



Regular Events

Sport & Fitness

- ❖ **Badminton** on Wednesdays. Call 020 8349 0170
- ❖ **Body Control Pilates** classes. Call Deanna Wisbey 020 8883 7029
- ❖ **Counselling and psychotherapy service** at the Green Man Centre. For details phone 8440 4174
- ❖ **London Cycling Campaign** (Barnet), has monthly meetings & rides. Call 020 8440 9080.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Bowling Club** open daily from 2pm. The Green, Kings Avenue, N10. Tel: 8883 1178.
- ❖ **Step/Aerobics** classes, Sundays at Bar XL. Phone 0789 0033 968.
- ❖ **Tae Kwon Do** at The Green Man Thursdays 7-9pm 07949 612 706
- ❖ **Tai Chi** at the Green Man on Mondays 1.30-3pm
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Ballroom dancing classes,** beginners and improvers. Phone 01707 642 378
- ❖ **Barnet Schools Music Centre** call 020 8359 3111 for details.
- ❖ **Broadway & West end Musical Singing Workshop** call Ildit Gold 020 8449 0011.
- ❖ **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, 020 8883 0911
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club,** Monday 14 & 28 July at Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3.
- ❖ **Over 60s come dancing** at Ann Owens Centre 020 8346 8736
- ❖ **Private drum tuition,** beginners welcome. Contact Eddie 8444 8376
- ❖ **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
- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book a place. Every Thursday. 12.30-2pm
- ❖ **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 Philatelic Society,** Contact Brian Merryweather 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn, 020 8349 4613
- ❖ **Hampstead Social Group,** membership late 30's-late 40's 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 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 Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professional and business people, Details Eric Dalton 8340 0822

Family Funday for Inca Trail

By Daphne Chamberlain
Francesca Cassini and Simon Parr are inviting us all to have fun at The Five Bells, which could help send them off to Peru in September, which would mean that the National Deaf Children's Society will benefit by over £2,500.

Last autumn, Francesca joked that she would only consider a camping holiday if it was at somewhere like Machu Picchu (4,800 metres up in the Peruvian Andes). Next day, they heard about a sponsored trek from Cusco to Machu Picchu.

One of five walking and five cycling treks organised each year by Classic Tours for The National Deaf Children's Society, the trip entails four days walking at altitude.

For a self-confessed couch potato this could be tough, even though LA Fitness Centre have given them free membership to train. "We've been doing weight-training and the treadmill," says Francesca, "But we're glad to be going with a team of porters. Together with a doctor, the porters will be our only backup.

Help for deaf children

Nights will be cold and the days hot, but their incentive is to reach the mountaintop on the last day in time to see the sun rise. Simon, an artist and healer (creator of the Harmony Stones), plans to paint their journey from photos he will take on the way.

Simon and Francesca, who live in Sedgemere Avenue, need to raise £5,000 for the trek. Just under half of this will cover the cost, while all the rest will go to the National Deaf Children's Society.

They have booked The Five Bells, East End Road from 4-8pm on Sunday 27 July for a family fund-raising day. Plans include a raffle, an auction, Tarot/palm reading, face painting, graphology and face painting, with experts giving their services free.

Simon and Francesca can be contacted on 020 8365 2134.



Anyone in this photo fancy meeting the gang in Melbourne? The Alder School Choir, in 1952. Photo courtesy of Brian Timms.

Aussie Reunion Update

By Brian Timms

THE ARCHER's long bow is drawing together Finchley exiles for a reunion in Australia. A swag of mates from the Martin, Alder and Manorside schools in the 1950s have surfaced since this paper promoted the 20 October Melbourne get-together. "When I got the article about the reunion, (sic) thought I'd write straight away," said Melbourne's Hazel Astley, once of the Spooner family of 50, Leopold Road.

And so it has continued since November's appeal, with word spreading even to New Zealand, home of ex-Alder pupils Kevin Kench and Tony Harrington. Hazel will be in England for a daughter's wedding, and Kevin and Tony are unable to make the trip across the Tasman, but currently lined up are Shirley Crane and Carol Carnie (Perth), Donald Carnie (Melbourne), Derek Woolley (Ballarat) and Brian Timms (Moruya). Also there on holiday will be Joyce Aristidou, once of the Leslie Road Stevens family, flying in from her home in Cyprus with ex-Finchley friend Gill Rowsell.

Sadly, Bryan Joy, ex-Holy Trinity and Alder, died in March. His widow, Ann, may possibly be there.

Are you there, mate?

We are, of course, still seeking other mates in Oz. One, Jeff Voyce, is elusive. "Jeff's definitely down there," said ex-Martin and Alder pupil Robert Ogle in a phone chat from North Finchley, after reading the ARCHER article.

If you know of anyone else,

please let us know. If you're on holiday here yourselves, or make a booking for fun and nostalgia.

Contacts are Shirley Crane, (wanderers@wn.com.au) or Brian Timms, (briantimms@hotmail.com).

KALASHNIKOV KULTUR

By Ricky Savage, the voice of social irresponsibility

Another one Bites the Dust...

Once upon a time when men were men and speed cameras hadn't been invented, there was something that united all drivers. It wasn't a love for Ferraris or Porsches, it was the great universal joke called Skoda.

So, petrol-heads, cast your mind back to the days of the Skoda Estelle, a joke of monumental incompetence made from recycled Russian tanks. Here was a bad joke that belonged to the unfashionable bit of the 1960s but was still being bodged together in the 1980s. It was slow, had bad brakes, went round corners like a drugged camel on a skateboard and had all the charm of a dead cockroach. It may have been modern once, but once was enough. The man in charge of the joke once told me he commuted down from Milton Keynes at eight o'clock every morning in his Estelle 'Sport' just as fast as the Porsches and BMWs. Sounds good? Yeah, well only if you forget that by eight every morning that part of the M1 has more in common with a car park than a road.

But the joke was more than just a joke, it spawned jokes, jokes like these: how do you double the value of a Skoda? Fill it with petrol; how do you treble the value of a Skoda? Fit wing mirrors and fill it with petrol. And, of course there was the Skoda convertible, or as we used to call it, a skip.

You see, for every Skoda there was a joke, there was one about the tyres, one about the engine and well... generations of stand up comics made entire careers out of the joke. And then it all came to an end.

Firstly the Czechs had a velvet revolution, secondly they discovered real cars and thirdly Volkswagen bought the joke and changed it. Remember the one about the parking attendant grovelling to the car owner and saying 'I'm really sorry sir, but someone's put a Skoda badge on your new car'? Yeah, fine, but not a patch on 'How do you manage to get a Skoda to do 100? Push it off a cliff' or 'First prize is a Skoda...second prize is two Skodas'.

But it gets worse. The Skoda Fabia has just become a rip snorting four-wheel-drive rally car and I mean a proper rally car like the Ford Focus and the Peugeot 206. No jokes, no smart remarks, the joke's on us now and if someone gave me a Fabia or Octavia I'd just say thanks.

All Saints' Church, Durham Road, East Finchley Church of England

**Sunday masses at 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m.
Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.
Prayer requests are gladly accepted.**

The Parish has a flourishing social life and a riotous Youth Club for church members. Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy, on 020 8883 9315.

All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir of both adults and children. Experienced singers are always welcome. Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>

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