

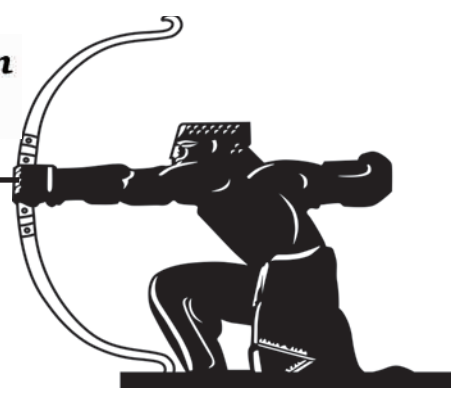


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**30** Local News is our Aim  
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# The Archer



August 2023 No. 352

**A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.**

## How could we make life better in East Finchley?

By Diana Cormack

**Free parking, wheelchair access at the tube station and a statue of George Michael are among the ambitious ideas put forward by N2 residents to improve life and trade in East Finchley.**

The suggestions were made as part of a survey held at the London Festival of Architecture's event in the High Road in June and later put on display at East Finchley Town Team's social evening in July.

Locals had been asked to fill in cards giving their opinion on how to transform the wide pavement area between Caffè Nero and Budgens. Amongst these were views on seating provision, greening up the area, adding water fountains and introducing free parking plus a request for a wheelchair lift at the station, a better night-life

and a statue of East Finchley-born George Michael.

### Event and social

On the day of the architecture event the area was full of information stalls and used for live performances by youngsters from the Fixation Academy of Performing Arts, based at the Finchley Youth Theatre on the High Road.

There were hundreds of ideas, many of them from children and some looking beyond the immediate area, as well as comments on what people already liked about the area.

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Road block: The mature tree lies across a parked car and completely obstructs traffic in Leopold Road after being felled by strong winds. Photos Kathy Batten

## Trees tumble in day of high winds

By John Lawrence



**Trees and gardens took a battering when high winds and sudden gusts of up to 48mph swept across East Finchley through the afternoon and evening of Saturday 15 July.**

On Leopold Road, N2, the trunk of a mature tree snapped completely, sending it crashing across the pavement and road, seriously damaging a car parked underneath. The car belonged to a young couple, who came home to the shocking scene later in the day. Resident Kathy Batten said: "It was quite amazing that no one was hurt. The council came to clear it a few hours later." Trees also tumbled in Huntingdon Road and on Long Lane. The high winds lasted for several hours, with the Met Police reporting top speeds in the capital of 48mph, just slightly below storm-force

## Reporters required

**Would you like to report for *The Archer*?**

We are looking for writers of all ages to join our team of volunteers and to contribute one or two articles each month. You don't need to be a trained journalist but good writing skills would be appreciated. Story ideas can come from the team, from readers or from your own connections.

Please get in touch if you are interested. Email John via news@the-archer.co.uk

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