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WELCOME To our Winter Newsletter

On behalf of everyone at Adam Hayes, I would like to welcome you to our Winter edition of our Community Newsletter, which is being delivered to the local homes in the area. After a record breaking year for our company, I am delighted to report that activity is still strong moving into 2022. Whilst nobody has a crystal ball that can tell what this year holds, I am not forecasting doom and gloom for the North London property market.

The pandemic made many North London families re-evaluate what they wanted from their home, with many wanting bigger rooms (and more of them). Many in the press dubbed this 'the race for space', meaning the property market was flooded with home buyers, most bringing forward the home move they had planned between now and 2025.

The issue was, there weren't enough properties on the market to satisfy every buyer, meaning North London house prices have unsurprisingly been driven up. Rightmove analysts estimated that houses rose by 8% last year in our area while flats only rose by 2.5% locally.

This increase in house prices is expected to entice even more house sellers onto the market, which will steady house prices slightly (as supply increases), yet I still believe there won't be enough properties coming onto the market to satisfy the colossal demand.

Buying property is a long-term commitment and sometimes you just have to make your decision, get something bought and start the journey of the next 25 to 35 years of living in your family home whilst paying off your mortgage. The bottom line is, to ensure that any North London house move that you intend to make is something that you can afford, allow for future rises in interest rates and make plans for as many eventualities as possible.

In this edition of our newsletter we will be looking at how best to protect your property in these cold months. We will also look at the importance of having an inventory when renting and how best to handle a boundary dispute.

As usual, we will also showcase some of our wonderful properties that we are currently marketing for sales and to rent. Feel free to contact me or my team if you need any property related advice, I hope you enjoy reading our newsletter...

Yours sincerely

PROPERTIES FOR SALE







Ivere Drive, New Barnet, EN5

£800,000

Conveniently located in this popular residential tree lined road and within minutes' walk of local shops and amenities is this well presented three/four bedroom, two bathroom modern townhouse. The property has been upgraded by its present owners and benefits from an approx. 15ft reception room, a modern kitchen diner with fully integrated appliances, double glazed french doors leading to its own section of garden, off street parking, gas central heating and an additional study.



Ravensdale Avenue, N12 £895,000

Situated within minutes' walk of Friary Park in this popular tree lined residential location off North Finchley High Road is this extended three bedroom semi detached house. The property is offered chain free and benefits from two reception rooms, a guest cloakroom, a mature rear garden and off street parking with shared drive to garage



Mayfield Avenue, N12 OIEO £1,075,000

Built to an exceptionally superior specification throughout is this contemporary designed and newly built three bedroom, three bathroom terraced house. The property is offered chain free and is conveniently located within minutes' walk of Friary Park. Benefiting from an open plan living space with bi folding doors leading to a landscaped rear garden, allocated off street parking, modern bathrooms, parking and underfloor heating.







Woodside Lane, Woodside Park N12

£450,000

Situated in this popular residential area, off North Finchley High Road and within minutes walk of local shops and amenities is this recently decorated two double bedroom, two bathroom (one en-suite) purpose built apartment. The property is approximately 700 sq ft and benefits from a modern kitchen, double glazing, gas central heating, video entry phone system, off street parking for two cars and use of communal gardens.



High Road, N12 £400,000

Set back off North Finchley High Road in this popular lift serviced block and within walking distance to multiple shopping and transport facilities is this well presented two bedroom, two bathroom apartment. The property benefits from a modern kitchen with fully integrated appliances, allocated parking, double glazing and a three piece bathroom suite and a security video entry phone system.



Moss Hall Grove, N12 OIEO £425,000

Conveniently located in this tree lined road off Nether Street and within walking distance of the multiple local shops and transport facilities is this well-presented two bedroom, ground floor maisonette. The property benefits from a garage, an approx. 15ft reception room, a modern kitchen, use of communal of garden, gas central heating and double glazing.

PROPERTIES FOR SALE











The Bishops Avenue, East Finchley N2 £13,500,000

A gated, double fronted detached house located on this prestigious avenue in North West London. The house offers spectacular family accommodation with the additional benefit of a full leisure facilities. Extending to approx. 10,625 sqft this impressive eight bedroom house has a prominent, inviting staircase.

The ground floor entrance hall leads through to the reception room and gardens beyond adjacent to the impressive kitchen/dining family space. The ground floor further comprises formal dining room next to the kitchen, a large study and a lift which provides access to the ground, first and second floors. There is a fantastic indoor/outdoor pool on this floor also which suits all year round use.

On the first floor there is the master bedroom with two dressing areas and en suite, there are an additional three bedrooms each with an en suite and on the second floor there are three further bedrooms each with an en suite bathroom along with a superb games room with it's own kitchenette. On the lower ground floor there are further leisure facilities incorporating a gym, cinema room, treatment room/salon, wine cellar and staff accommodation. To the front of the property the gated driveway provides ample off street parking and access to a car lift. The large rear garden being 93ft long by 65ft wide.







Long Lane, East Finchley, N2

£600,000

Situated in this popular tree lined road and within minutes' walk of Victoria Park is this beautifully presented and extended three bedroom, two bathroom duplex conversion. The property has been refurbished by its present owners and benefits from its own section of garden, a modern eat in kitchen, off street parking, double glazing and a Juliet balcony in its master bedroom.



New Ash Close, N2 OIEO £350,000

Situated in this residential area off Oakridge Drive and conveniently located in the catchment area for the Archer Academy is this recently decorated two bedroom ground floor apartment. Benefitting from an approx. 13ft reception room with direct access to a communal garden, a security entry phone system, double glazing and allocated off street parking.



King Street, N2 £390,000

Situated in this residential area off Church Lane and within minutes' walk of local shops and amenities is this well presented two bedroom top floor (second) apartment. The property is in excellent decorative order and benefits from an approx. 20ft reception room, a modern kitchen and bathroom, gas central heating and double glazing.

PROPERTIES FOR SALE







Templars Crescent, Finchley N3

£1,125,000

Situated in this residential area off East End Road and set within the catchment area for a number of popular schools including Akiva Primary School is this recently refurbished and interior decorated four bedroom, two bathroom (one ensuite) double fronted modern semi-detached house. The property benefits from open plan living, floor to ceiling windows overlooking a south facing garden, off street parking, a garage, a contemporary kitchen and centre island, guest cloakroom and approx. 14ft master bedroom.





Elm Park Road, N3 OIEO £820,000

Situated in this popular residential area off Nether Street and within walking distance to both Finchley Central and West Finchley tube stations (Northern line) is this extended five bedroom, two bathroom terraced house. The property is in the catchment area for a number of popular schools and benefits from two separate reception rooms, a well presented eat in kitchen and a mature rear garden.

Howcroft Crescent, N3 £925,000

Situated in this residential area off Nether Street and set within the catchment area for a number of popular schools including Moss Hall Primary School is this well presented and extended three bedroom, semi-detached house. The property is offered chain free and benefits from a guest cloakroom, off street parking leading to its garage, a modern kitchen and a mature rear garden.







Gordon Road, N3

£450,000

Conveniently located within minutes' walk of both Finchley Central and West Finchley Tube Stations and set in the catchment area to a number of popular schools is this beautifully presented two bedroom, ground floor conversion. The property benefits from a 15ft reception room, a modern kitchen and shower room, gas central heating and direct access to a communal garden.



Hendon Lane, N3 OIEO £550,000

Set back off Hendon Lane in this popular lift serviced block and within minutes' walk of Finchley Central tube station (Northern Line), is this well presented two bedroom, two bathroom (one ensuite), first floor apartment. The property is offered chain free and benefits from a modern eat kitchen, two balconies, allocated underground parking, use of a landscaped communal garden and a security video entryphone system.



Finchley Road, NW11 OIEO £500,000

Set back off Finchley Road and within the catchment area of a number of popular schools and easy access to the North Circular Road (A406) is this three double bedroom first floor purpose-built apartment. The property benefits from a balcony, a modern eat in kitchen, ample storage, gas central heating and use of communal gardens and parking.

Protecting Your Home In The Colder Months

As the coldest months are ahead of us, it is now more important than ever to be proactive in maintaining your property to avoid extra costs during autumn and winter. From water damage to freezing pipes, colder months present a whole host of potential problems for your home so we have listed our top six tips for caring for your property.

Check the gutters

Maintaining the gutters of your home is of high importance during cold months. Clogged or leaky gutters can cause a leaky roof, and can even lead to water damage inside your property. Gutters should be maintained throughout the autumn as leaves fall, but if maintenance is something that slipped to the back of your list, go check them immediately.

After clearing any debris that has clogged the gutters, inspect them carefully to make sure that water flows easily. Cracks or dents may seem minor, but they can have a tremendous impact on the way that water is routed around your house, so be sure to make relevant improvements as soon as possible.

Be conscious of your windows

Windows are the bane of a home owner's existence during autumn and winter due to the many different types of problems they can develop. During the cold months, homeowners should keep a careful eye on windows. Check for signs of a draft (standing close to the windows and feeling cool air is a tried and true indicator, as is a skyrocketing heating bill).

However, sometimes it is the very windows themselves that present the biggest problem. Condensation that develops on windows can seep into wooden panes, resulting in rot, mould, and complete window replacement in the worst cases. As a homeowner, you can combat this kind of damage by wiping windows that have developed condensation. Constant maintenance is the secret to keeping windows efficient, so don't rush to double-glaze: only 10% of heating is lost through windows.



A burst pipe is an expensive headache for a homeowner. Pipes burst when the water inside them freezes and expands. Homeowners can combat this by wrapping insulation around external pipes, or simply keeping the heating on a very low setting when they are away on holiday. If the pipes are never able to get cold enough to freeze, a burst pipe is nearly impossible.

Add insulation

New insulation won't just take pounds off your electric bill, it will add value to your property through a higher EPC rating. Nearly 35% of heating is lost through walls, so keep an eye on your electric bill. If you notice that the bill is creeping up steadily or suddenly skyrockets, it may be time to add new insulation to your home. Consider insulating your loft for the most cost-effective solution.

Clean dryer vents

Lint build up in your dryer vents can make your tumble dyer work less efficiently and can even cause a fire. Cool, dry autumnal weather increases static electricity which consequently can ignite lint that has built up in your tumble dryer. By cleaning the vents, you can minimise the risk of your tumble dryer catching fire.

Bleed your radiators and check your boiler pressure

Normal boiler pressure should be between about 1 and 2 bars so check this figure on the pressure gauge on the front of your boiler. Boiler pressure is important as it helps keep the water in your home warm. If the boiler pressure is too low, your central heating may not work. If it is too high, it will be under too much strain and could also prevent your central heating from working.

It is also important to bleed your radiators to make sure your central heating system is efficiently working, and your heating bills don't cost you anymore than they normally should. It is also one of the easiest DIY tasks to do. All you need is a brass radiator key or a flathead screwdriver to bleed the trapped air out the radiator and ensures all your radiators heat up fully and evenly throughout your home.

PROPERTIES TO LET











Woodside Avenue, Woodside Park N12 £1600 PCM

A charming one-bedroom purpose built apartment situated on Woodside Avenue, a quiet street in the heart of Woodside Park, famous for its tree lined roads and country feel. The property is a short walk from Woodside Park (Northern Line) underground tube station, which has services to the West End and the City in less than 30 minutes.

The property comprises of a good size reception room with carpet throughout, dining space and offering lots of natural light. There is a fully fitted modern kitchen with modern appliances, cabinets, and stone worktops; a double bedroom with storage space. Other benefits include gas central heating allocated off street parking and access to the residents communal gardens.

North Finchley High Road is a short walk away offering an excellent selection of boutique shops, popular restaurants, gastro pubs, cafes, patisseries, and is a short bus ride to North Finchley's Vue Cinema. The open spaces of Woodside Park are also nearby, providing parks and scenic hilltops. To really appreciate the size, condition and location an internal viewing is highly recommended via Adam Hayes Estate Agents.







Christchurch Avenue, N12

£1395 PCM

A beautiful one bedroom 2nd floor purpose built apartment with allocated parking for one car situated within easy access of multiple shops and amenities and also West Finchley tube station (Northern Line). The property is in a great condition and benefits from an approx. 17ft lounge, a modern fitted kitchen, gas central heating and double glazing.



Friern Park, N12 £1700 PCM

A modern two bedroom ground floor garden Maisonette situated in this residential area off North Finchley High Road, within easy access of local shops and amenities. The property benefits from a modern kitchen and bathroom, direct access to its own garden, laminated wooden flooring, double glazing and gas central heating.



Myddelton Park, N20 £4250 PCM

A beautiful and rarely available four double bedroom three bathroom (two en-suite shower rooms) semi detached family house set over three floors, situated in this fantastic location within close proximity to multiple cafes, restaurants and shopping facilities on Whetstone High Road, Totteridge & Whetstone tube station (Northern Line) and in the catchment of local schools.

PROPERTIES TO LET







Erskine Hill, NW11

£2600 PCM

A lovely three bedroom semi-detached cottage situated in the heart of Hampstead Garden Suburb within easy access of multiple shops and amenities located in Temple Fortune and Finchley Road. This charming property benefits from an approx. 22ft through lounge, a modern eat in size kitchen, a fully tiled bathroom, gas central heating and a good size rear private garden.



Asmuns Hill, NW11 £3000 PCM

A charming three bedroom character cottage situated in this sought after location within close proximity to Temple Fortune High Road and multiple amenities. The property benefits from a good size through lounge, a modern fitted kitchen, utility room, guest WC, gas central heating and mature rear private garden.



Wordsworth Walk, NW11 £2167 PCM

A lovely two / three bedroom cottage set over three floors in Hampstead Garden Suburb situated within easy access of multiple shopping amenities of Finchley Road and green open spaces. The property benefits from an approx. 21ft reception, a modern fitted kitchen, wooden flooring, rear private garden and off street parking.







Sylvester Road, N2

£1700 PCM

A recently refurbished two bedroom first floor conversion conveniently located within easy access of East Finchley High Road, the A406 and multiple bus routes and shopping amenities. The property benefits from a good size lounge, a modern fitted kitchen, a fully tiled modern shower room, wooden flooring and double glazing.



Leicester Road, N2 £1700 PCM

A charming two double bedroom two bathroom (one an ensuite shower) duplex conversion in this popular location, within easy access to East Finchley tube station (Northern Line) and multiple shopping facilities. The property benefits from a 16ft lounge, an eat in size kitchen, ample storage, double glazing, gas central heating and access to a shared rear garden.



Lankaster Gardens, N2 £1300 PCM

A beautiful one bedroom first floor purpose built apartment situated in this modern gated development, within easy access to local amenities and transport facilities. The property benefits from a modern fitted kitchen, secured underground parking, balcony, gas central heating and double glazing.

PROPERTIES TO LET







Spencer Close, N3

£2100PCM

A well presented two double bedroom, two bathroom one en-suite) first floor purpose built apartment situated in this sought after lift serviced and portered development, within easy access to Finchley Central Tube Station (Northern Line). The property benefits from a 20ft reception, an additional study / dressing room, balcony, allocated off street parking and double glazing. To really appreciate the size, location and condition an internal viewing is highly recommended.



Ballards Lane, N3 £954 PCM

A modern studio flat inclusive of water rates situated above a commercial premises within easy access of Finchley Central tube station (Northern Line) and local shops and amenities. The property benefits from a separate modern fitted kitchen, modern bathroom, laminated wooden flooring, spot lights, double glazing and gas central heating.



Finchley Road, NW11 £1408 PCM

A modern one bedroom flat situated above a commercial premises in this fantastic location within close proximity to local shops and amenities and easy access to Golders Green tube station (Northern Line). The property is in great condition and benefits from a modern fitted kitchen, wooden flooring, double glazing and gas central heating.







Elm Park Road, N3

£1600 PCM

A beautiful and recently refurbished three/four bedroom duplex maisonette situated in this tree lined road off Nether Street, within close proximity to both West Finchley and Finchley Central tube station (Northern Line) and local amenities. The property benefits from an approx. 17ft lounge with bay windows, a lovely modern fitted kitchen, an approx. 18ft principle bedroom with a stunning modern fitted ensuite shower room on the 2nd floor, ample storge and gas central heating.



Ballards Lane, N3 £1700 PCM

A beautifully refurbished two double bedroom top floor purpose built apartment situated in this sought after development off Ballards Lane, within easy access to Finchley Central tube station (Northern Line) and multiple shopping amenities. The property is in excellent condition and benefits from a good size lounge, a modern fitted kitchen, a fully tiled shower room, double glazing, gas central heating, communal parking and a lovely communal garden.



Howcroft Crescent, N3 £2500 PCM

Situated in this residential area off Nether Street and set within the catchment area for a number of popular schools including Moss Hall Primary School is this well presented and extended three bedroom semi-detached house. The property benefits from an approx. 30ft through lounge, a modern kitchen, a guest cloakroom, a four piece bathroom suite, gas central heating, ample storage, double glazing and off street parking for one car.

The Importance of an Inventory Report

Whether you are a tenant looking to move into rented accommodation or a landlord looking to protect your investment, a property inventory is a vital document to have. Whilst most landlords will be aware of its importance, many tenants have a laissezfaire attitude towards them. This is a mistake, and one that can prove costly later on.

What is a property inventory?

Before we get into the reasons why property inventories are important for both tenants and landlords alike, it's probably a good idea to explain exactly what they are. Property inventories are simply documents that report on the state of the property and its contents at the time of assessment. These assessments are carried out twice in an identical fashion: once at the beginning of the tenancy (the inventory), and again at the end (the checkout).

The most important part of the initial inventory assessment is the Schedule of Condition. This details the state of every part of the property, such as the décor, floors (for example, wooden floors should they be present), walls and ceilings. Many landlords are under the false impression that inventories are solely for fixtures and fittings, but the Schedule of Condition offers protection against any structural damage that may occur during the tenancy, too. Therefore, it is always prudent to have an inventory taken, even if your property is actually unfurnished.

Having the two documents to hand allows both parties to see exactly how the property has changed across the duration of the tenancy. The checkout report will detail any areas of attention that need highlighting, and these will usually be segmented into 'landlord' and 'tenant' sections to determine who is responsible for what.

Having these documents lessens the likelihood of disputes and make the process of exiting a tenancy simple and straightforward. However, it is vital that both parties thoroughly check the reports to ensure that nothing has been missed.

As a tenant, you have the right to be present during the checks. This can help ensure that the person conducting the check doesn't miss anything, but it's still a good idea to give the document a thorough read through once it has been compiled. Spotting errors and omissions as soon as possible will allow changes to be made to the report without fear of blame being passed to you.

Who conducts the inventory?

Inventories can be compiled by either the landlord themselves, a letting agent, or an independent inventory clerk. Independent inventory companies should be a member of a professional association to ensure you are dealing with a reputable firm.

Inventory reports are usually compiled on move-in day and both parties are required to sign the document in order to confirm that they are in agreement with its contents. The amount of detail within the report will largely depend upon the value of the property's contents and may include photographic evidence as well as written documentation.

Landlords should be aware that conducting their own inventory could cause issues should a dispute arise. Protection schemes such as the TDS (Tenancy Deposit Scheme) will always favour inventories conducted by professionals over those carried out by the owner of the property.

Reasons why both landlord and tenants need a property inventory

Conducting an inventory will give both parties an accurate assessment of the current state of the property. The property inventory will highlight any areas that need addressing and stipulate exactly who is responsible for their repair. Having the document to hand will assist tenants on exactly how the property should be returned to the landlord and provide a guideline as to how the home should be maintained. Inventories easily distinguish between damage and fair wear and tear.

Property inventories help protect both the landlord's investment and the tenant's deposit. Conducting a thorough inventory lessens the chances of disputes arising once the tenancy has run its course. Should a dispute arise, however, having an inventory in place will help ensure the right result is reached.

Dealing with a Boundary Dispute

Disputes with neighbours are common. Whilst we would all like to ideally live harmoniously side by side, occasionally scenarios will crop up that lead to disagreements.

One of the more common disagreements between neighbours are boundary disputes. These disputes start when two neighbours fail to agree on where exactly one person's property ends and the other's begin.

Boundary disputes occur for a number of reasons. Most commonly one might object to another's plans to extend their property or construct an outbuilding in a particular area, there may be a disagreement over the erection of fences or walls, one may feel an overgrown hedge or tree is encroaching onto their property.

Before any disagreement has the opportunity to turn into a dispute, it's important to establish who owns the land. You do this by looking at the deeds. These are more important than the Land Registry title plan, which will just show the general, physical boundaries of your property rather than legal parameters.

The exact layout and extent of boundaries can often be surprisingly complex. It's often the case that boundaries aren't clearly mapped out.

Also, boundaries can change significantly over time due to removal, replacement or adjustment. Such confusion can lead both parties to believe they are in the right, which can ultimately lead to a drawn out dispute.

Boundary disputes don't just occur between existing neighbours. If you're moving into a new home and are intending on making changes that may affect the boundaries of the property, there are a number of steps you can take pre-sale to avoid running into a dispute down the line.

Check the filed title plan that your conveyancers send you to ensure the boundaries on the ground match the legal title.

If there are any discrepancies, raise it with your legal advisor to ensure the plan and/or boundaries issues are dealt with prior to becoming legally bound to the purchase of the property.

Ensure your conveyancing solicitor advises you what the actual legal title deeds say about the boundary position and responsibility for maintenance and repair. If in doubt at all, contact the Land Registry or surveyor to have a boundary survey (although there will be a charge for this).

How to resolve a boundary dispute?

There are a number of steps to be taken when attempting to resolve a boundary dispute. It's important to avoid rushing into legal proceedings. You should always attempt to address any disagreement amicably and be sure to give your neighbour adequate time to address any concerns you bring forward (and vice versa).

We suggest the first step you take is to talk to your neighbour. Tempers can flare and emotions run high when a boundary dispute emerges, however, you may be surprised at what informal negotiations can achieve. If your neighbour is a tenant, then you may be able to address the dispute by discussing it with their landlord instead.

If you are unable to resolve the issue between yourselves, you may want to consider legal action. As mentioned before, boundary disputes are rarely straightforward and often very complex. This is where specialist legal assistance can prove indispensable. We recommend contacting a trusted solicitor who specialises in boundary disputes.

If you have a boundary dispute or need to talk in confidence about your rights or a potential issue that may arise please feel free to contact our sales director Yasser Elkaffass who has over 20 years experience dealing with property related matters.







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