



## YOUNG ARCHER



Billy Bob Buttons signs copies of his books at Holy Trinity Primary School.

## Billy Bob Buttons book bonanza

Holy Trinity's Year 5 teacher Katie Artemiou has started a special club for her class. Every Friday lunchtime, members of The Archer Club ask class teachers and other pupils for stories that would be exciting to write about. The pupils then get together in pairs and type up the stories into newspaper reports. Together with their teacher they choose articles to email over to The Archer newspaper, something that encourages writing and keeps the community in touch with what's happening in the school. Here is their latest report:

By Rosie Dickins and Callum Conway, Year 5

On Tuesday 17 January, Billy Bob Buttons visited Holy Trinity Primary School. Everyone was very excited and we thoroughly enjoyed the visit of a real author.

Billy Bob Buttons is the pen name of Edward Trayer. He spoke to all of the junior classes about being an author. We were really lucky to get lots of tips on how to improve our own writing. We learnt that it is very important to read as much as possible and this would help with our writing. Also, that planning and editing our stories is vital.

After school, we had the chance to buy his books and get them personally signed. We are pleased to say he sold loads of books and everybody is enjoying reading them. Our school loves author visits and this was one to remember.

## Up for a challenge?

The London Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy is looking for fundraisers with a head for heights who fancy joining a team of charity parachute jumpers in May.

The charity, which is based in Muswell Hill, asks that anyone interested in the adventure at Headcorn Airfield in Kent on 12 May pledges to raise at least £600 in sponsorship.

For more information about this and other challenges, contact the charity's corporate and events fundraiser Daisy Mathabula on 020 8444 7242 or [daisy@cplondon.org.uk](mailto:daisy@cplondon.org.uk)

The London Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy supports children with cerebral palsy, their families and professionals working with them. It specialises in an approach known as Conductive Education, which covers everything a healthy child would experience in day-to-day life, from meal times and hygiene to play and learning. Find out more at [www.cplondon.org.uk](http://www.cplondon.org.uk)

## Spiked by Maureen

By Daphne Chamberlain  
Maureen Lipman knows her Spikeology. The BT advertiser, actress, Phoenix patron and former Muswell Hill resident has included a chapter on Spike Milligan in her latest book *I Must Collect Myself* (ISBN 978-1-84737-348-9).

Maureen is also a patron of the Spike Milligan Statue Fund, set up to finance a representation in bronze of the comic genius who contributed a great deal to Finchley. Sculptor John Somerville has finished making the statue, which will be placed at Avenue House, East End Road, but money is still needed for casting.

If you would like to join in fundraising quizzes in April and June, or even to organise some yourself, contact The Finchley Society's Barbara Warren on 020 8346 5258.

Donations should be sent c/o David Smith, 17 Abbots Gardens, N2 0JG, or made via [www.spikemilliganstatuefund.org.uk](http://www.spikemilliganstatuefund.org.uk).



Football champs Sohalia Khan, Emily Rea, Carmela Drake and Csilla Florian

## Footballers score first place

By John Jackson

Martin Primary School entered two teams into the Barnet girls' football competition at Compton School, and out of 22 teams our girls claimed first place, beating St Theresa's in the final on penalties. Our second team also came away with medals for finishing in third place.

Both our teams now go to Livingstone School on 18 April to compete against all the other winning schools across the borough. If the girls are successful there, they will then go on to represent Barnet in the London Youth Games at Crystal Palace. Good luck, girls.

## Time out to watch bird life

By Nick Young

On a cold Saturday morning in late January, I made my way to my local birdwatching 'patch', Cherry Tree Wood, in order to do my bit for the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch. As my flat does not come with a garden, I go to see what I can see in the park instead.

The rules for the Big Garden Birdwatch are simple: for an hour on the designated weekend (invariably the last in January),

you spend an hour watching birds, then record what you see and send the results off to the RSPB. With over 600,000 people taking part every year, this survey plays an important role in helping the RSPB to identify which species are doing well, and which ones are in decline.

I can hear many great tits and blue tits, but the survey is about what you can actually see, not what you hear. Eventually, two of each make an appearance in the trees, as does one of their long-tailed cousins. More visible is a pair of robins hopping along the ground, while pigeons are there in abundance. There are also half a dozen chaffinches looking for something to eat in the undergrowth.

The highlight of the hour, though, is the smallest bird that is usually seen in the park. A wren lands on a branch just yards from me, and gives off a wonderful burst of song before flying away.

## Spare change, please

Get your spare change ready for a collection in aid of the Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal in the High Road on Saturday 17 March from 11am to 1pm.

Collector Jane Brown will be wearing a yellow tabard and a tall yellow hat so she'll be hard to miss.

## A-level & GCSE Home Tuition

In English Literature, Language & Literature, The History Of Art + English as a Second Language

By Highly-Qualified College Lecturer  
With More Than 20 Years' Experience

in Highgate, Muswell Hill, East Finchley & Hampstead Garden Suburb

Contact: Anne Chibah [achibah@hotmail.com](mailto:achibah@hotmail.com) 07888 713326

**First Class Learning**  
Helping Children Succeed in Maths and English

**Do you want your child to EXCEL?**  
**First Class Learning has the answer!**  
Individualised Maths & English Tuition  
Courses based on National Curriculum & Guidelines  
**Open Day on Saturday 14th January,**  
**11.30am to 2.30pm at Holy Trinity Church**

CLASSES Mondays & Tuesdays 4-6pm  
VENUE Holy Trinity Church, Church Lane, East Finchley N2 0TH

Contact Diana on:  
020 8959 1952 or 07711 842 758  
email: [eastfinchley@firstclasslearning.co.uk](mailto:eastfinchley@firstclasslearning.co.uk)

[www.firstclasslearning.co.uk](http://www.firstclasslearning.co.uk)

A friendly welcome awaits you

### EAST FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH

197 High Road, London N2 8AJ (opp. Creighton Ave.)  
tel: 020 8346 1700 [www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk](http://www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk)

**Sunday service at 10.30 a.m.**  
**with Creche and Young Church**

Worship Music Social events Wheelchair friendly  
e-mail: [info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk) Room hire tel: 020 8444 9887