

JEREMY LEAF & CO.

Professional Sales & Lettings
AT COMPETITIVE RATES
020 8444 5222
eastfinchley@jeremyleaf.co.uk

Local News is our Aim

THE ARCHER



GLH

CAR SERVICE
020 8883 5000

August 2006 No. 158
ISSN 1361-3952

20p
where sold

A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

What happened to our festival?

By Daphne Chamberlain

Children and disabled people in two performance groups were disappointed after they were left off the East Finchley Community Festival programme this year amid confusion over bookings.

Several readers contacted *THE ARCHER* saying they too were sorry to see that the Happy Go Lucky Dance Group and the North London Performing Arts Company were given no place on either of the festival's two stages, despite regular appearances in previous years. One reader said it contributed to a feeling that the festival, in Cherry Tree Wood, had become more 'commercial' and less 'community'. See *Letters* on page 11.

Carolyn Pickles, who lives in East Finchley, claimed the

Happy Go Lucky Dance Group for disabled people had worked for months on their routine for the 2006 performance, only to find themselves abruptly cut out of the programme. "This was a huge disruption, let alone disappointment," she wrote.

This year, as an experiment, the second stage was handed over to two East Finchley residents who ran a successful festival last year in Leeds, called the Masterpeace Festival. Organisers said the reasoning behind this was to improve the artistic quality of



Best foot forward: Another overlooked dance group, North London Performing Arts at a previous year's festival. Photo by Alison Roberts

the entertainment, and to see if working with Masterpeace would enhance the Festival.

Spirit of the festival

Rossana Christianson, Administrator of Community Focus, who has organised Happy Go Lucky's perform-

ance at the festival for the last four years, told us the group was devastated by not appearing.

"They want to show their work to the community, and as a disabled group they don't have many opportunities to do this. Cherry Tree Wood is

a great place for wheelchair dancers to perform. It's lovely to have other members of the community around, especially the children, making their contributions to the spirit of the festival," she said.

Continued on page 3.

Controversial Cannes winner at the Phoenix

By Luisa Cotardo

International award-winning director Ken Loach made a personal appearance at the Phoenix Cinema on 11 July to introduce his latest film, "The Wind That Shakes The Barley", winner of the coveted Palme D'Or at this year's 59th Cannes Film Festival.

The film tells the story of two brothers in the IRA (Irish Republican Army) fighting for independence from British colonial authorities during the Irish Civil War of 1922-23.

This powerful Irish Republican drama takes place in a village near Cork. The beautiful green landscape often provides some respite for the audience who look on, ashamed by the cruelty of the English. The film is like an earthquake which shakes the souls and consciences of viewers.

"This is a story that's well known in Ireland," said Loach,

"but not in England. I don't know why!" A hearty laugh from the audience followed this wry comment.

The film received a hostile reaction from some political commentators in British newspapers, being called a "portrayal of the British as sadists and the Irish as romantic fighters".

Whichever way you view history, this was a great opportunity for East Finchley, and the Phoenix, to welcome this special guest.

People who were truly moved by the film were ready with several questions to ask

Loach after the screening. Many comparisons to our current situation in Iraq were made, referring to occupation forces, brutal treatment, and acts of terrorism. Loach spoke about the enormous damage done by "imperialist powers".

Before he left the Phoenix, Loach gave us a hint about the next film he is going to direct. It will be set in Ireland again and will begin shooting in October, but that's all he would reveal.

Inside...

• Dalek creator found living in East Finchley. Page 3

• I remember playing on Stanley Field. Page 4

• Free family films at the Phoenix. What's On, Page 10

Established in
the community
for over 15 years

**Everything
Electrical**

All Domestic
Electrical Work
Undertaken

Fans & Air Conditioning Units now in stock
Visit our shop for Tools, DAB Radios, MP3 Players,
Freeview Boxes, Kettles, Toasters, Irons & more

FREEPHONE: 0800 279 3463

38 High Road, East Finchley, London N2 9PJ

everythingelec@btconnect.com

www.everything-electrical.com

**PRICKETT
& ELLIS
TOMKINS**

**36 High Road
East Finchley N2 9PJ**

020 8883 0033

Properties urgently required - now is the time to sell!

Estate Agents and Valuers - Established 1767

Hotblack Dixon & Co. Estate Agents

Our success rate in N2 is very high indeed,
obviously in Hampstead Garden Suburb
but also in East Finchley.

We have often obtained better prices from
our base in the Suburb, so

**Please call us for a free valuation
or try us if you are on a
multiple agency basis**

**17 Market Place, Hampstead Garden Suburb
London NW11 6JY**

020 8458 8411

Cut-price
Fragrances

**Coral +
Pharmacy**

Photo D&P
only £2.99
for up to 40 exp
(35mm)

Stockists of a wide range of vitamins, homeopathic remedies, and herbal products.

Open Till 6:30pm (Mon - Fri) 6pm Sat - Parking Available

129 East End Road N2 0SZ Tel 8883 0442

• Visit your community newspaper on-line at www.the-archer.co.uk •



THE ARCHER

PO Box 3699
LONDON N2 8JA

WWW.THE-ARCHER.CO.UK

e-mail: THE-
ARCHER@LINEONE.NET

Voicemail & Fax:

Editorial/enquiries: -
08717 33 44 65

Advertising/finance: -
08717 33 45 28

PUBLISHED BY
*East Finchley
Newspapers*

CHAIR
Kevin Finn

COPY EDITOR
John Lawrence

EDITORIAL TEAM
*David Hobbs
Daphne Chamberlain
Diana Cormack*

SUB EDITORS
*Ann Bronkhorst
Wendy Devine
Pam Kent*

PRODUCTION EDITOR
Alison Roberts

PICTURE EDITOR
Erini Rodis

ADVERTISING
John Dearing

FINANCE
Sue Holliday

ADMINISTRATION
Toni Morgan

DISTRIBUTION
*Sue Holliday
Pam Kent*

LEGAL ADVISER
Francis Coulson

PRINTED BY
Eastway Offset Ltd

WEB MANAGEMENT
ARC Media

*Thank you to Madden's
Ale House for providing
us with a meeting place.*

*THE ARCHER team wishes
to thank all the generous
people who give up their
spare time, in all weather,
to deliver the paper for us.*

Your contributions

If you have a story for us, please
contact us at the above address.
*Comments to THE ARCHER may be
published unless clearly marked
'Not for publication' within the text.*

Copy deadlines

*September issue: 11 August
October issue: 15 September
November issue: 14 October*

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Councils

Barnet
Admin/Town Hall 020 8359 2000
Council Tax 020 8359 2608
Recycling & refuse 020 8359 4600
Primary Care Trust 020 8201 4700
Benefits Agency 020 8258 6500
Employment Service 020 8258 3900
Haringey Council 020 8489 0000

Leisure

Alexandra Palace 020 8365 2121
East Finchley Library 020 8883 2664
Muswell Hill Odeon 0870 505 0007
Phoenix Cinema 020 8444 6789
Tourist Info Service 0870 128 8080
Warner Cinema 020 8446 9933

Transport

BR Enquiries 0845 7484950
City Airport 020 7646 0088
London Transport 020 7222 1234
National Express 08705 808080
Heathrow Airport 0870 000 0123

Help & Advice

Childline 0800 1111
Disability Info Service 020 8446 6935
E.F. Advice Service 020 8444 6265
Gingerbread 020 8445 4227
National Debt Line 0808 808 4000
NSPCC 0800 800500
Rape & Sexual Abuse 020 8683 3300
Relate 020 8447 8101
Samaritans 08457 909090
Refuge Crisis Line 0870 599 5443

Health Advice

AIDSline 020 8363 2141
Alcoholics Anonymous 0845 7697555
Barnet MENCAP 020 8203 6688
Cancer Support 020 8202 2211
Carers' Line 0808 808 7777
Drinkline 0800 917 8282
Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
Health Info Service 0800 665544
MIND 020 8343 5700
National Blood Ctr. 0845 7711 7711

OAP's Advice

Barnet Age Concern 020 8346 3511
Contact (N2) 020 8444 1162
Help the Aged 0808 800 6565

Hospitals

Barnet General 020 8216 4000
Coppetts Wood 020 8883 9792
Finchley Memorial 020 8349 6300
Oak Lane Clinic 020 8346 9343
Royal Free 020 7794 0500
St Luke's 020 8219 1800
Whittington 020 7272 3070

Crime

Emergency 999
Finchley Police 020 8442 1212
Mus. Hill Police Stn. 020 8345 2148
Crime Stoppers 0800 555111
Victim Support 0845 303 0900
E.F. Community Police Officer:
PC Paul Carter (Golders Green)
Tel: 020 8733 5562, e-mail:
paul.carter@met.police.uk



42 Church Lane, London N2 8DT.
Tel/Fax: 020 8444 6265

General Advice.

Monday to Friday: 10am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4pm.
Thursdays: 7pm - 8pm.

Immigration Advice.

Tuesdays: 7pm - 8pm by appointment only.

Legal Advice.

Tuesdays: 7pm - 8pm.

Councillors' Surgery.

Saturdays: 10am - 11.30am

Community Services

❖ **Credit Union**, Green Man Community Centre 020 8883 4916
❖ **Careers advice**, Green Man, Community Centre 020 8883 4916
❖ **Toy library**, Muswell Hill 020 8444 0244/ 8489 8774

No drinking fountain allowed

By Doug Campbell
The Friends of Cherry Tree Wood have launched a campaign to reinstall a drinking fountain in the playground in the park.

Hundreds of children use the playground every week but there are no drinking facilities when the café is not open.

However, campaigners have been advised by Barnet Council that no fountain will be possible under health and safety regulations.

The Friends of Cherry Tree Wood were hoping that Three Valleys Water would help to fund a drinking fountain following the installation of their pumping station in the park earlier this year. However, this would first need Barnet's approval.

There are drinking fountains in Highgate Wood and Hampstead Heath but these parks are managed by the Corporation of London.

There used to be a drinking fountain in Cherry Tree Wood and the pipes may still be underneath the tarmac near the east fence of the playground.

At the East Finchley Festival last month, pages of signatures were collected on a petition in favour of a drinking fountain for the playground.

You can join the campaign by writing to the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood. Visit their website, www.cherrytreewood.co.uk

Free films for all the family

Our very own Phoenix Cinema in the High Road is showing free family films every Thursday afternoon throughout the school summer holidays.

The free screenings are being supported by the Barnet Children's Fund. For full details of films and times, see What's On on page 10.

Health volunteers needed

The Dementia Research Centre at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery needs healthy volunteers aged 50 plus, to assist with its research.

Volunteers will take part in tests of word retrieval, conceptual knowledge and perception. This project will help in investigating and evaluating conditions including neurological diseases, strokes and

dementia.

Bill Ibbotson, of Barnet's Retired and Senior Volunteers Programme, has further details. He can be contacted on 020 8440 1291 or at bill.ibbotson@btinternet.com.

Don't forget your Health Card

When travelling to Europe from this year on, you need to pack your EHIC.

The European Health Insurance Card, which replaces all previous documents, entitles you to reduced cost (or sometimes free) healthcare in countries belonging to the European Economic Area and also Switzerland. It entitles you to the same treatment as people living in the country you are visit-

ing. However, you are still advised to take out travel insurance.

Find out more from www.dh.gov.uk/travellers, or in the booklet from the Post Office called Health Advice for Travellers. You can order your EHIC online or by phone on 0845 6062030, or by post via a form from the Post Office.

Protect your car against crime

Barnet Police need your help to reduce car crime in Barnet. Much crime could be reduced if people took some easy, simple steps to make their cars and vehicles less appealing to opportunist thieves.

Always lock the door and close the windows of your car when you leave it, even for a short space of time. This includes going to the kiosk to pay for your petrol at a garage.

Especially in summer, remember to close all windows when leaving the car, even the sunroof. Never leave anything on display in the car - jackets or bags can be very appealing to thieves. If you have to leave items make sure they are put in the boot and if the contents of the boot are visible make sure they are covered over

or take the items with you. Never keep your car documents in the car. If the car is stolen, these vital papers make it easy for the thief to sell it on. Keep your car keys safe at home and never leave them visible or near to the door or window. Thieves will break into your home just to steal the car keys, especially if you own a high-value car. Look at your home security. How many of you keep the lawnmower and old pots of paint in the garage and the expensive car on the drive?

Planning Applications

Barnet Council

Rooftop at Viceroy Parade, High Road, N2
Installation of three telecommunications antennas and one transmission dish on existing rooftop. Installation of six ancillary cabinets within closed-boarded fence compound along East End Road.

Pavement to front of Five Bells public house, East End Road, N2

Installation of 15-metre high telecommunications monopole with shrouded antennas and adjacent equipment.

Southern House, 1A Bedford Road, N2
Change of use from office (Class B1) to Private Adult School of English (Class D1).

8 Ashburnham Close, N2
Installation of three solar tube collectors.

1 Stanley Road, N2
Loft conversion, including side dormer window.

10 Kitchener Road, N2
Single-storey rear conservatory.

16 Deansway, N2
Single-storey rear extension. Part single, part two-storey side extension. Alterations to roof, including rear dormer window to facilitate loft conversion.

202 Creighton Avenue, N2
New guard rail and timber screen wall to existing roof terrace.

65 Summerlee Avenue, N2
Rear single-storey extension.

23 and 25 Howard Walk, N2
Alterations to roof, including formation of one dormer window on rear of each house.

24 Sedgemere Avenue, N2
Alterations to roof, including rear dormer windows to facilitate loft conversion.

Haringey Council

95 Fortis Green, N2
Erection of rear/side extension at first floor level. Alterations to rear elevation Listed Buildings Consent for rear/side extension. Alterations to rear elevation.

20 Church Vale, N2
Retrospective planning application for creation of terrace at roof level.

35 Creighton Avenue, N10
Erection of rear dormer window with balustrade.

10 Shakespeare Gardens, N2
Erection of single-storey rear extension. Loft conversion, including erection of rear dormer window and creation of gable end. (Certificate of Lawfulness)
44 Fordington Road, N6

Loft conversion, including enlargement of existing dormer window, provision of balustrade, and creation of gable end.



Melvyn's model masterpieces

An East Finchley man behind the special effects in Doctor Who and a number of classic TV programmes has won a major award.



The Model Unit film shoot crew featuring the centre piece of the Enola Gay model used in the filming sequences, Melvyn appears on the far right of frame.

Melvyn Friend, who specialises in miniature model making for television films, was honoured by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts.

His work with the Model Unit team at the renowned Ealing Film Studios in west London earned him a BAFTA for best visual effects at the British equivalent of the Oscars.

The award was given for life-like model sequences in a chilling documentary telling the story of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima in 1945. Although Melvyn has been involved with other projects which have been nominated for BAFTAs and Royal Television Society awards in the past, this was the Model Unit's first win.

"It's a fantastic accolade for us all, especially as it's just the first year of the Model Unit establishing itself outside the BBC," says Melvyn, who lives in Manor Park Road.

His work for Doctor Who included the model of the Houses of

Parliament destroyed by the Slitheen spacecraft in the 2005 series as well as the construction of the new Daleks.

The unit was founded by his colleague Mike Tucker, following the closure of the BBC Special Effects Department after more than 40 years of amazing work for various BBC and independent productions.

As an experienced freelance Melvyn's effects work doesn't only involve models and miniatures; he is regularly involved with physical effects, practical props, pyrotechnics and atmospherics and has worked on classic programmes such as The Young Ones, 'Allo 'Allo and Tomorrow's World.

He says: "You need to be very adaptable in this vocation, a bit of a lateral thinker. Ana-

lysing how certain things are achieved on the screen can take away my enjoyment of a programme so it is often refreshing to watch films with no special effects in at all."

Ever resourceful, Melvyn also takes on more domestic projects for local residents who find his carpentry skills produce the 'special effects' to solve their storage needs, for example.

If you need any special effects of your own, you can contact him at: melvyn_friend@hotmail.com.

Festival controversy

continued from front page...

Spirit of the festival

Rossana Christianson, continued,

"Community Focus usually runs a stall as part of the arrangement for Happy Go Lucky performing, and we returned our stall-holder's application in May. In the first week of June we were telephoned, with an apology, to say that Happy Go Lucky could not appear. So we didn't have a stall either, as the dancers help to run it, and they were too disappointed to go along. It's a shame, as we do enjoy the festival. I wish we had known about the changes sooner."

The North London Performing Arts Company was another group whose young actors were unable to appear.

Spokeswoman Emily Ward said: "A lot of our children are local to East Finchley, and they were very disappointed, as they get a huge buzz out of appearing in the festival. This is a splendid and very well run festival, but, as with all local festivals, arrangements are last minute. If we are performing, we generally get a phone call at the beginning of June."

This group at least will still be performing in Cherry Tree Wood, at the Muswell Hill Festival on Sunday 17 September.

Confusion over booking

Martin O'Donnell, a festival organiser, refuted the claim that the Happy Go Lucky Dance

Group was cancelled at short notice.

He said: "They were never booked, and there had been no correspondence with them since the previous year. No group is entitled to a spot on stage although, if they wish to participate next year, we will make every effort to accommodate them."

"There is no set procedure about booking. If a group approaches us we make a note of their interest, discuss it at the festival steering group and then, more often than not, offer them a slot. Up until the end of March, when we met Masterpeace and discussed the possibility of working together, no community groups had approached us about playing the festival this year."

Mr O'Donnell denied that the festival had become more commercial, saying the steering group had encouraged more craft and charitable stalls and had tried to remove the "blow up hammers and throw three darts" type of commercial ones. Rising costs, including security, meant the festival will be lucky to break even this year.

The East Finchley Community Festival steering group welcomes local people to help it plan next year's event. If you are interested, come to the annual review and planning meeting on Thursday 21 September, at 7pm at the Green Man Community Centre.

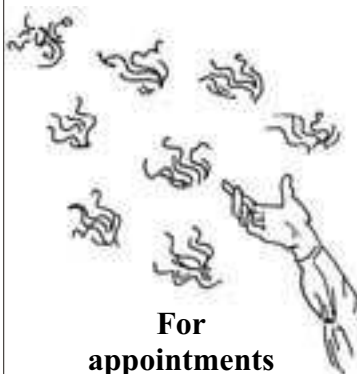
P.A.music
Lighting-Sound-FX-Video

We Have Moved

to: Unit 4
The Old Printworks
25 Tapster Street
Barnet, EN5 5TH
Email: p.a.music@fsbdial.co.uk
Hire & Sales
020 8440 8008

HEALING

Kathryn Scorza
Registered Spiritual Healer



For appointments in East Finchley please call
07703 404 839
or email

kathryn@spqrlondon.co.uk

CARPENTRY & BUILDING SPECIALIST

Extensions & Home Improvements
Property Repairs & Maintenance
Garden Structures, Fencing & Decking

For a Friendly Local Service call:
M J Griffiths (Builders)
TEL / FAX 020 8445 1579

EAST FINCHLEY ELECTRICAL

50% OFF
ALL EX. DISPLAY LIGHTING

EIC LOCAL COUNCIL
APPROVED CONTRACTOR & RETAILER

For all your electrical needs in the home, we turn up on time, guarantee our work and are unbeatable value.

115 High Road London N2
Tel: 020 8444 5630 or email sales@ef-elec.co.uk

KITCHENER ROAD
HIGH ROAD
HUNTINGDON ROAD
We are here.

Nicky Sharp
BSc (Hons) Ost Med

Osteopathy Clinic

for appointments:
Tel: 020 8815 9433

At Nova Dental Care
260, East End Road, London N2 8AU

VICTORY AUTO SERVICES

Air-Conditioning - Recharge & Servicing

Mechanical repairs, tyres,
bodywork, clutches, exhausts
MOTs by appointment



109 Fortis Green East Finchley London N2 9HR
Tel: 020 8883 9707 / 0023 Fax: 020 8482 9179



Stanley Field fight goes to the top

By Daphne Chamberlain

Campaigners trying to save Stanley Field for the community in East Finchley took their fight to Barnet Council leader Mike Freer last month.

Councillor Freer placed a limit of four on the number of representatives he was prepared to meet although the campaign group wanted to present a wider range of support.

In the end the only ones to put their viewpoints were Roger Chapman and Martin O'Donnell, from the East Finchley Community Development Trust, Sylvia Duthie, Chair of Holy Trinity School Governors, and architect Chris Hampson.

They told *THE ARCHER* they had stressed the unsuitability of the site in Stanley Road for any other development, such as housing, and had shown Cllr Freer a sample timetable of sport and leisure events which would utilise the field.

Six weeks before the meeting, the campaigners had sent the council leader copies of correspondence with support groups and with former Council Leader Brian Salinger, but were told these had not been received. They have since been sent again.

The group say that Cllr Freer asked for a "viability plan" (not a full-scale business plan, but one "where the figures add up") to be submitted before the end of August.

After the meeting, Sylvia Duthie said: "He seemed to be listening. I hope we convinced him that we are serious about this. We're not a Mickey Mouse outfit. We're in it for the long haul."

Since the meeting, Roger Reed, Regional Facility Manager for the Football Association, has confirmed that a Football Foundation grant for the field would include funding for multi-sports pitches, as well as mini football pitches. In addition, the Football Foundation would now provide funding of up to 60 per cent for grants controlled by a charitable trust.

Another boost for the campaign group came when Barnet Youth Board told them that the Stanley Field project "looks great". The Support Worker

wants further discussions with young people, with a view to putting it forward to the Council as an area for regeneration.

Sale of land to fund schools

In the meeting with the Stanley Field group, Cllr Freer is reported as saying he had to find £220m over the next 10 years for the Schools Regeneration Project. Some of this would come from the sale of land.

Cllr Freer has already said, Stanley Field could become the victim of such a sell-off so *THE ARCHER* asked him for more details.

He confirmed that the overall estimate was £220m, divided into three "waves". Barnet is currently working up details of the Wave 1 proposals, involving rebuilding or remodelling about

11 schools and estimated to cost about £84m.

He said that the programme "will be funded partly by the sale of surplus school land, but also by existing grants, Section 106 agreements and prudential borrowing.

"The Government also has a Primary Schools Capital Programme, and Barnet has recently submitted a bid to become a Pathfinder. If we were to be successful, we would receive a sum of capital for use in 2008-9. We will not know the outcome of our bid until the autumn, and then we will have a clearer view of the money available, and guidance on how it can be spent."

Stanley Field is not school land, and East Finchley's campaign group is working on proving that it is not surplus either.



Det. Chief Supt. Stephen Kavanagh, Barnet's new Commander of police. Picture by John Dearing

Barnet welcomes new police commander

By John Dearing

Detective Chief Superintendent Stephen Kavanagh has taken over as the new Borough Commander and is putting better communication with minority communities at the top of his priority list.

At a special press briefing, he told us that on his first Saturday in his new role, he visited various synagogues in the Borough, in full dress uniform, in the company of the Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Ian Blair and Lady Blair. They were gratified by the warmth with which they were received and the level of support for the police.

He said that as a founding member of the Racial & Violent Crimes Unit, he has had a lot of experience in connecting with minority groups. He felt there was a need for an independent advisory group for minority communities, especially those who are unrepresented, and he needed to be able to communicate quickly with appropriate groups in an emergency.

Mr. Kavanagh said he was a "huge supporter" of the Safer Neighbourhoods Teams,

whose local knowledge and intelligence gathering underpin communication initiatives through representative groups. He believed that the rank and file police were initially "somewhat cautious" about the teams and about Police Community Support Officers, but have become enthusiastic about them as a valuable resource.

He said that Golders Green police station was no longer fit for purpose, but he did not support its closure without replacement, nor should High Barnet station be extended to opening 24 hours a day if it meant fewer police on patrol.

He described the greatest challenges of the Commander's role as effective management of limited resources, and the need to learn how to use legislation on issues such as anti-social behaviour and hate crime.

Barnet has it all

Mr Kavanagh has been in the police for 21 years, starting in northeast London, before moving to east London as a Detective Sergeant. Highlights of his career include working in the anti-terrorist branch, in the homicide command as a Detective Chief Inspector, in the Met's anti-corruption squad as a Detective Superintendent, and a year as staff officer to Assistant Commissioner Brown. He specifically asked to take the job as Barnet's Commander, feeling that Barnet, with its ethnic diversity and wide range of degrees of affluence, encapsulates London policing as a whole.

Your memories of Stanley Field

By Daphne Chamberlain

Some of you have recorded your own memories of Stanley Field in a book held by the Community Development Trust.

Memories range from 60 years ago: "We were taken from Manorside School for our PE lessons. We used to play rounders, mostly, cricket, and other games, during the 1940s", to a cry from the 21st century heart: "Where can we play ball?"

Here are some other comments.

"I played my first games of football and cricket on this field, but in the 1950s, when it was the games field for Holy Trinity School".

"I used to play cricket here in the summer, football in the winter. Murder on the knees if you ever went down! We had a high jump as well, but I was no good at that."

"I used to train twice a week

for the Five Bells FC."

"In the early sixties, my father used to organise Holy Trinity School football matches on Stanley Road, and I used to help. This kept 20 plus boys happily amused."

"Met up with the Wanderers and practised there every day for six weeks, in preparation for the Arsenal tournament. It was great - like it was our training ground."

"My son used to play football there, and I can't believe it's been allowed to get in such a bad state."

"Used to watch friends play football with floodlights on, before the gates were locked and the land was left to ruin. A gift to East Finchley friends for all their use."

All friends of the Field are hoping that it will be given the chance to create more sporting memories in the future.

Arts festival sneak preview

Organisers of the East Finchley Arts Festival have released more details of their autumn line-up to whet your appetite. Details of venues, times and booking arrangements will be in September's edition of *THE ARCHER*. The line-up so far is:

Thursday 5 October: Rimantas Vigras Piano Recital
Friday 6 October: Victorian Evening
Saturday 7 October: Charles Proctor Centenary Concert
Sunday 8 October: Daytime Puppet Shows and evening clarinet recital
Tuesday 10 October: Art Exhibition Open Evening
Wednesday 11 October: Vintage Jazz evening
Thursday 12 October: Dore Ensemble
Friday 13 October: London Mozart Players
Saturday 14 October: Theatre Roundabout
Sunday 15 October: Finchley Children's Music Group

ST. JOHNS CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Tele: 079 444 989 30 ~ Web: www.stjohnsfinchley.co.uk
Services

Sunday 6.30 p.m. Thursday 7.30 p.m.

Holy Communion 1st Sunday of the month 6.30 p.m.

Healing every Tuesday between 1 p.m. & 3 p.m.

Weddings ~ Christenings ~ Funerals (at the church or cemetery)

by arrangement with the Minister

All are welcome

4 Woodberry Grove N12 (behind Homebase)

A friendly welcome awaits you

EAST FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH

197 High Road, London N2 (opp. Creighton Ave.)

www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk

**Family service and Junior Church
Every Sunday at 10.30 a.m.**

Worship Music Social events Wheelchair friendly
tel: 020 8349 9340 e-mail: info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk



East Finchley Opens its doors

By Eti Wade

The East Finchley Open, an established group of local artists, held their third Open House event on the weekend of 1-2 July, which went spectacularly well.

The weekend kicked off with a launch party at the Noble Sage gallery, Fortis Green, on the Friday night. Some of the EFO artists were showcased inside the gallery and all members were invited to display work in the gallery marquee set up for the event. Guests were invited for a glass of wine and enjoyed a speech by David Aronsohn, chairman of the group, a gong performance by Eddie Sears and a preview of the art-work.

After the launch the artists went home to prepare for the busy weekend. The next couple of days were hectic, with the artists presenting their work at 11 different houses and nine other High Road venues.

This year the EFO has presented work in a wide range of locations including shops and venues such as the Phoenix Cinema, the community police office, Monkey Face and The Old White Lion pub. The collaboration between the

EFO and local businesses has been a resounding success, with some high street shops and businesses clearing space especially for EFO artworks and opening their shops to the enthusiastic art audience. Despite the sweltering heat the houses and shops were all very well attended. The artists enjoyed exhibiting their work and talking to the public about inspirations, techniques, and the creative process.

Visitors confirmed how enjoyable the weekend was and how much it raises the profile of our community to have an art event such as the Summer Open and a thriving artist community such as the EFO in our midst. Many East Finchley residents are now proud owners of new original art works made by local people. We are now starting to work towards our Art Fair event at Martin School Hall on 19 November. EFO artists can also be contacted via the website www.eastfinchleyopen.org.uk.



Artists: Amelia Casas-Serrate, Corrin Tulk, Rena Zenonos & her mother. Picture by Craig Johnson

Local art for local people

By Alex Nunes & Craig Johnson

Had you been taking a stroll down Church Lane on Saturday 1 July you might have been surprised by number 34's miraculous transformation. As part of the East Finchley Open weekend, local artists exhibited their work in their homes, offering a unique opportunity for the public to view some of the best work in the area.

The wall space at number 34 was adorned with photography and acrylic on canvas from artists such as Jane Higgison and Karen Fraser. Photography, embroidery and ceramics were but a fraction of the highly inspirational art on display.

With free entry, a rather generous helping of wine and such unique art on offer, the experi-

ence made for a great day out.

Meanwhile at 259 Creighton Avenue, Amelia Casas Serrate, Corrin Tulk and Rena Zenonos were displaying their photography, canvas works and embroidery.

You can see more of the artists' work and photographs of the exhibitions at: www.eastfinchleyopen.org.

HIPS operation for home owners

Are you thinking of putting your home up for sale? If you do so after 1 June next year, be aware that you will be required to provide a Home Information Pack (HIP).

As a consequence of the Housing Act 2004, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister has announced that HIPs will be mandatory, ostensibly to make buying and selling simpler and faster.

They are expected to cost around £400 but that could rise to nearer £600 if you choose to include an optional home condition report, or survey.

The HIP will need to include the usual sheaf of legal documents that are part of the conveyancing process now, including deeds, local authority searches and guarantees for any home improvements carried out.

What will be new is the Energy Performance Certificate, which will allow potential buyers to judge the likely fuel costs of running the home before buying.

Essentially, the certificate will give the property a rating from A to G for lighting, heating and hot water costs, much like the energy efficiency ratings we've grown used to seeing on electrical goods. It will also list options for improving the property's energy performance.

The information in a HIP must not be more than three months old at the time that the property is offered for sale and it can only be prepared by an accredited Home Inspector.

Failure to provide a HIP will

not be a criminal offence but could result in you receiving a daily penalty of £200, issued by trading standards officers, if you try to sell without one.

The Association of Home Information Pack Providers will argue that sellers should pay £100-200 extra to get the optional survey done at the same time as the energy certificate because it can be done

by the inspector under the same call-out fee.

HIPs will be mandatory for everyone putting a residential property on the market but not for those sold with sitting tenants or for private sales between friends and family.

More information about HIPs can be found at www.homeinformationpacks.gov.uk

the
cherry
tree

Elegant and inspired gifts for all occasions

Come and visit us at

172, High Road, East Finchley N2 9AS Tel: 020 8883 4369

info@thecherrytreeuk.co.uk www.thecherrytreeuk.co.uk

Verdi	The Chocolate Alchemist
Nougat toiletries	Lip Lingerie cosmetics
True Grace candles	Cyclobags
LSA glassware	Chocolate on Chocolate
Tatiri girls' gifts	Cards
Wrapping paper	

Klages Plumbing & Heating Agency LTD.

CONTACT TELEPHONE No: 020 8346 7218 / 8636

KLAGE

A NAME IN PLUMBING FOR OVER 40 YEARS

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**



Maureen Brown & her bunnies. Photo by Craig Johnson.

A well-kept garden

By Craig Johnson and Alex Nunes

Hosepipe bans and drought warnings have made us all think about saving water this summer but Maureen Brown has her own private water supply.

Maureen's beautiful cottage garden in Church Lane is blessed with a natural spring well and hers is not the only one. A few doors down, there is another well still intact, although it has now been converted into a fish-pond.

Maureen has lived in East Finchley since 1971, since when many of the gardens and houses in the Church Lane area have changed drastically.

"There is still a well under the garden. A lot of places around East Finchley have natural spring wells, although nowadays most people seem to have covered them up for safety," she said.

"The water comes from natural springs because East Finchley is positioned directly on top of a spring. One thing you're always told on the allotments is never to allow your children to run free as they could fall down a well!"

Gardening is one of Maureen's passions, a love she shared with her husband who

died two years ago.

"We had the most wonderful tomatoes," she remembered. "We grew them in the greenhouse at the end of the garden. I still grow the odd rhubarb which gets pretty big

at 15 inches when the leaves are off."

Maureen is now retired. She enjoys her days in the company of five cats and her grandchildren, in the well-kept surroundings of her cottage garden.

Leaf through a new tree guide

By Ann Bronkhorst

North Londoners have enjoyed the trees in the extensive grounds at Avenue House in East End Road for many years. A concise, light-weight guidebook will add to that enjoyment, judging by the enthusiastic response shown at its launch on 10 July.

Cleverly designed to contain a pull-out map marking all 39 trees, the guide contains brief information on each one alongside excellent full-colour photographs by Gary Pearse.

Some trees are rare or unusual: the Himalayan Lilac, the Cut-Leaved Oak, the Cock's Comb Beech and the Pocket Handkerchief tree, for example. Some display magnificent colours in autumn: the Sweet Gum, the Swamp Cypress, and the many varieties of oaks and beeches.

As Janett Durrant, Trustee Estate Manager, says in her foreword, "In the autumn as the sun sets it catches the leaves and gives the appearance that they are on fire." Janett points out that although the Victorian tree-planters weren't able to see the mature garden, we have benefited from their vision of what they hoped it would be like.

The guidebook provides some historical information, including a glimpse of Robert

Marnock, the 'main man' who, helped by the editor of The Gardener's Journal, landscaped the grounds of Avenue House (where some fine trees were already established) in the 1880s.

Finchley Society Chairman Bill Tyler thanked a number of people for making the guidebook a reality, including the City of London Bridge House Trust for financial support, and BCAGroup, the printers, with special mention of the two young designers, Abdul and Sadiq. The three groundsmen at Avenue House were thanked for their work in maintaining the gardens and a member of the public, Ralph Webster, was thanked for helping to extinguish a fire started deliberately in the grounds, a reminder of the constant battle against vandalism.

Personal connections

For some, the book launch was a bitter-sweet occasion. Sue Davies visits regularly to tend two trees, one a weeping willow commemorating her partner, Peter Jarvis, and the other a tree planted years earlier in memory of his father Bertie Jarvis, who lived locally and loved Avenue House. Sue is one of many visitors who have donated trees, plants, funds or expertise.

The attractive booklet, currently priced at £5, should arouse more interest in the arboretum and in Avenue House's history. As the Mayor of Barnet said that evening: "Trees are history, and they talk to us."

Weaving willow

By Viviana Lotti

The traditional skill of basket making is thriving in East Finchley, thanks to local resident Mary Poulter.

Originally from Chicago (and married to an Englishman), Mary moved to East Finchley a year ago but she has had an allotment here for 15 years, where she grows her own willow for weaving. Her unusual 'crop' originally bemused fellow gardeners. "When I first started growing willow the chaps couldn't understand why I was growing sticks," she said.

How did Mary start making baskets? "Twenty years ago, a friend of mine said she would



Mary's handmade baskets. Photo by Viviana Lotti

like to do a residential course at a basket-making school," she explained. "I said I'd do it too. I got hooked because the teacher was so wonderful."

Mary also took a City & Guilds course. She describes basket-making as "a lot like pottery. You're not only weaving, you're shaping."

Mary says growing willow is "dead easy". She buys willow rods, cuts them into 20-inch pieces, then plants them in rich soil, leaving lots of space between the rods as they grow into huge bushes. She simply lets them grow and cuts them three years later when the sap is down in winter. The rods grow back each time: a willow

can grow up to nine feet tall in a year.

Once cut the willow is stored and left to stand for about three months. Living willow (which has not been stored and is still growing) can be used to make fences, outdoor furniture, arches or tunnels.

Mary also makes baskets from anything flexible that can be recycled, including virginia creeper, fabric, lavender and, on one occasion, wires from an abandoned motorbike in Coldfall Woods.

Mary is a member of the East Finchley Open Group, comprising local artists and artisans who have open-day exhibitions in their own homes.

Brain training

We all know that we start shedding brain cells when we are scarcely out of our teens, but scientists have discovered that it's not necessarily downhill all the way. As usual, the answer is exercise. Use your brain, and it can actually acquire new cells.

So keep asking questions, solving puzzles and learning something new. There are daily challenges at www.mybraintainer.com.

Finchley Memorial raises funds

Friends of Finchley Memorial Hospital raised £2,800 from their summer fete on 18 June.

Ethical, co-operative and democratic

Savings invested in local area

Free Life insurance



Finchley Credit Union

**Green Man
Community Centre
Strawberry Vale
N2 9BA**

Opening Times

Monday	10-8.30pm
Tuesday	10-4pm
Wednesday	10-4pm
Thursday	5-8.30pm
Saturday	10-4pm

**Find out more:
www.ficu.ik.com
fcu@eastfinchley.co.uk
020 8883 4916**

Authorised and regulated by
the FSA. Firm no. 213679

The fastest growing financial movement in the world



Property developers never give up!

By John Dearing

As reported in *THE ARCHER*, March 2006, the former Finchley Manor Garden Centre in East End Road has been offered for sale as a commercial property. A planning application for change of use was refused on various grounds, including the site's location on Metropolitan Open Land, but a second application has been made, to build shops and offices. This is still under consideration, although it is hard to see why the previous reasons for refusal would no longer apply.

In 2005, developers made a planning application to build a block of over 100 flats and retail premises on the former factory site at 60 Lancaster Gardens. This was refused on numerous grounds including excessive size, obtrusiveness, and detriment to local amenities. The developers appealed against this decision and made a subsequent application that differs little from the first yet has been successful.

The dripping tap technique

Since 2000, no fewer than five applications have been made to demolish the existing shops on Lincoln Parade, and develop the site. Following extensive local objections, four of these have been refused or withdrawn, but the latest proposes four, two-storey terraced houses. Not surprisingly, there have been many objections to this application, as well.

The owners of the Viceroy Close car park have made at least six applications to build a block of flats on the site. Each time there have been many

objections and the application refused or withdrawn. No doubt there will be another one in due course.

The former car workshop behind The Bald Faced Stag is now being redeveloped (no prizes for guessing what it is to be). This took several years and many applications, before the dripping tap technique succeeded. No doubt *ARCHER* readers can think of other such examples.

The moral is that property developers will not take "no" for an answer. They will come back time and again with planning applications, generally little changed from the previous one.

If you are adversely affected by such applications, be prepared to keep on objecting, raising petitions and lobbying local councillors, because the moment you relax, the developers will get their way, and your quality of life will be diminished. Lastly, remember that the planning officers, if treated with respect and courtesy, can be your greatest allies.



Double take

By Diana Cormack

When Clarice Bell read her March edition of *THE ARCHER*, she paid particular attention to the article entitled 'Tops Score'. This was about Asghar Shaikh, who has been running his dry cleaning business on Fortis Green for over 20 years, and it mentioned his many long-term customers, of whom Clarice is one.

Having used *Tops Dry Cleaners* for many years, retired nursing sister Clarice decided to show her appreciation of the "wonderful service" she has received there. She put a copy of the photograph that accompanied the article into a silver frame embossed with the message "Congratulations and many thanks for your 15 years of superb service".

Clarice was full of praise for Asghar and told *THE ARCHER* that one of the reasons she feels his service to be so special is because he does it with such human kindness. As for Asghar, his comment on the presentation was: "I'm shocked! But it is nice to have such lovely customers."



Penny Desaxe with the wheelie bin she has to keep chained up. Picture by John Lawrence.

Wheelie shocking

Do you know how much your wheelie bin is worth? Probably not much when it's full of rubbish but if it goes missing you'll have to dig deep to the tune of £46.

Penny Desaxe was shocked to find this out when her wheelie bin was stolen from outside her house in Long Lane.

Penny, a mother of two who claims income support, woke up one morning to find she had nowhere to put her waste

so contacted Barnet Council to request a replacement bin.

They told her she would have to pay £46 for a new one and, if she couldn't pay immediately, she could pay £2 a week until it was paid for. In the meantime, she'd have to put

out black bin bags.

"I couldn't believe what they were telling me," said Penny. "It was a real liberty to charge so much for a new bin. I've lived here for 16 years and never needed to ask for a new bin before."

I thought the bin was the council's property anyway and I'd expected them to take responsibility for providing a replacement. This should be a warning to everyone else."

In this case, there was a happy ending. Penny's bin, which she had decorated with special flower stickers, was found the next day 300m away in Manor Cottages Approach.

Penny said: "I was so grateful to the kids who found it that I paid them a tenner. The bin's back outside my house now and needless to say I've got it chained up."

202 is number one again!

For the second year running a hairdresser from an independent salon in the High Road has successfully gone head to head in competition with others from internationally known companies.

East Finchley hairdresser Shareefa Jennings has beaten young stylists from across the country to make it through to the UK final of the world's most prestigious annual international hairdressing competition, Wella Trend Vision Award 06.

Shareefa, 22, from the 202 hair salon, amazed the judges with her creative interpretation of the 'Real Daydream' trend at the southern regional heat which took place in Gatwick on 17 May.

Nine hundred stylists, each aged 30 or under, aimed to take home the coveted Wella Trend Vision Award 06 UK title. Shareefa will now join 19 other talented young hairdressers at the UK Final which will take place at London's ExCel on 14 October.

Nigel Meredith, Technical Manager, Wella UK said: "Shareefa should feel extremely proud to make it through to the UK Final of the Wella Trend Vision Award 06. The standard of entrants has improved year on year and the judges found it more difficult than ever to select the 20 finalists. We were overwhelmed by the talent: every single finalist demonstrated outstanding skills

and creativity, and their sheer passion for hairdressing really shone through. We very much look forward to seeing more from Shareefa at the UK final later this year."

The East
DENTAL
Tel: 020 8

The East Finchley
DENTAL CENTRE

Dr D Freeman BSc (England), MSc (London)
Dr A Mohamed BDS (Sweden)
Dr Parvina Singh BDS (England) and Associates

NHS DENTAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

To register for NHS Dental Care or if you require emergency treatment please call

Tel: 020 8444 3436

Web: www.eastfinchleydentalcentre.co.uk

- Friendly, experienced, dedicated Dental Team
- General Dental Care and Service
- Special care for Nervous patients
- Dental Care for Children
- Preventative Dental Care
- Cosmetic Treatment
- Private treatment undertaken
- Teeth Whitening

144 High Road, East Finchley, N2 9ED

All are welcome to register and be treated at The East Finchley Dental Centre. In a modern and friendly environment, where all can feel welcome.



PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

Holy Trinity School

Children from Our Lady of Lourdes School were treated to a day of outdoor adventure activities by Holy Trinity’s Year 5 teacher Robin Jacobs. The children took part in team-building physical and mental challenges and developed new skills.

A new Breakfast Club will run in September. Parents have been consulted on how they’d like to see the club run and booking forms have been circulated.

Children have a new climbing frame to enjoy on the school field. The giant wood and rope structure was funded by the many special events run by parents and teachers throughout the year.

A cake sale took place on Friday 21 July to raise money for overseas development charities.

Year 2 children enjoyed a lovely day at the seaside on their school trip to Brighton. Ice creams on the pier were the highlight of the day.

The annual summer music concert was a huge success. Every child in every year had the chance to perform their favourite songs and this year the theme was Movies. The children gave fantastic performances of songs from Oliver, Bugsy Malone, Madagascar, The Little Mermaid, The Sound of Music, Cinderella and The Jungle Book. Year 6 pupils wrote and sang their own tear-jerking song ‘Goodbye Holy Trinity’ recalling all the fun memories from their time at the school. All the teachers joined together for a lively singalong and headteacher Tim Bowden gave his own unforgettable rendition of The Beatles song Help.

Martin Schools

The Head Teachers and staff of the Infant School and the Junior School are very pleased with the performance of their children in the SATS tests. Whilst both schools are awaiting validated results, early indicators show a significant rise in standards with results that are equal to or better than the national and LEA averages for last year.

At the recent Copthall Athletics day, 12 children from Martin Juniors came first in their events. Martin Juniors came third overall for field events and fourth for track events. Two Year 6 pupils were chosen from 200 to take part in a special Gifted and Talented sports summer camp.

Children from Year 2 were invited to perform at the launch of the Barnet Learning Charter on 21 June.

Pupils, parents and carers in the Infants have voted to introduce a uniform which will come into effect in January 2007.

Both schools took part in Multicultural Week at the end of June. Pupils had visits from poet Zena Edwards and story-teller Tupp. Parents and carers joined staff and children for the annual International Evening.

The PTA held a successful auction raising an additional £2,300 for school funds.

Jokes

Why do gorillas have big nostrils?
Because they have big fingers.

What do you get from a pampered cow?
Spoiled milk.

What lies at the bottom of the ocean and twitches?
A nervous wreck.

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?
Frostbite.

All Saints’ Church,
Durham Road, East Finchley
Church of England

Sunday masses at 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m.
Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.
Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

The Parish has a flourishing social life.
Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy,
on 020 8883 9315.

All Saints’ also has a strong musical tradition and an
enthusiastic choir of both adults and children.
Experienced singers are always welcome.
Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>

East Finchley Baptist Church

Just off the High Road in Creighton Avenue N2

Sundays at 11.00 am and 6.30 pm

For more information
please contact the Church Office
Tel: 8883 1544 (Minister: Simon Dyke)

Visitors always welcome



And they're off: the Sport Relief runners set off on their charity mile at Holy Trinity School. Picture courtesy Caroline Hunt.

Sock it to them

There was an outbreak of red socks when children, parents and teachers ran a mile for charity at Holy Trinity School.

Dozens of fun runners - the youngest aged four, the oldest aged, well, who knows - did 13 circuits of the school field to complete the distance for Sport Relief.

Everyone was issued with one red sock at the start of the race and handed a second when they crossed the finish-

ing line.

Half the course was in shade and half was in the full sunshine of a July afternoon but the sweltering athletes were able to recharge afterwards with home-made food and plenty of fruit cocktails.

The annual Holy Trinity

summer barbecue was taking place at the same time, a much-appreciated chance for parents and teachers to relax together and raise some cash for school funds.

There was a live rock band to serenade the picnickers and a bouncy castle assault course to wear out the young ones.

YOUNG ARCHER

Dreams and nightmares in poetry

Here are two moving poems written by Year 9 students at Bishop Douglass School:

A Little Poem for Black History Month

By Giovanni Johnson

Make poverty history,
That's what they say these days.
I have a dream,
Like Martin Luther King says.
I'm a young black boy
Moving in the right ways
Leave the badness behind
And have better days.

I used to be bad,
But now I'm very good,
Moving in the ways
As a young man should.
It's not about being
A bad thug in the hood.
I would help all the younger ones
If I ever could.

Childhood Memories: a Poem for Refugee Week

By Davis Kigozi

I am a child that has nowhere to go
I follow the road with the others.
I've lost my mother and my father
And all of my three brothers.

My tummy rumbles with hopes of food
My head hurts all the day

But I must keep walking along this road
I've got to get away.

The bombs are falling again
Dropping from the sky
And if I don't keep moving
I will surely die.

I miss my family very much
But there is no-one left to miss me
I'm just one of many orphaned children
And now I'm a refugee.

I have never known what it's like
To live without war and fear
And until a few days ago
I always had my mother near.

But she could no longer fight
No more pain could she stand
She didn't want to leave me
But she let go of my hand.

We only had each other
My father was killed when I was five
My brothers were forced to join the fight
And now no one is alive.

I must keep walking with this group
For they are all that I have now
Strangers everyone of them
But friends to me somehow.

I don't know how much further
I don't know what we'll find there
But it's got to be better than what I feel
I am a child of nowhere.



Year 2 children from Martin Infant School singing the Penguin Song at the launch of the Barnet Learning Charter. Picture by Helen Drake

Learning without limits

By Helen Drake

Children from Martin Infant School and Brooklands Junior School performed for members of the local education community and guest speakers at a special conference held at the North London Business Park on 21 June. The Barnet Learning Charter: Learning without Limits, a new initiative from the Local Education Authority (LEA) was launched at the conference.

John Paxton, a strategy manager with the LEA and the driving force behind the charter, said that the purpose had been to consult Barnet's education community and to "discover our core beliefs and what kind of schools we want."

Kevin Anscomb, head teacher from Martin Infant School, and Heather Blackmore, head teacher from Brooklands Junior School, were both part of the Development Group that spent 18 months analysing the results of the consultation process and putting together the final

document.

Guest speaker Bill Laar praised the Learning Charter for its dynamism and predicted that it could become a "model of good practice outside the boundaries of Barnet."

The charter has at its heart a set of core beliefs and provides a blueprint for school-based activities. In her introduction, Gillian Palmer, Chief Education Officer, says it will "help all schools to translate these principles into the action which will best serve the needs and aspirations of their communities."

Based upon *Every Child*

Matters, the key government document that provides a framework for all agencies involving children, the charter aims to ensure that every child is able to: "Enjoy and Achieve, Stay Safe, Be Healthy, Make a Positive Contribution, and Achieve Economic Well-being".

Aims for each child

Children from Year 2 at Martin Infant School performed the action-filled Penguin Song as part of a medley of favourite school tunes to demonstrate the kind of activities that enable children to Enjoy and Achieve.

Kevin Anscomb said: "The children are all talented singers and performers and it was a nice thing for them to do before they move up to the juniors." Pupils from Brooklands Junior School also gave an imaginative presentation.

The Barnet Learning Charter will be launched at both Martin Infant School and Brooklands Junior School in September. Copies will soon be available to download on Barnet's website www.barnet.gov.uk

Sponsors needed for Muswell Hill Festival

Although a number of local businesses have already signed up as main events sponsors for the Muswell Hill Festival in September, there are still sponsorships waiting to be taken up, most importantly for the performing arts stage, which is a central feature.

This is a prestigious sponsorship, costing £2,000, but it could be split among several donors. Among the activities to be covered are hire of the PA system, a generator, a large covered stage, paying a crew for the day and barriers. Live music is very much a part of the Festival and several local bands have already booked to give performances. Alternatively, £500 will secure sponsorship of the dog agility competition and dog show, paying for barriers for the arena, prizes and certificates for the winners, plus a roving microphone. The same sum is also what the parachuting teddies are looking for as they jump from

the tower of St. James's Church in Muswell Hill Broadway on Saturday 16 September, 10-4, as a curtain raiser to the festival on the next day.

Full details of what the sponsors get for their money are available from Alison Wynn of the Hornsey Trust for children with cerebral palsy, organisers and beneficiaries of the festival, which will be held once again in Cherry Tree Wood, East Finchley, on Sunday, 17 September. Contact her on 020 8444 7242, fax 020 8444 7241, mobile 07808 364 033, or e-mail her at info@hornseytrust.org.uk (copy your e-mail to alison@onlib.com).

The season of singing: a bulletin from life at the choir face

By Marian Bunzl

We at North London Chorus have become patrons of the arts. Under the guidance of our Musical Director, who in spite of everything, still seems to have faith in us, we commissioned a choral work from Royal Philharmonic Society Award winner, Matthew King (with generous support from the Ralph Vaughan Williams Trust and the Britten-Pears Foundation).

The choir suggested the theme and texts: a celebration of all aspects of singing. As patrons, we hoped to encourage our composer to keep each voice in its own comfort zone, to avoid difficult harmonies and fast complicated rhythms and, while we're at it, could the altos have the tune for once? And above all, as a long ago composer was commanded: not too many notes!

To be honest, no one dared voice any of the above. And, without the benefit of our advice, Matthew has produced *The Season of Sing-*

ing, a joyous, life-affirming work.

At first it seemed mind-bending: clashing rhythms, and multi-layered texts, alternating with gentle, lyrical passages. We thought: here we go again. However, under the patient teaching of our Musical Director, we found it a very approachable work, composed with love and care for the performers. Throughout (most of) the rehearsal period we were enthusiastic and positive, confident that we could do it justice and that our audience would enjoy it as much as we did.

Judging by the applause at the performance, they did indeed. The world premiere of *The Season of Singing* was given on 24 June at St Jude's-on-the-Hill in Hampstead Garden Suburb as part of its Prom Festival.

We managed to bring out the different strands of music and text, while the soloists floated high above us. Our composer, who attended the concert, told us afterwards that we had transformed his score into a living thing that communicated with intensity and passion.

At the same concert we performed the Requiem by Mozart, that other composer whose patron also complained of too many notes.

Starlings flock to East Finchley

By Daphne Chamberlain

On a sunny day recently, a friend and I were sitting by the Serpentine in Hyde Park. Suddenly, about a dozen very young, perky starlings appeared around our feet. Next moment, one of them flew straight at my friend, who was just about to pop a chip in his mouth. The bird snatched it from his fingers, and carried it off to the water's edge for his tea. Nearer home, I've noticed more starlings about than in the past few years.

Also, the Finchley Society has reported a parakeet in Avenue House Grounds, waxwings in Oak Lane and the once rare red kite over the northern part of Barnet.

Recent sightings in the St Pancras and Islington Cemetery along the High Road include a pheasant, a deer, and a sparrow hawk, possibly the infamous visitor to back gardens in the county roads previously pictured in *THE ARCHER*.

KALASHNIKOV KULTUR

By Ricky Savage, the voice of social irresponsibility

Summer of sport

Welcome to the less than wonderful world of British sporting achievement. Sorry, let's get this right and try again. Welcome to another summer of British sporting failure and I mean British, because not even the Scots can claim that the Murray Mint isn't one of theirs.

This year, just like most years, the Brits have managed to cover themselves in a heady mixture of lager and flags, load up on pointless euphoria and dream the dream. What we got is the usual nightmare. The 'mighty' cricket team who fluked it against the Aussies couldn't beat Sri Lanka and both the Mint and the Tinman failed spectacularly to win Wimbledon. And it rained and the strawberries were tastelessly overpriced and no Brit survived into week two, so no change there then.

Let's now turn to the weird, perverse and embarrassing world of football and give the Scots, Welsh and Irish a laugh. After spending hours watching a bunch of overpaid idiots make the beautiful game look ugly I began to despair, and despair led to consumption of mind-expanding substances on an industrial scale. And you know what happens when you do that? You get inspired, that's what.

With my head full of chemicals I saw the answer to all our problems and got paranoid enough to spot a conspiracy coming. Conspiracy? Yes, the maniacs at FIFA conspire against us Brits by insisting that the World Cup is played in the summer and somewhere hot enough for heatstroke. No way can any British team ever win.

The answer is obvious. The World cup should be played in November, in England. No need for Wembley, play all the matches in places like Leeds, Huddersfield, Wigan, Bolton and Blackburn. Play them on Wednesdays, kick off at 7.30 and make sure it rains. And not just normal rain, but that wonderful horizontal drizzle that has Englishmen dancing topless on the terraces. While the Italians and Brazilians shelter under umbrellas, Wayne Rooney will feel happy and at home as he dodges hailstones on his way to a hat trick.

It's the only way to win



Regular Events

SPORT & FITNESS

- ❖ **Finchley & Hornsey Ramblers Group** Call Vivien 8883 8190
- ❖ **Glebelands Indoor Bowls Club**, Summers Lane N12. New and experienced bowlers welcome.
- ❖ **Keep fit for the Retired** Wednesdays Christ Church N12. Ring Bridie 8883 5269
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Bowling Club**, Kings Ave, N10. New & experienced bowlers welcome. Tel: 8883 1178.
- ❖ **Pilates** in East Finchley, qualified teacher. Contact Dee on 8883 7029
- ❖ **Pilates class** Wednesdays, 2.15-3.15pm at Youth Theatre, N2. Ring Penny Hill 8444 2882.
- ❖ **Tae Kwon Do** at The Green Man Thursdays 7-9pm 07949 612 706
- ❖ **Tai Chi** at the Green Man on Mondays 1.30-3pm. An "ageing well" class for older people.
- ❖ **Tennis club** with four clay courts off Southern Road. Call 8440 6953.
- ❖ **Wood Walk**, meet 10am at Cherry Tree Wood cafe on 1st & 2nd Mon of month for 1 hr walk, Call 8883 8750.
- ❖ **Yoga, breathing & relaxation.** Weekly drop-in classes - N2, N6, N10. Phone Judy on 8444 7783.
- ❖ **Yoga classes** Tuesdays 8-9:30pm at EF Methodist Church. Experienced teacher. Call Rosalind 8444 8134.

DANCE, DRAMA, ART & MUSIC

- ❖ **Art Classes.** For info call Henry on 020 8888 5133.
- ❖ **Ballroom dancing classes**, beginners and improvers. Phone 01707 642 378
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call 8883 7110.
- ❖ **East Finchley Writing Workshops.** Creative writing, poetry and prose Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club** - 7 & 21 Aug at 8pm, Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3. New members welcome
- ❖ **Line dancing** Tuesdays from 8.30pm at The Constitutional Club. Call Maureen 8440 8530.
- ❖ **Memory Lane Singing Club** - a communal singing club. Call Idit Gold 8458 4508.
- ❖ **Over 60s come dancing** at Ann Owens Centre 8346 8736
- ❖ **Pottery Class** at The Green Man, Call Celia Holmes 8349 9315
- ❖ **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church. Call 8883 4070 for info.
- ❖ **Street Dance** every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages Contact Lorna 07976 203669.
- ❖ **SwampRock** events: Call Carole 8810 7454 or Neil 01727 830280 www.swamprock.org.uk
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** of North London, Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
- ❖ **Tap Dance** for children beginning at Old Barn every Monday, Contact Sharon 8349 4613

CLUBS & SOCIAL

- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **East Finchley National Childbirth Trust**, Contact Jane Woollard, on 020 8883 4340
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers** meet weekly at The Old White Lion. Call Lilian 8444 1793
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn. Contact 8349 4613
- ❖ **Haringey Recorded Music Society** informal meetings locally. Call David Mouldon on 8361 1696.
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495
- ❖ **Muswell Hill and Highgate Pensioners' Action Group** Call Bob Cottingham on 8444 7635.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, contact 8883 4390
- ❖ **Old Barn pre-school club**, contact 8349 4613/1961
- ❖ **Parent & Toddler Group**, Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professionals. Call Eric 8340 0822.
- ❖ **Stepping Stones**, interactive play session for under 3's. Karen 07957 278860.



Lydia's a natural! Picture by John Dearing

Budding film star in our midst

By John Dearing

A Year 6 pupil at Martins school in East Finchley attended the premiere of a film in which she played the lead role. The film, *Emily and the Cuckoo Clock*, stars Lydia Francis, 11, and its first screening was at the Phoenix Cinema on Saturday 8 July.

Final year students from the University of Westminster made the 16-minute film. It was produced by Katherine Hunter and Richard Polloak, directed by Melanie Griffiths, edited by Pete Burton, and filmed over Easter at Stanmore, Harrow and in Spitalfields.

It's a dark fairytale in which Lydia plays Emily, a sweet 10-year-old girl who skips school to carry out grimy chores for her elderly neighbours in order to buy the perfect birthday present for her aged Grandma, an ornate cuckoo clock.

Emily's brother Max is played by Tristan Gibbs, aged 13. He will steal anything from the neighbours to make ends meet and has his eyes on Emily's precious clock. But Emily is wiser than her years and has a plan to teach the beady-eyed kid a lesson, putting a stop to his cruelty for good, so she can give Grandma that perfect gift. But there's a grim twist at the end....

Lydia beat more than 50 other girls from all over the country to get the part of Emily at her very first audition. She has attended North London Performing Arts Centre in Muswell Hill since she was seven, but has never done anything like this before. Lydia was excited about the opportunity, but concerned about making mistakes. However, most scenes involved more than one 'take', so mistakes could be rectified.

Star treatment

Filming took place over two weeks, with extra takes over a further weekend, and sound dubbing in the studio in Harrow. Some scenes were filmed in the studio, where it could get quite hot under the big lights. Lines were learnt before each take, which was easy compared to acting on the stage. Lydia enjoyed having her own dressing room, with lights all around the mirror, and make-up lady Louise attending to her.

Lydia said: "It was a very interesting experience. I learnt a lot about the whole process of film making, although sometimes it could be rather cold, filming outdoors. It was great to see the finished film and very cool to attend the preview with all my friends."

Lydia's next role is playing Margaret Thatcher in her school's Big Brother review, but more of that, later....

Sounds of the suburbs

By Linda Soper

How much of an impact did the borough of Barnet have on music? The latest exhibition at the Church Farmhouse museum looks at the history of popular music within the borough, showing a great deal of fascinating information that will keep visitors there for hours.

Local residents contributed memorabilia and information on Barnet's musical connections, including George Michael, Fairport Convention, The Kinks, Marc Bolan and Emma Bunton. There was also a bust of Mick Jagger, which was quite a good likeness.

A lot of music was played in the Torrington Arms in North Finchley and this was associated with some really good bands and musicians.

The Curator at the Museum said: "The Sounds of the Sub-

urbs exhibition aims to be just that: an evocative exploration of rock and pop music and musicians that have had connections to Barnet. While this corner of north London might not have the same effect on the music industry as Liverpool, Manchester or Nashville, you may be surprised to find out just how much of an impact Barnet has had over the last 50 years."

The exhibition goes on until 10 September at the museum in Greyhound Hill, Hendon.

What's On...

E-mail your listings to the-archer@lineone.net

Saturdays throughout August

Summer picnic concerts at **Kenwood House**, Hampstead Heath. Saturday 12 August, 7.30pm: **Ronan Keating** in concert (tickets from £27); Saturday 19 August, 7.30pm: **The Music of Motown** (tickets from £20); Saturday 26 August, 7.30pm: **Bjorn Again**, the music of Abba (tickets from £20); Sunday 27 August, 7.30pm: **Last Night of the Kenwood Proms** (tickets from £21). For all Kenwood concerts, unsold tickets will be available at the on-site box office from 2pm on the day of the concert. Book on 0870 890 0146 (£1 booking fee per ticket) or online at www.picnicconcerts.com.

Weekly from Thursday 10 August

FREE family films for the summer at the **Phoenix Cinema**, High Road. Thursday 10 August, 2pm, **The Wild** (U); Thursday 17 August, 1pm, **The Chronicles of Narnia** (PG); Thursday 24 August, 2pm, **Ice Age 2** (U); Thursday 31 August, 2pm, **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang** (U).

Tuesday 5 September

Public information meeting about new coppicing for **Coldfall Wood**; Vampires Football Clubhouse, off Coppett's Road, 8pm. See notices at gates to wood.

Off to see the wizard

By Pam Kent

Bishop Douglass school ended their year with a superb presentation of *The Wizard of Oz*, involving around 20 students.

Matinees were shown to various primary schools and a special evening performance, preceded by a barbecue, was given on Tuesday 18 July to local residents and students' families. Spirited performances by the whole cast had the audience in stitches, as the lion quivered, the tin man creaked and the scarecrow fell over his own feet.

The school came out of special measures at the beginning of the year, thanks to the hard work of headteacher Angela Murphy and her team of excellent teachers and behind-the-scenes staff. Bishop Douglass is now back on course as

one of the leading high schools in the area.

Bel Canto Singers

By Linda Soper

The Bel Canto Singers were at the East Finchley Methodist Church on Sunday 16 July. They used their voices to the best effect with excellent phrasing and sound. They made it look so effortless but anyone who's ever sung will know the work that goes into a performance.

The programme consisted of classical and modern with solos and duets so there was something for everyone. This time the collection was in aid of the Oakleigh Opportunity play scheme.

If you haven't yet been to one of these concerts then make a date in your diary. You won't be disappointed.

Is 2006 the year you learn how to surf the web and use email?

The Green Man Community Centre offers a wide range of courses to help you make the most of new technology. If you just want to learn how to use email or even get a professional qualification we have the course for you.

Learners study at their own pace with a friendly tutor on hand to offer help and advice if needed.

For more information about the courses on offer call Helen on 020 8815 0703.

The Learndirect Centre is managed in conjunction with Barnet College



Mandana gives a customer a relaxing treatment during her successful Open Day on 30th June. Her salon is based at Jennie Mann, 63a Church Lane, East Finchley. Picture by Helen Drake

Letters to the editor

Where were the movers, wheelers and groovers?

Dear Editor,

This grumpy old woman went to the East Finchley Community Festival as she has done for as long as she remembers. The sun was shining, the people thronging, the stalls were bulging, the food was enticing and the music was ... loud.

But there was no sign of the performers from The Happy Go Lucky Social Dance Group. I feel very disappointed and sad about this.

My friend, the dancer and choreographer Lesley Chowen, who has worked tirelessly over the years with this group of disabled people, told me that they were cancelled this year at very short notice.

Having worked for months and months on the routine for this much cherished 2006 performance, they found themselves abruptly cut out of the festival along with other local groups. This was a huge disruption, let alone disappointment. Buses and carers and rota systems had been worked on to make the event possible, and the Happy Go Lucky Social Dance Group will have to wait another 12 months to perform outdoors for their friends, families and carers.

I wonder whose idea it was to pull this wonderful annual event, and for what reasons? Other performing groups (NLPAC to name but one) were also cut. Instead we were treated to two live groups all at once, and however talented they were, they were in the foreground throughout. And boy, were they loud!

Yours faithfully,
Carolyn Pickles,
Address supplied

A poem for summer...

Love a Bug

By Wally Leeds

Everyone cares about the dolphins and whales,
Swans and ducks and all the wild fowls.
Twitchers twitch at the sight of rare birds,
While naturalists admire wildebeests herds.
Lions and tigers are viewed with delight,
With elephants and giraffes we gasp at the sight.
But why I ask, and I must be bold,
Are creepy crawlies left out in the cold?
Why don't we change and give it a try,
And gaze more kindly at the common fly?
Help out the spider trapped in the bath,
And tickle his tummy to make him laugh.
Invite wasps to our picnics, to feast on jam,
Encourage the ant to invade our ham.
Love the flea and make him feel good,
And scratch more gently than we normally would.
Show a woodworm that we care,
And place him carefully on our favourite chair.
Now we must learn to love the bug,
Go search the garden for a slug to hug...

Commercialism v community

Dear Editor,

Please pass my congratulations to the parties concerned for yet another very successful East Finchley Community Festival at the end of June.

Yet I would like to ask one question: where were all the dance troops and children's choirs that in previous years have been on the second stage?

It appeared to me that at times the music from both stages clashed. In previous years, it was a pleasure to sit quietly watching the youngsters enjoying themselves as they performed, and glancing around at the proud parents' faces. It really was in the spirit of a community festival.

To have a couple of DJs just blasting out music this year rather smacked of commercialism.

Yours faithfully,
Name and address supplied.

Stop and shop scheme will harm Muswell Hill

Dear Editor,

We are enclosing a copy of our objections to Haringey Council about the proposed "Stop and Shop" scheme in Muswell Hill. The letter was sent to Councillor Brian Haley, Executive Member for Environment, Haringey Council Traffic and Road Safety Group, River Park House, 1st Floor South, 255 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8HQ

Pay and Display parking scheme at £2.40 a go. How will this help Muswell Hill?

1. It will clear the streets of cars.
2. It will see the shops go from a vibrant shopping area to an area struggling to exist.
3. It will kill off the small businesses.
4. It will not even help the local residents, as CPZ will cause two-car homeowners immense difficulty in parking even near their own property.
5. Restaurants in the area will be sorely affected, as most social dining lasts more than the two-hour slot envisaged.
6. An afternoon visit to the cinema will be affected too.
7. Having brought in the Pay and Display scheme, Muswell Hill will have more than enough parking, as nobody will venture to Muswell Hill to shop. Brent Cross - here we come!
8. Why is Fortis Green Road's parking restriction so long compared with the Broadway?

Introducing a Pay and Display scheme is nothing other than another form of taxation on the motorist. Let us not lose sight of the fact that we live in a conservation area. Do we really want parking meters at regular intervals down all the streets? Not a pretty sight!

Now is the time to stop and think of the consequences of introducing a Pay and Display scheme. We may achieve easy traffic flow and adequate parking, but we will kill off the businesses that still exist, and Muswell Hill will become a backwater as shoppers and diners take their custom elsewhere. Think before it is too late.

Yours faithfully,
The staff of Hair Lab,
Fortis Green Road, N10

Any reader who feels strongly about any matter is invited to use this "Soapbox" column.

Please note that opinions expressed are those of the writer alone.



Shops that sell nothing but dreams

By Ann Bronkhorst

Betting's a fact of modern life, for some a kind of addiction and, for others, an occasional harmless amusement. I don't feel strongly about betting shops. I grew up in Newmarket, centre of British horseracing, where betting was normal. I walk past the two in the High Road without pursing my lips or averting my eyes.

But we don't need another one: not here, not now, not in the heart of East Finchley. And we're going to have one, like it or not.

A lot of people don't like it, for various reasons. At least 10 letters of objection arrived at Barnet Magistrates' Court before the cut-off date; more probably came later. Three objectors attended the hearing in person and were heard politely. But by the end of the day, Better Betting's application to run a betting office at 90-92 High Road had been granted.

So that's that. Two more 'units' become non-shops selling no goods (unless you count dreams) to a tiny proportion of residents. Nationally, only 3% of the population places bets regularly in a betting shop. Will East Finchley go betting-mad and raise it to 4%?

Apparently Better Betting hunted for premises in East Finchley for over three years. Flattering, isn't it? Makes you wonder why we're so desirable.

If you were designing your ideal village or town centre, would it boast three betting shops? Timidly I'd suggest that we could do with a butcher once again, and a bookshop, and maybe somewhere to buy everyday clothes. Once upon a time we even had a draper's...

What angers me is that we have no say about the non-shops in our High Road. Who has an overview? Certainly not the residents. Another vacant 'unit'? Surprise, surprise, yet another restaurant opens.

Our children will soon be walking past the brave new betting shop and taking it for granted, while the local branch of Gamblers' Anonymous gears up for new members.

Have you got a hot topic that East Finchley needs to know about? Get on our Soapbox by sending up to 300 words to Soapbox, The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA or by emailing the-archer@lineone.net

OBITUARY

Vic Nutting

The Archer is sad to announce the death of Albert Victor (Vic) Nutting at the age of 87, on 6 June. Vic was born in Islington and with his parents came to live in East Finchley in 1936 and was still living in the same house until he died.

Vic worked for many years at the Simms factory and had great recall of East Finchley over some 70 years. Readers may remember an ARCHER article about his survival of one of the worst troopship disasters in British Maritime history, the HMT Lancastria, which was bombed in St Nazaire Harbour on 17 June 1940 with enormous loss of life.

Our condolences go to his wife Gwen, to whom he had been married for 56 years,

their son Chris, daughter-in-law Eileen and granddaughter Charlotte.

Midhurst Butchers

Certified organic meat
at reasonable prices
Free-range poultry
Home-made sausages
(including Boerwors)

2 Midhurst Parade,
Fortis Green, London N10
Tel. 020 8883 5303

Cree Godfrey Wood Solicitors

Commissioners for Oaths

Hours: 9.30am to 5.30pm.

email: admin@creegodfreyandwood.co.uk

28 High Road, London N2 9PJ

Tel: 020 8883 9414 / 9496 / 0989

www.creegodfreyandwood.co.uk

Send your correspondence
to: "Letters Page",
The Archer, PO Box 3699,
London N2 8JA or e-mail
the-archer@lineone.net.

Letters without verifiable
contact addresses will not be
reviewed or printed.
Contact details can be withheld,
however, at publication.



Shoes, Trainers, Sandals, Bags and Luggage

Complete Repair Service by a craftsman
Same day if required

Key Cutting

1 Manor Park Rd. N2, behind 88 Church Lane, opposite Trinity Church
Tel: 07956 329 150 Open 12-8pm (not Wednesdays)

THE ARCHER

Published by East Finchley Newspapers, P.O. Box 3699, London N2 8JA. www.the-archer.co.uk



Rachel enjoying the company of young hospital patient Ouma who was in an accident leaving him with limited speech and unable to walk. Picture courtesy of Rachel Domingo.

Smiles and therapy in Kenya

Rachel Domingo is a former special needs teacher at Martin Infant School in East Finchley. Here she looks forward to a very special trip to Kenya.

I first visited Kisumu, Kenya, in the summer of 2004. I was involved in a project with students from Kings College, London, where we fundraised and helped build a school. I then organised two groups of Reading University students to raise funds for building a health centre in the local area in the summer of 2005.

Once the groups left in August, I set about volunteering as a Speech and Language Therapist, having recently graduated. I worked for the Association for the Physically Disabled of Kenya (APDK). They offer physiotherapy and occupational therapy as well as surgery to those unable to afford it themselves. They provide these services in local hospitals as well as running a mobile clinic visiting those in rural areas unable to afford the travel expense to town.

As one of only about five speech therapists in the whole of Kenya, I saw a wide range of in- and outpatients at the hospital. I also made home visits for the disabled or very poor.

I joined an Educational Assessment Team in a nearby school for children with physical disabilities. I faced some problems because of the lack of awareness of what speech therapy is and what speech difficulties are. Consequently, people with speech difficulties were seen to be stupid or were simply not understood.

Although there were differing views on disability many professionals I met were very aware of disability issues and challenged stereotypes. There was also a lack of resources (assessments, games, pictures etc) which made effective therapy difficult and many patients were unable to afford the transport every week.

In August I am going to Kisumu again for six weeks. I feel energised, and my experience will help me offer a better service to the local people. I am very lucky to be partly sponsored by the Dunedin Hospital in Reading, the town where I trained. I am also very lucky to have been accepted into the local community in Kisumu and to have met so many inspirational people.

Photo Restoration

Your old photos restored to their former glory -

- Anything from rips and creases to unwanted content (including people) removed
- Faded colours restored
- Missing sections rebuilt*

FROM £20

Call 07821 234971
for details or a free estimate

STEWART DUNCAN

OPTICIANS, SINCE 1962

- EYE EXAMINATIONS
- DESIGNER EYEWEAR
- CONTACT LENSES
- LATE NIGHT
- DYSLEXIA CLINIC
- DVLA APPROVED
- OLD FASHIONED SERVICE

020 8883-2020
126 HIGH ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY



Specialist Sun-Care Products & Advice

Scholl Sandals Many Styles Reduced

DIGITAL PHOTO SERVICE

- ① PRINTS FROM DIGITAL MEDIA
- ② PHOTOS ON CD

C.W. Andrew Pharmacy

32 High Road N2 Tel: 020 8883 1559

How en-deering!

By Craig Johnson

One of our most treasured areas of local woodland is home to a thriving population of stunning Muntjac deer.

Originating in China, Muntjac were introduced to Woburn Park in Bedfordshire in the early 1900s. Escapees during the past century have successfully reproduced in the wild and created significant populations across many parts of the south of England, including Golders Hill Park.

Muntjac deer are 45-50cm tall and weigh only 12-15kg. They usually feed on bark

and vegetation in sheltered areas of dense woodlands. Their breeding is continuous throughout the year, with a gestation period of approximately seven months. The young fawn will usually be weaned by its mother for a further eight weeks before becoming fully independent.

The best time to see the deer at Golders Hill is shortly after sunset each evening.



New Born Muntjac Deers at Golders Hill Park this summer.

Picture by Craig Johnson

Can you help us with distribution?

The Archer needs volunteer distributors for The Grange (several rounds), Deansway, Bancroft Avenue, Denison Close, Great North Road and Long Lane (north end).

Each round takes approx 30-45 mins to deliver each month.
For details please call 020 8883 0433
or email distribution@the-archer.co.uk



SECUREBASE

DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY

Est 1988

CCTV
Access Control

Intercom Systems

Intruder Alarms

Locks Doors

Safes Grilles

+ EMERGENCY LOCKSMITHS

WHY NOT HAVE
Your Security Problems Solved!
A FREE ALARM SURVEY



0800 279 0792

112 High Rd • East Finchley • London N2

www.securebase.co.uk