



A whole street comes out to party together

By Lulu Shooter

Residents of Cherry Tree Road aired the bunting and cleared away cars on Sunday 6 September to host their annual street party. The day was a great success and saw the mingling of old and new residents, all delighted with the opportunity to really socialise with their neighbours.

Ollie Mellmann has reigned as barbecue king for all six years that this party has been running. Everyone ate to their hearts content, the street's canner canine residents included!

Music is always a big part of the event, with seasoned singers such as Ollie's daughter Evie consistently wowing party-goers. A group of neighbours – Antonio Incisa on drums, Charles Lewis on trombone, Lulu Shooter on keyboard and Dave Quirke on guitar, whose dad Mike on harmonica also did some blues singing – kept up the high standard of musical entertainment.

The afternoon itself was warm and sunny, so the children could play games like football,

limbo and Twister. The pavement was temporarily chalked with a jungle mural.

A raffle was held in aid of the Bobath Centre. Other classic activities such as guessing the number of Smarties in the jar (over 1,000) and the weight of the cake (around 800g), contributed to covering the costs of the party, as did donations for food and drink.

A big thanks to Nathan and Mel Eastwood, Sara Glaser and David Quirke who helped Ollie with the organisation. Residents and visitors said they had had a fantastic time and doubtless, as they packed away the parasols and tables, everyone was already looking forward to next year's event.

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Science in action: CCF students using a clinometer on the beach in Swanage to collect data

Top of the class

The geography department at Christ's College Finchley has become the only school this year to be awarded a prestigious badge of excellence.

CCF was given the Secondary Geography Quality Mark by the Geographical Association in recognition of its creative teaching and good learning in geography

The award, now in its ninth year, looks for student achievement in areas such as geographical knowledge and concepts and is rigorously judged by a team of assessors. CCF previously held the award from 2009-2011.

A spokesperson for the school said: "We try to enthuse students of geography to be activists in their world engaging with tough local & global issues and creating meaning in their own sphere which can then inform deeper learning at a regional, national and global scale."

Alan Kinder, chief executive of the Geographical Association, said: "There has never been a more important time for all children and young people to study geography. Growing up in the 21st century means living in an increasingly interconnected world, one facing a growing number of global challenges such as climate change and the need to live our lives sustainably."

Calm return for meditation sessions

Meditation can help to relax the body and still the mind, and mindfulness meditation is about being in the moment and accepting life as it is.



Peace of mind: A meditation class under way

An informal group seeks to share their skills with those who wish to experience this, at a course run over six Tuesday evenings, starting Tuesday 13 October, from 7.30pm to 8.30pm at the Archer Academy, Beaumont Close, N2.

The cost is £4 per session, including refreshments and a chance to discuss best practice.

Fee covers venue hire and refreshments only, as the leaders are not charging for their time.

All are welcome to go and see how mindfulness can work for them, and how easy it is to fit a few minutes of peace into your day. Contact eddylevin@blueyonder.co.uk or call Lisa on 07909 998453 for more details or to book.

Gold thefts

A network of volunteers has been set up across London to help combat the targeting of Asian families for their ceremonial gold jewellery. The volunteers, two from each borough, provide a link between the police and London's diverse ethnic communities.

The Met Police has had a specialist team of officers working as part of 'Operation Nugget' to combat the increase in burglaries where the sole purpose is to steal gold jewellery, often from Asian households.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Family Gold Network, contact volunteer co-ordinator Heena Patel by email on heena.familygold-network@hotmail.com. For more information on how to protect yourself from becoming a victim, visit this link: <http://ow.ly/CfdFg>

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Tel: 8883 1544 (Minister: Simon Dyke)

www.eastfinchleybc.org.uk

Visitors always welcome