



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** - 7 & 21 Aug 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 Jane Woollard, on 020 8883 4340
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers** meet weekly at The Old White Lion. Call Lilian 8444 1793
- ❖ **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.



Lydia's a natural! Picture by John Dearing

Budding film star in our midst

By John Dearing

A Year 6 pupil at Martins school in East Finchley attended the premiere of a film in which she played the lead role. The film, *Emily and the Cuckoo Clock*, stars Lydia Francis, 11, and its first screening was at the Phoenix Cinema on Saturday 8 July.

Final year students from the University of Westminster made the 16-minute film. It was produced by Katherine Hunter and Richard Pollock, directed by Melanie Griffiths, edited by Pete Burton, and filmed over Easter at Stanmore, Harrow and in Spitalfields.

It's a dark fairytale in which Lydia plays Emily, a sweet 10-year-old girl who skips school to carry out grimy chores for her elderly neighbours in order to buy the perfect birthday present for her aged Grandma, an ornate cuckoo clock.

Emily's brother Max is played by Tristan Gibbs, aged 13. He will steal anything from the neighbours to make ends meet and has his eyes on Emily's precious clock. But Emily is wiser than her years and has a plan to teach the beady-eyed kid a lesson, putting a stop to his cruelty for good, so she can give Grandma that perfect gift. But there's a grim twist at the end....

Lydia beat more than 50 other girls from all over the country to get the part of Emily at her very first audition. She has attended North London Performing Arts Centre in Muswell Hill since she was seven, but has never done anything like this before. Lydia was excited about the opportunity, but concerned about making mistakes. However, most scenes involved more than one 'take', so mistakes could be rectified.

Star treatment
Filming took place over two weeks, with extra takes over a further weekend, and sound dubbing in the studio in Harrow. Some scenes were filmed in the studio, where it could get quite hot under the big lights. Lines were learnt before each take, which was easy compared to acting on the stage. Lydia enjoyed having her own dressing room, with lights all around the mirror, and make-up lady Louise attending to her.

Lydia said: "It was a very interesting experience. I learnt a lot about the whole process of film making, although sometimes it could be rather cold, filming outdoors. It was great to see the finished film and very cool to attend the preview with all my friends."

Lydia's next role is playing Margaret Thatcher in her school's Big Brother review, but more of that, later....

Sounds of the suburbs

By Linda Soper

How much of an impact did the borough of Barnet have on music? The latest exhibition at the Church Farmhouse museum looks at the history of popular music within the borough, showing a great deal of fascinating information that will keep visitors there for hours.

Local residents contributed memorabilia and information on Barnet's musical connections, including George Michael, Fairport Convention, The Kinks, Marc Bolan and Emma Bunton. There was also a bust of Mick Jagger, which was quite a good likeness.

A lot of music was played in the Torrington Arms in North Finchley and this was associated with some really good bands and musicians.

The Curator at the Museum said: "The Sounds of the Sub-

urbs exhibition aims to be just that: an evocative exploration of rock and pop music and musicians that have had connections to Barnet. While this corner of north London might not have the same effect on the music industry as Liverpool, Manchester or Nashville, you may be surprised to find out just how much of an impact Barnet has had over the last 50 years."

The exhibition goes on until 10 September at the museum in Greyhound Hill, Hendon.

What's On...

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

Saturdays throughout August

Summer picnic concerts at Kenwood House, Hampstead Heath. Saturday 12 August, 7.30pm: *Ronan Keating* in concert (tickets from £27); Saturday 19 August, 7.30pm: *The Music of Motown* (tickets from £20); Saturday 26 August, 7.30pm: *Bjorn Again*, the music of Abba (tickets from £20); Sunday 27 August, 7.30pm: *Last Night of the Kenwood Proms* (tickets from £21). For all Kenwood concerts, unsold tickets will be available at the on-site box office from 2pm on the day of the concert. Book on 0870 890 0146 (£1 booking fee per ticket) or online at www.picnicconcerts.com.

Weekly from Thursday 10 August

FREE family films for the summer at the **Phoenix Cinema**, High Road. Thursday 10 August, 2pm, *The Wild* (U); Thursday 17 August, 1pm, *The Chronicles of Narnia* (PG); Thursday 24 August, 2pm, *Ice Age 2* (U); Thursday 31 August, 2pm, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (U).

Tuesday 5 September

Public information meeting about new coppicing for **Coldfall Wood**; Vampires Football Clubhouse, off Coppett's Road, 8pm. See notices at gates to wood.

Off to see the wizard

By Pam Kent

Bishop Douglass school ended their year with a superb presentation of *The Wizard of Oz*, involving around 20 students.

Matinees were shown to various primary schools and a special evening performance, preceded by a barbecue, was given on Tuesday 18 July to local residents and students' families. Spirited performances by the whole cast had the audience in stitches, as the lion quivered, the tin man creaked and the scarecrow fell over his own feet.

The school came out of special measures at the beginning of the year, thanks to the hard work of headteacher Angela Murphy and her team of excellent teachers and behind-the-scenes staff. Bishop Douglass is now back on course as

one of the leading high schools in the area.

Bel Canto Singers

By Linda Soper

The Bel Canto Singers were at the East Finchley Methodist Church on Sunday 16 July. They used their voices to the best effect with excellent phrasing and sound. They made it look so effortless but anyone who's ever sung will know the work that goes into a performance.

The programme consisted of classical and modern with solos and duets so there was something for everyone. This time the collection was in aid of the Oakleigh Opportunity play scheme.

If you haven't yet been to one of these concerts then make a date in your diary. You won't be disappointed.

Is 2006 the year you learn how to surf the web and use email?

The Green Man Community Centre offers a wide range of courses to help you make the most of new technology. If you just want to learn how to use email or even get a professional qualification we have the course for you.

Learners study at their own pace with a friendly tutor on hand to offer help and advice if needed.

For more information about the courses on offer call Helen on 020 8815 0703.

The LearnDirect Centre is managed in conjunction with Barnet College