



Time to relax: Volunteers at the Archer Academy community garden funded by GBL

## Free fun day is open to everyone

By Erini Rodis

**The Grange Big Local team is hosting a free fun day next month with something for everyone, including crafts, activities, music and refreshments. All are welcome to the event, which will take place in Tarling Road, N2, on Saturday 6 November from 12pm to 4pm.**

Grange Big Local (GBL) is the organisation set up to use lottery funding to improve and regenerate an area centred on the Grange Estate but many of its projects bring benefits to people across East Finchley.

### Two great projects

One example is the funding of the Archer Academy's new community garden, whose designer Rachel Harvey says: "Thanks to GBL we managed to transform a wasted piece of land into a really powerful resource... bringing together our school community when it needed it most coming out of lockdown. Now the garden is flourishing and the children love it."

Aku Adjei, who was helped to organise some drum workshops in Tarling Road earlier this year, said: "I love that we reached many more through the playing of the drums. Some residents in their homes just followed the sound, mesmerised by the drums".

### Looking to the future

The free fun day will also be a chance for the GBL team to



Masquerade: These masks were made by children at a GBL funded summer school

hold their annual general meeting and to talk to residents about future projects like having a community fridge, piloting a Universal Basic Income scheme, setting up a Youth Forum, and improving the run-down underpass between Trinity Road and Manor Park Road. Volunteer board member Sandy Barker said residents valued greenness and wanted more opportunities for children to

play, plus activities and work experience for teenagers. Adults wanted spaces to meet, talk and exercise.

### And the line-up is:

The line-up for the free fun day includes: Aku's Drum Workshops; North London Music's Tuesday Club; Daisy Hale, of East Finchley Jungle; yoga for teens with CharmD; gentle yoga with Sunnah Rose; Ines Lanza's Go Flow With Sourdough; Art for All with Vanya Georgieva; Akana's Improv 4 Teens; Acting for Health; Little Volcanoes Science; Age UK's Shopping Bus; SOTO Summer Scheme; Tarling Road Little Garden; Forest School with Wild About Our Woods; East Finchley Tree Mural; Friends of Market Place Playground; Barnwood; N2 Mums Speak; First Aid training courses; and Hygiene Bank Barnet supplies.

## 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.

### Cycle thefts

Although I am pleased to let you know that there were no house and business burglaries in East Finchley in August, there were five break-ins to sheds, garages and cycle stores, and high-end cycles were stolen from them. An arrest has been made in the borough where there was evidence of stolen cycles being handled.

You can register your cycle at [BikeRegister.com](http://BikeRegister.com) and for a small charge purchase a cycle marking kit, which includes a label clearly stating the cycle is marked.

This not only discourages a thief, but if the cycle is stolen and found in the possession of someone else, police can use the mark to prove it is stolen, arrest the person and return your cycle to you.

Please do look to your shed, garage and cycle store security, according to the value of the goods you keep there. An excellent extra measure is a heavy duty chain through the cycle and around a fixed pole or floor staple.

### Report crime

Report crime by calling 101 or in an emergency call 999. Remember, you can also report crime online on our website: [www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk)



Party: Residents dance to Balkan band, Shunta. Photo: Alison Roberts

## Dancing in the street

Leslie Road residents made the most of the mild weather with a street party on 12th September. Neighbours brought dishes to share and Balkan folk band, Shunta, whose drummer, Seppi, lives in Leslie Road, got everyone dancing.

## Play group open again

A popular play group is restarting after being forced to close during the pandemic.

The free group, led by Lenka and Jean, meets in East Finchley Methodist Church, on the High Road opposite the junction with Creighton Avenue, every Tuesday and Thursday from 9.30am to 11.30am. Parents and guardians of children aged up to four are welcome to drop in for fun and activities.

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*We are a community who welcomes everyone  
seeking comfort and strength in love, faith, and hope.  
We meet both in church and online. Please do 'come and see'.*

Sunday @ 10.00 am - in Church:

**Holy Communion & Children's Sunday Club**

Monday to Friday @ 9.00 am - Online: **Morning Prayer**

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