



East Finchley trades up to a real cracker

Seasonal celebrations on the High Road had a change of format last month. Instead of the all-day Christmas festival there was an evening focusing on local traders, many of whom took the opportunity to join in the fun, welcoming people into their premises with mulled wine, mince pies and other delicacies.

Some had special offers and others participated in the children's Christmas trail. Youngsters could also have their faces painted, join in the ever-popular 'make your own decorations', attend a candle-making workshop or take the chance to try calligraphy.

Father Christmas was seen up and down the High Road, as was the wonderful Yiddish Marching Band. Other music was made by a brass band outside Budgens and at the station, where the lovely singing of the Baptist Church choir welcomed commuters home.

After a successful evening, organisers Gail Coles and Hilary Townley said: "People stepping onto the High Road felt a real buzz. East Finchley came out in force to see what was going on and everyone was delighted."

Above right: The Holy Trinity Choir sing carols. Photo Mike Coles



Christmas Cheer at the RSPCA shop. Photo Mike Coles



The London Metropolitan Brass Band. Photo Mike Coles

Business update from N2United

By Nick Allan

The November meeting of N2United, the business network serving all of the trades, shops and enterprises in East Finchley, was again well attended and proved to be highly successful with more new members joining.

Guest speakers included Peter Barnett, of A Scott & Son Fishmongers, who provided an update on his battle with Dominos Pizza to reduce the amount of parking space taken up on the High Road by their delivery mopeds (*The Archer* December 2016). Christopher Stavrou, of KOKOS Shoes, talked about the ongoing celebrations for their 40 years in business.

Everyone got a chance to introduce their various businesses and meet their businesses' neighbours in a friendly and convivial atmosphere. The Clissold Arms again provided a warm and friendly venue for the meeting, which is held on the second Thursday of each month, and thanks were given to proprietor George Karageorgis for hosting the meeting and for providing the complimentary

teas and coffees.

The next N2United business networking meeting will be on 12 January. All East Finchley

businesses are again invited and encouraged to participate. More details can be found at www.n2united.co.uk.



Luck of the draw: Enjoying the Nazareth House winter fair.

Sisters mastermind prize fun

The newly re-established Friends of Nazareth (Finchley) organised a fun-filled and very successful Winter Bazaar to raise funds for treats and outings for the elderly residents at the care home in East End Road, N2.

The tombola and raffle masterminded by the resident Sisters of Nazareth were most in demand and helped to raise over £1,500. Teas and cakes, baked by Maria in the kitchen, were very popular and the clothes, bric-à-brac and book stalls stocked and run by the Friends were besieged. Music was provided by local artist and guitarist John Erskine and the treasure hunt was won by Grainne, the

nine-year-old granddaughter of a resident. The Nazareth House Summer Fete will be held on 10 June. Volunteers and donations are welcome.

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