



Art lovers at one of the East Finchley Artists Open Houses. Photo Peter Hale

## Artists open their doors wide

By Peter Hale

Perfect summer weather for the East Finchley Open artists' tenth Open House Weekends meant that we could fling open the doors and windows and welcome visitors into our cool houses. This year's open house exhibitions were again a rewarding experience for artists and visitors alike. Viewing the art was enhanced with a chance to look at house and garden.

## McDonald's HQ hosts training centre

By Emily Bird

Next month the Hospitality Guild will open the doors to a state-of-the-art training facility at the McDonald's headquarters in East Finchley.

Hospitality House, which was donated to the Guild rent-free by McDonald's and funded by industry employers and the government, will host hospitality training and events to help the Guild improve standards of professional development in the industry.

The Guild was founded in 2012 to draw together the expertise of the UK's hospitality industry bodies and employers with the common aim of promoting hospitality as a career.

The prestigious facilities at Hospitality House include a high-tech demo kitchen, training bar, bar cellar and café as

well as conference facilities and office space. It provides a great location for hospitality events and training as well as for local companies looking for a venue with a difference.

Audio visual technology will allow users of the venue to communicate in real time with online participants anywhere in the world, a huge cost saving for businesses wanting to train or entertain people without covering travel costs.

The Hospitality Guild's executive director Suzy Jackson said: "The venue is perfectly located in East Finchley and we can't wait to settle in and work closely with local businesses. When we open our doors officially in September we fully expect it to knock everybody's socks off!"

Find out more at [www.hospitalityguild.co.uk/hospitality-house](http://www.hospitalityguild.co.uk/hospitality-house)

Good friends and returning 'collectors' met up with neighbours and visitors from further afield. When artworks are bought as a present it is especially gratifying. For the members and special guests the week was enriched with a series of private views between the two weekends. So now it's all down to planning our Winter Fair!

## Old Hamiltonians reunite

In 1963 a new Catholic secondary school opened in Hamilton Road, East Finchley. This year, Bishop Douglass will mark its half-century as its older neighbour Martin School celebrates its centenary.

The Old Hamiltonians (former pupils of Bishop Douglass) are planning a reunion on 7 September at the school. They anticipate a large turn-out, including some of the original 1963 intake. A busy programme of events starts with afternoon tea at 3pm followed by a celebratory Mass and tours of the site. There will be an exhibition of ex-students' work, a barbecue and a disco in the evening.



One of Karyn's pet portraits.

Current pupils of Bishop Douglass will be on hand to help with food and drink, and the school's welcome and assistance is much appreciated by the reunion's organisers.

To learn more about the reunion and for tickets (£10 per head) visit [www.bdreunions.com](http://www.bdreunions.com)

## Sit! ... for a puppy portrait

By Jasmine Elliott

On the 13 July, I visited many of the locations taking part in this year's East Finchley Open event. The East Finchley Open has taken place for the last 10 years, offering local artists an opportunity to display and sell their art in their homes.

One artist particularly caught my eye with her dog portraits. Karyn Johnstone, of Fortis Green, has been making art ever since she can remember but recently has been inspired to paint portraits of dogs for their owners. Karyn works as a graphic designer and after a busy day finds it relaxing to sit down and either sketch or paint.

She says that pet portraits can be old fashioned and slightly boring, but her pieces are exactly the opposite, creating a quirky modernised effect. Karyn makes the dog's collar appear 3D by adding texture by means of handmade jewellery with the dog's name stamped on the pendant.



Karyn Johnstone

She is especially skilled in capturing the playfulness in the dog's eyes. Karyn says the eyes are the most important thing to capture as they bring the dog to life. I'm hoping to commission a dog portrait of my Labradoodle.

Karyn is very open to doing other types of animal portraits in either etchings or oil paintings. If you want to buy a dog portrait or any of her non-dog related art, contact her at [karyjohnstone@sky.com](mailto:karyjohnstone@sky.com)

Her portraits were among many fantastic pieces of artwork I saw during the EFO event, including Wolfgang Haack's marvellous photography, Jenny Rymmer's beautiful ceramics and all of the astonishing paintings.

## Electronic luggage tags

One more use for your smartphone. If a prototype electronic luggage tag passes British Airways tests, you could soon stop wrestling with paper labels. We are told that holding a phone over the tag will display a unique barcode relating to your flight and destination. Obviously you check in first.

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### All Saints' Church, Durham Road, East Finchley Church of England

Sunday masses at 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m.

Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.

(Refreshments are served after mass on Sunday and Thursday)

Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

The Parish has a flourishing social life.  
Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy,  
on 020 8883 9315.

All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir of both adults and children.

Experienced singers are always welcome.  
Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>