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Local News is our Aim

# THE ARCHER




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*A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.*

## Christmas Festival is on its way

It's back! The High Road will echo to the sound of sleigh bells again and there'll be man-made snow (who knows, perhaps even the real thing too) for the second East Finchley Christmas Festival, which promises entertainment and fun for everyone.

Father Christmas, real reindeer, a dog show, stalls, live music, a snow machine, food, entertainment, dance, our regular French market and indoor activities in the Bobath Centre are all promised in this year's line-up.

The date of the festival is Saturday 7 December, running from 9.30am to 5pm, so get it in your diaries and come along on the day to enjoy what's on offer.

Like last year, there will be a stage with activities and entertainment ranging from children's story-telling to a brass band, carol singing and a Christmas disco.

Father Christmas will be on hand to meet and greet people and as a special treat he's bringing along two of his reindeer to the High Road.

Roger Chapman, one of the organisers from the East Finchley Community Trust, said: "The second East Finchley Christmas festival promises to be bigger and better than last year."

More activities are being planned including fireworks (if the health and safety aspect can be sorted out). Celebrities have been invited so keep an eye out for further news. *THE ARCHER* will be posting updates on Facebook and Twitter in the run-up to the festival. Follow us @TheArcherN2.

### How to help

If you want to get involved with preparations or helping on the day, the organising team is holding fortnightly meetings. Contact them on 07983 360834 or email: eastfinchleyfestival@gmail.com

Any donations of funds would also be gratefully received as the team is having to make extra financial commitments this year to make the second festival one to remember.

## Tube trouble

By Janet Maitland  
**Officers from British Transport Police were called to two separate incidents at East Finchley station on 4 October.**

At about 2.45pm, a man threw a metal object through the station officer's office window and smashed the glass. When police arrived they searched the area and collected evidence, but no one was arrested.

Later in the afternoon a man took his bicycle onto a train. When he was told by station staff that bikes aren't allowed on the tube, he refused to leave the carriage and the police were called.

The man left the train when British Transport Police officers arrived. They spoke to him and no further action was taken. The train was delayed for eight minutes.



Children enjoying the festival. Photo by Cathy Young

## One big question for The Grange

By Cathy Young

**How would you spend £1 million? That's the question that visitors to the Grange Big Local Community Festival were asked in person last month.**

Over 300 people from the surrounding area attended the event on the green between the High Road and Oak Lane. They were treated to a martial arts demonstration from the East Finchley Combat Academy in Church Lane, live music in the Ann Owens Centre and for the children there was a bouncy castle, face painting and a circus skills workshop. All this, and free pizza too!

But the main focus of the event for the organisers was the questionnaire to find out how local people would spend the £1million grant from the Big Lottery Fund's Big Local programme. More than 288 were completed.

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