



Pauline Moran's garden. Photo by Sheila Armstrong

Bloomin' marvellous

By Sheila Armstrong

East Finchley has two winners in this year's Barnet in Bloom competition. Pauline Moran, of Juliana Close, won the Most Innovative Garden Category with her wonderfully colourful garden, complete with wind chimes and larger than life butterflies and ladybirds. Pauline, who has taken up gardening only fairly recently, told *THE ARCHER* that her success was due to Baby Bio and a certain amount of luck.

School caretaker Tristan Green, no stranger to the Barnet in Bloom competition, has transformed the Martin School gardens and won the Best School Gardens title in the process. He not only created an allotment style garden for each class at the back of the field but also cleared the overgrown pond, now home to 25 newts. There are plans to

set up a nature trail in a wooded part of the field. The school's gardens are totally organic and they compost their green waste. The school hopes to extend the use of the field and may even get some chickens.

All Barnet's finalists are entered into the London in Bloom competition, which takes place later this year.

Children make it easy being green

Over the past year, learning about conservation and the environment has been a particular focus for the children at Brookland Infant and Nursery School. This has included making posters, books and leaflets about recycling, and writing to Barnet Council about litter in the local area.

A member of Barnet's Waste and Sustainability team came to the school to talk to the children about the importance of recycling and how they can help. Pupils then began recycling paper at school and encouraging their families to use the black boxes at home for recycling items such as newspapers, bottles, cans, clothes and shoes.

The Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Maureen Braun, visited the school to celebrate

the children's achievements and to present the school with a certificate.

Headteacher Sheila Abbott said: "We are absolutely delighted to have had the opportunity to take part in the Barnet Recycling Challenge. I am so proud of the effort all the children have made."

East Finchley Arts Festival: a preview

By Festival Director, Geoffrey Hanson

A particular delight of this year's East Finchley Arts Festival will be the concert to be given by world famous soprano and early music specialist Emma Kirkby accompanied by the English Consort of Viols. Emma, recently made a Dame in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, hasn't far to come from her home in Muswell Hill to perform at All Saints' Church in Durham Road, where most Festival events are held.

Elgar in Miniature is the title of the opening concert, a tribute to Elgar in his 150th birthday year. The London Ripieno Society, conducted by Festival Director Geoffrey Hanson, concentrate on the small scale and lighter works of the great English composer. *Salut d'amour*, *Chanson Triste*, *Songs from the Bavarian Highlands* and the *Violin Sonata* all feature. If a local connection is needed, Elgar lived for a time in Hampstead and his amanuensis Jaeger, immortalized in the Enigma Variations as *Nimrod*, lived in Muswell Hill.

Two evenings later the London Mozart Players will premiere Hanson's new Piano Concerto, written especially for local pianist Rimantas Vingras.

Martin Primary School are hosting a Recorder Day for children directed by recorder specialist Alan Davis. June Peters will have a story and music for children in the church garden whilst the evergreen, ever-popular Finchley Children's Music Group make their usual appearance.

Jennifer Bate will play a programme of accessible organ music in her lunch hour recital and the acclaimed young members of the Fidelio Piano Quartet return to the Festival with a programme of Mozart, Schumann and Brahms. Jazz lovers will welcome the return of Dave Burman and his London Vintage Jazz Orchestra and the lunch hour recital given by Patrick Naylor and Tim Robinson playing jazz standards and originals by Patrick on guitars.

Drama features with Bruce

Purchase in John Wain's play *Johnson is leaving*. Poets Fleur Adcock and Elaine Feinstein will read from their own work and Rivers of Babylon, a group of singers and instrumentalists, will perform Iraqi Jewish, Arabic, Bene Israel, vintage Bollywood and Israeli songs.

Throughout the Festival there will be an Exhibition of

Art in aid of the North London Hospice.

Full details of the Arts Festival are at www.eastfinchleyartsfestival.org.uk.

Brochures will be delivered throughout East Finchley early in September but should you be missed ring 020 8444 9214 and we will post a brochure to you.

Festival programme:

MUSIC

- Thurs 4 Oct: 7.30pm London Ripieno Society: *Elgar in Miniature*
- Fri 5 Oct: 7.30pm Songs of Enchantment: Emma Kirkby & The English Consort of Viols
- Sat 6 Oct: 12.30pm Lunch Hour Recital: Jennifer Bate - Organ
- Sat 6 Oct: 7.30pm London Mozart Players with Rimantas Vingras - Piano
- Sun 7 Oct: 7.30pm Finchley Children's Music Group
- Thurs 11 Oct: 7.30pm Rivers of Babylon
- Sat 13 Oct: 12.30pm Lunch Hour Recital: Patrick Naylor & Tim Robinson - Guitars
- Sat 13 Oct: 7.30pm Fidelio Piano Quartet
- Sun 14 Oct: 7.30pm London Vintage Jazz Orchestra

POETRY

Wed 10 Oct: 7.30pm Fleur Adcock & Elaine Feinstein read from their work.

DRAMA

Fri 12 Oct: 7.30pm Bruce Purchase in '*Johnson is Leaving*'.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

- Tues 9 Oct: 7.30pm Recorder Day with Alan Davis at Martin Primary School
- Sun 14 Oct: 11.30am Children's Story Time with internationally-known storyteller June Peters in church garden if fine, in church hall if wet.

ART EXHIBITION

Throughout the Festival, by London & International Artists in aid of the North London Hospice. Open Evening Wed 3 Oct: 6.30pm-8.30pm. Open during Rehearsals, evening performances and weekends between 11am and 5pm.

All events, except recorder day, held at All Saints' Church, Durham Road, N2
Box Office: Les Aldrich, 98 Fortis Green Road, N10 tel: 8883 5631
Advance Booking opens Monday Sept 3rd.
www.eastfinchleyartsfestival.org.uk

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