



Glad rags: Owner Gaynor Spry, left, with friend Nancy Candlin modelling a selection of clothes from Lazooli. Photo by Viviana Lotti

Ready to wear

By Viviana Lotti

The first clothes shop in East Finchley for many years held its official opening party on 2 December. Lazooli, situated in the High Road near the tube station, stocks brand new, vintage and retro women's clothing, as well as jewellery and accessories. There are also plans to sell artwork in the near future.

The shop is owned by Gaynor Spry, an East Finchley resident of some seven years and originally a book editor. "I loved publishing," she said, "but when you've done it for 10 years it doesn't pose the challenges it used to."

Inspiration for her new career came when she visited a very beautiful clothes shop and thought, "This is lovely, I could really get excited about this."

Gaynor praised the helpfulness of her retail contacts, family and friends, who attended the party to support her in her new venture. She also paid tribute to the building team for refurbishing her shop to a very high standard in record time.

How did Gaynor come up with the shop's name? She

explained: "Lazooli was a word I made up as a child. I thought 'lapis lazuli' was pronounced 'lapis lazooli', and I also thought the stone was gorgeous. The name and the stone conjured up an exotic image of gems and treasures."

The shop's decor feels luxurious and welcoming: turquoise walls with gold patterned wallpaper in the alcoves, discreet modern lighting and dark wooden flooring. The stock has various sources, including Portobello and Camden Lock markets, with the jewellery made locally. A wide range of sizes will be catered for and, as the mother of a three-year-old boy, Gaynor has ensured the shop is child-friendly, with plenty of room for pushchairs.

A new treat in Church Lane

By Erini Rodis

Situated among the gifts and flowers of Jennie Mann's shop in Church Lane is a discreet little beauty room, run by beauty therapist Mandana Moghaddam.

Opened towards the end of last year, it is designed as a retreat for stressed-out mums or anyone who wants to truly pamper herself.

Mandana says, "The aim is that they'll find the atmosphere more enjoyable than usual. It's a bit like a micro department store in the middle of Church Lane. I used to buy myself flowers, so I hope my customers will be also interested in Jennie Mann."

An East Finchley resident until recently, Mandana's career spans two decades working in central London, including Belgravia, Selfridges and Harley Street, even doing non-surgical face lift treatments.

Loving this area as well as the atmosphere at Jennie Mann, she decided to approach the owners for a collaborative project. Before long their stock room was converted into a beauty salon and a mutually beneficial arrangement was born.

It's now possible to browse through high-calibre artistic flower arrangements, curiosities and hand made crafts, while deciding on a treatment.

All the usual beauty treatments are on offer, from waxing and hair removal, to eyelash and eyebrow tinting and shaping, facials and manicures, plus a very popular Swedish massage



Mandana gets a bit handy... Photo by Erini Rodis

covering neck, face and toes.

Prices are £10 for eyebrow shaping, facials from £35 and massage from £45. However, there's an introductory offer of

10% off these prices until the end of January for all readers of *THE ARCHER*, so why not treat yourself? To book, call Mandana on 020 8447 0854 or 07764 227767

Angelic performance

By Linda Soper

Children from the Hornsey Trust for Children with Cerebral Palsy, based in Muswell Hill, put on a delightful play in December telling the story of the Angel leading the way to the young Jesus.

It was a really original tale of the nativity, and was performed

to trustees, then again to parents. Eliz Mehmet was well cast as the Angel; her smiling face shone rays of inspiration to everyone.

All of the cast worked really hard and were focused, giving excellent performances. The children sang songs and had no trouble remembering their lines. Any disabilities were

forgotten as they performed like professionals.

There was audience participation and carols were sung. It was a very uplifting experience, particularly seeing the children demonstrating their walking skills and knowing how hard they worked to make the show a success.

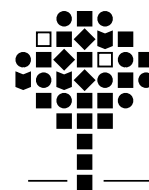
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