



## 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. See ad this page.
- ❖ **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 Idit 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 5 & 19 May 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
- ❖ **Private singing lessons**, all levels Contact Anouschka 020 8444 82 05
- ❖ **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

# MGM and the Nostalgia of 'The Old Days'

By Irene Zevallos

Recently a celebration of classic MGM film musicals took place in the Royal Festival Hall; a night full of sweet memories.

### Musical Memories

With an auditorium full of people of all ages, the number of children was agreeably surprising. Old couples singing in low voices tried not to disturb the audience, making an effort but unwilling to stop themselves from joining in.

This well organized production was presented by Euphorium Bakery in association with Tom Croxon Management. John Wilson, who has established a reputation and is recognized internationally as a conductor, was magnificent, as was his orchestra.

In an almost hypnotic way, they transported the audience back in years and showed the youngsters the beauty of the 'grand old days'!

### That's Entertainment

The voices of Maria Ewing, Tim Flavin and Gary Williams were enjoyed throughout. Although this type of musical does not involve constant choral participation, the voices of the Crouch End Festival Chorus (in which one of the ARCHER team, Sonia Singham, is an active singer), confirmed the saying about quality beating quantity, as their contribution to the majesty of the show was invaluable...

Ironically, the MGM studio's library was dismantled in 1969 for reasons of space, leaving only one copy of a conductor's score for each film. Because some of these scores vary in accuracy and completeness, and in some cases do not survive at all, the passion and perseverance in accomplishing this spectacular programme included transcribing sketches directly from films.

### Masterpieces

As Wilson said "The MGM musicals are masterpieces in every way - story, colour, photography, direction, acting and then, of course, the music and the singing..."

The truth is, what we can find *Over the Rainbow* after *Singing in the Rain*, can definitely lead us to enjoy *Dancing in the Dark*.

For me... *That's Entertainment!*

# Watch the Birdie

By Diana Cormack

After years of wondering, I recently found out why "Watch the birdie" became the catchphrase for taking a photograph. In a fascinating collection of almost three hundred weird and wonderful contraptions at Church Farm Museum there is a gadget used by photographers in the late Victorian era. It consists of a model metal bird perched on a water container with a rubber pipe running from it to the photographer. At the appropriate moment the photographer would blow down the pipe making the bird trill and his sitters smile.

The exhibition, which runs until 1 June, is full of fascinating inventions for everyday life dating from 1800 to 1950 and, when not on display in Hendon, they are all housed in East Finchley.

### Bright spark

Maurice Collins of Beech Drive, N2, has been collecting for over thirty years, but it wasn't his idea. It was something his son wanted to do as a youngster and which Maurice continued to do and can now show to his grandchildren. He has progressed from digging on canal banks and beside old railway lines to receiving calls from people all over the world with objects to add to his collection. Some of these, such as the 1890s washing machine complete with a mangle, are too big to exhibit. In fact, his most valuable object is a washing machine in the form of a salesman's sample from 1897.



Maurice Collins with his hat maker's measurer and using a fruit peeler, at Church Farm Museum. Photo by Diana Cormack.

### Clockwork Teasmaid

Maurice's favourite is The Clockwork Teasmaid, patented by a Birmingham gunsmith in 1902. Clockwork features a lot in the exhibition and it is interesting to note the number of objects which have a modern day equivalent. It is also fun to guess what some of them were for or to wonder how well they might have been used. How about a big toe sock protector, a railway door opening stick or a smelling salts attachment for a policeman's belt? Last year Maurice, who

has a disabled daughter and is the chairman of Haringey Mencap, raised £10,000 for the charity Kith and Kin with his quizzes.

### Opening hours

The museum on Greyhound Hill, NW4 is open Monday-Thursday, 10am-12.30pm and 1.30-5pm; Saturday, 10am-1pm and 2pm-5.30pm; Sunday, 2pm-5.30pm. Admission is free and you can take the 143 bus; nearest tube Hendon Central. For further details phone 020 8203 0130.

## Muswell Hill Bowling Club



FREE

- First ten weeks
- Tuition
- Loan of equipment.

- 2003 season starts 26 April
- Open daily from 2.00 pm
- Club night each Friday from 6.00pm

The Green, Kings Avenue, Muswell Hill, N10 1PB  
Tel 020 8883 1178

## 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