

A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Thousands turn out to enjoy festival in the sunshine



Youngsters from the Fortitude Dance Company perform in front of a packed crowd at The Archer Newspaper Community Stage during the East Finchley Community Festival. They were part of a brilliant line-up of entertainment across two stages at the event in Cherry Tree Wood. Turn to pages 6-7 for our festival picture special.

Go-ahead for third tower block in Prospect Ring

By Janet Maitland

Barnet Council has given planning permission for a third tower block in Prospect Ring, East Finchley, despite formal objections from 88 people.

Construction work is expected to start later this year and last for two years. Local residents fear the 13-storey building will have a detrimental impact on light, views, privacy, parking, traffic and local services.

“Our points were not listened to,” said Antonia Dietmann, who spoke at the planning meeting on behalf of the Residents’ Association. “We were never against the new building *per se*, just its height.”

Reasons behind decision

Prospect Ring falls outside the areas identified as appropriate for tall buildings, not only in the London Plan but also Barnet Council’s own policy. However, its existing two 11-storey towers are cited throughout the council’s report as a reason why a third tower will not be an issue, saying at one point it will “complement the scale of adjacent buildings

and also create some variation in the skyline”.

Another factor is the council’s commitment to building 720 much-needed affordable housing units by 2020. The Greater London Authority were considering requiring the council to undertake a late assessment of the plan’s viability, but withdrew this because of the affordable rented accommodation the tower will provide.

Increased density

The number of housing units on the estate will increase from 119 to 167 per hectare, just under the maximum density recommended in the London Plan for urban settings, while the density level of habitable rooms will be 16% higher than the limit. “Densities are intended to be used as a guide rather than a rule,” said a Barnet Council spokesperson.

East Finchley councillor Arjun Mittra said he welcomed

the building of new council homes, but the Prospect Ring plan was too dense for the site.

Twenty-four parking spaces will be provided for the new development, 36 short of the total needed, meaning that the majority of occupants will not be eligible for parking permits. When we asked the council where up to 36 cars would be parked if not on the estate, they told us that residents will be “encouraged to use more sustainable forms of transport”.

School’s response

Paula Quiddington, chair of the Governors of Holy Trinity School, which neighbours Prospect Ring, said they had serious concerns about the new tower, which will block sunlight on the school’s playing field and classrooms. She said: “We’re also hugely concerned about the effects of the dust, noise, and general pollution associated with a build of this magnitude.”

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Clear ground: The Tarling Road building site earlier this year

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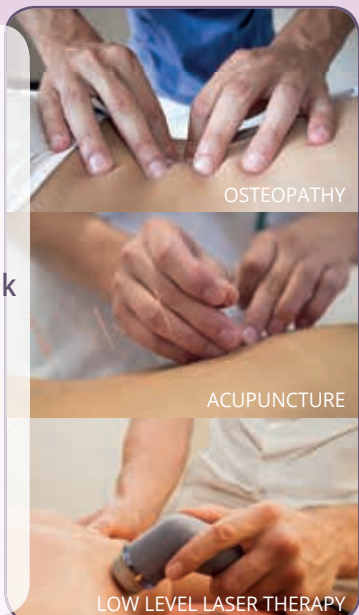
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Welcome to Probus!

Convivial Probus Lunch Club with talks for semi- or fully-retired PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS men and women on third Wednesday each month at Stephens House East End Road N3. Next meeting July AGM, members only. On 15 August Greenwich astronomer Dr Robin Catchpole's illustrated talk asks Is There Intelligent Life Out There? All welcome, including lively retirees from outer space to help him answer. Details from Eric (8449 0566).

Tarling Road community centre to be finished by autumn

By Janet Maitland

The new community centre in Tarling Road, N2, has at last risen above its green hoardings and should be completed by the autumn.

It's been eight years since we lost the beloved Old Barn when it was hijacked by 'trustees' who discontinued all the services. And five years since the Somali Bravanese Welfare Association (SBWA) lost their space in the Coppetts Road community centre, Muswell Hill, when it was destroyed in a racist arson attack. The new building replaces both of these centres, with half of the space committed to the SBWA.

The council have provisionally selected City YMCA to run the centre, another significant step forward. If fully appointed, City YMCA will allocate space and time in the building to

potential community groups which include a theatre group and an after-school club, in consultation with the User Group, made up of council officers, representatives from Grange Big Local, SBWA members, and local councillors and other stakeholders.

Hopes and challenges

Open access to everyone in the neighbourhood is a key issue. "There's a lot to sort out and I'm sure there will be challenges," said East Finchley Councillor Alison Moore. "We're all keen that the centre has the space and time for low-cost and free activities," said Julia Hines, from Grange Big

Local.

"We're looking forward to helping to make the new centre work for everyone," said Abubakar Ali, Chair of the SBWA. "Our first home was at the Old Barn, so we know what a terrible loss it was when it was taken from the community."

Members of the Finchley Reformed Synagogue have done a lot to support the SBWA since the arson attack. "We're happy to have been able to host meetings, building trust between local members of the community and learning more about the work and needs of the people who will use the centre," said Rabbi Miriam Berger.

Planning Applications

Barnet Council

67 Church Lane, N2

New door opening and alterations to window positions (retrospective application).

8 Deansway, N2

Single-storey front extension. Part single, part two-storey side and rear extension following demolition of existing garage. Roof extension involving rear dormer, three front and two side roof lights (retrospective application).

61 Durham Road, N2

Roof extension, involving rear dormer with juliet balcony and three front roof lights. Single-storey rear/side extension with glazed roof and glazed rear doors.

93 East End Road, N2

Conversion into two self-contained flats, including single-storey rear extension, following demolition of existing rear extension. Associated refuse and cycle storage.

6 Elm Gardens, N2

Roof extension, involving rear dormer with juliette balcony and two front roof lights.

Elmshurst Crescent garages land, adjacent to 90-100 Elmshurst Crescent & 35 Pulham Avenue, N2

Details of condition 21 (Refuse Strategy) pursuant to planning permission 16/3252/FUL dated 07/02/17.

80 Hamilton Road, N2

Roof extension, including one rear dormer to existing rear projection and one rear casement window to main roof, with three front roof lights.

350 High Road, N2

Single-storey rear extension, depth 6 m, eaves height 3 m, maximum height 4 m.

72 Leicester Road, N2

Single-storey rear extension, depth 6 m, eaves height 3m, maximum height 4m.

294 Long Lane, N2

Part single, part two-storey rear extension.

14 Neale Close, N2

Alterations to roof, including insertion of one side and one rear roof light (amended).

75 Summerlee Avenue, N2

Roof extension, involving rear dormer with juliette balcony, and two front and one rear rooflight.

Haringey Council

33 Beech Drive, N2

Single-storey rear extension, and alterations to original single-storey side extension.

16 Church Vale, N2

Ground floor rear extension, replacement of first floor terrace, and roof extension involving wraparound side and rear dormer. Bin enclosure to front and alterations to front garden.

12 Springcroft Avenue, N2

Single-storey rear extension.

54 Springcroft Avenue N2

Rear dormer (certificate of lawfulness: proposed use).



Air care: An injured Malcolm waits to be taken on board by the Royal Flying Doctor at Williams Creek.

Motorcycle Diaries part 2: Royal Flying Doctor comes to the rescue in the Outback

Ruth Anders continues the story started in our last edition of solo round-the-world motorcyclist Malcolm Dunkeld, of Leslie Road, N2. And there's a shock ending!

During his eight-month round the world journey, Malcolm Dunkeld and his Triumph Tiger 800 XCX Adventure motorcycle had many experiences that he summarised as "magnificent, dangerous and challenging". He planned to travel overland from Europe across Central Asia and the Far East to Australia, followed by New Zealand, South America, Mexico and finishing in New York.

The Siberian part of the journey had many delights: millions of butterflies, vast forests containing bears, inland lakes the size of seas and interesting provincial towns few westerners have ever visited. Sections of the Trans-Siberian Highway were also dangerous, with three motorcyclists recently murdered on the section between Ulan Ude and Chita.

Meeting an Aussie pothole

Leaving Asia, he was held up for six weeks waiting for his motorcycle to arrive in Perth, Western Australia. "There are lies, damned lies and shipping agents!" said Malcolm.

After tasting his first full English breakfast for months, Malcolm continued into the Australian interior until disaster struck on the Oodnadatta Track, a treacherous Outback road.

A hidden pothole sent him over the handlebars causing him extensive injuries and



Nullarbor Plain, longest straight road in Australia. Photo Malcolm Dunkeld

severely damaging the bike. Miraculously on such a deserted track, rescue arrived quickly. A couple in a 4x4 took him to the tiny outpost of William Creek, where the Royal Flying Doctor was contacted. Malcolm's brave journey finally ended

with several weeks in an Adelaide hospital and his wife Gillian flying out from the UK to nurse him.

New horizons

Motivation for the trip was partly generated by Malcolm's determination to conquer his fear of being alone. Every day brought new roads, towns, landscapes, people, sights and smells. The extraordinary became the new norm and, almost a year later, he is hoping his injuries will heal sufficiently to allow him to complete the Americas part of the journey.

He is happy to advise anyone contemplating such a trip, and can be reached via malcolm.dunkeld@btinternet.com.

Can we win the war on single-use plastics in stores?

By Chris Stavrou

The theme of June's N2United meeting was plastics, and how everyone can use them more responsibly. Could East Finchley be the first community in London where people shop without using throwaway plastics?

After we reported on local resident Ann Inglis's call for the community to cut out the use of throwaway plastics (*The Archer*, May 2018), she and Compton School teacher Joanne Westgate were invited as guest speakers.

Joanne, in agreement with Ann that wasteful use of plastics needs to be dramatically reduced, has started an initiative in her school to change the culture of how we see throwaway plastics, such as single-use plastic bags and packaging.

Both sides of the argument for and against plastics were discussed by local businesses. While some agreed that they could cut out the use of single-use plastics completely and encourage their customers to follow suit, others noted that the difficulty starts a lot higher up in the chain with their own

suppliers.

N2United are hoping, with help, to start a project that will change the mindset by which local businesses and residents alike use such plastics. Whilst it is indeed a global issue, as Peter Barnett of A Scott & Son fishmongers said, "It's not plastic's fault," and a large change can start somewhere small. Maybe that place will be East Finchley!

Involvement

N2United act as an opportunity for businesses, residents and other local groups to work together. If you'd like to join in the efforts to decrease the use of plastics in our community, email: community@n2united.co.uk

The next N2United meeting will be on Thursday 12 July at the Clissold Arms in Fortis Green. They are also looking for speakers for future meetings.

Madden's lives on

Madden's in the High Road, N2, is to stay as a pub following the retirement of its previous owners Kieran and Margaret Madden. The property was put on the market earlier this year and last month a new lease agreement was signed for Enda and Ronan Murray to take over. There had been concerns that the pub was in danger of being swallowed up by the development of the two vacant properties next door, where work has started on the long-awaited Sainsbury's Local store.

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Burglaries

There has been an increase in the number of burglaries of the homes of elderly residents, including two where the victims woke up to find burglars in their home. Fortunately no one was harmed and very little was taken.

If you don't have an alarm, we would strongly recommend fitting one as in nearly all local burglaries there wasn't one or it was not engaged. Go to www.which.co.uk for excellent independent reviews. An introductory one month membership costs £1.

Parking ticket scam

On 5 June when an elderly gentleman returned to his parked car on the High Road in

East Finchley a man told him a warden had taken a photo of his car. The man showed him how to use the ticket machine, standing by him as he put in his card and entered his PIN. When the machine did not return his card, the man said it must be faulty and the council would send it to him when they opened up the machine.

The victim contacted the council the next day, but they told him this is not how they operate. When he checked with his bank he discovered that £1,200 had been stolen from his account. The unknown man must have tampered with the machine and watched him put in his PIN.

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: East-Finchley.snt@met.police.uk, or by phone on 020 7161 9014. Follow the team on Twitter @MPSEastFinchley.

Tax rebate scam

A brave resident wants to share their story of being taken in by a 'tax rebate' email: "It looked professional, so I filled it in with all my personal details. If I hadn't looked at my account closely I wouldn't have seen it as the scammers used the shopping mall we go to and the internet, which we also use. But the purchases, such as body builder vitamins, didn't fit our usual choices so we told the bank whose investigation took over a month. Apart from the money, it made me feel stupid... really, who would give all their details online just because they see HMRC at the top of an email?"



Snack and shop: Aida Khaledi, centre, and two customers enjoy the Aliya J fundraising event.

Cakes and croissants among the chic fashions

By Amy Schreiberman Walter

Aliya J is the High Road's chic boutique, but it is also at the hub of its own community. When founder and owner Aida Khaledi learned that several of her customers were going through treatments for cancer, she wanted to do something to help.

She told me: "I've had my business in East Finchley for over four years, and in that time, a lot of my customers have unfortunately been affected by cancer. My shop has been a kind of therapy for a lot of them, so I've been told, whether it was coming in to have a chat or to do a bit of shopping to make themselves feel better. I wanted to do something to acknowledge how far they have come and also to raise awareness."

Together with a few of her customers, Aida organized a Macmillan Coffee Morning at the boutique on Saturday 9 June. Cakes and coffee were

generously provided by Dan & DeCarlo, Margot Bakery, Amici and Campbell and Syme. Regular customers baked cakes and cupcakes too. Raffle items were donated by local businesses La Rugoletta, Tony's Continental, Josephine's, Jennie Mann, Sorbet, Kokos and the Phoenix Cinema.

Ten percent of all the shop's sales on the day went towards the cause, too. When the doors were closed at the end of the day and all the coins were counted, Aida was delighted to see that she and her small crew of customer helpers had raised a hefty £615.26. All in a day's work.



Dashcam footage of the robbery on the North Circular Road

Violent robbery on North Circular

By Janet Maitland

Police are appealing for information following a violent robbery on the North Circular at the junction with the A1 and Henley's Corner.

Two men in a Mazda RX5 car were waiting at the junction at about 6.25pm on Saturday 2 June when two mopeds carrying four men pulled up, one on each side of the car.

The men, one of whom was brandishing a knife and another a hammer, demanded the victims' watches. After they'd stolen an Audemars Piguet Royal Oak watch and a Fossil watch, one of the men jumped on the car bonnet, kicked the windscreen and smashed it. They then jumped back on their mopeds and headed west along the A406 towards Brent Cross.

After the incident the 27-year-old driver realised he had been cut by the knife and went to hospital where he was treated and then discharged.

Information needed

"This was a shocking attack on innocent people in broad daylight," said DC Oliver Kotis. "We need the help of the community to find and arrest these people."

Anyone who witnessed

this crime or has any information or camera footage should contact the CID on 101 or via Twitter @MetCC, quoting CAD 6673/02JUN. To stay anonymous call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or go to crimestoppers-uk.org.

More than 23,000 moped-enabled crimes were recorded

in London in 2017, compared with 900 in 2012. However, this kind of crime has fallen more than 55% since peaking last July, when 2,593 offences were recorded in a single month. In May this year, 1,154 crimes were recorded by the Met, the lowest monthly figure since January 2017.



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An insider's view of the Chelsea Flower Show

Archer writer Ruth Anders works for the Royal Horticultural Society every year at the Chelsea Flower Show. Here she reveals some of the secrets of the show gardens.

Ice-cream, champagne, the royal visit, gardens great and small, celebrities, thronging crowds, Monty Don on TV and floral extravaganzas in the Great Pavilion: these are what typify the Chelsea Flower Show for many. Insiders see the event differently.

Plans for each event begin years in advance as designers and sponsors are brought together. Trees and other plants are sourced from far-flung nurseries, often overseas. Selection panels meet and choose the exhibits most likely to deliver spectacular displays from the traditional to the more adventurous. Judging is rigorous, medal cards are printed overnight and tears of joy or disappointment are shed as the awards are dis-

tributed early next morning.

This year's focus was on sustainability and the link between plants and mental wellbeing. The on-site build takes three weeks, yet the show gardens appear to have been in place for years. Fifteen-hour shifts are the norm in the days before opening, but horticultural excitement and commitment overcome the fatigue.

Changes over the years

The first show opened in the grounds of Christopher Wren's Royal Hospital in 1913. My first time was in 1993 and I can see significant changes since then.

The large show gardens are fewer, and there are more smaller plots designed to inspire urban home dwellers. Ranelagh Gardens, once only hosting the band-

stand and beer stalls, is now filled with imaginative tradestands and a magical woodland area of artisan gardens and retreats.

Night encounter

Fortunate to admire the exhibits out of hours, I can walk through the showground at dawn with no one but the blackbirds and the litter pickers, and wander through the Great Pavilion late at night, the air heavy with the fragrance of roses and jasmine.

Years ago, I was distributing medal cards at a chilly 2am, alone with the nursery displays, when I came face to face with a handsome fox, each of us mesmerised by the other before he trotted off. Chelsea is full of surprises, and its sights and scents lift the spirits, even those of the most exhausted participant.



A rose amongst the roses: Ruth finds time to read *The Archer* at the show.

Over the fence

Caroline and David Broome will be welcoming visitors again on the last Sunday of this month in support of the National Garden Scheme. The couple have packed their garden in East Finchley with unusual perennials and shrubs, whimsical ornamentals and wacky new water features.



Potted up: One corner of Caroline and David's garden in Church Lane.

There will be home-made cakes (some gluten free), a selection of locally propagated plants for sale, a raffle and a children's treasure hunt.

Last year the National Garden Scheme raised more than £3 million countrywide for charities, including Macmillan Cancer Support and Marie Curie.

You can visit Caroline and David's garden at 79 Church Lane, N2, from 2pm to 6pm on Sunday 29 July. Entrance is £4 per person, free for

children. Find more details at: www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/21824/

There's another open garden in Muswell Hill on Sunday 22 and Sunday 29 July when Susan Bennett and Earl Hyde welcome visitors to their home in 1960s cul-de-sac St Regis Close, off Alexandra Park Road, N10. Their garden will be open on both days from 2pm to 6.30pm with teas and a plant sale. Admission £4, children free.

Teenager charged with phone robberies

By Janet Maitland
A 14-year-old boy has been arrested and charged with seven counts of robbery while riding pillion on a moped.

It is alleged that at least seven people had their mobile phones snatched on Thursday 7 June between 1.15pm and 2.15pm in Muswell Hill, Crouch End and Hornsey.

The boy, who is from Tottenham, was taken into custody where 13 mobiles were allegedly found in his possession. He appeared at Highbury Magistrates Court on 9 June and pleaded not guilty to all the charges. A date for a pre-trial hearing will be set soon.

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Stories from 80 years of a public library service

By Erini Rodis

Help is needed as East Finchley Library turns 80 this October. A group of local enthusiasts has decided to organise a local storybuilding project to celebrate our Grade II landmark building and its milestone birthday.

Local historian Emily Candler, who worked on the Martin School Centenary project in 2013, say they want to delve into the story of the library building on the High Road and its role in the local community over the past eight decades.

"The aim is to give local people a chance to explore archives, create an exhibition, tell their stories, build skills and take part in a day of events in October," said Emily. "This story of a local library rooted in the community is commonplace but untold; as libraries' future is a topical debate, it's a story that needs to be told."

"We'd like to use a day of events as a focus both for sharing what local people already know about the library's story, and recording the people's memories of the building. We also hope to do some art, photography, and architectural talks."

Getting involved

The organisers would welcome help from any individu-

als, local trusts or community groups who would like to get involved in the project, be it doing some research, writing up stories, helping make a film or exhibition, or running events or digital and print communications.

To join in or to share your own memories of the library in East Finchley, email: Story-BuildingN2@gmail.com



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A festival for all ages

Big fun in the sun

The beauty of the East Finchley Community Festival in Cherry Tree Wood on Sunday 24 June was that it genuinely had something for everyone to enjoy.

For children there was the enchanting storytelling tent, have-a-go art stalls, plastic trombones to play, coconuts to knock off their perches, visiting owls to handle and the thrill of the giant inflatable slides and climbing wall.

For grown-ups there were many new craft and artisan stalls to explore, books to browse, fitness challenges to try, on-site haircuts, a busy beer tent and dozens of community groups to meet and discover.

And for all ages there was some seriously classy music and dance entertainment on two stages, a whole street's worth of mouthwatering food stalls, free tennis coaching, Punch and Judy in the shade and picnics in the woods.

Opened by EastEnders and Coronation Street actor Michelle Collins at midday, the festival welcomed thousands of visitors through the afternoon and was still buzzing right up to 6pm as many stayed around to enjoy the evening sunshine.

Thanks to everyone who worked hard over many months to plan the free event, anyone who gave up their time and energy to make it run smoothly on the day and all the people and businesses who donated goods or sponsored part of the set-up to ensure Cherry Tree Wood was transformed into the perfect festival venue.

We hope you enjoy our festival photos taken by Mike Coles.



A good day for England (v Panama)



Kate Galston introduces Talking Fools on the main stage



Eco-Art for kids at the East Finchley Open Artists tent



Kicking it with Martin School Dance Club

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Michelle Collins opens the festival



Punch and Judy draw the crowds in the shade of the trees



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YOUNG ARCHER

Save the air, walk there!

Pupils and parents at a Muswell Hill school are being encouraged to walk to school every day if they live inside a new 10-minute zone.

Coldfall Primary School extended its five-minute walking zone to 10 minutes in an effort to reduce traffic and congestion around the school gates and to improve air quality in the area. And of course it means its pupils get more exercise every day.

Six travel ambassadors in Year 5 were funded by Haringey Council's Smarter Travel Team to create a walking zone map showing a circle around the school with a realistic 10-minute walking time.

For those pupils who live too far to walk all the way from

home, they are encouraged to park outside the zone and walk the rest of the way.

Miss Bunston, the project lead, said: "The great thing about the walking zone is that it is created by pupils for pupils."

Parent Sarah Schuman said: "It was so lovely to walk to school with my daughter today. Instead of rushing to get into the car and find a parking place we were able to walk leisurely and have a really good chat on the way. It made a refreshing change and helped to set us both up for the day."



Leg it: Coldfall's walking ambassadors show off their '10-minute' map.

Athletic awards

Seventy seven young athletes in Barnet who are struggling for financial support will be receiving awards from a £42,000 fund set up by charitable social enterprise GLL.

The awards are designed to help competitors in all disciplines to reach national and international levels. For more information visit www.gllsportfoundation.org



Animal magic: Full Circle youngsters perform The Lion King.

Summer theatre workshop

Full Circle Theatre Company and Fortitude Dance Company are running a musical theatre summer workshop where children aged seven to 16 will rehearse and perform *The Jungle Book* in just one week.

Acting, dancing and singing skills will all be encouraged at the workshop, which runs from Monday 6 August to Friday 10 August at Manorside Primary School, Squires Lane, N3, from 10am to 3pm each day. Spaces costing £150 can be booked via Anne-Marie Conway on 07958 409863 or Marie Spanou on 07950 484979.



VIP visit: Ms Ahmed, Maisie L, Krishna T, Shyam J, Julia B, Stephanie B and Ms Bowles outside No 10.

Years 7, 8 and 9 make it to No 10

Five students and two teachers from The Archer Academy in East Finchley had the experience of a lifetime when they were invited to show their science work at a reception for teachers hosted by Prime Minister Theresa May.

Krishna T and Shyam J, both from year 9, write: "Excited and a bit nervous we went through security for Downing Street and once through this we got a chance to knock on No 10, the most famous door in the UK. Clutching our science work we then walked up the staircase which displays photos of the UK Prime Ministers over the years.

"Inside we set up our science display showcasing the

work of year 7, 8 and 9. We spoke with many teachers and ministers about science at the

Archer Academy. We even got to show our exercise books to Theresa May!"



Mix it up: A Holy Trinity pupil pedals to make a smoothie

Smooth cycling

A cycle-powered smoothie maker was a star attraction at the Holy Trinity Primary spring fair, which raised £3,500 for the school.

The Holy Trinity School Association raises over £10,000 each year helping to fund a range of activities including school trips and IT equipment.

Tips from the top

Drama students at Christ's College Finchley were given a masterclass by West End star Obioma Ugoala, who currently plays George Washington in the hit musical *Hamilton*.

Obi worked with the year 10 GCSE class and taught them some of the secrets to success in the industry, as well as helping them with their acting and freestyling skills. He then spent time with year 9 pupils in a workshop on improvisation.



Masterclass: Obioma Ugoala

All Saints' Church,
Durham Road, East Finchley
Church of England

Sunday mass at 10.00 a.m.

Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.

(11.00 a.m. on Wednesdays)

(Coffee served after mass on Sunday and Thursday)

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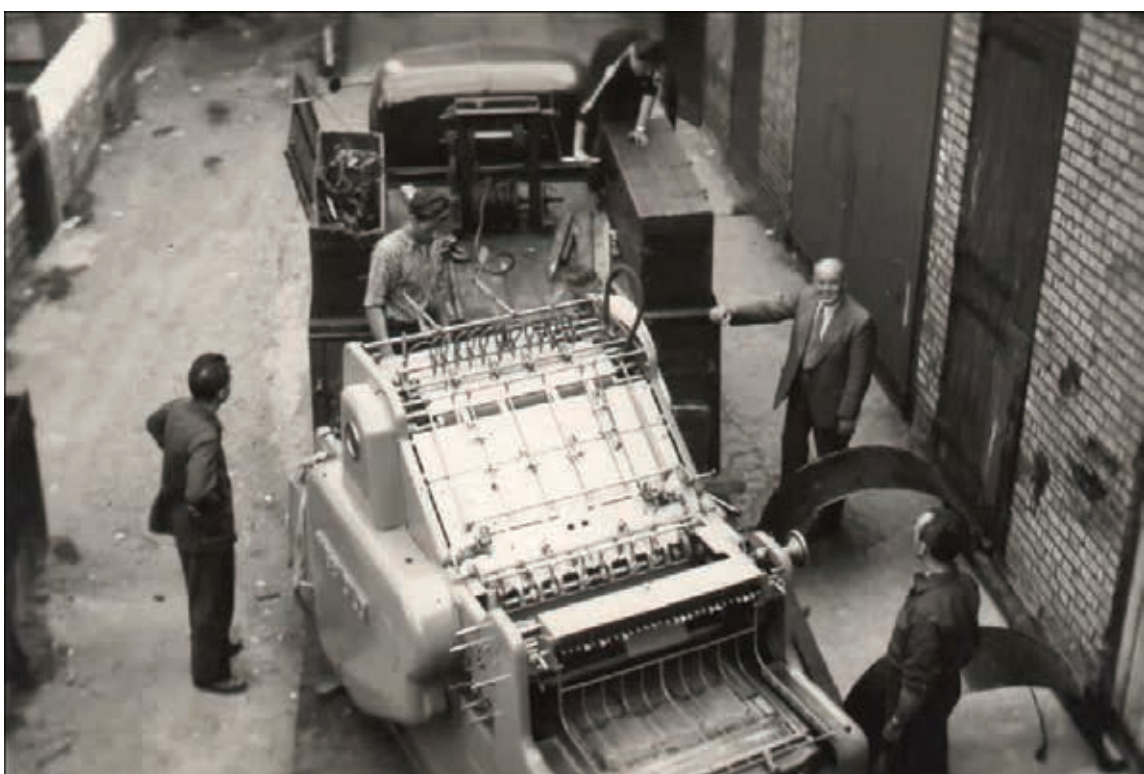
The Parish has a *flourishing* social life.

All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir.

New singers are always welcome.

Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy,
on 020 8883 9315

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>



Print ready: Founder JG Bryson, centre right, watches the installation of one of the original Italian presses.

Printer adapts to the digital age and thrives in its second century

By Pedro Redig

One of the oldest businesses in East Finchley has thrived despite being tucked away from view for more than a century. JG Bryson Printer, producers of popular leaflets for the Phoenix Cinema, operates from the former stables at the back of number 158 High Road. You can only reach the mews-style access through Huntingdon Road.

Four generations

"My great grandfather came from Scotland in 1903 and took the lease of number 158 which was then a stationery shop," director Iain Bryson told *The Archer*. "Stationery soon became printing when the first of four generations who founded the business got an order to make catalogues and seed bags for a flower competition in a newspaper."

Bryson produced manuals for aircraft undercarriages during the Second World War and election ballot papers for Canadian soldiers to vote abroad. "We've printed all sorts of things over the years but these pass out as memorable," says the owner.

Sometimes Iain's father Andrew pops in to help his son. At 73, he has spent his whole life

in the family business.

"My first memories were sitting in a printing press when I was three watching the proceedings in the press downstairs," Andrew remembers with a smile.

Personal service

Father and son agree it is imperative to adapt to match the online competition. To survive, especially in the lucrative business card market, Iain offers deals that match the internet giants. There is also another a human factor that only a local printer can offer. "We can add personal service. People come in here and talk to us. You don't get this online," Iain says.

Despite all the efforts, the



Still involved: Andrew Bryson

man who runs this centenary business sees a bleak future ahead for all local traders: "It is a shame that banks in East Finchley have all left. They were really one of the backbones of the high street. Now people go to other places for their banking and that is killing the high street."

Measure of the times

Garden Suburb Theatre is performing a Renaissance play with great relevance for our own time. With themes of corruption, abuse of power and sexual exploitation, *Measure for Measure* holds a mirror to our world now as much as in Shakespeare's day.

In the play, Duke Vincentio absents himself from court leaving his deputy Angelo in charge. Angelo abuses his position, seeking to take advantage of Isabella whose brother he has condemned to death.

Performances are on 6-7 and 11-14 July at 7.30pm and 7.8.14 July at 3pm at Little Oak Wood, Hampstead Garden Suburb. Tickets priced £12/£10 are available from www.garden-suburbtheatre.org.uk.



Play for today: Clare Janew as Isabella and Edwin Coutts as Angelo in *Measure for Measure*.

RICKY SAVAGE ...

"The voice of social irresponsibility"

Wether you like it or not

Just when you thought it was safe to go down the pub and celebrate the end of the World Cup with a glass of French fizz the pub landlord has intervened. Yes, Big Tim Martin, boss of Wetherspoons, has announced that from this month he won't be selling champagne or foreign beers. It's called getting your Brexit in early.

Why stop there? There's all those French and Italian wines that can go next. Chablis, Muscadet, Claret? Not in Tim's Brexit bar. But don't worry, he's got it covered. Instead of a Belgian wheat beer still brewed by monks to a recipe first used in 1660, there will be something chucked together in a shed in Norfolk by a couple of blokes with beards.

Champagne he'll be replacing with 'alternatives' from England and Australia. Seriously? Apparently there are some amazing Aussie sparkling wines out there. Maybe something from the vineyards of Kent might be OK if you've run out of the good stuff, but who's going to toast the bride in anything but champagne?

At least Big Tim hasn't started removing funny European food from the menu yet. When he does it's goodbye pasta and hello lumpy mash. Fish and chips will probably have to go. It was the Spanish who started the fish frying thing and the Belgians who invented chips so you can't have those anymore. And don't even mention French fries.

Who will be the first supermarket chain to join in by removing everything foreign from the shelves? Will paté be banned, and what about mayonnaise? It's French so time to get really Brexit and stock up on salad cream.

These really are weird times, so there is only one thing to do and that's think the unthinkable. Yes, folks, it's time for East Finchley to declare independence from Westminster and demand the right to have a French market and to remain in the EU. Failing that, maybe we should be grateful we don't have our own Wetherspoon's to avoid.

New Local Cafe Restaurant

Come and try from our wide range, delicious menu.

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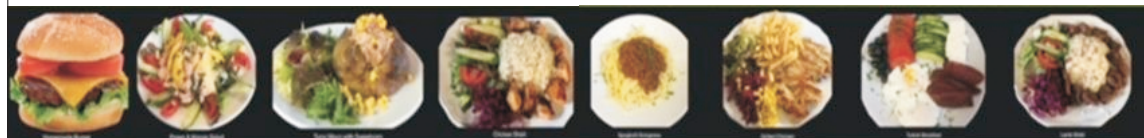
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email: marius.mirt@htef.org.uk tel: 020 3565 4430
www.holytrinityeastfinchley.org.uk



Regular Events

Sport & Fitness

- **Finchley & Hornsey Ramblers Group**
Call Vivien 8883 8190
- **Glebelands Indoor Bowls Club**, Summers Lane N12. New and experienced bowlers welcome.
- **Outdoor Fit Camp** Lyttelton Playing Fields, N2, 6.30pm Wed and 9.30am Sat. Call Martin on 07809 593952.
- **Pilates** Classes Tue 9.30, Fri 9.15 & Sun 11am. www.pilatesineastfinchley.co.uk. Michelle 07767 804 564
- **Tai Chi & Qigong** in N2, Weds 12pm, 1pm, 6pm & 7pm. James 8883 3308/07836 710281 or james@taiji.co.uk
- **Tennis club** with four clay courts off Southern Road. Call 8883 7723.
- **Yoga, breathing & relaxation**. Weekly drop-in classes - N3, N6, N10. Phone Judy on 07956 375607.
- **Yoga beginners' course** at Yogalogy, High Road, N2. Contact 020 70187377 or info@yogalogy.co.uk
- **Yoga, pregnancy yoga, meditation** classes. Call Sunnah 07941 321 772 www.stretchingpeople.co.uk.
- **Women's kick boxing**, Thursdays 9.30am, East Finchley Combat Academy, Church Lane, N2. Contact 07956 340540.

Music, Dance & Creative Arts

- **The Archer Community Choir**, Tuesdays 7-9pm, The Archer Academy, Eagans Close, N2. Email: archercommunitychoir@gmail.com.
- **Art Classes**. Call Henry on 8888 5133.
- **A-Chord**, friendly choir, all genres, open to all. Thursdays 8pm at NNL5, East End Rd. Laura 07732 120464. www.a-chord.uk
- **Ballroom & Latin American Dance Classes** - beginners & improvers. Wed & Fri eve, Bishop Douglass Sch. 8207 2323.
- **'Calm & Sing' workshops**. Contact Angie on missangiea@yahoo.co.uk
- **Creative writing classes** in informal, friendly atmosphere. Tel Sallie Rose 020 8444 7217.
- **Creative Writing** at Friern Barnet Community Library. Every Saturday, 12pm, 07488 230580.
- **Dance conditioning classes**. New body in 10 lessons. Diana: 07580 041270. www.boldbodies.co.uk.
- **East Finchley Writers Group**, Weds at the Old White Lion. Contact Ralph 8444 5903.
- **East Finchley Poetry Writing Workshops**. Monthly on Saturdays. Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
- **Memory Lane Singing Club** - friendly singing club meets every Friday in Finchley. Call Valerie 8458 4508.
- **Over 50s Tea Dance** at Christ Church, North Finchley. Every Weds, 1pm. 020 8444 0280.
- **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church, Ballards La. Call 8888 4412.
- **Muswell Hill after school ukulele club**, Wednesdays 4.15-5.15pm, ages 6-10. Contact Margie 07909 439513.
- **Rock 'n' Roll dance lessons**, 8pm every Weds at the Constitutional Club, The Walks. Drop-in. Call Kav 07721 489489.
- **Traditional tunes** @ TOC Highgate Hill, join in playing by ear - 1st & 3rd Tues monthly from 8.30pm. Free. 07958 282898.

Clubs & Social

- **Bingo evening**, 8pm Sundays, at the Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2.
- **Bingo Club** Mondays 7-9 pm, Green Man Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5452
- **French conversation** in small friendly group with native speaker. 8444 9395.
- **Friends of Cherry Tree Wood** www.cherrytreewood.co.uk or 8883 7544.
- **Haringey Recorded Music Society** informal meetings locally. Call David Moldon on 8361 1696.
- **Muslim Ladies Lunch Club** 1st & 3rd Weds, Ann Owen Ctr., Oak La. Call 8432 1415 to book.
- **Bridge Club**, Thursday & Saturday afternoons, Age UK, Oak Lane, N2 8LT. Contact Ray Tiano 07944 562180.



Sister ancestors: Bethe Bronson with her work, top, at the Royal Academy

A glimpse of my ancestors

Artist Bethe Bronson has had one of her works chosen to be exhibited in the prestigious Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, which this year celebrates its 250th anniversary. Entitled *Weinheimer Sisters*, it is a photogenic drawing inspired by her maternal great grandfather's sisters, who lived in Switzerland in the late 1800s.

Bethe, of Manor Cottages Approach, N2, never saw them but only heard stories about them from her mother, who in turn had heard them from her mother. She said: "I usually work from old photographs but in this case I based them on what I'd heard about them. This piece resulted in rather obscured images, which works since we don't know what they actually looked like or much else about them."

It is one of 1,300 pieces on display at Burlington House, Piccadilly, until 19 August.

Comedy show helps at-risk children

Stand-up comedian James Acaster helped East Finchley charity The Bobath Centre raise £4,650 to support its early therapy scheme for children at risk of cerebral palsy.

James, who recorded *Have I Got News For You* for BBC One the next day, performed a 90-minute solo set to a packed audience at Highgate's Jackson's Lane centre.

Christina Owen, whose son Huxley is treated at the centre in East End Road, closed the first half with a heartfelt and moving

Absurdity begins at home

"With the real world becoming more and more absurd... Trump, Brexit... we need more absurdity on stage," says Martin Szalla, founder of the new A&B Drama Club in East Finchley.

From September his group will be staging *An Evening of Conceptual Absurdity* at different venues in London, including the Finchley Youth Theatre in the High Road, with more plays to follow in the winter months.

Martin was born in the theatre, almost literally. His mother was watching a premiere directed by his father in the famous Bochumer Schauspielhaus in Germany when she suddenly had to hurry to the hospital to give birth.

After spending his childhood amongst actors he later



Dramatist: Martin Szalla. Photo Mike Coles

took to languages, politics and music, and founded the language institute ARTES BONAE in Hamburg.

"After moving to Britain with my young sons in 2014, I remembered my roots and started writing, directing and performing," said Martin, whose children are happily settled at Martin Primary School. "I feel completely at home here, after just four months, and as London is the capital of the theatre world, I have to get busy, not only with languages, but with setting up a drama group."

Actors and crew needed

A&B Drama Club will perform absurd short plays written by Tadeusz Rózewicz, Slawomir Mrozek, Martin Szalla himself and other fringe writers. As the group is just forming, they are presently looking for more actors and generally people who are interested in supporting them, including technicians, musicians and backstage crew.

Find out more at www.abdrama.com or contact martin@abdrama.com.

Timeless Greek classic

The summer production from the Hampstead Players is *The Bacchae* by Euripides. This classical play, set here in modern times, explores how important it is for humanity to exist in balance with its true nature.

You can see it at Hampstead Parish Church, Church Row, NW3, from Thursday 5 July to Saturday 7 July at 7.30pm with a Saturday matinee at 2.30pm. Buy tickets online at www.hampsteadplayers.org.uk or by post from The Hampstead Players, Box Office, The Parish Church of St John at Hampstead, Church Row, NW3 6UU.

What's On...

Thursday 5 to Saturday 7 July

• **The Hampstead Players** present *The Bacchae* by Euripides, a classic Greek tragedy set in modern times; Hampstead Parish Church, Church Row, NW3; evening performances at 7.30pm, matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday. Tickets from www.hampsteadplayers.org.uk

Friday 6 to Saturday 14 July

• **Garden Suburb Theatre** presents *Measure for Measure* by William Shakespeare on 6-7 and 11-14 July at 7.30pm and 7, 8, and 14 July at 3pm at Little Oak Wood, Hampstead Garden Suburb. Tickets priced £12/£10 are available from www.gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk.

Saturday 7 July

• **Finchley Chamber Choir and Finchley Symphony Orchestra** conducted by David

Lardi will perform Mendelssohn's *Elijah* at 7.30pm in Trinity Church, Nether Street, North Finchley. This impressive and dramatic work uses a full orchestra with trombones and organ, choir (in eight parts at times) and soloists. Tickets £15, concessions £13, under 18s £6. Book in advance at www.finchleysymphony.org.

Sunday 8 July

• **Free concert at East Finchley Methodist Church**, High Road, N2, opposite Creighton Avenue; 7.30pm; Celebrating Musical Friendships, mezzo soprano Viola da Cunha, soprano Andrea Whittaker and pianist Yuki Osedo, with guest artists, perform works by Laura Shur, Brahms, Schubert, Noel Coward, Mendelssohn, Molloy and Irving Berlin. Free admission; collection in aid of Maggie's Centres, supporting people with cancer

and their families. Fully accessible venue.

Saturday 14 July

• **Moth and Dragonfly Morning** at Long Lane Pasture, opposite the fire station in Long Lane, N3, 10am to 12 noon; as part of National Moth Count, volunteers will have set a moth trap to identify those caught before releasing them.

• **North London Chorus and Meridian Sinfonia** perform Salieri's *Requiem in C Minor* and Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*; St James' Church, Muswell Hill, at 7.30pm. Book online at northlondonchorus.org/ tickets or buy tickets from St James' Bookshop and Les Aldrich Music Shop, Muswell Hill.

Saturday 28 July

• **Muswell Hill indoor car boot sale**, 10am-1pm at Hornsey Parish Church Hall,

Granley Gardens, N10; admission 50p; refreshments available.

Sunday 29 July

• Caroline and David Broome open their garden at 79 Church Lane, N2, 2pm to 6pm, in support of the **National Garden Scheme**. Fabulous home-made cakes, selection of locally propagated plants for sale, raffle and children's treasure hunt. Entrance £4, children free. Further details: www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/21824/

Saturday 4 August

• **Blackberry picking begins at Long Lane Pasture**, opposite fire station, Long Lane, N3. Official start of the pick which may last until September. Bring containers and make donation at entrance. Please take care with brambles and avoid trampling the hedges which are a habitat for birds and mammals.

E-mail your listings to: the-archer@lineone.net



Great plate: Royalty Lounge owner Medhat Sefein with his daughter Sandy. Photo Mike Coles.

New restaurant is a family concern

By Diana Cormack

Another restaurant has joined the range of cosmopolitan eateries available in and around East Finchley. The Royalty Lounge, on the corner of Lincoln Road and the High Road, opened its doors on 1 June offering Lebanese cuisine as its speciality.

The chef and manager are Lebanese, as are the mother and her three children who run the business. When asked why they chose N2, Sara, Sandy and Steven Sefein and Johan Abdelmelik gleefully told us: "Because we used to live here!" The family were High Road residents from 1989 until 2011 and the children attended local schools.

With an extensive menu

clearly indicating vegetarian and gluten free, they are aiming to offer familiar dishes with a difference as well as a variety of speciality dishes. There is a selection of cakes to choose from and Lebanese wines are available. The air-conditioned restaurant is open from noon until late seven days a week and includes a covered outdoor area for shisha smoking.

Neil McNaughton, 1946 – 2018

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our Archer team colleague Neil McNaughton. Neil was diagnosed with a brain tumour in March and, after treatment at UCH, he was moved to the North London Hospice where he passed away on 12 June.

Neil was born in Liverpool and attended Manchester University, after which he entered the world of publishing. Later he became a teacher, ending his career as a senior master at University College School. An academic, he wrote a number of books on economics and politics

as well as two novels.

His wide ranging contributions to *The Archer* over the last ten years give some indication of the depth of Neil's knowledge and his skill as a writer. We send our commiserations to his wife Tina and their families. Neil will be sadly missed.

Contrasting choral works

By Marian Bunzl

North London Chorus's July concert will feature two contrasting sacred choral pieces by Italian composers usually associated with opera: Salieri's *Requiem in C Minor* and Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*.

In his day Salieri, though pivotal in the development of opera, was overshadowed by Mozart; his music has since been rarely performed, and today his name mostly conjures up the villain of Peter Shaffer's *Amadeus*. However, recently there has been a revival of interest in his music, and we are thoroughly enjoying engaging with the poetic setting and beautiful harmonies of his Requiem Mass.

Puccini, mainly known for his romantic operas, composed his *Messa di Gloria* as a graduation piece. Performed only once and never printed, it was rediscovered in 1952.

We will be joined by four distinguished soloists from the world of opera, accompanied by our regular orchestra Meridian Sinfonia and led by Murray Hipkin. We do hope you will join us in enjoying these wonderful works at St James' Church, Muswell Hill, on Saturday 14 July at 7.30pm. Book online at northlondonchorus.org/tickets or buy tickets from St James Bookshop and Les Aldrich Music Shop, Muswell Hill.

Letters

Pizza bike parking

Dear Editor,

We would like to respond to the letter regarding the Domino's motorcycles parking on Fairlawn Avenue in East Finchley (*The Archer*, June 2018). It is great to hear that Domino's feel that they have been "a proud part of the Fairlawn Road community for 30 years".

Perhaps during that time they would have realised that our street is called Fairlawn Avenue rather than Fairlawn Road. Not knowing the name of our street is a good indication of how close they are to our community.

The real community of Fairlawn Avenue have sent a petition signed by every single resident on the street asking Domino's to stop parking here. The Fairlawn Avenue community unanimously does not want Domino's to park on our street. This petition was sent to councillors Arjun Mittra and Alison Moore in October 2017 and to [Barnet Council environment committee chairman] Dean Cohen in February this year. As yet none of these councillors has addressed the issue.

Lastly, Domino's state in their response to the letter that they agree to "use one bay out of four". When we asked the manager of Domino's to move some of the eight bikes (using two bays) the day after *The Archer* was published she said she had no knowledge of this agreement or the letter that *The Archer* published and that Domino's would continue to use as much space as they needed on Fairlawn Avenue.

We welcome a discussion with Domino's and the local councillors to try to resolve this problem rather than argue about it in the newspaper.

**Yours faithfully,
Residents of Fairlawn Avenue.**

Class reunion

Dear Editor,

I was intrigued to read the article in the June *Archer* about David Smith retiring as a governor of Holy Trinity School. I was a pupil at the old school in East End Road in the 1950s and I have very fond memories of the school and the annual holidays down in Seaford.

I would love to make contact with anyone who was in my class at the school. I am at the following address.

**Yours faithfully,
Anthony Lazarus
11a Holly Park Road, N11 3HA.**

Litter danger

Dear Editor,

I was particularly interested to read your articles about litter and fly tipping in the latest *Archer* (June 2018). We live at the north end of East Finchley and our twice-daily walk to Tudor School takes us past awful amounts of rubbish alongside Vale Farm Allotments between Avondale Road and the North Circular.

It's really a disgrace and some of the litter has been there since January. I can't let my toddler walk the route as there's broken glass and it's not safe.

I have raised cases with Barnet Council, and tried to raise awareness by sending almost daily images (see photo below) to Barnet Conservatives group via Facebook over the last month or two but to no avail.

**Kind regards,
Kate Arnot,
Address supplied.**



Tipping point: Piles of rubbish on Kate Arnot's walking route.

Many hands

Dear Editor,

Now that it is clear that East Finchley streets have no regular litter picking service, I suggest that on a daily basis, everyone picks up any litter outside their home on the pavement and gutter, and also three extra pieces on their way to the tube or the shops. It can easily be disposed of in the large wheely bins on each street.

I have been doing this (to the amazement of passersby) but it would be even more effective if we all joined in.

**Yours faithfully
M Robinson,
Address supplied.**

Send your correspondence to: "Letters Page" The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 2DE or e-mail the-archer@lineone.net.

Letters without verifiable contact addresses will not be printed. Contact details can be withheld on request at publication. We reserve the right to abridge letters for reasons of space.

Shop rage

Dear Editor,

Further to your recent reader's letter about road rage (*The Archer*, June 2018), I have now experienced very ugly shop rage locally.

One evening I went into Iceland where a couple in their 20s were straddling the entire 'entry' aisle. I politely said: "Excuse me please, may I come through?"

"No," came the man's aggressive retort. "We're walking at the same pace as you!"

STEWART DUNCAN

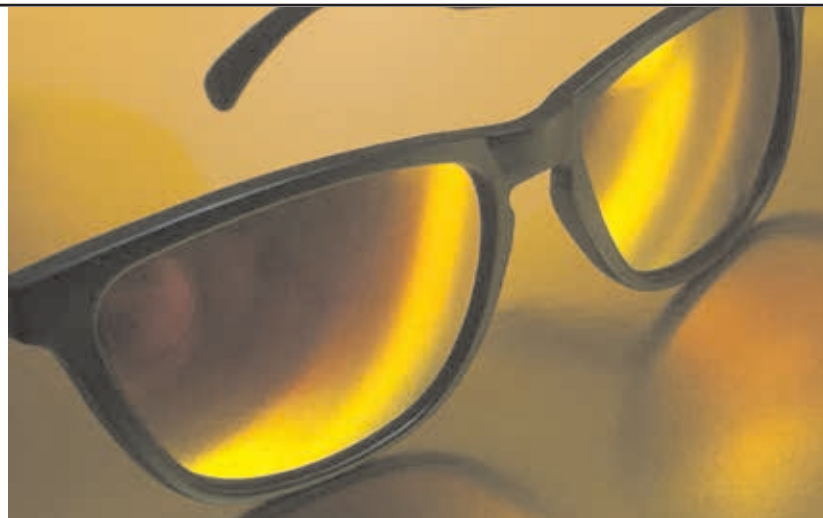
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Funny sad: Caterina Incisa

Four-star comedy about mental health

East Finchley playwright Caterina Incisa has a play running at the Hope Theatre in Islington this month. The one-woman show, *0 Days Without Crying*, has been described as part stand-up, part memoir.

Born and bred in Cherry Tree Road, N2, Caterina moved back to the area after working as a writer and English teacher in Canada for four years.

0 Days Without Crying is a 50-minute solo tragicomedy which follows Jess, a 20-something woman, as she makes ill-advised and embarrassing attempts to "love" herself. The show was a sell-out hit at the Montreal Fringe Festival in Canada and has received numerous four-star reviews.

Caterina said: "It's for anyone who's ever looked in the mirror and wanted to vom. I play Jess, a woman with crippling low self-esteem who decides to take three months to fall in love with herself. Early on in

the play we find out that Jess' mother died when she was 16 and this has seriously impacted her mental health.

"It was important for me to be brutally honest about depression and grief but also to make the audience laugh. I find dark stuff very, very funny and there are a lot of jokes in this play because, as someone who suffers from low self-esteem, I need those sweet, sweet validation laughs."

0 Days Without Crying is playing at The Hope Theatre, Upper Street, Islington, Sunday and Monday 8-9 and 15-16 July at 7.45pm. Tickets priced £15/£12 are available online at thehopetheatre.com or by phone on 0333 666 3366.

Filming set to start on dark dementia drama

By John Lawrence

Film veteran Miriam Margolyes and London rapper Professor Green are two of the stars of an edgy new short film project that will tackle some dark issues about street life and what dementia means for people old and young.

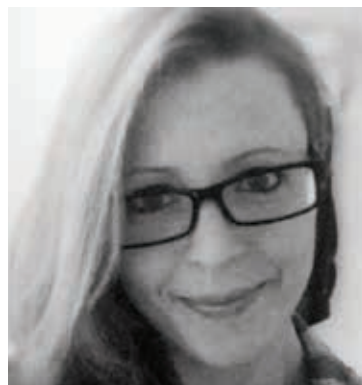
Producer Trish Rybarczyk, of Three Wise Monkeys Productions, is frantically crowd-funding to raise enough cash for filming on *Ethel* to begin in south London in August.

Trish, who has lived in East Finchley for 26 years, hopes the film will get young people talking about the issue of dementia. "It's not the first thing young people think about but, at any time, they could suddenly find themselves being a carer for someone with Alzheimer's," she said. "This will be a dark drama with plenty of twists and turns, but it might open their eyes more than watching Love Island."

Trish and writer-director Jonny Wright hope the 15-minute production will take off at short film festivals around Europe and eventually find its way onto British television. It also stars Union J boyband singer JJ Hamblett and Elijah Baker.

Incentives for investors

But first the cast and crew need to raise £30,000 to fund filming. They are offering perks including on-screen credits and spending a day on set in return for small-time investors willing to help their crowdfunding campaign.



Crowdfunding: Producer Trish Rybarczyk

Trish said: "Large and small sums are welcome as they all help us towards our target. We've got exciting rewards like meet-and-greets with the cast, and autographs, and we're running a £10 lottery to win a set visit for two."

See the campaign at <https://igg.me/at/Ethel> and find out more about the production itself at www.ethelshortfilm.co.uk. Ten per cent of the money raised will be donated to The Bat Foundation, which helps people diagnosed with Alzheimer's through table tennis therapy.



On board: Miriam Margolyes. Photo Kyte Photography.



Star cast: Professor Green. Photo Simon Emmett

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