



## YOUNG ARCHER



London tale: Author Sarah Elizabeth Beaumont has updated Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

### Alice's adventures in... north London!

Anyone who dropped into the storytelling tent at the East Finchley Festival in Cherry Tree Wood may have heard London author and artist Sarah Elizabeth Beaumont reading from her modern version of a well-loved classic.

Sarah has written and illustrated 'Alice's London Adventures in Wonderland', which follows Lewis Carroll's young heroine through the streets and underground tunnels of modern-day London.

In her light-hearted retelling, Alice's journey incorporates 119 famous London landmarks including Harrods, The Shard, Tower Bridge, The Globe Theatre and St Paul's Cathedral.

Her pen-and-ink illustrations are a homage to the originals by Sir John Tenniel. In her book, she shows Alice playing with a royal corgi in front of Buckingham Palace, swimming with a mouse in Trafalgar Square, and talking with the Cheshire Cat in Camden.

From receiving her first pop-up book as a child, Sarah has been fascinated by Alice in Wonderland. She is a fine art and music graduate who edited international journals for trade and industry throughout the 1990s and has written training materials for education. This is her first published work of fiction.

### A giant summer of fun

July sees the start of a summer of fun taking place in Barnet libraries with The Big Friendly Read summer reading challenge 2016 which runs from Saturday 9 July to Saturday 17 September.

To celebrate Roald Dahl's centenary, the Reading Agency has teamed up with The Roald Dahl Literary Estate to set the theme for this year's challenge, featuring some of Roald Dahl's best-loved characters and favourite stories. Children aged 4 to 11 are encouraged to read just six books during their summer holidays. Children of all reading abilities can join in and read whatever they choose: stories,

joke books, fact books, or even listen to audiobooks, it doesn't matter as long as they are borrowed from their local library. For every two books that they read, they get stickers and prizes and there's a certificate and a gold medal for everyone who finishes the Challenge by reading all six books. Children can register for free at East Finchley Library, where a member of staff will be happy to help.

#### 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.

(Coffee 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.

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

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

### 'Royal' guest gets them guessing

A regal mystery guest arrived to mark the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Queen. Dressed in red, white or blue and waving flags in the playground, the year two pupils had plenty to say after she left, including: "Was it really the Queen?", "I thought she would have had a bigger car" and "Was she wearing washing up gloves?"



VIP visit: The mystery 'royal' arrives at Coldfall Primary

### Are you the new Ariana or Shawn?

Reckon you could give Shawn Mendes or Ariana Grande a run for their money as a singing sensation? The Singing in London group has just launched a club for youngsters aged ten to 18 to develop their talents.

The club is free to attend and it meets at the Friday youth club at the Green Man Centre, Strawberry Vale, N2, from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. To join, contact Maureen on 07931 586740.

The group will be aiming to perform a singalong at the Grange Big Local community festival which takes place this year at Bishop Douglass School, Hamilton Road, on Sunday 25 September.

Singing in London is also hosting a general open evening for its Monday classes for adults on Monday 18 July at 7.15pm. New members of all singing abilities are welcome to enjoy a repertoire of popular and contemporary classics. To book your place email [idit@singinginlondon.com](mailto:idit@singinginlondon.com).

### Get ready for Fortitude

Fortismere School is holding its annual summer fair and festival, Fortitude 2016, on Saturday 9 July from 12 noon to 6pm on its playing fields via the gates at Twyford Avenue, N10.

There will be waltzers and dodgems this year, as well as the ever popular inflatables, as well as a marketplace with stalls, a dog show ('Pawtitude'), musical and other performances, a raffle, bar and lots of food stalls from cakes and salads to hog-roast and burgers.



The event is run by parents who work in co-operation with many of the teachers and students. The purpose is not only to raise money for the school but also to increase the sense of community around the school. Everyone is welcome and it's a family event for kids of all ages, not just teenagers. Many local businesses are supporting Fortitude and it is being sponsored by local estate agents Martyn Gerrard.

The entry tickets are the same as last year: £4 at the gate on the day or for students at the

school £3 if bought in advance through the school library.

### Charity nails it

The Art Against Knives charity, which is active in North Finchley, has set up a training course for ten 'at-risk' women aged 17-30 to help them build positive careers.

The four-month course takes them through an accredited nail care programme, with a series of masterclasses from inspiring role models and industry professionals.

Organisers say the programme will support participants, all of whom face multiple risks in their lives, in finding jobs and making a long-term change for themselves by developing confidence and employable skills. Find out more about the charity at [www.artagainstknives.com](http://www.artagainstknives.com).



Role model: Ovie Soko, centre, with the CCF basketball team

### Ovie on court for surprise visit

Professional basketball player Ovie Soko surprised the Basketball Academy students at Christ's College Finchley by popping into their Thursday training session.

Ovie, currently playing for Italian team Enel Brindisi, is close friends with the school's head coach Neville Polson and grew up in Barnet before moving to the US and graduating at NCAA Division One college Duquesne in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

He spoke to the boys about his career to date and what it takes to make it as an elite basketball player, emphasizing the importance of succeeding with academic studies as well as in the sports hall.