



Woman needed knee surgery after dog attack

By Cobi Jacobs

A reader has warned about the need to keep dogs under control after her mother was left needing surgery when she was bitten outside her home in East Finchley.

The incident occurred shortly before midnight on Friday, 12 September, as the two women returned to their home in the Prospect Ring area after work.

As she approached the entrance, a large dog, which was off its lead, ran up to her three times. The animal was being supervised by its owner, who ignored repeated requests to restrain it. On the third approach, the dog attacked, biting her on the knee.

The victim's daughter, Yasemin, told The Archer: "My mum was screaming for help, but it all happened so fast. The owner just stood there and then walked away." Following the attack, the victim spent 13 hours in A&E, requiring surgery on the wound.

Beyond the physical impact of the injury, the victim's daughter said her mother has been left feeling anxious and fearful, describing her as "scared to leave the house".

The incident has been reported to the police, though the victim has yet to receive an update. Yasemin urged all dog owners to keep their pets under control.

This attack takes place in the context of growing concerns over dangerous dogs across England and Wales. Last year, there were 31,920 reports of dog attacks on people, a 2% increase from 2023.

This rise has come despite new legislation requiring owners to muzzle breeds deemed dangerous and keep them on leads at all times.

Comedy stars align

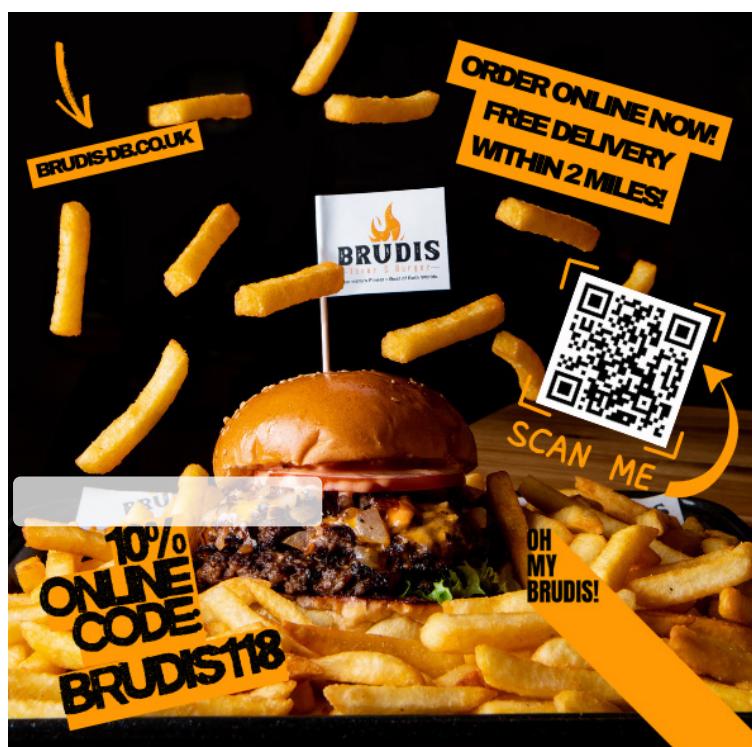
Top comedians Nish Kumar, Kerry Godliman and Rich Hall are among those on the line-up for a fundraiser this month in aid of a Haringey-based charity helping young people.

Fatiha El-Ghorri and Joshua Robertson will also be performing in aid of Head Held High, which leads motivational workshops to coach young people at risk of exclusion or affiliated with knife crime.

The comedy night takes place at The Comedy Store, Oxendon Street, SW1, on Tuesday 25 November. Find out more and book at london.thecomedy-store.co.uk



On stage: Kerry Godliman



The future's yellow: Children at Holy Trinity Primary School out of uniform for World Mental Health Day. Photo Holy Trinity

Tips on staying mellow in yellow

Well done to all of the children at Holy Trinity Primary School in Eagans Close, N2, who dressed in yellow to take part in World Mental Health Day on Friday 10 October.

It's an event organised by the mental health charity Young Minds with the hashtag #HelloYellow, and the children spoke about the different strategies they use to keep themselves calm and happy.

There was everything from going to bed early to eating lots of fruit and vegetables.

The school's young Wellbeing ambassadors will be continuing their work related to this across the year.

Festive party for seniors

Bishop Douglass School will be holding their annual Christmas party for senior East Finchley residents again this year on Thursday 4 December, from 5-7pm. Guests are asked to arrive by 4.45pm in order to make a prompt start. East Finchley residents who are over 65 are welcome and you should book your place without delay.

As usual, you will be welcomed by Year 10 students and enjoy a Christmas meal, followed by carol singing and entertainment by pupils and staff.

Games of bingo and a gift from Santa Claus will round off the evening. Transport can be provided for those residents who are less able.

To book your place, phone 020 8883 0433, leave your name and a contact number and someone will get back to you.

Seasonal switch-on

By Hilary Townley

Christmas starts in East Finchley on Saturday 29 November at 5pm when everyone is invited to celebrate the start of the festive season as dusk gathers.

Our festive lights will be switched on to the sound of heavenly music as carols will be led by our local choirs and seasonal brass band.

In typically quirky East Finchley style our Christmas tree will be like no other for, yes,

Archie's wooden wigwam will shape shift into a totem of festive cheer and as always, thanks to the generosity of Budgens, there'll be mince pies to cheer our souls and mulled wine to warm our voices for. 'Tis the season to be jolly... and to sing!



Festive fun: Get ready for the big switch-on. Photo Mike Coles

Double dose of artworks from HGS

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Art Group is inviting visitors to two events in November.

Their group show, entitled Resonance, runs from Monday 3 November to Friday 28 November at Fellowship House, Willifield Way, NW11 6YD, with a private view and a chance to meet the artists on Thursday 6 November from 7pm.

Then on Saturday 29 November the group stages its Winter Fair from 11am to 6pm at Henrietta Barnett School, Central Square, NW11 7BN, offering handmade gifts ranging from ceramics to glass, wall art to cards and jewellery to prints. Refreshments will be sold in aid of the North London Hospice.

Find out more on both events at hgsart.co.uk