



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
- ❖ **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 07956 375607.
- ❖ **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 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 020 8444 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 3, 17 & 31 Aug** 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: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. Contact 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** 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
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** on Weds afternoons, call 7722 6209.
- ❖ **Friends of Cherry Tree Wood** www.cherrytreewood.co.uk or 8883 7544.
- ❖ **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.

Art open to everyone

By Daphne Chamberlain

East Finchley Open is becoming more open by the year. This year, our local artists and craftspeople were again showing their work in homes within and outside N2. In addition, some of them were exhibiting at the Koukan Gallery in the Alexandra Park area. The group show ran from 4 to 12 July, with extended opening hours.

One of the pleasures of the EFO Open House weekends is being able to chat with artists. Sometimes this delivers a few surprises. When I called in at the Koukan Gallery, exhibitor Philip Vallentin was doing the honours. Invited to lift a



Art by Philip Vallentin

beautiful black glass and gold leaf piece, I was stunned by its weight as well as interested in hearing how it was made.

A complicated friend

Philip was showing several of his glass pieces, all lively and unpredictable. Coming to glassblowing and design after his work in animation, he explained: "The stuff called glass keeps asking me about my ideas. So I feel compelled to be patient and understanding, as one is with a new, complicated friend."

The Koukan Gallery's Japanese owner Rie Nijo is a practising architect, working

in interior design. She wants to show things that people would like to have in their homes, while in this instance displaying the talents of local artists.

The gallery, a converted shop at 106A Alexandra Park Road, N10, is small enough to be cosy, but light, simple and uncluttered. Find out more about Koukan through www.craftcouncil.org.uk. For more information about Philip Vallentin, visit www.philipvallentin.com. Contact EFO at enquiries@eastfinchleyopen.org.uk or on 07796 117746.

August at the Phoenix

By the Phoenix Cinema's Paul Homer

The Centenary Restoration Project is progressing well. We had lots of great publicity on the restoration in July and we now have £140,000 still to raise. Without that money the project can't happen so we're at a fragile stage in the process. We were delighted to break the news on the funding with *THE ARCHER* first and we'll continue to give its readers the inside story on the project.

Film-wise, August sees the debut of Cary Joji Fukunaga at the Phoenix with *Sin Nombre*, a Mexican film noir which confirms that country as one of the most cinematically exciting at the moment.

At the end of the month comes a film that everyone will want to see, so get booking. Pedro Almodovar's *Broken Embraces* with Penelope Cruz opens on 28 August. It's a Hitchcockian thriller, full of the style and colour we have come to expect from this master of Spanish film. As much a homage to the films and filmmakers that shaped him,

it will delight and, perhaps, shock you. We also have an Almodovar double bill on Sunday 30 August with *Talk to Her* and *All About My Mother*.

Another double bill in August is a Michael Caine special of *Is Anybody There?* and *Hannah and Her Sisters*.

September is a big month for the Phoenix. We will decide on the precise timings of the restoration work, hopefully to start in January. To do that we need to raise that remaining money which we can only do with your help! Our box office is on 020 8444 6789 or visit www.phoenixcinema.co.uk.

Londoners love

artsdepot

By Sheila Armstrong

Barnet's own artsdepot has been voted London's best neighbourhood theatre in the Smooth Radio Love London Awards.

At an award ceremony at the Café de Paris in April it was announced that the North Finchley venue had beaten off stiff competition from the South Bank and Greenwich Theatre to win the coveted prize.

The aim of the awards, sponsored by *The Independent* and ITV's *London Tonight*, was to celebrate London's hidden gems. Judges commended artsdepot for its high quality theatre, music, comedy, dance,

art and some of the best coffee in London.

Director Tracey Coopers said: "We may be on the outskirts but we're in the heart of the community. Winning a Love London award is the icing on the cake for artsdepot."

Opened in 2004 at Tally Ho Corner, the venue has two theatres and an art gallery as well as a café, bars and education studios. It celebrates its fifth birthday in October.

Review: Call Me Madam

By Sheila Armstrong

The Theatre Upstairs at the Gatehouse pub in Highgate is playing Irving Berlin's *Call Me Madam* until mid-August. Full of great tunes and old remembered songs like *It's a Lovely Day Today* and *Hostess with the Mostest*, the production swings along.

Last seen in the West End in 1982 starring Noele Gordon of *Crossroads* fame, and as a very successful film starring Ethel Merman, it is the story of an unlikely and undiplomatic female ambassador sent to a small European country who creates havoc with her well meaning but outspoken ways. In the way of musicals, all ends happily and two unlikely romances eventually blossom.

Beverley Klein, with a host of West End roles behind her, is

the living embodiment of Ethel Merman and has a tremendous voice. Gido Schimanski, who has worked extensively in Europe, takes the lead male role and Chris Love and Kate Nelson play the younger couple with great feeling. The principals are ably supported by an all-singing, all-dancing young cast with impeccable West End credentials. This classic Irving Berlin musical is directed by the acclaimed 'best reviver of musicals around' Thom Southerland.

Grass roots prize-winner

By Sheila Armstrong

The prize-winning film *Helen* was brought to the Phoenix Cinema recently by its Irish directors Joe Lawlor and Christine Molloy. Made as a community film with no professional actors, *Helen* went to the Edinburgh Festival and was then taken up for distribution by New Wave films.

It is the story of Helen, a young girl in care, who is asked to help in the reconstruction of the disappearance of a classmate, Joy. In the course of the film Helen starts to reconstruct her own life by examining documents from her early life, and through her contact with Joy's family. The contrast between the families enables Helen to discover what she really wants in life, giving her some sort of hope for

the future. The lead role of Helen was played by Annie Townsend, who brought quiet understanding to the role: an impressive performance in a beautifully shot film.

The directors were at the Phoenix showing for a Q & A at the end of the film, which brought forward some probing questions from the audience and provided intriguing insights into its making.

What's On...

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

Friday 7 - Saturday 8 August

• **Belgian Beer Festival** at East Finchley Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2. Belgian karaoke disco, barbecue and live music. Entrance £1, free for club members, CAMRA members and anyone carrying a copy of *THE ARCHER*. More information from belgium@eastfinchley.co.uk

Saturday 15 August

• **Blackberry pick and wildlife day** at Long Lane Pasture, N3, (entrance opposite the fire station), 10am to 5pm. For details, phone 8346 5011

Sunday 16 August

• **Guided walk exploring the Battle of Barnet**. Explore the famous battlefield of 1471. Meet at junction of Great North Road and Hadley Green Road at 2pm. For details, contact Paul Baker on 020 8440 6805.

Sunday 23 August

• **Guided walk of historical High Barnet**. Meet at Barnet College, Wood Street, High Barnet at 2pm.

For details, contact Paul Baker on 020 8440 6805.

Sunday 30 August

• **Guided walk of historical Monken Hadley**. Meet at The Spires, Barnet High Street at 2pm. For details, contact Paul Baker on 020 8440 6805.

Throughout August

• **Mapalim Summer Holiday Play-schemes** for all primary school children, hosted at Martin Primary School. Film making, arts and crafts, performance, sports, science and much more. Full-week bookings at £70 per child or one-day tasters. Find information and book at www.summerchillout.co.uk. For telephone bookings or queries contact Mapalim on 020 7284 3215 or martina.clarke@mapalim.com

• **Children's Summer Funfair** at Ally Pally, noon - 7pm Ends 13 September.

Saturday 12 September

• **Table Top Sale** at All Saints' Church, Durham Road, 10am to 1pm.

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

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

Room hire tel: 0208 444 4453