

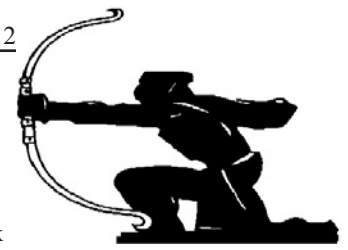


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Holy light is distributed and the bells toll at St Andrew's in Kentish Town and (below) Easter-eggs Greek style - with 'flaounes' cakes in the foreground. Photos by Erini Rodis.

Seeing the Light

By Erini Rodis

Easter is the biggest event of the Greek Orthodox calendar, but this year's took on special significance for Cypriots all over London.



As Father Constantinos explains, Orthodox Easter is dated "to include the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox (March 21), and must also fall after the Jewish festival of Passover, when the crucifixion occurred".

Celebrations begin with an evening procession, on Good Friday, of Jesus' tomb. The next morning kitchens are full of eggs and flour and cheese while "flaounes" (pictured bottom right) are baked and eggs are dyed red. Then on Holy Saturday evening an even fuller congregation waits until the lights go out. Priests walk slowly through the darkness with a holy flame, which is shared and spread throughout the congregation, all singing in Greek while the bells toll: "Christ is risen from the dead, and by his death, tramples on death, and to those in graves bestows life!"

Return of the Café

By Diana Cormack

Park users will be pleased to know that plans are in progress for the return of a café in Cherry Tree Wood on the site of the one which was burned down last October. Eileen Cannon, who will again be renting the premises from Barnet Council, was hoping to have the business up and running by the end of April. However, delays blamed on the length of time taken for the insurance money to come through mean that, at the time of writing, this has been put back to the end of May. Eileen is more than ready to get back to work, having already missed some glorious weather which would have been good for business.

Al fresco entertainment

The new mobile café will have a veranda with tables underneath, enabling customers to continue enjoying her hospitality during inclement weather. She intends to continue much as before, organising entertaining events such as her meals with music which became so popular that, as well as customers at the tables, families also used to come and picnic on the

grass between the café and the tennis courts.

"Those people who burned the café down haven't put me off at all," Eileen told *THE ARCHER*. "I am really looking forward to a new start."

Lets hope that Barnet will live up to its slogan of putting the community first and restore this service sooner rather than later.

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