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Local News is our Aim

THE ARCHER




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'Doggy ID: A visitor to the RSPCA clinic is microchipped. Photo Mike Coles

Dogs have had their chips

By Neil McNaughton

The East Finchley RSPCA drop-in centre held a free microchipping session at the end of March to publicise the importance of identification tagging to dog owners.

Manager Emma Prosser told *THE ARCHER* that having your dog chipped is vital for tracing it if lost and to prevent theft. The service normally costs £15 but this was an opportunity for a free procedure. From 1 April, it has become a legal requirement that all dogs be chipped and a maximum fine of £500 can be levied on owners who fail to comply.

The drop-in centre in Park Road offers a range of small procedures for all kinds of small animals such as vaccinations and treatment for minor wounds or injuries, as well as useful advice. Stray cats are not dealt with locally but are sent instead to the RSPCA rehoming centre in Chingford.

The RSPCA Small Animals Clinic opens on Mondays and Thursdays from 5.45pm to 7pm. To contact the team there, email rspcafinchley@gmail.com or phone 07928 628771. Appointments are essential.

How first cut of £1m Big Local cash will be spent

By Janet Maitland

The Grange Big Local project team has revealed details of how it will spend £279,000 of lottery money to transform local estates and surrounding areas in the north west of East Finchley over the next two years.

Originally announced three years ago, the total award for the area bounded by Church Lane, East End Road, the North Circular and the High Road is £1million. Once the first schemes are up and running, the remainder of the cash will be

spent between 2018 and 2026.

"We're delighted our plan has been endorsed," said Pat Murphy, GBL chair. "We can now start making a real difference on the ground in our pocket of East Finchley."

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Tributes to Victoria

Staff at the Phoenix Cinema have added their voices to the many tributes paid to their patron Victoria Wood, who died on 20 April aged 62.

The comedian and writer lived in Highgate and had long been a friend of the cinema. She was not a big fan of public occasions but was happy to attend a fundraising event for the Phoenix in 2004, alongside fellow patrons Maureen Lipman and Michael Palin, and had resolutely supported the cinema ever since.

Kate McCarthy, head of the cinema, said: "Victoria will always hold a special place in the heart of the Phoenix. She was a generous and charming woman who created a sparkle whenever she visited. Despite

being a very private person, Victoria was happy to lend her name in support of the Phoenix and we will remember her here with warmth and joy."



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