



Final journey: The tank hearse arrives at Islington and St Pancras Cemetery. Photo Phillip Raphael

Tank hearse rolls up for funeral of an enthusiast

A former British Army tank converted into a hearse was seen being driven into the Islington and St Pancras Cemetery in East Finchley for a funeral on Wednesday 3 March. The FV432 was modified by enthusiast Nick Mead, who runs Northamptonshire-based company Tanks A Lot, and has been used in many funerals of former soldiers.

In this case, according to the MyLondon website, the funeral was that of London nightclub owner Mayuan Mak, who died suddenly in December aged 55. Mr Mak was a big fan of military hardware and owned

a number of tanks himself. Our photo was taken by reader Phillip Raphael who said he was passing the cemetery when he heard the sound of an armoured vehicle rumbling up the road.

The tank had been trans-

ported on a lorry from its base near Milton Keynes to Mr Mak's home in Angel, Islington, before carrying his coffin through the streets of north London to East Finchley.

Regulators move in to shut down solicitors

Solicitors firm Cree Godfrey & Wood, one of East Finchley's longest-standing businesses, was closed down on Thursday 25 March by the industry's regulators.

Notices appeared in the windows of the firm at 28 High Road to inform clients and customers that the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) was handing over all ongoing cases to an intervening agent based in Bournemouth. A statement on the SRA's website said the decision had been taken because there was "reason to suspect dishonesty" on behalf of a manager, and because the same manager and the firm had failed to comply with the body's principles and accounts rules. Just last year, Cree Godfrey & Wood marked 200 years of providing legal services. For 65 of those years it has been based in East Finchley. It offered residential and commercial conveyancing, landlord and tenant advice, a wills service and services connected to business law.

Existing clients were told the firm could no longer act for them and instead to contact the intervening agent Chris Evans, of Lester Aldridge, Russell

House, Oxford Road, Bournemouth, BH8 8EX. Enquirers were directed to call 01202 786341 or email interventions@la-law.com.

The SRA is the regulator of more than 200,000 solicitors and law firms in England and Wales. It states its purpose is to protect the public by ensuring that solicitors meet high standards and by acting when risks are identified.

Not quite end of the road for café

By Diana Cormack

After 30 years in business the New Local Café, currently at 42 High Road and previously at the corner of Lincoln Road, is to close though not, as some might think, a victim of the pandemic.

Throughout these difficult times the café has continued to serve its many customers wherever possible. But in mid-March a notice on the front window revealed that their lease had come to an end with the landlady being unwilling to renew it.

No connection

Disappointed with her decision, from June of this year they will have no connection with the premises which they say she proposes to run herself as a café at the front with a studio flat at the rear.



New start: The New Local Cafe team are moving on.

Staff at the Local Café want to say a massive thank you all their customers for supporting them for many years. They said: "It has been a great pleasure to be a part of such an amazing community."

Cup of Joy

Take heart, however, for things are not at an end. They recently opened Cup of Joy at 117 High Road, which has been well received by locals. Staff will be happy to see you and serve you.

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