



Past masters

By Viviana Lotti

Barnet borough's own 'time team', the Hendon and District Archaeological Society (HADAS), had just two days to dig for a lost ditch at the Church Farmhouse Museum and adjacent Hendon Parish Church in Church End.

HADAS was founded in 1961 to excavate evidence of Hendon's Saxon origins. Their remit grew to encompass the entire borough's history, including Iron Age, Roman, medieval and Victorian periods.

Church Farmhouse had been a hay and dairy farm since the 1660s, and is currently celebrating 50 years as a museum. The church dates back to Norman times but was probably built over Saxon foundations. In the 1990s HADAS excavated one Saxon and two medieval ditches around it. Finds include flint, Saxon, Roman and medi-

Bass explained why someone was inserting two joined metal rods into the ground at one-metre intervals. This was a resistivity machine, which uses electrical impulses to measure moisture variations in the soil. The readings would help determine if the site merited excavation.

The final dig ended positively when the largest trench revealed what HADAS had been looking for - the 'medieval' ditch, which yielded some medieval pottery shards and two pieces of Roman pottery.

For information visit: www.hadas.org.uk or www.churchfarmhousemuseum.co.uk



eval pottery and Iron Age flint arrowheads.

This dig, on 6-7 August, was to determine if the medieval ditch continued all around the church. One of the site supervisors, Don Cooper, believes this is the case. The ditch appears as a boundary marker on some of the old maps, supporting his theory.

The first morning, HADAS members began digging three trenches behind the museum with mattocks and spades. All that backbreaking work felt worthwhile upon finding a piece of medieval pottery or other remnants of ancient humanity, that had lain untouched for centuries.

The largest trench revealed willow-pattern pottery, some medieval pottery shards and stems from 19th century clay pipes which, Don explained, could be dated to within 20 years as most of the pipe spurs carried the makers' initials. In the second trench were more pottery shards; the third trench revealed a George VI farthing and another clay pipe stem.

Nearby, fellow supervisor Bill

Cycling photo apology

The photo accompanying the article Break out by bike in our August edition, was incorrectly attributed. The photographer was actually Richard Philpott from the Central London Cyclists' Touring Club. We apologise for this error.

Klages Plumbing & Heating Agency LTD.

CONTACT TELEPHONE No: 020 8346 7218 / 8636

KLAGE

A NAME IN PLUMBING FOR OVER 40 YEARS

RSPCA news

Animal welfare is in the news this month with an RSPCA report showing an alarming rise in cases of cruelty - dogs being mainly at risk. There is also a big rise in 'dog-snatching' of favoured pedigree breeds. If you have such a dog, is it micro-chipped, the only sure way of establishing ownership? It is quickly, painlessly and cheaply done at the clinic in Park Road, open Mondays and Thursdays from 6.00 - 7.30pm.

Local MP Rudi Vis is a long time activist in the cause of animal welfare. He is currently pressing for a ban on apes and monkeys being kept as pets. It is legal in the UK but, as they live in tropical forests, it is almost impossible for private owners to care for them adequately. Dr Vis also believes performing circus

animals should be banned and is pressing for both causes to be explored in the forthcoming Animal Welfare Bill, soon to be considered.

The Dog Show at Finchley Carnival was a great success and £580 was raised to fund the RSPCA clinic. Staff thank all participants.

ISABEL DOUGLAS HEALTH & BEAUTY CENTRE

- TRICHOLOGY
- OSTEOPATHY
- CHIROPODY/PODIATRY
- ACUPUNCTURE
- AYURVEDA MASSAGE
- SPORTS MASSAGE
- AROMATHERAPY MASSAGE
- SWEDISH MASSAGE
- DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE
- INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE
- BHARTI VYAS METHOD
- REFLEXOLOGY
- EMF BALANCING
- REIKI
- LYMPHATIC DRAINAGE

90-92 High Rd, East Finchley London N2 9EB 020 8444 1516 / 3639

Coaching for success and balance!

Create the life you want
Escape the tyranny of bad habits
Make better decisions
Unleash your creativity
Strengthen your relationships
Fully accredited coach and Master Practitioner in NLP
Su Kingsley
at Isabel Douglas Health and Beauty Centre
Special trial session rate £20.00!
020 8444 3639 / 1516



Jonny with his electric car. Photo by Martin Bronkhorst

Gee whiz, it's a green machine!

By Ann Bronkhorst

Jonny Gordon has gone electric, which means he can drive to work in central London. Since his neat little car arrived in April, it has aroused much neighbourly interest in Bedford Road. Occasionally he charges it, kerbside, where it looks rather like a large vacuum cleaner on a long flex.

When he draws up at traffic lights strangers tap on the window, asking questions. Friends at first laughed at this bijou vehicle; now, as its advantages become apparent, some are envious.

Apart from the environmental benefits, the electric car's

main advantage is its value for money. Jonny's Reva Gwiz (the basic version) cost about £6,000 but is exempt from road tax and the £8 daily London congestion charge. Running costs are about 1p a mile and it is in the lowest insurance group.

Low costs

Barnet Council makes a reduction on residents' parking and Westminster provides 'almost free' parking in its car parks, plus charging points. So while he is at work Jonny can recharge the battery. A full charge takes about seven hours; then the car has a range of about 40 miles. There are not many disadvantages. There was a six-month wait for delivery (the car is made in Bangalore, India). It is a two-seater with a tiny boot so the family - wife Josie and their two small children - need

to run a 'normal' car too.

The battery cannot be removed from the Gwiz for charging, and top speed is only 40 mph. But it is a comfortable ride with good visibility from high, straight-backed seats. The car is automatic so there is no clutch and few controls to deal with. Parking, of course, is easy.

Green driving

The Gordons aren't alone: at least one other electric car has been spotted in East Finchley. More and more local authorities are likely to provide incentives for drivers wanting to take the electric route. After all, these midget cars cause no pollution, reduce speed and take up little space: great value for the environment. For information about the Reva Gwiz, visit www.goinggreen.co.uk.

OSTEOPATHY

at

The Twyford Practice

Osteopathic consultation and treatments in Fortis Green, N2.

**Robin Kiashek,
Osteopath and Naturopath,
Bsc (Hons), Ost Med.,
N.D., M.R.N.**

For appointments:
please phone 020 8815 0979

or visit:

www.robinkiashek.co.uk

for further information