



## 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.

### 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** - 5 & 19 Feb 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 feature a different band each month. See www.swamprock.org.uk or call Carole 8810 7454 or Neil 01727 830280
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** 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 on 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.
- ❖ **Highgate Film Society**, contact Admin Office 8340 3343 or email: admin@hlsi.net .
- ❖ **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 John 8883 8114.
- ❖ **Stepping Stones**, interactive play session for under 3's. Karen 07957 278860.

## Forefront of Indian art

The Noble Sage, the first gallery in the UK to specialise in Indian contemporary art, has a new exhibition, "In the Fore 2007", highlighting four leading figures in South India's thriving art scene.

The main focus is on the work of semi-figurative painter AP Santhanaraj. A former principal of the Madras College of Arts & Crafts, Professor Santhanaraj is famous for his abstract engagement with figurative subjects.

Alphonso Doss is known for his general spirituality, and his interest in world religions and their overlapping themes and motifs.

Rekha Rao, daughter of celebrated artist KK Hebbbar, paints with exuberant colour and tongue-in-cheek humour.

CF John deals with what is believably real for the human form, what is possible for a body under force, and what happens when a human subject's three-dimensional action is transformed into a two-dimensional image. He has collaborated with an American performance artist.



Alphonso Doss - 'Melting Sun (Gandhi)' (2006), oil on canvas.

Jana Manuelpillai, Director of The Noble Sage, says: "These four painters are in the forefront of their art."

The exhibition runs until 14 April 2007 at the Noble Sage Art Gallery, 2A Fortis Green, and is open Wednesday-Friday, 9am-6.30pm, and weekends 10am-5pm. See www.thenoblesage.com.

## George Michael thanks nurses

Nurses at the North London Hospice in North Finchley were thrilled to receive tickets to a special George Michael gig in December at the Roundhouse in Camden Town.

The singer arranged the concert as a thank you to NHS and hospice nurses in memory of the care given to his mother before she died 10 years ago.

He said: "The nurses who helped my family at that time were incredible people, and I realised just how undervalued these amazing people are."

Douglas Bennett, chief executive of North London

hospice, said it was a wonderful gesture.

### Seen and heard

A man in his 20s was seen coming up to the receptionists at the Finchley Lido leisure centre and asking, "I've just come out of the gym. Can you tell me where the nearest KFC is?"

## February at the Phoenix

By Phoenix manager Paul Homer

Cate Blanchett is playing consecutive films at the Phoenix. The hotly Oscar-nominated *Babel* followed by the north London-set *Notes on a Scandal* on 2 February adapted from Zoe Heller's novel and also starring Dame Judi Dench and our old friend Bill Nighy.

This is followed by the wonderful Michel Gondry's new film *The Science of Sleep* on 16 February with Gael Garcia Bernal. Gondry delighted Phoenix audiences two summers ago with *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* and his new film matches his reputation for playfulness, surrealism and an innocent view of the world. He is a film maker with such imagination and verve that he is a genre all to himself.

We're very excited to welcome Michael Palin on 11 February for a special fundraising event for the Phoenix Cinema Trust. Michael will be reading extracts from his hugely popular diaries before taking questions from the audience, all this and a rare cinema screening of *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* beforehand. Tickets are on sale now at £25 (£20 concessions).

On 4 February at 2pm we celebrate the work of one of the all-time great British directors, Nic Roeg, with a double bill of his atmospheric tale of death, intrigue and sex *Don't Look Now* together with his rarely seen 1980 film *Bad Timing*. A jigsaw of narratives, time and characters, it is arguably Roeg's most fascinating film.

On 18 February we have a silent cinema event. We'll be presenting pieces from early cinema including the work of R W Paul, who lived and worked in the local area. His studios were based in Muswell Hill and the screening will include early footage of local sights including Colney Hatch Lane. Paul was a pioneering filmmaker shooting both documentaries and fiction films, and even using trick photography.



L-R: Edna James, Sippy Azizollah and Michael Solomons at The Artful 3 show and sale. Picture by Val Wall.

## Artful teamwork makes money

By Sippy Azizollah

Recently, The Artful 3 (Michael Solomons, Edna James and I) held a sale of our artwork at the Homefield Gardens Community Hall, with all proceeds going to The Barbara Bus Fund, a charity providing accessible transport for wheelchair-bound people.

I've known Michael and Edna for a while, and wanted to show everyone the work they have created, and what an amazing couple they are. They were both born with cerebral palsy and have increasingly limited mobility, yet produce the most exhilarating paintings and pottery I've ever seen.

With the help of Brian and Charlie Heffernan, we started our publicity campaign. Homefield house managers Alan and Liz Caldwell kindly let us use their hall (and set it up for us), and local actress Carolyn Pickles opened the show. Carolyn wanted to tell people about the great work done by the Barbara Bus Fund for the disabled community. Fund Co-ordinator Julia Pryor brought an information and photo display, and also produced five raffle prizes from the Fund's committee.

And on the day....

There was a throng of just

two by noon, but that grew into a steady flow of visitors coming and looking, sitting and chatting. Wine and nibbles were supplied by my friends Esme Plant and Pete Graves. Joan Croggon, another friend, made greeting cards to sell, and ran the raffle. That raised over £100.

We sold lots of Edna's pottery, three of Michael's paintings and two of my graphic prints. Alan and Liz bought one of Michael's paintings, which now hangs in pride of place in the community hall. The total raised was £420, including donations made by people who couldn't be with us on the day.

The Artful 3 thank everyone, visitors and helpers, who made this show possible for us. It was a fantastic day with a very relaxed atmosphere, and we are looking forward to seeing you at the next show in 2007.

## What's On...

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

### Saturdays, 10 February to 31 March

Lauderdale House, Highgate Hill: Playtime with the playwrights. Cat Clancy (of the Theatre Museum) leads classes exploring theatre history, acting techniques and dramatists from Shakespeare to Wertebaker. Voluntary acting possible. £70 the course (£50 students/equity, £60 other concs) or £12 per session, no concs. 11am-1pm.

### Sunday 11 February

Live music at East Finchley Methodist Church: Kike Pedersen, Paraguayan harpist playing Latin American, international, classical, jazz and Paraguayan music, including works by Bach, Barrios, Ledesmar, Oscar Benito, Digno Garcia and Francisco Tarrega. East Finchley Methodist Church, High Road (opposite Creighton Avenue), 8pm. Free admission with a collection in aid of the Paraguayan Institution promoting and developing young harpists. Venue fully accessible to people with disabilities.

### Saturday 17 February

SwampRock's Mardi Gras party: Red Hot Louisiana sounds in SwampRock's authentic Bourbon Street Mardi Gras Party with beads and masks. Large dance floor, non-smoking, admission £9. All Saints Arts Centre, 122 Oakleigh Road North, Whetstone, from 8pm. Further information from Carole Lateman on 020 8810 7454 or Neil Papworth on 01727 830280.

### Thursday 22 February

A talk about Finchley Common by borough heritage officer Hugh Petrie, 8pm, Avenue House, East End Road. Hosted by The Finchley Society, all welcome.

### Saturday 24 March

North London Chorus presents Psalmfest, A concert of psalm settings from 5 centuries, at St Michael's Church Highgate at 7pm.

### Coming up at artsdepot, North Finchley:

Thursday 8 February, 8pm: Julie Fowles and Nic Amhlaioibh. Friday 9 February, 8pm: Richard Herring. Thursday 22 February, 8pm: Oysterband. Friday 23 February: Folk in the Foyer. Sunday 25 February, 7.45pm: Ruth Waterman. Friday 2 - Sunday 4 March, 8pm (Sunday 3pm also): The Dateless Wonder. Sunday 4 March, 7.45pm: Muza Rubackyte.