



## 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
- ❖ **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 Dance Classes**, Wednesdays. Beginners 7.30pm, Improvers 8.30pm. St Mary's Church Hall, Finchley. 020 8444 0280.
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call 8883 7110.
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club** - 11 & 25 June at 8pm, Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3.
- ❖ **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 50s Tea Dance** at Christ Church, North Finchley. Every Weds, 1pm. 020 8444 0280.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
- ❖ **Tap Dance** for children beginning at Old Barn every Monday, Contact Sharon 8349 4613

### CLUBS & SOCIAL

- ❖ **Bingo Club**, Mondays 7-9 pm, Green Man Community Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5459
- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **East Finchley National Childbirth Trust** contact Phoebe on 8349 0388.
- ❖ **East Finchley Writing Workshops.** poetry writing monthly on Saturdays. Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers Group** Creative writing 6.30pm every Weds at the Old White Lion. Contact Carola 8883 5808 or Lilian 8444 1793.
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn. Contact 8349 4613
- ❖ **Friends of Cherry Tree Wood.** Visit info@cherrytreewood.co.uk or call 020 8883 7544.
- ❖ **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.



Mephistopheles (Harry Meacher) and Andromeda (Catherine Eccles). Picture courtesy Traffic of the Stage.

## Pact with the Devil

By Sheila Armstrong

**John Cooper, local playwright and director of Traffic of the Stage Theatre Company, brought his latest play 21<sup>st</sup> Century Faust to the Gatehouse Theatre in Highgate in May. He was collaborating again with Harry Meacher, who both starred in and directed the play.**

The agnostic Faust, a modern day professor of philosophy, is propositioned by a leather-clad Mephistopheles and barter his soul so that he can become the most powerful man in the world. The play's characters fence with the major philosophical positions in an entertaining way and a multi media screen adds a cosmic dimension to the play. The devil's three rubber-clad female accomplices add a bit of spice. You don't need to be familiar with Goethe's Faust to enjoy an entertaining evening with a serious argument about the power of love.

Formed in 1986, Traffic of

the Stage has toured throughout the UK and abroad with Shakespeare and other classics. The company works extensively in theatre in education, touring shows such as *Introducing Shakespeare* and *The History of the Theatre* for both GCSE and SATs.

Both John and Harry's new plays feature regularly at London's fringe theatres: *The Education of a Lap Dancer* (Cooper) and *Cardboard Dreams* (Meacher) have both been produced recently.

For more information on Traffic of the Stage productions go to [www.trafficofthestage.com](http://www.trafficofthestage.com).

## A Death on the Ocean Wave

By Daphne Chamberlain

**Friern Barnet's Incognito Theatre welcomed their audience aboard the pride of the White Star line for a transatlantic voyage last month. No, this was not yet another Titanic drama. We became third class passengers on the SS Royal Thrush, with a close-up view of murder and mayhem on the top deck.**

Celebrity shipmates included the Prince of Wales (1933 version), Wallis Simpson, Noel Coward, Japanese Emperor Hirohito, Celia Johnson, and a goose-stepping painter with a hybrid accent and a small black moustache. Surely his real name was not McShicklegruber?

Film mogul Hiram Firebucket met a violent end, Captain Ahab continued his battle with a certain whale, and Purser Prescott saw to the comfort of the ladies. Meanwhile, a young seaman called Attenborough spouted some strangely familiar dialogue.

The piece built up gradually, really taking off in the second act, when chuckles joined up into a steady guffaw. The murderer was eventually unmasked, only to escape by

air with aviator Amy Johnson, who had recently dropped in.

Casting, acting and costumes were excellent, doing justice to a sparkling script from Tony Bilbow and Mike Fentiman. These two writers, known for their work in television and radio, have now created four plays for Incognito. One of the aims of the theatre group is to present new writing, and the success of the Bilbow / Fentiman combination guaranteed packed houses for every performance.

This friendly little theatre, which has nurtured local talent (including David Jason) for more than 60 years, is hidden behind the Health Centre in Holly Park Road, N11. For further information, call 020 8361 8310 or visit [www.incognitoeatre.com](http://www.incognitoeatre.com).

## June at the Phoenix

By Paul Homer, Phoenix Cinema manager  
**Deepa Mehta's final film in her Elemental Trilogy *Water* launches June for the Phoenix. Never a stranger to controversy, Mehta faced a delay of four years because of opposition from fundamental Hindus. The film deals with how Indian society treats widows and it does not hold back in its criticisms. As a young widow falls in love with a man of a lower caste she attempts to break the restrictions around her.**

Subsequently, *Tell No One* opens on 15 June. This is a taut French thriller reminiscent of films such as *The Vanishing*, *Vertigo* or *The Fugitive*. Alex Beck believes his wife to have been killed by a serial killer eight years ago, but when he's sent an email and the police reopen the case he can no longer tell what's true. Is she even still alive? Relentless suspense and multi-layered plotting create a truly exciting film.

As ever, we have a great selection of repertory films in June. Sunday 3 June sees a Zhang Yimou double bill of his wonderful UK debut *Raise the Red Lantern* and his most recent poetic epic *The Curse of the Golden Flower*. Our double bill on 10 June has a space theme with Tarkovsky's classic *Solaris* and Danny Boyle's attempt to jump-start the sun *Sunshine*.

The much talked-about *Half Nelson* comes to the Phoenix on Sunday 17 June in a double bill with *Echo Park, LA*.

Every Saturday morning at the Phoenix we have our Kids Club. Films in June include *The Reef*, *TMNT* and *The Tigger Movie*. At only £2 a ticket and with a fun activity beforehand

it's a great way to spend Saturday morning. Box office: 020 8444 6789 and more details at [www.phoenixcinema.co.uk](http://www.phoenixcinema.co.uk).

## Brazil in

### focus

**An exhibition of work by photographer Hannah J. Taylor focusing on the unique architecture of Brazil's capital city is on show in London.**

Hannah, who lives in East Finchley, captures the striking beauty of the modern urban landscape of Brasilia created by architect Oscar Niemeyer in the 1950s. For the past four years Hannah has specialised in architecture and modern cities. She has collaborated in numerous exhibitions and was featured recently in the Royal Photographic Society Journal under the title 'Coming Up Fast'.

The Brasilia Project exhibition is on show at Brazilian Contemporary Arts, 22 Chiswick High Road until 16 June. Opening times are Monday-Friday, 10.30am-6.30pm. For more information, visit [www.brazilian.org.uk](http://www.brazilian.org.uk).

## What's On...

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

**Sunday 10 June:**  
**Hampstead Garden Suburb Horticultural Society** will be opening 21 members' gardens to the public, including two in Trinity Road and Long Lane, from 2-6pm. Tickets (£5) and full details of venues on the day from 4 Asmuns Hill, NW11. Children under 15 free. Teas at selected gardens (not included in entry price).

**Wednesday 13 - Sunday 17 June:**  
Exhibition of work from each **East Finchley Open** artist, previewing the main EFO weekends on 30 June-1 July and 7-8 July; Noble Sage Gallery, 2a Fortis Green. For details, contact the gallery on 020 8883 7303.

**Saturday 16 June:**  
**Dietrich Kessler Memorial Concert**, All Saints' Church, Durham Road, 7.30pm. **Endellion String Quartet** play Mozart, Webern and Schubert. Tickets £15 to include wine, from 020 8444 6630. All proceeds to the Kessler Instrument Collection Trust Fund.

**Friday 22 June - Tuesday 31 July**  
Barnet Open: exhibition of work by north London visual artists, ranging from ceramics to photography, installation art to oil paintings; artsdepot, North Finchley, 12-4pm. Free entry.

**Saturday 23 June:**  
**Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute Open Day**, 11am-4pm, 11 High Road, East Finchley. Meet tutors and find out about more than 600 adult courses. Live music and dance, art and crafts exhibition - something for all the family. Children can watch a juggler, have their faces painted and explore a fire engine. Admission free. More details: 020 8829 4141.

**Saturday 30 June:**  
**North London Chorus and Orchestra** perform *Five Tudor Portraits* by Vaughan Williams, *The Season of*

*Singing* by King and *Let Us Garland's Bring* by Finzi; artsdepot, North Finchley, 7.30pm. Tickets £18, £14, £10 (concessions £16, £12, £8). Box office: 020 8369 5454.

**Saturday 30 June - Sunday 1 July and Saturday 7 - Sunday 8 July:**  
**East Finchley Open** weekends; come and see original art work by East Finchley's creative community in the artists' own homes; various venues. Visit [www.eastfinchleyopen.org.uk](http://www.eastfinchleyopen.org.uk) for full details or see leaflets at East Finchley Library.

**Friday 6 July:**  
**Friends of Barnet Libraries** present *'Memories of the 50s'*, a talk by Terence Atkins, Vice Chairman of Barnet and District Local History Society; 11am-12noon at East Finchley Library. Everyone welcome. Refreshments provided. Further information from Ian Harvey on 020 8444 9406.

**Mondays in June and July:**  
**Art appreciation classes** open to all, with guest tutors, artsdepot, North Finchley, 7pm-8.30pm, £8: 11 June, *Ghent Altarpiece*, exploring fifteenth century religious iconography and the work of Jan Van Eyck; 18 June, *A-Z of Art History* (Part II), an alphabetical journey through the history of the visual arts; 25 June, *Movement in Visual Art*, from Greeks to contemporary work, a study of how artists depict movement; 2 July, *Abstract Expressionism and the Spiritual*, a look at post-war installation and performance works; 9 July, *Georgian Furniture*, when does furniture become a work of art? For tickets, contact the box office on 020 8369 5454.

**Weekends throughout June and July**  
**Guided walks in High Barnet and Monken Hadley**; Barnet Ghosts, Battle of Barnet etc. Further information from Paul Baker, 8440 6805.