



# Remarkable find in Coldfall Wood

By Ann Bronkhorst

**Local amenity group The Friends of Coldfall Wood face a dilemma, due to a recent discovery that is exciting ecologists but arousing controversy within the group.**

Three years ago a rare glow-worm found in the wood made headlines, and the following year a walker uncovered a hidden stash of money. Now an established colony of edible snails has been identified in an undisclosed area of this ancient wood.

### Roman survival

For centuries the snails, Latin name *Helix Romana* and distinguished by their large, creamy-brown shells, have been eaten on the continent. Their ancestors may have been imported by Romans living here and there could be a connection with the Roman remains in Highgate Wood.

Whatever their history, it is the snails' future that is controversial. It seems that several local gastro-pubs will pay well for a regular supply of these delicacies. The Friends are divided about the ethics of exploiting Coldfall snails to please North London foodies.

### Bitter divisions

Sarah Dudley, of Durham Road, stated: "I oppose cruelty to all creatures, even small slimy ones, and will boycott any restaurant that puts our snails on its menu. They should be cherished, not slaughtered." Another Friend, however, retorted that a high-protein, locally-sourced gourmet food would have green credentials. "At least it's not horse-meat," he added.

At the allotments on the Barnet side of the wood there was a different response. "We don't want the little \*\*\*\*s over here," announced one plot-holder. "If we find any we'll stamp on them. Anyway, they're probably carrying mange from the foxes."

THE ARCHER understands that Haringey Council, Coldfall Wood's landowner, may discuss the future of the molluscs at their next Cabinet meeting, after a trial tasting.



Lady in red: Angie A, right, and fellow performers raise cash at the Five Bells.

# Angie A's Red Nose song

By Stuart Webber

**Money was raised for Comic Relief in style by East Finchley resident Angie A, former backing singer for 1990s band Olive, during an evening of singing and fundraising at the Five Bells Flaming Grill.**

After deciding that the official song by One Direction lacked the comedy that makes the event so unique, Angie wrote and produced a song called 'Essex Girl', her unofficial alternative based on the popular television show The Only Way Is Essex.

The night was definitely a success as enough money was raised to push Angie past her target of £300 for Comic Relief. The Friday evening was the culmination of a month of fundraising that had included

a sponsored 20 mile cycle ride, one-to-one as well as group singing lessons for donations as well as public performances in North Finchley and Wood Green.

Angie started raising money for charity two years ago. This year she was drawn to Comic Relief by their emphasis on novel ideas for fundraising, and by her desire to help disadvantaged people both in the UK and Africa. For more information about Angie and her projects visit [www.angie-a.co.uk](http://www.angie-a.co.uk)

# A lasting legacy for our son Guy

**As you read this, Vicky and Tony Joseph of Southern Rd, N2 are making an extraordinary journey. They and a group of 28 relatives and friends are travelling to a small village in the foothills of the Annapurna range in Nepal to build a school in memory of their son Guy who was tragically killed, aged 25, in a paragliding accident 18 months ago.**

Guy was an intrepid adventurer and traveller who loved snowboarding, scuba diving and paragliding. After graduating from university with a first class degree in marine biology, he worked as a scuba diving instructor in East Timor and Indonesia for two years before travelling to Nepal where he spent one winter learning to paraglide.

### Giving children a start

When he died, Vicky and Tony were determined to salvage something positive from the tragedy and decided to set up a charity in his memory. Guy's Trust supports causes that reflect everything that Guy was passionate about and its initial project is to build the first of three Guy Joseph Early Childhood Development Centres in the impoverished Kaski district, near to where he lived.

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world and over a million children are not enrolled in school. The majority of these are girls, who are affected by discrimination in almost every area of their lives. The development centres will help hundreds of children get the start in life they deserve.

Vicky and Tony said: "Guy was intelligent, compassionate and non-judgemental; a gentle, caring and wise son and brother and dear friend to many people all over the world. Despite his youth and legendary sense of fun and zest for life, he had a reputation as a responsible and gifted teacher with a talent for



Always remembered: Guy's parents Vicky and Tony have set up a charity in his memory.

developing friendships with anyone, whatever their background, nationality or age."

### One village, many hands

Vicky and Tony's friends, their two daughters' friends and a large contingent of Guy's friends from the UK, USA, Australia, Indonesia and Thailand are converging on the village of Dhikurpokhari to spend a week working together with

the local community in laying the foundations and starting to build the ECDC.

Guy's Trust is growing beyond the family's wildest dreams. They say it is a fitting testament to a young man who had an enormous zest for life and who inspired and was loved by so many people.

Visit [www.guystrust.org](http://www.guystrust.org) to find out more.

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