



# Library swap

By Daphne Chamberlain

Don't be surprised if younger people around East Finchley suddenly become very interested in New Zealand. That's where our popular Children's and Youth Librarian for the last nine years, Rachel Reilly, will be working until the end of March. She is doing a job swap, exchanging with Jolene West from South Auckland.

Job exchanges, once quite common in the library world, rarely happen nowadays. In fact, Barnet Council told *THE ARCHER* that they can't remember another one in this borough, but Councillor John Marshall, Cabinet Member for Learning Infrastructure, believes that exchanges benefit both the staff involved and the users of the library. He says: "We have a range of services that are always increasing, and having staff with this kind of experience will help us develop innovative and exciting projects to attract residents to Barnet's libraries."

Rachel will be working in Otara, at Tupu, New Zealand's only Youth Library, which was built in 2001 to serve a largely Maori and Pacific Island population. It might be the other side of the world, but we can check the library notice board to see how she is getting on.

Polly Napper, of the East Finchley Library Users Group, whose children are among Rachel's customers, told us: "This sounds exciting. She's an absolutely excellent librarian."

She works so hard promoting the service in local schools, and all the kids love her. I hope she has a fantastic time."

Jolene has already popped in to Barnet before doing a bit more travelling. Cllr Marshall says she "has forsaken her New Zealand summer to work in East Finchley. So please give her a friendly welcome to cheer her up through the winter months."



East Finchley library's Rachel Reilly will have to get used to some different library activities like this Samoan dance workshop during her time at Tupu library in New Zealand. Photograph courtesy of Jade Asije

# Hockey teams aim for goal flood

By Duncan Hooper

Winter has arrived in East Finchley and many residents are spending their Saturdays trotting over to Brent Cross to buy warm clothes and early Christmas presents. Not so Ankeet Khimasia, Dave Evans and Marc Scut who, armed with 36.5 inches of carbon composite stick, make the short journey to Whitefields School, North Finchley, to play hockey.

Their club, Mill Hill, draws its players from across north London to compete in leagues stretching across Middlesex, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. The men's

firsts, despite a disappointing relegation from the premier league last season, are hoping to bounce straight back. And although some of the team seem to have attained the perfect bouncing physique over the summer, Captain Pete Lazlett has set his hopes high.

"What we're looking for is a bit of climate change," he said. "Last year we had a bit of a drought up front but this season we're aiming for a goal flood."

With club record goal scorer Ryan Schlanders hobbling about up front as lethal as ever, and a defence so experienced they still pay their match fees in shillings, promotion nevertheless remains a real possibility.

### Women on the up

As for the ladies, both sides have a stronger platform to build on than their male counterparts with the second team earning a well-deserved promotion last year and the firsts picking up from a disappointing start to finish comfortably mid table.

All the teams welcome new players and anyone wishing to get involved can contact duncanhooper@hotmail.com or simply turn up to training at Compton Astroturf, off Summers Lane, North Finchley, on Wednesdays from 8pm.

# Christmas party invitation

By Daphne Chamberlain

Are you 60 years old or more? Do you live in the area immediately around Bishop Douglass School: Hamilton, Manor Park or Brackenbury Roads, Sedgemere Avenue, Briar Close, the Thomas More Estate, or that particular bit of East End Road?

If so, Year 10 pupils of Bishop Douglass School are inviting you to a Christmas party on Wednesday 12 December.

Be at the school between 6pm and 6.30pm for a welcoming glass of sherry, followed by a full three-course dinner with wine at 7pm. Then settle back to enjoy entertainment, plus a bingo session, and presents from Father Christmas. The school will organise transport

for anyone who needs it.

The pupils themselves have arranged fund-raising events throughout the year to pay for the party. They are organising the whole event, and will greet and wait on their guests. If you are a senior citizen local to the school, please let them know if you would like to attend, telling them of any special requirements. Telephone 020 8444 6690, preferably before the end of November.



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# KALASHNIKOV KULTUR

By Ricky Savage, the voice of social irresponsibility

## Purge and control

In the weird world of shock horror headlines, anything goes. The Morning Mule has caused apoplexy by announcing that the complaining classes are drinking more Californian Chardonnay than is good for them. This can only mean one thing: the moral elephants have run out of easy targets.

It used to be easy for your average moral elephant: just go out, find out what the poor people are doing and stop them doing it. Now they're trampling over everything in the name of God, justice and the middle class way of life. Then it's time for the ground glass and vitriol letters demanding the return of flogging and a total ban on fun. The biter's getting bit and I can't stop laughing.

It's a long time since the sanctimonious got clobbered by the moral elephants. Normally they can drive through life in their four-wheel drives, double parking outside schools and complaining that smoking a cigarette in the same country as their perfect child is tantamount to murder. Not any more. Now you can light up in front of them and when they complain ask them how much wine they drink. Next time they complain about you knocking back a four pack of 'Old Brain Death' you can point out that South African wine is just as bad.

The hypocrites who talk about 'responsible drinking' and sneer at you for checking out the best value beer offers before settling down to watch the football have had it coming for a long time. Not everyone wants to drink Californian Chardonnay and they certainly don't want to be told off for having a fridge full of beer. So to see the elephants turning on each other and bickering about how much wine they are allowed to drink is enough to put a smile on anyone's face. Yes, the sanctimonious classes are getting it now. Revenge is sweet and mine's a pint.



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