

A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Festival gets everybody dancing



And the beat goes on: left to right, two girls jump about in front of the festival's main stage; two performers from the Madhuriya Indian classical dance group; and a father teaches his young son some dad dancing. Photos Mike Coles

It seemed like the whole of East Finchley turned out to soak up the fun, and a dash of sunshine, at the 2022 East Finchley Festival in Cherry Tree Wood on Sunday 19 June. Crowds of visitors arrived early and stayed throughout the afternoon to enjoy the line-up of live entertainment, a feast of fine food and scores of stalls and attractions.

Congratulations to the volunteer team of organisers from the East Finchley Festival CIC for working throughout the year to create another knock-out event that brought everyone together. And thanks also to the volunteers on the day, who stepped in to act as stewards, raffle ticket sellers and litter pickers, making sure everything ran smoothly and the park was left in pristine condition afterwards.

Opening the festival from the main stage, Alison Moore, Barnet's new mayor and East Finchley councillor, said it was the hard work of everyone involved and the community spirit of people in N2 that made it a unique occasion in the borough, one that has now been running for nearly 50 years.

Thank you to sponsors

Event managers Mike Hughes and Alison Roberts thanked the festival's spon-

sors: Rogers Removals, Martyn Gerrard Estate Agents, The Archer, 224 North London Air Scouts, The Muswell Hill Club, Tax Assist and all the advertisers and Friends of the Festival whose ongoing support means the festival remains a free event for everyone to enjoy. They also extended their thanks to the hosts, performers and local businesses and organisations who gave up their time to entertain the

community.

Planning for next year's event will start in September. If you'd like to get involved you can find out more at www.eastfinchleyfestival.org/get-involved. The festival team is specifically on the lookout for a bookkeeper and a scheduler/coordinator for volunteers.

Turn to pages 6 and 7 to see more festival photos from photographers Mike Coles and Tetiana Shedko.

Scooter time!!!!

We have a range of electric scooters from fun to city



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Thank you to The East Finchley Constitutional Club for providing us with a meeting place.

The Archer team wishes to thank all the generous people who give up their spare time, in all weather, to deliver the paper for us.

If you have a story for us, please contact us at the above address. Comments to The Archer may be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication' within the text.

Copy deadlines – **August:** 15 July **September:** 12 August
October: 16 September

Café to apply for alcohol licence

The two owners of the café in Cherry Tree Wood are applying for a premises licence to serve alcohol during regular opening hours and for special events. Sharon Hall and Sharon Harding are planning a calendar of attractions like jazz afternoons and supper clubs in the height of summer.

Sharon Harding said: "We are hugely responsible and respectful of our neighbours and will at all times keep our events tasteful and in line with what the community wants." The café's regular weekday opening hours are 8am to 5pm in summer and 9am to 5pm on weekends.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Barnet Council

230 Creighton Avenue, N2

Conversion of garage into habitable room. Window to replace garage door.

Carmelite Friars, 63 East End Road, N2

Non-material amendment to planning permission for single-storey rear extension. Replacement and enlargement of existing patio door.

188 East End Road, N2

Roof extension, involving hip to gable, rear dormer window, three front rooflights and new side gable window. New front porch. Rear outbuilding. Replacement of windows to match existing ones.

33 Elmfield Road, N2

Single-storey side and rear infill extensions following demolition of existing garage. Removal of side chimney stack. Replacement of existing windows.

First Floor Flat, 42 Fortis

Green, N2

Details of materials pursuant to planning permission.

66-68 High Road, N2

Details of hard and soft landscaping pursuant to planning permission.

401 High Road, N2

New antenna on existing pole, plus further ancillary kit.

56 Huntingdon Road, N2

Single-storey side/rear infill extension.

First Floor Flat, 98 Huntingdon Road, N2

Roof extension, involving one rear dormer window, two outrigger dormers and new rear window.

379 Long Lane, N2

Single-storey rear infill extension.

North Circular Road, N2

Upgrade to existing Phase 4 SW Monopole. 8m high EE/H3G Phase 8 street pole on concrete base, and associated ancillary works.



Change of plan: The Brownsell green space that has been saved and the three homes behind that will no longer be demolished. Photo Mike Coles

Grange U-turn: Demolitions halted and green spaces saved

By Janet Maitland

Barnet Council will not be going ahead with controversial plans to demolish three houses and build over green spaces on Brownsell Road and Tarling Road, N2, it has been announced.

"This is amazing news, not just for me and my family but for all the community," said Rebecca Weston, who is chair of the Grange and Brownsell Road Residents Association, set up to challenge the proposals, and who lives in one of the houses earmarked for demolition. "The stress has been awful for us and now we can breathe a sigh of relief."

"The new Labour Council is delivering on a manifesto pledge not to build on green fields," said East Finchley Councillor Arjun Mittra. "We felt it was important to rebuild trust in the council and demonstrate that our new administration listens to residents."

As we have reported in previous editions, Barnet Homes announced its intention to tackle a shortage of council housing in late 2020, describing the building of 100 homes on the Grange estate as "mild interventions to increase density".

However, the plan that emerged included a five-storey block of 38 flats on Brownsell Road green space, three houses on Tarling Road green space and the demolition of three homes, seen by residents as anything but mild.

Petition for improved consultation

Barnet Homes thought their consultation was thorough

despite face-to-face contact being limited by the pandemic, but residents felt their concerns were being ignored. The residents associations never managed to meet with Barnet Homes, who described them as "not formal Residents Associations".

A petition signed by 700 residents, asking for clear principles to underpin the consultation, such as new developments not destroying green space was submitted to a council Residents Forum last July who sent it to Barnet Homes. Their response pointed out the thoroughness of the consultation and, paradoxically, that a key aim of the project was to "add more high-quality green space".

New blocks on Grange but green spaces saved

By February 2022, Barnet Homes had revised their plans,

substantially reducing the number of flats they planned to build. However, residents still felt they had not been heard as the green spaces would still be built on and homes would still be demolished. This threat has now been lifted. Plans for two new blocks on the Grange estate will be going ahead, after some revisions to the design.

"The fight paid off," said Sachin Patel, one of five resident representatives on a consultation group. "But development on the Grange is still on the table while many of my neighbours are dealing with faulty entry systems and damp."

"This is heartening news and shows the council is listening," said Morgan Saunders, who constituted the Tarling Road Residents Association to save their green space.

How the Grange plans changed

By Janet Maitland

In its first Grange estate redevelopment plan unveiled in April 2021, Barnet Homes proposed building a new five-storey block of 38 flats on Brownsell Green, three houses on Tarling Road green space, a block of seven flats on the Grange by the High Road, a block of eight flats on Central Avenue, a block of eight flats on Red Lion Hill and approximately 36 more flats in upward extensions to Garden House and Oak House.

By the second redevelopment plan in February 2022, this had been scaled back to two blocks of flats on Brownsell Green with a total of 24 flats, one with four storeys, the other between two and four storeys, with a block of seven flats on the Grange by the High Road

and a block of eight flats on Central Avenue.

Green spaces saved

Under the latest plans, all that remains of the redevelopment are the block of seven flats on the Grange by the High Road and the block of eight flats on Central Avenue.

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N2United launches Town Team plan for East Finchley

By Ruth Anders

Dozens of traders and representatives from local organisations attending the June meeting of community network N2United were the first to hear details of the newly formed East Finchley Town Team's plans for three major events on the High Road.

Hosted by The Engine Rooms in their state-of-the-art event space on the Great North Road, the evening saw an exceptional attendance of 70-plus people. N2United Chair Nick Allan welcomed everyone before handing over to Kate Brown, Chair of East Finchley Town Team.

Budgens needs an uplift and noted the importance of inviting all High Road businesses to participate.

A special place

Councillor Ross Houston, Deputy Leader of Barnet Council, said how impressed he was with East Finchley's level of engagement, adding that the



Ambitious: Kate Brown talks about the Town Team plans to the packed audience at the Engine Rooms. Photo Mike Coles.

Events in the pipeline

Kate explained the Town Team's story, starting with the successful application for £10,000 funding (*The Archer*, May 2022) and moving on to plans for three events to be held on the High Road between September 2022 and March 2023.

The first of these will be held on Saturday 17 September, focusing on our "Sustainable High Road", with more details to be announced nearer the time. Interesting questions were asked including how the initiative might leave a lasting legacy, especially in terms of the High Road's appearance and the proliferation of rubbish bins.

Councillor Arjun Mittra commented that Barnet Council is working on a long-term plan for bin management. All agreed that the area outside

East Finchley Festival is the most successful in the Borough.

The new Mayor of Barnet, Alison Moore, commended East Finchley's special qualities and reminded everyone of the importance of supporting their local businesses. She added her support of N2United's work in pulling local organisations, sole traders and individuals together. As if to illustrate this, representatives from the Phoenix Cinema, East Finchley Open Artists, the East Finchley Festival and Grange Big Local gave updates on their various activities.

Diary date

Everyone is welcome to N2United's next meeting taking place at East Finchley Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2, on Thursday 14 July at 8pm. See n2united.co.uk for further details.



Just 10km to go: The runners set off on the Race the Neighbours route from Cherry Tree Wood.

Photo John Lawrence

Neighbours back to race again

By David Melsome

Hundreds of runners set off from Cherry Tree Wood on Sunday 5 June when the Race the Neighbours 10k challenge returned for the first time in three years.

Since 2015, with a two-year break for the pandemic, East Finchley and Muswell Hill have competed in a friendly fashion to take home the Cherry Tree Cup but this year it was newly admitted N6 postcode Highgate that claimed the trophy.

The amateur athletes set off on a 10km route around Highgate Wood and Alexandra Palace before returning to the finishing line in Cherry Tree Wood, where individual times were recorded and average scores for the postcodes tallied.

The fastest male runner

this year was David Andrade in 37mins 55secs and the fastest female runner was Gillian Hughes in 44mins 06secs. Congratulations to everyone who gave it their best and made it round the course, including the last runner to romp home in 1hr 22mins 12secs.

Another High Road business raided

Three men in masks forced their way into Sainsbury's supermarket on the High Road, N2, in the early hours of Monday 30 May in the latest in a string of attacks on businesses around East Finchley.

Police were called to the scene at 3.40am and found the windows shattered and the shutters severed. Hundreds of



Forced entry: The damage caused to the front entrance of Sainsbury's in the High Road.

Photo Mike Coles

e-cigarette refills were stolen and boxes of other goods thrown over the floor. The burglary was captured on the supermarket CCTV. "Enquiries are ongoing," said a police spokesperson.

Several local businesses have been broken into during the last 19 months: the now closed New Local Café twice in 24 hours by different burglars, the East Finchley station shop, the Ella Food Centre, the N2 Food and Wine shop off Church Lane and CW Andrew Pharmacy, twice in less than a year.

In the last three months, burglars have also tried to break into two other shops on the High Road, but their attempts

were foiled by the shutters. Just under two thirds of all these burglaries, including Sainsbury's, were of premises without shutters.

You can find current police security advice for businesses by going to www.met.police.uk and searching for 'business crime prevention'. The council is undertaking a review of CCTV street cameras to ensure they are in the right place to deter crime.

Night blaze destroys unoccupied house

Six fire engines and around 40 firefighters were called to a house alight on The Bishops Avenue, N2, in the early hours of Monday 6 June. The roof, first floor and ground floor of the detached property were destroyed by the blaze.

The Brigade was called at 3.45am and the fire was under control by 6am. Fire crews from Finchley, West Hampstead, Hornsey and Kentish Town fire stations were at the scene.

There were no reports of any injuries and the cause of the fire is under investigation. The Bishops



Early hours: Fire crews at the blaze on The Bishops Avenue

Avenue was partially closed for several hours after the incident.



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New faces welcome at historic social club

The East Finchley Constitutional Club is throwing wide its doors for an open weekend to encourage more people to come and enjoy its unique atmosphere and use the facilities it has to offer.

The club, situated in The Walks, N2, close to the Market Place Playground, has approximately 180 members who enjoy

the bar year-round and meet for quizzes, an annual summer barbecue and a Christmas party. But it also has a great func-

tion room available for anyone to hire, which can host up to 100 guests with a stage, plenty of tables and chairs, a sound system, projector screen, fully functioning kitchen... and a disco ball. Anyone hiring the function room also gets use of the large back garden.

The function room has been used by local organisations such as N2United, East Finchley Festival, Grange Big Local and other resident associations. And the other hidden treasure is that the club has the only snooker room in the area.

Also for non-members there's weekly bingo every Sunday at 7.30pm as well as fitness classes every weekday at 9.15am and personal training available with Sally at lungefitness.co.uk. The directors and members of the club are hoping that everyone will come along for the open weekend on Friday 22 from 5pm to 11pm and Saturday 23 July from 2pm to 10pm to see what's on offer.

Local history

East Finchley Constitutional Club was opened by a group of businessmen in 1901 and remained open during both world wars. It is one of the oldest limited companies in the UK.



Drink and a chat: Members enjoying the garden at the Constitutional Club

Queen bees welcome at pollinator palace

The insect house built by volunteers at the East Finchley Pollinator Project in Cherry Tree Wood received coverage on BBC London News over the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend in June, unsurprisingly as it has been named 'Bughingham Palace'.



Youth music orchestras set to perform

The Youth Music Centre Orchestras will be holding their next concert at the Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church in North Square, NW11, on Saturday 9 July at 1pm, with performances from Bach's Brandenburg concertos and excerpts from Carmina Burana and Carmen.

Ukrainians welcome

From this term YMC has opened its doors to all young Ukrainian musicians who have arrived in the UK and would like to take part in their programme of orchestras, chamber music, choir and composition, all free of any charge. Find out more at www.youthmusiccentre.uk



On the wall: Debbie Singer with the first set of mosaics she has designed. Photo Mike Coles.

A mosaic that will grow piece by piece

By Debbie Singer

If you have walked through Cherry Tree Wood recently, you may have noticed two new mosaic panels on the toilet block opposite the café. I made these as a result of a chance meeting with Kate Brown and Roger Chapman of the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood.

I have been volunteering with the Friends gardening group since I moved to East Finchley in late 2020. I have enjoyed meeting local people as we plant daffodil and tulip bulbs or weed amongst the wallflowers.

"Just off to my mosaics class," I said as I bumped into Kate and Roger near the playground. Quick as a flash, Kate came back with "Would you like to make a mosaic for Cherry Tree Wood?" "Yes," I said with no hesitation. "It will go on the toilet block," said Kate. I laughed.

A different project

Having walked the length of The Bishops Avenue and across Hampstead Heath, I arrived at the London School of Mosaic, near Gospel Oak station, full of my new 'commission'. My teacher and fellow students were very excited about the project.

I started mosaics three years ago and, whilst other students make the most beautiful pictures, I have always made useful

objects: a tray, a soap dispenser, my house number for outside my new front door. The process is calming and mindful as you focus on colours, shapes and patterns, forgetting whatever was bothering you when you arrived at the class.

What will follow the fruit?

Kate, Roger and I agreed that the mosaic should be built up from ten panels and should reflect Cherry Tree Wood. The first two panels are of the fruit of the orchard by the tennis courts: the wonderfully named Core Blimey apple and an unusual striped Pysanka pear.

Future panels will include the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood logo, and birds, flowers and trees found in the park. The full mosaic will take a number of months to complete so the plan is to put panels up as they are ready. If you have suggestions of what image you would like on a new panel, do let the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood know via friendsofcherrytree-wood@gmail.com

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Eleventh hour proposal to alter design of flats

By Janet Maitland

The owner of the unsightly wasteland on the corner of Church Lane and the High Road, N2, has applied for approval to alter plans for the flats he was given permission to build well over two years ago.

Timing is already tight as construction of the two blocks of flats cannot begin until the owner meets several conditions, such as the submission and approval of a drainage strategy. No such submissions have yet been made even though

be at odds with the surroundings and an overdevelopment of the site.

It took three years, another failed submission, a successful appeal to Secretary of State MP James Brokenshire, and then yet another submission before



New block: An artist's impression of the new development on the corner of the High Road and Church Lane released late last year

the council will cancel the permission to build if the flats are not started by the end of November, whether the recent application for alterations is approved or not.

The application includes 'changes to layouts of units, windows, entrance doors and roof lights, extension of amenity space, raising height of one block by 300mm and lower ground floor levels of block 2'.

Original eight homes become 20

Seven years ago the land was home to an unremarkable Esso petrol station. Then Esso sold it to Leopold Properties who made an unsuccessful application to build eight homes, refused as they were thought to

Barnet Council agreed in 2019 that the development could go ahead.

This was despite local residents protesting that the density had almost doubled in the final application and now consisted of 20 flats in two large 'overbearing' blocks, rather than the three terraced houses along Leopold Road and one block of six flats that the Secretary of State gave permission for in 2018.

Plan detail unavailable

It is not clear what impact the latest changes, if implemented, will have on residents' concerns as detailed plans are not available. The site, known as Leopold Court, is for sale with Goldschmidt & Howland for £6 million.

Black Gull still flying

By Iain Smith

Readers of our March edition may remember reading that East Finchley's Black Gull Books might be closing. This was the result of Chris Overfield, the owner, deciding to retire to the south coast this year.

This would be very sad for East Finchley, as the bookshop is unique in its mix of antiquarian and other quality second-hand books.

Now for some good news. Chris has told us his departure from the business will not happen this year so Black Gull Books will stay open under his ownership for a further period, probably until next summer.

This gives more time for him

to find a way of passing on or otherwise ensuring the survival of one of our most interesting High Road shops.

In parallel, the book shop has relaunched its series of special events. There has also been some targeted marketing intended to raise its profile in East Finchley and selected nearby areas. Look out for any such offer posted through your letterbox.



Alma mater: David Hughes and his mum Wendy visiting Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge University, last summer, where Mr Hughes was a student in the 1980s.

Schools set me up for life, says Jubilee honours man

By George Ryan

An education leader has thanked his old schools after he was recognised by the Queen for his role supporting students.

David Hughes, 56, who grew up on The Grange estate in East Finchley, has been made a CBE in Queen's Platinum Jubilee Honours list for services to further education.

The former Woodhouse Grammar, now Woodhouse College, pupil from 1977 to 1984 said his time at both schools "set him up for life".

Mr Hughes has spent the past two decades supporting the skills sector and has been the chief executive of the Association of Colleges, which represents colleges including Barnet and Southgate College, since 2016.

Mr Hughes said it was a "huge privilege" to have been recognised, adding: "I never thought I would be in this position now, getting an honour from the Queen."

Tribute to local schools

"When I was growing up, my mum instilled in me and my three brothers a strong set of values which I carry with me to this day. It was my education at Martin Infants and Juniors and then Woodhouse which really set me up for life."

"As a teenager I didn't know anyone who had been to university. I remember going home from sixth form one day and saying over dinner that there was a meeting for people who wanted to apply for Oxbridge. My brothers told me, 'People like us don't go to Oxford or Cambridge,' and that made me even more determined to apply."

"There are lots of people I went to school with who had all the potential in the world, but they were not as lucky as me. I've spent my whole career trying to make sure no one feels like they are not worthy of education. Talent is truly classless."

Mum followed in his footsteps

The father-of-three, who now lives in Loughborough, Leicestershire, still regularly visits East Finchley to see his 83-year-old mum Wendy in Tarling Road.

Mr Hughes said: "I was the first in my family to go to university, but it was my mum who was second, when she pursued a French and Spanish degree in her fifties, complete with a year abroad in Seville."

"The great thing about college education is that it provides opportunities for people of all ages to gain new skills and pursue their passions. It's the amazing people who work in colleges that I want to share this accolade with, and I am glad this helps shine a spotlight on our remarkable sector."

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Double bubble: Colourful performers from Fixation Academy. Photo Mike Coles



Games begin: Youngsters play Laser Tag in the wood. Photo Mike Coles

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On their feet: Dex & SoulMates get the Main Stage crowd up and dancing. Photo Mike Coles

Family-friendly festival a fabulous success

There was so much to see and enjoy at this year's East Finchley Festival, from live music to laser tag, from football to food, and from singing to storytelling. We hope you enjoy this selection of his photos from the day. Roll on Festival 2023!



Above, one woman enjoying the live music on the Main Stage while, right, Mary Poppins entertains children from the Community Stage.



Below, the park was packed with visitors for the whole afternoon. Photos Mike Coles



VIP visitor: Community Stage host Nick Allan with Mayor Alison Moore. Photo Tetiana Shedko



Crowd pleasers: Patrick's Jazz Class on the Community Stage. Photo Mike Coles



Arts and crafts: Artemesana, above left, and Planet Pallet, right, with their creations. Photos Tetiana Shedko



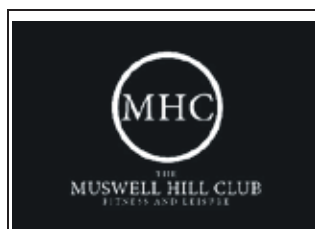
Shoot and score: Coaching action on the basketball court. Photo Tetiana Shedko



Main Stage hosts Pat "Have Mercy" Leacock and Kate Galston. Photo Mike Coles



In the pink: Singer WondR WomN on the Main Stage. Photo Mike Coles



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Growing confidence: Support worker Sarah Nneke catches up with Robbie while he gardens. Photo Mike Coles

Gardening gives more than just pleasure

By David Gritten

It's hard to imagine doing gardening work as an activity that could radically change one's life but East Finchley support worker Sarah Nneke insists on its merits.

Sarah, who is familiar with the problems raised by autism, has been working with a young autistic man named Robbie, 26. Robbie hit upon gardening as a means of showing his talents to serve people in the area; it was an activity he started only recently, during lockdown. "A few weeks ago," Sarah recalls, "a lovely lady forwarded me his details, praising the gardening job he had done for her." And since then Robbie has done several gardening jobs for people in East Finchley, all of them to wide acclaim.

He has turned out to be a natural, and as Sarah tells it, the experience has had a massive impact on him.

"This experience has really helped Robbie with his confidence and his pride," she observes. "I'd like to thank everyone who has been involved and had their gardens done by Robbie."

Sarah herself has been delighted by the entire episode: "It's just been amazing, and I'm so thankful to live in a commu-

nity with such lovely people."

Five go mad... and cycle to Paris!

By John Lawrence

Last year a group of mums from East Finchley and Muswell Hill challenged themselves to ride from London to Brighton, a total of 61 miles, to raise funds for the local pre-school where they all met. Now this year, they are being joined by a novice cyclist and pushing themselves even further by riding 275 miles from London to Paris over four days in the middle of July.

The friends are raising money for two charities close to their hearts: Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust, the UK's leading cervical cancer charity, and Refuge, which provides support to women and children who are survivors of domestic violence and abuse.

Helen Style, one of the mums, said: "Training has probably not been as good as it should have been! Through the winter, being fair weather cyclists, we had extra spin sessions at The CyClub in N2, who have sponsored one lot of t-shirts for us."

"Now we're doing hill training up Swains Lane, Highgate

Sweet spot for newly arrived chef

By Lynn Winton

Many East Finchley residents are continuing to sponsor Ukrainian people looking for a safe haven. In last month's edition we reported on photographer Tetiana Shedko, who is trying to start a new life with her young family.

For this issue I went to interview patisserie chef Elena Petrovich, who has arrived via Krakow from a small commuter town near to Kyiv and is living with her host family in the heart of N2. She is in regular contact with her husband and parents back in Ukraine and is naturally very anxious for their continuing safety. It is no surprise that with her cuisine qualifications she already has a full time job at the Bald Faced Stag in the High Road and is working there as Chef de Parti, also making all the desserts. Fortunately my five regular pub quiz team members were more than willing to help me check out the menu at the Stag. We tried every dessert and they were all delicious, which is not surprising considering that whilst Elena has the highest level of French-style patisserie training, she can also elevate a typical gastropub dessert offering into a thing of beauty.

Tying for first place was the Bramley apple crumble with vanilla bean custard and the salted caramel tart with hazelnut ice cream, either of which would have not been out of place in a



Just dessert: Elena Petrovich and one of her fabulous creations

Michelin star restaurant.

Private orders too As well as her demanding job Elena is taking private orders for all kinds of competitively priced cakes and desserts. You can contact her on 07746 623873 and her Instagram @chocoglam_bakery has lots of inspirational cake ideas.



Ticket to ride: The five friends in training for their long-distance ride to Paris

Hill and Muswell Hill as well as a long ride on a Sunday of approximately 70k so far. We need all the luck we can get. Please dig deep into your pockets. We want to raise as much as possible for these amazing charities."

One of the group, Melissa Rockman, a dentist at Cavenish House Dental Practice in East End Road, N2, agreed to take part and then had to learn

to ride a bike. Helen said: "She's a great spinner but had never learned to ride on two wheels. She's been amazing." All money donated will go straight to the two charities as the cost of the trip has been fully funded by the riders. You can support the charities through the group's fundraising page here: <https://donate.giveasy-oulive.com/fundraising/allez-les-femmes>. Bon voyage, ladies!

What's on at the Phoenix in July

By Zalan Pall, of the Phoenix Cinema

From a new, highly-anticipated biopic to incredible live theatre, live podcast and old classics, there's a lot to enjoy at the Phoenix over the coming months.

The man, the legend, the King of Rock & Roll. The standard rock biopic formula gets all shook up in *Elvis*, with Baz Luhrmann's dazzling energy and style perfectly complemented by Austin Butler's outstanding lead performance, until Thursday 7 July.

For families, the Phoenix provides an amazing Black History Walks event on Sunday 3 July centring around African superheroes. This animation festival for six to 60-year-olds, will feature a variety of African-themed cartoons and authentic black history. This is an interactive presentation consisting of short clips of films/cartoons and black history information.

Following the success of the Flash Gordon live podcast last month, *The Smersh Podcast* returns to the stage of Phoenix on Thursday 7 July to deliver another fun-filled, entertaining event, celebrating the 40th anniversary of Rambo's debut in *First Blood*.

On Thursday 14 July a portrait of the "world's greatest living explorer" Sir Ranulph Fiennes comes to the Phoenix, a film that goes beyond the record-breaking achievements to explore the man behind the myth. *Explorer* tells the definitive story of an inspirational leader but it goes beyond a simple retrospective, ultimately revealing the man behind the myth.

For theatre lovers, NT Live presents *Prima Facie* starring Jodie Comer, which is already looking like the hottest ticket of the summer. Suzie Miller's award-winning play takes us to the heart of where emotion and experience collide with the rules of the game. Justin Martin directs this solo actor tour de force at the intimate Harold Pinter Theatre for a strictly limited season.

For those who would like to see some older films back on the big screen, the Phoenix presents a Classic Season screening three tremendous films in July. On Saturday 2 July the 90th anniversary restoration of Carl Theodor Dreyer's *Vampyr* (1932) sinks its teeth onto the big screen. On Sunday 17 July, we show *Pickpocket* (1959), one of the greatest films from minimalist French director Robert Bresson. To round off the month on Sunday 31 July, Wim Wenders spreads his wings in *Wings of Desire* (1987).

FUN and MUSIC for BABIES and TODDLERS in N2 on TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS



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ECO-FRIENDLY EAST FINCHLEY

Even more items you can recycle

By Emma Frampton

For those of you new to Bin There Donate That, the initiative aims to find new places for old stuff, including re-using, upcycling or recycling any unwanted or unsellable household materials.

It is about sustainability and it isn't intended to take anything away from existing worthwhile causes so do keep donating to charity shops when you have quality items that will help raise money for them.

Some of our collection points were already established prior to Bin There's formation last year, so this is about information, not claiming success.

Crisp packet collections

We have finally managed to get a box along to the Cherry Tree Wood café for crisp packets. We hope to set up a Crisp Packet Project, see crisp-packetproject.com for further information.

Ink cartridges

New member Lyna has set up a collection point for ink cartridges in UOE where the Post Office is. The cartridges are sent to an organisation that raises money for a range of charities, called Recycle for Charity, see www.recycle4charity.co.uk. In our case, it will go towards funds for the ME Association. The box is behind the till, so just ask there.

Jam jars and flower pots

Already a large number of things, including stationery, foil, wood and carpet bits, can be dropped off at Amy's; now the incredible manager and staff



Drop-off point: Staff at Oakdale Pharmacy are ready to take your used tablet blister packs

want to accept more. Now, you can drop off any broken electrical bulbs as well as jars or plant pots which could be reused.

I'm hoping we will soon have arranged an exchange centre. In other words, if you have unwanted jars and pots, drop them at Amy's to be collected by /or distributed to groups and cooperatives who make jams/relishes etc and or grow plants.

Branching out

We are aware that donation points are currently mostly on the main section of the High Road. We would love to establish other places at the northern end, or indeed on the streets further afield in East Finchley. If you would like to be a donation spot please get in contact at bintheredonatethat@gmail.com.

Thank you

Thank you so much to all High Street shops who are keen to be involved in this, and to members of the public who are donating regularly. We are always looking for help, including with social media, so if you can offer a few hours a month (or more), do get in touch at bintheredonatethat@gmail.com.

What and where to donate

- Lightbulbs to Amy's or EF Electricals
- Electrical wires to Everything Electrical
- Ink cartridges to UOE
- Toothbrushes and heads to Nova Dental Clinic
- Broken electrical items to EF Electricals
- Blister packs to Oakdale Pharmacy
- Unwanted spectacles to Stewart Duncan
- Crisp packets to Cherry Tree Café
- Paper, cork, ribbon, foil, wood off-cuts, buttons, stationery, sequins, carpet samples to Amy's

How much plastic we used in one week

By Maxine Klein

As a member of the local No2Plastics group I was motivated by the Great Big Plastic Count organised by Chris Packham, of *Springwatch* fame, to do something locally. He urged people to keep all the plastic that they used in one week and then send it to him so that he could show the government that big brands and supermarkets need to do more to tackle the plastic crisis.

On a mini local level I persuaded a neighbour and a friend from No2PlasticsN2 to collect all that they used in one week and send me a photo so that we could expose the waste we all generated.

This proved to be rather embarrassing, as the photos reveal. My excuse for having so much was that my brother-in-law came to stay and, not liking my vegetarian food or my cooking, went out to buy



Frugal: A neighbour's plastics

Likewise, many people don't have the time or energy to cook from scratch and resort to takeaways or ready-made food and these items are always plastic heavy. It is thus expensive and time consuming to be plastic-free in the modern world.

Role of government

It seems that there is a limit to what the individual can achieve. We can do our bit and persuade others but we need the backing of government to enforce more sustainable packaging for our food and other essentials. We need to make a loud noise and protest in all the ways that we can.



Week's worth: A friend's pile

ready-made food. The photo shows clearly how much plastic covering this produced.

My friend from No2PlasticsN2 had the same excuse for her large amount of plastics. My neighbour, however, showed what can be done if you are determined to cut down.

Taking account of cost and time

In normal circumstances, I take my own bag and buy fruit and vegetables locally and only need a plastic bag for a very few items that may get squashed. But I can afford to buy from a green grocer. When I go into a supermarket I can see that the same items in plastic punnets or in plastic bags are much cheaper.



More than expected: Maxine's haul

BE PART OF IT
Volunteers wanted

A NEW REGULAR COLUMN COMPILED BY N2UNITED

• **Bin There Donate That** is a successful local initiative, driven by Emma Frampton's passion to create a more sustainable neighbourhood. All types of help are needed for research, liaising with East Finchley shops to take in items for recycling/reusing, web and social media updates and project managing. Whether you have one spare hour a week or much more, email bintheredonatethat@gmail.com for more details.

• **Number Champions**, based in N2, helps transform the lives of young children in state primary schools who are struggling with numeracy or lack confidence in maths. They provide training for in-school volunteers to use games and other creative activities in one-to-one sessions with children. If you have good basic numeracy, plenty of enthusiasm, 1.5 hours/week during term time and you're interested in volunteering from September, then find more information at www.numberchampions.org. uk or contact volunteer@numberchampions.org.

• **Age UK Barnet** is looking for befrienders to offer friendly chats, support and companionship. The charity also needs walking buddies to help older people to get out and about again after losing the confidence to leave their homes. Just a couple of hours a week of your time could make a big difference to an older person in East Finchley! Please contact volunteer manager Lisa on 020 8432 1422 or email lisa.robbs@ageukbarnet.org.uk

• **Finchley Foodbank** has many volunteering roles, ranging from receiving deliveries to sorting food donations to packing bags and staffing a Saturday session at the hall behind St Mary's Church, High Road, N2. Additionally, if you are looking for a short-term role they will need extra volunteers to cover the summer holiday period. Get in touch by emailing finchleyfoodbank@gmail.com or visit www.finchleyfoodbank.org.uk for more information.

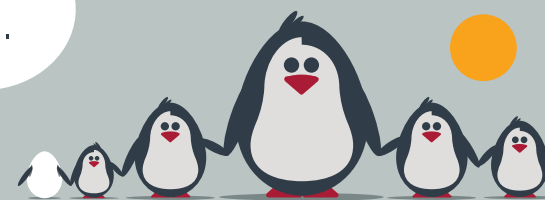
• **Young Barnet Foundation** needs volunteers to help with giving away pairs of shoes to families in need at Tarling Road Community Hub, Fal-lows Close, N2, on Saturday 16 July from 9am. The organisation will be working with schools to identify families with the greatest needs and invite them to attend on a referral basis to collect one pair of shoes per child. Find out more and sign up at <https://barnetvolunteersc19.co.uk/volunteers/opportunity/10188753>



N2United is East Finchley's Community and Business Network. If you wish to be included in this column please send details to volunteer@n2united.co.uk. Max 60 words please.

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Street parties are crowning glory of Jubilee

A big thank you to everyone who sent us photos of their street parties from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend last month. As you can see, families and neighbours had plenty of fun as roads and streets were closed to traffic for an afternoon and the celebratory spirit swept through N2.



Grab a bite: Neighbourhood police take time to sample the barbecue in Lincoln Road



You've been framed: A couple in red, white and blue in Hertford Road



Coach pooch: The winner of the best-dressed dog in Bedford Road



VIP guest: Residents of Park Hall Road roll out the red carpet



A regal impersonator judges the dog competition in Bedford Road



Take the strain: Lincoln Road residents line up for their tug of war



Road closed: A well-stocked party table in the middle of Creighton Avenue



Letters

Prescription problems
Dear Editor,

Over the Jubilee weekend I needed unexpected medical attention and was prescribed medication by a doctor at the Finchley Memorial Hospital walk-in clinic. I tried to collect it in Tesco, Finchley Central pharmacy which appeared to be open but was told by a security guard that the pharmacists had gone to the Jubilee. I wondered why they didn't have a clear notice saying when they would next be open and perhaps where the nearest pharmacist could be located.

Similarly the N2 closed pharmacists no longer have a notice outside with relevant information so that patients know where/when to go. I now understand that the London Borough of Barnet no longer fund an N2 rota (apparently since large supermarkets have in-store pharmacies).

I consider this a serious omission and would like to see this urgent matter rectified. Especially as we now have a Barnet Labour majority it should be possible to reassess this.

Verena M. Contess,
Address supplied.

Send your correspondence to: news@the-archer.co.uk or post to The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 2DE

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.

Gigs at Madden's

There are free Saturday evening music gigs at Madden's Bar in the High Road, N2. On Saturday 2 July, the Odyssey Blues and Soul four-piece band will be playing from 9.30pm. On Saturday 9 July and Saturday 6 August, the covers duo In Recovery will be on stage.

Tennis for anyone

By Diana Cormack

The café in Cherry Tree Wood now has a supply of tennis equipment which can be borrowed for use on the tennis courts there when they are not occupied. Better still, many of the racquets are child-size, which will encourage youngsters to try their hand at the game.

Sharon Harding, of the Cherry Tree Café, told *The Archer* that they had been kindly donated by local resident Linda Jones who has been a tennis coach at David Lloyd Club, Finchley, for many years. Former international player Linda has been very much involved in children's tennis and it was her suggestion that the club could donate the equipment.

This has been added to some already generously provided by local residents Liz Hanchet and Helen Doran, making tennis possible for people who may never before have had the chance to play.

Charity concert

A charity concert for Ukraine, a full orchestral concert and three chamber music recitals with award-winning artists make up this year's High Barnet Chamber Music Festival which runs from Saturday 2 to Sunday 17 July.

The concert series was set up to provide a platform for young professional musicians and to stimulate arts and music education in north London and Hertfordshire. There are discounted tickets available for those aged eight to 25.

For details visit www.hbcmf.co.uk



Hills and valleys: Jean-Paul midway through his trek along the Dutch Mountain Trail

Mountaineering in the Netherlands

By John Lawrence

When father-of-three Jean-Paul Jaegers was searching for a personal challenge to raise money for the hospital that had transformed the life of his son, he turned to his home country of the Netherlands.

He decided to take just one day to walk the Dutch Mountain Trail, a 101km path that covers seven summits in the southern part of the country bordering Belgium and Germany.

Jean-Paul, of Sylvester Road, N2, tackled the route to raise cash for Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH), where his seven-year-old son Oliver is being treated successfully for a condition that had left him badly affected by severe migraines and flashing lights in his eyes.

Seven summits in 25 hours

Now, the Netherlands is not known for its mountain peaks but its border country does have rolling hills as high as 300m and you certainly need to be an experienced hiker to cover the seven highest in one day.

Jean-Paul trained for three months by walking long-distance routes around north London. Then friends and family met him on the Dutch

Mountain Trail itself to accompany him at different points.

With only short recovery breaks, he walked for 25 hours, using a head torch for the night stages, and arrived at the end point in Maastricht at 6pm, complaining only of 'sore feet'.

Thanking GOSH

Jean-Paul said: "A 100km in one stretch, under the conditions of some parts of this landscape, is not a walk in the park. The trail covers the area where I grew up as a child, which made this challenge extra tempting."

"So far, fortunately Olivier's condition has been improving to a level where it doesn't interfere with his education and life-style anymore. We have therefore witnessed first-hand the great work the Great Ormond Street experts can do for young children." You can make a donation in support of Jean-Paul's walking challenge and the GOSH Charity here: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jpj2022

Masterworks in concert

Finchley Chamber Choir and Finchley Symphony Orchestra come together for the final concert of their seasons on Saturday 9 July. With conductor David Lardi they will perform two 19th-century masterworks.

Beethoven's *Fifth Symphony* pushes the boundaries of the form, not least in the scoring which includes trombones and a piccolo. Brahms' *German Requiem* is the most substantial choral piece he wrote, and it focuses on the living rather than the dead.

All this music can be enjoyed at 7.30pm at Trinity Church, Nether Street, North Finchley. Tickets cost £18, £15 for concessions and £7 for under 18s, and you save £2 a ticket if you book online in advance at www.finchleysymphony.org.

From The Archer archives...

By Jane Marsh

10 years ago:

July 2012

This was the year we reported that the Community Festival had to be cancelled after weeks of rain left Cherry Tree Wood completely waterlogged, much like it has been for the past few winters. Fortunately the festival returned bigger and better in 2013 and continues to be the highlight of East Finchley's year.

15 years ago:

July 2007

East Finchley High Road welcomed independent bookshop Black Gull, opened by Chris Overfield. When interviewed, Chris said he chose East Finchley as it had more of a community feel to it and he had never before experienced this kind of enthusiasm and support.

25 years ago:

July 1997

We reported on the end of the long-running 'McLibel' case involving fast food chain McDonald's, who were awarded £60,000 damages, later reduced to £40,000 on appeal, against environmental activists David Morris and Helen Steel over a pamphlet they had distributed about the company's practices. The case had led to frequent protests outside McDonald's headquarters next to East Finchley tube station by supporters of the pair.

Festival in the woods

Everyone is welcome to the Coppetts Wood Festival on Sunday 3 July from 1pm to 4pm. There will be live music, a puppet show, treasure hunt, tombola, arts and crafts and a chance to explore the conservation work under way on the site between Colney Hatch Lane, N11, and Porters Way, N12. Entry is free.

Car boot sale

This month's Muswell Hill Indoor Car Boot Sale will take place on Saturday 30 July from 10am to 1pm at Hornsey Parish Church Hall, on the corner of Cranley Gardens and Park Road, N10 3AH. #

Admission is 50p and refreshments are available. Information from 020 8368 8180.

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Sunday mass at 10.00 a.m. and Weekday masses as advertised on the website.
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<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsef/>

The church is also open for private prayer as advertised on the website.

Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

For more information, contact the Vicar, Fr Ian Chandler, on 020 8883 9315

Email: vicar.saintsabouting@gmail.com or check out our website:

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

The Archer

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Left: Mayor Alison Moore unveils one of the two colourful mosaics created by two generations at Age UK Barnet to celebrate the Queen's 70 years on the throne. Pupils from Martin School in East Finchley worked with the charity's art class, picking colours and sharing stories while sticking down the tiles. "It's been so lovely seeing everyone, young and old, collaborate in this creative way," said Age UK Barnet's Helen Newman. The mosaics were unveiled at a Jamboree event on the Jubilee weekend last month and will be displayed at the Ann Owens Centre in Oak Lane, N2, and at Martin School. Right: The Mayor puts her back into planting a cherry blossom tree in the grounds of The Finchley Charities at Wilmot Close during a Platinum Jubilee party for residents and guests from four local sheltered housing schemes just before the Jubilee weekend.

New Mayor gets hands on from day one

By Ruth Anders

People find it very easy to like the new Mayor of Barnet... and she loves that. Alison Moore's irrepressible good humour lights up any room and she found her career in scientific research frustrating because "it lacked the people element".

Her 24 years as a Labour Councillor have made her a familiar face around East Finchley ward and, alongside her colleagues Arjun Mittra and Claire Farrier, she has worked tirelessly, meeting local groups and individuals, championing causes, and forming effective coalitions.

With Helen Gordon as Mayoress, Nagus Narenthira as Deputy Mayor and Zakia Zubairi as Deputy Mayoress, Alison is proud that the entire

team will, for the first time, be female. She is also delighted to represent people from such a wide variety of cultures and to be the first East Finchley ward councillor to be elected to the mayoral office.

Valuing youth and diversity

Alison and her husband have lived in the area for many years. Born in Cheshire and growing up in Birmingham and Hampshire, Alison herself demonstrated philanthropic abilities

at the age of 12 by charging a penny to see films of Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin in the family garage, raising a princely £1.12s.6d, which she sent to UNICEF. This marked the beginning of a lifelong commitment to young people.

Her municipal experience is second to none but, above all, Alison enjoys meeting and talking to people. Asked what she hopes for from her four-year term as Mayor, she told *The Archer*, "I'd like to help modernise the office and the perception of the Mayoralty without losing any of its dignity. I don't plan to wear robes at Council meetings. And I'd like to get more young people involved and have their views and objectives considered."

To combine a focus on youth and diversity, the traditional prayers from the Mayor's Chaplain will be replaced at the start of meetings by one or two young people from Barnet's consultation initiative My Say Matters, describing their hopes and aspirations.

Striding out

When asked what she does

to relax, she answered, "Walking is my favourite way to wind down. I can't think of anything better than a good hike and a pub lunch with friends." Our new

Mayor will need all her customary energy and enthusiasm to see her through the coming busy year and *The Archer* wishes her every success.

Official reopening for The Old White Lion

One of East Finchley's oldest pubs has had a complete makeover and is almost unrecognisable on the inside. The Old White Lion, next to the tube station, hosted its official reopening last month.



First-night crowd: Customers enjoy the atmosphere of the beer garden at the refurbished Old White Lion. Photo Mike Coles

The previous dark brown interior has given way to a lighter and brighter set of green

indoor spaces with more comfortable furniture and layouts providing more flexibility. At the same time, the food menus have been revamped.

The staff are as happy about the new look as the patrons. One of them told *The Archer*: "There's a completely different atmosphere in here now, it feels like there's more sunshine everywhere."

As part of the makeover, the two white lion statues that used to guard the front entrance were removed and are rumoured to have been auctioned off for charity.

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