

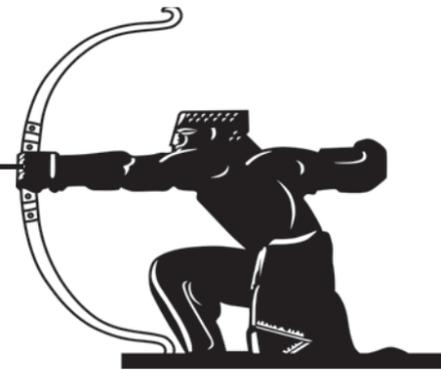


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The Archer

Local News is our Aim



April 2021 No. 324

A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

66,000 join fight to save seven trees

By Josef Grostern

The planned felling of seven trees in Coldfall Wood has been temporarily suspended by Haringey Council after a petition to save the trees gained an astounding 66,000 signatures.

Tree roots are claimed to have caused 'serious subsidence issues over a number of years' for a property adjacent to the wood, according to AXA, the property's insurer. The insurance company is asking the council to fell the trees. Two large ancient oaks in the wood were felled in 2018 and 2019 next to the property for the same reason.

The petition and campaign to save the trees was launched

by The Friends of Coldfall Wood, the community volunteer group involved in protecting and enhancing the wood and its adjoining fields.

Support

Some members of Haringey Council have expressed their support for the campaign. Cllr Kirsten Hearn, Haringey's Council Cabinet Member for Climate Change, Equalities and Leisure, said: "I do not want these trees to be felled. Haringey Council takes seri-

ously its duty of guardianship of Coldfall Wood as an ancient woodland and local nature reserve."

Campaigners also have the support of local MP Catherine West and of the Fortis Green ward of the Labour Party who are asking that "every effort should be made by AXA insurance to find a solution to subsidence problems that does not involve the felling of ancient trees."

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Man charged after chase and arrest

By Janet Maitland

A man has been charged following an incident in Deansway, N2, which led to two police officers being taken to hospital after they tried to make an arrest.

Eridjon Hatia, 29, of Lichfield Grove, Finchley, N3, was charged with assaulting an emergency worker, causing actual bodily harm and an act of outraging public decency. He has been bailed to appear at Harrow Crown Court on 4 August.

The male and female officers had responded to reports of a man allegedly loitering in The Causeway and exposing himself. When they arrived shortly after 7pm there was a short chase on foot and Hatia was arrested in Deansway.

During the course of the arrest, the officers suffered non life-threatening injuries. They were taken to hospital for treatment but discharged later.

The incident in The Causeway occurred less than six months after a teenage girl was subjected to a serious sexual assault by a group of boys in exactly the same spot and has led to calls from residents for CCTV cameras to be installed.



Ready for action: A young fire cadet. Photo London Fire Brigade

Fire station starts cadet unit for young people

By Janet Maitland

Finchley Fire Station on Long Lane has become a Fire Cadets Unit, one of several new units set up with funding from the Mayor through the Young Londoners Fund.

Fire Cadets have the chance to gain a nationally recognised BTEC Level 2 qualification in Fire and Rescue Services in the Community. They also learn a range of skills that improve their chances of employment, from running out hoses and climbing ladders to how to work well in a team.

Cadets can, if they want to, follow a promotion path to become an Officer Cadet. Whether they plan to go to university or college or straight into work, Fire Cadets will have a unique experience to talk about and a good reference.

Many young people want to join the Fire Brigade and over 100 have already become Fire Cadets since January, despite the challenges of Covid-19. Over 250 adult Volunteer Cadet

Instructors have also been virtually recruited and trained.

"We look forward to welcoming all of our fire cadets back onto fire stations soon," said the Brigade's Deputy Commissioner Richard Mills.

"I am proud that with support from the Mayor, hundreds more young people are now able to develop their personal and professional skills in a positive environment where they can gain qualifications, improve their career prospects and help the community," said Dr Fiona Twycross, Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience.

If you know a young person aged 14-17 who would be interested in becoming a Fire Cadet, go to www.london-fire.gov.uk or email lfbfirecadets@london-fire.gov.uk

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