



Finchley Art Society at work. Photo by Martin Earl

The Gallery Upstairs

If you are passing our library this month don't miss the chance to see the Finchley Art Society's exhibition in the upstairs hall. This is their third exhibition in East Finchley, showing 100 pictures in watercolours and oils. If you fancy owning an original piece of art the prices start at around £40.

The society, which has 120 members, welcomes newcomers - beginners included. They meet regularly on Wednesday afternoons in Church End, and on Monday evenings in Nether Street when a model and a still life are provided. They also have regular demonstration and criticism evenings given by professional painters as well as organised 'days out'

for painting.

The deputy mayor will open the exhibition at the library on 6 October at 11 am and it will be open until Friday 26. Mrs Cooper, the secretary, told us that the society was very friendly and that members came to the events as and when they chose. For more information contact 020 8445 2685.

Double trouble

By Helen Day

The residents of Leslie and Park Road were disappointed to receive notification from Barnet Council that the developer had made an appeal against the Council's decision on the planning permission for 201 High Road.

Just a few days later, the residents were notified that the developer had also put another set of plans forward to Barnet Council, meaning two government offices would be working on two different sets of plans.

A resident of Leslie Road contacted the planning office to ask if this was legal, and was informed that this is normal working practice. When the resident expressed surprise, saying it would cause extra

work for all concerned, and more worry to people in the area, the official they spoke to appeared to be in complete agreement.

The main concern is, that if the appeal goes through, then a four-storey block of flats could be built. Yet the second set of plans is for a three-storey block of flats, which is more in keeping with the surrounding area. So residents now have to await the outcome of both planning decisions.

Meditation for peace

By Diana Cormack

Prompted by recent tragic events, Sally Rose put up notices in East Finchley inviting locals to come to Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 23 September at 7 pm to meditate for peace.

About forty people came to the non-denominational meeting, which took place on the mezzanine floor. Here some added their own candles to the ones already burning in the centre of a large circle.

Circle of friends

After a joint decision on the length of time to be spent in meditation, Sally explained how the participants could contribute and try to achieve the ultimate objective. With

focused thoughts everyone concentrated hard, in the hope that world leaders will be able to come to a peaceful settlement and sort out the problems which beset us.

At the close of the meditation a thought provoking tract was read from a book written by a Vietnamese Buddhist monk at the time of the Vietnamese war. The group then gradually dispersed as and when they felt ready to leave.

Sub Down!

It is with a mixture of joy and regret that *THE ARCHER* has to bid a fond farewell to one of its longest serving members, John Dacam. John, one of our sub editors, and familiar to many regular drinkers at Maddens, is leaving to take up a full time degree course at the University of Hull.

John, who has helped with 100 editions of *THE ARCHER* will be missed for his witty, and often controversial, sub headings, which, at times, have had us rolling in the aisles.

On completion of his History degree, John hopes to go on to become a secondary school teacher. In his mid-forties, this is certainly a radical, and some say brave, step. Please join *THE ARCHER* team in thanking John for his unstinting service and wishing him every success in his new life.

Farmers' Market Update

By Daphne Chamberlain

Are we finally going to get a Farmers' Market in Barnet? If so, will it be in the best place, at the best time?

The proposed venue is along the pavement in the High Road, roughly opposite Waitrose in Whetstone, on Thursday or Friday morning. The Council is "reviewing the results" of a consultation with local shopkeepers before coming to a decision.

Barnet will not comment any further at the moment, but a representative of London Farmers' Markets told *THE ARCHER* that a weekday had been suggested because the area is too quiet for Sunday. Asked about parking, she said that the Council would allow the traders to use a single yellow line, but customers would "probably have to park at Waitrose".

An alternative Whetstone venue was proposed to Barnet some time ago by Ronald Saxon, whose Safe Food Group originally invited London Farmers' Markets to consider this area. Mr Saxon, the former East Finchley hairdresser, suggested holding the market in the car park of the Council offices, on a Saturday or Sunday.

There are now 11 of these markets in London, which provide an opportunity to buy fresh produce direct from farmers within an agreed area.

At present, our nearest markets are at The Angel, Islington, on Sunday morning, and Palmers Green (in the car park of the railway station, 10am - 2pm). There is also one at Swiss Cottage on Wednesday afternoon. For further details, contact London Farmers' Markets on 020 7704 9669.

Is no news good news?

Nine months after the new owners applied for planning permission to build eighteen one bedroom flats on the Viceroy Close "access area" (also known, quite incorrectly, as Budgen's car park), the silence is deafening. The Barnet Council Planning Office say that the application has still to go before the planning sub-committee, and they are not aware of when that is going to be. This leaves all the people affected very much in limbo.

Meanwhile, almost all the dumped cars have been removed, and, some four months after the threat to impose parking controls, a security company came and ticketed vehicles, not

just those of casual visitors or commuters, but of residents and shopkeepers too. Some have paid up and some say they will not; it is interesting to speculate as to whether these tickets can be enforced in court.

However, at least this seems to have frightened off the all-

day commuters. The latest development is a suggestion that the new owners of the freehold for the existing buildings have taken back ownership of the car park. Does this mean that the development will not now go ahead? Or will further twists to this tale emerge?

International Osteoporosis Day

A free information day on Osteoporosis (Brittle Bones) for the general public will be held on Monday, 29 October.

Osteoporosis effects 1 in 3 women and 1 in 12 men, so please come and find out how to prevent this disease.

There will be 10-15 minute talks on osteoporosis, Tai Chi, nutrition, walking aids, exercise, eyes, oral health, feet, and falls followed by a drama 'As

Time Goes By'. Other events include: massage, diabetic check, at measurement and short computer sessions.

The event runs from 1-6pm at the Green Man Community Centre, Strawberry Vale, N2.

Light refreshments provided. For more information contact: Asmina Remtulla on 020 8201 4770/4760.

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