



Shoes, Trainers, Sandals, Bags and Luggage

Complete Repair Service by a craftsman  
Same day if required

Key Cutting

1 Manor Park Rd. N2, behind 88 Church Lane, opposite Trinity Church  
Tel: 07956 329 150 Open 12-7pm

# THE ARCHER

Published by East Finchley Newspapers, P.O. Box 3699, London N2 8JA. www.the-archer.co.uk



## Two books for your Christmas wish list

By Daphne Chamberlain

Every Christmas present wish list should include a good book, so here are two with a local flavour.

Mari I'Anson's *Finchley Sketchbook*

Professional artist Mari, now based at Finchley Central, lived in East Finchley for several years. A member of the Finchley Art Society and The Finchley Society, she is well known for her illustrations of life abroad, particularly India and Mexico. Now she has used her talent for recording people and places to commemorate Finchley as it is today.

The Finchley Society is backing publication of the *Finchley Sketchbook*, which costs £15. It should be on sale at Waterstones and Waitrose, and possibly in the libraries. Copies may also be available from Mari I'Anson, tel. 020 8346 7011, or David Smith, tel. 020 8883 4154.

*Show Time Too*, a second anthology from East Finchley Writers

Fresh from their successful evening of reading at the East Finchley Arts Festival, our local writing group have launched another compilation of their work. We don't get the bonus of their performance skills, but this collection of 47 pieces comes to energetic life on the printed page. This is an extraordinarily powerful collection of very individual writing, plus an introduction to each of the contributors. It would be unfair to single out any one piece. Just read them. There are things here you'll remember for a long time.

East Finchley Writers meet every Wednesday at The Old White Lion. Please contact Carola on 020 8883 5808 or Lilian on 020 8444 1793 for further details. Their smart, glossy paperback, priced at £6.01, is available via [www.lulu.com/rgoldswain](http://www.lulu.com/rgoldswain).



*Room on the Broom* is the latest hit show from Tall Stories. Photo © Simon Turtle.

## Room for drama as new theatre company sweeps in

By John Lawrence

There is a new theatre company in town. The world-renowned Tall Stories have set up home at The Institute next to East Finchley station. Most famous for their long-running production of the children's favourite *The Gruffalo*, they are now staging another Julia Donaldson classic, *Room on the Broom*.

Tall Stories are famous for their storytelling skills and their clever use of puppets. All the characters and creatures in the new show are portrayed

by just four actors. Their productions have been big hits in London and Edinburgh and have toured as far afield as America, Poland, China, Sin-

gapore and Australia.

### Community connections

The company moved here from its former home at the Compass Theatre in Ickenham in order to be nearer central London. It is run by Toby Mitchell, who grew up in Highgate, and Olivia Jacobs, who lives in High Barnet.

The Institute offers them office space and a rehearsal studio, as well as the chance to work closely with the local community.

Toby said: "We'd like to establish good connections with artsdepot and we want to work with primary schools nearby when we're developing and previewing our shows."

For 2010, Tall Stories are devising a history of the universe and stars for five-year-olds, to be called *Twinkle Twinkle*.

### Smoke alarm

The company has already created some drama since arriving in East Finchley. On one of their first days at The Institute, an actor accidentally set off a smoke button on a witch's cauldron and the whole building had to be evacuated.

Find out more about Tall Stories at [tallstories.org.uk](http://tallstories.org.uk). *Room on the Broom* runs at the Pleasance Theatre, Islington, until 3 January 2010.

## Improved road works planning

Barnet is to introduce a new scheme aimed at making the location and timing of road works more organised and co-ordinated.

Any utility or other company needing to carry out works will have to apply for a permit from the council. The council will then be able to set certain conditions on timing, co-ordination or the amount of road space to be left available to other road users during the works. Any companies who break the terms of their permit or work without a permit may be fined.

## STEWART DUNCAN

OPTICIANS SINCE 1962

20% DISCOUNT

ON SPECTACLES AND LENSES WITH THIS VOUCHER ONLY.

020 8883 2020

126 High Road, East Finchley, N2 9ED

Offer valid until 24<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

You have to present this voucher with your purchase. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer. Sight tests and contact lens checks excluded from the offer. Ask in store for more details.



## ACTIVE CHIROPRACTIC HEALTHCARE CLINICS

BACK PAIN - NECK PAIN - SHOULDER, ARM & LEG PAIN  
SCIATICA - SLIPPED DISKS - TRAPPED NERVES  
PROBLEMS WITH JOINTS & MUSCLES - SPORTS INJURIES

for a full consultation with

Mark Warren, BSC, MChiro, ICSSD

Member of the British Chiropractic Association  
Associate Member of the British Chiropractic Sports Council

Call us on 020 8444 0666

MASSAGE - ACUPUNCTURE - REFLEXOLOGY - REIKI - YOGA - PILATES  
98 High Road, East Finchley N2 9EB  
[www.activechiropractic.org.uk](http://www.activechiropractic.org.uk) info@activechiropractic.org.uk

## SECUREBASE

DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY

Est 1988

CCTV  
Access Control  
Intercom Systems  
Intruder Alarms  
Locks Doors  
Safes Grilles



WHY NOT HAVE  
Your Security Problems Solved!  
A FREE ALARM SURVEY



020 8442 0660

112 High Rd • East Finchley • London N2

[www.securebase.co.uk](http://www.securebase.co.uk)