



## Check out the Friday Club at Strawberry Vale

By Diana Cormack

Twelve years ago Strawberry Vale resident Maureen Clemetson launched the Monday Club, somewhere for nine to 15-year-olds to go on a Monday evening and join in a variety of activities.

Over the years it has been based in several church halls and schools and is now settled at The Compton School Powerleague, where Joe Strong and Kieran Wilkinson organise a thriving football club with a group of willing helpers.

### Maureen's second club

Another club created by Maureen began ten years ago in the living room of her home on the estate. This club caters for seven to 13 year old boys and girls and is what Maureen refers to as "the religious one", having always included bible stories and prayers after the evening's games and activities.

Meetings are now held in The Green Man Community Centre on a Friday evening with each one still finishing with a bible story, prayer or thought for the day led by an adult or by one of the children.

"They know it's about God," Maureen told us. "With all the problems in the world outside,

## What a day!

Organisers of the East Finchley Festival on Sunday 24 June have thanked everyone for making it a joyous occasion celebrating the great community spirit of N2.

Speaking on behalf of the organising team, Hilary Townley said the event couldn't have happened without a lot of help from volunteers working tirelessly over several months and on the day itself.

Hilary said: "We thank them all. Special thanks go to all those local businesses without whose generous sponsorship the festival couldn't happen, particularly *The Archer* newspaper for the community stage, Martyn Gerrard Estate Agents for sponsoring the owls, McDonalds via Atul Pathak of APPT, who gave the festival a generous community award, Rogers Removals for the main stage and Sainsbury's, who are just about to become a local business, for general sponsorship.

"Huge thanks also to the two wonderful hosts of both stages, Cecilia Holmes and Kate Galston, and we thank everyone who gave prizes for the raffle and took an advert in the festival programme to help keep the festival free. There are many more who deserve our thanks but most especially, you, East Finchley!"



Cooking at the Friday Club. Photo Mike Coles

they need to know about good things."

### Cook, eat, create and play

Good things were happening on the night we visited, with former East Finchley resident



Friday Club organiser Maureen Clemetson. Photo Mike Coles

Katie Louise Barber giving one of her voluntary cookery lessons, the products of which the children were able to take home.

Other activities included air hockey, art and craft, basketball, mini pool, Subbuteo, swing ball and table tennis. Energy levels were kept up by a tasty selection of food and drink available, with some still left at the end of the 6.30-7.30pm session.

On average, 30 children attend the Friday Club, supported by a stalwart band of volunteers. Various outings are organised jointly for both clubs, including theme park and seasonal seaside visits, with the Monday Club running throughout the year and The Friday Club in term time only.

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## SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

LOCAL POLICE, LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Jan Lovell, of the East Finchley Safer Neighbourhood Team, updates us on the latest crime news. Jan and the team can be contacted by email at: [EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:EastFinchley.snt@met.police.uk), or by phone on 020 7161 9014. Follow the team on Twitter @MPSEastFinchley.

### Summer burglaries

There were six burglaries or attempted burglaries for June and the first week of July, which is about average. In Claybrook Close, car keys were taken through a letterbox, but the car was not stolen. In Summerlee Avenue, there was an attempted burglary through a forced back door. In nearby Cherry Tree Road, a window was forced overnight but nothing was taken.

In Abbots Gardens, a first-floor window was forced from a flat roof and jewellery, cash and computers taken. Nearby in Brim Hill a rear window with no locks was forced and jewellery and cash taken. In Howards Walk, a window was left open overnight and a handbag, car keys and a car were stolen.

Please make sure you lock up well and get a holiday buddy to look after your home if you go away.

### Moped crimes

Two officers spotted a moped on Ballards Lane, N3, trying to avoid them. It made off at speed but before the officers pursued it the moped crashed. The rider

and pillion passenger ran off, chased on foot by the officers who detained them both after a violent struggle. The moped was stolen and possibly linked to multiple incidents involving a machete. An angle grinder was also found on the moped.

Separately, a resident sent us some excellent photos of two men riding a moped down The Walks, N2. We hope to identify the owner and the riders as we have a part registration for the vehicle. As they say, a picture paints a thousand words unless it's a registration plate number!

### Parking meter fraudsters

There have been several incidents of men approaching folk returning to their cars parked on the High Road and trying to convince them that they have limited time to pay for a parking offence. They produce a machine for the victim to pay by bank card or escort them to a cash point. The council do NOT take on the spot payment for parking tickets. Spread the word and don't let these men take advantage of sadly mainly senior drivers.

## Woman injured in pub attack

By Janet Maitland

A man and a woman have been arrested following a violent incident at the Five Bells pub on East End Road, N2. Police were called there at about 6.30pm on Saturday 7 July following reports of an altercation.

When police officers and the London Ambulance Service arrived they found a woman in her 20s with a slash injury to her neck, believed to have been caused by a glass. She was taken to a central London hospital. Her injuries are not life threatening.

A 63-year-old man and a 38-year-old woman were arrested on suspicion of violent

disorder. The man was taken to a north London police station. The woman was taken to a north London hospital for treatment to some minor cuts. She was then further arrested on suspicion of grievous bodily harm and taken to a north London police station. Both have been bailed to return on dates in August.



- Back Pain
- Neck Pain
- Whiplash Injury
- Sciatica
- Sports Injury
- Frozen Shoulder
- Arthritis
- Tennis Elbow
- Sprain or Strain
- Rehabilitation
- Neurological
- Stroke

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