



YOUNG ARCHER

Finchley Cricket Club goes from strength to strength

Well known for its high standards of playing and coaching, over the last two years Finchley CC has also become a buzzing social hub for the local community.

Warm and friendly, the club prides itself on being particularly welcoming to families. Where else these days can young (and old) children play outside, long after the sun has set, in complete safety? Finchley CC is a real hands-on community where everyone keeps a watchful eye on younger members, encouraging them to enjoy their freedom but also making sure that they don't step out of line.

The Colts section has grown rapidly from under 200 members two years ago to nearly 350 members and their families. Finchley CC not only looks after their cricket interests but runs family events (archery, croquet, boules anyone?), courses in first aid, cricket scoring for beginners (a godsend not only for the initiated but also for the enthusiast!), barbeques and more.

Finchley's Colts' section is one of the most vibrant in North London. Everyone gets involved: players, parents, colts and senior club members who are encouraged to coach the colts, so they get excellent training and also quickly become part of the FCC Family.

Inclusive and welcoming

The club boasts a rapidly expanding section for girls



Finchley Cricket Club's family event hits the target

and is proud that both Finchley girls and boys play at the highest level of county cricket as well as for club.

Finchley also prides itself on being an inclusive club. Steve Selwood, head of coaching, says: "We welcome anyone who comes through our gates and wants to play cricket. Whatever their age, whatever their level we will find them a game."

Social secretary Zoe adds: "You can have a good time here even if you never take up a bat or ball. It's a great place to hang

out, have a drink, sit in the sun, shelter from the rain, with or without a cricketer in tow."

For more information, contact Finchley Cricket Club, East End Road, N3 2TA; www.finchleycricket.co.uk; telephone 020 8346 1822.

Open day at new nursery

The new nursery at Park House on the High Road will be having an Open Day on Saturday 10 September. The council-owned building opposite the tube station has been let on a five-year lease to a private nursery, a franchise of Monkey Puzzle. It will take 55 children initially and employ about 20 staff, subject to Ofsted approval.

Parents interested in coming to look at the nursery, which will open in the autumn, should call the Monkey Puzzle head office on 0870 8503372 to book a time slot between 10am and 4pm. They can also call this number for general information about the nursery.

PARENT & BABY/CHILD ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Coffee & Kids, Fri 9.15-11.15, Green Man Ctr. Rachel 8343 6147.
- ❖ Dads' Club: Get-togethers for dads looking after young children in East Finchley. Adam 07957 441435.
- ❖ EF National Childbirth Trust contact Ruby Yang or Patrizia Canwell at eastfinchleynct@googlemail.com
- ❖ Newstead Parent & Toddler Group, Thurs 9-12-30, Green Man Ctr. Sajni 8359 3460.
- ❖ Old Barn pre-school club, contact 8349 4613/1961
- ❖ Parent & Toddler Group, Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ Stepping Stones, interactive play session for under 3s. Karen 07957 278860.



Which way now, Mum? Tabitha Sumberg with her young son.

What's on website for under-fives

By Rebecca Brown

While taking maternity leave Tabitha Sumberg found she was at a loss when trying to think of activities in this area for her baby son. Luckily for anyone in the same predicament she is one of four mums who have taken the initiative to create the website eastfinchleytots.co.uk.

The website has accumulated a great list of activities, groups, and local parks for parents with under-fives. Instead of having to trawl through the internet or various leaflets, parents can find this information all in one place. They can also sign up to a newsletter to get discounts on many of the activities mentioned.

It's not only activities and groups on the website; local parks and playing areas are also noted. Tabitha said: "Many people may not know that if you walk all the way through Coldfall Woods and across the playing fields there is a brilliant playground; I had no idea it was there!"

Tabitha does feel there is a lack of drop-in activities for those who find they have a morning to spare or who are unable to commit in advance to booking weekly courses and

classes.

If readers know of any hidden gems in the area, or if you are starting something up yourself, East Finchley Tots would welcome contributions via email at info@eastfinchleytots.co.uk. This includes any local businesses who offer services for under-fives and would like to get involved with, or just be mentioned on the website.

Tots seek new space

Al's little singers, a twice weekly singing group for under 3s, is looking for a new venue.

If you have a space in East Finchley available for an hour on Monday or Wednesday mornings, please contact Alex Lyons at alexandracylions@gmail.com

Beauty treatment safety in Barnet

Almost all procedures taking place in the borough's beauty salons must be covered by a special treatment licence from Barnet Council. Its purpose is to make sure that the treatments, equipment and premises are safe and properly managed, and that practitioners are fully qualified.

Councillor Melvin Cohen, Cabinet Member for Governance and Civic Affairs, said: "The licensing scheme protects our residents from the risk of injury or of catching infections such as hepatitis. Barnet Council considers it a serious offence to practise without a licence, and doing so can result in the Council undertaking a prosecution. The maximum fine for trading without a licence is £2,500. Each safety offence can be fined up to £20,000 in the Magistrates' Court, or unlimited fine and / or up to two years' imprisonment in the Crown Court".

All licensed businesses should exhibit their licence at all times, where it can easily be seen by everyone using the premises. Practitioners who are uncertain whether they require a licence, and any members of the public wanting to know whether a business has a licence, should contact the Council's Environmental Health Team on 020 8359 7995 for help or information.



www.birdiesclub.co.uk

Play, learn and grow

Weekday fun and educational activities

Arts and crafts, music sessions, play outdoors, dress up, etc...

...in a clean, relaxed and safe environment

Children aged 0 - 4 years

Monday - Friday 10am - 12noon

St. Mary's Parish Centre, 279 High Road East Finchley, N2 9HG

Big Lunch celebrations

Coppetts Wood School and Children's Centre celebrated the Big Lunch on Sunday 5 June in style, with plenty of food and fun for all. The Big Lunch is a national project that aims to get as many people as possible to have lunch with their neighbours in a simple act of community, friendship and fun.

Friends and families of Coppetts Wood took part in several activities including face painting, tug-of-war, football and karaoke. They were entertained by local bands including the school's own steel drum group.

As well as family picnics on the fields there was an international food table with delicious treats donated by generous parents. "This is such a lovely way to celebrate our community and I am delighted that so many people have come to join in with the fun," said Deena Chetty, headteacher at Coppetts Wood.

A friendly welcome awaits you

EAST FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH

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

tel: 0208 346 1700

www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk

Sunday service at 10.30 a.m.
With Creche and Junior Church

Worship Music Social events Toddler Group Wheelchair friendly

e-mail: info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk

Room hire tel: 020 8444 9887