



## 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
- ❖ **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](http://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** 7 & 21 Dec 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
- ❖ **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 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 evening** at the Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2. Sundays at 8pm.
- ❖ **Bingo Club** Mondays 7-9 pm, Green Man Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5459
- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **Dads' Club:** Get-togethers for dads looking after young children in East Finchley. Adam 07957 441435.
- ❖ **EF National Childbirth Trust** contact Ruby Yang or Patrizia Canwell at [eastfinchleynct@googlemail.com](mailto:eastfinchleynct@googlemail.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](http://www.cherrytreewood.co.uk) or 8883 7544.
- ❖ **Highgate Film Society**, call 8340 3343 or email: [admin@hlsi.net](mailto:admin@hlsi.net).
- ❖ **LGBT?** 1st Weds every month in a local pub. Relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. Email [efinchleylgbt@hotmail.com](mailto:efinchleylgbt@hotmail.com) for info.
- ❖ **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.



Kat and Lou want to make laugh not war.

## Are you having a laugh?

By David Melsome

**Fancy relieving the winter gloom with a dose of comedy? Then get along to the Alexandra pub in Fortis Green where a new comedy club is taking off.**

Katrina Thompson and Lou Sanders have set up Make Laugh Not War and want it to be a monthly must-see. The pair have been comedy partners for many years and have often played at the Edinburgh Festival.

Their new comedy night offers a full line-up of stand-up comics and will be at the Alexandra on a Sunday evening once a month. Their debut there was on 22 November as *THE ARCHER* went to press and was in aid of the Bobath Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy on East End Road. We hope to carry a review in our next issue.

Katrina, of Kitchener Road, said: "The idea is that everyone we have on stage is an up-and-coming local stand-up. We'll have all different styles. Stand-up isn't just political or alternative any more." For dates and details visit [www.makelaughnotwar.co.uk](http://www.makelaughnotwar.co.uk)

## December at the Phoenix

By the Phoenix Cinema's Paul Homer

**Looking back at this column in December 2008, I wrote that I hoped we would begin our Centenary Restoration Project in 2009. Well, we didn't, but we have got very close to doing so. We almost raised all the money and as I write we are planning for the builders to be on site in mid-February. We simply couldn't have got this far without all the fantastic support that we've had from our community, including many readers of *THE ARCHER* and of course the paper itself, so we're grateful to you all.**

It's important, though, to remember why we're embarking on this project. It's to give you, our customers, the cinema you deserve with better facilities and to give everyone in East Finchley a greater sense of pride in their community by creating a landmark building. By next summer we hope you'll see the fruits of all our work.

But the main reason we're here is to bring you great films and we'll continue to do that with December's line-up. We wanted to do something a bit different for Christmas this year and so instead of a seasonal film we're showing a wonderful, heart-warming classic: *The Red Shoes* by Powell and Pressburger.

Our big film for late December is *Nowhere Boy*, directed by Sam Taylor-Wood, the biopic of the early life of John Lennon and his relationship with his mother and his aunt. We hope to have a preview screening of the film with Sam in early December.

Sunday matinees this month include a double bill of Pixar's

*Up* with Buster Keaton's *The Balloonatic*, two films we felt were just perfect played together. We also continue to bring you In the Night Garden screenings for younger audiences on Monday and Friday mornings.

Contact our box office on 020 8444 6789 or visit [www.phoenixcinema.co.uk](http://www.phoenixcinema.co.uk).

## Kessler commemorated

**On Sunday 13 December, a statue of St Cecilia, the patron saint of music, is to be dedicated to the memory of viol maker and instrument expert Dietrich Kessler at All Saints' Church, Durham Road, during the 10am service.**

East Finchley Arts Festival director Geoffrey Hanson has made a musical setting of some words written by East Finchley poet Fleur Adcock for the occasion.

## What's On...

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

### Sunday 6 December

• **Christmas Fair at Holy Trinity School**, Eagans Close, N2, from 12noon to 2.30pm. Come along for games, Christmas gifts and great food.

### Tuesday 8 December

• Join the **Jewish Community Centre** to celebrate the eight nights of **Chanukah** with eight intimate, funny and moving stories from eight storytellers. True stories, no notes, no hiding, from eight brave and fascinating folk, including true tales inspired by the number eight; 8pm, The Forge, 3-7 Delancey Street, London, NW1 7NL. Price: £6 in advance, £8 on the door. Tickets and information: 020 7431 9866.

### Saturday 12 December

• **Christmas Fair at Martin Primary School**, Plane Tree Walk, N2, between 12noon and 3pm. Fantastic range of stalls, games and activities: something for everyone to enjoy. There will be a silent M-bay auction, refreshments will be available and Father Christmas will make a special guest appearance.

• **Jewish Community Centre Bar Mitzvah Disco.** Enjoy live music, DJs and our e-magician Miki Shaw. Dress: your own bar/batmitzvah outfit; 8pm till late, The Adelaide, 143 Adelaide Road, London NW3 3NL. Price: £12 in advance, £15 on the door. Tickets and information: 020 7431 9866.

### Sunday 13 December

• **An Evening with Maureen Lipman**, an informal and unique experience with actor and writer Maureen Lipman, all proceeds to North London Hospice, 8pm, Middlesex University, The Burroughs,

Hendon NW4 4BT. Tickets £20 (including wine and nibbles) from North London Hospice Fundraising Office, 47 Woodside Ave, N12 8TF (tel: 020 8446 2288) or Peter Kraushar, Northern Heights Support Group, 2 Lauradale Road N2 9LU (tel: 020 8446 2288). Please make cheques payable to North London Hospice.

### Friday 18 December to Sunday 31 January

• **Ovation** presents **High Society**, with music and lyrics by Cole Porter. *True Love, Who Wants to be a Millionaire and Well, Did You Evah?* are just three of the fabulous songs in this show. Upstairs at the Gatehouse, Highgate Village, N6. Evenings at 7.30pm, Mid Week Matinees and Sundays at 4.00pm. Tickets priced £10-£15, concessions available. Box office 020 8340 3488.

### Friday 8 January

• Charity performance of **Pinocchio** in aid of Noah's Ark Children's Hospice; 7.30pm at Chickenshed Theatre, Chase Side, Southgate N14 4EP. Call the Appeals Office on 020 8449 8877 to reserve tickets (£18 adults, £16 concessions).

### What's on at artsdepot

**The Truth about Hardeep Singh Kohli**, Saturday 5 December, 8pm. **Jim Moray**, Saturday 5 December, 8pm. **Sunday Buzz: The Blackthorn Band**, Sunday 6 December, 1pm. **Folk in the Foyer**, Friday 18 December, 8.30pm. **The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus**, a magical festive tale for families and children, Saturday 5 December to Sunday 3 January. Box office: 020 8369 5454.

## Review: Tumbleweed Comedy Club

By Julia Lawrence

**It's a classic format, on which many of today's comedy greats including Jo Brand and Jack Dee were first blooded. The Comedy Club: a gathering, in the back room of a pub, of well-aled regulars to boo, heckle and hopefully encourage a programme of fledgling comedians, keen to raise a few laughs and maybe quit the day job some day.**

Thousands of comics have died, horribly, up there, yet many brave veterans have survived to make Radio Times TV listings this Christmas. It's a format that works well, and was brought to the Old White Lion on 4 November by comper and East Finchley resident Alex Perkins.

The Tumbleweed Comedy Club is informal, friendly, and extremely popular. The standard of comedy varied widely, which is part of the appeal. The audience cannot help wondering if they are watching the next big thing.

Thankfully for the performers at the White Lion, heckling N2-style was minimal and polite. There were no on-stage massacres and only a smattering of 'rolling tumbleweed' awkward silences (presumably the inspiration for the club's name).

After the club's debut, I hope the outrageously inappropriate and rude singing funny lady Carly Smallman will remember her night at the Old White Lion some day. I also hope she comes back to entertain us again. We saw her here first.

## Review: James Lisney at the Red Hedgehog

By Ken Carter

**Securely insulated against Archway Road's rumble, a large room welcomes you at the Red Hedgehog. James Lisney tries out new programmes here, for preference. The venue's sonorous Yamaha is a delight to play and the fine acoustics expose each mistake.**

Schubert's ten last *Impromptus/Klavierstücken* on 24 September were powerful, authoritative and exhausting. Then on 4 October, Lisney juxtaposed the very last sonatas of Haydn, Beethoven and Schubert. Even in his 80s, Haydn demands a robust, mercurial, virtuoso performance. Beethoven in his 50s lets the beast roar from the depths,

and then transports heavenwards his wonder at man's suffering, ever more simply stated. In his 30s, Schubert writes melodies of undreamed beauty in rumbling cascades.

Lisney has riveting dynamism and meticulous, open-eyed lyricism. Each piece is an exhilarating panoramic journey. Don't miss Lisney.