



## Regular Events

### Sport & Fitness

- ❖ **Counselling & psychotherapy** at the Green Man Centre. Call 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
- ❖ **Pilates** in East Finchley, qualified teacher. Contact Dee Wisbey 020 8883 7029
- ❖ **Pilates class** Wednesdays, 2.15-3.15pm at Youth Theatre, EF. Ring Penny Hill 020 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.
- ❖ **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
- ❖ **Broadway & West End Musical Singing Workshop** call Idit Gold 020 8449 0011.
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call Vicky 020 8883 1554
- ❖ **Columbian party dancing classes**, Call Nelsy 020 8444 2012
- ❖ **East Finchley Writing Workshops.** Creative writing, poetry and prose Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club**, Monday 7 & 21 March 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.
- ❖ **Street Dance** every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages Contact Lorna 07976203669.
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** of North London, Contact Caroline Egan 020 8340 2706
- ❖ **Tap Dance** for children beginning at Old Barn every Monday, Contact Sharon 020-8349-4613

### 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 Clissold Arms. 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 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
- ❖ **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 professionals. Call Eric 8340 0822.



Henry Van Emden (keyboard) and Ray Ladsford (singer) entertain *Barnet's Normandy Veterans*. Photo by Daphne Chamberlain

## That's entertainment

By Daphne Chamberlain

**East Finchley's Henry Van Emden, the former band-leader who has met or played with a host of famous musicians, entertained fellow Normandy Veterans at a meeting in January. Nowadays he plays his arrangements on a keyboard, though he still has the clarinet he rescued from the mud of northern France.**

He took them on a tour of London, Grenada, America and Paris. "Shut your eyes and you'll smell the garlic," said his singer, Ray Ladsford, when they reached the French capital. It was almost impossible to believe that Ray suffered a very serious stroke last year, and the two staged an excellent show.

The concert took place on the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, and among those enjoying the entertainment was

John Frost of the 11<sup>th</sup> Army. He had been among the troops who liberated the other notorious camp at Belsen. Those memories were indelible, but he said it was good to enjoy the company of Jewish friends as "life goes on".

Barnet's Normandy Veterans meet monthly at St Mary Magdalene's Church, 6 Atheneum Road, N20. For details, contact Jack Clabburn on 020 8245 6931.

## Whiskey River

By Betti Blatman

**On 22 January, SwampRock's gig at Wilf Slack Sports Centre, East End Road, featured Whiskey River, a rocking five-piece Cajun/Zydeco band, hailing from Cardiff and the Welsh Borders.**

They have been together for many years, with a few changes in line-up, the anchormen being Aidan Sheehan on accordion and harmonica (he also teaches harmonica to 141 students!) and Paul Rogers on bass. When Aidan plays his accordion and extends it, a crawfish known as "Mr Pinchey" appears! Three years ago they incorporated three original members of the band Bon Ton Roulez to play

Cajun, Zydeco and low down dirty blues, mixed with a taste of good ole' country.

Previously known as Baton Rouge, whilst visiting Whiskey River Landing, Louisiana, they saw Geno Delafosse (one of the most versatile musicians in South Louisiana) performing and wanted to create a similar atmosphere so decided to rename themselves as Whiskey River.

## Charity filmshow update

**Say hello to *The Goodbye Girl*, Neil Simon's 1977 romantic comedy, at the Phoenix on Sunday 20 March, and help the Barbara Bus Fund at the same time.**

The Barbara Bus Charity provides specially adapted vehicles, plus drivers when necessary, to disabled people unable to use other forms of transport.

The film is showing at 11.30am, with doors open at

10.45am. Tickets cost £15 per person, and light refreshments are provided free on arrival. All proceeds go to the Barbara Bus Fund.

To reserve a seat, please contact the Fund on 020 8416 0733.

## Still powerful

By Sheila Armstrong

**One of the great classic roles for women, *Hedda Gabler* has been played by many famous actors. Many thousands of words have been written about Hedda and of course playwright Heinrik Ibsen, who is credited with laying the foundations of modern drama. George Bernard Shaw considered him the greatest living dramatist of his time.**

Despite mixed reviews, people flocked to see Hedda Gabler (written in 1890), making it a financial success from the start. Ibsen wrote about the pressures of modern society, which alienate individuals and prevent them from living heroically. But the play isn't all Scandinavian doom and gloom; comedy is evident amongst the intense action.

### Stunning

Brian Davies directing for the Incognito Theatre Company captured late 19th century Norway with an evocative set and costumes. Hedda dramati-

cally wore, in turn, stunning red, white and black dresses. Davies kept the pace cracking along to its dramatic conclusion.

Joanna Nevin sustained the intense and complex character of Hedda, bringing to the central role a very real sense of withering scorn: a woman frustrated by her own lack of personal fulfilment. In this she was ably supported by the experienced Incognito regulars. It was a really entertaining evening out.

Details of Incognito's next production from the box office on 020 8361 8310 or at [www.incognitotheatre.com](http://www.incognitotheatre.com).

## History group attracts great interest

By Tony Roberts

**The dining room at Avenue House was packed to the rafters on 10 February for the inaugural meeting of the Finchley Local History Group, sponsored by The Finchley Society.**

Getting on for fifty people, from as far away as Alresford in Hampshire, attended. David Marcus led the meeting and introduced the speakers. Archivist Margaret Ferguson kicked off with a brief report on The Finchley Society's own archives at Avenue House (volunteers wanted) and this was followed by Borough Archivist Yasmin Webb, who described, illustrated with photos, the extent of the Borough's collection at Daws Lane, and the uses to which it is put. Heritage

Officer Hugh Petrie then gave an illustrated talk about other sources of Finchley material, from the British Library, The London Metropolitan Archives and many others, including *THE ARCHER* web site. Two years ago he would not have suggested using the Internet, but now he recommends it.

A discussion about future events and activities followed. The next meeting will be on 15 June, all welcome. Info about The Finchley Society from [www.finchleysociety.org.uk](http://www.finchleysociety.org.uk).

## What's On...

E-mail your listings to [the-archer@lineone.net](mailto:the-archer@lineone.net)

**1-31 March: Exhibition of Paintings at Chorak** 122 High Road, N2. Landscapes of cities and sea shores, and portraits of human existence in acrylic, by **Oshrit Eizen**. Her works are sold worldwide.

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**12 March: Elvis Rivers** will be performing at **Maddens**, 130 High Road, N2.

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**13 March: Victorian Musical Evening** at 8pm at **East Finchley Methodist Church**, High Road, N2. Entrance is free but a collection will be made on behalf of East Finchley Festival/Arts Festival.

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**14 March: Open day at The Treehouse** - a new Jewish monthly toddler group where the grown-ups get to have fun too. Why not drop in, between 3-5pm, Monkey Nuts, 2 Park Road, Crouch End, N8 8TD £5 per adult. Contact 020 7722 5080. [www.jewishcommunitycentre.org.uk](http://www.jewishcommunitycentre.org.uk), Jewish Community Centre for London

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**19 March: Joint meeting of Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association and Muswell Hill and District Horticultural Society** at 10.30 am

at The Odeon, Muswell Hill. The meeting will include a tour of the cinema and projection room, followed by coffee and Gardeners' Question Time. Bring plants and problems.

For further details, ring 020 8883 8114. Information about the Association: [www.muswellhillandfortisgreenassociation.co.uk](http://www.muswellhillandfortisgreenassociation.co.uk).

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**22 March: Hampstead Garden Suburb Horticultural Society** presents **'Going for Gold'** - Designing a garden for Chelsea. Illustrated Talk by Marney Hall, 7.30pm, Fellowship House, Willifield Way, NW11. Non-members £2.

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**31 March: The Finchley Society** presents **spirit experiences in Finchley and Friern Barnet** - a talk by Oliver Natelson at 8pm at Avenue House, East End Road, N3 (tel. 020 8346 7812). Non-Society members are welcome, and entry is free.

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**17 April: The North London Chorus** is performing **Puccini's *Messa Di Gloria*** and **A *Symphony of Psalms*** by Stravinsky at 7.30pm at the artsdepot, North Finchley.