



It's the great British bark-off!

By David Melsome

Dachshunds rubbed shoulders with dameranians and cavapoos mixed with collies when dozens of dogs and their two-legged companions took to the ring in Highgate Wood at the annual show run by East Finchley-based rescue charity All Dogs Matter.



Faithful companions: Dozens of dogs, many of them rescue animals, took part in the All Dogs Matter show in Highgate Wood, including Keith Chilvers and his tiny pet Knight of the Hunter. The judging panel included Michelle Collins, right in the group of four. Photos Holly Marks @marks_x_photography

A few minor stand-offs outside the show ring aside, the behaviour of the canine competitors in front of the judges was impeccable, patiently waiting while they were inspected and their owners interviewed.

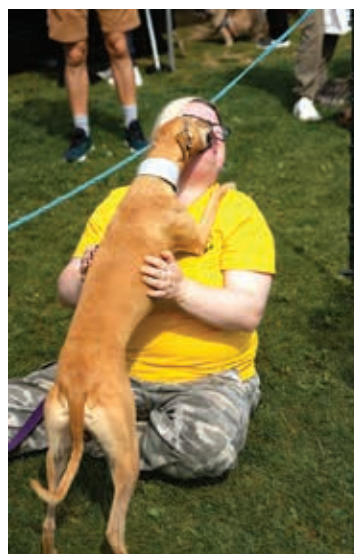
Local actress and *East-Enders* star Michelle Collins opened the show on Sunday 3 September and joined the judging team for five categories: Golden Oldie, Best Rescue, Mr Highgate Wood, Miss Highgate Wood and Waggiest Tail.



With All Dogs Matter goody bags at stake as prizes, around 30 entrants in each category were whittled down to three winners in front of an enthusiastic crowd of spectators.

events around north London.

The judges and hosts urged anyone looking for a new dog to consider a rescue animal first as there are so many who need a loving home. Find out more at alldogsmatter.co.uk



Among the competitors was a tiny rescue dog with a big name. Knight of the Hunter was accompanied by his owner Keith Chilvers, a long-time supporter who attends most of the charity's



A gem of a show

The annual Mineral, Gem & Fossil Show hosted by the Amateur Geological Society Finchley takes place on Saturday 25 November from 10am to 4pm at Trinity Church, Nether Street, N12.

This is a lively show in a large hall with fossils, jewellery, gems, rocks and mineral stalls to browse and buy, along with refreshments and a children's lucky dip. Entrance costs £2 with under 12's free.

The society itself meets on the second Tuesday of each month in Finchley Baptist Church, East End Road, N3. A guest speaker gives an illustrated talk each time and there is a programme of regular field trips. Find out more at www.amgeosoc.wordpress.com

Halloween bash

The café in Cherry Tree Wood will be hosting a Trick or Treat party on Tuesday 31 October. From 3pm, there will be pumpkin soup, baked potatoes and three-bean chilli, with prizes for the most spookily dressed children and dogs. At 4.30pm, children's entertainer Ilana Banana will be there at the Cherry Tree Café to keep the little ones occupied.

October car boot

This month's Muswell Hill Indoor Car Boot Sale takes place from 10am to 1pm on Saturday 28 October 2023 at Hornsey Parish Church, on the corner of Cranley Gardens and Park Road, N10 3AH.

Buses W7, W3 and 144 stop nearby. Admission is 50p and refreshments are available. For more information, telephone 020 8368 8180.

Free concert

The next free Sunday evening concert at East Finchley Methodist Church features the Serafini Baroque Chamber Ensemble performing works by Handel, Telemann and Marais, among others.

The ensemble is made up of Marino Onissi on flute, Richard Vidler on violin, Dinah Beamish on cello and Elizabeth Dockrell-Tyler on harpsichord.

Admission to the concert is free with a collection in aid of the Friend in Need community centre. It takes place on Sunday 8 October at 7.30pm. The church is in the High Road, N2, opposite the junction with Creighton Avenue, and is fully accessible.

Not such a different world? East Finchley a century ago

By Frank Edwards

A tragic shooting, two seats for Cherry Tree Wood, port wine for sale, rising food prices and a job opportunity at Sainsbury's. This is just some of what happened in East Finchley in October 1923, 100 years ago this month.

The biggest news story, which made the national as well as the local press, concerned an East Finchley boy scout who accidentally shot and killed a fellow scout. Scoutmaster and former army officer Captain Bundy was showing troop members his collection of three pistols when Sydney Cornford, 13 years old and from Richmond Road, N2, picked up a German automatic revolver not realising it was loaded.

He accidentally discharged the weapon, shooting another scout, 14 year old Roland Crampton, in the head. Roland was taken to Hampstead General Hospital but died the next day. Warned he faced prosecution for offences relating to his firearm certificates Captain Bundy said: "I do not mind what happens afterwards. Nothing will bring the boy back to life again." Hendon Magistrates Court subsequently fined him £5 and confiscated the weapons.

Seating plan

On a lighter note, the monthly meeting of the Finchley Urban District Council discussed seating in Cherry Tree Wood. All wooden seats had rotted and the one remaining iron seat could accommodate just four people. A local councillor, told there was no money to buy seats, suggested that two should be transferred from the Victoria Recreation Ground, now Victoria Park, off Ballards Lane. Despite objections that the suggestion was 'pettifogging' and 'ridiculous,' the transfer went ahead.

Pint of port

To cheer everyone up The George Inn in Market Place, where Elm Tree Court now stands, proudly announced it was offering 'guaranteed legitimate port wine' at 2s 3d (about 11p) a pint. When not pouring port wine The George was also the headquarters of the East Finchley Musical Society,

which held fortnightly concerts.

Meanwhile a meeting of the East Finchley Ratepayers' Association discussed the problem of high food prices. Ordinary people, they noted, faced with reductions in income and wages, still had "to take what they could get, pay the prices fixed by powerful manipulators and consume food of poor quality." The Ratepayers' Association's solution? Cut out the middleman and supply food from farmers and market gardeners in the Home Counties direct to local shops in the London suburbs.

Smart application

Finally, perhaps another way to deal with rising food prices was to take a job with a grocer. In October 1923 Sainsbury's, then trading from 82 High Road in East Finchley (as described in *The Archer*, March 2016) had a tempting situation vacant: 'Smart Boy wanted, able to ride cycle, good wages.'