



Kim propagates pleasure of plants

There was an extra show of greenery outside Tony's Continental in the High Road, N2, last month, when Tony's daughter-in-law **Kim Athanasiou** ran a charity plant sale. Here she describes what made the event so special. The sale was to raise money for UCLH Haematology cancer care in memory of my mother-in-law Effi who we sadly lost last year to lymphoma. Effi was the joint founder of Tony's and a total plantaholic like me.

Gardening is in my blood, and I always helped as a child in my parents' garden. We grew much of our own food, and I earned pocket money weeding and looking after the chickens. Enfield's answer to 'the good life'!

Last year I donated a few plants to Jane Marsh in Bedford Road for her annual plant sale for Multiple Sclerosis and she inspired me to have a go. On 25 May with help from my parents

me. I was overwhelmed by the response from our customers and passers-by who offered more than the cost of the plants with each transaction.

The atmosphere was great, the weather kind, and the plants flew out. Shuttlecock ferns and Erigeron daisies were the favourites and we even had some baby figs taken from cuttings from Tony's original fig tree.

People shared stories and



Green shoots: Kim Athanasiou with her dad and mum at the plant sale outside Tony's Continental

we set up outside Tony's with over 400 plants grown during the past year, mostly from my own garden and greenhouse with some from my mum too.

I'm addicted to propagating and growing from seeds harvested from perennials but with no space left in my garden, this was a win-win solution for

experiences of their own health battles and were so positive when talking about UCLH. My dad was quite emotional seeing the generous donations people made. We sold all but eight plants and raised over £1,100.

Thanks to Chris, Helen, Mike, Sophia and Chloe for manning the shop so I could be outside all day. Next morning I was back in my garden taking cuttings for next year's plant sale. I can't wait to do it again. Thanks, East Finchley, for your incredible support.

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Dreaming spires: Archer Academy pupils on their trip to Oxford University

The Brilliant Club is... brilliant!

By Archer Academy student Ruby H

'What is knowledge?' This is the question that we at the Archer Academy have been studying over the last few weeks in the Brilliant Club. The Brilliant Club is a fantastic programme that enables school students to delve into the world of further education and university courses.

Our particular course was on philosophy and gnosiology and was taught to us by a PHD tutor called Antimo Lucarelli. We explored three theories in great depth: Naive Realism, Critical Realism and lastly Absolute Idealism to question humans' worldly importance and how we have an impact on the world around us.

The programme inspired us to think outside the classroom and delve into unfamiliar topics that we wouldn't usually cover in our day-to-day lessons. It

encouraged us to explore challenging themes and it developed our collaboration skills through working with our peers and our tutor.

Once we had finished this course, we were taken on an amazing day trip to the University of Oxford where we were lucky enough to be taken around Jesus College to learn about its history and some of its previous famous students.

Then we went on to the graduation event we had all been waiting for. Along with students

from other schools we were congratulated on our hard work and we received our certificates. We caught a glimpse of what a real graduation ceremony could look like in our futures.

The Brilliant Club programme has encouraged many students to go into the world of further education and explore university as an option for their future. The Brilliant Club was an incredible opportunity and personally inspired me to think about my future and how to get myself there.

Sunday opening as new barbers take over Church Lane business

By John Lawrence

A long-established barber shop in East Finchley is under new management and looks set to stand out from the crowd by opening on Sundays. Aydin Canbaz and his business partner AJ are now running a fully refurbished Barbers in the Village in Church Lane, N2, taking over from former owner Ozzie Akalin, who has switched to driving a black cab after passing the Knowledge last year.

Aydin and AJ expect to welcome a third barber to join them and will be offering a traditional Turkish barber shop catering for all, including special services like hot towels, shaving, waxing and ear singeing. They will be open for business from Tuesday to Sunday with both a booking and a walk-in service. Their loyalty card means regulars who get six haircuts will get their seventh for free.

Aydin, who lives in Palmers Green, said the chance to take on Barbers in the Village was good fortune. "We'd been looking for somewhere to set up in business together and this shop became available. We're very glad we found it at just the right time," he said. "We

are keeping the name as it was before. It suits the area because

it's a nice community and it has a village feel to it."



New owners: Aydin Canbaz and business partner AJ at Barbers in the Village