



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
- ❖ **Finchley & Hornsey Ramblers Group** Call Vivien 020 8883 8190
- ❖ **Glebelands Indoor Bowls Club**, Summers Lane N12. New and experienced bowlers welcome.
- ❖ **Keep fit for the Retired** Wednesdays Christ Church N12. Ring Bridie. 020 8883 5269
- ❖ **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
- ❖ **Yoga, breathing & relaxation.** Weekly drop-in classes-N2, N6, N10. Phone Judy on 020 8444 7783.

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 17 & 31 May at Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3.
- ❖ **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. Call 020 8883 4070 for info.
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** of North London, Contact Caroline Egan 020 8340 2706

Clubs & Social

- ❖ **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 Sophie Spence 020 8444 1890
- ❖ **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
- ❖ **Haringey Recorded Music Society**, informal meetings locally. Call David Mouldon on 020 83611696.
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill, 020 8348 3495
- ❖ **Northern Lights Speakers' Club** alt. Monday eves at The Old White Lion www.northernlightsspeakers.org.uk
- ❖ **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.



Noel Lynch photo courtesy Orla Hurst

Lynch lobbies for Archer

Noel Lynch, Green Party Member of the London Assembly, has successfully lobbied for his local paper *THE ARCHER* to be stocked at City Hall Library. Noel was "shocked" to discover that the paper was not held by the library and took immediate steps to remedy the situation.

"I never miss an opportunity to raise the profile of East Finchley and was keen to make sure that our local papers and the issues they cover are being noticed by the rest of the Assembly," said Noel.

THEATRE

Murder in Play

Finchley's Guild Players present *Murder in Play*, a comedy thriller by Simon Brett at the Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane, N3 on 13-15 May.

Boris Smolensky's budget production of *Murder at Prior-swell Manor* is in final rehearsals. Things are not going well when life imitates art and one of the cast is murdered on stage. Who could have done it? And how? The rampant egos amongst the inept company of actors mean that each could have a motive. Christa, a fading soap actress, the monstrous director himself, or perhaps his dippy mistress. What is the relationship between Boris

and Pat the stage manager, and can any of them put up with Harrison's dire theatrical anecdotes for much longer? Despite all the offstage drama, the show must go on.

Simon Brett is best known for the radio and TV comedy *After Henry*, plus the *Charles Paris* and *Mrs Pargeter* series of detective novels.

Tickets are £7 and performances start at 7.45pm. Box office 020 8346 6337 or visit www.guildplayers.org.uk.

Winning farce

Review by Alison Roberts

It was with some trepidation that I set out to see Incognito Theatre Group perform *Run for Your Wife*, as good old British farce would not have been my first choice for an evening's entertainment. In the event, I was pleasantly surprised.

One of Ray Cooney's most popular plays, *Run for Your Wife*, enjoyed an eight-year run in the West End during the eighties. It follows a day in the life of London cabbie John Smith, who uses his odd working hours to cover up his double life – with two wives located rather too close for comfort.

If Cooney's humour feels a little dated, it was more than compensated for by some tight direction and immaculate comedy timing from a polished cast.

Graham Sawtell (as interfering neighbour Stanley Gardner) and Andy Mills (John Smith) demonstrated a mastery of timing, playing off one another with the ease of seasoned professionals. Francine Ross and the utterly convincing Abi Evans provided solid support as the two long-suffering Mrs Smiths, and newcomer Damian Perks gave an assured performance as DS Troughton, with a deadpan delivery that only added to the amusement.

Fast and furious

Packed with innuendo and often-predictable one-liners, this fast-paced comedy offered no pretence of literary excellence; it did however provide a thoroughly enjoyable evening of good honest entertainment, which at times reduced many of the audience to tears of laughter. This is, surely, what amateur theatre is all about.

Incognito Theatre can be found behind the health centre in Holly Park Road, N11. Their next production is Thomas Middleton's *Women Beware Women* on 23-29 May (See What's On, right).

East Finchley Open

This year East Finchley's Festivals will include the East Finchley Open. EFO started this year with a couple of local artists feeling that a group focus would help their isolated suburban activity and it has snowballed to, currently, 30 artists and craftspeople.

The East Finchley Open will start in mid June with a show in the Phoenix cinema's newly opened foyer gallery. During the weekend of 26 and 27 June members will exhibit a wide variety of affordable arts and crafts in their own houses and at the East Finchley Community Festival. One member plans to have a sculpture garden open to the public: another plans to project videos on the walls of the High Road itself. There will be other local venues, details of which will be published in June.

There will be a wide range of work in two, three and four dimensions including work in oil paint, watercolour, acrylic and mixed media; tapestry; murals; photography; video; sculptures in clay, wood and stone; jewellery and other accessories.

A great place for artists

Some EFO members have exhibited widely and internationally, while for others this will be their first exhibition opportunity. The EFO is a local voluntary group which is able to keep its prices affordable and whose members enjoy talking with the public about working

in a creative profession.

EFO Membership secretary Adam Justice-Mills said, "The big fun of doing this has been meeting such creative individuals, all excited by the thought of showing and selling their work locally. Even more exciting is seeing East Finchley continue to emerge as a cultural centre. We hope we're making the beauty of the East Finchley community itself more visible. It's just a great place to be and now it's a great place for artists to be as well."

There will be an 'EFO walk' signposted, taking in each of the artists' houses and centred on the High Road. Look out for posters along the High Road with the EFO logo on them – they will tell you where and when the EFO will be opening houses in June.



What's On...

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

Sunday 9 May - A Celebration of Sydney Carter with Mike Sparks (vocal and guitars) and Carole Clarke (recorder) at 8pm East Finchley Methodist Church, High Road, N2. An evening of music by the late Sydney Carter, well known in the folk singing world and as a composer of many popular hymns. Sydney Carter wrote the hymn *One More Step* especially for this church. His style brought together the music of the folk world, the secular and the religious with humour, thought, provocation, challenge and gentleness in equal measure. Collection in aid of The Alzheimer's Research Trust.

Thursday 13 May - Saturday 15 May - The Guild Players present *Murder in Play* at The Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane N3. Curtain up at 7:45pm. For further information visit www.guildplayers.org.uk

Friday, 21 May - The Richard Blues Band at The Green Man Pub 143 High Street, Barnet from 8.30 pm. Blues and Rock 'n' Roll Music and Dancing. Free admission. Tel 020 8449 4033 or visit www.thegreenmanbarnet.co.uk.

Saturday 22 May - East Finchley Community Festival Quiz Night at the Green Man Community Centre from 7pm till late. Tickets £10 per person (includes wine and nibbles) 6-8 people per team. To book your place call Nick or Martin on 020 8883 4916 (please book early to avoid disappointment). All Proceeds go towards keeping our festival free! Supported by the Green Man Community Centre User Committee. (A couple of quiz rounds will have a Finchley slant so make sure you know your local manor if you are entering.)

Sunday 23 - Saturday 29 May - Incognito Theatre Group presents *Women Beware Women*, Thomas Middleton's Jacobean bawdy revenge tragedy Directed by Andrew Robinson. Tickets £6-£8 (Non-members add 50p per order). Performances start at 8pm, except 23 May which starts at 6pm. Box Office: 020 8361 8310 or email graham.sawtell@btopenworld.com. For further information visit www.incognitotoatre.com.

Friday 28 May - Horticultural open day. Tucked away in Islington Cemetery is a Horticultural Resource Centre where environment-friendly gardening is practised and taught. Here 70,000 plants for summer bedding are grown for Islington's parks and open spaces. The Centre also runs a horticultural course for adults with learning difficulties. The Open Day will run from 10 am to 3 pm when visitors are welcome and some bedding plants will be on sale. For information about the horticultural course phone 020 8444 9185.

Sunday 13 June - Friends of Finchley Memorial are holding their **Summer Fete** in the grounds of Finchley Memorial Hospital, N3 from 1.30pm.