



## New home for advice service

By David Miller, secretary, East Finchley Advice Service  
After nearly 30 years working from 42 Church Lane, East Finchley Advice Service has now relocated to the Green Man Community Centre in Strawberry Vale. Barnet Council's lease on the Church Lane building has expired and we have been forced to find other premises.

Although records for the early period are incomplete, we reckon we have probably had over 50,000 client visits and interviews at Church Lane, tackling welfare benefits, debt, housing and other problems.

### Opening times to change

The move represents new challenges to the staff and volunteers who work for EFAS. One likely change is that we will have to restrict the opening times for client visits, largely due to the significant reduction in funding for the centre from Barnet and other sources.

Shortage of funds is affecting many local charities, but we are determined to continue providing a quality service from our new office, which is still fairly close to Church Lane and also near a fair number of our existing clients. We will continue to look for new sources of funding to ensure our survival in the future.

### Calling for volunteers

Although we have a loyal and dedicated team of advisers, we would welcome additional volunteers to advise on welfare and debt issues in particular, for which training would be provided. In addition, we operate regular legal sessions run by qualified solicitors and, again, extra volunteers would be very useful.

If any readers are interested in the possibility of working with us, or in receiving information about our work, please contact Ruby Joseph (telephone number 020 8444 6265) or email [help@efas.org.uk](mailto:help@efas.org.uk)

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## Local film-makers scoop awards at Monaco festival

By Sheila Armstrong

Artists and film-makers Denise Wyllie and Clare O'Hagan won two awards at Monaco's 2010 Angel Film Festival for their film *First Darkness*. The Angel Film Festival promotes non-violent films.

In the Short Film category they won Best Art Film and Best Original Music. "It's great to know that our work is appreciated on the international film festival scene," the East Finchley duo told *THE ARCHER*. The film will now be shown on the festival circuit for the next year.

*First Darkness* is a jewel of a film. It charts the progress of someone's grief through the seasons, starting in winter with its sombre landscape and feelings. Gradually a lifting of the spirits comes as the seasons move through spring to summer.

Denise and Clare use a unique combination of film and painted images, based on Denise's paintings of Dollis Brook and Cherry Tree Wood. The sympathetic musical score by Simon Wilkinson heightens the mood of this unusual and innovative film.

### Encouragement from David Jason

While at the film festival they were delighted to meet another Barnet star, David Jason, who was making his directorial debut with his short film *All The Way Up*. The TV actor, who started acting with the local Incognito Theatre group in the 1950s, was also in Monaco to receive a lifetime achievement award but he made time to talk with and encourage Clare and Denise. (See our picture on page 1.)

Veterans of short films, Denise and Clare's work has been screened at film festivals internationally, (check them out on [www.youtube.com/wyllieohagan](http://www.youtube.com/wyllieohagan)). Both are well-known painters and have worked on commissions and residencies here and abroad.

Find out more at [www.wyllieohagan.com](http://www.wyllieohagan.com), where you can also see an interview with David Jason about his winning film, and view RivieraLife TV's rundown on the festival.

## Kinks make a comeback to The Clissold

By Angela Anderson

Kinks songwriter Ray Davies and drummer Mick Avory made a return trip to The Clissold Arms in Fortis Green in December to celebrate the naming of the Kinks Room.

The pub has long been a magnet for loyal Kinks fans making the pilgrimage to north London to see the first venue the group played. But in recent years much of the memorabilia of the stars has disappeared from view.

The new room puts that right. On display is a signed copy of the Kinks' first single, which was a cover of Little Richard's Long Tall Sally; a guitar; a wall of photographs; and a small brass plaque that reads: "Site of 1957 performing debut of Ray and Dave Davies, founding members of the Kinks."

### TV documentary

The opening evening linked to the BBC1 documentary *Imaginary Man*, in which Alan Yentob interviewed Ray Davies about his career and visited various north London spots associated with The Kinks, including the Clissold Arms.

Ray and Mick watched the programme in the pub alongside their fans. The music (Kinks' songs, naturally) was

provided by Simeon Perlin.

### A life in music

In the programme Ray talked about his school days, forming the group with brother Dave and early gigs in and around their home in Muswell Hill before reaching international stardom with hit singles *You Really Got Me*, *Waterloo Sunset* and *Lola* along with many other songs now regarded as classics.

Ray was interviewed at his school, now known as Fortismere, and there were photos of him and Dave with their siblings as children. They grew up with a variety of music being played in the house, that of their parents' generation as well as the jazz and early rock and roll enjoyed by their older sisters.

In 1990, their first year of eligibility, the original four members of The Kinks were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame as well as the UK Music Hall of Fame in November 2005. It was good to see their beginnings celebrated where it all started.



Anum in her swimming kit representing Pakistan.

## Teenage swimmer competes in Dubai

Barnet Cophthall Swimming Club has another international swimmer. Thirteen-year-old Anum Bandey, who lives in the High Road, was selected to represent Pakistan in the World Short Course Championships in Dubai.

British-born Anum, a pupil at Fortismere School, whose father is a dual national, competed in eight events over the five-day championship in December: 50m, 100m and 200m breast stroke; 200m and 400m freestyle, and 100m, 200m and 400m individual medley. Among her times were 38:13 seconds for the 50m and 1 min 13.65 seconds for the 100m individual medley.

Head coach Rhys Gormley

commented: "It is every sports person's dream to represent their country. Anum, at just 13, has already achieved that goal. This opportunity to compete on the international stage can only aid her continued development into an even more accomplished swimmer."

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