



SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

LOCAL POLICE, LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Jan Lovell, of the East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood Team, updates us on the latest crime news. Jan and the team can be contacted by email at: EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk, or by phone on 020 7161 9014.

A thank you to all those who responded to our first Virtual Ward Panel Survey for all your comments. Due to the blind nature of the survey we cannot respond to individual comments but I would like to cover here those areas mentioned by many of you.

Cherry Tree Wood

We will be patrolling regularly in the wood and play area, and the frequency of these patrols will increase as the

better weather returns.

Council-related issues

Fly tipping, graffiti, litter and street lighting issues will be assisted by us by working in partnership with Barnet Council's Community Safety Team, and those issues raised will be dealt with in this way.

Neighbourhood Watch

Barnetboroughwatch.com is the site to go to if you are interested in starting a Watch. We may have more news on this in the near future.

Cat death leads to caution for dog owner

By Diana Cormack

The distressing death of a cat at the jaws of two large dogs in Cherry Tree Road, N2, was reported on the front page of *The Archer* last October.

Two large dogs were photographed and filmed at the scene by residents and it later transpired that these same dogs had been involved in other attacks around the Muswell Hill area.

The police were informed at the time and a subsequent investigation eventually reached a conclusion.

Earlier this year the woman who was in charge of the dogs

was given a conditional caution, an option introduced by the Criminal Justice Act 2003. It differs from a simple caution as there are certain conditions which must be complied with in order to avoid prosecution.

The police have to ensure that the conditions are being complied with and, as far as the police are concerned, this matter is now finalised.

Speed dating for businesses

N2United's first meeting of the year took place on 19 January at the Clissold Arms, opening with a tribute to the pub's owner George Karageorgis who sadly passed away earlier that month.

This local business network is attracting a growing number of people keen to make contact with other traders, workers and enterprises and to forge closer links with the neighbourhood and potential customers. There is a structured committee on which any member can serve, with specific roles being held for six months.

Everyone listened with interest when four people pitched their businesses: Tee Tarjan of MighteeFit Gym, Cristina Gonzalez Varo of Education First, Nick Allan 'The Coaching Coach' and Johanna Vigilante of the Bobath Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy. Spines suddenly straightened when guest

speaker Adrian Farrell of the Alexandra Technique London gave his talk and offered a free introductory session.

Just a quick word

On 9 February, to mark Valentine's Day, the monthly meeting was held at the Clissold Arms set up as speed networking. This was a great opportunity for all businesses to meet one another and to have three minutes to talk about their business and to hear about others. Many people couldn't speak the next day from too much talking, which can be seen as a sign of a great success.

The next event will be on Thursday 9 March at the Clissold Arms at 7pm.



New crossing on East End Road

Work was finished quickly on the installation of a new pedestrian crossing on East End Road, close to the junction with Stanley Road. The installation was funded by contributions from the Archer Academy, whose pupils cross East End Road on their journeys to and from school.

Groups line up to use new community centre

The first meeting of the Tarling Road Community Hub User Group took place in late January, when a series of monthly meetings was established to make progress at the former Old Barn site.

This user group will discuss and help shape the internal structure and facilities of the centre, including the community space, which is due to be rebuilt in 2018. The group will also play a part in identifying and selecting the organisation which will ultimately manage the building.

Members of the group include local councillors and representatives of a range of organisations who have expressed an interest in using space within the new centre. Previous users of the Old Barn such as the Pre-School group, the Monday Youth Club, the Grange Big Local and Finchley Music School were represented, as was the Somali Bravanese Welfare Association (SBWA).

The meeting was held at relatively short notice so organisations such as Barnet Lone Parent Centre, Community Souls, Art Against Knives, Homestart, Newstead and others will be joining in at future meetings.

Helpful example

This inaugural meeting included a presentation from the Rev Simon Rea about the OneStonegrove Centre project in Edgware which has already gone through a similar process. Whilst there are a number of differences between the two projects, attendees said it was really helpful in focussing some frank and wide ranging discussions on the next steps for the Tarling Road Centre, including what the community and stakeholders' views and priorities are, and how to get the best out of the centre for the whole community within the budgetary and practical constraints.

It is hoped that with everyone getting round the table on

a regular basis, including a key range of council officials and in partnership with the Somali Bravanese Community, a centre can be developed that incorporates the best of the Old Barn,

meets the needs of our diverse community and is financially and practically sustainable.

With thanks to Cllr Alison Moore for her contribution to this article.

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