

Our neighbours

Who's been making the news round your way this week?

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Amberleigh Drummers will be performing at the pop-up event in Barnard Park on Saturday

Pop to the pop-up day in the park

A KOOKABURRA made an unusual addition to Barnard Park on Saturday when the green space was transformed for a special pop-up event. The day was



Blu the kookaburra on a flying visit to Barnard Park

organised by Friends of Barnard Park and saw the exotic bird named Blu take part in a big bird display put on by Falconry UK. There was also a Scruffs dog parade where pooches showed off their moves on the agility course. **Dianne Browning**, who chairs the Friends, said: "I think that it is important that people are brought into the park with community events where people are able to share their experiences with others. "This year we have dance performances from multicultural backgrounds which will be good for everyone to enjoy" There will be another pop-up family event at the park tomorrow (Saturday, June 8) which will include Bollywood performances and Amberleigh

Dummers, a drum and dance group of young children, based in Highbury East. The events run from 11am-4pm. More information at www.barnardpark.org/events.html

Looking in on local history

A GROUP of stroke survivors, carers and volunteers from South Islington Stroke Club visited the Islington Museum for a lunch session on Thursday. For several members of the group this was their first visit to the museum.

Evelyn Thomas from the club said: "We enjoyed a sandwich lunch with tea and coffee in the education room before viewing the many interesting local history displays including the special exhibition on 'Islington Faces'. South Islington Stroke Club provides a weekly lunch with exercise, storytelling and other



Members of South Islington Stroke Club on a visit to Islington Museum on Thursday



Students from Elizabeth Garrett Anderson at the opening ceremony for their Orchard Project

activities, on Thursdays at Mary's Community Centre in Upper Street. More details at www.southislingtonstrokeclub.org.uk

Pupils put down roots for the future

GREEN-FINGERED pupils at a school in Barnsbury have planted apple trees and cherry trees in a bid to learn about the environment. **Elizabeth Garrett Anderson School** were aided by the Orchard Project, a charity that teaches urban communities how to plant trees and plants. **Kaceii**, 11, said: "It's important to help plants due to the oxygen they provide and they're beautiful." **Juliette Henry**, head of citizenship at the secondary school, said: "We're glad that the girls now have a legacy as these plants will be here long after they leave. We are pleased with the project as we'd like to instil a sense of pride and responsibility in them

towards the environment." The school wants to teach students about green approaches including reducing meat consumption, increasing vegetable intake, reducing inner city pollution and improving air quality. **Stephanie Irvine** from the Orchard Project said: "Planting trees really brings communities together as people get to spend time outside with each other. We try to give people a model so they can continue with it afterwards because it's healthy to spend time outdoors and it's great for mental health. It really gives people a sense of belonging." The Orchard Project was unveiled at Elizabeth Garrett Anderson School on May 14. www.theorchardproject.org.uk. Reports by **Liv Klingert and Helen Chapman**