



Five-year-old cerebral palsy sufferer Claire Browne (left) with twin sister Samantha. Picture courtesy The Hornsey Trust.

Cycling fund-raiser for Hornsey Trust

Round Tablers from England, Holland and Germany are joining forces this summer by cycling from Holland to Germany to raise much-needed funds for The Hornsey Trust, the specialist centre for children with cerebral palsy in Muswell Hill.

Brainchild of local solicitor John Martin, a trustee of the charity, the event is gathering momentum. Cyclists aim to raise a total of £30,000 for the centre. The route from the Dutch coast to Bielefeld will take a week to complete.

"We wish the cyclists well," said Jim Thompson, Chief Executive of The Hornsey Trust. "Each child here struggles to take small steps that are easy for you or me and each year we need to raise at least £200,000 to keep going, which is a tall order. That's why events like Cycle Holland are so important to us."

To sponsor the cyclists, contact John Martin or visit Cycle Holland's website www.rideforchildren.org.uk.

The Hornsey Trust is also searching for tough guys and gals to take part in a Military 10k Fitness challenge on Saturday 27 October. Entry is free but sponsorship of £300 or more is requested. For details or an entry form, email anna@hornseytrust.org.uk or telephone 020 8444 7242.

Ashes to ashes

By Diana Cormack

A litter bin outside Pacey's the newsagent at 103 High Road was destroyed by fire at the beginning of August.

One of the shopkeepers told THE ARCHER that it had happened overnight. He believed it could have been caused by a discarded cigarette from a smoker at the nearby bus stop or outside the

Gertie Browne's public house. With little or no provision for the disposal of cigarette butts, some smokers who now have to smoke outside are littering local pavements with them. Coincidentally, this is the moment when Barnet has seen fit to move Colin, our dependable street cleaner for over 11 years, to North Finchley.

Growing together with school allotment project

By Diana Cormack

Exactly a year ago Martin Junior and Martin Infant Schools got together for their first linked project. After discussion it was agreed that they would develop the area at the end of the large school sports field as an allotment. This piece of land was not used for sports because it has a slight slope, which would be helpful for drainage in what, at times, is boggy soil.

Towards the end of February this year a small group of parents, children, caretakers and teachers worked together to dig the allotments. During the Easter holiday wooden borders were built around each allotment to contain the soil. All the classes were given an order form to request the types of plants, seeds, watering cans



Nursery children with their teacher Kate Wards and scarecrow.

Photo by Diana Cormack

and tools they wanted. A large range of flowers, vegetables and fruit was chosen, for which some seeds were propagated in the classrooms, while others were planted straight into the ground.

In May, as the plants began to grow, the allotments came under attack from various pests. To ward them off, the children covered the allotments with swinging CDs and plastic bags; they also put up a scarecrow. The nursery even used egg shells and human hair to discourage uninvited guests. Continuing the learning proc-

ess, the young gardeners looked at different ways to feed the plants, using manure and compost to make them produce lots of vegetables, flowers and fruit.

Now the children are looking forward to harvesting and eating their own home-grown produce. They will be able to prepare salads and sandwiches for themselves, and the school kitchen staff are ready to help with anything that needs cooking. This successful venture bodes well for the future as the two schools embark on the new academic year as one.

Space Youth Café to raise funds for Bobath Centre

The Space Youth Café is organising a sponsored walk on September 22nd in aid of the Bobath Centre, which treats children with cerebral palsy.

The young people taking part will walk the five miles to Barnet Brookside Church and then be driven back to the café for a meal and a sleepover.

The recently opened fair-trade café at East Finchley Methodist Church is a safe place for young people aged between 11 and 16 to chill out every Friday night during term time. The café is open to Christians and non-Christians alike. "The young people are quite socially minded and wanted to do something that would help other young people," explained Kirsty Middlemist, who runs the café.

Anyone interested in taking part in the walk, sponsoring a walker or coming along to the café should contact Kirsty on 07879 840817 or at

youthfandh@aol.com.

"We are delighted that the Space Youth Café has chosen to support us," said Kevin Gillespie, the organiser of the Bobath Fun Run, which takes place a few days later on September 30th. To support the Fun Run contact Kevin on 020 8442 2276.

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