



# Can we build new homes and keep the trees?

By David Melsome

A public meeting to discuss the future of Park House, next to Cherry Tree Wood opposite East Finchley tube station, will take place on Monday 14 September from 7.30–9pm at All Saints' Church, Durham Road, N2

Organised by the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood, the meeting will include speakers from the Friends group and the Finchley Society, as well as an opportunity for residents to have their say.

The Friends group said there is widespread agreement that Park House should be redeveloped for much-needed new homes and a replacement nursery but questioned whether redevelopment requires the loss of the mature trees and green space at the front of the site, as reported in previous issues of The Archer.

Chair Roger Chapman said: "Barnet Council's recently adopted Local Plan says that the green space and mature trees at the front of Park House should be maintained and improved. The trees are also protected by

Tree Preservation Orders, while a community petition calling for their retention has attracted around 1,700 signatures.

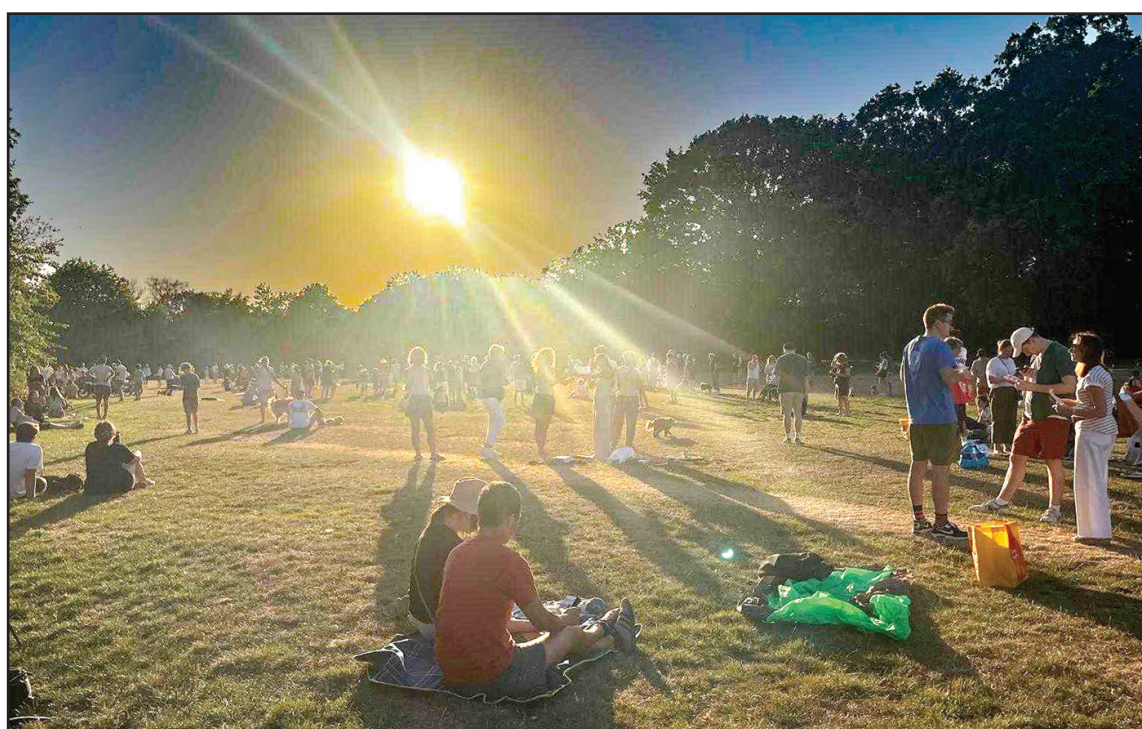
"After the fifth heatwave of this summer, the value of mature trees is increasingly apparent. They provide shade, help cool our streets, support wildlife and provide an attractive green entrance to Cherry Tree Wood."

The Friends added that their aim is not to oppose development, but to ask a positive question: can we have the new homes East Finchley needs while keeping and enhancing the trees and green space we already have?

Everyone is welcome to attend the public meeting. For more information contact [FriendsOfCherryTreeWood@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsOfCherryTreeWood@gmail.com)



Save our trees: Campaigners are fighting to protect the mature trees on the Park Road site. Photo Mike Coles



Ray of light: Cherry Tree Wood was the ideal place to view the partial solar eclipse. Photo Hazel Mason

## Front row for the eclipse

Scores of eclipse watchers gathered in Cherry Tree Wood on the evening of the cosmic event last month. Hazel Mason took this atmospheric photo of people on the main field as the moon started to move across

the sun at around 6.15pm on Wednesday 12 August.

Reader Mary Poulter was also there and said: "There were professionals with camera equipment and there were people with colanders and

shoe boxes. Guys came off the basketball court to have a look and it was a magic community event and wonderful to be part of."

See also Letters, page 11

# The Archer

## East Finchley's Community Newspaper

The Archer has been serving readers in East Finchley since 1993 and is run entirely by volunteers. We're a friendly team contributing in our own time from home and keeping in touch by email and with a monthly meeting.

Currently we have these roles available and would love to hear from you if you are interested in joining us. Email [news@the-archer.co.uk](mailto:news@the-archer.co.uk) and we'd be delighted to give you more details about what's involved.

### Help sort our rounds

Our Distribution Managers Dave and Jane do a great job of sorting our papers into rounds each month. Could you stand in for them once or twice a year when they are away?

The monthly delivery from our printers arrives on a Tuesday afternoon at a time agreed with you, and you just need a convenient ground-floor room and around 2-3 hours to do the sorting.

Our distributors will then come to you to pick up the rounds and take them to our deliverers.

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