



# YOUNG ARCHER



Orchestral manoeuvres: Young players at the Youth Music Centre.

## Helping hand to play music

Some 160 children walk through the doors of Bigwood House in Hampstead Garden Suburb most Saturday mornings to join a variety of instrument classes run by the Youth Music Centre.

Now the organisation has launched a bursary fund to offer assisted places to young students who would otherwise be unable to afford lessons.

The centre's Marina Solarek said its youngest members start at the age of three with pre-instrumental musicianship classes before choosing from any string instrument or recorder or flute

beginner group lessons.

"Most students at YMC enjoy the mixture of activities like orchestras, choir, chamber music plus voice, aural and theory classes they can choose to take part in," she said.

The bursary fund will

be officially launched with a free summer concert at 5pm on Saturday 13 July at the Free Church Hampstead Garden Suburb North Square, NW11, where all are welcome. Find out more at [www.youthmusiccentre.org](http://www.youthmusiccentre.org)

## Cultural education

Fifteen organisations coordinated by artsdepot in North Finchley have started the Cultural Education Partnership to spread arts, health and history activities to young people least likely to have access to them.

Their focus will be on reaching pupils in faith schools, Pupil Referral Units and Special Educational Needs schools, pupils being home-schooled and young people attending supplementary schools.

Founding partners include Middlesex University, London

Borough of Barnet Libraries and Schools Improvement Service, the RAF Museum, The Young Barnet Foundation and Adolescents Mental Health Service. To find out more email Francesca Cross at: [Francesca.Cross@artsdepot.co.uk](mailto:Francesca.Cross@artsdepot.co.uk) or telephone her on 020 8369 5496.

## Spin to make dreams come true



Wheely tough: Members of Spin Cyclub during their marathon session.

A 45-minute indoor cycling class is tough

enough but Sharon Jaffe, owner of The CyClub, kept spinning for 180 minutes and raised £5,000 for the Rays of Sunshine charity which helps the wishes of critically ill children come true.

Sharon was joined by 64 spinners who did one or two classes alongside her at the fitness studio in Market Place, Hampstead Garden Suburb.

## TV comedy duo's tale of robot dad

By John Lawrence

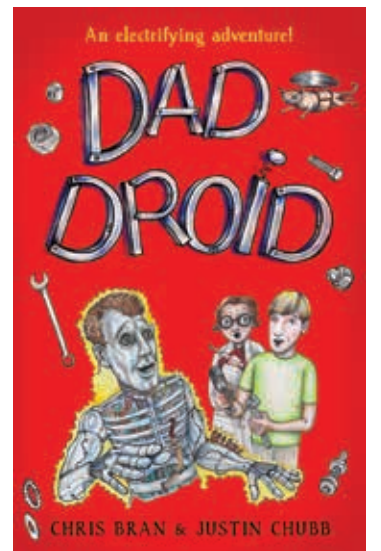
Fans of the *This is Jinsy* comedy series, the first British show to air on Sky Atlantic, will know its creators and performers Chris Bran and Justin Chubb for their eccentric imaginations and their offbeat sense of humour.

David Tennant as a very camp presenter in platform boots, Olivia Colman as an ageing aristocrat and Stephen Fry as the curator of an ancient hair museum were just some of the big names who starred alongside the pair in the show, which ran from 2011 to 2014.

### Memories of a real techie father

Now Chris and Justin have parlayed their partnership into writing books. *Dad Droid*, their first title for young readers, tells the story of Freddy Bird, who puts together a robot version of his genius inventor father Bert after he goes missing in mysterious circumstances.

Justin, who lives in Long Lane, N2, also illustrated the book. He said it was partly inspired by memories of his own father, who had a very early computer back in the 1970s, which filled the entire floor of a shop he was managing.



and we really enjoyed the challenge of penning a book. It's a sort of fable with elements of the Frankenstein story."

Chris and Justin went to the same school in Guernsey and started writing together after both moved to London, beginning with sketches for Radio 4 comedy



Co-writers: Chris Bran and Justin Chubb.

"He was always up to date with the latest gadgets and technology, so there were often strange new inventions around the house," said Justin. "Chris and I wanted to carry on writing in the spirit of the *Jinsy* scripts

Aimed at eight to 12-year-olds, *Dad Droid* is published by Unbound and is available at bookshops and on Amazon. The co-writers say they are hoping to start work on a sequel very soon.

## Flats coming to car park

There has been considerable activity in the car park behind Budgens recently.

The freight container that has graced the centre of the car park for months has gone, the central car parking spaces have been cordoned off, and surveyors have drawn blue lines and inserted boundary pegs across the site.

It would seem that the long-expected development of a block of flats in the car park is about to begin.

Representatives of the development company C&M Properties have informed residents of Viceroy Close that they will set up a key fob controlled gate across the entrance, and that once building work starts, they intend to close the car park to all vehicular traffic for up to three months.

FUN and MUSIC for BABIES and TODDLERS in N2 on **TUESDAYS** and **THURSDAYS** at 10am



with  
LIVE ACCOMPANIMENT  
ON VIOLIN AND GUITAR  
at EAST FINCHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH,  
Creighton Avenue



<https://www.facebook.com/teddybearsclub>  
<https://www.facebook.com/SteppingStonesEastFinchley>  
or text 07836 284538

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

**Sunday mass at 10.00 a.m.**

**Weekday masses as advertised on the website**  
(Coffee served after mass on Sunday and Thursday)

Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

The Parish has a *flourishing* social life.

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

New singers are always welcome.

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

For more information: Please email:  
[saintsabounding@gmail.com](mailto:saintsabounding@gmail.com)