



Regular Events

SPORT & FITNESS

- ❖ **Finchley & Hornsey Ramblers Group** Call Vivien 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 8883 5269
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Bowling Club**, Kings Ave, N10. New & experienced bowlers welcome. Tel: 8883 1178.
- ❖ **Pilates** in East Finchley, qualified teacher. Contact Dee on 8883 7029
- ❖ **Pilates class** Wednesdays, 2.15-3.15pm at Youth Theatre, N2. Ring Penny Hill 8444 2882.
- ❖ **Tae Kwon Do** at The Green Man Thursdays 7-9pm 07949 612 706
- ❖ **Tai Chi** at the Green Man on Mondays 1.30-3pm. An "ageing well" class for older people.
- ❖ **Tennis club** with four clay courts off Southern Road. Call 8440 6953.
- ❖ **Wood Walk**, meet 10am at Cherry Tree Wood cafe on 1st & 2nd Mon of month for 1 hr walk. Call 8883 8750.
- ❖ **Yoga, breathing & relaxation.** Weekly drop-in classes - N2, N6, N10. Phone Judy on 8444 7783.
- ❖ **Yoga classes** Tuesdays 8-9:30pm at EF Methodist Church. Experienced teacher. Call Rosalind 8444 8134.

DANCE, DRAMA, ART & MUSIC

- ❖ **Art Classes.** For info call Henry on 020 8888 5133.
- ❖ **Ballroom dancing classes**, beginners and improvers. Phone 01707 642 378
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call 8883 7110.
- ❖ **East Finchley Writing Workshops.** Creative writing, poetry and prose. Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club** - 12 Dec at 8pm, Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3. New members welcome
- ❖ **Line dancing** Tuesdays from 8.30pm at The Constitutional Club. Call Maureen 8440 8530.
- ❖ **Memory Lane Singing Club** - a communal singing club. Call Idit Gold 8458 4508.
- ❖ **Over 60s come dancing** at Ann Owens Centre 8346 8736
- ❖ **Pottery Class** at The Green Man, Call Celia Holmes 8349 9315
- ❖ **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church. Call 8883 4070 for info.
- ❖ **Street Dance** every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages. Contact Lorna 07976 203669.
- ❖ **SwampRock** events: Call Carole 8810 7454 or Neil 01727 830280 www.swamprock.org.uk
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** of North London, Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
- ❖ **Tap Dance** for children beginning at Old Barn every Monday, Contact Sharon 8349 4613

CLUBS & SOCIAL

- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **East Finchley National Childbirth Trust**, Contact Sophie on 8444 1890
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers** meet weekly at The Old White Lion. Call Lilian 8444 1793
- ❖ **Fairacres Monday Club** for Jewish people. Contact Rene & Reuby 8883 0448 or Sylvia 8958 7878
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn. Contact 8349 4613
- ❖ **Haringey Recorded Music Society** informal meetings locally. Call David Mouldon on 8361 1696.
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495
- ❖ **Muswell Hill and Highgate Pensioners' Action Group** Call Bob Cottingham on 8444 7635.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, contact 8883 4390
- ❖ **Old Barn pre-school club**, contact 8349 4613/1961
- ❖ **Parent & Toddler Group**, Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professionals. Call Eric 8340 0822.
- ❖ **Stepping Stones**, interactive play session for under 3's. Karen 07957 278860.

Love, longing and sea-life

By Sheila Armstrong
For the second year running Kazzum are putting on the artsdepot's Christmas play for children. *The Little Mermaid* promises to be imaginative, exciting and visually stunning with puppets playing some of the characters as well as being used to enhance some of the costumes. Thanks to ultra violet light the puppeteers won't be seen; essentially it's a development of their production at The Bull two years ago.

In a recent interview with *THE ARCHER* Peter Glanville, artistic director of Kazzum Theatre Company, described their show as a powerful story by Hans Christian Andersen which allows children to engage with both the pathos and humour of the tale. *Time Out* called it '...a touching story of love and longing with assorted luminous sea-life...enchancing for all ages.' Peter sees it as very much an alternative to panto.

Started 16 years ago, the London-based Kazzum put on last year's successful *Pinocchio* at the artsdepot. They tour schools, arts centres and festivals and also work in the community with refugees. Peter recently worked as Educational Director with Peter Hall at the Rose Theatre in Kingston.

The Little Mermaid runs from 8-31 December at 1.30pm or 5.30pm. Contact the artsdepot for tickets on 020 8369 5454 or www.artsdepot.co.uk.

Cabaret, old chum?

By Sheila Armstrong
The artsdepot hosted Spice Cabaret in the bar area on Friday 11 November. Tables were full and food was available but it was a large space and failed to create the intimate feeling of a cabaret club.

Music was provided by Pre-Plague, Artisan, Tristan Parkes and Briony Greenhill. Gbolahan Obisesan performed his own poems with a certain flair and even managed to make forgetting his words ok.

Mitchell and Smith: Improvable (yes), who have played at Edinburgh, provided comedy and 'improv'. Tom Allen, who won

Rainbows make their promise

By Diana Cormack

"I promise that I will do my best to love my God and to be kind and helpful." This was the first promise made by members of the Rainbows, a pre-Brownie group set up in September by Maureen Antoinette. Rainbows are the youngest members of Girlguiding UK, and being a Rainbow is all about having lots of fun.

Rainbows look, learn, laugh and love. They look at the wider world and begin to understand that they are part of it through a series of fun activities. They learn in many ways through activities at Rainbow meetings, where they can laugh during games, songs, parties and celebrations as well as make a mess and enjoy life. The concept of love begins through their experiences of caring and sharing at Rainbow meetings.

Before their party to celebrate the promise-making, the girls



enjoyed a fun-activity, courtesy of TuDestino, High Road florists and balloon artists. Androulla Costi and Ros Castro Garcia

provided a variety of balloons and carefully guided the group through a creative creature-making session.

After they had made their promise the Rainbows were presented with certificates and Rainbow bags and books by assistant Ivana Sharp and Brownie leader Kundan Clehane.

The Rainbows meet from 4-5pm on Mondays during term time at St Mary's Church Hall, 279 High Road. For further details phone Mrs Antoinette on 020 8883 5654 and visit www.girlguiding.co.uk.

Film festival tackles tough topics

By Louise Wikstrom and Tom Walker

The Jewish Film Festival came to East Finchley in November as the Phoenix Cinema took part for the first time, playing host to six of the festival's films.

The cinema screened two feature films, two short films and two documentaries over three days, focusing on subjects from the Holocaust to the Israel-Palestine conflict.

Tomer Inbar, an Israeli soldier who refused to serve in the occupied territories, also gave a Q&A session after a screening of *On the Objection Front*, a film about his struggle against public condemnation.

He said: "I'm surprised how many people came to see the film here. The biggest problem in Israel is that people would rather stay at home than see what's happening around them."

Other films shown at the Phoenix included *The First Time I Was Twenty*, the story of a Jewish misfit in pre-war France, and *Wall*, a documentary about the everyday lives of people on both sides of the wall between Israel and the West Bank.

Audience member Eva Davis said: "The Jewish Film Festival

is needed. It gives the Jewish people a film festival that's relevant to them."

The festival is now in its ninth year, coming to London for the third time. It opened in Leicester Square on 2 November, with most of the films being shown at Haverstock Hill's Screen on the Hill.

RSVP invites you

By Sonia Singham

RSVP - the Retired and Senior Volunteer Programme - is part of Community Service Volunteers, and is for anyone aged 50 plus, with time and energy to spare, who wants to make a positive contribution to the community. Recently I spent a pleasant and informative morning at Finchley Memorial Hospital, with RSVP Partnership Project Organiser Doreen Miles and Duty Co-ordinator Anne Bowyer.

The Hospital Manager at Finchley Memorial was enthusiastic when approached about having a volunteer scheme in the hospital. Some six years on, the partnership between RSVP and the hospital management has proved to be very successful. The scheme uses a holistic approach, where the professionals provide the clinical aspect and the volunteers the social.

Volunteers receive training before starting, and have the full support of staff. After training, they carry out a range of activities on the ward, which are identified for them in advance by the staff, so that nobody's time is wasted.

Finchley Memorial specialises in stroke and orthopaedic rehabilitation, and one of the stroke wards

has received a National Certificate of Excellence, with acknowledgement of the contribution made by RSVP.

At present there are approximately 40 volunteers at the hospital, and more are always welcome. There is also a vacancy for the Co-ordinator, who should be as local as possible, and also have transport. Hours of working are flexible, and the salary is paid from a charitable trust.

The scheme has been so successful that it has been proposed to replicate it in two other local hospitals.

For more information about the scheme, please contact Doreen Miles on 020 8449 9468. Doreen is in charge of primary care projects.

What's On...

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

Wednesday 7 December - Saturday 10 December:

The Guild Players, Finchley's amateur drama group, present *Dick Whittington*. Performances at Finchley Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane, Finchley, N3, at 7.45pm. Matinee on Saturday 10 December at 3pm.

Thursday 8 December - Saturday 10 December:

Macbeth goes modern. The Finchley Youth Theatre is staging a very modern version of Shakespeare's tragedy *Macbeth*. The production at the theatre in High Road will be set in a modern urban landscape complete with 'hoodies'. Tickets for the play each evening at 7.30pm are available from the box office on 020 8883 9957 or by email from admin@FYTheatre.org

Friday 30 December:

Give blood. The mobile blood donation unit will be outside East Finchley tube station with blood donating sessions from 1.15pm - 4pm and 5.15pm - 7.30pm.

14 January 2006:

The **North London Chorus** presents Bach mass in B minor, at St James Church Highgate at 7.30pm. Contact 07787 788246 for tickets.

Would you like to learn how to build a website?

The Green Man Community Centre and Barnet College are running a course on building websites using Dreamweaver, the leading professional tool for the design and development of websites.

This 10 week course takes place every Wednesday evening from 11th January 2006 from 7-9pm. The course costs £120.

To book a place, please call Nick or Patrick on 020 8883 4916.

Please note this course is only suitable for people already familiar with word processing.