



Letters



Two sides: The front and back of the new hoarding

Advertising eyesore
Dear Editor,
Is there anybody out there who isn't appalled by the unwanted advertising excrescence causing a visual and physical obstruction outside Iceland?

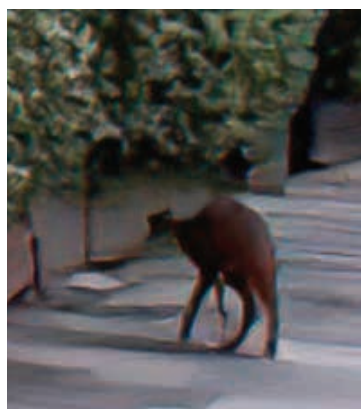
My understanding is that planning permission was given by the London Borough of Barnet for four in our locality, although no income is derived from them for the borough.

It is hard to comprehend the mindset of people who have no compunction about inflicting such eyesores on people. Surely the planners could have stipulated it was sited where it wasn't physically blocking the way, especially as we do have a wide pavement along there which is used for community activities.

There is apparently nothing we the people can do about this, but I have wondered about a bit of direct action such as chaining or glueing myself to it, but don't want to waste the precious time of our depleted police resources.

So are we already just used to having it there, like so many other eyesores inflicted on us, or is there a will to make our feelings heard by those with power over us?

Harriet Copperman,
Address supplied.



Spotted: Market Place muntjac

Muntjac on the fairways
Dear Editor,

You asked for other sightings of muntjac in our area (*The Archer*, November 2022). I am a member of Finchley Golf Club, situated off Frith Lane in Mill Hill East. We are regularly visited by a muntjac, and in the past sometimes two.

We have several wooded areas around the golf course and the muntjac are generally seen crossing the fairways from one copse to another. One of our copses has a natural pond and this is probably why the muntjac like our environment.

Sally Field,
Aylmer Road, N2.

Useful obstacle
Dear Editor,

The sudden arrival of a huge digital advertising hoarding in the middle of the pavement outside Iceland gives us all one more obstacle to step around as we walk down the High Road.

Of course it is redeemed in part by having a very useful defibrillator unit on the opposite side to the advertising screen. I know from personal experience how important a defibrillator can be in saving someone's life in an emergency.

It's just a shame that the price of having one on hand is that it must be backed by a massive advertising obstruction. Why can't it be placed on a prominent wall out of everyone's way, like the one outside the entrance to the Green Man Community Centre on Strawberry Vale?

Of course it would cost money to install. Perhaps that is just the kind of thing that the East Finchley Town Team could work towards?

Douglas Root,
Great North Road, N2.



Lovely plumage: Cappuccino?

Pigeon fancier
Dear Editor,

If you regularly walk along the High Road past Cootes Pharmacy you may well have seen this beautiful coffee and white pigeon. He has been a constant presence all this year, mainly centred around the large plane tree outside the chemist, and has become quite tame and friendly.

I have seen many people stop to admire him and some, like me, have even taken photographs as his colouring is so unusual.

In my mind he is "Cappuccino", a name which suits his colouring, and it always lifts my spirits when I see him parading up and down as I walk by. Do look out for him, he's well worth seeing!

Jane Marsh,
Address supplied

Send your correspondence to:
news@the-archer.co.uk
or post to The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 2DE

Thanks for your help

Dear Editor,
May I please thank two special but anonymous ladies via *The Archer*? Recently I had a bad fall at East Finchley Station forecourt and lay on the ground. Meanwhile my frightened dog was wandering around as I had lost grip of his lead. These two swiftly approached offering their help and carefully up-ended me.

A few minutes later one of them returned and offered to drive me home, which I gratefully declined. She added: "I'm a cab driver but I won't charge you." What generosity and thoughtfulness; sadly somewhat rare these days.

Name and address supplied.



New release: Charlotte Besley

New single from singer Charlotte

East Finchley-based musician Charlotte Besley has released a new single, building on the country music roots of her previous work but also drawing in the sound of the Hammond organ played by pianist Lemos.

Guitarist and singer Charlotte has performed at the East Finchley Festival and in gigs across London. Her new single, called *You Found Me*, is available to stream on Spotify and you can follow her on Instagram @cbesleysings

Bible left on bus

By Diana Cormack
A local grandmother is trying to find the owner of a Bible found in mid-October. She is convinced that the black Bible is special to someone due to the fond messages written inside it. They are dedicated to Michael, who is addressed as a 'good bro' and 'loving bruv' amongst other tributes.

The Bible was found by her 16-year-old grandson on a 125 bus and she is hoping someone reading *The Archer* may be able to help reunite it with its owner. If you have any information please leave a message and contact details on our free voicemail 0800 612 0748 or email news@the-archer.co.uk

Trailblazers in East Finchley

By Chris Stavrou, N2United

November's meeting of business and community network N2United was the last one of the year but everyone is welcome to join us on Thursday 8 December for the N2United Christmas Cracker at the Bald Faced Stag pub in the High Road.

At November's meeting at the East Finchley Constitutional Club we heard from Samantha Haycock on plans to turn the Market Place Play-ground into a flagship park. Emma Frampton, of Bin There Donate That, updated us on the strides that the recycling and reuse project has made in its first year, and Mike, who volunteers for Grange Big Local, spoke about a micro-pilot in the GBL area for a Universal Basic Income scheme.

To keep up to date with more local goings on, check the community calendar at www.ILoveN2.co.uk/N2United and if you would like to get involved further or just get to know other locals who care about N2, there will be more meetings in 2023.

Willow workshop

The Friends of Cherry Tree Wood are holding a festive workshop in the wood making willow decorations for the festive season on Sunday 11 December between 11am and 12.30pm. Meet near the café.

Everyone is also welcome to the Friends' AGM on Monday 16 January at 7.30pm in the Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery, Park House, next to the High Road entrance to the wood. For any further information the Friends can be contacted on email friendsofcherrytreewood@gmail.com

Poetry reading

The Black Gull Bookshop in the High Road, N2, will host a reading of early German poetry and poems by Karl Marx on Monday 2 January from 6pm to 7pm.

University of East Anglia professor Dr. Philip Wilson will be reading from his translations of both sets of works. The event is free and open to all, with refreshments available. Book your place through tierney-helen63@gmail.com

Carols for the food bank

Carol singers will be out and about along the High Road in East Finchley on Thursday 15 December between 6pm and 7pm to raise money for Finchley Foodbank.

Last year their Christmas Singalong raised over £200 in just over an hour thanks to the generosity of passers-by, and pub customers at the Old White Lion, Bald Faced Stag, Gertie Brown's and Maddens.

This year the need is even greater as the food bank is now

open twice a week to help individuals and families in need.

Carols organiser Helen Tierney said: "Anyone who wishes to join us is very welcome and if you see the singers out and about on the 15th please give generously, cash or card welcome, for this fantastic local cause."



Twelve months on the pasture

The volunteers at Long Lane Pasture have once again produced a calendar showing sweeping views and close-ups of stunning wildlife seen on the two-acre nature reserve opposite Finchley Fire Station in Long Lane, N3. Their 2023 calendar costs £5 and is available from Long Lane Pasture any Saturday morning 10am to noon, or by contacting Donald Lyven on 07727 748209.

Holy Trinity Parish Church
67 Church Lane, N2 0TH

We are a community of where faith is shared, hope is nourished, and love comforts.

You are welcome to join us for:
Holy Communion: Sundays @ 10.00 am
Carol Service on 17th December @ 5:00 pm
Christmas Midnight Mass 24th December @ 11:30 pm
Christmas Day Family Service 25th December @ 10:00 am

For more information please contact us via our website:
www.holytrinityeastfinchley.org.uk
Email: marius_mirt@htef.org.uk
Tel: 202 3565 4430