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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.



Daisy Moore with her trophy. Photo © Sarah Williams 2010

Young cricketer Daisy still bowling them over

By Diana Cormack

Fourteen-year-old Daisy Moore, of Cromwell Close, continues to impress in the cricketing world. She played for Middlesex Under-15s in the Women's County Championships and Gunnersbury 2nd X1 in the Women's Southern League last year, and was the only female in the adult squad when she played for East Finchley's cricket club N2CC and for Finchley CC against Walthamstow CC in their club centenary match.

This should be good grounding for Daisy as next season she has been invited to play for the prestigious Highgate Taverners where again she will be the only female.

Top score for Superstar

But perhaps Daisy's greatest achievement was at Lord's in September 2010 when she won the Clydesdale Bank Junior Superstar Competition Girls' Under 16 category. That sounds impressive enough, but Daisy also achieved the highest individual score in the whole competition including all categories male and female and all age groups. Nationwide competitors are tested on their batting, bowling and fielding skills.

Wearing her Finchley kit, she was presented with a large trophy by Stephen Finn (Middlesex and England fast bowler) and Neil Dexter (Middlesex captain) in front of the Lord's pavilion.

Daisy's father, cricket club coach Robert Moore, told *THE ARCHER* that cricket is the fastest growing sport for girls in the country. "It has grown rapidly over the last five years due to the success of England's women's team," he said.

Children's and youth centres under threat

By Janet Maitland

The futures of the Old Barn Centre in Tarling Road and the Newstead Centre in Fallows Close, both offering vital services to children and young people, are hanging in the balance.

The Newstead Centre, a popular nursery, is facing closure as part of Barnet Council's cost-saving programme in 2011. Turn to page 3 for the full story.

The Old Barn Centre is run by the Old Barn Youth and Community Association (OBYCA), a registered charity providing services for children and young people. Some groups that use the premises have been severely disrupted, however. Family support charity Home-Start and the Monday Youth Club have both been forced to move out or close down over recent months as a result of health and safety concerns.

Action Group formed

Maureen Clemetson, who runs the Monday youth club, said that she had to close the club temporarily because of problems with fire doors and extinguishers. She told us: "If this isn't sorted out, we'll be paying out further down the line because young people will be doing destructive instead of constructive things."

Sergeant Andy Matthews of the Safer Neighbourhood Team said that his team had been called several times to the centre to deal with a civil dispute between the management committee and the Muslim

prayer group Al Karim. Councillor Alison Moore said East Finchley councillors were concerned about the future of the centre.

"I don't know who elected the new trustees," said Kirpal Dhadda, from Home-Start. "We did run a teenage parent group at the centre, but we've had to move them somewhere else."

The Old Barn Action Group, set up last November, says that following two years of confusion at management committee level all previous staff at the centre have been let go and the After School Club has been discontinued. The group warns that if the building is not used it will become a magnet for anti-social behaviour.

OBYCA's annual report

The centre's annual report and accounts for year ending March 2010 were filed with the Charity Commission by Reverend Geoffrey Muhoro, the new director of OBYCA and one of three new trustees. The action group claims the three trustees are members of the Rivers of Joy Ministries International, a group that hires the centre on Sundays and defines itself as an evangelical, Pentecostal or charismatic ministry, operating through a network of local churches.

Continued on page 3

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