



Nursery to open in Park House

By Janet Maitland

Park House will soon be full of the sound of children's voices. The council-owned building opposite the tube station, empty for nearly four years, has finally been let to a private nursery on a five-year lease.

The nursery, a franchise of Monkey Puzzle Day Nurseries, will initially take 55 children and employ about 20 staff, subject to Ofsted approval. The plan is to open the nursery on the ground floor in the autumn.

The building has become very dilapidated and will need extensive renovation before it can open, including conversion of part of the rear car park into a secure outdoor play area. In the longer term, there are also plans to sub-let the first floor to a company compatible with a nursery.

Green Travel Plan

"We're hoping that the nursery will not only be used by local parents, but that people living close by will apply for jobs with us," said local resident Paula Curry, the owner. "As part of our Green Travel Plan, we'll be providing a secure buggy and bicycle storage area, an employee Oyster card loan scheme and a bicycle loan scheme to make it easier for people to leave their cars at home."

A public open day will be held during the summer. "If

readers have any questions about the nursery, they can call free on 0870 850 3372," said Paula.

Five years ahead

The council decided in January to allow a five-year lease on the site, whose value lies not in the building but in its prime position. Big national companies are likely to be interested in developing retail or residential premises when the lease expires. However, as we reported in February, Councillor Colin Rogers is hopeful that the five years may provide enough time for smaller organisations and community enterprises to determine the long-term future of Park House.

In 2005 local protests prevented a developer from building a superstore on the site. Later, The Institute hoped to buy Park House but were not able to proceed with the sale and left the building when their temporary lease expired in 2007. Development company Cathedral exchanged contracts for the site in early 2008, but withdrew for legal reasons.

High court action against parking charges

By Diana Cormack

Residents from the Barnet CPZ Action Group met outside the High Court on Monday 11 April in support of the action to be taken on their behalf by solicitor David Attfield. David, of Summerlee Avenue, lodged papers petitioning the court to launch a judicial review regarding Barnet's decision to increase parking charges throughout the borough.

As reported in last month's ARCHER, parking permits are to rise from £40 to £100 per year and visitor vouchers from £1 to £4 each. The group believes that these increases are unlawful as the revenue raised would be used for road repairs throughout the borough instead of just controlling parking demands. They must now wait on a judge's decision as to whether there is a point of law which needs to be examined by the courts; they have also requested a cap on their financial liability for the legal challenge.

The Action Group featured on ITV London Today, challenging Barnet's claim that their increased parking charges were in line with other London boroughs and asking Barnet to withdraw it publicly. The campaigners point out that it costs more to park a small car outside your own house in Barnet than in Mayfair or Chelsea and Westminster.

Fighting fund

So far, almost half the amount they are aiming for has been raised. Some members of the group have visited tube stations and other parts of the borough to raise awareness of the parking charge hike and to encourage other residents to



Residents support at High Court. Photo by Philippa Worke

join in the protest.

More fundraising activities are planned and donations are still needed. Cheques made payable to 'Barnet CPZ Action' can

be sent to 88 Summerlee Avenue, East Finchley, N2 9QH. For further information visit www.barnetcpz.blogspot.com or email barnetcpz@gmail.com

H. A. MOONEY Painter and Decorator

- FREE quotes and references
- Flexible hours to suit you
- Interior and Exterior
- 25 years experience
- Private and Commercial

Tel: 02083434105 Mobile: 07714 242 459



Linda Sharp
Change Of A Dress
Sewing Repairs
And Alterations
020 8444 4872
07950 902 320

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



brera gardens

- garden design
- maintenance
- hard landscaping
- irrigation systems
- soft landscaping
- East Finchley based
- indoor plants

Mob. 07939 557 934 Tel. 020 8365 3615
Email: breragardens1@btinternet.com

Slimming World
the club with the big heart
SAVE £5 FREE online support

Slimming World East Finchley can be found at:-

East Finchley Methodist Church 197 High Rd (opposite Creighton Avenue)

Wednesdays 9.30am, 5pm and 7pm

Telephone **Natalie** on **07889 252548** for all enquiries



* Half price membership until 31 June 2011

0844 897 8000 www.slimmingworld.com

Tom Hoyland
at Utopia Health & Beauty Clinic, East Finchley
• Reflexology
• Traditional Thai Yoga Massage
• Holistic Swedish Massage
• Seated Acupressure Massage
Utopia 020 8444 4226
Tom 07941 178 137
tom@tomhoylandmassage.co.uk
Receive 10% off your first treatment with this advert

Greene Driving School

East Finchley N2

From £17.50 x 2 Hr lessons

Safe driving for life

Low Co2 footprint 114

Eco & Low Maint Tuition

Pass Plus 4 cheaper

Insurance. Greenedriving.co.uk

Call **John** M.L.M.I

0773 851 4406



Police clear up the burned-out scooter in Cherry Tree Wood.

Motorbike thefts on the rise

The Safer Neighbourhood Team has issued a warning to motorcycle and scooter owners following a spate of thefts. This kind of theft often ends with the bike being dumped and set on fire.

Recent examples reported to THE ARCHER are a burnt-out moped found in Cherry Tree Wood on 19 March. A stolen motorbike was also set on fire in the alleyway between the end of Durham Road and Creighton Avenue on 3 April. A local resident reported to us that another bike had been dumped

in the same alleyway only a few weeks before.

"We've increased patrols in the areas affected," said Police Constable Eddie Rose. "If possible, bike owners should put their bikes in a secure garage or outbuilding. They should use a disc lock and a substantial chain and padlock."

The Safer Neighbourhood office is at 113 East Finchley High Road, N2 8AG. You can phone them on 020 7161 9014 or 07887 632767, email them at EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk or talk to the Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) you see on patrol.

A Local Handyman

available for general household & garden maintenance.

No Job Too Small

Free Estimates

Call: 0789 010 3831

or: 020 8350 2188