Turn left onto Great North Road (be careful, it's busy here), cross all the traffic lights on foot and make your way down



Round and about: The route takes you on a wide circle around the borders of Highgate and Muswell Hill.

the cut-through to the contrastingly quiet Sheldon Avenue.

Keep going until Denewood Road on the left, follow it, then turn left again onto Broadlands Road heading towards Highgate. At the North Hill junction, go down the nearby Park House Passage, continuing onto The Park. Turn left at the end onto Southwood Lane, follow Muswell Hill Road, then make a swift right onto Wood Lane.

You'll enter the charming nature reserve, Queen's Wood, full of sprawling oak trees. Continue through and exit right at Cranley Gardens. Turn left at Park Road, or stop to pick up fish and chips from The Fish Palace, then veer right onto the pathway (past the traffic lights) leading to Alexandra Park, the ideal spot to enjoy your feast.

Follow this broad, tranquil route all the way through until you leave via Alexandra Palace Way. Turn left at the roundabout onto Palace Gates Road and right onto Crescent Road. If you still have room for dessert, check out Sweet Tree here. I recommend the creamy cheesecakes and hearty flapjacks. Oh, and see if you can spot the long wooden face!

Continue, then head left onto Victoria Road. Cross over at the end onto Rhodes Avenue, following it round. Next go up 'the three Gs': Grosvenor Road on the right, Goodwyn's Vale on the left and Greenham Road on the left at the junction. Turn left onto Coppetts Road and right onto Creighton Avenue. Finally continue until the cut through to Durham Road and back to where you started.

## Letters

### Get off your bike

Dear Editor,

On reading 'Try this round route for a spot of summer cycling' in the August issue of *The Archer* I was somewhat aghast as parts of the routes are public footpaths.

Cromwell Close to Abbots Gardens has a No Cycling sign displayed and the other two footpaths from Abbots Gardens to Brim Hill and then down to Lyttelton Road are clearly marked as footpaths. Cyclists should dismount if they want to use these paths. As weeks have gone by since March there have been more and more cyclists on the pavements, which is illegal, and to then have to battle with them on paths that are clearly marked for the 'foot' not the pedal is too much.

**Jenny Cohen**  
Talbot Avenue, N2.

*Editor's note: Our article did point out that cyclists should give priority to pedestrians on these paths but did not make it clear that they are No Cycling. We apologise for this omission.*

### Bravo on plastics

Dear Editor,

First shoots, but it is happening and right here in East Finchley! The decisions made by individual shop owners are turning things around. Dan and DeCarlo and Budgens now use paper bags and this without any government coercion.

Then our Waitrose order was delivered... plastic, plastic, plastic. We will think twice about doing that again. The lesson we have learnt is to shop local, things are changing right here.

It is by individuals and shops making the right decisions that a brake can be applied to this tsunami of plastics descending on our High Road. The tsunami is only descending because shops think that this is we want.

We must tell them emphatically NO IT IS NOT. Withdraw your custom. Possibly even on occasion take unilateral action and leave all the unwanted plastic you are given at the till.

**Ann Inglis,**  
No2PlasticsN2.

### Parking relief

Dear Editor,

A thank you to a member of Barnet Council's customer service department via our local MP who helped me to obtain the 'old' printed versions of visitors' parking permits, rather than the so-called virtual ones, which involve endless checking online of car registrations.

Neither the provider, the recipient nor the traffic wardens should have to spend hours of time online when all it takes is a glance at the printed version in the car.

I know these were used for normal residents' parking also which I had to have as well as disabled parking vouchers because many people from other boroughs used the disabled parking space from 8am to 8pm, preventing local people using it. I no longer drive so am pleased to give up all these shenanigans.

**Jeanne Wray,**  
Baronsmere Road, N2.

Send your correspondence to: "Letters Page" The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 2DE or e-mail [news@the-archer.co.uk](mailto:news@the-archer.co.uk)

Letters without verifiable contact addresses will not be printed. Contact details can be withheld on request at publication. We reserve the right to abridge letters for reasons of space.

### Phones need phone masts

Dear Editor,

I don't wish to comment on a particular planning objection, of which I know little ('Giant phone mast 'out of keeping' with Garden Suburb', *The Archer*, September 2020). I would, however, like to make a general observation.

Am I alone in finding it nearly impossible to get a sufficient mobile phone signal in our area? Nearly all of us have mobile phones and they are now a major part of how we communicate. Indeed, they are pretty much a necessity. My doctor's surgery, for instance, now sends me texts. People can't understand why I don't pick up texts and mobile calls while I'm at home.

Yet, over the years I have observed several vociferous 'community' campaigns against the erection of phone masts in our area. At least some have been based around fears of health risks associated with masts, which have not been upheld by independent scientific studies ('Protests at plan for church phone mast', *The Archer*, June 2005).

Mobile phones are an important part of our lives. They are a powerful social and communication tool, not least for civic campaigners. Are we always going to campaign against phone masts being erected when they are 'in our back yard'?

**Kit Snape**  
Long Lane, N2.



Rest stop: The wooden statue near the Sweet Tree Bakery in Crescent Road, N22.

## All Saints' Church, Durham Road, East Finchley Church of England

You are welcome to join us for:

**Sunday mass at 10.00 a.m. and Weekday masses as advertised on the website**  
Face masks must be worn for the time being.

Or join our live-streamed services on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsef/>

The church is also open for private prayer as advertised on the website.

Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

For more information, contact the Vicar, Fr Ian Chandler, on 020 8883 9315

Email: [vicar.saintsabounding@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.saintsabounding@gmail.com) or check out our website:

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>



Dumped: The rubbish left in Springcroft Avenue, N2

### Trash talk

Dear Editor,

I found this rubbish left strewn all over the pavement at the bottom of Springcroft Avenue. What a world we are living in, obviously people partied hard! The carrier bag was full of beer cans. Another bagful was left in the road. Is there no pride in our environment and neighbourhood?

**Ros Goldfarb,**  
Address supplied.