



## From The Archer Archive



By David Tupman

### Plus ça change

178 new homes for East Finchley were to be constructed by Fairview New Homes, PLC on the redundant Lucas factory site in Oak Lane. The Lucas factory, originally built in the 1920s for the production of pianos, was used for the manufacture of diesel injectors until its closure in 1989.

The 1994 East Finchley Community Festival planned for 18 June was given a full centre page spread preview. Strawberry the Clown, the Albion Morris dancers, and Candela (pictured left), a seven piece all-female salsa band, were all lined up to entertain the 5,000 people estimated to attend. The Festival Committee spent many hours dreaming up many wheezes to raise the £4,000 fund raising target.

Also drawing in the June crowds at the Phoenix cinema was the smash hit *Four Weddings and a Funeral*. Pigeons' corner, the much talked about no-man's land just outside Budgens on the corner of the High Road and East End Road, now sports five concrete pipe sections and gravel. *THE ARCHER* speculated whether this brutalist installation without associated broken benches and incontinent pigeon (flying rats in today's parlance) might be a secret living art exhibition. Barnet Council was planning for the Turner Prize. Judging by *THE ARCHER*'s postbag, the community was not impressed.

a Funeral.

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## Mozart in East Finchley

On Saturday 30 June the London Mozart Players are giving a concert at All Saints in Durham Road; it's first in the area and the opening concert of the East Finchley Arts Festival. The orchestra is Britain's longest-established chamber orchestra, formed in 1949 by the violinist Harry Blech, with a worldwide reputation for its performances and recordings.

The programme includes works by Mozart, Vivaldi, Purcell and Tchaikovsky, as well as the Oboe Concerto by local composer Geoffrey Hanson, Artistic Director of the Festival, with oboist David Theodore.

Over the last few years the LMP has established concert series in a number of outer London venues, including Chiswick, Wimbledon, Kingston and Upminster, and they hope that this concert will lead to a similar series being set up in East Finchley. These concerts are aimed very much at a local audience and are designed to be intimate and informal, with children particularly welcome. For the concert on 30 June anyone under 16 can buy a ticket for just £1. All Saints is well known for its acoustics, and is regularly used for recordings

and rehearsals as well as concerts.

### Lush provision

There are two strong local connections for the LMP in East Finchley: Ian Lush, the orchestra's Managing Director, recently moved to Market Place, and Principal Cellist Sebastian Combetti is a long-standing resident of Chandos Road. Both are very enthusiastic about the prospect of regular concerts within walking distance of their homes! In the 30 June concert Sebastian Combetti is one of the two soloists in Vivaldi's virtuosic Concerto for Two Cellos and Strings, together with his desk partner Julia Desbruslais.

Ian Lush hopes that as many people as possible will support this event, so that they can be confident that a regular series would be well received. See opposite for the programme.

## For Love of Music

By Diana Cormack

How many four-year-olds do you know who would turn to their mother and say, "Mummy, I love Shostakovich"? Michael Mistra did just that and now, over 30 years later, he is writing a book about the Russian composer!

His mother Anna lives in East Finchley and earlier this year she joined Michael in Paris, where they went sight seeing together. But Michael's main reason for visiting the city was to research his subject.

### High notes

During his schooldays at St Michael's, Highgate and the City of London School, Michael played the flute and he attended exhibitions for youngsters at the Royal Academy of Music. He studied at the University of Guildford, where he began conducting and also did a teacher training course. Michael decided to go to the USA for his Master's, which he achieved in Kansas City, followed by a Doctorate in Music in Colorado. Now he is Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Edwardsville near St Louis where he teaches, conducts and researches.

Hence his visit to Paris leaving his American wife back home, though she is probably used to his trips abroad, for Michael often goes to the Czech Republic for Master Classes.

He has been invited to conduct in Bulgaria and has lectured in Glasgow on his beloved Shostakovich. Michael also manages to come to East Finchley to visit his mother from whom, she believes, he may well have inherited his love of music!

## But not only for Art's sake

The sale of pictures, donated by local artists, at last year's East Finchley Arts Festival raised over £2000 for the North London Hospice, and it is hoped to better that in this year's week long Arts Festival which opens on Saturday 30 June with a concert given by the London Mozart Players.

Featured in the same concert will be the Oboe Concerto of the composer Geoffrey Hanson, the Artistic Director of the Festival and its founder. An East Finchley resident, he is also Director of Music at All Saints Church in Durham Road where the festival events are held.

Fleur Adcock, the internationally famous poet and East Finchley resident, will read some of her poetry together with guest poet, Kit Wright. Early Italian Baroque Music features in the programme of Faronell - a prestigious group of players founded by East Finchley viola da gamba player Jane Ryan.

Regan Crowley, a member of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, who is the wife of Christopher Hardy, vicar of All Saints, leads her Thamyse String Quartet in a programme of Quartets. All this and the National Youth Jazz Orchestra 2, an evening of choral music and the East Finchley Children's Music Group complete an exciting week.

All Saints Church has facilities for the disabled. Box Office 020 8883 5631.

## East Finchley Arts Week

30 June - 8 July 2001

Artistic Director Geoffrey Hanson

Saturday 30 June 7.30pm:

London Mozart Players

*Fantasia on one note* - Purcell, *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* - Mozart, *Oboe Concerto* - Geoffrey Hanson, *Concerto for two 'Cellos & Strings* - Vivaldi, *Serenade for strings* - Tchaikovsky. Tickets: £12, concessions £10. Children under 16: £1 All Saints Church, Durham Road, London, N2.

Sunday 1 June 10am:

Festival Service

*Missa Sancti Nicolai* - Haydn

Preacher: Father Christopher Hardy SSC

Sunday 1 July 7.30pm:

Thamyse String Quartet

Haydn Op 20 no 4 in D major, Beethoven Op 95 in F minor, Schubert Quintet Op 103. With Dietrich Bethge - cello. Tickets: £7, concessions £5. Children under 16: £1 All Saints Church, Durham Road, London, N2

Thursday 3 July 7.30pm:

Summer Exhibition Preview

Mixed show of local artists. Throughout the week there will be a selling Art & Sculpture exhibition in aid of the North London Hospice.

Admission free. All Saints Church, Durham Road, N2

Wednesday 4 July 7.30pm:

Poetry Evening with Fleur Adcock & Kit Wright

Two contemporary poets read and discuss their work.

Tickets: £7, concessions £5. Children under 16: £1

All Saints Church, Durham Road, London, N2

Thursday 5 July 7.30pm

Trio Faronell

Alan Davis, Jane Ryan, Andrew Hurst with Duncan Druce & Ralph Woodward play Early Italian Baroque Music for the recorder, violin, viola da gamba, arch lute and chamber organ.

Tickets: £7, concessions £5. Children under 16: £1

All Saints Church, Durham Road, London, N2

Friday 6 July 7.30pm

National Youth Jazz Orchestra II

In a programme of Baisie, Ellington and others.

Mark Armstrong - Conductor.

Tickets: £7, concessions £5. Children under 16: £1

All Saints Church, Durham Road, London, N2

Saturday 7 July 7.30pm

London Ripieno Society

Choral music by Purcell, Elgar, Britten, Bruckner and Vivaldi's Gloria.

Geoffrey Hanson - Conductor.

Tickets: £7, concessions £5. Children under 16: £1

All Saints Church, Durham Road, London, N2

Sunday 8 July 7.30pm

Finchley Children's Music Group

Christopher Gunning's new work, Aunt Vita, partsongs by Schubert and Friday Afternoons by Benjamin Britten.

Grace Rossiter - Conductor.

Tickets: £7, concessions £5. Children under 16: £1

All Saints Church, Durham Road, London, N2

### East Finchley Baptist Church

just off the High Road in Creighton Avenue N2  
Sundays at 11.00 am and 6.30 pm  
for more information contact 8446 3571

Visitors always welcome

### Special Notice

Log on & Listen in to .....

City Voice Internet Radio

<http://www.cityvoice.cjb.net>

Every Sunday at 11:45am

Rev Jim Patterson will present his message

live from the Finchley Elim Pentecostal Church,  
Salvation Army Hall, Hertford Road, East Finchley, N2.



Our Sunday morning Family service with facilities for children starts at 11:00am ~ Visitors will always be welcome