



Man charged after assault victim dies

By Janet Maitland

Police have charged a man with murder following the death of local man Paul Heyfron, 53, who died 12 days after he was assaulted in a shop on Strawberry Vale, East Finchley.

As we went to press, the Metropolitan Police said Tevin Melbourne, 30, of Pittman Gardens, Ilford, was charged on 20 July after being arrested at an address in Lewisham. A woman aged 47 was arrested for assisting an offender at the same location and is now on bail pending further investigation.

It was on Tuesday 30 June at 9.55pm that the London Ambulance Service was called to reports of an assault in a shop on Brook Walk, N2.

"The first paramedics arrived in less than five minutes," said a spokesperson. "We sent an ambulance, a trauma team from London's Air Ambulance service, paramedics in fast response cars, an emergency responder and an incident response officer. We treated the patient at the scene and took him to a major trauma centre as a priority." Reverend Helen Shannon, leader of church@five, which is based at the Green Man Community Centre on the estate, said everybody's

thoughts and prayers were with the victim's family and friends. She told The Archer: "Strawberry Vale is a close-knit community where people look out for one another, so the senseless loss of one of our neighbours has deeply shaken the estate. church@five will continue to support the community in every way we can and we will continue to pray for everyone affected and for peace across our estate."

Detective Inspector Jon Moseling, Senior Investigating Officer, said enquiries were continuing and police would update the community when they could. He said: "We are aware of online and public speculation, and I urge people not to share or engage with it. I would ask anyone with any information, such as CCTV or doorbell camera footage, which could support the investigation, to contact us."

Call police on 101 or, if you want to remain anonymous, ring Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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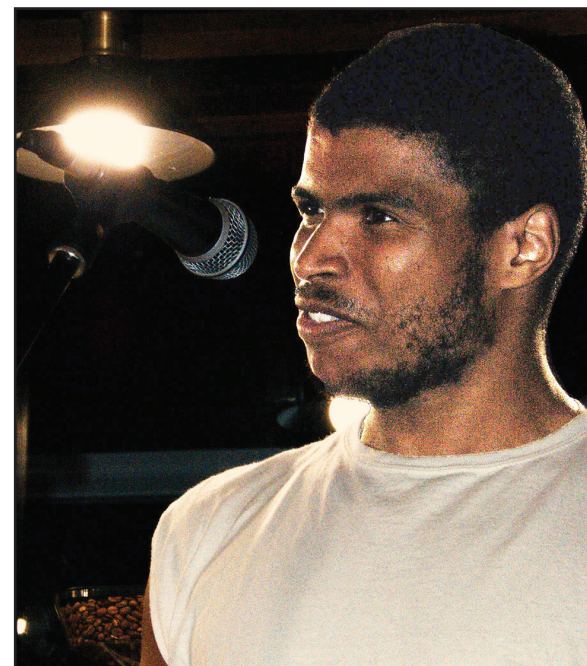


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East Finchley meets East Village



New York vibe: Rose Bardell and Zack Oputu were two of the performers at Coffee Bank. Photos Zack Blacey @Blaceyphoto

By Justine Csaky

A new community music soirée inspired by New York has struck a chord at Coffee Bank on East Finchley High Road and is set to become a quarterly fixture.

The first soirée took place on Thursday 2 July, where a sell-out audience enjoyed an evening of live music, poetry and comedy performed by talented young artists, many with strong links to N2.

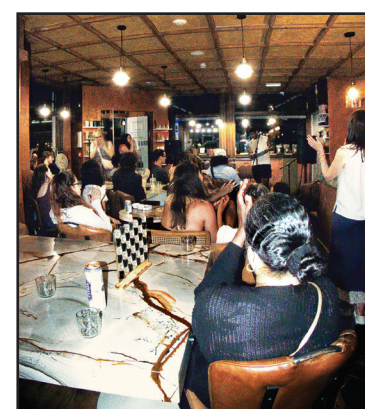
The idea came about when local resident Caryn Berlingieri visited a café in New York last summer which transformed into a live music venue in the evenings.

"I thought, 'Why can't we do this in East Finchley?'" she said. "There was such an incredible atmosphere, with younger and older people together, all supporting local performers. I wanted to bring a little bit of that New York vibe here." The idea found the perfect home when Caryn met Coffee Bank owners Clyde, Adel and Joli while the café was being refurbished.

Together they developed the concept and enlisted former Archer Academy student Sas Hughes, who recruited performers and Mike Hughes, an organiser of the East Finchley Festival, who provided the PA system.

Tickets sold out quickly and around 60 people packed into the café for what organisers described as a relaxed, welcoming evening. Ten acts took to the stage, including musicians, poets and a comedian. The programme featured a mixture of original material and acoustic covers with a folk and indie vibe.

Several performers have strong ties to the local area. Former Archer Academy alumni, Michael and John, who perform together as the band Wet Concrete, played an acoustic set,



The Coffee Bank crowd. Photo Zack Blacey @Blaceyphoto

while other former pupils from Fortismere and APS also took to the stage.

Following the success of the launch, the organisers have decided to make the soirée a seasonal event, with the next evening planned for the autumn, on Thursday 1 October.

Grab your summer reads

By Diana Cormack

A summer reading challenge for children was launched last month by Barnet Libraries. Youngsters aged four to 12 can sign up in their local library to take part, which involves them reading just six books over the school holidays. This means any sort of book they like and includes e-books and audio books.

There are special stickers to be handed out by library staff throughout the challenge and those who complete it will receive a commemorative certificate and medal. The theme this year is 'Read to the Beat' and it is delivered in partnership with the Reading Agency and Universal Music Group UK. There is an accompanying booklet available full of interesting information, exciting stories, poems, puzzles and musical hints. And, for the first

time, there is a special challenge for the under-fours. With this being National Reading Year,

why not celebrate it by encouraging your youngsters to enjoy the world of books?

