



From The Archer archives...

By Jane Marsh

10 years ago:
January 2013

The Grange Estate and surrounding roads received a £1million grant from the Big Lottery Fund's Big Local programme, to be spent on projects suggested and agreed by local residents. The Grange Big Local has helped to fund many local initiatives, including N2 Food Project, Barnwood N2 and the ongoing renovation of the Trinity Road/Manor Park Road underpass.

15 years ago:
January 2008

The Office actor Mackenzie Crook got behind the controls of a tube train at East Finchley station to shoot scenes for his latest film *Three and Out*. It was a comedy about ordinary people with unique dilemmas caught up in a cocktail of desperation, friendship, loneliness and love. During a break in filming Crook chatted with local schoolchildren outside the Windsor Castle pub and signed autographs.

23 years ago:
January 2000

Local people and organisations were asked for their wishes for East Finchley in the new millennium. Responses included more dropped kerbs and improved accessibility to shops for the disabled, the return of public toilets, no more cafés in the High Road, a right-hand turn filter at traffic lights on the northbound side of the High Road junction with Fortis Green and last, but not least, somewhere to buy knickers! Needless to say, not all of these wishes have come to fruition.

Tell us what's on

Does your group, school or club have an event you'd like to tell our readers about? *The Archer* offers a free listing for fundraising and other non-commercial events taking place in the N2 area or nearby.

Our What's On column was suspended during the pandemic but will come back once events pick up again. Meanwhile we're happy to mention events throughout the paper.

Email your listing to news@the-archer.co.uk, marking it 'What's On'. We can't guarantee publication but we'll consider every submission received. Find our monthly deadlines at the top of page 2 of this and every edition. We look forward to hearing from you.



High energy: Fundraisers enjoy the fitness and dance session in aid of Ukraine

Dance drives up funds for Ukraine

By Lynn Winton

A dance event staged to raise funds for local organisation Driving Aid to Ukraine raised £4,000 to cover fuel costs for sending trucks packed with aid to children's centres and residential areas in the war-torn country.

One of the 85 donor-dancers who came ready to enjoy the Dance for Ukraine event organised by GemmaB Fitness on Saturday 10 December at Fortismere School, Muswell Hill, was sustainability activist Maxine Klein, who lives in Hertford Road, N2.

Maxine said: "It was an exhilarating experience. The dance leaders were so charismatic and inclusive that we all joined in with great enthusiasm right from the first song. Everyone had huge smiles throughout and there was a real

sense of coming together to play our part to help Ukraine. "I also brought my young house guest Stasya, who is staying with me under the Homes for Ukraine scheme and she loved it. We both want to take part in the next one in the summer."

As well as coming to dance, people dropped off a ton of warm clothes ready for the ninth transport run that left on 14 December.

DAU update

Lynmouth Road resident Michael Byrne, the force

behind Driving Aid to Ukraine, spoke to *The Archer* with a news update. He said: "The tremendous funds raised will pay for larger trucks to take a higher tonnage of aid to Ukraine throughout the winter and help us continue to be agile in response to specific Ukrainian requests. We are working hard with our partners to move 22 tons of vital aid in January and February."

Contact details

If you have any donations for Ukraine, another local resident, Nicola Cousins, is now on board coordinating collections and drop offs. She can be contacted at nicolacousins0812@gmail.com.

Michael Byrne can be contacted on 07791 912389 if you have any ideas or offers of help. Find more information at: drivingaidtoulkraine.org

Schoolkids reach out

By Lynn Winton

Martin School in East Finchley has pioneered a Young Global Ambassador's Programme which encourages children to respect the local and international environment and to be responsible citizens. Children apply for the positions and run a range of projects to support the local and international community.



Toys and clothes: Martin School's Shona Glacklin and Tristan Young load donations for Michael Byrne, left, to drive to Ukraine

Last month they learnt about Driving Aid to Ukraine, when founder Michael Byrne came to talk about his East Finchley based initiative transporting vital aid across Europe destined for refugee camps in Ukraine. The ambassadors, under the guidance of their teacher/leader Shona Glacklin, tasked themselves with collecting toys and warm winter coats; then a cake sale and collection raised nearly £400 for fuel costs. These goods were already distributed in Ukraine in mid-December.



Art school: Laura Fox in her studio at the Archer Academy

Studio under the stairs for school's artist in residence

East Finchley artist Laura Fox, whose practice focuses on young people's relationship to their local environment, has worked with the Archer Academy to set up an ongoing artist in residency project.

A temporary studio space has been created under the stairs in the Upper School in Beaumont Close, N2, an important centre point in the building easily accessible by staff and students.

As well as creative map making of Cherry Tree Wood and outdoor printmaking workshops, Laura offered creative drop-in sessions for students during lunchtimes

and worked with small groups of students in the school's gardens at the lower school site in Eagans Close.

Looking ahead

A key focus for future artists working with the school will be on students' mental health and wellbeing. Artists from different creative disciplines will be offered residencies that could last from one to three academic terms.

Age UK calls for care reform

By Daphne Chamberlain

Age UK have issued a report outlining the challenges older people are facing in accessing care. It calls on the Government to provide more funding to see the care system through the winter, and to take forward reforms to improve the care system once and for all.

They are thanking everyone who took part in their recent survey. This revealed that one in nine people surveyed were either in need of care but not receiving it, or were waiting for social care assessments or services.

Age UK will be launching a campaign on this shortly. Details will be available at www.ageuk.org.uk/campaigns and on Twitter: @ageukcampaigns. For free, professional advice on your own circumstances, call the Age UK advice line on 0800 169 65 65. Lines are open seven days a week, 8am-7pm.

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