



Warm-up: Youngsters get stretching ahead of a dance taster session at the Tarling Road Hub spring fair. Photo Mike Coles

## Open doors at the hub

The Tarling Road Community Hub hosted a spring fair on Saturday 23 April giving families a chance to try fun activities and find out more about some of the community groups operating in the area.

Youngsters tried computer coding with Code Ninjas, along with street dance and karate, and volunteers from Community Focus and East Finchley Community Trust, among others, came along to talk about what they do.

## Tarling Road hub gets funding for kitchen

By Janet Maitland

The Tarling Road community centre is one step nearer to running a café following a successful bid by East Finchley's councillors for £51,200 of council funding to install a fully fitted kitchen.

"This will enable more community groups to run cooking and food-related projects at the centre," said Councillor Arjun Mittra. And once the catering equipment is in place it might eventually lead to a community café.

"A fully functional kitchen will be an advantage in lettings and in developing a range of activities," said centre manager Jon Woolfson. "There's also potential for a pop-up community cafe, including for coffee

mornings, and existing users would certainly benefit from the ability to have refreshments. "Getting this off the ground would need resourcing, relevant expertise and willing volunteers," said Jon, before adding: "We will gladly consider practical proposals."

If you have any ideas about developing a community café and/or the relevant expertise, contact Jon Woolfson on 020 7018 6560 or email

[tarlingroad@ymcalcan.org](mailto:tarlingroad@ymcalcan.org)

### Local use of hub is growing

As we reported last month, the number of local residents using the community centre on Tarling Road continues to grow. Bookings are steadily increasing, especially for celebrations and parties.

Residents and passers-by are welcome to use the centre's garden for general recreation during the daytime when the gate is open and the centre is

staffed.

For general information about activities at the hub, email [tarlingroad@ymcalcan.org](mailto:tarlingroad@ymcalcan.org) or ring 020 7018 6560. To book a room go to <https://hallbookingonline.com/tarlingroad>. The hall costs £35 an hour to hire from Monday to Friday, and £38 at weekends. Office hire is £20 an hour or between £300 and £350 per calendar month. A co-working desk is £100 a month.

## Lions and tigers in the High Road

By Mick Crick, The Finchley Society

If you lived in East Finchley in the late 1800s you would have been used to seeing all kinds of animals including elephants, lions and tigers being paraded up and down the High Road because the world-famous Sanger's Circus, which toured the length and breadth of the country, was based here.

It was owned by the self-styled 'Lord' George Sanger, who invented the three-ring circus and even travelled to Balmoral to perform for Queen Victoria. In the winter, the circus would return to East Finchley and regularly set up its big top and perform on land now occupied by Martin School.



Greatest showman: George Sanger

Sanger had a large house off East End Road, N2, called Park Farm which had 70 acres of land, barns and outhouses where he could keep his animals.

To commemorate Sanger as a showman and circus proprietor, and his contribution to The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, The Finchley Society is installing an information board on East End Road, at Park Farm Close.

It will be unveiled by the Mayor of Barnet on Saturday 7 May at 11.30am and it is hoped that both members of the Guild and any interested local people will attend.



## Pub quiz team scoops the jackpot

By Lynn Winton

There was much nail-biting tension, followed by cheers, at The Bald Faced Stag on Easter Monday when the pub quiz rolover jackpot was finally won, after accumulating for more than a year with no takers.

The golden £600 question was answered successfully by team member Karen Lyle, who knew the answer to the following: "Multiply the rays of the sun on the Uruguayan flag by the number of South American countries under the equator." (The answer is below).

For those like myself who think this is a fun way to spend an evening (I have to confess I was in the team) quiz nights at the High Road pub take place every Monday at 8pm.

The jackpot question answer is 96.

## Car boot opens up

This month's Muswell Hill Indoor Car Boot Sale takes place on Saturday 28 May from 10am to 1pm at Hornsey Parish Church Hall at the foot of Muswell Hill on the corner of Cranley Gardens and Park Road, N10 3AH.

Admission is 50p and refreshments are available. For more information, contact 020 8368 8180.

Answers, please: Jackpot winner Karen Lyle, left, with the rest of her pub quiz team at the Stag.

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