



Anya Winful (right) and gap year student Georgina Westbrook with the cakes. Photo by Diana Cormack

Café in the park open in time for summer

By Diana Cormack

The kiosk café in the park has re-opened for the summer. It is being run by Wendy Meteyard and Rochdi Rhazouani of The Emporium Tea Rooms, Cheapside, Fortis Green. Ice cream, hot and cold drinks and food are on sale, with much of the produce emanating from The Emporium.

"We want to major on cakes," Wendy told The Archer. That will be no problem, judging by those on display. Interestingly, some of the most scrumptious are made by her 13-year-old daughter Anya Winful, who has enjoyed baking since her primary school days at Tether-down when she used to make goodies for the produce stall at the school fair. Now a Year 8 pupil at Henrietta Barnett, Anya cooks at least once a week.

Anya has always helped her parents in the kitchen and was influenced by her grandmother in her love of cake making. But she isn't fond of plain baking; Anya likes "the complicated stuff" so cuts, fills and decorates her creations after they leave the oven.

Social enterprise

Emporium has always had a fantastic community spirit about it. Soon after becoming manager, Rochdi was faced with the possibility of having to close the business and make staff redundant. He decided to set up a not-for-profit social enterprise, Rhazouani Community Interest Company, which now owns Emporium Tea Room and Gift Shop and runs the Cherry

Tree Wood kiosk.

Rhazouani CIC aims to support people with learning difficulties, as well as pupils with autism from TreeHouse School.

Rochdi and Wendy are both passionate community spirited people who are determined to keep both the kiosk and the tea room open to benefit the local community. Let's show them our support!

My marathon was unforgettable

By Philip Halton

I did it! After months of training and fundraising building up to the 2013 London Marathon, the day finally arrived, and it was a day that I will simply never forget.

I had never been up so early on a Sunday, but I found myself in Greenwich on a glorious sunny morning for a pre-race photo with team Whizz-Kidz, with what must have been about 500 runners at the start point.

I was really excited about the day ahead, but slightly anxious too as I'd never attempted a marathon before and didn't really know what to expect. At 10am, off went the claxon. It took me about 10 minutes to walk to the start line as there were about 37,000 people taking part, so it was a bit of a squeeze, but once I'd crossed the start line I was buzzing with excitement!

There was a carnival atmosphere from start to finish, with so many people lining the streets to cheer on all the runners, bands playing – it was great to see!

After reaching the 20-mile point, I really started to feel the strain and at that point I knew I had 'hit the wall'; from then on every mile felt like 10! The crowd definitely gave me that extra lift and boost needed to cross the finish line. I managed to complete the marathon in 3 hours 53 minutes.

I want to say a massive thank-you to everyone who sponsored and supported me,



Philip Halton completes the 2013 London marathon
Photo by Chris Halton

as it means a lot to me and to all the children at Whizz-Kidz. I managed to raise nearly £2,000 thanks to your generosity and it is very much appreciated.

For information about Whizz-Kidz, the charity for disabled children supported by Philip, visit www.whizz-kidz.org.uk

Don't stop the presses: Apple news

By Harriet Copperman

East Finchley Abundance (EFA) was formed last year by local residents who wanted to highlight the amount of locally grown food that may be going to waste. As a small group it was decided to hold an apple event, where donated local apples were turned into fresh apple juice and handed to passers-by to taste.

The event was very successful and another one is planned for this autumn. With more help and support, and better weather, it might be possible to hold similar events throughout the summer as the different ripening fruits, such as plums and cherries, become available.

We intend to hold regular meetings at 6.30pm on the second Monday of the month in the Old White Lion for those interested in getting involved. If people can't attend meetings, but would like to offer help the contact is efabundance@btinternet.com.

Where did our trees go?

By Margi McAlister

On returning home from holiday in March, Tracy Gray discovered that a large number of mature trees and bushes next to Wardell Court in The Walks had been cut down. Her garden in Elmfield Road backs on to this now denuded piece of land and she is concerned that her garden wall is exposed and presents a security risk.

She is also upset at the loss of so many trees as a host of birds nested in them and they were also home to squirrels.

Mrs Gray phoned Barnet Council to ask who had authorised the felling and why. They told her that Barnet Homes, which owns both Wardell Court and the land adjacent to the rear of her garden, had given the order but the council weren't able to give her a reason for it.

THE ARCHER contacted Barnet Homes who passed us back to the council where the environmental services

manager told us the felling was recommended by the council's tree section, that the trees were not included within a Tree Preservation Order, and that the site was not within a conservation area. They were removed because they posed a risk of damaging nearby walls.

Mrs Gray was perplexed at this explanation as she had never been consulted about possible danger to her garden wall and saw no evidence of a problem. She says it seems strange that they left the trees along her next-door neighbour's wall and another bush that leans into her garden.

10% OFF
INSTORE
WITH THIS
ADVERT



VINTAGE CLOTHING
RETRO HOMEWARE
HAND PRODUCED GIFTS
GREETINGS CARDS

OPEN EVERY
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
10am-4pm



King Street Mews / East Finchley N2 8DY
aroominmyhouse.co.uk

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>