



Ham&High BROADWAY

The quality weekly for Muswell Hill, Crouch End and Hornsey

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 11 2010

60p



VILLA REAL

SPURS STILL HAVE IT 'ALL TO DO' SAYS CLUB LEGEND

IT'S A MISTRY

CROUCH END'S JIMI VOTED OFF STRICTLY – DESPITE BEST SCORE

INSIDE



Rare beetle makes its way to Muswell Hill: p3



Peace garden to commemorate Stroud Green's wartime bomb victims: p5



A RAY OF SUNSHINE

ROCK legend Ray Davies returned to his stomping ground this week as he opened a music wing at a Muswell Hill school. The Kinks frontman opened Fortismere's new block – praising the equipment on offer to students as “awesome”. The building made Fortismere the latest Haringey school to profit from the now-axed Building Schools for the Future programme. For more, see page 4. Picture by Nigel Sutton

Drivers clobbered in 500% parking fee rise

Rhiannon Evans

PLANNED increases of up to 500 per cent in parking charges have been slammed as “extortionate”.

A Haringey Council review of all parking costs recommends charges should increase from £45 to £240 for doctors parking permits, while pay and display tickets in Muswell Hill and Crouch End look set to more than double from £1.40 to £3 an hour.

Residents permits will increase by up to 66 per cent – depending on engine size – and everything from traders’ to business permits could also rocket.

Doctor’s surgeries and traders in Muswell Hill and Crouch End say the increases will be bad for business.

Crouch End trader Chris Freeman said: “While appreciating Haringey has financial problems, to clobber an easy target like this is extortionate.”

The review into parking, which will be voted on by cabinet members on Tuesday, states: “Given the unique range of challenges faced by local government, it is important to continually review service provision to ensure costs and charges are appropriate and will remain so.”

It also says it aims to bring Haringey’s charges in line with the London average.

The authority is currently ranked 14 out of 21 authorities for the cost of its residents’ permits. If the changes go ahead, they will jump to ninth.

If the report is agreed, a consultation would take place. But the document states that, if no “major objections” are received, the charges will be implemented by officers without another vote or discussion at council.

At the moment, doctors surgeries pay £45 a year for a parking bay, which can be shared by various vehicles. But under the latest plans, this would rocket to £240 for a single permit – meaning each vehicle would be subject to the new higher charge.

Practice manager Lesley Mayo, of the Dukes Avenue Surgery in Muswell Hill, said that, with nine doctors, they would be severely hit.

“It’s a bit of a shock – we are a non-profit organisation, not a business,” she said.

“Increasing the cost of bays from £45 to £240 would be bad enough but to change it to permits as well is an astonishing increase. If this goes through we would seriously have to

consider how we would manage our vehicles.”

Crouch End, Muswell Hill and Green Lanes pay and display bays are currently ranked as “medium occupancy areas” meaning tickets are in the middle band of Haringey’s pricing.

But as well as hiking prices in all three categories across the borough, tickets in these areas will now be charged in the “high occupancy” band – leading to an increase from £1.40 to £3 for shoppers.

A document released at full council last month showed Green Lanes, Muswell Hill and Crouch End Broadway were all in the top four roads in the borough for generating revenue in parking fines. Green Lanes was also revealed as the most ticketed road in the country.

Mr Freeman said: “It will be detrimental to the high street. It will drive people away to the one-stop supermarkets where car parking is free and it will have an adverse effect on trade and jobs.”

Muswell Hill traders’ group co-chairwoman Emma Whittlestone added: “Parking is already a problem for us. People already complain about it. So this will make it even harder for us.”

A council spokesman said: “These charges are the first such rises since the reviews of 2007/8. Increased charges in Muswell Hill, Green Lanes and Crouch End will encourage a regular turnover of visitors to town centres. Doctors’ charges have not been increased for 10 years and their rates have been brought in line with business charges.”

rhiannon.evans@archant.co.uk

FINE ARTS COLLEGE HAMPSTEAD

WE ARE NOW
ENROLLING FOR 2011

Open Day
Wednesday 24th November at 2pm & 5pm

CENTRE STUDIOS
ENGLANDS LANE
LONDON NW3 4YD

FOR FULL DETAILS AND PROSPECTUS
PLEASE CALL 020 7586 0312

www.hampsteadfinearts.com

Jailed paedophile shared images



GUILTY PLEA: Dale O'Brien.

A CROUCH End paedophile who shared “vile” images of children when just a teenager himself has been jailed for 18 months.

Dale O'Brien, was living at the YMCA in Tottenham Lane when arrested and admitted one charge of making indecent images and four of distributing them between May 10 2008 and March 12 this year.

The 20-year-old was caught with more than 400 sickening photographs

of youngsters as young as three on his computer.

Among the images distributed by him was one which fell into the most serious category – depicting a child suffering serious abuse at the hands of adults.

At Southwark Crown Court on Monday, he was also given a five-year sexual offences prevention order and was placed on the sex offenders’ register for 10 years.