



Fred Pentland Firth, WWII veteran in front of the statue. Photograph by Sheila Armstrong

Naked Lady back in the spotlight

By Sheila Armstrong

The great and the good of the Borough gathered together on 9 September for a short ceremony to unveil an information plaque next to the well known 'Naked Lady' statue just off the North Circular. The statue was first erected to celebrate the Allied victory in the first Battle of the Marne in 1914 and also to commemorate the second Battle in 1918.

Eight thousand people attended the original ceremony in 1927, when the statue was unveiled by the then Prime Minister Lloyd George. Not quite as many were there on a hot Sunday in September but it was a good turnout including the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Barnet Martin Russell, the Mayor Maureen Braun, council leader Mike Freer, members of the Finchley Society, who were instrumental in the research for the project, representatives of the army and air force cadets

and other interested parties.

The statue by French sculptor Emile Guillaume was bought by Lord Rothermere, owner of the Daily Mail, when he saw it exhibited in the Paris Salon in 1920. He donated it to the then Borough of Finchley in 1927.

Robert Winton, chair of the Finchley Society, told *THE ARCHER* that they had plans to install plaques with information about other local landmarks. The plaques will be paid for from the Peggy Wells Bequest.

Secure your home against burglary

Barnet Borough Watch have advice for all of us on home security. "Look at your house as though you were a burglar. If you lose your door key and you can think of a way in, then so can a burglar. They choose the building that provides the easiest opportunity, such as an open downstairs window or a spare key under the outside mat. Burglars don't want to get caught; they want to steal your property."

Outside doors are safest when fitted with a five-lever mortice deadlock. You can buy these in most DIY shops; check there's a British Standard kite mark and the words five-lever on the facing plate. If your external door is less than 44mm thick, get a high security rim deadlock.

Door hinges should be sturdy and secured with good long screws; consider reinforcing the hinge side of the door with hinge bolts. When replacing your whole door, consider a fibreglass door with a sturdy frame.

Glass should be toughened and laminated. Beading should be glued and fixed with security screws. On modern double glazed units ensure the beading is not on the outside. Fit a restrictor to the inside of your letterbox to stop anyone reaching through to release locks and bolts, and a peephole, or viewer, to see who's knocking before opening the door. All doors locked from the inside should be fitted with mortice security bolts, one third from the top and bottom of the door. Fit additional security locks at the top and bottom of patio

Prost! Sausage and song at our own Oktoberfest

Prepare for a lively festival of food, drink and music this month when East Finchley grabs its very own slice of Germany by hosting its first Oktoberfest.

The event takes place over the weekend of 19-21 October at the Constitutional Club on The Walks.

Organiser Martin O'Donnell is promising a range of more than 20 British and German real ales and beers, as well as Schnapps, fine wines, a German sausage barbecue and live music each evening.

Visitors to the Oktoberfest in Munich consume one million sausages, half a million chick-

ens and 1,000 roast knuckles of pork, washed down with six million litres of beer. "Our festival will be on a somewhat smaller scale but will be just as much fun," says Martin.

Another feature of the weekend will be a "stammtisch", literally voice table. A regular feature of southern German pubs, this is usually the largest table in the bar and you sit at it if you want to talk to people but are on your own. Everyone is welcome and the discussion

can go in any direction.

The Oktoberfest is part of the I ♥ N2 campaign, aimed at encouraging people to live, shop and relax in East Finchley.

A temporary monthly membership of the Constitutional Club can be purchased on the festival weekend for just £5. For up to date information on club events, visit efclub.btik.com or email martin@eastfinchley.co.uk if you would like to have a look around the club.

100 years young

By Daphne Chamberlain

Friends and neighbours celebrated with Church Lane's senior resident in August. Jean Henry reached her 100th birthday in great style. As she cut the cake, made by one of her neighbours, she reminded us that it was actually her third one. The whole month had been a party, with relations coming over from New Zealand.

"It was an extended birthday," she said, "but it's all gone very smoothly. Now I can just sit back and thank everyone."

Sitting back is not a way of life to associate with Miss Henry, who has travelled several times to New Zealand herself, most recently four years ago.

Alert and energetic, she has the smiling eyes of Ireland, where she grew up. Her parents had moved there from Edinburgh, and she worked in Dublin for some time. Ironically, when she came to East Finchley in 1937, it was only going to be for a few months. Now, 70 years later, she has received a card and congratulations from the Irish President as well as from the Queen.

There was no speech to go with the cake. "I'm no good at public delivery," she told us, "but I can tell a good story in private."

A very happy 101st year, Miss Henry!



Jean Henry cuts her 100th birthday cake. Photo by Daphne Chamberlain

Truly international

By Manorside headteacher Steve Hilborne

Manorside Primary School has been awarded the coveted International School Award. Only the second school in Barnet to win this award, it represents the culmination of several years of international activities at Manorside. The full award, presented by the British Council, is given to those schools which demonstrate that such activities are an integral part of the everyday curriculum.

Manorside, in Squires Lane, N3, has forged links with schools and children in Thailand, Canada, South Africa, Morocco and the Gambia over recent years. This two-way exchange has benefited the children by enriching their experience and widening their understanding of other cultures. It's simply made the world a much smaller place.

Manorside held its first International Week this year, which was brilliantly supported by parents and the wider community. The children were involved in music, art and dance from all around the globe. They enjoyed foods from every continent and

made the world come alive in their classrooms.

French is taught across all junior classes, a headteacher from Thailand has paid a visit, and members of staff have travelled to Asia, Africa and North America to study education and culture.

Putting Internationalism at the centre of school life at Manorside has been proved to raise standards, achievement and motivation. It's been a great way to get the whole school and the community working together. We've also made some great friends and some lasting relationships along the way.