



## Was Somebody Trying To Tell Us Something?

By Daphne Chamberlain

Glancing through a local history book the other day (*Finchley and Whetstone Past*, by John Heathfield), I came upon a photograph of our present library. It was labelled as "the former East Finchley library". The book was published in 2001.

### WOW

The next Warning on Waitrose meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Monday 20th January in All Saints Church Hall, Durham Road.

## Juggleathon

By Diana Cormack

Gap year student Mark Winton of Durham Road chose World Aids Day to perform an unusual fund raising event. Dressed in drag, he jogged around Cherry Tree Wood whilst juggling at the same time. A group of friends added to his difficult task by bombarding him with such things as flour, wet sponges and even a dead fish! However, they also supported him by carrying buckets to collect donations from park users, who were gradually being tempted out into the afternoon sunshine following a morning of almost continuous rain.

Eighteen-year-old Mark is going to study medicine at Leeds University next September, but before embarking on his medical career he will be doing some voluntary work in Tanzania, organised by the Student Partnerships Worldwide charity. Founded in 1985, SPW has grown rapidly in terms of aid it gives to the developing world. It sends young adults to countries



Joggler Mark Winton dragging around Cherry Tree Woods. Photo by John Dearing

## A Sense of Community

By Erini Rodis

The Free Church Hall in Northway, Hampstead Garden Suburb, hosted a buffet for Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators and local Street Wardens on 12 December.

David Fulton, co-ordinator for Norrice Lea and Holne Chase amongst others, hosted a raffle for P&O ferry tickets & other prizes - and the bucket was held by Linda Bailey of Brookmans Park, who, until a serious injury a couple of years ago, used to patrol the area as a PC.

Larry McFarlane, who runs the scheme in two blocks of flats nearby, organises these social events. 90 plus folk attended this one, including MP Rudi Vis, who had to shoot off to a Finchley Society do before I could capture him on film.

Kaye Morgan, on the steering committee, sorted out food from M&S, and wine from a friend's restaurant opposite the Royal Free Hospital.

PC Jeff Williams, who currently patrols the HGS area, and Inspector Jenny Hounsell also attended, to give advice and meet some of the people who make their working lives a little easier.

Fulton complained that most people aren't interested in joining Neighbourhood Watch until they've already been burgled, but stated that the role of Neighbourhood Watch isn't just about giving common sense advice about how people can secure their property and belongings. It's also about people looking after each other's property, by encouraging a sense of community. Social gatherings like this are one way of helping to build this in an area where people tend to drive out to work and back from 7 till 7, often not seeing a local soul beyond their



The hard core of the buffet, including ex-Home Beat officer Linda Bailey (2nd from left), party organiser Larry McFarlane (3rd from left), Kaye Morgan and David Fulton (3rd and 2nd from right). Photo by Erini Rodis.

privet hedged drawbridge until the weekend.

### Watching works

Barnet Borough Watch: Co-ordinators of the Neighbourhood Watch in Barnet have

compiled a graph which shows that Neighbourhood Watch schemes do have a positive effect on crime statistics, especially in the cases of residential burglary and burglary artifice (which is the term applied to the acts of con men.) The graph

shows that, in East Finchley, roads with a neighbourhood watch scheme had only a fifth of these crime incidences, when compared with roads without the scheme.

such as Uganda, India, Nepal and Tanzania to carry out English teaching or environmental work placements.

### A Good Mark

Mark, a former pupil of Holy Trinity School, Christ's College and Woodhouse, is currently taking lessons in Swahili. In February he will commence training in Tanzania to prepare him for teaching environmental health in local schools. It is vital that youngsters there learn about AIDS and malaria in order to help prevent the spread of these diseases. He will also be helping villagers to improve their water supplies, to make fuel-efficient stoves and to introduce more efficient ways of using their agricultural resources.

However, to enable him to do all this, Mark has to raise £3,000. To this end he is working in Homebase and was sponsored by friends and family in his juggling event. If you would like to assist Mark in his admirable attempt to help people in great need, please send a cheque made out to him with SPW written on the back. Send it to: Mark Winton (SPW) c/o THE ARCHER.

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