



Ally Pally at 150

By Genevieve Krieff

The sun shone brightly to commemorate Ally Pally's century and a half. It was opened 150 years ago by the landscape architect Alexander McKenzie as a Victorian leisure park and place for education and entertainment. The free birthday festival ran between



150th anniversary cake made by The Alexandra Woman's Institute.
Photo by Diana Cormack

11am and 4pm on 21 July.

Mayor of Haringey Sheila Peacock officially opened the festivities by cutting a commemorative cake. Londoners were invited to activities like cricket or tree climbing for the more sporting. Kids could enjoy face painting and the fun fair while parents relaxed on pedalos. There were also local entertainers and musicians. Other celebrations featured free ice skating, a farmers' market, and more...

WI isn't all 'jam and Jerusalem'

Finchley Women's Institute was started in May 2009 by a group of friends who wanted to bring local women together from Finchley and the surrounding area.

WI Finchley is a friendly group with over 40 members from their mid-20s to the golden years who meet once a month to hear interesting speakers, learn something new or just meet new people.

Doing, making and learning

In the last six months members have learnt how to run a smallholding, seen how jam making helps fund one WI member's sidecar racing, danced their hearts out to the Charleston and tried on a shoe collection to rival Imelda Marcos when designer Einat Adato came to visit.

The group's craft club shares and learns crafting skills such as knitting, crochet, sewing, jewellery-making, painting, drawing and sloc-gin. Bringing along a current or long suffering unfinished project is encouraged!

There is a bi-monthly book

club and, for the more energetic there is also a walking club which takes in some beautiful scenery and usually a lovely pub lunch.

The pinnacle of the WI year is a Frost Fair at Avenue House just before Christmas, which brings together local crafters and designers to provide the perfect pre-Christmas shopping opportunity. And with a WI tea room who can resist a cuppa and a slice of homemade cake?

Finchley WI meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 8pm at Finchley Golf Club, Frith Lane, Mill Hill, NW7 1PU. Visitors are always welcome. For more information visit www.wifinchley.blogspot.co.uk

Ally Pally group

Another WI group near East Finchley is The Alexandra (Crouch End and Muswell Hill branch). They meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 8pm at CUFOS, the old Ally Pally Station, N10 2QE, near the end of Dukes Avenue. True to WI tradition, they made a fabulous cake for Alexandra Park's recent 150th birthday celebrations. Visit www.thealexandrawi.webs.com to find out more.

Buy or sell baby jumble

Baby Jumble is coming to East Finchley, where parents book a stall for a fixed price, bring along their good quality baby and children's items to sell and keep 100% of their profit.

The East Finchley event is taking place in Holy Trinity Church, Church Lane on 21 September. There will be plenty of stalls to browse, a free baby sensory taster session by Hartbeeps (as seen on BBC3), a talk on babies' and children's sleep by local consultant Maryanne at Child Sleep Works, vintage music, tea, cakes and face painting.

Tables are £25 (with some £20 early bird tables available on www.babyjumble.com and entrance is £2 per family, with 25% going to local charity, Noah's Ark Children's Hospice. There is also a 'leave behind' service where sellers are welcome to donate any leftover items to Noah's Ark Children's Hospice at the end of the sale.



Carolyn Pickles. Photo by Diana Cormack

Just missing out on the family fortune

By Diana Cormack

Local actress Carolyn Pickles featured in a recent edition of the ITV show in which celebrities and their families compete to raise money for a chosen charity. Carolyn, her daughter Hettie and partner Jason, plus a niece and nephew were up against actor Perry Fenwick who plays Billy Mitchell in East Enders.

All Star Family Fortunes opened with a sequence introducing the families, showing scenes in Bedford Road. Carolyn's team impressed from the start. They raced ahead of their opponents, who scored nothing despite Jason kindly handing play over to them at one point. However, the game gives an opportunity for opponents to steal from one another and, even though they were well ahead, Carolyn and family suddenly found themselves overtaken. Perry's team went on to win £30,000 for Cancer Research.

As they bowed out, host Vernon Kay described Carolyn's team as "the best family ever". They raised £2,750 for InterAct, the charity supporting stroke recovery. It has a reading service that uses professional

actors to deliver a live, interactive reading service to stroke victims in hospital or at stroke clubs. Visit www.interactreading.org/

Support our theatre

Carolyn Pickles will headline the next Friends of Finchley Youth Theatre meeting on Wednesday 2 October.

Carolyn has a long association with Finchley Youth Theatre and will talk about the theatre, her involvement with it and the importance of retaining the theatre and youth drama.

This Friends of Finchley Youth Theatre meeting is open to all and will start at 8.15pm at the theatre at 142 High Road, East Finchley N2. For more information contact Roger Chapman, Chair of Friends of Finchley Youth Theatre on 07855 304 488.

Japanese Acupuncture & Moxibustion

Gentle, dynamic & effective. Treating a wide range of conditions. www.fionahurlock.com

FREE 20min consultation

Fiona Hurlock

Ph 07795 203107

UTOPIA 1a Leicester Mews, N2 9EJ

Klages Plumbing & Heating Agency LTD.

CONTACT TELEPHONE No: 020 8346 7218 / 8636

KLAGE

A NAME IN PLUMBING FOR OVER 40 YEARS

Cieran Downes Personal Trainer

07867361315

I am a friendly, results-focused, Personal Trainer. I offer:

- Fitness
- Lean shape
- Greater endurance
- Body tone
- Strength
- Fat loss
- Biosignature Modulation
- Nutrition advice
- CrossFit

Call me today for a free trial

07867361315

Based at CrossFit
Muswell Hill & Highgate

www.body-transform.co.uk @BodyTransformUK



NHS CHECK-UPS £17.50
(this includes x-rays where necessary)

NHS EXEMPT PATIENTS AND CHILDREN UNDER 18 ARE FREE

new **NHS** list now open

member of the
BDA and the BDHF



smile with confidence

020 8444 3436

144 The High Road, East Finchley, London N2 9ED
www.eastfinchleysmiles.co.uk