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THE ARCHER



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CARS & COURIERS

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A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.

Ideas to make life better for everyone

A project aimed at making East Finchley a better place to live and work for everyone is taking shape and looking for new ideas and plenty of support.

East Finchley Altogether Better aims to connect the people, groups, businesses and services that make the neighbourhood tick. Even two months after launch, a number of projects are already in the pipeline.

Dreams and schemes

One is 'The Hub' which would be a centre or café run by young people, for young people, perhaps weekly: somewhere to go in the area where they can meet their peers and socialise in a safe place, and find employment.

Another is 'East Finchley Green Fingers' where young and older people can pair up to garden together, and share and learn skills. There could be a garden sharing scheme or use of community land for those who don't have any outside space.

Then there's 'Homes and Away', a group keen to find ways of getting care home residents out and about more, as well as bringing more visitors and activities into residential homes.

'You Shop and We Drop' is a scheme where local shops or volunteers deliver the shopping to residents, especially older or disabled people. This would encourage people to walk into town and shop, but not have to

carry heavy bags home.

'Mums Who Run' is for mums who feel isolated and not as fit as they used to be and who could meet to run or exercise together weekly.

Free workshops

All these ideas depend on your involvement to get them off the ground so EFAB organisers are inviting everyone to come along to their free workshops. The first will be on Saturday 19 October at the Bobath Centre, 250 East End Road, N2, when there will be drop-in one-hour sessions from 10am to 12.30pm (visit efab1910.eventbrite.co.uk), followed by others on Tuesday 22 October at St Mary's Church, 279 High Road, N2, when there will be morning, afternoon and evening sessions (efab2210am.eventbrite.co.uk, efab2210pm.eventbrite.co.uk and efab2210eve.eventbrite.co.uk)

To find out more or to get involved, email: eastfinchley-altogetherbetter@gmail.com, call Lisa on 07909 998453 or write to: Stephen Craker, EFAB, c/o FMH, Granville Road, Finchley N12 0JE. You can also tweet @EastFinchleyAB or find the group at www.streetlife.com/page/east-finchley-altogether-better-efab.



Champion Stef puts his foot on the pedal

Stefanos Charalambous, 16, is making a name for himself in the world of karting. Find out how on page 5.

Alert over harmful toy

Barnet Council's Trading Standards team is asking parents to be mindful of some Huggle Buddy Hideaway ladybird toys which could be harmful to young children.

The ladybird toys have sharp metal prongs embedded within the antenna which can become especially dangerous as the toy can be folded to become a pillow. This toy was brought to the council's attention after a protruding metal prong scratched and cut a four-year-old.

The company which distributed this toy went into administration in January 2013.

For more information please contact Barnet Council's Trading Standards Team on 020 8359 7443.

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