

**JEREMY LEAF & CO.**

Professional Sales & Lettings  
AT COMPETITIVE RATES  
020 8444 5222  
eastfinchley@jeremyleaf.co.uk

Local News Is Our Aim

# THE ARCHER



**GLH**

CAR SERVICE  
020 8883 5000

April 2005 No. 143

ISSN 1361-3952

20p  
where sold

*A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.*



The Big Fun walkers set off on the route in Cherry Tree Wood. Photo by John Lawrence

## Big Fun Walk

By Julia Lawrence

**It started with a casual suggestion at a committee meeting a decade ago, and has sent thousands of people on an annual pilgrimage across London, from East Finchley to Westminster to raise money for the North London Hospice.**

And on Sunday 20 March, the North West Support Group's Big Fun Walk was still growing in popularity as more than 1,000 people gathered for the event's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

A surge of last-minute entrants, spurred on by the promise of good weather, sent the number of walkers soaring. Committee organisers are predicting the exact number will easily beat last year, when 900 braved

freezing drizzle for the seven and a half mile hike, raising £112,000.

Following the same route as last year, walkers gathered at East Finchley tube station at 9.30am. A throng of people, dogs, pushchairs and at least one clown, held traffic on East Finchley High Road to a standstill as they filed across into Cherry Tree Woods for the first leg of the walk.

The route then took them through Highgate Wood to Belsize Park, and through Regents Park into Baker Street, Marble Arch and Hyde Park Corner, finishing at Westminster Abbey. At casual pace, with a couple of breaks, it took four hours to complete.

Organisers of the event worked since August to make sure all went smoothly. Ten marshals were positioned along the route, directing walkers through underpasses and park gates, and a whole team of volunteers handed out sandwiches, biscuits and bottles of water at pit-stops along the way.

A steel band and welcome committee was waiting at the end to hand out medals to the children and cups of tea and cakes to the walkers.

Now the real hard work begins – collecting all the sponsorship money.

## 263 is “problem route”

By Daphne Chamberlain

**London Transport Users Committee has identified the 263 as a problem route - particularly the “solo stretch” between East and North Finchley, where there are no alternative buses. The finding comes in a report based on travel diaries kept by 23 members of the public, and random journeys by LTUC members.**

The report questions Barnet's traffic policy, saying that if it continues “the bus operator may find it increasingly difficult even to maintain the current level of reliability”.

The recorded average waiting time for a 263 was twice as long as it should be. In addition, in just over one in 10 journeys surveyed, the passengers had to stand for whole or part of the ride. This was mainly on the solo stretch and following a gap in service. The passengers most affected were older people limited to the lower deck, which was criticised for lack of capacity.

On the positive side, the 263 scored higher than other buses surveyed for cleanliness and driver courtesy.

The report criticised Barnet for favouring general road traffic above public transport users, citing little enforcement

of parking controls around bus stops as one example. It also blamed the bottleneck at Barnet General Hospital for knock-on delays, which it identified as most apparent between North and East Finchley because there is no alternative service.

LTUC have recommended that London Buses put in additional monitoring points, particularly at East Finchley, and also that Transport for London give priority to buses where there are road works.

London Transport Users Committee is the official watchdog for transport users in and around London. Copies of this report can be obtained by contacting tel.020 7505 9000, fax 020 7505 9003 or e-mail publications@ltuc.org.uk.

See page 3 for responses from Barnet and East Finchley Bus Watch.

**Coral Pharmacy**

Cut-price Fragrances

Photo D&P only £2.99 for up to 40 exp (35mm)

Stockists of a wide range of vitamins, homeopathic remedies, and herbal products.

Open Till 6:30pm (Mon - Fri) 6pm Sat - Parking Available

129 East End Road N2 0SZ Tel 8883 0442

**PRICKETT & ELLIS TOMKINS**

36 High Road East Finchley N2 9PJ

**020 8883 0033**

Properties urgently required - now is the time to sell!

Estate Agents and Valuers. Established 1767

**END OF LINE WAREHOUSE CLEARANCE SALE ON TVS, DVD PLAYERS, CD MIDI SYSTEMS & HI FIS**

Now Stocking all types of **DRAPER** & DIY Tools

**EVERYTHING ELECTRICAL**

Tel: 0800 279 3463

Free Delivery On All Domestic Electrical Appliances Established 10 Years

www.everything-electrical.com 38 High Road, East Finchley N2 9PJ

**Hotblack Dixon & Co. Estate Agents**

Our success rate in N2 is very high indeed, obviously in Hampstead Garden Suburb but also in East Finchley.

We have often obtained better prices from our base in the Suburb, so

**Please call us for a free valuation or try us if you are on a multiple agency basis**

17 Market Place, Hampstead Garden Suburb London NW11 6JY

**020 8458 8411**

• Visit your community newspaper on-line at [www.the-archer.co.uk](http://www.the-archer.co.uk) •



## THE ARCHER

PO Box 3699  
LONDON N2 8JA

WWW.THE-ARCHER.CO.UK

e-mail: THE-  
ARCHER@LINEONE.NET

### Voicemail & Fax:

Editorial/enquiries: -  
**08717 33 44 65**

Advertising/finance: -  
**08717 33 45 28**

PUBLISHED BY  
*East Finchley  
Newspapers*

CHAIR  
*Kevin Finn*

COPY EDITOR  
*John Lawrence*

EDITORIAL TEAM  
*David Hobbs  
Daphne Chamberlain  
Diana Cormack*

SUB EDITORS  
*Frances Loveday  
Ann Bronkhorst  
Pam Kent*

PICTURE EDITOR  
*Erini Rodis*

DESIGN & PRODUCTION  
*Alison Roberts*

ADVERTISING  
*John Dearing*

FINANCE  
*Sue Holliday*

ADMINISTRATION  
*Toni Morgan*

DISTRIBUTION  
*Alison Roberts  
Pam Kent*

LEGAL ADVISER  
*Francis Coulson*

PRINTED BY  
*Eastway Offset Ltd*

WEB MANAGEMENT  
*ARC Media  
www.arcmedia.co.uk*

*Thank you to Madden's  
Ale House for providing  
us with a meeting place.*

*THE ARCHER team wishes  
to thank all the generous  
people who give up their  
spare time, in all weather,  
to deliver the paper for us.*

### 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 April is the copy deadline  
for the May issue.**

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### Councils

**Barnet**  
Admin/Town Hall 020 8359 2000  
Council Tax 020 8359 2608  
Recycling & refuse 020 8359 4600  
Primary Care Trust 020 8201 4700  
Benefits Agency 020 8258 6500  
Employment Service 020 8258 3900  
**Haringey Council** 020 8489 0000

### Leisure

**Alexandra Palace** 020 8365 2121  
**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

### Transport

**BR Enquiries** 0845 7484950  
**City Airport** 020 7646 0088  
**London Transport** 020 7222 1234  
**National Express** 08705 808080  
**Heathrow Airport** 0870 000 0123

### Help & Advice

**Childline** 0800 1111  
**Disability Info Service** 02084466935  
**E.F. Advice Service** 020 8444 6265  
**Gingerbread** 020 8445 4227  
**National Debt Line** 0808 808 4000  
**NSPCC** 0800 800500  
**Rape & Sexual Abuse** 02086833300  
**Relate** 020 8447 8101  
**Samaritans** 08457 909090  
**Refuge Crisis Line** 0870 599 5443

### Health Advice

**AIDSLine** 020 8363 2141  
**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

### OAP's Advice

**Barnet Age Concern** 02083463511  
**Contact (N2)** 020 8444 1162  
**Help the Aged** 0808 800 6565

### Hospitals

**Barnet General** 020 8216 4000  
**Coppetts Wood** 020 8883 9792  
**Finchley Memorial** 020 8349 6300  
**Oak Lane Clinic** 020 8346 9343  
**Royal Free** 020 7794 0500  
**St Luke's** 020 8219 1800  
**Whittington** 020 7272 3070  
**Western Eye Hosp.** 020 7886 6666

### Crime

**Emergency** 999  
**Finchley Police** 020 8200 1212  
**CrimeStoppers** 0800 555111  
**Victim Support** 0845 303 0900  
**E.F. Community Police Officer:**  
PC Paul Carter (Golders Green)  
Tel: 020 8733 5562, e-mail:  
paul.carter@met.police.uk



**42 Church Lane, London N2 8DT.**  
**Tel/Fax: 020 8444 6265**

### General Advice.

Monday to Friday: 10am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4pm.  
Thursdays: 7pm - 8pm.

### Immigration Advice.

Tuesdays: 7pm - 8pm by appointment only.

### Legal Advice.

Tuesdays: 7pm - 8pm.

### Councillors' Surgery.

Saturdays: 10am - 11.30am

### Community Services

❖ **Credit Union**, Green Man Community Centre 020 8883 4916  
❖ **Careers advice**, Green Man, Community Centre 020 8883 4916  
❖ **Toy library**, Muswell Hill 020 8444 0244/ 8489 8774

## Mobile phone fraud

Barnet police are concerned that some people may be reporting their mobile phones as having been stolen to satisfy insurance criteria when the reality is that they have been lost or in some cases deliberately mislaid.

The majority of mobile phone insurances are valid for loss as well as theft but upgrading your mobile phone by committing an illegal act of deception is not a good idea. Insurance companies will report to police any instances where they find people are trying to defraud them.

Barnet police are warning that they robustly investigate each and every allegation of crime that is made to them. Where they find evidence,

especially from CCTV, that a crime has not in fact been committed, they will be in a position to instigate proceedings against the person making the false allegation.

In these cases charges of wasting police time and/or perverting the course of justice will be made. To date at least two people have been prosecuted in Barnet for making false allegations of mobile phone crime. They were both issued with fixed penalty notices for £80.

## Pensioner robbed at home

**An 88-year-old woman was robbed in her own home in East Finchley.**

The incident happened on Thursday 24 February at 6.30pm in Wilmot Close.

Two females called at the victim's home asking if they could borrow a pen, saying there was no reply from their mum's address.

The victim went to get a pen and was suddenly aware that one of the females was standing behind her while the other was standing in the hallway.

One asked for a glass of water but the victim became suspicious and pressed her personal alarm causing both suspects to run off. The victim then discovered that her purse containing £85 had been stolen.

The first suspect is described as female, aged 20, 5ft 4in. tall. She was wearing blue trousers and a blue jacket. The second suspect is described as female, aged 20 and 5ft 4in. tall.

## Post Office incident

**A pupil from Bishop Douglass School was involved in an incident last month in the Post Office in East End Road, during which the shopkeeper's nose was broken. Police were called to the scene, but the shopkeeper did not wish to press charges.**

Speaking to *THE ARCHER*, Bishop Douglass Head Angela Murphy said, "I take this incident very seriously indeed. I do not condone violence in any way, and the school has taken prompt and correct action."

## Planning Applications

**202 Creighton Avenue N2**

Demolition of existing house, and construction of new two-storey house with basement car-parking and ancillary accommodation to rear, and landscaping.

**28 Baronsmere Road N2**

Alterations to roof, involving rear dormer to facilitate a loft conversion.

**36 Baronsmere Road N2**

Insertion of window to ground floor side elevation facing Park Hall Road.

**Southern House, 1A Bedford Road N2**

Alterations to front elevation, including new portico. New front boundary wall. Dormer window on rear elevation.

**42 Church Vale N2**

2-storey side extension. Construction of replacement roof with increased pitch and ridge height, to provide second floor accommodation. New dormer windows on side elevations. New 1.8m. high boundary fence.

**385-401 High Road N2**

Erection of five-storey self-storage building (Class B8) with associated access, parking, secondary fencing and landscaping.

**Upper Flat, 78 Leicester Road**

Addition of rear dormer to facilitate loft conversion.

**9 The Leys, N2**

Alterations and extensions to roof, including raising ridge, new side dormer windows, 2 in number rooflights. First floor front and rear extension. Enlargement of rear ground floor bay window and second floor window. New garage doors.

**81 Church Lane, N2**

Single-storey self-contained dwelling at rear of existing house.

## Stanley Fields plans

The plans shown in last month's *ARCHER* for the proposed development of Stanley Fields were extracted from those drawn up by professional architects, and should have been credited to Hampson Williams. We apologise for this omission.

## Oysters get clever

By Tony Roberts

**Last June *THE ARCHER* reported Transport for London's plans to introduce Pre Pay Oyster card fare capping. At the time, many critics claimed it would be too complex or too expensive to introduce. Well, Oyster capping is here!**

### Heads you win

No longer need Oyster Pre Payers agonise over whether to queue up and buy a Day Travelcard or use their Oyster card - their Oyster card will do all the work for them. East Finchleians using their Pre Pay cards to go into and travel about town after 9.30am Monday to Friday (or at any time on Saturday or Sunday), irrespective of the number of journeys, will only pay a maximum £5.20 that day, the cost of the equivalent Travelcard. Or they can travel around all day on the buses for just £3! You can't say "farer" than that!

A consequence of this may be the end of the Day Travelcard ticket touts that hang around at station exits, buying and selling cards and doing London Underground out of a lot of money.

### What next?

There are rumours that you may eventually be able to use Oyster Pre Pay cards to purchase small goods at retail outlets at the station.

*For full fare capping details, pick up a leaflet at the station.*

## Shop burgled

**Thieves stole cigarettes and adult magazines in a break-in at the Future Chain newsagents in Long Lane.**

The raiders cut away shutters to allow access to the shop at 1.30am on Wednesday 9 March. Police do not have any description of the suspects.

## Fortis Green corners

**Haringey Council has told the Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association that they have no plans to install double yellow lines along the eastern end of Fortis Green.**

However, in the interests of safety, they are keeping a close watch on parking at junctions. There is particular concern about the junctions with Twyford Avenue, Southern Road, and roads off Southern Road.





## Barnet goes green

By Sheila Armstrong

**Barnet Council has started a green waste recycling scheme. Green waste is, at least for the moment, garden waste only: hedge and tree prunings, timber up to three inches in diameter, grass clippings, dead flowers and weeds.**

Extra waste can be tied in bundles and left next to the new green bin but don't bag any waste either inside or outside the bin. This green bio-degradable waste will go directly from the refuse van to a site in Edmonton and eventually to Essex to be composted. As it will then no longer be the property of Barnet Council it will not be sold back to us in the form of cheap compost as in other boroughs. At least not yet.

### Sharing wheelies

Residents can order their green bin now and leave it at the kerbside on the allotted day as normal. Assisted collections automatically transfer to the green bins. If your garden can't accommodate another wheelie bin you might consider sharing one between several neighbours or you can still take garden waste to the Civic Amenity and Recycling

Centre in Summers Lane. Only green waste in green bins is being collected at the moment so it's no good leaving bags of it at the kerbside.

As for any other green waste you may have, for instance food waste, you can compost this yourself. The council sells compost bins to residents at half the normal retail price. The good news is that by the end of 2005 (and hopefully as early as this summer) Barnet Council plans to extend the green garden waste scheme to include food or kitchen waste.

When this happens they will allow householders to put their kitchen waste into their green bins in compostable bags. Householders with gardens too small to warrant a whole green bin could also use these. Watch this space!

For more information contact the Recycling Hotline on 020 8359 7400 or e-mail [recycling@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:recycling@barnet.gov.uk).

## Body found on North Circular Road

**Police are appealing for witnesses after the body of a woman was found lying on the westbound A406 North Circular Road at Henlys Corner in Golders Green.**

The road was closed both ways for several hours following the discovery on Friday 25 February at about 3am, causing traffic disruption over a wide area during the morning rush hour.

The woman was taken to the Royal Free Hospital where she was later pronounced dead. A post mortem held the same day gave the cause of death as head injuries.

Police have identified her as Jun Xue Zhang, aged 33, of the Heilongjiang province of China.

She had only been in the country a matter of days and had been working in a medical centre in Golders Green. They believe that her family, including her six-year-old daughter, are in China.



The woman about to board a bus in Golders Green Road, the previous evening. Still CCTV footage from the Metropolitan Police.

She was last seen boarding a number 82 bus in Golders Green Road at about 9.30pm the previous evening, heading north towards Ballards Lane, but it is not known where she alighted nor where she went in the hours before her death. One possibility is that a vehicle or vehicles may have been in collision with her. Police are appealing for anyone who may have seen her in the area to contact them. She was approximately 5ft 3in., wearing a dark grey knee-length quilted coat with a fur lined hood and dark trousers and carrying two white shopping bags. Her English was very limited.

Sergeant Mark Donnelly of the Collision Investigation Unit at Alperton said, "I am aware of a white van, which stopped close to where the body was found for about ten minutes. I am appealing for the driver of this van to come forward, and for anyone who

remembers seeing a white van close to Henlys Corner early on Friday morning to contact me." Anyone with information should contact Sgt Mark Donnelly at Alperton Traffic Garage on 020 8998 5319.

## 263 bus report - responses

(continued from page 1)

By Daphne Chamberlain

### Barnet Council says:

A spokesperson for Barnet Council told *THE ARCHER*: "In Barnet all transport users are treated equally, and we aim to keep all traffic moving and reduce congestion. We feel that bus priority measures should only be used where appropriate and necessary. In Barnet there are limited locations where bus priority can be used without having negative effects.

"Some bus schemes can make congestion worse, as was found with the bus lane between The Bishop's Avenue and East End Road. Since removing this bus lane last May, delays have been reduced.

"The Council is looking

at schemes to improve traffic movement, but has to work within the limits of funding and available land. Enforcement of parking is done on a borough-wide basis, taking into account all priorities, including bus routes, town centres and resident parking."

### East Finchley

#### Bus Watch says:

Hazel Burnett of Bus Watch told us: "I'm pleased that the problems along the route have been recognised. I hope that the organisations concerned get together urgently to implement improvements, but why doesn't the report recommend another bus route?"

### Why no other bus route?

*The Archer* asked Tim Belenger, Lead Officer for London Transport Users Committee this question. Repeating that a change in local policy was vital, he said that installing another bus route, primarily to benefit the solo stretch, would probably not be considered financially viable by Transport for London, which was currently clamping down on routes not "pulling their weight". Re-routing part of an existing route might mean that some people were left too far away from a bus service.

## SHIATSU

Fiona Hurlock

Registered Shiatsu and Reiki Practitioner



A traditional hands-on Japanese healing therapy which is deeply relaxing and restorative. It can help with a wide range of conditions, e.g.

- anxiety, poor digestion, low energy, sleep difficulties
- IBS, Fibromyalgia
- headaches, back pain, muscle & joint pain, impaired mobility

For bookings please contact:

**EAST FINCHLEY:** ISABEL DOUGLAS  
HEALTH & BEAUTY CENTRE  
020 84443639 or 020 84441516

**FINCHLEY CENTRAL:** COOTES  
COMPLEMENTARY THERAPY CENTRE  
07795 203107 or 020 83714144

## ISABEL DOUGLAS HEALTH & BEAUTY CENTRE

HAIRDRESSING  
TRICHOLOGY  
FACIALS  
WAXING  
MANICURES  
PEDICURES

NAIL EXTENSIONS  
COLOUR CORRECTION  
BY ISABEL DOUGLAS  
90-92 High Rd. East Finchley  
London N2 9EB  
020 8444 1516/3639

**P.A. music**  
Lighting-Sound-FX-Video

**Party!**  
Promotion!  
Presentation!  
Whatever you are doing!  
We have the Lighting,  
Sound & FX Technology  
to make it a Success!

**Hire & Sale**  
Open 10am-6pm  
Closed Tuesdays  
172 High Road,  
East Finchley, N2  
Fax No. +44(0)20 8883 5117  
020 8883 4350

## VICTORY AUTO SERVICES

### Air-Conditioning - Recharge & Servicing

Mechanical repairs, tyres,  
bodywork, clutches, exhausts  
MOTs by appointment

109 Fortis Green East Finchley London N2 9HR  
Tel: 020 8883 9707 / 0023 Fax: 020 8482 9179



## The Retreat

HAIR AND BEAUTY BY ZAINAB

Introducing an extensive selection of luxurious face and body treatments using the **Elemis** range.

Facials  
Body Scrub



Body Wraps  
Hand & Foot  
Treatment.

Join us as we take you to a world of sensory heaven  
Call for your free Consultation 020 8883 2354  
5 Fortis Green London N2 9JR

**THE  
TRICHOLOGY  
CLINIC**  
**ISABEL DOUGLAS**  
**M.B.B.S**  
**SPECIALISING IN**  
**HAIR LOSS**  
**DANDRUFF**  
**ITCHY SCALP**  
**GREASY SCALP &**  
**PSORIASIS**  
**DETERIORATION**  
**AND DEHYDRATION**  
**OF THE SCALP**  
**PRODUCES DRY,**  
**LIMP, DULL HAIR.**  
**CONSULTATIONS £39**  
**90-92 HIGH ROAD**  
**EAST FINCHLEY, N2 9EB**  
**020 8444 3639/1516**





# TreeHouse school moves in

By Sheila Armstrong

**The TreeHouse Trust was originally set up in 1997 by concerned parents of autistic children in Camden but is now at Woodside Avenue, Muswell Hill.**

In the average Local Education Authority there are likely to be around 600 autistic children. Autism covers a wide range of behaviours mainly to do with inability to communicate. There are increasing numbers of children who are diagnosed as having it. It is a term that covers children who may have

a remarkable talent in one area or those unable to communicate who are described as being in a world of their own. One third of autistics never acquire speech. Four times more boys than girls are affected and there is no cure.

## Mainstream or special

Because autistic children can have such different educational needs there is no one solution for their schooling and there are different educational provisions and approaches. Some children can attend

mainstream schools, maybe within a specialist unit. Others benefit from special education with teachers trained to help those with autism.

## One to one

The methods used at TreeHouse school are based on ABA (applied behaviour analysis). Children are given an individual education plan tailored to their needs and work on this on a one to one basis for a large part of the school day as well as taking part in group activities. In order to build up their skills children are taught using a three-step process and get positive reinforcement for everything they do throughout the day.

Although TreeHouse is an independent charity children may be referred there by the LEA in which case they will pay the fees.

TreeHouse can be contacted for more information on 020 8815 5424 or at [www.treehouse.org.uk](http://www.treehouse.org.uk).

# Sam the PAT dog visits Martin Junior School

By Kathryn Salomon

**Sam, my Greyhound, and I attended an assembly at Martin Junior School in East Finchley in order to demonstrate the Pets as Therapy Temperament Test. PAT is a charity which takes dogs and cats to visit sick or lonely people to help them feel better. The test is designed to ensure that only gentle, good tempered dogs become PAT dogs. When a dog has passed the test, the charity insures it for visits to hospitals, schools or residential homes etc.**



A pupil at Martin Junior School helps to demonstrate the Pets as Therapy Temperament Test. Photo by Derek Ball

## Calm and gentle

A pupil led Sam up and down the hall to demonstrate that he walks well on the lead. A PAT dog must be calm and controlled; you can't have one running wildly around a hospital ward or jumping up at everyone! Then another child knelt down and put both arms around him to show that being held in this manner did not disturb him. A PAT dog must not become distressed when handled. It is important

that a PAT dog can be touched on every part of his body so a pupil gently touched his ears, legs, neck, back and tail. Some dominant dogs do not like to be groomed so a pupil brushed Sam and he stood there placidly.

In the course of their visits PAT dogs have to meet many people with walking sticks, so another pupil walked up and down the hall with a stick, pretending to be a 'poorly person' and Sam, of course, didn't mind. In fact, because he meets so many people with sticks and wheelchairs he generally pays more attention to them!

Hospitals (and schools) can be noisy places so if someone drops a tray of instruments it is most important that the dog is not frightened. Firstly a nervous dog would be unhappy on visits and secondly it could react adversely. So a pupil dropped a loud, noisy object on the floor and Sam didn't bat an eyelid.

## A treat for a star

Lastly, the people we visit love to give Sam treats and a PAT dog must accept a treat gently (as Sam does) and not launch greedily at their fingers. So my last helper rewarded Sam for demonstrating the test so ably. The children then asked so many thoughtful questions that Maggie Driscoll, the Head Teacher, allowed the assembly to run over time. The visit was obviously a success and Sam was a star!

For information about Pets as Therapy telephone 0870 240 1239 or visit [www.petsastherapy.org](http://www.petsastherapy.org)

## ST. JOHNS CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Tele: 079 444 989 30 ~ Web: [www.stjohnsfinchley.co.uk](http://www.stjohnsfinchley.co.uk)

### Services

Sunday 6.30 p.m. Thursday 7.30 p.m.

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month 6.30 p.m.

Healing every Tuesday between 1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

Weddings ~ Christenings ~ Funerals (at the church or cemetery)

by arrangement with the Minister

All are welcome

4 Woodberry Grove N12 (behind Homebase)

A friendly welcome awaits you

## EAST FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH

197 High Road, London N2 (opp. Creighton Ave.)

[www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk](http://www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk)

**Family service and Junior Church  
Every Sunday at 10.30 a.m.**

Worship Music Social events Kids' Club Wheelchair friendly  
tel: 020 8349 9340 e-mail: [info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk)

## APRIL SPECIALS at The Finchley Youth Theatre

142 High Road East Finchley London N2

**Sunday 10th - 11:00am  
International Praise Service  
Gospel Songs presented by people  
in National Costume from many  
Nations. Special Guest Singers  
Linda Dunne & Jim Patterson**



**Sunday 17th  
11:00am  
Linda Pearce  
in Concert  
A Dynamic Gospel Singer  
& Recording Artist  
Well Worth Listening To.**

**Sunday 24th - 11:00am  
Pastor Henry Alamu  
(Formerly from Nigeria)**

**Admission to these April Specials is  
FREE and EVERYONE will be WELCOME  
Hosted by: Finchley Christian Fellowship  
(An Elim Pentecostal Church)**

## Lenor outside the Odeon

**Film cameras were outside Muswell Hill Odeon last month, while yellow-jacketed men with walkie-talkies held back the shopping crowds. Who were the people who were allowed to stroll past the cinema with shopping bags? Extras, apparently.**

It was all to do with a commercial advertising Lenor and the cameras were concentrating on a couple in a car. So watch your screens!

## Are you covered for your journey?

By Diana Cormack

**For a number of years most travellers in Europe will have been aware that, as well as having travel insurance, it has been advisable to carry a copy of your E111 form. This entitles you to medical treatment free or at a reduced rate in any European Union country as well as in Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Sweden. Only treatment provided under the state scheme is covered.**

However, not a lot of people know that their E111 form became invalid at the end of 2004. As a result of recent changes to European law, it is to be replaced by a new European Health Insurance Card next year. In the interim period, travellers need to fill in another E111 form.

The new form is now issued on an individual basis, though families will only need to complete one application form in order to gain an E111 for each member. This will be valid until December 2005.

THE ARCHER has found few locals who are aware of the situation but if you are plan-

ning to travel in Europe this year it is important that you fill in the appropriate forms. They are obtainable from the Post Office free of charge or can be downloaded at [www.dh.gov.uk/travellers](http://www.dh.gov.uk/travellers).

The European Health Insurance Card will automatically be issued to those who, when applying for the new interim E111, tick the box relevant to receiving the card.

Remember, the E111 does not cover you for things like repatriation in the event of an accident or serious illness, so you should always take out appropriate travel insurance too.





## Contact reaches out

By Ann Vautier

**East Finchley Neighbourhood CONTACT, a charity that has been helping the disadvantaged, elderly and disabled in the N2 area since 1985, is extending its services to parts of N3.**

Thanks to a grant from the Pension Service Parnertship Fund (PSP), Contact can now reach out to qualifying residents of Church End and West Finchley, for a two year period beginning 1 April. The grant is part of a £13 million government programme financing local initiatives to improve take-up of older people's benefits, in particular those in hard-to-reach groups.

### Quality of life

Using local volunteers and core funding from the London Borough of Barnet, CONTACT provides elderly or disabled residents with many services including a twice weekly shopping bus, transport, gardening and odd jobs services, lunch clubs, social outings and befriending partnerships for the housebound. Liaison with health and social services, and CONTACT's support with form filling helps clients access assistance or benefits to which they are entitled.

### Giving your time

Established 20 years ago, CONTACT covered only N2,

but, as Good Neighbourhood schemes in adjacent areas have ceased to exist, there has been public pressure for CONTACT to help. To meet the increased demand for its services, CONTACT is seeking new management committee members and trustees. Individuals with experience in social services, elderly health care, finance, law or training in the voluntary sector are particularly welcome. However, those with no specialist knowledge but who are good organisers and communicators are equally welcome. Retired people, part-time workers from the caring professions or those wanting to contribute to a local charity, would be ideally suited. Only a few hours' work a month are required. Although all positions are unsalaried, full training is provided and all reasonable expenses paid.

For more information, please contact the coordinator at: East Finchley Neighbourhood Contact, 42 Church Lane N2, tel 020 8444 1162 email: contact42@efnc.fsnet.co.uk

## RSPCA news

By Mary Atkinson of East Finchley RSPCA

### New animal welfare bill

**In 2005 all RSPCA branches are campaigning for the public to support the new Animal Welfare Bill which will replace the Protection of Animals Act 1911 which is now sadly out of date. Fortunately our MP Dr Rudi Vis is keenly interested in animal welfare and therefore needs no lobbying to get him to support the bill. However, we do have at the clinic a resume of the new legislation we hope for, plus a printed postcard you can sign and send to the Prime Minister.**

### Early intervention

In brief, the Bill will allow our inspectors to intervene if alerted to early signs of animals suffering. At present they can only offer advice which may or may not be taken. Please help us to press for this new

measure. The Committee is gearing up for our next fund raising activity ñ a Spring Fayre at the clinic on Saturday 14 May. More news of this in next month's ARCHER.

## Heading off

By Diana Cormack

**Although his name is not Joseph, headteacher Duncan Mills was presented with two amazing technicolour dreamcoats during a special farewell assembly at Holy Trinity CE Primary School. The children's performance of a selection of songs from "Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" reflected the fact that the school was the first chosen to sing at the annual Ofsted inspectors' conference.**

The assembly on 15 March celebrated the many achievements made during Mr Mills' five years there. The children had made their own record of these in a Golden Book, a feature he introduced to the school with a Gold Award system for outstanding work.

Many mentioned the ICT suite and interactive whiteboards in each classroom. Sport was a popular topic, with comments on his coaching from the footballers and the success of the athletics team at Cophall Stadium's annual meetings. Visits from well-known people were remembered, as well as school visits and school journeys he led. The Christmas production and summer concert were often commented on, as was the library learning centre and group room in the new extension, opened last autumn.

This special book of memories is one to be treasured, as is the other technicolour dreamcoat featured that day.

Duncan was given a marvellous coat marked with the name and coloured hand print of every pupil, plus fingerprints from members of staff. Each year group gave him a present and the Chair of Governors,

Sylvia Duthie, presented gift vouchers from parents, staff and governors.

Sylvia told THE ARCHER: "It is hard to find words to give a sufficient tribute to Mr Mills. His contribution to the school has been outstanding to the extent that we are now considered by Ofsted to be one of the finest schools in the country.



Duncan Mills in his amazing technicolour dreamcoat. Photo by Diana Cormack

He has touched so many lives – children, parents, staff; all owe him a huge debt of gratitude."

Year 6 pupil Eleni wrote, "We have loved you as our head teacher and if it was any of the pupils' choices I'm sure they wouldn't let you leave!"

Mr Mills is now headteacher at a larger Barnet school, Holly Park Primary, N11.

## Could you help the MNDA?

**About 5,000 people in Britain are affected by motor neurone disease, in which the nerve cells that control the muscles degenerate and die. At present there is no cure.**

The North London Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association is looking for volunteers. As well as fundraising, the branch, which covers the N postcodes up towards Cheshunt and Potters Bar, raises awareness of the association

locally and supports MND sufferers and their families. This involves open support meetings, financial support and volunteer visitors.

Two members of the branch committee wish to change their roles, so the position of chairperson and treasurer need to be filled.

Volunteers will be given a full induction, guidelines, expenses and insurance along

with coaching from previous post-holders and experienced organisers. Meetings are held about four times a year in north London.

If you would like to use your skills to help a small but enthusiastic committee that really does make a difference, then the MNDA would like to hear from you. To find out more please call Stef Cormack on 020 7801 8667 for an informal chat.

## OSTEOPATHY

at

## The Twyford Practice

*Osteopathic consultation and treatments in Fortis Green, N2.*

**Robin Kiashek,  
Osteopath and Naturopath,  
Bsc (Hons), Ost Med.,  
N.D., M.R.N.**

**For appointments:  
please phone 020 8815 0979**

**or visit:**

**[www.robinkiashek.co.uk](http://www.robinkiashek.co.uk)  
for further information**

### ISABEL DOUGLAS HEALTH & BEAUTY CENTRE

- TRICHOLOGY
- OSTEOPATHY
- CHIROPODY/PODIATRY
- ACUPUNCTURE
- DR. STEVEN HARRIS  
BOTOX® / RESTYLANE®
- SPORTS MASSAGE
- AROMATHERAPY MASSAGE
- SWEDISH MASSAGE
- DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE
- INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE
- BHARTI VYAS METHOD
- REFLEXOLOGY
- EMF BALANCING
- REIKI

90-92 High Rd, East Finchley  
London N2 9EB  
020 8444 1516 / 3639

### Special Opening Offer

**+ Cootes Pharmacy - Finchley Central  
COMPLEMENTARY THERAPY CENTRE**

**£10 discount on first treatment!**

### SHIATSU

**Fiona Hurlock**  
GMSS, Dip LCS, Registered  
Member of the Shiatsu Society of  
Great Britain

For information and appointments  
tel: 020 8371 4144  
or 07795 203107

### HOMOEOPATHY

**Marj Morrison**  
RSHom  
Registered Member of the  
Society of Homoeopaths

For information and appointments  
tel: 020 8341 0986

### NUTRITIONAL Therapy

**Simone Baroke**  
BSc(Hons) Member of the British  
Association of Nutritional Therapists

For information and appointments  
tel: 020 8883 0915  
or 07950 054754

### HEALING

**Kathryn Scorza**  
Registered Spiritual Healer and  
Member of J.A.S.H./ British Alliance  
of Healing Associations

For information and appointments  
tel: 07703 404839

Cootes: 110-112 Ballards Lane, Finchley Central, N3 2DN Tel 020 8346 0051  
Cootes: 134 High Road, East Finchley, N2 9ED Tel 020 8883 0073





# Hair raising events

By Diana Cormack

**Two hairdressing establishments on the High Road took part in Red Nose Day 2005 under the Wella Big Hair and Beyond fund raising scheme.**

Staff at 202 came in early as they had offered to prepare pupils from Martin schools suitably for their morning assembly. A stream of excited youngsters and their parents crowded into the salon, where the stylists worked non-stop to create the look chosen by each of the children.

After the latecomers had rushed off to school, regular clients were able to add to the money already in the donation bucket or to purchase products and treatments for which part of the payment went to Comic Relief.

## Care bear

There was a raffle for £150 worth of Wella goods. These were in a beautifully prepared basket presented by florist and gift shop Tu Destino at 128 High Road. Tu Destino also supplied balloons to draw attention to TD Hair Designers at 170A High Road, though the sight of a bear on the pavement in front of the salon was probably what alerted most passers by!

On a very cold day, staff took it in turns to stand outside with a collection bucket, so let's hope that the bear outfit kept



202 staff hard at work. Photo by Diana Cormack

them warm. All employees' tips and one-tenth of clients' payments on Red Nose Day were donated to the cause.

An additional source of revenue came courtesy of Sippy Azizollah who, after a visit to 202 High Road for

red hair decoration, collected donations from her wheelchair in Budgen's store.

At the end of the day, TD raised over £150 and 202 raised £350. If all of Wella's 30,000 UK salons did as well, that's quite a total.

# Two's company

By Ann Bronkhorst

**Have you been tempted this spring by glossy travel brochures and TV travel programmes? Whole towns also get a yen for 'abroad'. A recent BBC2 series followed the search by Sedbergh, in Cumbria, for a compatible overseas 'twin'. Maybe there's a friendly place abroad for East Finchley to link up with.**

In fact, twinning's been going on in the borough of Barnet for over forty years. Links exist with eight towns: two in France, two in Germany and the others in Uganda, USA, Cyprus and Israel. The links are there for all residents of the borough, so anyone in East Finchley can get involved.

## Old friends

One of the oldest twinings is with Chaville, an ancient town six miles from Paris and not far from Versailles. Since the original link-up with Friern Barnet in 1958, our borough has grown much bigger than Chaville but the contact is lasting well. There are official visits between the two councils; school and youth group exchanges; music, arts and sport activities and a steady growth of friendships between individuals.

The Friends of Chaville Society organise a social programme here as well as trips to France. In mid-May this year a Chaville group will visit Barnet, with English guests invited in September to Alsace. The Society has arranged work experience in Chaville for young people and puts teenagers in touch for cor-

respondence and exchanges.

Last year three young artists from Colindale, Mill Hill and Edgware won €1,000 each in a competition organised by Barnet and Chaville. The winning paintings will be displayed in Chaville's public buildings. This year there are plans for video-conferencing between schools and an international gathering of young musicians in Chaville.

For more information: [www.ville-chaville.fr](http://www.ville-chaville.fr) or Friends of Chaville 0208 959 5182 [john.hart@virgin.net](mailto:john.hart@virgin.net).

## Pen friends

Keith Martin, Secretary of the Friends, adds that Nicolas, a 15-year-old boy from Chaville, wants to correspond and perhaps exchange visits with a boy from the borough of Barnet. He's studying English and Spanish at school, likes fencing and mountain biking, making models and playing video games. To make contact phone Keith Martin on 020 8445 7850.

Another of Barnet's twins, Montclair, sounds French but is an American town near New York. In March it welcomed a group of young people from Barnet, more about that next time.

## World War II recipes

# Sweet memories

By Diana Cormack

**Recently a sweet shop in south London gained the support of some local parents in an unusual way. Inspired by the request of a mother not to sell her son so many sweets, the owners introduced a rationing system.**

The idea caught on and their ration books sold like hot cakes! At £5 each, the books were divided into 10p sections for which parents paid in advance, with the amount spent by their children being recorded inside.

In WWII children and parents weren't given any option and sweet rationing was imposed early on in the war. Everybody had to have a ration book full of coupons that had to be used when purchasing the required goods.

## Fair shares

Over a period of four weeks, people were allowed to buy just 12oz (350g) of sweets. Sweet rationing did not end until February 1953, almost 14 years after it was introduced. Some said that this was because otherwise, rich people would have bought up all the sweets, leaving ordinary children with nothing!

Cadbury, of Bournville, produced a selection of recipes that formed a leaflet and were sold in aid of the Red Cross. Here is one of them:

## Chocolate Squares

### Ingredients

3oz/75g margarine or butter  
2 tablespoons of syrup  
8oz/225g rolled oats  
Pinch of salt

### Method

1. Melt the margarine in a saucepan with syrup.
2. Mix in the rolled oats and the salt.
3. Blend well and put in a greased, shallow baking tin, flattening the mixture smoothly.
4. Bake in a moderately hot oven for 30-40 minutes.
5. Take out and, while it is still hot, grate over it a tablet of chocolate. The chocolate will melt with the heat and can be spread evenly with a knife.
6. Cut into squares and lift out.

# Charlie's place

By Sue Holliday

**It is a pleasure to report on an expanding business in East Finchley: The Meze Bar.**

The restaurant has expanded into what was Alan's Records, which has now moved. The new area, which is separated by an archway, will be the smoking area, a better arrangement for non-smokers; it is also available for private parties.

Salcuk Ibrahim with his family opened the restaurant in April 2002 and it was soon a great hit, especially because you can enjoy your meal outside when the weather is good. The restaurant opens from 11am to 12pm but the two chefs start earlier as all the dishes are prepared on a daily basis from fresh ingredients.

Salcuk, known to his customers as Charlie, says he is very happy although he works long hours. He, his wife Aysel or his daughter are always at the restaurant to ensure all is working like clockwork. Charlie always puts his customers first. His waiters are well trained, attentive without being intrusive and always make you very welcome. Charlie told me that he always asks a new employee, "Can you smile?" He went on to explain, "I can teach them their job but not how to smile." A nice attitude!



Salcuk Ibrahim and his wife Aysel outside their new premises.

Photo by Sue Holliday

Charlie came from Cyprus in 1975. He started work doing washing up, eventually progressing to become a chef. In 1984 he opened a Kebab style restaurant in Tottenham, then in 1989 another in Islington. In 1999 he sold those to open a Meze in Southgate, and then opened the Meze Bar in East Finchley. So Charlie and his family are proof that hard work

can be rewarding.

If you have not yet eaten at the Meze Bar, then you should try it. There is a good selection of reasonably priced wines to accompany delicious meat or fish dishes, and also a selection of vegetarian dishes. Some very sweet Turkish desserts or a piece of traditional Turkish Delight can complete the meal.





The Archer says thanks to all our distributors. Photo by John Dearing

## Now we are twelve

**Happy Birthday to us! Yes, some of us can hardly believe that we were 12 years old earlier this year. Due to various circumstances we did not celebrate until 10 March at Maddens, the meeting place of THE ARCHER team and the place where the paper was conceived.**

For several years we celebrated the fact we were still able to produce a paper, as at the beginning it was very hard work. We all stuck at it and now, with all the wonderful support from our advertisers, we can relax a little and enjoy the production of this paper which we hope you enjoy reading.

### Take a bow

Our main reason for the party, however, was to show our gratitude to our distributors who deliver to your door month in, month out. Without their help, we'd never get the paper out. So it's a very big thank you to all those people behind the scenes who do a wonderful job. Like all of us on THE ARCHER, they do it for free - our only income is from our advertising revenue.

This year was a slightly quieter event, as we did not arrange for any music,

therefore we were able to sit and chat and discuss various topics. Once again we were able to enjoy a few drinks and some delicious food, kindly donated by Kieran and Margaret Madden.

### Aiming high

Our aim is for THE ARCHER to reach all the letterboxes in the N2 area so with the good weather approaching would you be able to give, say, one hour per month to help us reach our aim?

We need more distributors, mainly on the Grange and Strawberry Vale estates, but also to fill the gaps in other roads around East Finchley. If you can set aside an hour or so once a month to help, please contact us at [distribution@the\\_archer.co.uk](mailto:distribution@the_archer.co.uk) or call 08717 33 44 65 (voicemail). Or you could use the good old fashioned postal service by sending a note to THE ARCHER, PO Box

3699, London N2 8JA. Then you too can join us on one of our party nights.

### The Archer requires distributors for the following areas:

Strawberry Vale – 2 rounds  
The Grange – 3 rounds  
Taunton Drive  
Church Lane  
Thomas More Estate  
Deanery Close  
Aylmer Road  
Lytton Road

See left for contact details

## A night at the castle

By Sue Holliday

**A few of THE ARCHER team were intrigued enough to take up the promotional offer that The Windsor Castle gave in January and February.**

The Windsor Castle pub is tucked away in The Walks off Church Lane. None of us really knew what to expect, except for the buffet as we had seen the menu, however we were all up for a social gathering on a Friday evening.

We had a very enjoyable evening. Rachel and Steve did an excellent job with the food, which was presented very well. They were also very good hosts ensuring that we were comfortable and had all that we needed. They do lunchtime specials available from 12-3pm and a full menu from 12-9pm with, on a Sunday, a roast dinner from 12-9pm.

### A quiet drink

And we were able to sit and talk, putting the world to rights, without being interrupted by the

noise of a television; that was a very pleasant change. We noticed other people enjoying a game of cards and an overall friendly atmosphere.

### Future plans

On the last Saturday of each month there is live entertainment. On Thursdays there is a jackpot quiz night with a free buffet. Rachel and Steve took over the pub in October last year. They have plans to improve the small garden at the side of the pub for the summer so that people can enjoy a pleasant drink in the sunshine. They hope to enter the Barnet pubs in bloom competition; there's a lot to live up to as the pub has won awards in the past.

THE ARCHER would like to wish Rachel and Steve best of luck in their new venture.



L-R: The Archer's Debby, Sue, Toni, Sheila and Betti enjoy a drink in The Windsor Castle. Photo by John Dearing

## The East Finchley DENTAL CENTRE

*Dedicated to making you smile!*

- NHS & Private Patients Welcome
- Friendly, Experienced Dental Team
- Special Care for Nervous Patients, Children, Disabled and The Elderly
- Preventative Care
- Cosmetic Treatment, Teeth Whitening
- Mercury Free White Fillings
- Crowns, Bridges and Dentures
- 24 Hour Emergency Cover
- Open 9am - 6pm Weekdays  
Sat. (by arrangement)

Tele: 020 8444 3436

144, High Road, East Finchley, London N2 9ED

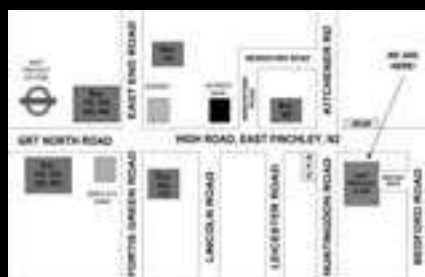


**Eastfinchleyclinic**

Wendy Longworth & Associates physiotherapy practice offers a variety of treatments at the clinic, or off-site, in patients homes, nursing homes, private hospitals and other organisations.

- |                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| ■ Back Pain       | ■ Stroke                |
| ■ Sciatica        | ■ Parkinson's Disease   |
| ■ Whiplash Injury | ■ Multiple Sclerosis    |
| ■ Sports Injury   | ■ Hip Replacement Rehab |
| ■ Frozen Shoulder | ■ Acupuncture           |
| ■ Tennis Elbow    | ■ Incontinence          |

[www.eastfinchleyclinic.co.uk](http://www.eastfinchleyclinic.co.uk)



East Finchley Clinic  
Unit 2/3 Bedford Mews  
Bedford Road  
London N2 9DF

**020 8883 5888**  
Fax: 020 8444 8874





## YOUNG ARCHER



Lois prepares to set off from East Finchley station.  
Photo by John Lawrence

## Fun Walk

By Lois Lawrence, aged 8

**On Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March I went on the Big Fun Walk for the North London Hospice. It was seven and a half miles long. I went with my Mum, my friend Anum Bandey, her mum, sister and cousin.**

We started the walk at East Finchley tube station. We handed in our pink slips and they gave us a piece of paper to write our names on. We had to stamp these three times along the way to show we'd done the walk otherwise they wouldn't believe us!

When we started I felt excited. When we walked up the hill in Highgate Woods my feet started getting a little bit sore. At Belsize Park we got biscuits. I ate two but I stuffed about five in my backpack. Lucky I had a backpack!

I saw some people from

my school doing the walk and, about halfway, we saw the bird-cage at London Zoo. My feet were quite achy by then but they were OK. In Hyde Park my mummy bought me an orange lolly to keep me going.

When we got to the end at Westminster, I got a gold medal for finishing. My brother Joe and daddy were waiting for us. There was a good steel drum band and they played 'Dancing Queen'.

I felt really pleased and proud that I managed it, even though my feet felt numb. I'm going to do it again next year.

## Recycling robot visits Barnet schools

By Diana Cormack

**Cycler the rapping robot is back on tour in Barnet bringing his unique educational show to primary schools.**

Cycler, who visited Holy Trinity School in East Finchley last year, promotes the '3Rs' message - reduce, reuse and recycle - and complements Barnet Council's comprehensive schools recycling education programme.

As part of Cycler's visit, the schools taking part have

agreed to develop an action plan to reduce their waste and increase the amount of material they recycle. An internal recycling collection system will be developed with support and advice from the council.

All schools hosting the visit use the free recycling collection service provided by the council in partnership with ECT Recycling Ltd, which supplies bins for paper, cans and glass. Over 90 per cent of Barnet schools have joined this service so far.

## Martin's artist in residence

By Diana Cormack

**Martin Junior School has benefitted from an event sponsored by the Arts Council of England. Throughout the spring term Sarah Young, a member of their Arts Apprenticeship Scheme, has been working with Year 6 on the theme of The Figure in Motion.**

This has involved using a variety of techniques, including digital cameras, to produce an impressive range of visual results now on display in the corridors.

Sarah also runs an after school club on Mask Making with an enthusiastic group of children from Years 4 and 5. Some of them are pictured here wearing the Egyptian masks they made.



Photo by Diana Cormack

## Scouting for talent

By Diana Cormack

**Martin Infant School intends to build on the success of last autumn's Speaking and Listening Day by holding a Speaking and Listening Week in May.**

Barnet's Speech and Language Department is so taken with this ambitious and innovative idea that it is keen to help. But there are people in East Finchley who could well be able to contribute to the week and headteacher, Kevin Ancomb, is on the look out for you.

Kevin says that he knows there is a wealth of talent in our local community and he is hoping to tap into it. If you have a skill at story telling, cartoon drawing, drama, singing, musical appreciation, puppet

making, performance or are just plain energetic and creative, he might be able to use you.

**Speak up, we're listening**

Essentially the aim is to engage children in activities that require their attention, their oral participation and their under-

standing by providing stimulating, fun things to do.

So if you have skills or talents you feel may be relevant please phone the school as soon as possible on 8883 1455 or email office.martininf.barnet@lgfl.net.

## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

### Holy Trinity

The English Pocket Opera Company entertained the children and involved Year 5 in an art workshop with a theatre theme.

In celebration of World Book Day, each child was given a £1 book voucher. There was a bookmark and cover design competition as part of Book Week, along with the annual sale of books after school.

Parents and carers from reception class organised a sale of cakes in the playground in aid of Comic Relief.

### Martin Schools

£2100 raised in aid of the tsunami appeal has been sent to the DEC fund.

The car park was closed for two days due to filming in the adjoining allotments of the television series *Waking the Dead*.

On Red Nose Day children came out of uniform, with red adorning clothes and hair. Cakes decorated with red noses were sold to the juniors, helping towards the £240 they raised for Comic Relief.

The school choir is to take part in a massed choir of mainly Hertfordshire schools performing in St Albans Abbey.

The whole school enjoyed a brilliant introduction to opera by the English Pocket Opera Company.

Year 4 travelled to the Tate Modern for an art appreciation visit.

HT School Association held an Auction and Race Night and donated £700 towards new equipment for the nursery.

Nursery children took part in a Chatterbox Challenge and raised £283 for the "I Can" charity, which helps children with speech and learning difficulties across the UK.

Nursery nurse Elaine Montgomery is taking up a post at New End School. She has given outstanding support to the children and staff and will be much missed.

Local community police visited Martin Infant School to talk to the children about stranger danger and what to do in an emergency.

The school is sad to be losing Angela Zambito from the nursery. Her teaching talents and special relationship with pupils will certainly be missed.

On Monday 4 April the renowned educationalist Dr David George will speak on Learning How to Learn in the Infant Hall from 7 - 8.15 pm.

## Flushed with success

**Brookland Junior School has totally refurbished its girls' toilets block after pupils brought up the issue of the toilets in their School Council meeting.**

Professional mural designer and Brookland parent, Tracey Cottingham lent her expertise, and transformed the girls' toilet block from drab and utilitarian, to bright and funky.

Assistant Head, Andrew Craze commented, "It is a wonderful example of how an effective School Council can make a difference."

**All Saints' Church,  
Durham Road, East Finchley  
Church of England**

**Sunday masses at 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m.  
Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.  
Prayer requests are gladly accepted.**

**The Parish has a flourishing social life.  
Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy,  
on 020 8883 9315.**

**All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir of both adults and children.  
Experienced singers are always welcome.  
Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.**

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

## East Finchley Baptist Church

Just off the High Road in Creighton Avenue N2

**Sundays at 11.00 am and 6.30 pm**

**For more information  
please contact the Church Office  
Tel: 8883 1544 (Minister: Simon Dyke)**

**Visitors always welcome**





## Willie Grim pupils reunited

By Hannah Eiseman-Renyard

**On Saturday 25 February, ex-pupils and teachers of William Grimshaw School returned for the school's 50th anniversary.**

William Grimshaw Secondary Modern was officially opened on 28 February 1955, though pupils had been attending since the previous September. The school later became Creighton School, and then Fortismere. The gathering took place in what is now Fortismere's North Wing.

### Friends reunite

Organiser and ex-pupil Vic Wildish said the idea came to him after finding out about Friends Reunited - a website through which people can trace old classmates. "I'd say around 50% of the people here are from Friends Reunited, and the other 50% are from the Hornsey jungle drum," he said. The event took a year to plan, and had a brilliant response. Games teacher Miss Mary Penny was thrilled. "I never knew so many people would remember me," she said. Retired headteacher Mr Loades couldn't attend, but sent his best wishes.

### Remember the Ravens?

Joe Stacey and his wife Anne, who met at 'Willie Grim', are about to celebrate their ruby anniversary. Famous pupils have included Rod Stewart, and Ray and Dave Davies of the Kinks. "They started out as the Ravens," a contemporary recalled. "They used to play at Northbank on Pages Lane. Then they went on *Ready Steady Go* as the Kinks and it just took off."

There was a catered lunch, ample time for people to meet and reminisce, followed by a tour of the building, led by current Fortismere pupils. "The pond's moved," one person complained. "It's a shame they don't still have the bike sheds anymore," joked another.

William Grimshaw School was "the first brand spanking new" school built in London after World War Two, and as such was a marvel in its time. Ex-pupil Barbara Turner told me, "Rumour has it one young lad came in and said 'Cor, it's better than the Odeon!'"

## Understanding Wedgwood at Church Farmhouse Museum

**The 50th anniversary exhibition of The Wedgwood Society London was officially opened by Sir Martin Wedgwood Bt, a descendant of Josiah Wedgwood, at Church Farmhouse Museum on Sunday 6 March. The exhibition runs from 26 February to 10 April.**

### Not just jasper

To mark its 50th anniversary, the society has compiled an exhibition showing specific aspects of Wedgwood which have been studied and researched by its members over the past half-century. Emphasis is given to the designers (such as Arnold Machin-Taurus and



*Creamware Soup Tureen, circa 1800. Photos by John Dearing*

Eric Ravilious) of fashionable pottery in the 20th Century and their products, often overlooked or underrated by the general public who tend to associate the Wedgwood name exclusively with blue jasper ware bearing white figures. Examples of this now iconic pottery are included too. Other areas featured include blue printed patterns, some of which are still in production today, although they first appeared in 1805, and some most unusual pieces, popular in their day, but now no longer in use. The 19th Century is represented with some lovely pieces based upon paintings and designs by the artist Emile Lessore, who worked with Wedgwood in the 1870s.

### Telling the story

Documents, prints and photographs are used to tell the story of this remarkable pottery, from the 1750s, when fashionable people clamoured to be the first to have Mr Wedgwood's wares



*Ceramic with design based on picture by Emile Lessore, c.1870.*

on their tables and in their cabinets, to the present day.

Barnet's Cabinet Member for Culture, Councillor Katia David, said, "We warmly welcome Wedgwood to Barnet. This important exhibition will be of wide interest, with its display of rare pieces, modern day productions, information on designers, and of course the timeless blue jasper ware."

Church Farmhouse Museum, at Greyhound Hill, Hendon, is open Mondays to Thursdays 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm, Saturdays 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5.30pm, and Sundays 2pm to 5.30pm. Admission is free.

## Wildlife Diary

By Linda Mitchell

**At last, spring is on its way. The blue tits have been inspecting the nesting-box since the beginning of the year. Robins are flying back and forth across the garden, and I think there have been a few sparrows!**

Throughout the winter, jays came to feed and the woodpeckers were frequent visitors. The parakeets are growing in numbers. They came almost daily during the winter and I have seen a flock of about 15 flying over on several occasions. Long-tailed tits darted about in the apple trees, the first time I have noticed them. It was wonderful to see an owl fly across the road right in front of me as I walked my dog one evening.

The garden was unusually free of slugs and snails last year and I wonder if that's been the reason why the hedgehog and the frogs have not been seen so often. The one lone frog spent the winter in a tall flowerpot.

Spring is a wonderful season. Everything in the garden is coming to life, and the birds will soon be making their nests. It's especially wonderful for me this spring as I have a new little grandchild arriving.

## KALASHNIKOV KULTUR

By Ricky Savage, the voice of social irresponsibility

### What's cooking?

**In these mean and vicious times where the crazies haven't just taken over the asylum, they've sold it to property developers, life has started to get so twisted that it's a dog eat dog world out there. And when it comes to eating, you've just got to have a celebrity chef. No meal is complete unless it's as seen on TV. Imagination? Hell no, that's for those poor people who haven't got the books and didn't see how Delia or Jamie did it.**

Back in olden times, pre-Delia, when chefs weren't naked and Nigella hadn't been invented, recipes got passed down from mother to daughter. Everywhere women cooked just the way their mums had done it and even if the results looked like cement and tasted like cardboard, it was traditional. Girls learnt from their mothers how to ruin food traditionally and boys learnt from their fathers how not to complain. Cooking wasn't an art, it was about survival. Then came Fanny Craddock, but I don't really want to go there, anymore than I want to go anywhere anyone thinks that fondue can be called food.

It wasn't long before the sainted Delia appeared to tell us how to make tea, boil an egg, slice your own bread, use a toaster and generally do the sort of things that make the difference between cooking and getting a takeaway. All across suburbia people discovered cooking as an art form and spent so long watching Delia cook that they had no time left to cook and got a takeaway instead.

Now you can't cook anything without a celebrity chef to tell you what to do. With Nigella about you can't even eat without being told how to do it. And then there's Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall explaining the easy way to slaughter your own pig and turn the unmentionable bits into sausages. If you don't follow the recipes you can't hold your head up in polite society and if you've cheated and got it from Sainsbury's or Tesco then you've got to hide the packaging so that none of your friends know you've got better things to do than drizzle olive oil over the things you can't drizzle balsamic vinegar over.

**CARPENTRY & BUILDING SPECIALIST**

- Extensions & Home Improvements
- Property Repairs & Maintenance
- Garden Structures, Fencing & Decking

For a Friendly Local Service call:  
**M J Griffiths (Builders)**  
TEL / FAX 020 8444 5198

**ANDREWS OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS**  
Contact Lens Practitioners

153 Haverstock Hill, Hampstead London NW3 4QT 56 High Road, East Finchley London N2 9PN  
Tel: 020 7722 5446 / 8025 - Fax: 020 7586 6087 Tel: 020 8883 6693 - Fax: 020 8883 6512

A team of qualified and dedicated eye-care professionals are at your service from both the above addresses.

We specialise in:

**EYE-EXAMINATIONS:** To include Glaucoma tests and Diabetic screening.

**CONTACT LENSES:** All types expertly fitted.

**DISPENSING:** Hundreds of frames in stock - from budget to designer frames.

Concessions:

FREE EYE-EXAMINATIONS for children, over 60s and many others.

NHS VOUCHERS where applicable.

STUDENT DISCOUNTS / COMPETITIVE PRICES

Please telephone any of the above numbers for further information or to make an appointment.

**Ken-Bu-Kan SCHOOL OF KARATE**

**What Ken-Bu-Kan Karate School offers you:**

- Kids take part in physical activities under qualified instructors.
- Adults take part in a sport that offers stress relief through exercise.
- Self defence, awareness and respect.
- An inexpensive way to keep fit & fun.
- Students can be of any age above 5 and any ability.

Chief Instructor  
Andy Michaelides, Black Belt 4TH DAN  
6 x National Champion, England Team Member  
Tel: 07956 165 826 OR 020 8443 5635

**Muswell Hill N10 (Tetherdown)**  
Tue & Thu 6.30pm - 7.30pm

**Bounds Green N11 (Rhodes Ave)**  
Tue 8.30 - 10pm, Thu 8pm - 10pm

**Highbury N5 (Ronalds Rd)**  
Mon & Wed 5.45pm - 7.30pm

**Wood Green N22 (Lyngington Ave)**  
Thu 3.45pm - 4.45pm

**Enfield EN3 (Head Dojo)**

Visit website or call for more details  
**www.kbk-karate.co.uk**

**COSMOLIGHT**  
**HOLISTIC LIGHT THERAPY TREATMENT**

The latest technology in Light Therapy treatments for:

- ♦ Acne Rosacea
- ♦ Psoriasis
- ♦ Eczema
- ♦ Anti-ageing Facials
- ♦ Acne

Minor sports injuries can also be treated with Light Therapy.

Experience this unique Light Therapy treatment by calling TRISHA on Tel: 020-8883-2452

**MO & ANDY HORT**  
Are Up & Running  
in East Prawle, S. Devon  
tel: 01548 511151

4 B&B rooms + 3 bed s/c unit

SEE OUR WEBSITE  
[www.wellehouse.co.uk](http://www.wellehouse.co.uk)

10% discount  
for any N2/N10 resident!





## Regular Events SPORT & FITNESS

- ❖ **Finchley & Hornsey Ramblers Group** Call Vivien 8883 8190
  - ❖ **Glebelands Indoor Bowls Club**, Summers Lane N12. New and experienced bowlers welcome.
  - ❖ **Keep fit for the Retired** Wednesdays Christ Church N12. Ring Bridie 8883 5269
  - ❖ **Muswell Hill Bowling Club**, Kings Ave, N10. New & experienced bowlers welcome. Tel: 8883 1178.
  - ❖ **Pilates** in East Finchley, qualified teacher. Contact Dee on 8883 7029
  - ❖ **Pilates class** Wednesdays, 2.15-3.15pm at Youth Theatre, N2. Ring Penny Hill 8444 2882.
  - ❖ **Tae Kwon Do** at The Green Man Thursdays 7-9pm 07949 612 706
  - ❖ **Tai Chi** at the Green Man on Mondays 1.30-3pm. An "ageing well" class for older people.
  - ❖ **Tennis club** with four clay courts off Southern Road. Call 8440 6953.
  - ❖ **Wood Walk**, meet 10am at Cherry Tree Wood cafe on 1st & 2nd Mon of month for 1 hr. walk, Call 8883 8750.
  - ❖ **Yoga, breathing & relaxation.** Weekly drop-in classes - N2, N6, N10. Phone Judy on 8444 7783.
  - ❖ **Yoga classes** Tuesdays 8-9:30pm at EF Methodist Church. Experienced teacher. Call Rosalind 8444 8134.
- ## DANCE, DRAMA, ART & MUSIC
- ❖ **Art Classes.** For info call Henry on 020 8888 5133.
  - ❖ **Ballroom dancing classes**, beginners and improvers. Phone 01707 642 378
  - ❖ **Broadway & West End Musical Singing Workshop** call Idit Gold 8449 0011.
  - ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call Vicky 8883 1554
  - ❖ **East Finchley Writing Workshops.** Creative writing, poetry and prose Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
  - ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club**, Monday 4 & 18 April at Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3.
  - ❖ **Line dancing** Tuesdays from 8.30pm at The Constitutional Club. Call Maureen 8440 8530.
  - ❖ **Over 60s come dancing** at Ann Owens Centre 8346 8736
  - ❖ **Pottery Class** at The Green Man, Call Celia Holmes 8349 9315
  - ❖ **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church. Call 8883 4070 for info.
  - ❖ **Street Dance** every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages Contact Lorna 07976 203669.
  - ❖ **SwampRock** events at Wilf Slack Sports Club. Call Carole 8810 7454 or Neil 01727 830280 www.swamprock.org.uk
  - ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** of North London, Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
  - ❖ **Tap Dance** for children beginning at Old Barn every Monday, Contact Sharon 8349 4613

## CLUBS & SOCIAL

- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book a place. Every Thursday. 12.30-2pm
- ❖ **East Finchley National Childbirth Trust**, Contact Sophie on 8444 1890
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers** meet weekly at Clissold Arms. Call Lillian 8444 1793
- ❖ **Fairacres Monday Club** for Jewish people. Contact Rene & Reuby 8883 0448 or Sylvia 8958 7878
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn. Contact 8349 4613
- ❖ **Haringey Recorded Music Society** informal meetings locally. Call David Mouldon on 8361 1696.
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495
- ❖ **Muswell Hill and Highgate Pensioners' Action Group** Call Bob Cottingham on 8444 7635.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, contact 8883 4390
- ❖ **Old Barn pre-school club**, contact 8349 4613/1961
- ❖ **Parent & Toddler Group**, Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professionals. Call Eric 8340 0822.
- ❖ **Stepping Stones**, interactive play session for under 3's. Karen 07957 278860.

# Barnet Schools' Dance Festival 2005

By Hannah Eiseman-Renyard

**On Tuesday 8 March over 20 groups of children from local schools performed at artsdepot, the arts centre at Tally Ho. All 400 tickets had sold out, but I was able to come to the dress rehearsals earlier in the day.**

There were three nights of performances, each with different schools taking part. Overall, 60 schools and 1,000 children danced there this year. Religious, comprehensive and special schools all took part, and the ages of dancers ranged from five years right up to 18-year-old A-level students.

## 15 dancing years

As part of the Barnet Arts Festival, the Barnet Schools' Dance Festival is in its 15th year, and this is the biggest so far. "It's a huge event in the educational calendar," said organiser Anne, "and it's a chance for children to perform in a proper theatre." The event began with around five schools performing in each other's halls, and as numbers grew

venues included the Chicken Shed Theatre. Now, with the slick new artsdepot so near by, organisers hope this will become its permanent venue.

Schools were asked simply to prepare a dance, and styles ranged from a Street Dance by Queen Elizabeth Girls, to St. Agnes Primary's Irish-inspired Fairy Dance. Rosh Pinah Primary performed the traditional Jewish Hora, while Cromer Road Primary did the Hand Jive.

Performances on other nights have ranged from traditional Indian and Greek dance to ballet, contemporary and jazz.

The organisers are hoping for an even bigger Schools' Dance Festival next year.

# Local actor in *Love Play*

By Sheila Armstrong

**A theatre group formed by East Finchley actor Simon Money is staging its first show.**

Simon, of East End Road, formed the theatre group *showdon'ttel* with six friends while he was at the Academy Theatre School in Whitechapel. The group's aim is to put on shows that are accessible to all.

Their first production will be *Love Play* by Moira Bufini, at the Pleasance Theatre in Caledonian Road, N7, from 12 April to 1 May.

A tragi-comedy, it takes place on the same site in London



Simon Money photo by Tony Meehan

spanning the centuries from Roman times through to the present day and explores the highs and lows of love.

The press release calls it "a sexy and exciting exploration of the many facets of love" containing scenes of a sexual nature. Author Bufini, whose previous West End play was *Dinner*, has attended rehearsals.

The Pleasance box office is on 020 7609 1800, 020 7420 0180 (24 hours) or www.pleasance.co.uk.

# Let the dance begin

By Betti Blatman

**Nicola Goode is a dance teacher based in Whetstone who has spent seven years teaching children from two to 18 years in all kinds of dancing including ballet, jazz, tap.**

She approached organisers of the North London Festival of Music and Drama who agreed to hold dance competitions in their festival, which will be held at Finchley Youth Theatre, High Road, on Sunday 15 May from 2pm. The adjudicator will

be Laura Symonds.

In addition to dance schools, private entrants are also welcome to enter the competition. For a syllabus or further information contact Nicola Goode on 01992 623559.

# Barbara Bus charity event

Unfortunately, the charity showing of *The Goodbye Girl* at the Phoenix last month had to be cancelled. However, East Finchley will still have a chance to support the Barbara Bus Fund, which provides transport and escorts for the disabled. Sippy Azizollah, a user of the Barbara buses, is planning another event later this year.



'Just the Job' jazz band. Photo by Toni Morgan

# Jazz, Ploughman's and Profiteroles!

By Toni Morgan

**You may think this sounds a strange combination but it was certainly a winner for the Rotary Club of Finchley at their latest fund raising evening.**

In conjunction with the Rotary Clubs of Barnet & East Barnet and Friern Barnet & Whetstone, their project was to raise £16,000 to purchase a vehicle for the Multiple Sclerosis Society at The Marie Foster Centre, Barnet.

## Wheels for MS society

Thanks to the generosity of those attending the event at Holy Trinity School, East Finchley, on Thursday 24 February, the Finchley Rotary Club were able to raise the final £1,000 needed to complete the project. Music was provided by John Softley's 'Just the Job' jazz band, who played a mixture of traditional and Dixieland from the 1920s and 1930s, and jazz from the 1940s and 1950s. As for the plough-

man's and profiteroles, a very tasty array of food was provided by the Rotary Club members and very much enjoyed by all.

For those jazz fans who like to listen to live music, the 'Just the Job' band perform on alternate Monday evenings at the Wilf Slack Memorial Pavilion, 19 East End Road, from 8.15pm to 10.45pm. The next date is Monday 18 April. The regular backing group are joined by guest players from well-known bands such as the Chris Barber, Kenny Ball and Monty Sunshine bands.

# Line dancing

**Line dancing is alive and well in East Finchley.**

On Tuesdays from 8.30pm, a very friendly group meets at the Constitutional Club in The Walks. Maureen who takes the class has been teaching for approximately five years and also holds children's dancing classes in freestyle, disco and street dance at Finchley Methodist Church. She can be contacted on 8440 8530.

# Farmers' Market dates

**There will be four farmers' markets at Alexandra Park this month on Sundays 3, 10, 17 and 24 April from 10am to 3pm.**

# What's On...

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

**Tuesdays-Sundays to 17th April:** East Finchley actor Robin Dunn stars as Sailor Mahan in a production of Sean O'Casey's comedy **Cock A Doodle Dandy** at 7.30pm at Baron's Court Theatre London W14. Call 020 8932 4747.

**Monday 4 April- Weds 4 May:** **Street Level Photoworks** presents **No Small Feat** - an exhibition of lens-based artworks around the theme of parenthood. Admission free. artsdepot, Tally Ho Corner, N12. 020 8369 5454. www.artsdepot.co.uk

**Sunday 17 April:** **Cycle ride** in aid of 'Hearing Dogs for Deaf People' Chose from a full or half day ride through Barnet and Hertfordshire, or a fun ride along one of Barnet's cycle paths. For details call 020 8359 7108.

**Sunday 17 April:** **North London Chorus** presents **Puccini's Messa Di Gloria** and **A Symphony of Psalms** by Stravinsky at 7.30pm at the artsdepot, Tally Ho Corner, N12. Box Office: 8369 5454.

**Tuesday 19 April: Cricket for Kids** courses commence at Wilf Slack

Cricket Club. Contact Mark Dorow on 020 8349 9087 for details.

**Thursday 21 - Saturday 23 April:** **The Guild Players** present Bernard Shaw's **Pygmalion** at Finchley Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane, N3 at 7.45pm. Box office 020 8346 6337.

**Thursday 28 April:** **The Finchley Society** presents **Galapagos Islands** - a talk by Bruce Bennett - at 8pm at Avenue House, East End Road, N3 (Tel. 8346 7812). Non-Society members are welcome, and entry is free.

**Saturday 14 May:** **May Fair** 11am to 2pm at All Saints Church Durham Road. Plants, gifts etc. and refreshments.

**Sunday 15 May:** Charity film screening of **Spellbound** at the Phoenix Cinema, High Rd, N2 at 11 am.

**Sunday 22 May 2005:** **Cromwell Hall Residents' Association** annual 'Garage Sale' in Abbots Gardens from 12 noon - 3 pm. Residents will set up their 'Stalls' in front gardens up and down the road.





Send your correspondence to: "Letters Page",  
The Archer, PO Box 3699,  
London N2 8JA or e-mail  
the-archer@lineone.net.

### Doormat deluge

Dear Archer,

With reference to your recent article about recycling in Barnet, I was wondering if any of your other readers get as annoyed as I do with all the rubbish that drops onto our doormats: two free newspapers, which appear to be full of advertisements and not much else, various menus for food delivery services and all those taxi card numbers that, like buses, come in threes or fours.

Then there are the ads for cleaning services and decorators, not forgetting the estate agencies telling you how they can sell or rent your property. Do they not realise that if you wanted those services you would pick up the phone and call them, as there are enough to choose from in the High Road?

And then there are the unsolicited letters that arrive by the mail addressed to the occupier, often begging letters from various charities.

All this rubbish makes up 90% of the paper that I put in my recycle bin. I just wish there was a way I could control this unwanted paper dropping through my letter box, as I can with email (auto delete).

Still, I suppose this is just another sign of the throwaway society we live in today.

East Finchley resident  
(name and address supplied)

### Dumping rags

Dear Editor,

In your March issue under the heading 'Real charity begins at home' I was aghast to read your article suggesting that rags or rubbish, for want of a better word, were not good enough for the charity shop but were ok to send to Third World countries.

Only a few nights ago, I saw a programme where the rich countries like Britain were putting the Third World rag trade out of business because market traders in those countries were buying our old stuff and selling it to the public resulting in the local factories being closed and workers being put out of a job. Some people are even sending their dirty undergarments.

It's a case of it not being good enough for Mrs Jones but just right for the poor and needy in the Third World countries. They are the rich countries' dumping ground. Treat others as you would like to be treated.

An avid reader  
(name and address supplied)

### EF on KFC TV

Dear Archer,

I don't know if anyone spotted the use of East Finchley tube station in the TV advert for Kentucky Fried Chicken's 99p Mini Fillet. This is not a product I am familiar with but I thought you would be interested.

David Tupman  
Leicester Road, N2

## Letters to The Editor

### Stanley Field

Dear Editor,

Having just read the article in *THE ARCHER* on Stanley Field, I definitely think that it should be converted into a sports area. It is badly needed by everyone, especially schoolchildren.

Their plans sound excellent, and I wish all people concerned in this project all the help they need.

Good luck to them.

F.M. Stevenson.  
High Road, N2

### Not up to scratch?

Dear Archer

What a debacle! Barnet Council with its iniquitous Stealth Tax is making us, the local residents, pay even more for the privilege of parking in our road and receiving visitors.

Woe betide the person who makes a mistake when filling out the visitors' parking permits. My latest one-sided dealings with the parking team have been negative. I say one-sided because they appear immovable in their conviction that the parking wardens are always right.

My 76-year-old mother visiting us scratched the correct day and month out but unfortunately started to scratch out the wrong date (the day before) on the visitors' permit. She corrected this and put it on the dashboard of her car. She received a penalty notice.

I appealed and was told the visitors' permit had not been visible. Despite having sent in photographic evidence to the contrary, no one was prepared to listen. These are not the only tickets received and I am fed up with it. It appears the High Road is out of bounds as well! Consultation is needed. Can we residents make a difference and stop Barnet?

Denise Blake  
address supplied

## Muswell Hill Festival

For thesecond year running, the Muswell Hill Festival - including the Donkey Derby - will be held in Cherry Tree Wood. This year's date will be Sunday 11 September, 12 noon to 6pm.

The Festival is in aid of the Hornsey Trust for Children with Cerebral Palsy. Possible sponsors, stallholders or volunteer helpers should contact the Trust's Alison Wynn on 8444 7242, 020 8340 2524 or 07808364033, or at alison@onlib.com or info@hornseytrust.org.uk.

Medical secretary/receptionist required 35-40 hours a week by physiotherapy practice N2. Job share considered. Must be computer literate with fast audio typing speed, Microsoft Office. Training will be provided for use of database. Send CV and covering letter to: Wendy Longworth, East Finchley Clinic, 3 Bedford Mews, Bedford Road, London, N2 9DF



Binnie Barnes. Photo courtesy of Maureen Knight

### More about Binnie

Hello,

I came across your article on Binnie Barnes recently; Binnie was my maternal Grandmother's youngest sister. She was one of three girls and one boy born to Sarah Jane Noyce and William Barnes, not the 12 or 13 that was reported in her early biographies.

I have been researching my family history for the past five years but have still not found the exact date that William Barnes died but I believe it to be 1914/15 as Binnie's mother remarried around that time to Allen Newman and again in February 1917 to Charles Careless when once again she was a widow.

The address at the time was Cottenham Road, which I believe was in or near Holloway and I am doubtful about the farm in Kent. It is more likely to be an association with Kentish Town.

Binnie's brother Walter George was killed in WW1. As you can see from the details below, her mother was indeed living at 9 Prospect Place.

**Debt of Honour Register:**  
In Memory of W G BARNES Corporal 1592, 1st Bn., Lancashire Fusiliers who died on Friday 4 June 1915. Age 21.

Additional Information: Son of Mrs Newman, of 9 Prospect Place, East Finchley, London.

Hope this is of interest,

Regards  
Maureen Knight

### Daphne Chamberlain replies:

At last! This is one of the missing links in the Binnie Barnes story we have been researching for several years.

Binnie, born in 1904, starred on the London stage, in Hollywood

films and on American television from the 1930s to the 70s. We knew she lived around Prospect Place, although East Finchley was apparently never mentioned in her biographies, but couldn't find any corroboration.

I am also really pleased to see that the name of her stepfather, Careless, is the name that the late Cyril Wilds associated with her. Cyril assured me that this was her name at one time and, although I couldn't trace the connection, he was usually so knowledgeable that I was sure he must have been right.

So thanks very much, Maureen!

### Midhurst Butchers

Certified organic meat  
at reasonable prices  
Free-range poultry  
Home-made sausages  
(including Boerwors)

2 Midhurst Parade,  
Fortis Green, London N10  
Tel. 020 8883 5303

### Cree Godfrey Wood Solicitors

Commissioners for Oaths

Hours: 9.30am to 5.30pm.

email: admin@creegodfreyandwood.co.uk

28 High Road, London N2 9PJ

Tel: 020 8883 9414 / 9496 / 0989

www.creegodfreyandwood.co.uk



### State Registered Chiropodist/Podiatrist

Miss H.C. MIKELLIDES BSc (Hons)  
SRCh MChS DpodM

♦ Nail Surgery & Replacement  
♦ Verruca treatment ♦ Sports injuries  
♦ Skin complaints ♦ Biomechanics  
♦ Local Anaesthetic  
COOTES PHARMACY 020 8883 0073  
134 High Road East Finchley London N2 9ED  
Mobile: 07958 443 623

## The festival of Passover:

### A personal perspective

By Kathryn Salomon

The Jewish festival of Passover (*Pesach*) is celebrated in the month of *Nisan* (in the Jewish lunar calendar) which roughly corresponds to March or April. It celebrates the Israelites' flight from slavery in Egypt to freedom.

We eat *matzah*, unleavened bread, during the eight days of the festival because, in their haste to escape, the Israelites did not have time to let their bread rise.

The main celebration takes place at home. The family and their guests use a special book, the *haggadah*, to recount the story of the Exodus, ensuring that even the youngest members participate and have the story explained to them.

Extra songs are sometimes added if they are relevant, such as 'Let my people go' or 'If I had a hammer'. The recounting of the story involves a great deal of symbolism and many songs.

We are told we must feel as if we ourselves have been freed from slavery in Egypt and this can be interpreted as an instruction to care for all those less fortunate than ourselves or to consider the plight of refugees. There is a duty to ensure that the poor in the community can participate in the *Seder* (Passover service).

It is very hard for small

children to sit quietly until the meal so there are various ways to maintain their interest. For instance, the youngest child has a special part to say. Also the '*the aphikoman*' (a piece of *matzah* which must be eaten at the end of the meal) is hidden by the leader of the service, the children search for it, hide it themselves and only give it back in exchange for a small present.

Just before the meal we list the plagues which afflicted the Egyptians. In my family we sing a special song about frogs which our grandchildren learned at kindergarten and then I produce toy frogs. The most popular are rubber frogs which stick out long tongues when you squeeze them.

The contents of the meal vary according to where each family can trace its ancestry; *Sephardi* Jews from Spain eat different foods from *Ashkenazi* Jews from Central Europe.

After the meal we sing songs and then the youngest children fall asleep or join in, in whatever way they can.





## Cadillac Kings rule

By Betti Blatman

**SwampRock's Louisiana Dance Club at the Wilf Slack Sports Club in East End Road is rapidly becoming a popular dance venue.**

On Saturday 12 March, people phoned all day booking tickets for The Cadillac Kings, who were performing their only London gig and whose latest CD *Highway 17* was chosen by The Times' music critics in their end-of-year review as best blues CD of 2004. Mardi Gras flags and bunting decorated the hall and elaborate masks and beads were worn to create a real New Orleans Mardi Gras flavour in the heart of East Finchley.

This band recreates blues and swing bands of the 1950s but also includes some zydeco and its music is as much about the danc-

ing that goes with it as it is about the instruments playing on stage. The packed dance floor was hot and steamy despite almost zero temperatures outside.

In the 1980s and 1990s, Mike Thomas and Mike Adcock played in a cajun band The Poorboys and then renamed themselves Third Degree but Mike Thomas chose a new name The Cadillac Kings in 2000. They are: Mike Thomas (vocalist), Roy Webber (drummer), Gary Potts (harmonica and vocal), Mike Adcock (key-board and accordion), Tim Copp (double bass) and Del Van Dee

(guitarist). They are playing gigs throughout the UK and also in Holland and Norway this year. It was one of SwampRock's most successful nights and more than 100 people danced to their music and a great selection of records from guest DJ Paul Rose.

For details of future Swamprock gigs, contact Carole Lateman on 020 8810 7454 or Neil Papworth on 01727 830280 or visit [www.swamprock.org](http://www.swamprock.org)

Left: Mike Adcock of The Cadillac Kings. Below: Z-Funk's Sue Warren. Photos by Ian Cook

## Z-Funk

By Betti Blatman

**Z-Funk, one of the hottest Louisiana-style bands in the UK, made a very rare London appearance at SwampRock in East Finchley. There was a large crowd to see them play at the Wilf Slack pavilion, East End Road, Finchley on Saturday 26 February.**

The dance floor was full all night and the friendly atmosphere ensured everybody was havin' a great time!

Z-Funk features the fabulous Gavin Lewery on accordion, Dave Luke on guitar, Micky Jones on drums, Tommy Mills on bass guitar and Sue Warren on washboard, all of whom combine their talents with great vocals. SwampRock's monthly Louisiana-style dances are rapidly becoming a popular event in Finchley but also attract people from all over the UK.



**SECUREBASE**  
DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY

*Your Security problems Solved!*

- Grilles
- Collapsible Gates
- Roller Shutters
- Full Locksmith Service



ESTABLISHED 1988

**0800 279 0791**

112 High Road, East Finchley N2

[www.securebase.co.uk](http://www.securebase.co.uk)

## MUSWELL HILL BOOKSHOP

Now holds regular author readings and discussions. If you would like further information or to join our mailing list contact us at:



**72 FORTIS GREEN ROAD, N10**  
**020 8444 7588**

# STEWART DUNCAN

OPTICIANS, SINCE 1962

- EYE EXAMINATIONS
- DESIGNER EYEWEAR
- CONTACT LENSES
- LATE NIGHT
- DYSLEXIA CLINIC
- DVLA APPROVED
- OLD FASHIONED SERVICE

**020 8883-2020**

**126 HIGH ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY**

