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THE ARCHER


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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Institute relocation creates parking dilemma

The relocation of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute to Park House was always anticipated to increase demand for parking in the area. Barnet Council has responded to residents' concerns by imposing new parking restrictions on the surrounding roads that seem likely to create additional problems for local businesses and residents alike.

The new restrictions mean that the controlled parking zone in surrounding roads will operate from 10am to 6.30pm Monday to Saturday and are intended to ensure that local residents will still be able to park near their homes.

Not late enough?

However, with weekday evening classes starting at 7pm, after the new restrictions end, some residents are concerned that the restrictions do not go far enough. One suggestion has been to extend the time to 7.30 or 8pm on weekdays to ensure that residents can park close to their homes on weekday evenings.

Other residents and local businesses are worried that extended times and the conversion of all free parking

bays to general permit bays will adversely affect both local businesses and visitors to Cherry Tree Wood.

Visitor restrictions

Whereas the old restrictions lasted just one hour per weekday, sufficient to deter commuters but still allowing plenty of free access for residents to receive visitors, the extended arrangement will hit these visitors badly. Equally, residents that could gamble on being away for that hour will not escape Saturdays.

Lack of consultation

Despite promises from the council in the past to consult before making changes to the parking restrictions, people are concerned that the changes have been made at very short notice

and without consultation. The council has pointed out that as the changes are being implemented under experimental traffic orders residents can object or propose changes for six months after the changes come into force.

The roads affected are: Summerlee Gardens, Cherry Tree Road, Summerlee Avenue, Park Hall Road, Baronsmere Road, Ingram Road, Diploma Avenue, Edmunds Walk and parts of Fortis Green, The Causeway, The Bishops Avenue, Deansway and Bancroft Avenue.



Hunisha with some of her trophies. Photo by Diana Cormack

King Street's World Class Karate Kid

By Diana Cormack

Hunisha Patel of King Street is one of the best in the world at karate and has the medal to prove it. Last month twelve-year-old Hunisha came second

in her age group, being runner up to a girl from the Czech Republic at the World Cup Open Competition held over three days in Budo Nord, Sweden.

She took up martial arts at the age of nine, when she was a pupil at Martin Junior School, and now trains four times a week for at least two hours per session at the David Lloyd Centre. Guided by two experienced Sensei, Hunisha specialises in Ashin Do Kai and last year, after winning many club tournaments, she was entered into the national championships in Nottingham, where she came second in her category. This was followed by selection for the British Team.

Hunisha's calendar is now dotted with future events all over the country and abroad, with competitions at the end of this year in Holland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic. No doubt more medals and trophies will then be added to her already impressive collection.

A future champion?

Hunisha, whose father Barat runs Bar XL on the High Road, is in need of one thing: sponsorship. It is possible that we have a future World Champion in East Finchley so if you can help by offering or suggesting sponsors for Hunisha, please let *THE ARCHER* know.

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Your contributions

If you have a story for us, please send it in to the above address. Comments to THE ARCHER may be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication' within the text, email or voicemail.

14 August is the copy deadline for the September issue.

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Benefits Agency 020 8258 6500
Employment Service 020 8258 3900
Haringey Council 020 8489 0000

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East Finchley Library 020 8883 2664
Muswell Hill Odeon 0870 505 0007
Phoenix Cinema 020 8444 6789
Tourist Info Service 0870 128 8080
Warner Cinema 020 8446 9933

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City Airport 020 7646 0088
London Transport 020 7222 1234
National Express 08705 808080
Heathrow Airport 0870 000 0123

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NSPCC 0800 800500
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Relate 020 8447 8101
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Alcoholics Anonymous 08457697555
Barnet MENCAP 020 8203 6688
Cancer Support 020 8202 2211
Carers' Line 0808 808 7777
Drinkline 0800 917 8282
Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
Health Info Service 0800 665544
MIND 020 8343 5700
National Blood Ctr. 084577117711

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CrimeStoppers 0800 555111
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❖ Careers advice, Green Man, Community Centre 020 8883 4916
❖ Toy library, Muswell Hill 020 8444 0244/ 8489 8774

Phone snatch

A 26-year-old female had her Sony mobile phone worth £100 stolen. The incident happened on Thursday 1 July 2004 at 10am while the victim was on board a 102 bus travelling along East Finchley High Road.

She was talking on her mobile phone while walking down the stairs on the bus. She suddenly felt a hand lean over her shoulder and saw the suspect snatch the phone from her hand. The suspect then got off the bus and ran off along the High Road. He is described as a male aged about 13. He was wearing a black hooded jacket and black trousers.

Early morning incidents may be related

By John Dearing

In the early morning of 25 June, a burglary in progress in Greenhalgh Walk was disturbed. Two people were arrested in connection with this and are presently helping the police with their enquiries. The operation to apprehend suspects involved the use of a police helicopter, which some residents heard flying low over the area.

In a separate incident at around the same time, residents of Sedgemere Avenue were awoken by a loud crash. It was subsequently discovered that somebody had fallen through the roof of a garage near the corner with Manor Park Road, breaking the windscreen of the car inside. As nothing was stolen, it has been suggested that

a chase was involved. Police Spokeswoman Anne Bellamy said that the Police are presently treating this as a separate case of criminal damage, for which no suspects have yet been identified. They were not aware of any link between the two incidents, but could not rule it out.

Finchley Forum Report

By Daphne Chamberlain

"Let's stop Punch Taverns turning East Finchley 'punch'-drunk!"

That was the rallying cry of a Diploma Court resident protesting against any extension of opening hours at The Bald Faced Stag. He said he appreciated Council measures three years ago to protect neighbours from anti-social behaviour, and hoped that these would continue.

Sue Childerhouse, Environmental Health Area Manager, said that from next year licensing regulations would be changed. This will mean that reviews can be carried out at any time. Ms Childerhouse added that the Council would be working closely with the police to tackle alcohol-related problems.

Street signs outside house

The Forum was asked why obstructive street signs, "more suitable for industrial use", were put outside houses in some areas, while The Bishop's Avenue had low-level ones.

The Environmental Dept replied that signs were high level to deter vandalism. If they are found to be obstructive, "steps will be taken".

Protest over rent rise

A senior citizen protested about the doubling of allotment rents, and asked whether Barnet was working towards a target revenue. Brian Reynolds, Deputy Chief Executive, replied that this was the first increase in years, and that Barnet compared well with other local authorities in this field. Chair, Councillor Leslie Sussman, advised her to use the relevant channels to register her concerns.

Friary House car-park

There was concern over a proposed car park to be built over grass in Friary Park. Councillor Sussman said there was still time to register an official complaint.

The next Forum will be at 6.30pm on Wednesday 20 October at the Green Man Centre, N2

High Road Robberies

On 26 June an incident took place in the K F Electronics shop in the High Road. A man wearing a motor bike helmet dashed into the shop. When asked to remove his helmet he shouted "shut up" to the owner, grabbed a LCD player costing £1,500 and rushed out of the shop.

He jumped onto the motorbike of his accomplice who was waiting outside. They were pursued by a motorist who witnessed the scene but was unable to catch them.

The owner of the shop was badly bruised on his legs and arms as he fell over while trying to apprehend the man. He mentioned that some weeks ago similar incidents had taken place. One was in the Bike Shop when two cycles had been grabbed from the display outside the shop. The other was at Cootes' Pharmacy, when bottles of perfume were snatched from the counter.

Local Planning Applications

174, East End Road, N2
Single storey side and rear extension. Alteration to roof.

472A, Long Lane, N2
Demolition of existing buildings and construction of a three storey building, to provide a total of four self-contained flats.

23, Huntingdon Road, N2
Alteration to roof to facilitate a loft conversion.

202, Creighton Avenue, N2
Conversion of existing dwelling house to three self-contained flats. Two additional parking spaces.

19, Abbots Gardens, N2
Conversion of garage into a habitable room

39, Brim Hill, N2
Bricking up existing side entrance. Loft conversion.

2, Elmhurst Crescent, N2
Single storey rear extension.

59, Leopold Road, N2
Alteration to roof to facilitate a loft conversion.

42, Brendon Grove, N2
Single storey rear conservatory extension.

64, Chandos Road, N2
Erection of single storey rear extension.

76, Brackenbury Road, N2

Single storey rear extension.

46, Church Lane, N2

Single storey rear extension.

202 Hair Salon Ltd, 202, High Road, N2

Installation of air-conditioning/condenser unit on rear elevation.

Planning Appeals

Notice has been received by Barnet Council of appeals to the Government Planning Inspectorate against the Council's refusal to grant planning permission to the following applications:

5 Lincoln Parade N2

to demolish existing wooden shop buildings and build three one bedroom flats and an office.

Leopold Road Service Station 217 High Road

to redevelop including a single storey building for retail sales (Tesco Metro), and 11 parking spaces.

201 High Road (Stag Court) change of use from offices to showroom with ancillary storage and office area.



All change at the Council

By David Hobbs

Barnet Council leader, Victor Lyons, has made sweeping changes to the structure of the council cabinet. A number of posts have been abolished and new posts created, including a dedicated Cabinet Member for Children which incorporates elements of education, welfare and social services.

Cabinet minister for children

Outgoing cabinet members include Brian Coleman, whose environment and transport portfolio is being taken over by Matthew Offord, and Lynne Hillan whose education and children portfolio is being split between John Marshall, who takes on education and lifelong learning, and Chris Harris who takes on the new

post of cabinet member for children.

Cllr Lyon said that he wanted to bring in new people with new ideas who would bring enthusiasm, determination and vision to their new roles. He also expressed his thanks to the outgoing cabinet members for their work over the past two years.

Ann Owens Centre “steams ahead”

By Daphne Chamberlain

A new phase began last month for the Ann Owens Centre. For the next 18 months to two years, the Oak Lane building will be shared by users of the Leaside Centre, while their own building is being renovated.

Age Concern Barnet's director, Mark Robinson, is optimistic about the immediate future. "It's full steam ahead," he told *THE ARCHER*. "Barnet has definitely promised money for this financial year, which is to be supplemented by Age Concern Barnet and Finchley Age Concern, and I am reasonably confident that money will be found for next year."

Mutual help

Barnet is providing transport for users and staff from Leaside, one of the centres

administered by the Freemantle charity. Mr Robinson said that Age Concern and Freemantle are not merging – just helping each other out.

Ann Owens has lost its assistant manager, Linda, but Mr Robinson said she had left voluntarily. Her post has not been replaced, but at present Age Concern's day services manager is based in the building. The centre has also lost its two part-time cooks, as meals are now bought in. Apart from this, there are no changes for the users.

THE ARCHER will visit the Centre in the next few months to see how the new arrangements are progressing.

Making a difference

By Diana Cormack

Over 700 people attended a ceremony at City Hall on Thursday 1 July, which had been declared *London Day 2004*. All the guests had been selected because they were judged to be doing something to make a difference to life in London. Among them was East Finchley's own Sippy Azizollah.

Regular readers will not be surprised to learn that Jan Roberts, chairperson of North London Lupus, had nominated Sippy, who has devoted this year to raising £10,000 for Lupus UK. Though she did not win one of the eight special awards, Sippy told *THE ARCHER* that the event surpassed her expectations. It began with drinks at 7 pm, followed by food in a variety of themed rooms, such as 'Cinema' serving hot dogs and

popcorn and 'Olympics 2012' providing food from many different countries. All this was accompanied by music, with easy listening on one floor, a steel band on another and a free R and B concert outside.

Ken Livingstone addressed the audience, without any notes, for fifteen minutes and later on Sippy managed to meet him. The ceremony ended at 9 pm, with everyone receiving a certificate for London Day thanking them for making an outstanding con-



Sippy with Ken Livingstone and Norman Rose (Barbara Bus Fund driver) at the London Awards.

tribution to life in London.

Sippy has more events planned for the next few months, including a balloon race in October, but she is still waiting for some of the sponsorship money raised by the 100 mile relay race on Sunday 6 July.

If you have not yet handed yours in, you can find Sippy in the Five Bells on East End Road every Monday and Thursday night.

Thanks to your support, *THE ARCHER* stall at the East Finchley Community Festival raised £282 for Sippy's collection.

Play group places

Places are available at the Old Barn pre-school playgroup. Children from two years of age can be accommodated from Monday to Friday during term time.

Based at the Old Barn Community Centre on Tarling Road, it has a large playing area with plenty of activities and equipment both indoors and out.

If you are looking for a place in September, phone 8349 4613 for more details.

Royal visitor

The Duke of Gloucester visited Avenue House on 16 July. He presented the Queen's Jubilee Award for Services to the Voluntary Sector to Henan Abraham of the Somalian Families Support Group.

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Alexandra Palace Farmers' Market

By Nikki Joule

It feels a bit like stepping from North London into the South of France as you walk along the dusty tree-lined avenue towards the thirty or so stalls that make up the new Ally Pally farmers' market. A large part of the charm of this new Sunday morning market is the location; not, like many, in a supermarket or station car park or alongside a busy main road, but tucked away in the trees at the bottom end of the Alexandra Palace grounds (Hornsey entrance, bottom of Muswell Hill).

Make a day of it

Then there's the ambience of families enjoying a relaxed Sunday morning shopping trip. My children even said that they wanted to go back again soon which probably had something to do with the free samples (of home-made crisps, barbecued rare breed sausages, and organic beef burgers); they don't get as excited as I do by carrots with their tops still on. You can buy croissants or organic crepes and then sit at the tea and coffee stall and eat breakfast. Or, if you arrive later, there is the excellent and enticing Moroccan food stall. We saw people filling picnic baskets and wandering off into the park to have lunch. You could certainly make a day of it.

Of course there are organic

vegetables and fruit from farms in Kent, Essex, Sussex and Hertfordshire, home baked breads, goats cheeses, home made beers and wines, pickles and chutneys and a variety of stalls selling herbs and spices for both culinary and remedial purposes. The second time we went, there was someone doing head massages too.

The market is open 10am-3pm, but you need to get there early for some of the vegetables and the eggs, which sell out quickly.

Check first

Telephone 07780 520 610 or email chriselder@cityfarmers.fsnet.co.uk for more details. They hope to be open every Sunday, but check first as the market isn't yet fully established as a regular fixture.



Tea before the off. The riders prepare. Photo by Diana Cormack

Bike Ride

At 8.30 on a Sunday morning, the few souls emerging onto the High Road expect calm and quiet. So the sight of sixty cyclists clad in multi-coloured lycra gathered outside The Big Chef caused a few shocks and stares. Welcome to the inaugural 'Suburban Breakout', a non-competitive 105 km cycle ride into the Hertfordshire countryside – which will now be an annual event for East Finchley.

Apart from one rider from Swansea, it was mainly a North London affair. Ages ranged from 20-somethings to well over 60, bodies from trim to... comfortable, bikes from superlight racers to steady tourers.

After a last-minute rush to sign on, the *peloton* left at 9 o'clock, with the first rider returning just after 12.30. That's an average of almost 20 miles per hour, over a 'rolling' course, negotiating traffic and junctions. By 5pm all were back bar one – who may be still out

there somewhere.

Thanks to Priscilla and Carlos at the start, to Geoff and Lindy at halfway, and to Ali at the Big Chef for a lot of tea!

If you are interested in sport cycling, visit www.saddlesore.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk for more information or drop into Bike and Run on the High Road.

Take a new look at Avenue House

By Diana Cormack

Not a lot of people knew that Henry Charles Stephens, the son of Dr Henry Stephens who invented Stephen's famous blue-black ink (still used today for signing legal documents) used to live at 17 East End Road. "Inky" Stephens bought the building in 1874. Built as a villa fifteen years earlier by the Reverend Edward Philip Cooper, it subsequently became known as Avenue House.

But these interesting pieces of information are becoming better known since The Finchley Society began expanding its educational activities there. They can now offer a talk by the house manager, after which members of the Society escort local school children on guided tours to look at the museum, the archives, the well and the bothy.

Nature, art and ice cream

They can visit the extensive grounds, and perhaps learn about the fish living in the pond. Avenue House gardens are well known for the selection of interesting trees growing there which support plenty of wildlife, so it is a good place for nature study.

It is also an ideal location for an art class, there is plenty of space for games and it is a pleasant setting for a picnic, plus there is a café supplying food, drink and ice creams.

Specific activities led by society members, which can include archaeology and art work, need to be made by prior arrangement and a pre-visit by teachers is also necessary, particularly as work sheets are not provided. These visits are free and are aimed at the primary age group. (It is also a nice place for parents to take children to during the school holidays).

For further details contact the Finchley Society's education secretary on 020 8445 1808.

Opening of playground for disabled children

By Daphne Chamberlain
The first play area in Barnet to include facilities for disabled children will be opened at Avenue House on 6 August, with celebrations led by the Chicken Shed Theatre.

The playground will be the first in Barnet to be entirely covered with a safety surface. The area, which cost just over £89,000, has received funding from outside agencies, including Living Spaces and Hendon and Muswell Hill Rotary Clubs. Over £10,000 has been raised from public subscription, leaving a shortfall of £8,750.

Celebrations from Finchley to Enfield

By Erini Rodis

Watching Greece win the European Championship on 4 July was like witnessing a miracle in action; after weeks of red-and-white flags flowing through the streets came the green light for North London's Greek communities to wave their own and take to the streets in sheer pride and jubilant disbelief.

It all started off as a bit of a laugh really, this team with no real football reputation, putting noses out of joint by beating their hosts in the opening game. Ecstatic even to have made it to the quarterfinal, they played without fear against France and knocked them out too. (Some Greek Arsenal fans were beginning to feel a divided sense of loyalty at this point!) Then they stopped the Czechs in their tracks with an impenetrable defence and a cheeky header in extra time, to win the semi-final. England had already been robbed of a win against Portugal when the Greeks faced an unusual re-match with their hosts in the final. Both sides played at an energetic pace, Angelos Charisteas scoring with a header for Greece in the second half. Portugal had greater possession of the ball however, and though goalie Antonios Nicopolides

stood firm while bombarded with free kicks and corners, the Greeks were beginning to tire. At this point some fully clothed bloke ran onto the pitch and threw himself into the goal. This little stunt probably broke the host team's momentum, and Greece won the tournament with a disciplined defence and a physical stamina that was second to none.

Astounded

Nobody could quite believe it and some sat catatonic, before raising the roofs when the truth sank in. Celebrations beeped loud from Finchley to Haringey and up to Enfield with a sea of cars; blue-and-white flags hanging out of sunroofs along Green Lanes. Police blocked off roads in Southgate and Palmers Green, so that young and old alike could party till dawn.

Since then the Germans have dubbed Greece's coach, Otto Rehhagel, "King Otto" and are trying to lure him back. For England fans, watching Portugal blow their chances against a goalie that looks like George Clooney must surely be sheer poetic justice? And as for those pundits who put their money on Greece for a laugh? Well, they're still laughing.

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Some of the participants in the Arts Festival cemetery walk Photo by John Dearing

I'll meet you at the cemetery gates

By Daphne Chamberlain

The Arts Festival's outdoor event was a voyage of discovery. Follow the Viaduct Road, and you'll reach the enormous Mond mausoleum. The original viaduct – a level path to transport funeral processions through St Pancras Cemetery – is now a grassy mound, buried by a World War II bomb.

Peer into a thicket, and you'll see the long-neglected grave of Victorian artist Ford Madox Brown, its headstone leaning forward at a dangerously acute angle.

Study the inscriptions, and you'll find the grave of half-dozen centenarians, brought here from St Pancras churchyard. On other pathways and overgrown tracks are memorials to the Aged Pilgrims Friends Society, the London City Mission to Cabmen (who have "received their last call"), the Lyceum Clown, and balloonist Percival Spencer (whose stone balloon has been removed).

Change and decay

He is not the only victim of vandalism. A handsome statue of the original Pearly King has

been desecrated so often that the latest model has not yet been restored to the grave.

Some destruction of the graves is natural. In our climate, marble doesn't weather well. Ann Bronkhorst, who led the walk and provided informative handouts, referred to the different materials used, as well as to changing fashions in decoration and the meaning of many decorative symbols.

... and a new life

She also pointed out the flourishing wildlife – nesting-boxes, ecological areas, and evidence of groups of foxes.

St Pancras Cemetery is 150 years old this summer. Shortly after acquiring this vast tract of land, bounded by Coldfall Wood, the Allotments, Strawberry Vale and Coppetts Road, St Pancras sold most of the southern area to Islington. The combined cemeteries will be run by Islington from this year.

Between 40 and 50 people, including children, joined Ann on the walk, with donations going to the Royal National Institute for the Deaf.

Success for East Finchley artists

On the weekend of 25 June East Finchley witnessed its first ever East Finchley Open in a bid to raise the community's awareness of local art. The idea, headed primarily by artists Adam Justice-Mills and David Aronsohn, was inspired by the Oxford and Cambridge Open art weeks.

The weekend began with a party held at the Finchley Youth Centre and hosted by EFO artists and crafts people with local music band *Orange Crush*, and other famed locals including Labour MPs Alison Moore and Rudy Vis. It was a hugely successful evening, attracting over 150 people; as Eti Wade commented, "... an excellent starting point for EFO and a wholly positive move for East Finchley."

Local talent

In fact, according to Carolyn Butler, "many people including both artists and locals praised the event for giving people the rare opportunity to experience a very high standard of work within our own community."

The group now consists of 35 people from different artistic backgrounds. As one organiser said "... some people trekked around all the houses, and even went back to view the art in them for a second time... you could even say it was like a medieval pilgrimage!"

See you next year

There is a multitude of talent within East Finchley that really cannot be missed. So keep a look out for information on next year's event - we are all looking forward to it!

For more information call Adam Justice-Mills on 07970 838 188 or visit www.eastfincleyopen.org.uk



Arts Festival review

An unplanned drama – a power failure – brought Jennifer Bate's opening Arts Festival Organ Concerto to a temporary halt. 'None the less,' (writes Maureen Keetch) 'the event was highly enjoyable. The highlight of the programme came with the Liszt Fantasia and Fugue on Bach. Here Jennifer Bate was more able to demonstrate her total command of the organ.'

Christopher Hardy writes of the other two dramas, "The marriage of the clergy seemed to be a theme of this year's Festival. *Canterbury's Burning* explored the life of Thomas Cranmer through the eyes of his secret wife. *Theatre Roundabout's* presentation was impeccable. Sylvia Read and William Fry turned the chancel of All Saint's Church into Reformation Nuremberg, Lambeth Palace, Canterbury and Oxford by turns while chiselling out the profile of all the major actors involved in the historical drama. In Geoffrey Hanson's opera *The Virgin Crown*, produced by Maureen Keetch, a very able cast brought to life the extraordinary story of the haunted Abbey of St Elwin.

Young talent in fine form

The Youth Music Centre choir & Orchestra were in fine form and gave a heart-warming display of young talent.

"On the second evening", writes Sara Medina, "David Juritz led the excellent London Mozart Players and spoke knowledgeably about the programme."

"The Baroque Group, *Far-onell*, transported us through

Europe to Italy;" (writes Jennifer Bate.) "Each member shone as a soloist and different instrumental combinations revealed a rich diversity of unfamiliar Baroque repertoire."

Fresh Approach

The highly talented young *Fidelio Piano Quartet* delighted the audience with their fresh approach and virtuosity, giving performances both exhilarating and memorable.

Finally, the Finchley Children's Music Group sang a splendidly varied selection of songs with great enthusiasm and skill to a capacity and appreciative audience.

Festival raffle

There are still two unclaimed raffle prizes from the East Finchley Community Festival:

Ticket No. 02422 in the name of Brook and ticket No 02257 in the name of Emer.

Contact Kim George on 020 8444 8673 to claim your prize.

Tu Destino

Tu Destino, which means 'Your Destiny' in Spanish or Italian, may have found its destiny at 128 High Road, East Finchley. Saturday, 26 June 2004, was the official opening of the High Street's newest arrival, Specialists in Floristry and Balloon Art combined with a café, which is the unique concept of three partners, Josephine Berardo, Androulla Costi and Rosario Soteriades.

In addition to a wide selection of flowers, plants and balloons, there is an unusual selection of stationery with meaningful messages (which match the table mats in the café), a range of photo frames and various gift items.

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The war to end war

On 4 August 1914 the German Army crossed into Belgium and Europe was at war. By the time of the Armistice at 11am on 11 November 1918 it had cost over 12 million lives, approximately 950,000 from the British Empire, 750,000 of those from Britain itself. The war changed the map of Europe and the world and saw the end of Imperial Germany, the collapse of both the Hapsburg and Ottoman empires and revolution in Russia. Although most people in Britain think of the war in terms of the trench warfare of the Western Front, it was truly a world war. Sea battles were fought off the Falkland Islands and in the Indian Ocean and land campaigns were waged in Palestine, Gallipoli and Africa as well as on the Eastern and Western Fronts, and of course, as recorded here, the effects were also felt at home.

Riot in North Finchley when WWI broke out

By John Dearing

On Friday 7 August 1914, three days after WWI was declared, North Finchley was the scene of "wild scenes", as the Barnet Press of 15 August put it. It started about 8:30 pm when Harry Flach, a Russian Jew, newsagent, tobacconist and confectioner of 12 Park Parade was said to have "taken the anti-British side of the question" whilst arguing "with all comers". In all probability, the "all comers" were accusing him of being German, but this was not how it was reported in those times.

Jingoistic

Over the next two hours a large crowd, estimated at 800, gathered around his shop. They worked themselves up into a frenzy and proceeded to bombard the shop with bricks from a building site opposite, breaking the window and smashing most of the contents, as well as breaking the windows of the adjacent shops.

The police who eventually arrived on a tram from Barnet at around 11.45pm were able to contain the crowd, but unable to identify the ringleaders. A couple of men were arrested

for continuing to pitch bricks into the remains of the shop. The shop was boarded up and a police guard posted. The next day, one of the arrested men, a soldier, was discharged and the other remanded.

The following evening, another large crowd gathered in North Finchley High Road. Some of the larger shops had closed temporarily during that week in order to cope with large panic orders placed by wealthy residents, a fact which many ordinary people understandably resented. A few bricks were thrown and a few arrests

made for "refusing to move on", but overall it did not come to much.

Attacks condemned

The following Wednesday at Highgate Petty Sessions, James William Butcher, a milk carrier, was charged with "unlawfully and maliciously committing damage" to the shop window, to the tune of £7. But his 'Not Guilty' plea, on the grounds that the window was already broken, was accepted by the Bench. They did, however, condemn attacks on the businesses of foreign nationals, not that that made such folk in the district feel any more secure.

In East Finchley at the outbreak of WWI

By John Dearing

Residents of East Finchley first knew that war was declared on the afternoon of Tuesday 4 August 1914 from the display board outside Bryson's newsagents, near Chapel Street on the High Road. Of course reports of the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand and the escalating tensions in continental Europe had occupied the newspapers for several weeks, but news of the British Government's ultimatum to Germany to withdraw from Belgium by midnight still came as a shock.

Army on the move

Throughout that night the sounds of horse-drawn artillery rumbling and rattling down the High Road disturbed the sleeping populace. At dawn this was joined by the tramp of marching feet as regiments newly mobilised made their way to the railway station. British army agents visited all the stables in the district and commandeered all the horses fit for army use.

High Road wreckers

Quickly, all German nationals were interned "for the duration", including East Finchley residents Herr and Frau von

Meinas. Over the next few evenings a mob would assemble in the High Road around certain businesses with foreign-sounding names on their fascia boards. Despite the efforts of the police, bricks were thrown through plate-glass windows, followed by a lighted newspaper for good measure. Near Beresford Road was a gentlemen's hairdresser by the name of Scrautzma ("Scratchme's" to the local lads). Despite a poster in the window declaring himself to be a Polish Jew, his shop was wrecked and boarded up by the following day.

No more treats

Within a few weeks, gold sovereigns (and their smaller brothers, the half sovereigns) were replaced by paper promissory notes, familiarly known by the name of the signatory as "Bradburys" (and "half Bradburys").

Perhaps the event most pernicious to the ordinary citizen was the *Defence Of The Realm* act (DORA). Off-sales of spirits were prohibited, and this included the passing of the so-called 'No Treating Rule', which made it illegal to buy another person a drink!

Wartime in the West End

By Florence Chamberlain

I could never forget the day the war ended. It was my birthday – 11 November – and we were sent home early from school. People were cheering and waving flags, but when I turned into my street my mother was in tears. My father had been killed at Passchendaele the year before.

It was over two months before she got the news in a telegram, and one day she went up to the War Office, to see if his name was listed among the casualties there. On the way she was stopped by a soldier on leave. He had no money for his fare back to Scotland, and he was so filthy from the trenches she could see lice moving over him. She never forgot him.

Living in the West End – just off Tottenham Court Road – we had many German friends, and we were upset when Mr Graf, our local baker who made us delicious white bread, was interned in Alexandra Palace.

Waltz time

What upset my baby sister was the sound of the air-raids (though they were nothing

like the Second World War). She cried so loudly that we were asked to leave the shelter, but my mother didn't worry. She bought a gramophone, and played the Gold and Silver Waltz next time the bombers came over.

Almost everybody had lost someone

The other thing I remember was being taken to a patriotic variety show, where a lovely brown horse was brought on stage to kneel to the flag.

Life wasn't too bad for civilians in the First World War, but it was terrible for the men at the Front. As I grew up, I met many girls – and boys – like me, who had lost their fathers or other relatives. Almost everybody had lost someone.

Memories live on

By Daphne Chamberlain

"Think how fascinating it would be to listen to 20 people who served alongside Nelson at Trafalgar!" Peter Hart's digital recorder couldn't preserve those memories, but when it comes to 20th and 21st century conflicts, he says, "We are laying down an archive of what life was like, how people reacted to their wartime experiences, and the real nature of those experiences"

Twenty-three years ago, when Peter moved to East Finchley, he started working for the Sound Archive at the Imperial War Museum. He is the oral historian, with a brief to cover the country as required. Travelling expenses not being bottomless, he himself works a lot in London and the Home Counties, though the Department does get sponsorship for projects further afield. Peter is the only staff interviewer, with six freelancers paid on a piecework basis for each interview they record.

Interviews last a couple of hours or have even stretched to 30 hours (in two-hour sessions!). People's memories vary, with some who think they remember little, proving "pretty fantastic".

All conflicts covered

Peter started off interviewing World War I veterans, and World War II is still top of the priority list, because that too has become a race against time. But all the more recent conflicts, right up to the recent Iraq war, are also being covered.

"We do anything that

catches our eye or fills a gap", he says. A notable gap is the role played by men in heavy industry like shipbuilding, coalmining or heavy engineering, in the two World Wars. He tries to play an even hand in recording military and civilians, male and female, as they were all affected by conflict.

27,000 recorded memories

There are over 27,000 recorded memories in the Archive, plus media and authors' recordings. The collection includes photos, while diaries, letters and written accounts are kept in the Department of Documents.

The Archive is mainly used by historians and the media, and, through the Education Department, by schools. However, anyone can access the IWM websites on the Internet – "lots of interesting and good stuff for free".

If you would like to swell the ranks of East Finchley interviewees, please contact Peter Hart, Sound Archive, Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, SE1 6HZ.



The original congestion charge?

By Diana Cormack

Traffic problems in London are not the making of modern times. As long ago as 1681 the Corporation was attempting to control the number of carts and carriers on its streets, and eventually a method was devised for identifying all licensed carts within the City of London. It was decided to mark and number all licensed carts – with the City arms on the shafts, and a brass plate. Presumably non-licensed carts were impounded and returned for a fee?

No doubt a member of the Worshipful Company of Carmen could answer that question, for they still hold a Cart Marking ceremony every year at the Guildhall. Competition is strong and this year Greater London Hire, which is based on the High Road opposite East Finchley tube station, was invited to take part in the prestigious event on 14 July. The Lord Mayor, wearing protective gloves presented by the Master Glover, does the symbolic branding on a wooden plaque that bears the City and

Corporation badges.

GLH managing director John Scott, who is a Full Liveryman of the City of London, chose to send the newest addition to his fleet of courier bikes. Facilities Manager Bernard Case, who has been with the company for over 20 years, rode a Honda CB 500. Ten of these will be added to the 40 motorbikes already in use. They will be needed, for GLH has secured the contract for the 2012 Olympics bid and will be carrying organisers and visiting officials to the various proposed sites in and around London.



Miss Newberry with Katie Reid and the nursery children.
Photo by Helen Drake

Thirty-Eight Years at Martin School

By Helen Drake

It was September 1966. Carnaby Street was swinging, England had just won the World Cup and Sue Newberry stepped over the threshold of Martin Infant School for the first time, to start her long teaching career. And after thirty-eight happy years teaching reception and year 1 classes, as well as in the nursery, and serving under four different head teachers, Sue Newberry is retiring.

A farewell coffee morning was the first of several events held on 5 July to give staff, children and parents the opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to her. It was a day filled with cards, presents and flowers, as well as a few tears. The morning nursery children honoured their teacher by singing some of her favourite action songs. In the afternoon it was the turn of the rest of the Infant School, who held an assembly at which they gave a performance of a song, specially written for Miss Newberry by Alan Gruner, the music teacher.

A special teacher

Why is Miss Newberry so special? Lesley Smith, one of the nursery teachers explained, "There are many parents who went to Martin School them-

selves, and who are now bringing their own children. She has brought a sense of continuity." Debby Hogan, a parent who had come to say her goodbyes, expressed her feelings this way: "She is a unique character with so much experience as a teacher. She is unflappable and doesn't patronise children."

A view to kill

Three two-hour films under the title *Murder Prevention*, written by the *This Life* creator Tony Garnett, are to be shown on Channel 5 in the autumn.

Featuring a relatively unknown cast, they are about a police force's murder suppression unit that aims to identify potential killers before they strike.

Viewers in East Finchley can play detective and see

Roger of Finchley retires

By Daphne Chamberlain

Alexis used to have very long hair. "It was just above my knees, and Roger is the only one who has ever cut it (except for somebody in Knightsbridge). I've been coming here for 26 years. People are really going to miss him."

Amelia Mendel, a customer for well over 20 years, and Jill Shepherd agreed. 15 years ago, Jill had a very important appointment, and Roger had done her hair so nicely she had been a client ever since.

Lilian Bernstein said, "It's always been like a happy family here. I've come here for nearly 25 years, and everyone is always friendly and joking. I hope Roger's staff stay on."

It was Roger Brown's last day in the Fortis Green salon, Roger's of Finchley, that he had run for 28 years, following

five and a half years in a shop around the corner, and his clients were obviously sad to see him go. Roger will miss them too. He told *THE ARCHER*, "I want to thank all my old clients for their support over the years. I'm planning to do nothing – just seeing how things go. I'll relax and have some holidays, but I'll still be flitting around East Finchley from time to time. I'm like a fixture, but they'll probably be glad to have a youngster in!"

Zainab, the new owner, is re-opening the shop at the end of July, when it will incorporate a beauty salon.



Roger in his salon on his last day Photo- Daphne Chamberlain

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Litter Pick

Each year the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood hold a litter pick. Last year's event was the best attended yet (around 40 people) and we were particularly pleased by the number of young participants and huge amount of rubbish collected.

The litter pick really is important for the Wood as it ensures that neglected litter in all areas of the Wood is collected at least once a year.

This year's event falls in the school holidays, the busiest time of year for the park, so there's bound to be lots for the participants to do.

The Summer Litter Pick will take place from 11am to 1.00pm on Sunday 15 August and everyone is welcome. We're also hoping to have one or two little surprises for the children on the day.



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Martin Schools and Becks: What a team!

By Helen Drake



Good food, a great atmosphere and David Beckham just about sum up the Martin Schools' Summer Fun Day held on Saturday 19 June, raising a record £5,500.

Local businesses

Catrin Dillon, Chair of the PTA commented, "We are overwhelmed by the generosity of the local businesses who, through their sponsorship and donations, significantly boosted the amount we raised."

Food for all

Sharon O'Driscoll and her team of volunteer caterers running the Blue Bird Café and the other refreshment stalls kept everyone well supplied with food all afternoon. "Hell's Kitchen" it was not! But forget Gordon Ramsay, the name on everyone's lips was David Beckham.

Auction

As the much-anticipated auction began, Matthew Girling, professional auctioneer and MC for this part of the day, whipped the crowd into a bidding frenzy. With the two tickets for a Champions League game at Highbury (donated by Arsenal Football club) already bought by one successful bidder, the auction continued apace towards its finale: a Manchester United shirt signed by the man himself, David Beckham. The shirt was kindly donated to the school by a parent. It was one of the last two signed by David Beckham

YOUNG ARCHER

The Olympic Games

By Diana Cormack

When the Olympic Games begin in Athens this month, they will have returned to the country where they first started. That was way back in 776 BC when a cook called Coroebus, who sprinted the length of the stadium, was the first recorded winner.

The Ancient Greeks thought the games were so important that they measured time by an Olympiad, which is the four years between them.

If there was any fighting going on a truce was declared for three months so that competitors and spectators could travel to and from the games in safety. But none of these would have been women – this was strictly for men only. Anyone discovered there without permission was punished by being thrown to their death off a cliff.

The games were held at Olympia and were part of a religious festival in honour of the chief god Zeus. Poets and artists were involved too, but the main honours went to the athletes. The winners became heroes and were presented with olive garlands on the fifth and

last day, which was marked with banquets, processions and sacrifices.

Banned and revived

The games consisted of running, jumping, discus, javelin, boxing and wrestling and they were held for nearly 1200 years until AD 393, when they were banned as being pagan. They were revived one and a half thousand years later by a Frenchman called Pierre de Coubertin. He believed that holding the Olympic Games would help to bring peace to the world and he worked really hard to revive them. In 1896 they started again in Athens.

What do you think?

If the Ancient Greeks could go to Athens this month, which events would they recognise and do you think they would like these Olympic Games better than the original ones?

at Manchester United before leaving for Madrid.

Sold!

Four main bidders battled it out until the hammer went down at £610 amid great excitement from the crowd and to the relief of Mark Sarjant, a gov-

ernor of Martin Junior School and the successful bidder. He had bought the shirt on behalf of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) who will now re-auction it at one of their fundraising events.

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

Holy Trinity School

Royal Request

Headteacher Duncan Mills attended a gathering of primary headteachers at Highgrove. The Prince of Wales invited the heads of those schools to which David Bell, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools, has given the highest praise over the past 18 months.

Teaching Award

Year 6 teacher Catherine Corr, recently made deputy head, received special recognition at the London Regional Teaching Awards. In the Primary Teacher of the Year category (runners-up award) she received a special commendation and £250 for the school.

School Journey

Despite some inclement weather, Year 6 had a fantastic time and learned a lot during their week on the Isle of Wight.

Athletics Champions

The athletics team are champions again, having been victorious in both track and field events in the North Barnet Athletics Competition held at Cophthall stadium.

Charity Cycling

School governor Chris Hampson raised £165 for the school and £80 for the British Heart Foundation in the London to Brighton bike ride.

Martin Schools

Gymnastic awards

Well done to the junior school children who took part in the Barnet Gymnastics Festival. A special mention goes to Joshua Askew, who won a silver medal.

Greek Dancing

Year 3 children performed wonderfully when they danced at the East Finchley Festival.

Educational visits

In relation to the summer term's science topic, Year 4 went to Whipsnade Wild Animal Park for a hands-on session on the theme of *Habitats and Adaptations*.

Year 3 visited Holy Trinity Church for studies on various aspects of Christianity.

The nursery visited the National Gallery; reception children Paradise Wildlife Park; Year 1 the Science Museum and Year 2 Knebworth House

Paradise Park

The PTA arranged and paid for Paradise Wildlife Park to bring along some animals to be shown to pupils.

Sports News

Junior Sports Day was a brilliant success.

At the Infant Sports Day all the children took part in raising money for Sport Relief by running, hopping, skipping or jumping a mile round the school field.

BBC Production

The juniors were filmed for a documentary about storytelling, which forms part of a series on the origins of art, due for transmission in Spring 2005.

Environmental Week

The Quantum Theatre Group's performance of *Destination Earth – The Next Generation* was a huge success with both schools. Recycling and things that affect the environment were among the issues involved. This included walking to school, which many people managed to do, despite terrible weather.

International lunch

The nursery hosted this popular annual event organised by the PTA.

New headteacher

Kevin Anscomb, at present working in Wandsworth, will take up the post of headteacher at Martin Infant School in September.

MH Festival in Cherry Tree Wood

The Muswell Hill Festival and Donkey Derby takes place on 12 September this year in Cherry Tree Wood, mid-day to 6 pm. Many have already booked their stalls and entertainment will be provided by local music and dance groups.

Among the bands performing will be *Something Simple*, a five-piece band, all aged 15, playing 70s-style jazz funk. Others include Rod Stewart tribute act Fuddy Heffernan and 70s glam rock tribute band Glamtastic.

North London Performing Arts will be presenting 30 minutes of dance to different music themes performed by between 25 and 60 children, aged from eight to 18.

Local talent

It will be the first time at the festival for stall-holder Mary Poulter, a basket maker who grows her own willow on her allotment in East Finchley.

Margaret Donnachie of Hertford Road will be selling her handmade jewellery called Fling and Merryl Epstein of Durham Road will feature her speciality handmade feather head-pieces on her stall.

Children's carousels and games, confectionery stalls and bouncy castles will add to the fairground atmosphere.

The event is in aid of the Hornsey Trust for children with cerebral palsy, which runs a conductive education centre on Muswell Hill.

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All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir of both adults and children.

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Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>



East Finchley's Chevalier

By Ann Bronkhorst

On 18 June 1940 General de Gaulle broadcast from London a rallying call: the French should fight on, despite the German occupation of France. Every year that speech is commemorated at de Gaulle's wartime HQ. This year John Hatfield, of East Finchley, attended the ceremony and was awarded the Legion of Honour (Chevalier).



John Hatfield Photo by Isobel Hatfield

In war and peace

The House of Commons, through local MP Rudi Vis, has congratulated John Hatfield for "outstanding war service with the French as a British liaison officer and continuing and close association with the Free French Association." The Imperial War Museum, too, has recognised the value of his experiences and memories. Their compilations of oral history include taped interviews with John.

Spanish connection

Born in Spain to a British Father and Spanish mother, and educated at the French lycee in Madrid, John grew up tri-lingual. In 1936, just before the Spanish civil war, the family left for England; John's father returned to Madrid to work, surviving the siege. The Spanish connection has been important throughout John's life. He visits Spain regularly and one of his sons now lives there.

Naval experience

In 1941, aged 19, John joined the Royal Navy, serving firstly in a corvette escorting convoys and later in a motor torpedo boat; an appointment to the Admiral's staff on Gibraltar followed. The crucial posting came in 1944 when John became British Liaison Officer to the Free French motor torpedo boats. Now his fluent French was vital.

With the flotilla

His duties involved ensuring the unit got what it needed for operational efficiency in co-ordination with British naval operations. "I decided that I wouldn't be an external person, foreign to them, I would be part of them if I could, while remaining chiefly loyal to the Royal Navy." He went on patrol with the flotilla witnessing, among many events, the devastation of Brest after German occupation and American bombing. He recalls the shattering effect on Free French seamen of the contrast between occupied France - "nothing to eat, everything shabby and dirty, and a kind of giving up" - and their own good morale and conditions.

Le Liaison

John enjoyed the combination of 'elan' and informality in the flotilla and felt integrated and at ease. He was known (and still is) as Le Liaison. Through regular reunions he has kept in touch with his Free French comrades; now France has honoured that long relationship.

East Finchley's religious heritage

Part 5 - A vanished church

By Ann Bronkhorst
Last month's East Finchley Festival would have delighted the 19th. century travelling preachers from Hoxton who regularly held open-air meetings here. What an opportunity to reach a new congregation!

The first chapel

In 1815, when the preachers established a congregation in East End village, nobody dreamed of building a fine church like the one illustrated. At first an old barn was rented in the Hogmarket. By 1830 the Congregationalists (a significant national movement by then) had built a chapel 'in an eligible part of the Common fronting the Great North Road' where Chapel Court now stands. Readers of July's ARCHER may guess the next development.

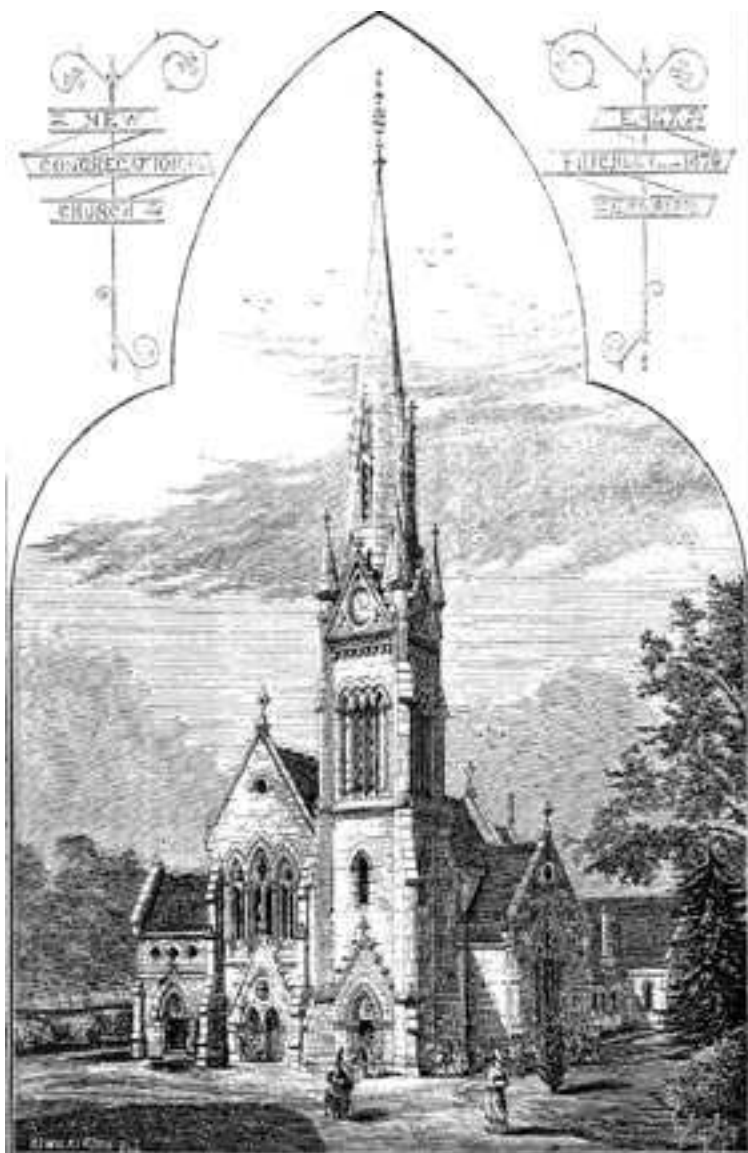
Out of the ashes

Just as the chapel - with an infant school - was becoming too cramped for its rapidly growing congregation, a disastrous fire in 1875 forced radical decisions. A superb site was found for a new, large church at the junction of East End Road and the Great North Road, roughly behind Iceland and Budgen's. And the fire-damaged chapel and school would be restored and converted into a Lecture Hall.

The Gothic church

This bold double plan shows the Congregationalists' faith and confidence. They felt it was their duty because East Finchley was 'destined soon to become a very important suburb of London.' Vigorous fundraising brought donations ranging from three hundred pounds to two shillings and sixpence (from A Friend). The architecture was ambitious: a Gothic-style church, seating 610 with nave, aisles, transepts, a tower and a spire rising to 130 feet.

The tower clock struck the hours - perhaps some older



Reproduced by permission of Barnet Archives

readers can recall its sound? In 1878 when the new church opened, a special train was laid on from Broad Street to East Finchley, timed to arrive for the dedicatory service.

Demolition

And the fire-damaged chapel? It was indeed restored, becoming firstly a Lecture Hall and, in 1898, the first Roman Catholic church in the area. In 1940 a bomb finally destroyed the building. The tall Gothic church funded by so many

donations and described in 1903 as 'one of the most prominent features in East Finchley' was demolished in 1965.

The dwindling Congregationalists became part of the United Reform Church and in the 1970s erected a simple building close to the site of the 1870s church. Some of that building remains, although considerably altered to become the North London Jamatkhana, of which more next month.

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❖ **Keep fit for the Retired** Wednesdays Christ Church N12. Ring Bridie. 020 8883 5269

❖ **Muswell Hill Bowling Club** open daily from 2pm. The Green, Kings Avenue N10 Tel: 8883 1178

❖ **Step/Aerobics classes**, Sundays at Bar XL. Phone 0789 0033 968.

❖ **Tae Kwon Do** at The Green Man Thursdays 7-9pm 07949 612 706

❖ **Tai Chi** at the Green Man on Mondays 1.30-3pm

❖ **Tennis Club** off Southern Road. Call 020 8440 6953

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❖ **Over 60s come dancing** at Ann Owens Centre 020 8346 8736

❖ **Pottery Class** at The Green Man, Call Celia Holmes 020 8349 9315

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❖ **East Finchley National Childbirth Trust**, Contact Sophie Spence 020 8444 1890

❖ **East Finchley Writers** meet weekly at the Old White Lion. Contact Lillian on 020 8444 1793.

❖ **Fairacres Monday Club** for Jewish people, Rene & Reuby Hyams, 020 8883 0448 or Sylvia Lee 8958 7878

❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian 8444 3251

❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn, 020 8349 4613

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❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill, 020 8348 3495

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❖ **Muswell Hill and Highgate Pensioners' Action Group** Call Bob Cottingham on 8444 7635.

❖ **Muswell Hill Synagogue**, Tetherdown, 020 8883 5925

❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, 020 8883 4390

❖ **Old Barn pre-school club**, 020 8349 4613/1961

❖ **Parent & Toddler Group**, Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276

❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professionals. Call Eric 8340 0822.

KALASHNIKOV KULTUR

By Ricky Savage, the voice of social irresponsibility

Rolling over Beethoven

There's something seriously weird about the English attitude to music. I don't mean rock'n'roll or jazz, I mean what my dad used to call 'proper music'. You know, that stuff played by orchestras and 'serious', trained musicians, not by some blokes who spent too long in their bedrooms miming to Charlie Parker or The Beatles or the Stone Roses. Tommy Beecham, knight of the realm, heir to the Beecham's Powders fortune and ace conductor, joked that the English don't really like music, but they just adore the noise it makes. And the fact that Classic FM exists proves that Tommy was right.

Classic FM gives you chunks of tunes hacked off something larger. Want to hear an entire symphony? Fat chance, all you get is the catchy bit from that cat food advert. Films have plenty of tunes so every Saturday evening they play the catchy bits from Lord of the Rings and Star Wars. It's like saying Mozart would have done the music for Rocky if he'd had the chance. But it's all done in the best possible taste for people who never listen to Dvorak's New World Symphony, but love the tune that's in the bread advert.

OK, so why am I being mean and nasty to a radio station that 9 million people listen to every week? Well, it's a dirty job and I'm just the man to do it, especially after the latest bright idea they've come up with.

On Radio 3 music exists for its own sake, but not at Classic FM, for them music has to be 'for' something, so they've come up with a whole new range of boxed sets of bits of Brahms, Mozart and the rest just 'for you'. Well not for you, but for dinner parties, studying, driving, babies and children. What next? 'Music for Mowing the Lawn', or 'Music for Decorating' or 'Music for Bodging Together your Ikea Kitchen Units'? How about 'Music for School Runs', 'for Cooking', 'for DiY', anything but 'Music for Listening', because Classic FM 'listeners' don't listen to music. But as Tommy said, they just love a good tune and so does Classic FM.

The night Louisiana came to Finchley

By Betti Blatman

On a hot, sultry night on 16 June, ninety people crammed into The Torrington's Back Door Club for Swamp Rock's opening night featuring a great band, Z-Funk and starring Harold Guillory from Lake Charles, Louisiana, the Crown Prince of the Royal Family of Zydeco, the Ardoin dynasty.

Harold, an incredibly talented percussionist and vocalist, was the star of Chris Ardoin's Double Clutchin', and recently played two storming sets with Curley Taylor & Zydeco Trouble at the Raamsdonksveer festival in Holland. On accordion was the genius maestro Gavin Lewery, described by Steve Riley, Louisiana's top Cajun musician, as the best Zydeco and Cajun accordionist in the UK. On bass and vocals was the brilliant Tommy Mills, on drums and vocals Mickey Jones, ex Groundhogs, pounding out a merciless back beat, and on lead guitar, some blistering solos from the amazing Dave Luke.

Z-Funk set the dance floor on fire all night, blending high-energy Afro-Caribbean rhythms from Zydeco's traditional origins with contemporary sounds. We were also treated to a near perfect rendition of Clifton Chenier's sublime waltz, You Used to Call Me in the Morning.

Harold was a human dynamo on rub board and vocals, a ball of energy and fun. His superb voice, at times soulful, at times raunchy and wild, had the crowd screaming for more and thrilling to his fantastic dance performance.

In the audience were Phil Underwood of Zyde rhythms, and two members of the Bon Temps Playboys, who will be playing on Saturday 14 August. Swamp Rock's resident DJ, David Eyles, played an excellent selection of Zydeco, Blues and Rock'n'Roll to keep the dance floor buzzing all night.

Zydeco enthusiasts had arrived from the USA and Holland and two had driven from North Yorkshire just for this gig! Many of the audience had never experienced a Zydeco gig before. They were totally knocked out and hopefully converted to return next month for another red-hot Louisiana night. Further details at www.swamprock.org.uk.



The Phoenix Today. Photo by Tony Roberts

Projecting the independent spirit

By David Howes

This month, The Phoenix – 96 years old and still going strong – highlights through its selection of films, new paths and the independent spirit.

Anything Else is the aptly titled new film from Woody Allen as in the latter stages of his career Allen has been haunted by successes of earlier work such as Annie Hall, leading us to wonder if he can produce another classic. Allen's usual leading man stint (to an inexplicably younger leading lady) is assigned to *American Pie*'s Jason Biggs, in this tale of neurotic comedy writer Jerry Falk's struggle to break away from his agent (Danny De Vito) and make sense of a woman he loves, but who won't deign to sleep with him (Christina Ricci).

Can this resurrect Allen's flagging reputation? Can Biggs make the transition from puerile to cerebral humour? Given that this film has taken nearly half a year to make the journey across the Atlantic, it doesn't look good. But to give Allen his due, when he hits the right notes, there are few funnier writers.

The Motorcycle Diaries originates from the journals of Alberto Granado and Ernesto Guevaro (who later took on a more famous moniker) as they search for the true Latin America on a motorcycle. Undeterred by the bike's breakdown, the two friends continue, and through their journey find

not only changing landscapes, but ideals too. Self-discovery is a road longed for but not often taken. This insight into a man Jean-Paul Sartre described as "the most complete human being of our age", promises to be a fascinating journey, and with the immensely talented Gael Garcia Bernal handling lead duties (last seen in *Bad Education*) we should be in good hands.

Super Size Me documents a diet that makes Atkins look positively angelic. The rules? Eat only from McDonalds for 30 days; eat everything on the menu once; super size your meal whenever offered. Sounds insane? Morgan Spurlock decided this is exactly what he was going to do to highlight the growing problem of obesity in the USA. We see Spurlock suffering from weight gain, a failing libido, and a liver that resembles pâté. Promising to examine serious health issues as well as providing the inevitable laughs of showing a man suffering from 'meat sweats', this is best considered Diet Michael Moore.

McDonald's offered no comment on the documentary, but have since removed the super size option from their menus.

What's On...

E-mail your listings to the-archer@lineone.net

Music on a summer evening at Kenwood

7 August: The Gypsy Kings, 14 August: Opera Gala, 21 August: Classic FM - live Music from the movies, **28 August: Last Night of the Kenwood Proms** and **29 August: Jamie Cullum**. All concerts start at 7.30pm and have a firework finale. Tickets from ticket master 0870 333 6206. Visit www.picnicconcrts.com for details.

The Muswell Hill Festival and Donkey Derby

12 September mid-day to 6pm in Cherry Tree Wood, see page 8.

Summer art classes

For children aged 5-11 years at Colour Me Mine Every Mon-Fri, 10am-11.55am, **until 27 August**. Different themes every week. Call in-store for details or visit www.muswellhill.colourmemine.com. 212 Fortis Green Rd, Muswell Hill, tel 020 8444 4333.

Finchley & District Philatelic Society

1 September: A display and talk **John Hayward** on The Motorbike. Visitors and prospective new members welcome. At Trinity Church Hall, Nether St, N Finchley at 8 pm. Enquiries to Brian Merryweather 020 8444 3251. or visit www.stampdomain.com/finchley

London Borough of Barnet Special Treatment Licence

NOTICE IS GIVEN

that Zöe Roberts, Mette Knudsen, Katarzyna Zur, and Fiona Hurlock On 1st July 2004 applied to the London Borough of Barnet for a Special Treatment Licence to offer saunas and body massage at: Isabel Douglas Health & Beauty Centre 90-92 High Road, East Finchley, London N2 9EB Anyone wishing to oppose the application must give notice in writing to HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES BUILDING 4, NORTH LONDON BUSINESS PARK OAKLEIGH ROAD SOUTH, LONDON N11 1NP within 28 days of the date of this notice, specifying the ground of opposition, and must be prepared to attend a hearing before the Appeals Panel of the Council.



Treacle's party

By John Dearing

Norma Davis and her guide dog Treacle are familiar figures in East Finchley. They have been a wonderful partnership, but with the passing of time this has had to come to an end.

Norma recently announced that at the grand old age of 9 years, Treacle would be retiring. On 24 June, Fairacres in East End Road was the venue for a gathering of friends to wish her a happy retirement.

Norma said, "My guide-dog Treacle is now officially retired, at the age of 9 years. This lovely dog has given me a most wonderful service over the past 7½ years. Not only has she been a faithful friend, but has given me the most invaluable help with getting around. This is a very



Norma Davis and Treacle. Picture by John Dearing

sad and emotional time for me. I shall miss her dearly, but she will be adopted by

a kind family and hopefully enjoy a well-deserved retirement.

We got lucky!

Letter from Australia Brian Timms

Forgetting the name of a canary might seem insignificant but it was agony for eight pensioner ex-pupils of Martin, Alder and Manorside Schools at a reunion in Australia last October.

The canary chirpily perched in the window of Bert Belcher's shoe repair shop in Manor Park Road in the 1940s. Now, after an appeal in *THE ARCHER*, we can sleep at night, and at our ages, even during the day. All was revealed via Ann and David Shambrook, ex-Huntingdon Road.

Chain of pursuit

Their chain of pursuit bounced from Cheryl Davis (Bedford Road), to Maisie Williams (Manor Park Road), and then to lunch with Kath Cresswell, Bert's 79-year-old sister, now in Dorset.

Then came the big news by phone from Bert's daughter in Lincolnshire. "The name was Lucky," she said.

Major relief for those at the Down Under gathering – Pat Chick, Mary Hall, Joyce Stevens, Donald and Carol Carnie, Shirley Crane, Derek Woolley and Brian Timms.

...Well?

Now, can anyone name the Baronsmere Road shop, opposite Andrew's the Chemist, which sold records, sheet music and fishing tackle, or is that pushing our luck?

RSPCA news

Hoping that summer has arrived at last, the local RSPCA provides these guidelines to follow to give pets and wild animals comfort during a spell of hot weather.

1. Never leave an animal shut in a car, even with ventilation, for any length of time. The temperature quickly rises and there can be fatal results.
2. Exercise your dogs early morning and again in the cool of evening. If they are left outside, make sure shade and water are available.
3. If going away, check sheds, greenhouses, etc. before shutting up to ensure animals have not come in for shelter and would not be able to get out.
4. Provide bowls of water in the garden for birds, hedgehogs, squirrels and even foxes, as usual sources will have dried up.
5. Do not take dogs to open-air events such as fairs or fun days. They don't enjoy them, and neither do non-dog owners.

Vandals

The clinic is being plagued by vandals who climb onto the roof and throw stones up to it. Like other charities the local RSPCA works hard to make ends meet and cannot afford constant repairs. Those who live in nearby Park Road, Prospect Ring, Kitchener Road and Chapel Court are urged to keep an eye open and report any sightings of these hooligans immediately to police or street wardens.

Beatniks by Toby Litt

A book review by Hannah Eiseman-Renyard

In Bedford 1995, a group of three 'Beatniks' have declared that the year is 1966. Anything 'unhip' (post 1966) must be avoided – including Hendrix songs on the radio, modern reprints of their beloved Jack Kerouac books, and – at one point – the M1.

Mary, the narrator, has just finished university and hasn't decided what she wants to do next when she meets the three 'Beatnik' poseurs in a darkened room at a house party. With a huge crush on their insufferable-yet-charismatic leader, Jack, she falls in with the group despite her better judgement. It's because of this better judgement that the book works so well; the audience gets sucked in along with her. While you can laugh at their strict pretensions of what is and is not 'hip,' their attempted literary revolution in their local library, and their mythic pilgrimage to Brighton, the strange allure of this chic clique still draws you in.

Dig this

What follows is a slick, smart, rites of passage novel that examines the exclusive nature

of subcultures with a sensitivity you would not expect. Though the lingering descriptions of the messy love triangle which develops could have been condensed without losing much, the constant power games between the characters are magnificently observed. While the characters are over the top and sometimes very funny, they are written well enough not ever to become mere cartoons; and the plotting is expertly done.

Though technically an adult book, this is late-teens crossover fiction at its best. Toby Litt's writing style is similar to Nick Hornby's in its intelligence and accessibility. I'm willing to put money on people developing a taste for jive, jazz, and wearing black roll necks once they've read it. Dig and enjoy, hip cats.

OBITUARY

John Clement Bolton

14.10.1914 - 08.06.2004

The Archer is sad to record the death of John Bolton, former owner of CW Andrew Pharmacy.

Born on 14 October 1914 at Stump Cross near Halifax, at the age of twelve he moved to Hawick in Scotland with his family. After gaining his Higher Leaving Certificate, John was apprenticed to a local pharmacy. Subsequently he studied as a chemist and druggist at Edinburgh and Glasgow Universities. He qualified in 1935 and then made his way south.

On his 25th birthday he married Frances Hayes, whom he had met while working in Edgware, and they moved in above the shop at 32 High Road. Business hours were 9am–1pm and 2pm–7pm, but that was not the end of the working day for John. After supper he would go down to the dispensary, where he would stay until midnight preparing medicines and making tablets. Throughout World War II he was part of the reserved occupations and at times had to take cover in the air-raid shelter in the garden.

Despite running a successful business, John still found time to

be involved in the Finchley and Barnet Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, holding the post of Secretary for over 20 years and being its chairman in 1975. He retired in 1977.

From 1980–81 he was president of the Rotary Club and, at the same time, his wife was president of the Inner Wheel. He was also an active member of the United Reform Church in Muswell Hill, for which he did the accounts.

John was a great supporter of the Finchley Society and his collection of rare pharmaceutical bottles and containers have gone into their care, hopefully to be exhibited at Avenue House. Latterly his large collection of photos was presented to the Borough Archives. He was predeceased by his wife Frances, their daughter Miriam when she was only in her twenties and an infant son.

John's son Martin was moved by the many warm and affectionate tributes paid to his father. He was a genuinely lovely and very much loved man.

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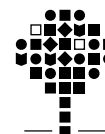
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Sponsored walk raises thousands

One hundred and thirty walkers took part in the annual Oshwal Pharmacists Charity Walk. See June's ARCHER.

Their ages ranged from three to 79 and they were doing it to raise money for three different causes. These were the National Asthma Campaign, McMillan Cancer Relief and NSS Polio Hospital in India. Altogether they col-

lected £17,800.

Paresh Shah, pharmacist at CW Andrew, 32 High Road participated. Sponsored by many of his customers, Paresh raised an amazing £1,315. Well done, Paresh, and thank you to all his sponsors.

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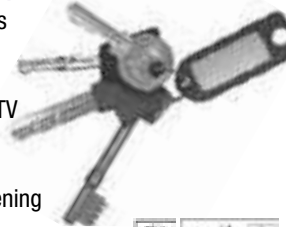
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What a picture!

By Helen Drake

A sense of expectation and huge excitement was palpable amongst the staff, parents and children gathered in the main hall at Martin Junior School on Wednesday 23 June. Head teacher Maggie Driscoll had managed to persuade Arsenal Football Club to lend the school the Premier League Trophy, which the team had won in June, as a way of raising money towards the annual School Journey, to be taken in September 2004 by Year 6 pupils. For a small fee, children and parents had been offered the chance to have their photos taken with the Trophy.

Part of history

As the thrilled children started arriving in the hall it was a sea of colour as many of them had taken the opportunity to wear the shirt of their favourite football team. The main attraction for many appeared to be the pleasure of seeing and touching something that had been in the hands of so many famous football legends in the past, and the fact that it would be in their hands again in the future.

The trophy

And it's enormous! Children crowded around the huge Trophy to examine the inscriptions going back to 1992, Arsenal's name appearing three times. David Burgh, a lifelong Arsenal supporter, who was wearing his replica 1930s Arsenal shirt, enthused, "It's lovely to see the biggest trophy in the English game at my children's school, and it's good to see the Club helping out the community."

Treasure forever

Behind the camera was parent Eti Wade, a photography lecturer and founder member of the East Finchley Open artists group, ably assisted by Lou Hains, another parent at the school, who had devised a special photographic 'studio' in the hall, using the Arsenal colours for the background.



Year 4 children show their enthusiasm for the trophy. Photo by Eti Wade

The children would receive a photo to treasure forever.

Soccer schools

Arsenal Football Club's Community Department has close links with Martin Junior School as it runs soccer schools for the 7-12 age group, girls and

boys, on the field during the holidays and half terms. And if you don't support Arsenal, don't worry. The soccer schools are open to everyone, regardless of allegiance! For more information telephone the Community Department 020 7704 4140.

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