



Thirty years of news for East Finchley

Local News is Our Aim

January 1993 Number 1 (Pilot)

Policing East Finchley

What a dangerous area we live in, no wonder the Insurance Companies treat East Finchley as a high risk area.

Today I attended a press briefing for the first time at Golders Green Police Station given by DC Ron Laverie and Sgt Bernard Forbes. And very hospitable they were too, gave each of us a cup of something, hot from the canteen, there wasn't any string hanging out so I believe it was coffee.

Festival to go ahead
Despite Funding Problems
East Finchley Community Festival could lose its grant in 1993 in line with Barnet Borough Council's newly adopted policy on the funding of carnivals and community events.

However the event is planned to go ahead on June 19 next year and, weather permitting, will be successful yet again.

The event was cancelled two years ago, because of the council, who claimed that it had become "political". After an initial court hearing, and subsequent appeal, the festival was cleared of charges made and awarded costs. Last year the event went ahead on a day and many local residents thoroughly enjoyed the day.

If Barnet withdraws its support organisers will have to make up the £100 awarded last year (of which the council effectively deducted £1000 "interest" charges).

Bookies Pay Out As Crime Business Booms
Golders Green police warned residents to be extra vigilant this Christmas as they told of how a branch of William Hill the bookmakers in East Finchley were paying out £100,000 to punters who had bet on a result paid out to the tune of £2,220 in each.

One of an increasing number of local victims of crime, William Hill on the High Road, suffered a record entry through the front door. Once inside, the perpetrators were able to place the firm's safe onto a trolley and simply wheel it out of the rear entrance, along with its contents.

1993

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Supermarket Dashed?

A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

By Diana Cornack
Hundreds of residents packed All Saints Church in Durham Road to air their views at the Waitrose (WOW) meeting. Feelings were running high in the cross-section of our community, ranging in age from eight to 80. Despite chairman Amoretta O'Grady encouraging opinions both for and against the proposed supermarket, only those opposed seemed moved to speak. Indeed, so many locals wanted to be heard that applause had to be cut out in order to provide more speaking time.

Many people expressed anger that Barnet Council seems ready to destroy the village atmosphere and community spirit which East Finchley enjoys. There has been no public consultation and the Council's decision is being imposed on the local community. The proposed supermarket is a traffic magnet and will bring in thousands of cars a day. In addition to this there will be other impacts including vehicle idling, noise, air pollution, loss of local shops, most local shopkeepers and their customers believe it would be detrimental to trade.

2003

Local News is our Aim

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Decision Postponed

An agenda item for Barnet Council's Cabinet that dealt with the proposed Waitrose supermarket and library complex in East Finchley was withdrawn at the last minute on Monday 28 January. The reason given on the night by Cllr. Brian Salinger was that the Cabinet had not been given enough time to adequately prepare.

2013

The Archer has been East Finchley's newspaper for 30 years this month. Our first two editions in January and February 1993 were simple A4 sheets before we became a printed tabloid that March. The team declared The Archer had been launched "to enhance the community atmosphere".

Our very first front page reported on crime and policing in East Finchley listing a number of offences in N2 made public at a police briefing, including burglaries, indecent assaults and the theft of a charity box. We also reported that the East Finchley Festival was ready to go ahead that year

despite losing its annual grant from Barnet Council.

Waitrose retreats
On our 10th birthday, in February 2003, our front page story reported on a packed public meeting at All Saints Church in Durham Road in response to plans to build a Waitrose store on the former Park House site opposite East Finchley tube station, now occupied by a new apartment block. The prospect of a large supermarket being sited there raised huge concerns from some residents about traffic turning in and out at a busy spot and the threat to East Finchley's independent traders from a major grocery chain moving in. Waitrose eventually withdrew its plans the following year.

Big Local arrives
Ten years on in February 2013, we celebrated The Archer's 20th anniversary with a front-page montage of N2 landmarks by local artist Terry Mardell, including Maddens, the Phoenix Cinema, the library, Cherry Tree Wood, the tube station, the Bald Faced Stag and the Old White Lion. Our big news

story inside that month was the launch of the Grange Big Local project after it won £1 million in lottery funding for schemes to improve life for residents living in and around the Grange Estate.

Thank you
The whole team of volunteers here at The Archer is proud we've reached our 30th birthday - and issue number

346 - still delivering news to nearly 10,000 homes and businesses across East Finchley every month. We couldn't do it without our loyal army of volunteer deliverers, our advertisers who help to cover our printing costs and our readers and contributors who bring us stories. We thank each and every one of them!

Thirty years of news

Delve into all the news in N2 from the last 30 years on our mobile-friendly website where you can read almost every edition from our three decades of publishing. Go to www.the-archer.co.uk

And we hope to keep serving East Finchley for another 30 years at least so please send us your story ideas and contributions to keep our pages full of the news that matters to our community. You can email our team anytime at news@the-archer.co.uk or leave a message for free on 0800 612 0748. Our monthly deadlines are always printed on page 2

What we can do for you

You could reach a potential 20,000 readers across N2 every month by advertising in The Archer. We give discounts for advertising in multiple editions and accept flyers or artwork originally designed for social media. We can even create a basic advert design for you.

For more information, check out our advertising information at www.the-archer.co.uk/ads_index.php or email advertising@the-archer.co.uk

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.

Can you make Mickey a happy cat?

For the last 30 years, The Archer has relied on a small army of volunteers to deliver the newspaper to nearly 10,000 homes and businesses across East Finchley.

Sometimes even cats get involved, like Mickey who takes charge of the piles of papers before they are sorted into rounds at the home of our team members Jane and David Marsh.

Without all these volunteers, the paper would get nowhere, and we thank each and every one for taking time each month to ensure copies reach neighbours in nearby roads or blocks of flats.

We currently have a round in Tarling Road, Brownswell Road and Borrowdale Close without a regular deliverer. This is a total of 121 papers and takes about 40 minutes once a month. We may have other rounds coming free in the near future.

We'd also love to hear from anyone with a car who could help to drop off papers to the homes of our deliverers. Usually these distributors take bagged-up papers to 8-12 deliverers at the start of each month.

Can you help us either as a deliverer or a distributor? Even if you can't commit on a monthly basis, perhaps you would consider adding your name to a list we could call on occasionally to cover rounds when regular deliverers are away or ill? Please get in touch if you'd like to be part of the team. Email news@the-archer.co.uk or leave a message for free on our phone line 0800 612 0748. You'd make Mickey a very happy cat. Thank you!

Top cat: Mickey supervises the piles of Archers being sorted into delivery rounds