



## 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
- ❖ **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
- ❖ **WoodWalk**, 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](http://www.stretchingpeople.co.uk).
- ❖ **Yoga course**, N2, starts 13 Jan. Call Laura 8346 8198 for info pack.

### MUSIC, DANCE & CREATIVE ARTS

- ❖ **Art Classes.** For info call Henry on 8888 5133.
- ❖ **Ballroom Dance Classes**, Wednesday eves for beginners & improvers . St Mary's Church Hall, N3. 8444 0280.
- ❖ **Ballroom & Latin American Dance Classes** - beginners and Improvers. Wed & Fri eve, Bishop Douglass Sch. 8207 2323.
- ❖ **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 11-18 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: Live jazz on Mon** 13 & 27 April at 8.15pm, 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.
- ❖ **Salsa lessons** Mondays, EF Methodist Church. Call Ronnie Raul 07958 605 773 [e:ronnieraul@rocketmail.com](mailto:e:ronnieraul@rocketmail.com)
- ❖ **Street Dance** every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages Contact Lorna 07976 203669.
- ❖ **SwampRock** Louisiana Dance Club. Live music events. Contact Carole Lareman 8810 7454 or [www.swamprock.org.uk](http://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** at EF Constitutional Club on 2nd Monday each month from 8.30 pm. Free to join in or just listen.

### 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](mailto: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](http://www.cherrytreewood.co.uk) or 8883 7544.
- ❖ **Highgate Film Society**, call 8340 3343 or email: [admin@hlsi.net](mailto: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.

# Gang warfare comes to High Road

By Sam Bevitt

**Whether you're a Shark or a Jet, a Maria or a Tony, an epic tale is currently in the works from Finchley Youth Theatre for the enjoyment of all. Their brand new production of teenage gang musical *West Side Story* is the premiere attraction so far this year.**

This is the first time the High Road theatre has tackled musical theatre. Team leader Liz Sacre is working alongside experienced workshop practitioners and musicians to bring this epic story to life.

"Having the opportunity to perform is so important to young people," said Liz. "It gives them confidence and develops their ability to work in a team."

The impressive set houses a raised stage and an incredible array of scaffolded walkways, allowing the cast of 60 young performers to stalk above and hang down over the audience, creating the raw, gritty atmosphere essential to Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim's masterpiece.

#### New linkup planned

FYT is a part of Barnet Youth and Connexions Service,

which helps channel local youth creativity and aids them in discovering their future ambitions and goals.

FYT plans to work in partnership with another youth theatre in Lewisham during 2009. Sacre's hope is that the integration will be educational for both sets of children. "In essence, this move would be great way for young people to create new ties and friends with other kids from different backgrounds."

This centre, modest as it may look on the outside, provides a wealth of creativity and opportunity on the inside, and certainly deserves the support of local people.

*West Side Story* is being performed at the Finchley Youth Theatre on East Finchley High Road from 2 - 5 April. To book tickets, call 020 8359 3540.

# You cannot be serious

By Janet Maitland

**Don't go and see the latest art show at artsdepot in North Finchley if you want to spend an undemanding hour or two gazing appreciatively at art.**

Seriously...? is a demanding, complex and thought provoking exhibition that explores how sincerity is portrayed in contemporary film and performance.

It features the work of artists who play with different ways of being sincere about serious subjects, such as identity, sexuality and cultural heritage. Their methods are unsettling, often deliberately overturning the usual relationship between performer and audience.

For example, Laura Kuch's film *Talking about this work for 1 hour, 2 minutes and 27 seconds* shows her trying to convince us of her true intentions in making the film. But we cannot hear a word she is saying because the film is silent.

In *Four Ways to Feel Amaz-*

*ing*, Harold Offeh plays both actor and narrator, responding with inertia to an enthusiastic voiceover providing practical suggestions on looking after body and mind. His deadpan response demonstrates the banality of the clichéd advice.

In *Looking for Abraham*, Kate Davies documents a stand-up comedian who confesses to a series of failed comic appearances. The audience laughs nervously, not sure if his apparent vulnerability is real, or part of the act.

The exhibition is free and is open from 12pm to 4pm every day until 3 May, except for 25 April. It's also open some evenings. Call 020 8369 5454 for details or visit [www.artsdepot.co.uk](http://www.artsdepot.co.uk)



Singing out: members of Finchley Choral Society in concert. Photo courtesy Finchley Choral Society

# Stirring Russian vespers

By Ken Carter

**With courage, daring and devotion, the Finchley Choral Society sang in Russian, unaccompanied, at the Free Church in Hampstead Garden Suburb on 14 March.**

Initiating these risks was the choir's new director Grace Rositer. Firm, resolute and vigorous, she supervised the beat, the pitch, and the ardour. Louise Jones had coached the authentic Russian pronunciation.

I was much moved by this rarely-played masterpiece, enjoying the beauty of the Russian language and the rich texture of Rachmaninov's harmonisation of age-old Slav liturgical melodies. The choir sang beautifully and securely, with enthusiasm and deep respect. Some of the singers had to wipe away tears after singing the Slavonic version of

Ave Maria.

Liturgical pieces by other Russian composers were interspersed among the Vespers. Two came from Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov's inspiration and model for this church music. Chesnokov's *Svete Tihy*, for women's voices, was exquisite, serene and intricate. With clear, pure, resonant voices, befitting a Russian church, Catherine Hopper, mezzo-soprano, and Ed Goster, tenor, elevated an already stirring performance. On the organ, Richard Harvey gave us a crowd-like Toccata by Mushel and some splendour on B-A-C-H (Liszt).

## What's On...

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

### Saturday 4 April

• **Football: Wingate & Finchley FC v Leyton**, league match, 3pm kick off, The Harry Abrahams Stadium, Summers Lane, N12. [www.wingatefinchley.com](http://www.wingatefinchley.com)

• **The Cohens Do Pesach**: the Jewish Community Centre for London and Moishe House London present an experimental theatre piece inspired by Passover. Directed by Rachel Mars, performers will overrun the house, creating mayhem and madness as they tidy and cook; 9pm, NW2. £8. Call the JCC office 020 7431 9866 for address.

### Monday 13 April

• **Football: Wingate & Finchley FC v Potters Bar Town**, 3pm kick off, See 4 April for details.

### Thursday 16 to Saturday 18 April

• **Theatre in the Square's** production of Shelagh Stephenson's comedy *The Memory of Water*, the story of three sisters who come together for their mother's funeral, each haunted by their own demons. United Reformed Church, Pond Square, Highgate, N6. Performances at 8pm. Tickets £9 (£7 concs) from 020 8444 9887.

### Saturday 18 April

• **Football: Wingate & Finchley FC v Thamesmead Town**, 3pm kick off, See 4 April for details.

### Sunday 19 April

• Vicky Sweetlove's workshop on **Healthy Living with Dowsing**, using crystals for health and alignment. Please bring photos or draw-

ings of family members, friends or pets. Suitable for beginners and more experienced; £65, 11am - 5pm at the Soul Therapy Centre, 28 Fortismere Avenue, N10. Tel. 020 8883 8562.

### Sunday 26 April

• Jewish Community Centre Movie Sunday Special. Marathon screening of **Arab Labour**, every episode of Sayed Kashua's award-winning TV series; 11am - 3.40pm, The Lexi Cinema, 194b Chamberlayne Road, Kensal Rise, NW10. Each screening of 3 or 4 episodes £10/£12, (£7 concs). All day ticket: £25/£27 (£20 concs). Book at 0871 7042069.

### Monday 27 April

• **Finchley Choral Society** open rehearsal for *Vivaldi, Gloria*. All welcome to come and sing. No experience necessary, scores provided; 7.45pm, Moss Hall Junior School, Nether Street, N3. [www.finchleychoral.org.uk](http://www.finchleychoral.org.uk)

### Thursday 30 April

• The Finchley Society hosts **Finchley's Pioneers of Film Exhibition**, a talk by Gerry Turvey; 8pm at Avenue House, East End Road, N3 (020 8346 7812). Non-members welcome. Admission £2.

### Friday 1 May

• **East Finchley Jazz Band** live at East Finchley Constitutional Club, The Walks (off Park Road), N2; 8.30-11.30pm. £10 entrance, includes supper. Contact 020 8292 2911 or 020 8807 7552.

## All Saints' Church, Durham Road, East Finchley Church of England

Sunday masses at 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m.

Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.

Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

The Parish has a flourishing social life.  
Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy,  
on 020 8883 9315.

All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir of both adults and children.

Experienced singers are always welcome.

Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>

A friendly welcome awaits you

## EAST FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH

197 High Road, London N2 (opp. Creighton Ave.)

tel: 0208 346 1700

[www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk](http://www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk)

**Sunday service at 10.30 a.m.  
With Creche and Junior Church**

Worship Music Social events Youth Club Wheelchair friendly

e-mail: [info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk](mailto:info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk)

Room hire tel: 0208 444 4453