



Mick Connolly, one of the attractions of East Finchley's Community Festival (see right). Photo: Frank Tymkow

## Garden Suburb's 90th anniversary

It really is the time for festivals. As well as the East Finchley Community Festival and the Barnet Arts Festival, there is the Hampstead Garden Suburb 90th Anniversary Festival this June!

The main events will take place in the Suburb's Central Square on Saturday, 21st June, starting at 11am and continuing all day.

### Song and dance

Events include a string orchestra, excerpts from "Pygmalion" and dancing groups. In the evening there will be three hours of food, drink and dancing in the marquees, starting at 7.00pm.

At the same time the previous evening there will be an Edwardian evening, created by local actors, at the Free Church.

## Desert rap

As part of the Barnet Arts Festival Alan F Smith, a local poet, will be launching his second booklet, "Desert Rides". He will be doing readings from this and his "London Rides" at East Finchley library from 11am to noon on Friday 27th June. Booklets on sale will be signed by the author. Entry free.

## Brown Moth Tale

By Daphne Chamberlain

Talking about the brown moth tail caterpillars in Tarling Road - Does anyone remember the rogue brown moth tail caterpillars in the 1980s?

Swarms of these little brown monsters appeared in a courtyard garden next to my place of work. Drunk with the power of numbers, they soon occupied the building itself.

Most of them met their end at the hands of Pest Control, but for some of them Nemesis came in another form.

In the corner of the garden grew a honeysuckle, which provided annual nest-room for a pair of blackbirds. Year after year, we would watch the devoted parents rear yet another family. Completely safe from any predator, the fluffy fledglings would eat their meals and eventually bounce around among the bushes, while we "ooh"-ed and "ah"-ed.

### Grubstake

Then came the year of the caterpillars. Determined to en-

ter the building by still another route, the invading army climbed the honeysuckle. And there, halfway up, waiting for them with wide-open beaks, were the baby blackbirds.

The caterpillars went on climbing, like lemmings in reverse, and the babies continued to pick them off.

After a few days of this rich diet, something sinister began to happen.

The little blackbirds grew enormous, dwarfing their parents. Their eyes became hard, and they stalked around the garden, glaring balefully at anything that crossed their path.

Were they possessed by evil spirits - or suffering from indigestion? Whatever the reason for this startling development, for once nobody was sorry to see them go.

## East Finchley Community Festival

### PROGRAMME

Saturday, 21st June in Cherry Tree Woods

### STAGE EVENTS

- 12.00-12.35 MICHAEL CONNOLLY. Local singer/guitarist  
 12.40-1.00 MICKIE DRIVER'S ONE MAN MUSIC HALL. Sing along to favourite songs.  
 1.10-2.00 HOSIER & DICKINSON WATFORD BAND. Prize-winning brass band.  
 2.10-2.30 SANJEEVINI DUTTA. Display of traditional Indian dancing.  
 2.35-2.55 MICKIE DRIVER'S ONE MAN MUSIC HALL. A second chance to sing!  
 3.00-3.30 FINCHLEY CHILDREN'S MUSIC GROUP. A welcome return to this talented group.  
 3.35-4.10 TIGER RAG. Popular jazz duo.  
 4.15-4.45 SLAP. Disco-dance music.  
 4.45-5.00 RAFFLE AND PRIZES.  
 5.05-6.00 DETROIT BLUES. Rock 'n' Roll plus a dash of blues!

### AROUND THE FESTIVAL

- 12.00 Stalls, side-shows, bouncy castle and children's miniature railway open.  
 Arrival of the Grand Festival Parade. Parade starts from Martin's School at 11.30am.  
 12.30 FIVE-A-SIDE. Under-11s football tournament for the Festival Shield.  
 2.00 WORLD TREE CHILDREN'S THEATRE. A merry blend of music, entertainment and puppets.  
 2.45 JAZZ WORKSHOP. Ever played in public before? Now's your chance! Whatever instrument you play bring it along and join in.  
 4.30 STRAWBERRY THE CLOWN presented by Fraser Hooper.  
 4.30 FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL FINAL.

Would you like to help with the next Festival? Call in at the Festival Focus Marquee on the day or phone: Susie Bousfield, Hon. Secretary, 0181 444 6700.

## HISTORY

### The Bishop of London & his hunting park

By Tony Roberts

The Bishops Avenue and The Bishops Wood are the last reminders of the Bishops of London, Finchley's remote landlords for almost one thousand years.

It was King Ethelbert of Kent who, having married a French Christian in around 600, set about converting Britain. After installing Augustine in Canterbury he set up an enormous diocese of St Paul in London, based on his reluctant nephew's Essex kingdom. To fund its activities he endowed it with the estate of Stepney. A hundred years later, after initial setbacks, Fulham was added.

### Brookside

The impenetrable northern heights belonged to these estates, Finchley to Fulham and Hornsey to Stepney. As such they do not get specific mention in the Domesday Book. Their boundaries were determined by the boundaries of more important neighbouring estates - Hendon, Hampstead, Tottenham and so on. They were based on landmarks such

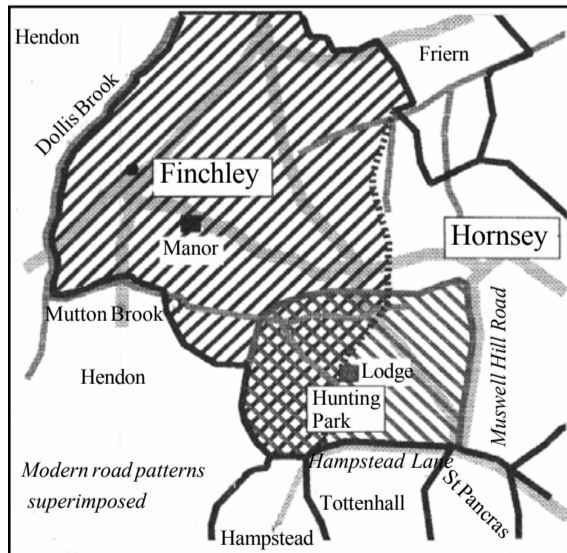
as the Dollis and Mutton Brooks, and the ancient track just south of the present Hampstead Lane. Because the Bishops owned both Finchley and Hornsey, the shared boundary

hedge to keep the deer in (part of this hedge is thought to remain in the corner of Lytton Playing Fields) and there was a hunting lodge, visited by kings, in the centre. The Hunt-

ing Park ceased to be used as such in the 1500s, although the moat remaining from the lodge is marked on the 1895 Ordnance Survey map "Kenwood and Golders Green".

The significance of the park to East Finchley will be explored in the next issue.

For a complete list of publications on which this series is based, write to The Archer, History List, enclosing SAE.



was not formalised until 1738.

### Manor Park

By the 1200s the Bishops had established a hunting park of 1070 acres across the south of this combined property, stretching from the present day Spaniards in the west, to Highgate Gatehouse in the east and East Finchley to the north, with gates at these extremities. Turners Wood, Bishops Wood and Highgate Wood are vestiges of this park, which was bordered by a ditch and

## Festival Archer

If you are interested in finding out more about The Archer, visit us at our stall at the East Finchley Community Festival. Our volunteers will be delighted to tell you more and answer your questions.