



N2 could soon bottle its own H₂O

'An expedition down East Finchley's only river' on page 6 of last month's *Archer* contained information of specific interest to a local couple living beside Cherry Tree Wood. In the article, nature blogger Bugwoman detailed the path of the Mutton Brook, placing its source possibly from somewhere behind the tennis courts and describing the general dampness of the park, which in former times used to be a water-cress farm.



Natural source: The garden spring near Cherry Tree Wood.



Bottled: How East Finchley water could look.

Mystery spring

Last year a pool of water suddenly sprang up on the path inside the couple's back garden at its closest point to the wood. Despite efforts to clear it, the water returned, always covering the same amount of paving stones and at the same depth. Looking clear and pure, it became a bathing pond for birds and a ready drinking hole for passing cats.

Watching animals using this natural supply gave the couple an idea. Why not investigate the possibility for human consumption? Test results to confirm this are awaited and there are hopes that if they are positive there will be a lucrative and potentially endless bottling business to be exploited.

"With Brexit, nobody knows whether water from the European Union will continue to flow into this country," said the couple, who asked us not to name them at this stage. "France in particular may pull the plug on their supplies, so we reckon to tap into a potentially huge

gap in the market."

Designer packaging

Already a bottle has been designed by an East Finchley artist which, with the introduction of the product, might well become a collector's item. Shops on the High Road will be offered the first chance to stock N₂H₂O and people will be encouraged to ask for it in local restaurants.

With its anticipated health-promoting and restorative properties, indications are that sales will be buoyant in other areas of the country, which could lead to the couple's company being launched on the stock exchange.

Happier days for the Clissold Arms

There are brighter days ahead for the Clissold Arms after the death of owner George Karageorgis in January as daughter Victoria prepares to take over the running of the popular pub restaurant.

Victoria told *The Archer*: "It's really only a few weeks since I lost my dad but a lot has happened, including me taking a more active role with the business. I think about my dad every day and it feels now is the right time to get more involved and help cement his legacy."

Victoria is no stranger to the ways of working at the Clissold Arms as during the eight years she lived at the premises she shadowed her father as he ran the business. "I've got so many ideas, many of which were shared by my Dad but also some new ones," she said.

Plans in the pipeline include the re-decoration of many of the public spaces as well as new crockery, glassware and fittings. The garden area will be stripped and readied for the warmer weather including reinstating the much loved fairy lights.

Victoria was keen to stress that the most important element was the team behind her and the



George Karageorgis

support from her mother Tracy and brother George who assist behind the scenes. "I've managed to get our two fabulous chefs Pietro and Tomas back together and they've already created a new menu. Ania and Mike will manage the front of house with Sonia and Dove managing events."

Spread the news

Barnet Seniors Assembly Insider is appealing for help to deliver its free newsletter once every two months in East Finchley. The bulletin aims to provide a wealth of useful information to older people in Barnet.

If you can deliver from 20 to 200 newsletters to your neighbours, your local clubs, or any venue that would benefit then the organisation would like to hear from you. They will arrange for you to be able to pick up your copies at a venue convenient to you, such as your local library or community space.

To help deliver a few newsletters every two months, please contact Neill at distribution@barnetseniors.org.uk. Further informa-

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Gardeners day trip

Finchley Horticultural Society is organising a visit to RHS Hyde Hall and the Beth Chatto garden in Essex on Saturday 24 June. The cost, to include entry fees, travel in an executive coach with toilet, and a driver gratuity, is £33. The coach will leave at 9am from Regents Park Road, opposite College Farm, where there is plenty of parking in nearby roads. For more information and to secure a place, email: judywoollett@hotmail.com.



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