



# Speed limit and road crossing victories

By Erini Rodis

Walksafe N2 road safety campaigners celebrated a major victory when Barnet Council backed three of their key demands. Plans for a 20mph speed limit on Church Lane, a zebra crossing on Creighton Avenue and a pedestrian island at the junction of Church Lane and East End Road will now move to the public consultation stage.

The victory represents a major step forward for the many parents, residents, schools, nurseries, businesses, churches and community organisations that have supported the Walksafe N2 campaign, which highlighted the danger faced by children and other vulnerable pedestrians using these busy routes on their way to several schools, churches and to the library.

The campaigns for the speed limit on Church Lane and the zebra crossing on Creighton Avenue have a long history. The East Finchley Village Residents Association and Martin Primary parents and governors have previously pressed the case with Barnet Council.



YES!! Road safety campaigners Walksafe N2 and their supporters celebrate victory after councillors give the go ahead for their key proposals.

However, two sticking points remain. The first is the potentially high speed of traffic entering Creighton Avenue from the High Road, although the proposed zebra crossing will be further down the avenue than the current pedestrian island. The second is pedestrian safety at the junction of the High Road and Church Lane. The Committee asked the Highways Department to consider alternatives at both locations and will review the situation in 12 months.

Overall, Emily Burnham from Walksafe was delighted with the outcome. She said: "The Committee's unanimous vote reflected the strength of our case and the degree of local concern. Thank you to all those who have contributed to this wonderful result, including local ward councillors and those who attended the committee meeting or emailed their support. The improvements will make a substantial difference to the daily lives of many families and other residents in our community."



Last of the summer wine in Cherry Tree Road. Photo by Ollie Mellman.

## Cherry Tree Road street party

The sun shone down all afternoon on Cherry Tree Road's third annual street party, which was held on Saturday 15 September. Neighbours prepared delicious home-made food and drink that was sold for charity along with a raffle in support of the Bobath Centre, for which £100 was raised.

There were games and activities for the children, but most of the entertainment was supplied by residents who had been asked to display their talents. For such a small cul-de-sac there was a lot of talent.

Nine-year-old Clio played guitar, ten-year-old Rafael was on drums, the young-at-heart were entertained by Diana Cormack's rendition of *The Ugly Duckling* and Charles Lewis showed his talent on the trombone. David Quirke's guitar playing took things to another level, particularly when he was joined by his father who used to play with Eric Clapton. His subsequent blues and mouth organ numbers greatly

impressed the audience.

But everyone agreed that the hit of the afternoon was ten-year-old Evie who, backed by two friends from Tetherdown School,

performed songs with a confidence and ability beyond her years.

The organisers agreed that this was their best street party yet and are already talking about the next one.

## Art gallery closes

On 6 October, after six years in East Finchley, the Noble Sage Art Gallery finally closed its doors. Director Jana Manuelpillai told *THE ARCHER* that it would be moving to new premises, as yet undecided. He is planning to create a new home/gallery space to which clients can come, relax and view art.

Jana travelled extensively to acquire the contemporary artwork from India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan in which the gallery specialises. He was particularly pleased that an artist with whom he shares a similar background

was the last to exhibit there. The new works by Reginald S Aloysius, entitled *Scaffolding Tradition*, seemed an appropriate way to say farewell to a distinctive feature of Fortis Green. For further details visit: [www.thenoblesage.com](http://www.thenoblesage.com)

## Fostering film

A partnership of five local authority fostering services, including Barnet's, is encouraging more people to come forward and offer to foster young people and teenagers.

Collaborating as the North London Fostering Consortium, they have made a short film featuring real-life foster carers explaining what looking after young people is like; and the

effect fostering has had on their lives and those of the teenagers.

To watch the film and to find out more about fostering go to [www.fosteringnorthlondon.co.uk](http://www.fosteringnorthlondon.co.uk)

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