



Logo to spearhead plastics campaign

By Ruth Anders, No2Plastics co-organiser

Hot off the press, we are delighted to share our No2Plastics campaign image with readers of *The Archer*. Designed by Vanessa Broomfield, this image will form the basis for all the campaign's collateral.

On behalf of No2Plastics, Joanne Westgate updated the members of N2United at their meeting in mid-September and her passionate presentation was greeted with enthusiastic applause. A straw poll resulted in unanimous endorsement of the chosen campaign image from a number of designs suggested.

We have already seen some terrific support from enthusiastic volunteers who want to

cups and straws from shops, cafés and restaurants in East Finchley.

When asked about his shop's attitude to the cause, Chris Athanasiou from Tony's Continental said: "We'd be delighted to display a sign saying we encourage our customers to use their own bags. But this is only going to work if every shop on the High Road pulls together and we all join up."

Tony's is also going to make



EAST FINCHLEY
NO2PLASTICS

work with us on the campaign. Ann Inglis, who wrote the original letter to *The Archer* in May, Joanne Westgate and I are currently heading the movement and developing roles for volunteers. We've been taking preliminary soundings from one or two shop-keepers on the High Road to gauge support, before an all-out drive to ask for their commitment to reduce single-use plastics.

Pulling together

The campaign's initial aim is to banish plastic bags,

smaller cardboard boxes available near the checkout so that customers and their children can help the environment with some much needed recycling. Anything is better than plastic bags! Other retailers too are eager to lend their support.

Would you like to assist in this initiative? Everyone in East Finchley needs to get behind No2Plastics. Email no2plastics@gmail.com to join the campaign, or join www.facebook.com/groups/No2Plastics

Join Grange Big Local

The Grange Big Local team will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Saturday 27 October and everyone is welcome to go along and hear about their activities and achievements so far this year along with their plans for 2019. The team is in charge of regenerating the area of East Finchley bordered by the High Road, Church Lane, East End Road and the North Circular, including the Grange, Font Hills and Thomas More estates, using £1 million in lottery grant money.

Local people are invited to join the project's partnership board. They will be trained and given the chance to develop skills to help them have a direct influence on the future of the Grange Big Local area.

The project's Jon Woolfson said: "Even if you do not want to join the board, do come along to the meeting to find out more about what we are doing, have

your say and find out about other ways of volunteering."

There will be children's activities and a free lunch and it all takes place on Saturday 27 October from 11am to 2.30pm at St Mary's Parish Centre, High Road, N2 8HG. For further information text 'Grange' to 66777, email info@grange-biglocal.org or call 020 8364 8400 ext. 241.



Sense of humour: Ethel Mattison pictured in 2015. Photo Mike Coles.

Ethel Mattison, 1912 -2018

By Daphne Chamberlain

The *Archer* team was sad to hear of the passing of Ethel Mattison, at the age of 106. I interviewed her three years ago, and she was a remarkable woman. Family and friends describe her as open-minded, down-to-earth, a mine of information, and someone who laughed a lot. Apparently she loved satire and the absurd, and had a store of risqué limericks.

In his eulogy, her son Charlie remembered her saying that what kept her going was curiosity about what would happen next.

Her friend Caroline Broome, also speaking at her funeral, said that her motto was "Adapt or Die". Caroline's first meeting with her was when Ethel employed her as a gardener. Then 100 years old, Ethel realised she could no longer climb the ladder to prune her honeysuckle!

At that time, she was still

living in Huntingdon Road, N2, her home for 53 years, after living and working in Hampstead as a nurse. Also at the age of 100, she gave a talk without notes to a large group of medical students about age and infirmity, and then invited their questions on her experience as a pre-NHS nurse.

The NHS was particularly important to her as a lifelong socialist. A Communist in the 1930s, she later joined the Labour Party, of which she eventually became the oldest

member. Always involved in the Co-operative Movement and the Women's Movement, she joined the Townswomen's Guild at 16.

She loved poetry, the classics and botany, and Charlie remembers her strong belief in the power of science and technology to do good.

For the last three years, Ethel lived in Spring Lane Care Home in Muswell Hill, where she got herself up, made her own bed, and walked to the nearby shops with her son for coffee. He paid tribute to the staff there for their care and love.

Ethel came from a large family, including an identical twin sister who died at the age of five.

She is survived by Charlie, daughter Trish, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

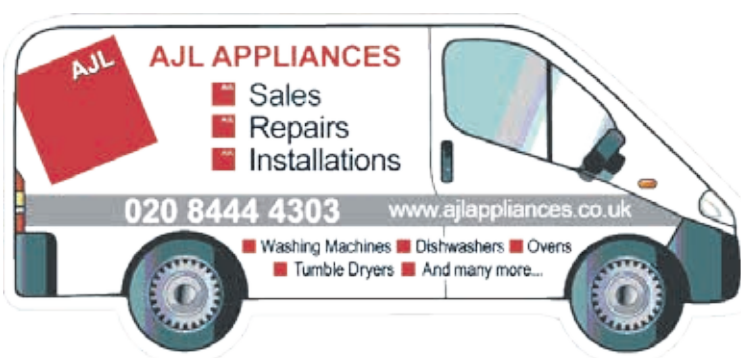
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