



YOUNG ARCHER



Magnificent seven: left to right, Rebecca, Deborah, Cecilia, James, Megan, Abigail and Gabrielle.
Photo by John Lawrence

Magnificent seven in show-business together

Five young cousins and their mums are staging a children's comedy show at the Finchley Youth Theatre. Billed as a bit like *The Wizard of Oz* but much wackier, *The Fart and Burp Show* is ideal for families with children up to the age of 11, though everyone is welcome.

The show has been written by 11-year-old Megan Whelan and her mum Cecilia Holmes, a comedy performer, who live in Park Farm Close. Acting talent, dance skills, costumes and stage management are being supplied by Megan's cousins Abigail, 13, Deborah, 11, Gabrielle, nine, James, five, and their mother Rebecca Fuller, all from Woodhouse Road, N12.

"*The Fart and Burp Show* is about an outbreak of piggy 'flu that affects the children of Finchley," said Cecilia. "There is a pongy smell and strange noises coming from the children's lips. Armed with water pistols, the residents of Finchley go on a quest to find

the source of the outbreak. The suspected monster is seen lurking in the bushes as the mystery unfolds."

The seven performers often act and dance at home but this will be the first time they have worked together on stage. If the show is a success, they plan to take it to the Edinburgh Festival, where children's shows are in short supply.

Their show will be on at the Finchley Youth Theatre, 142 High Road, N2, on Saturday 27 February at 7.30pm. Tickets priced £7 for adults and £5 for children (under-threes are free) are available from Cecilia on 07533 750400 or ceciliaholmes@btinternet.com.

Festivals and feastings at Martin

Primary

Martin Primary School gave parents and children the chance to have a small 'taste' of three different festivals celebrated by families within the local community.

The festival of Eid ul Adha fell over the final weekend of November, Hannukah was celebrated over the second week of December, and Christmas around the World was celebrated at the school during the final week of the term.

At each after-school event, parents and staff contributed dishes of the speciality foods that typify each festival. Everyone else came to enjoy and sample them, indulging in succulent lamb cooked with onions and almonds, spicy samosas, sweet jammy doughnuts and savoury latkes, Panetoni, mince pies and

mulled wine

The events were an opportunity to value, appreciate and share in the celebrations of some of the communities in the East Finchley area and to learn about the stories and meanings remembered at each festival, against a background of music from the different cultures represented.

A common thread was evident: the role of 'the feast' in drawing families together for a time of sharing. At Martin Primary School 'the feast' has proved to be a successful way of drawing communities together.

School of rock is back

Up-and-coming bands and musicians are being sought to take part in this year's Barnet Rock School. Following the success of last year's Great Rock 'n Roll Circus gig, the school kicks off again this month.

An artsdepot concert in March will again be the climax of the three-week performance course run by Barnet Council's Youth and Connexions and Music Service. It gives young bands and musicians aged 13-19 living in Barnet the chance to develop their performance skills with experienced musicians.

Individual musicians who want to get a group together can apply for the course, as well as bands that have already formed. The course allows musicians and vocalists time to rehearse at a professional studio in preparation for their individual 20-30 minute long

performances.

Barnet Rock School will run over February half term in a series of daily rehearsal sessions from Monday 15 to Friday 19 February at Downs Sounds Studios in New Southgate followed by three final rehearsals on Saturdays 27 February, 6 March and 13 March in preparation for the 19 March grand finale event.

The Great Rock 'n Roll Circus will be filmed and each band will receive a DVD of the gig. If you are interested in taking part, contact Rock@barnet.gov.uk, or call 020 8359 6310.

Vote for a classic film

Mini Cinema is a new film club in Highgate where you get to choose the movie. Classic film-lovers can vote for what they'd like to watch by email or on the Mini Cinema Facebook page.

The winning film gets screened on the second Monday of each month at the cosy pub The Boogaloo at 312 Archway Road, a two-minute walk from Highgate tube station. Previously screened classics include *Roadhouse*, *Top Gun*, *Gremlins*, *The Shining*, *Bugsy Malone*, *Footloose* and *The Breakfast Club*.

Tickets are £2 and include free popcorn and a free raffle. There are cheap bar prices, comfortable seating and a candle-lit atmosphere. To reserve a table, email hann.haha@gmail.com

Positive pictures of old age

"A positive picture of older generations: challenging stereotypes" is Age Concern Barnet's 2010 photography competition, open to all 11 to 19-year-olds in the London Borough of Barnet. The charity says the aim of the competition is to challenge stereotypes younger people may have of older people and to encourage positive interaction between the generations.

Amongst the winners and runner-up prizes will be a signed Barnet Football Club shirt and passes to Hollywood Bowl. A prize of £100 to spend at B&Q on plants and gardening equip-

ment will go to the school or college attended by the overall winning entrant.

There are two categories for the competition: 11 to 14-year-olds and 15 to 19-year-olds. There will be a winner and runner up prize for each category. One of the two winning entrants will be chosen as an overall winner. Entrants are encouraged to interpret the theme widely.

Entries must be received by Thursday 24 June 2010 and winners will be announced on Thursday 8 July 2010. For an entry form and full information about the competition please contact Lisa Dubow on 020 8432 1417 or email lisa-finchley.acb@btconnect.com. Entry forms and full information can also be downloaded from www.ageconcernbarnet.org/calendar/photographycompetition2010.

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All Saints' Church, Durham Road, East Finchley Church of England

Sunday masses at 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m.

Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.

Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

The Parish has a flourishing social life.
Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy,
on 020 8883 9315.

All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir of both adults and children.

Experienced singers are always welcome.

Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>