



Hospice patients will move while modernisation work takes place

By Lynn Winton

Prior to any public announcement, The Archer has learned that North London Hospice have decided that there will be a complete redevelopment of the inpatient unit at their 30-year-old building in Woodside Avenue, N12.

Hospice inpatients will be relocated to Jade Ward at Edgware Hospital for about a year to make way for the work needed to update facilities and structures. The hospice team told us that they will do everything in their power to minimise the inevitable disruption this will cause.



Entry point: North London Hospice will be modernised

“As you can imagine, there are a lot of moving parts right now,” explained hospice spokesperson Paul Jordan. “We have received planning permission and will be appointing a contractor imminently.

“We are incredibly proud of the care we provide to thousands of patients every year. However, in the three decades since our hospice building opened, much has changed. “The numbers of people requiring our help has increased and as the population grows and ages, their needs have become broader, multi-faceted and more complicated. Whilst our models of care have adapted and advanced, our facilities and structures have not.”

Trustee Suzanne Joels paid tribute to the “incredible” staff team who ensure that people have the best possible end to

their life but who at times are hampered by an out-of-date building.

Proposed improvements include a private, more dignified entrance for patients when they enter the hospice, larger all en-suite bedrooms filled with natural light, individual heating controls including air-con and sofa beds and other guest facilities so that loved ones can comfortably stay the night.

These larger rooms will also allow space for the most innovative specialist equipment to better support patients. North London Hospice’s Woodside Avenue centre offers 24-hour care for patients and their families from across Barnet, Enfield and Haringey. In 2024/25 its services cost over £16 million to run. Find out more about the hospice’s work and lend your support at northlondonhospice.org

Tiny gardens take root

By Rosemary Coates

Tiny Forests is an international scheme by Earthwatch Europe to plant dense woodlands in small areas and now a new initiative has sprung up in East Finchley... called Tiny Gardens.

It is an expression coined by The Finchley Society chairman Mick Crick when he visited a ground and are turning it into a planted garden.

It is the latest piece of ground to be planted up following similar initiatives by residents’ groups in nearby Leopold Road and Church Lane. Mick said: “This is a wonderful example of residents coming together and creating something which not only improves the area for people but will attract pollinators such as bees and butterflies”. Mick presented Matteo Lanzini, who has been co-ordinating the group, with



Mick Crick, second left, presents a cheque and certificate to Matteo Lanzini with fellow volunteers



You’ve been wrapped: Reframed artwork ready to send to buyers. Photo Geoffrey Davies

Café hosts reframed art show

By Geoffrey Davies

The first examples of picture framing work by trainees at the work skills charity 2econd Chance will be on show at the Finch Café, East End Road, N2, throughout April.

As we reported last month, the charity runs workshops in refurbishing computers and tech and has an offshoot called ReFramed running classes in making and restoring picture frames for those with mental health challenges.

“The charity aims to help those without jobs to give them both practical skills to get work, but also the social skills,” says co-founder Debs Good, who is Head of Creative at ReFramed. “We also support ethical framing, using and re-using

picture frames. Income from sales of the framing we do goes to support the charity.” The reframed artwork on display and available to buy at Finch Café this month is by Frank Rosen, who was born in South Africa and served in the British Army in the Second World War, moving to England in the 1950s to study art and later living in Hampstead Lane. He died in 1998.

“I’m delighted that we have the pictures on show here,”

says Finch owner Jenny Rainsford, “as we too want to help people into work by building confidence and a sense of purpose.”

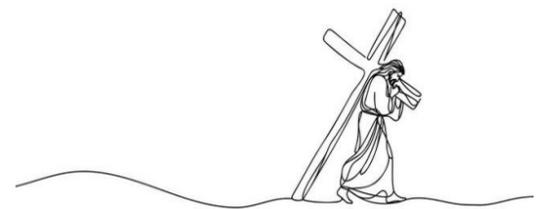
Visitors are encouraged to bring along work for framing which takes place at 2econd Chance ReFramed, Enterprise House, 2 The Crest, NW4 2HN. The charity is also keen for donations of frames that are no longer used and might be revived.

Debs Good can be emailed at: debs@2econdchance.co.uk

Plant-astic

A very special plant fair is returning to Highgate this month, with all the money raised going to Plant Heritage, who focus on preserving over 700 rare plant collections. Regular attendees from East Finchley report the choice of plants are “out of this world” and “brilliant value”. Around 20 nursery exhibitors will be offering plants including culinary herbs, as well as tools and accessories. The Spring Plant Fair takes place on Saturday 25 April from 9.30am to 2pm at St. Michael’s School, North Road, N6 4BJ. Entrance fee £2.50.

a cheque from the Society to buy more plants and a certificate recognising their work to improve the environment. Matteo, who volunteers with his daughter Alma, was grateful: “It’s nice to receive support for an initiative that, while small, can make this area greener and hopefully stop fly tipping, which costs the local authority time and money to clear regularly.”



“HOLY WEEK” at ST MARY’S CATHOLIC CHURCH 279 HIGH ROAD N2 8HG

2nd April—Maundy Thursday

Mass of the Lord’s Supper: 8:00pm
Followed by Vigil at the Chapel of Repose until 11pm

3rd April —Good Friday

Family Stations of the Cross in Church 11:00am
Solemn Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion 3:00pm
Stations of the Cross 7:00pm

4th April —Holy Saturday

Confessions 10:30 am to 11am
Easter Vigil 8:00pm

Sunday 5th April —Easter Day

Sunday Masses: 8:30am, 10am and 12noon