



Major cash boost for cerebral palsy charity

Muswell Hill-based CPotential Trust, a charity that provides support to children with cerebral palsy, has been awarded a £19,500 grant by the Morrisons Foundation.

The donation from the charitable arm of the supermarket will enable the charity to provide Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation care. This innovative therapy uses electrical pulses to help muscles contract, aiding the movement of children's limbs and improving their overall strength to help them move independently.

Every year 1,800 children are diagnosed with cerebral palsy in the UK. It is the most common physical disability in childhood affecting movement and sensory development such as the ability to walk, talk or eat. Local charities are encouraged to visit www.morrisonsfoundation.com to find out how to apply for a grant.



Play time: A youngster learns new skills at CPotential

Bench stolen from historic house

By Emma Magnus

Thieves made off with a large wooden picnic bench from outside the café at Stephens House and Gardens on East End Road, N3, in the middle of the day on Tuesday 28 July. In the last month, the Grade II listed property has reported other instances of damage, including littering and fires being lit overnight in their children's playground.

The house team put up posters asking for information on the stolen bench, which they can ill afford to replace. The number to call is 020 8346 7812. They

have also started a crowdfunding appeal to raise funds for playground maintenance, which can be found at: localgiving.org/appeal/Support-the-Playground.

Road rage incident on Oak Lane

By Janet Maitland
A man was attacked and badly injured in a reported road rage incident in Oak Lane, N2, on Friday 31 July.

Emergency services were called to the junction of the High Road and Oak Lane at about 3.30pm. Police officers arrested two men aged 19, one on suspicion of GBH and the other on suspicion of ABH.

The London Ambulance Service treated a man at the scene and took him to hospital. His injuries are not thought to be life changing or life threatening. Police later released the men under investigation pending further enquiries.

Light plight

The traffic lights on the corner of the High Road and Fortis Green, outside Domino's, were flattened again on the morning of Tuesday 18 August. This regular occurrence is often caused by southbound heavy vehicles attempting to turn left round the tight corner.

One proposed solution, fixing the lights to a shop front rather than mounting them on a pole, was found to be unfeasible. So meanwhile we can expect to see the lights demolished and replaced three or four times a year.

Giant phone mast 'out of keeping' with Garden Suburb

By David Melsome

Objections are being raised to an application by telecoms company Hutchison 3G to erect an 18-metre phone mast on Lyttelton Road, N2. The 5G mast would be installed opposite Lyttelton Court and Blandford Close, and 150 metres from the junction with Ossulton Way.

Objectors claim the mast and its four equipment cabinets would be detrimental to the local street scene. They say its height, possibly higher than 18 metres, would far exceed the tops of surrounding trees and buildings, which reach up to 14 metres.

Resident Louise Berwin said the surrounding area was of one great character in a designated Garden Suburb with very strict planning regulations governing the appearance of all parts of the area.

She said: "There have been numerous similar applications which were all refused in Hampstead Garden Suburb and the size and number of street boxes of this proposed mast make it more intrusive than others which have been refused."

"The Hampstead Garden Suburb owes its continuing charm and beauty to the sensible

approach of its guardians. This application would add a mast taller than all surrounding buildings and street lights as well as multiple boxes on the grass verge and I would urge this application is refused."

The application for the mast was received by Barnet Council on 20 July and will be considered this month. Details can be found by searching application number 20/3288/PNT in the planning section of barnet.gov.uk

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SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

LOCAL POLICE, LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Jan Lovell, of the East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood Team, updates us on the latest crime news. Jan and the team can be contacted by email at: EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk, or by phone on 020 7161 9014. Follow the team on Twitter @MPSEastFinchley.

Burglary deterrents

During the months of lockdown burglaries were almost non-existent in East Finchley. Unfortunately, as we all begin to go out more the number of burglaries is likely to rise, especially with August and September being holiday months.

Below is the general advice we give towards improving home security. I will also stress that, although all the points below are valid, the very best investment you can make to protect your home is a burglar alarm. They work. I cannot recall a successful burglary in East Finchley where a working alarm was employed.

East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood Team advises all residents that, after good locks on your doors and windows, most important is fitting a house alarm.

Garden fences and side gates should be 1.8m high and are best topped with trellis or Prikka Strip, the same as fences. Always remove keys from locks, keep them nearby but away from doors and windows. Use timer switches to give the impression that your home is occupied. Of course suspect/s could just knock to see if someone comes to the door, so think about fitting an alarm and/or the newer doorbell phone app alarm/monitors – look for Ring or Sky Bell.

Keep wheelie bins either chained away from side gates or behind them to prevent burglars using them to climb on. Wooden front and back doors should be solid timber with a five-lever mortice lock one third of the way up and an automatic deadlocking rim lock one third of the way down.

With UPVC doors, closing the door and pushing the handle up is not secure. Lock the door with a key when leaving the property, ensuring that the multi-locking mechanism is engaged.

Glass panels on doors should be at least 6.4mm thick and either laminated or reinforced with security film. Consider using internal grilles on external doors if there is a risk that lock releases can be accessed via a broken pane of glass.

Shopping trip ends up costing a fortune

Archer reader Jacqui Cramp describes how a visit to Tesco turned into a very bad day when her car's catalytic converter was stolen while she shopped.

It was meant to be a nice quick shop at Tesco Colney Hatch. However, when I went to drive home there was an awful scraping sound from under my car. A quick look and my worst fears were confirmed. The catalytic converter had been jemmied out and wires cut.

After contacting the AA, I reported the theft to Tesco but was told the car park outside their store does not belong to them. Only the police can view the CCTV footage but they told me I had to request the footage for myself and, if I saw a clear face, I should send them the footage.

I later spoke to Tesco's head office and was told that the car park is leased by Tesco and

they gave me an email address to request the CCTV footage.

My car is a Toyota Auris and apparently that is the car most at risk as it is so easy to steal the 'Cat' and extract the precious metals it contains. The thieves on average take four and a half minutes.

I am now having a special anti-theft protection shield fitted, the total cost for which is £1,600. I urge anyone to spend the approximately £250 for a regular anti-theft guard; it could save you your catalytic converter.

Editor's note: The Archer has also received reports of catalytic converter thefts in Long Lane and other areas of East Finchley in August.

East Finchley Baptist Church

Due to the Covid-19 virus our face to face services and meetings have been suspended until further notice but please go to our website for details of online services and meetings.

For more information please contact the Church Office
Email: office@eastfinchleybc.org.uk
www.eastfinchleybc.org.uk