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# The Archer

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## Inside a doll's house for all the people

By Lynn Winton

**Elizabeth Joseph, who has had a career covering art, illustration, jewellery and craft, has created a new forum for miniaturists who, like her, want to draw on their own colourful heritage and skills to make heirloom dolls' houses and interiors.**

Formerly a jewellery member of East Finchley Open Artists, Elizabeth, who has lived in Long Lane for 22 years, has now also been appointed resident miniaturist at the Museum of the Home in Shoreditch, previously known as The Geffrye Museum. Currently she has an installation of 20 eclectic chairs on display at the museum.



*Tiny adjustments: Elizabeth's Barbadian-inspired furniture*

"I have always loved things in miniature," said Elizabeth, "ever since I was given a doll's house as a child, and my love of making and interpreting the miniature world has grown ever since. Then I used to make tiny comics. As a jeweller I made tiny intricate charms.

"Now I want to create a

space where we change the narrative of the traditional Victorian doll's house, replacing period furniture with colourful interiors reflecting our own tastes and interests. Instead of portraits of Regency aris-

tocracy, let's fill these houses with portraits of inspirational people."

**Workshops**

Drawing on her heritage of Barbadian culture, Elizabeth holds a variety of workshops on miniature furniture making in her home and also at the museum, and will soon hold



*In miniature: A living room in one of Elizabeth's dolls' houses*

her first all-day workshop at home to create a town house from a kit.

To find out more about upcoming workshops, and for tips on how to make

your own heirloom, subscribe to Elizabeth's newsletter by visiting her website: black-girlsdollshouseclub.com. She is also on Instagram @black-girlsdollshouseclub



*Home history: Elizabeth next to a house exterior*

## Action-packed projects

By Chris Stavrou, of N2United

**The March N2United meeting saw East Finchley Constitutional Club host another action-packed meeting, including an appearance from Councillor Alison Moore who kept everyone in the loop about the goings on in the local area, including everyone's favourite topic, the cycle lanes!**

Roger Chapman of East Finchley Community Trust covered topics from the recently launched East Finchley Pollinator Project to East Finchley's 'Town Team' bid that would help increase footfall on the High Road and around.

East Finchley Festival CIC, represented by Alison Roberts and Mike Hughes, gave an exciting presentation about the upcoming festival to be held on Sunday 19 June, inviting involvement and sponsorship from local businesses.

**Secrets of success**

In April we'll hear from three local businesses that launched during the pandemic and have succeeded against the odds.

**What can we do for you?**

We look forward to meeting anyone interested in getting involved in all things local, so why not come to the Constitutional Club at 9 The Walks, N2 8DE for our next meeting on Thursday 14 April at 8pm? Meetings are free and open to all.



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