



Letters

Caterpillar warning

Dear Editor,

At risk of repeating a warning in previous *Archers*, I would like to advise readers of the dangers of some caterpillars. A few months ago I spotted for the first time quantities of them in my back garden.

Keen to rescue my surviving plants (pre and post slug attacks) I picked them up. Within 24 hours I was afflicted with large, painful and itchy weals all over my body and felt terribly unwell with an extreme allergic reaction. Three different prescribed medications failed to conquer it. Finally I needed a steroid course, which thankfully worked.

I should point out that these caterpillars do not develop into attractive butterflies but moths and can reduce your best woollens to Airtex. This is a cautionary tale which the majority including myself are unaware of.

Children especially might be at risk, as they are quite pretty all brownish with yellow features and look harmless, but if handled may have dire consequences.

Name and address supplied.

Send your correspondence to: news@the-archer.co.uk

Letters without verifiable contact addresses will not be printed. Contact details can be withheld on request at publication. We reserve the right to abridge letters for reasons of space.

Musical lover

Dear Editor,

Is there a lover of chamber music in East Finchley who would like to accompany me, free of charge, to two concerts at Kings Place near Kings Cross station?

One is on Sunday 8 October featuring the Strings of the Royal Opera House, and music by Richard Strauss, Mozart and Brahms. The other is with the Diotima Quartet, with music by Ligeti and Janacek, on Wednesday 11 October.

I have mobility problems, so a car driver would be a bonus for me but not absolutely necessary. Please send details with phone number to me c/o The Archer. Email news@the-archer.co.uk or leave a message for free on 0800 612 0748. Barbara, Address supplied.

Fond memories of Lucia Chandler

By Diana Cormack

Back in the 1950s a Spanish woman in her twenties bravely left her hometown of Madrid to start a new life in this country. She took a job in south London, improving her English as she worked as a domestic help.



Familiar faces: Juan Carlos and his late mother Lucia

Whatever the plans for her future might have been, she found her path when she met Ernest Chandler, an Englishman who was learning Spanish as a hobby. They married and lived in Maidstone, where their two sons Michal and Juan Carlos were born.

Some of you may recognise that name, for Juan Carlos told *The Archer* that he and his mother were well known in East Finchley. They lived in the area for 36 years, after his late father took a job as a caretaker at Pardes House School in Hendon Lane, Finchley Central.

For the last 17 of those years Lucia lived in Mulberry Court, Bedford Road, N2. She loved the local paper and always asked Juan Carlos if it had been delivered downstairs. Being an *Archer* fan himself, Juan Carlos

was usually able to assure her that it had.

Unfortunately, in 2014 Lucia had a fall and broke her hip, after which she used a wheelchair and Juan Carlos became his mother's carer. He described how they would visit local cafés and supermarkets, where his mum was always chatty and smiling with the staff and the people she met out and about. Often, just for fun, she would slip some Spanish phrases into the conversation.

Sadly, Lucia passed away two days before Christmas last year at the grand old age of 95. Juan Carlos has fond memories of his dear mother and wonders if others have too. Perhaps you might like to share them with him? If so, you can reach him at juancarloschandler@googlemail.com



Teams spirit: Players from the GRDNS Netball League enjoy their end-of-season play-off

Netball players already cheering for start of new season ahead

By Lucy Moorman

Season Two of the GRDNS Netball League reached its joyful conclusion at the end of June with an evening of play-off matches on the outdoor court at the Archer Academy in East Finchley.

There are six teams in the league, women of all ages and abilities who share their love of netball, and the fun, friendships and fitness which goes with it.

Tigers Too took the gold medal after a tight match against Tetherdown Tigers. The low 9-6 scoreline reflected some tough defending in both circles which limited the shooters' chances to score. Ultimately, consistency and teamwork gave Tiger Too the edge.

Earlier in the evening,

Martin's Bluebirds scored a convincing 21-13 win against Archer Arrows to secure third place. The Bluebirds' skilful passing in the circle and sensational shooting proved decisive.

The fifth-sixth place play-off was a hot, sweaty five-a-side between the Shooting Stars and RNDMS, with Shooting Stars winning 15-3. Both teams were helped by excellent ringers from other teams who stepped in to make up numbers: typical of the supportive ethos of the league.

Happiest league around

Big thanks went to the brilliant young umpires who run the lines every Wednesday. The inspirational organiser, Somayeh Farooq, says the secret of the GRDNS league is that it's "a community of

ladies, sharing the same passion and values, who come together, bond, make new friends and stay fit because of their love of the game."

Players talk about how friendly and supportive it is. "You can be comfortable whatever level you are." "I love it! It's competitive, friendly, fun and great exercise." And a couple of mums admitted it's a great way to avoid the kids' bedtime!

Season Three begins on Wednesday 6 September and the league is looking for new players. You can commit to a team and/or join the ringers group. If you love netball and want to join the happiest league in north London, email tetherdownnetball@gmail.com.

Respected reporter and newsreader

We were sorry to hear the news that BBC foreign correspondent turned newsreader George Algaiah died last month aged 67 from the bowel cancer that he had originally been diagnosed with in 2014.

Mr Algaiah, who is survived by his wife of 40 years Frances and their two sons, lived for a period in Summerlee Avenue, N2, and was an ardent supporter of the Nazareth House assisted living home in East End Road, where his father lived.

Did you know?

The Archer is printed each month on paper made from 100% recycled fibre, mostly retrieved from old newspapers collected by local authorities around the country. It is made here in the UK in King's Lynn in Norfolk, some 50km from our printers Sharman and Co in Peterborough.

All Saints' East Finchley
Living the Catholic Faith in the Church of England



All Saints' Church, Durham Road,
 East Finchley
 Church of England

You are welcome to join us for:

Sunday mass at 10.00 a.m. and
 Weekday masses as advertised on the website.

Or join our live-streamed services on our Facebook page:
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Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

For more information,
 contact the Vicar, Fr Ian Chandler, on
 020 8883 9315
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 or check out our website:
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