

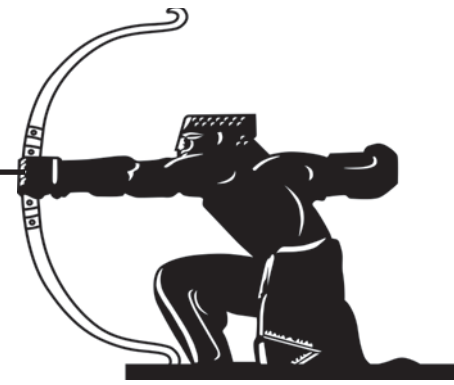


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The Archer

Local News is our Aim



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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.



Take your seats: The audience settles in to the magnificent Phoenix auditorium on its first day of reopening. Photo Mike Coles

Phoenix filmgoers back where they belong at last

By John Lawrence

It was a momentous day for East Finchley film fans and the whole team at the Phoenix when the historic cinema finally re-opened its doors last month and fired up its projectors for a full programme of screenings.

The Oscar-winning *Nomadland*, starring Frances McDormand, was among the first films on the bill on Monday 17 May and the loyal Phoenix audience lost no time in taking their seats again after more than a year away.

For operations manager

Ewelina Sadlowska, it was an emotional day. She said: "I could see customers smiling behind their face coverings when they came in the building. Their eyes were wandering around our redecorated foyer and they were hungry for a little chat about films and

the Phoenix. It's cathartic for all of us to be able to win back a bit of normality and go to the movies again." Aside from a few days last autumn, the Phoenix has been closed to paying customers since the very start of the first lockdown in March 2020. As we reported last month, it has managed to weather the pandemic thanks to two generous arts grants from the government, and its future finances now look more secure than they have for a long time.

Tackle litter scourge from ground up

By Diana Cormack

As London emerges from lockdown it seems that some citizens are looking around and not liking what they see. Maybe taking walks along the same route for months has stimulated us to study our surroundings or perhaps caring more for the environment has raised an awareness of what is lying there – LITTER!

With abandoned face masks and general rubbish still evident on most streets, few can deny that we need to deal with it.

The Archer knows of two regular monthly litter picks held by the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood and the Friends of Market Place Playground. And two members of Barnet Friends of the Earth have started the Let's Pick It Up group to coordinate litter picks across Barnet and Camden.

Lone rangers

Lone collectors are sometimes seen, people generously doing their bit for the community. And what are they usually picking up? Cigarette butts, inevitably, and particularly in parks, items from consumables like coffee containers, plastic spoons, wooden forks, sugar wraps, wrappers from biscuits, sweets and snacks, tissues, bottles,

cans and juice cartons. Plus plastic bags along with their remains after they've been shredded by animals.

Also from animals, presumably in the charge of humans, dog poo. Whilst many owners do pick up their dog waste, some then leave it in bags hanging from trees or fouling someone else's property. One resident with a garden fence backing onto Southern Road



Bin it: Bags of litter collected in a Barnet park

installed a camera with a warning notice to those leaving pooches' poo on their patch. Incredible!

What next

So what's to be done about this and are there any areas in N2 with a particular litter problem? Please send your views (and photos) to news@the-archer.co.uk

For further information about Lets Pick It Up, email letspickitup2021@gmail.com, or follow @LetsPickItUp on Twitter and @letspickitup2021 on Instagram.

On 28 May, Keep Britain Tidy launched its sixth 'Great British Spring Clean' running until 13 June. Visit www.keepbritaintidy.org for more information.

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