



Regular Events

Sport & Fitness

- ❖ **Aerobics** (Ladies only) at Green Man Community Centre 020 8883 4916
- ❖ **Badminton** on Wednesdays. Call 020 8349 0170
- ❖ **Body Control Pilates** classes. Call Deanna Wisbey 020 8883 7029
- ❖ **Ice Skating** classes at Alexandra Palace, 020 8365 2121
- ❖ **London Cycling Campaign** (Barnet), has monthly meetings & rides. Call 020 8440 9080.
- ❖ **Ramblers Association** (Finchley & Hornsey) Vivien Malindine 020 8883 8190
- ❖ **Stepping Out** guided walking tours. Contact 020 8881 2933
- ❖ **Tennis Club** off Southern Road. Call 020 8440 6953
- ❖ **Yoga & Meditation** classes at Holy Trinity Church, 020 8444 7217

Dance, Drama, Art & Music

- ❖ **Adult Line Dancing**. Call Footloose 020 8440 8530/ 8216 5633.
- ❖ **Art Classes**. For info call Henry on 020 8888 5133.
- ❖ **Barnet Schools Music Centre** call 020 8445 6831 for details.
- ❖ **Broadway & West end Musical Singing Workshop** call Idit Gold 020 8449 0011.
- ❖ **Chipping Barnet Folk Dance Club**, Vivien Malindine, 020 8883 8190
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call Vicky 020 8883 1554
- ❖ **Country & Barn Dancing**, at Oakleigh Park, 020 8349 0754
- ❖ **Columbian party dancing** classes, Call Nelsy 020 8444 2012
- ❖ **Incognito Theatre workshops**, Colney Hatch Lane, N0, 020 8883 0911
- ❖ **Over 60s come dancing** at Ann Owens Centre 020 8346 8736
- ❖ **Pottery Class** at The Green Man, Call Celia Holmes 020 8349 9315
- ❖ **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church 020 8455 2403
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra of North London**, Contact Stephen Kelsey, 020 8883 3365

Clubs & Social

- ❖ **All Saints Beer and Wine Circle** Call Richard Baldwin 020 8883 7081
- ❖ **Bingo**, Green Man Community Centre, 020 8883 4916
- ❖ **East Finchley National Childbirth Trust**, Contact Ann Sullivan, 020 8442 1941
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers** meet weekly at the Old White Lion Contact Lillian on 020 8444 1793.
- ❖ **Fairacres Monday Club** for Jewish people, Rene & Reuby Hyams, 020 8883 0448 or Sylvia Lee 8958 7878
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian Merryweather 020 8444 3251
- ❖ **Finchley Victoria Ladies Bowling Club**, Call Margaret on 020 8362 9951 or Eve on 020 8883 7148
- ❖ **Finchley Victoria Men's Bowls Club** Don Ridley 020 8346 4250
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn, 020 8349 4613
- ❖ **Hampstead Social Group**, Call David Morris, 020 8455 0477
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill, 020 8348 3495
- ❖ **Muswell Hill and Highgate Pensioners' Action Group** Call Bob Cottingham on 8444 7635.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Association** call Gerry Saunders 020 8883 7274
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Bowling Club**, The Green, Kings Ave. Beginners welcome. 020 8883 1178.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Synagogue**, Tetherdown, 020 8883 5925
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, 020 8883 4390
- ❖ **Old Barn pre-school club**, 020 8349 4613/1961
- ❖ **Parent & Toddler Group**, Green Man Community Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ **Single Solution** over 30s night. call 020 8802 2326/ 8363 2328



Michael Palin and Peter Bayley at the Phoenix Benefit Gala. Photo by Ian Cormack

Rebirth of the Phoenix

By Diana Cormack

On Sunday 21 April a reopening Benefit Gala was held at the Phoenix cinema to celebrate the transformation of the foyer. The spacious new entrance was packed to capacity with patrons, Friends and supporters, which included the stars Victoria Wood, Maureen Lipman, Sean Hughes, Michael Palin and Tom Wilkinson. The Mayor of Barnet, Anita Campbell, was invited to open the building by chair of the Phoenix Trust Mike Cohen.

Bids for glory

In describing the effort that has gone in to raising money for the four and a half months of work at the cinema, Mike explained that still more is needed. All proceeds from the evening were to go to the Phoenix Fast Forward Fund, starting with a raffle.

An auction of old cinema seats and celebrity memorabilia included the red jock strap worn by Tom Wilkinson in *The Full Monty* which Michael Palin snapped up for a mere £200. Other items that caused tense bidding were a dress worn by Maureen Lipman when she portrayed Joyce Grenfell on stage, as well as a script she used in a Roman Polanski film and a T-shirt of *My Brain Hurts* autographed by Michael Palin.

Victoria Wood displayed all the goods in her own inimitable way, whilst Sean Hughes was an amusing auctioneer, ably assisted by Ms Lipman.

Another cause for celebration was the MBE awarded to long-serving projectionist Peter Bayley, who made a moving speech and received warm applause from the audience.

Also warmly received was the first showing of the film *About a Boy*.

The event raised approximately £5,000 towards the final building works bill of just over £40k. Restoration of the auditorium and façade to their 1938 glory is planned for this summer, plus a permanent ramp for disabled access in the same terrazzo as the front steps.

New look

A lift has been installed for access to the cinema and there are now disabled toilets. The new coffee bar is proving to be a great success: You can pop in for a drink and muse through the informative leaflets and information on display, including how to become a

supporter of what is believed to be the oldest, purpose-built continuously serving cinema in the UK.

ARTS AND CINEMA

By Geoff Garfield

Those out there who can remember my monthly outpourings over the past couple of years (I am not sure if I number amongst them) will testify that my particular hobby horse was the double bill on Sundays at the Phoenix.

Here was an opportunity to catch up on a film that might have passed you by, or maybe another opportunity to see an old favourite again, or to celebrate an actor or director of renown. I am happy to say that everything changes but things still remain the same (no, I don't know what it means either). Sunday matinees rule, OK.

As from 9 June there are four features, of which three are "must see", starting with a homage to Jean Pierre Jeunet's *Amelie* and *Delicatessen*. Both are off-the-wall comedies and uniquely French. *Amelie* successfully walks the line between cuteness and whimsicality as it charts the romantic life of its much-maligned heroine and her attempts to woo the person of her choice. *Delicatessen* almost defies description, so I won't attempt it, other than to say that it is a devastating slant on French cuisine, a kind of Gary Rhodes meets Sweeney Todd!

On 16 June there is a tribute to an actor who has taken 30 years to become an overnight success (trust me not to miss out on the cliché!). This is the day of Gene Hackman and, whilst the *Royal Tenenbaums* and *Heartbreaker* may not be the purists' choice to profile the talents of the man, they are both highly enjoyable and indicate that Mr Hackman definitely has a flair for comedy, not always seen amongst America's finest actors.

Terror and Horror

To close the month there is a focus on American Gothic - *Night of the Hunter*, the only directorship credited to Charles Laughton. It features a truly memorable performance by Robert Mitchum as a preacher in the Deep South, who takes advantage of a lonely widow in order to liberate her of her money. Lambasted at the time, it now falls under the heading of cult classic. The companion to this film is David Lynch's *Blue Velvet* a bizarre look at small town America, with an OTT cameo by Denis Hopper. The remaining Sunday matinee is *Time Out* on the 23rd.

The June programme is: 7 June, the award winning movie on the Bosnia/Serb conflict *No-Man's Land* plus *Y Tu Mama Tambien*; 14 June, *Betty Fisher and Other Stories* - your guess is as good as mine regarding this film, because at the time of writing not only have I not seen it but I have never even heard of it.

So, as I used to say, ring the Box Office on 020 8444 6789 for further information. Good movie viewing.

What's On...

E-mail your listings to the-archer@lineone.net

21 June - A Midsummer Night's Dance in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital 8pm till late at Moss Hall Junior School, Nether Street, Finchley, N3. Music by the Squawking Heads, with Duncan Mills, head of Holy Trinity School. Ticket £5 (includes finger buffet). Bring your own drinks.

23 June - East Finchley Community Festival in Cherry Tree Wood. Come and see The Archer team on the stall.

28 June - 7 July - East Finchley Arts Festival in All Saints Church, Durham Road. Further details at <http://eastfinchleyartsfestival.org.uk>

29 June - A Summer Fun Day at Martin School just off of the High Road, Activities BBQ and great prizes in the raffle.

June 29 - Fun on the square at Hampstead Garden Suburb including: **book sale** in aid of the Free Church Organ Fund, 2-4pm. **Horticultural Show** in the Free Church Hall with displays of fruit, flowers, vegetables and cakes. **Institute Open Day** in the Institute and Bigwood House with Art Exhibitions, Dance Demonstrations, Crafts of all kinds and an opportunity to enrol for the class of your choice next term. Also special activities for children: face-painting, cartoons, paper flower making etc. A **Jazz Band** will be playing on the Square and there will be lunch, tea, ice cream and strawberries to buy.

29 -30 June - Alexandra Palace Cyprus wine festival. Tel 020 7272 6777 for more information.

1 - 9 July - Barnet's Environment Week 2002. Details in libraries or phone 8359 4662 or visit www.barnet.gov.uk/environment_transport/local_agenda21/environment_week