



Ancient stone arrowhead comes to light in Coldfall Wood

By Ann Bronkhorst

“One day last year I was watching a bird. I looked up, then down, and there it was at my feet.” Philip Hogg, a Haringey resident and a regular dogwalker, had almost trodden on an early Neolithic arrowhead in Coldfall Wood. Luckily he was not barefoot.



Ancient weapon: The arrowhead found in Coldfall Wood

The photo shows a leaf-shaped, nicely napped object, still capable of giving a cut or two. It is thought to date from 4,500 to 1,500 BC and is one of many small archaeological finds such as weapon parts, pottery shards and coins discovered in London over the years. This, however, is much earlier than most such finds.

In the 1940s a Neolithic axe head was found in Windermere Road, Muswell Hill, but little else has emerged in Haringey. As Adam Single of Historic England says, “Our understanding of the early human occupation of the area is not great.”

Adam is one of several experts consulted about this arrowhead. He clarified its ownership: like most similar finds it belongs to the landowner, in this case Haringey, and not the finder. Digital infor-

mation about it will become available to anyone, however, on the Portable Antiquities Scheme site at finds.org.uk. Another helpful source of expertise in this case was the Finds Liaison Officer at the Museum of London, Stuart Wyatt.

Local museum

Where should the actual arrowhead find a home? Philip should hear more this month from the experts who are examining it. The consensus is Bruce Castle Museum in Haringey, where the curator, Deborah Hedgecock, hopes to welcome it to the museum’s fascinating and varied collection. *The Archer* (appropriately) will tell readers when and where to view it. Meanwhile, back in the wood, the arrowhead’s exact resting place for the last 4,000 or so years must remain unidentified.

Car ends up inside caravan



This was the extraordinary result of a crash between a car and a stationary caravan in The Bishops Avenue, N2, last month. *Archer* reader Joss Woolf took these photos after spotting the scene on Sunday 4 December. “It looked as though the car had driven right inside the caravan. Pretty spectacular!” said Joss.

No one is thought to have been seriously injured in the collision but the powerful VW car was badly damaged and the caravan’s rear end was torn apart, with many of its contents including pots of paint strewn across the road.

Double parked: Above and below, the VW car embedded firmly in the back of the destroyed caravan. Photos Joss Woolf.



Solicitor struck off and must pay back £760,000 to clients

By David Melsome

An East Finchley solicitor has been struck off and has agreed to pay back £760,000 after a disciplinary tribunal ruled that he had dishonestly overcharged clients.

George Nosworthy, 79, ran Cree Godfrey and Wood in the High Road, N2, a firm with a more than 200-year history of providing legal services, until it was suddenly shut down in March 2021 when allegations against him came to light. At the time, hundreds of his existing clients had their files transferred to an intervening agent based in Bournemouth.

In four specific cases considered by the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal in November Mr Nosworthy admitted overcharging clients to a total of £474,110 by invoicing for work that had not been done and transferring money from their estates into his business.

The panel considered that, given the serious nature of his misconduct, including his admitted dishonesty, the appropriate sanction was to strike him off the Roll of Solicitors.

Stresses and failures

In mitigation, Mr Nosworthy admitted that he was “old school” and struggled to keep up with changes to legislation and the complex requirements of running a busy legal practice. He regularly worked more than 80 hours a week.

He told the panel that he felt stressed 24 hours a day, felt harassed by clients because he fell behind from time to time, failed to bill properly on matters if at all, failed to maintain proper records and had no effective time recording systems.

He admitted charging the four clients for work that hadn’t been done and dishonestly transferring money from their estates.



Dishonest: George Nosworthy

Repayment

Mr Nosworthy, who became a solicitor in 1965, told the tribunal that the suspension of his firm in 2021 came as a “welcome relief” and meant he could stop working seven days a week. He and his 74-year-old wife have since sold the business premises in the High Road and their family home of 35 years in order to create a £760,000 fund to repay all their creditors. The parties agreed costs of £36,157.00.

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