



Sunshine festival packs out park

Exciting young bands and excited dogs were among the highlights of the Muswell Hill Festival in Cherry Tree Wood. The event was blessed by sunshine on Sunday 9 September, three months after East Finchley's own festival there had to be called off due to heavy rain and flooding.

Large crowds chilled out in front of the dance and music entertainment on the main stage, and there were queues for the donkey rides and steam train rides, as well as an appreciative audience for the doggy assault course.

Community groups and craft stalls kept everyone busy for the afternoon, with funds going to the North London Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy, based in Muswell Hill.



The festival's dog show had faithful friends jumping through hoops.



The Fabulous Lounge Swingers got the festival crowd on their feet.



The only time you'll ever see a steam train in Cherry Tree Wood.

East Finchley Baptist Church

Just off the High Road in Creighton Avenue N2

Sunday Mornings at 10.30 am

For more information
please contact the Church Office
Tel: 8883 1544 (Minister: Simon Dyke)

Visitors always welcome

Calling all fruit lovers

East Finchley's first Apple Day is just around the corner. Free fruit and juice will be on offer to everyone to take advantage of this season's fruit crop.

A group of residents calling themselves East Finchley Abundance want to make the best use of any unpicked and unused locally grown tree fruit rather than seeing it go to waste.

They will gladly come to your garden, at your request, to harvest any fruit you can't reach. And if you have a surplus crop, they're asking if you'd be willing to share it with others in the community.

The Apple Day takes place outside Budgens in the High Road on Saturday 20 October from 10am to 2pm. Surplus fruit will be distributed and fresh juice made for everyone to take home, all for free.

In the meantime, new members are always welcome to join the group. Email efabundance@btinternet.com or write to EF Abundance, c/o 32 Park Hall Road, London, N2 9PU.

Well-versed magazine

By Pam Kent
N2 Poetry magazine, issue 2, was launched on Saturday 1 September in East Finchley Methodist Church. An audience of around 60 people attended the successful occasion.

Editor Shereen Abdallah introduced each poet who read during the evening. Some of the contributors, including local poets, London poets and a bilingual Swedish poet, read a selection of their work featured in the magazine.

Publisher and founder Dennis Evans, who welcomed everyone and thanked Mr and Mrs Abdallah for their sponsorship, said: "N2 Poetry was founded in the hope that it will continue as a poetry magazine, based in East Finchley. Its aim is to publish interesting, thought-provoking and accessible poetry."

The third issue is well under way so if you are interested in contributing or purchasing a copy of any of the issues, contact Peter Phillips, c/o 58 Helen Close, London N2 0UU. The price is £4.50 and cheques should be made payable to N2 Poetry.

Carnegie to the rescue?

By Daphne Chamberlain

Friern Barnet Library was closed by Barnet in March, but could it be restored by the spirit of philanthropist Andrew Carnegie?

Friends of the valued local library have been running what they hope will not be a skeleton service on the green outside. Last month, however, squatters opened up the building again. People can now borrow books and use computers (all mainly donated) inside the purpose-built library. Barnet County Court has given permission for the squatters to stay until 9 October, when they must present their case against eviction.

Friends of the library say that more people are using their replacement service than Barnet's embryo 'landmark' library in the artsdepot. In fact, it has been suggested that the artsdepot library will be abandoned. Meanwhile, Barnet Council is now offering Friary House, in Friary Park, as a site for a Friern Barnet community library. Some Friends of Friern Barnet point out that this is not

a local site. It's a considerable hike up Friern Barnet Lane and through the park.

Library champion

Barnet Council intends to sell the purpose-built Friern Barnet library to developers, but now the New Carnegie Foundation has entered the frame. Like many older libraries, Friern Barnet's building was partly financed by the Foundation set up by the great Scottish/American philanthropist. We understand that representatives of the Foundation are definitely taking an interest and were scheduled to meet council officers on 25 September. The Foundation "works to improve the lives of people throughout the UK and Ireland, by changing minds through influencing policy, and by changing lives through innovative practice and partnership work".

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