



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** on Wednesdays, Christ Church N12. Call 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 8883 7723.
- ❖ **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**, pregnancy yoga, meditation classes. Call Sunnah 07941 321 772 or see www.stretchingpeople.co.uk

MUSIC, DANCE & CREATIVE ARTS

- ❖ **Art Classes**. For info call Henry on 8888 5133.
- ❖ **Ballroom Dance Classes**, Wednesday evenings for beginners & improvers. St Mary's Church Hall, N3. 8444 0280.
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call 8883 7110.
- ❖ **Creative writing classes** in informal, friendly atmosphere. Tel Sallie Rose 0208 444 7217
- ❖ **Drama Classes** for 11-14 year olds. Mondays at 6.30pm. Contact Carolyn on 07905 481682
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers Group**, Weds at the Old White Lion. Contact Carola 8883 5808 or Lilian 8444 1793.
- ❖ **East Finchley Poetry Writing Workshops**. Monthly on Saturdays. Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club: All Stars Special** 4 & 18 August 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** - friendly singing club meets every Friday in Finchley. Call Valerie 8458 4508.
- ❖ **Over 50s Tea Dance** at Christ Church, North Finchley. Every Weds, 1pm. 020 8444 0280.
- ❖ **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church, Ballards La. Call 8888 4412.
- ❖ **Street Dance** every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages. Contact Lorna 07976 203669.
- ❖ **SwampRock** Louisiana dance club live music events. Carole 8810 7454 or www.swamprock.org.uk.
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
- ❖ **Tap Dance** for children at Old Barn on Mondays, Call Sharon 8349 4613
- ❖ **Traditional Music** in the Alexandra pub, Church Lane from 8.30pm on the last Thursday of every month.

CLUBS & SOCIAL

- ❖ **Bingo Club** Mondays 7-9pm, Green Man Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5459
- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **EF National Childbirth Trust** contact Joanna 8883 0941 or joanna-brunt@cybergal.com
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn. Contact 8349 4613
- ❖ **Friends of Cherry Tree Wood** www.cherrytreewood.co.uk or call 8883 7544.
- ❖ **Haringey Recorded Music Society** informal meetings locally. Call David Mouldon on 8361 1696.
- ❖ **Highgate Film Society**, call 8340 3343 or email: admin@hlsi.net.
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495
- ❖ **Jewish Friendship Club** for over 60s, Tuesdays 1-3pm at Muswell Hill Synagogue, Tetherdown. Call Anita Shaw 8886 6140.
- ❖ **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.

Entente cordiale

By Ann Bronkhorst

Until 16 August, artsdepot in North Finchley is hosting an exhibition of remarkable prints by French artists. It's a chance to see work by Bonnard, Gauguin, Manet, Matisse and Toulouse-Lautrec in the quiet, uncrowded setting of the Apthorp Gallery, just a bus ride from East Finchley.

Visitors to the exhibition, which is free, also receive two-for-one vouchers for the Cezanne exhibition at the Courtauld Gallery, Somerset House, in the Strand. This is because a relationship has been established between the famous, and central Courtauld and our own North London arts centre.

Rarely seen prints

The first 'feelers' were put out two years ago by Tracey Lazarus, visual art programmer at artsdepot, who had studied at the Courtauld. While artsdepot has hosted touring exhibitions from, for example, the Tate and Hayward galleries, this one is a first: a group of works specially selected for artsdepot, some of which had not been displayed in public for many years.

The choices were made by curator Sarah Hyde and the Courtauld's own prints specialists. There are no startling displays of colour and most of the pictures are fairly small. Up close (and here you can get up close) they are subtle, varied and full of human interest, from the compelling near-caricatures of dancers and singers by Toulouse-Lautrec to the delicate suggestions of female flesh tones achieved by Matisse.

Playwrights wanted

A call has gone out for playwrights to enter a competition in celebration of arts charity Community Focus's 30th birthday year.

To highlight the diverse work of writers in London, CF is inviting budding playwrights aged 16 and over to create a new play on the theme of '30'.

Entrants can submit work in one of two categories: the CF New Writers Award for all entrants over 16 and the Emerging Writers Award for adults with learning difficulties.

The judging panel will include representatives from Channel 4, Empire Magazine and Private Eye. Judges will be looking for an original script and for plays that approach the theme of '30' in an interesting and imaginative way.

A shortlist of four writers will have extracts from their plays read by actors at the CF Playwriting Awards Evening on 24 October 2008.

Entry is open to unpublished writers over the age of 16. CF will accept one act plays, 30 minutes in length, to a maximum of 15-20 pages. For the Emerging Writers Award, CF will accept one act plays, 8-20 minutes in length, to a maximum of 5-15 pages. All plays should be connected to the theme of '30' and typed in Arial font, 14 point.

Closing date for entries is 29 September 2008. Entrants can download guidelines and an application form at www.communityfocus.co.uk.

August at the Phoenix

By Paul Homer, Phoenix Cinema manager

Some things are so audacious, so incredible that if you saw them in a film you wouldn't believe them. So when you see *Man on Wire* it's hard to believe that it's true. Philippe Petit not only managed to do a tightrope walk between the twin towers of the World Trade Centre but to do it entirely without consent, smuggling all the equipment he needed into the towers and launching his daring stunt in guerrilla fashion. It was such a daring feat that it rightly grabbed the world's attention.

We're delighted to be welcoming Simon Chinn, the film's producer, to the Phoenix on Friday 1 August at the 6.30pm performance to discuss Philippe and the making of this film. This is an event not to be missed.

I really enjoy the films of Shane Meadows; he's a sure sign that there are good things in the British film industry. His films may not always quite satisfy but they have a clear voice, great characters, witty dialogue, cool soundtracks and a willingness to explore dark issues. I'm very much looking forward to his new film *Somers Town* opening on 22 August.

Set in the Somers Town area near Euston the film follows two teenage boys, Tommo and Marek, who come to London from Not-

tingham and Poland respectively, as they make sense of their new worlds. This film, for many, is even better than Meadows's surprise hit last summer, *This is England*.

We have a full month of double bills on Sunday afternoons this August. One I'd like to draw attention to is on 24 August: two films by Guy Maddin, *My Winnipeg* and *The Saddest Music in the World*. Guy Maddin is an exceptional filmmaker, intellectually curious, a lover of archive film who writes his own soundtracks. His films may not always be what you might expect but are quite brilliant.

Our box office is on 020 8444 6789 or visit www.phoenixcinema.co.uk.



The children of the Kaos choir put on a fantastic show. Photo by John Lawrence

Signing and singing

By Julia Cooper

Children from the Kaos Signing Choir were in fine voice and hands at a recent fundraising concert at St Mary's School, Hornsey. They even let a few adults share the limelight in an uplifting show that left everyone smiling.

The choir unites deaf children from the Blanche Neville School for Deaf Children, Highgate, with hearing children from Highgate Primary School and various others from the Kaos after-school workshop groups, all under the direction of Suzy Davies and Ali Jackson.

The group of 100 seven to 18-year-olds sign and sing with equal love and passion. It may sound an unusual combination, but their witty, catchy songs are truly brilliant, lyrically and musically.

Titles such as *Veggie Aliens* *With Attitude* and *Rock Boots* are just part of their repertoire.

Visual X factor

The songs may be aimed at children, but equally delight parents. In performance, the

signing visual element adds the 'X' factor lacking in standard ensembles.

Hearing members of the audience can even pick up the odd sign or two if they watch closely. Know the signs for pink lip-gloss, candyfloss and a dead hamster? Lots of people left the show with those very signs firmly installed in their vocabulary, and who knows

when they'll come in handy?

In a very hot, sweaty and packed school hall, the adult branch of the choir - the Angels of Kaos - proved themselves worthy singing mates with some professional harmonies. When it came to signing, however, as with all new skills, the children eclipsed the grown-ups totally. Good to know some things never change!

What's On...

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

Wednesday 13 August
Highgate Wood, birds of prey display, 11.0am - 3.0pm

Saturdays in August
Literary walks in Hampstead and Highgate. **Saturday 16 August: Romantics of Hampstead. Saturday 23 August: Hampstead between the wars. Saturday 30 August: Coleridge at Highgate.** All walks start at 11.30am. Advance booking

essential. Contact 020 8340 7178 or visit www.literarywalks.co.uk.

Sat 13 & Sun 14 September
Come to the **Swamp Rock Cajun and Zydeco Stage** at the **Thames Festival** at London City Pier. 12 noon - 9pm, non-stop music and dance with nine bands, dance instruction and DJs Flying Home and Lil' Queenie. Admission free. More info on website, www.swamprock.org.uk.