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Left: Mayor Alison Moore unveils one of the two colourful mosaics created by two generations at Age UK Barnet to celebrate the Queen's 70 years on the throne. Pupils from Martin School in East Finchley worked with the charity's art class, picking colours and sharing stories while sticking down the tiles. "It's been so lovely seeing everyone, young and old, collaborate in this creative way," said Age UK Barnet's Helen Newman. The mosaics were unveiled at a Jamboree event on the Jubilee weekend last month and will be displayed at the Ann Owens Centre in Oak Lane, N2, and at Martin School. Right: The Mayor puts her back into planting a cherry blossom tree in the grounds of The Finchley Charities at Wilmot Close during a Platinum Jubilee party for residents and guests from four local sheltered housing schemes just before the Jubilee weekend.

New Mayor gets hands on from day one

By Ruth Anders

People find it very easy to like the new Mayor of Barnet... and she loves that. Alison Moore's irrepressible good humour lights up any room and she found her career in scientific research frustrating because "it lacked the people element".

Her 24 years as a Labour Councillor have made her a familiar face around East Finchley ward and, alongside her colleagues Arjun Mitra and Claire Farrier, she has worked tirelessly, meeting local groups and individuals, championing causes, and forming effective coalitions.

With Helen Gordon as Mayoress, Nagus Narenthira as Deputy Mayor and Zakia Zubairi as Deputy Mayoress, Alison is proud that the entire

team will, for the first time, be female. She is also delighted to represent people from such a wide variety of cultures and to be the first East Finchley ward councillor to be elected to the mayoral office.

Valuing youth and diversity

Alison and her husband have lived in the area for many years. Born in Cheshire and growing up in Birmingham and Hampshire, Alison herself demonstrated philanthropic abilities

at the age of 12 by charging a penny to see films of Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin in the family garage, raising a princely £1.12s.6d, which she sent to UNICEF. This marked the beginning of a lifelong commitment to young people.

Her municipal experience is second to none but, above all, Alison enjoys meeting and talking to people. Asked what she hopes for from her four-year term as Mayor, she told *The Archer*, "I'd like to help modernise the office and the perception of the Mayoralty without losing any of its dignity. I don't plan to wear robes at Council meetings. And I'd like to get more young people involved and have their views and objectives considered."

To combine a focus on youth and diversity, the traditional prayers from the Mayor's Chaplain will be replaced at the start of meetings by one or two young people from Barnet's consultation initiative My Say Matters, describing their hopes and aspirations.

Striding out

When asked what she does

to relax, she answered, "Walking is my favourite way to wind down. I can't think of anything better than a good hike and a pub lunch with friends." Our new

Mayor will need all her customary energy and enthusiasm to see her through the coming busy year and *The Archer* wishes her every success.

Official reopening for The Old White Lion

One of East Finchley's oldest pubs has had a complete makeover and is almost unrecognisable on the inside. The Old White Lion, next to the tube station, hosted its official reopening last month.




First-night crowd: Customers enjoy the atmosphere of the beer garden at the refurbished Old White Lion. Photo Mike Coles

The previous dark brown interior has given way to a lighter and brighter set of green

indoor spaces with more comfortable furniture and layouts providing more flexibility. At the same time, the food menus have been revamped.

The staff are as happy about the new look as the patrons. One of them told *The Archer*: "There's a completely different atmosphere in here now, it feels like there's more sunshine everywhere."






As part of the makeover, the two white lion statues that used to guard the front entrance were removed and are rumoured to have been auctioned off for charity.



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