



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
- ❖ **Tennis club** with four clay courts off Southern Road. Call 8883 7723.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **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 11-14 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: Live jazz on Mon** 19 Jan 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. Contact Carole Lareman 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.
 - ❖ **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.

What kind of fool am I?

By Sheila Armstrong

Even if you can't remember Anthony Newley you may well know his hit song *What Kind of Fool Am I?* from 1961. So the audience at the Theatre Upstairs at the Gatehouse in Highgate in mid-November had a very nostalgic evening at the show *Newley: the Fool who Dared to Dream*. Using Newley's songs, the show told his story from his early life through his marriages and successful career both here and in the States.

Newley was played by David Boyle, who looked remarkably like him. He has already played Newley at the Edinburgh Festival and The Pleasance Theatre, N7. In this latest show he collaborated with writer and director Pete Gallagher to bring the genius of Newley back to the stage. Joan Lane of Wild Thyme Productions was the co-producer and she in fact introduced writer and direc-

tor Gallagher to Boyle in 2008. *ARCHER* readers may remember her vaudeville version of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at The Gatehouse.

Boyle was more than ably supported by Kate Eason, Victoria Hart and Anita Markham who played about 30 roles between them. So, another good show at the Gatehouse, followed by Sondheim's *Into the Woods*, which is playing till the end of January.

Review: Season's Greetings

By Lucy Chamberlin

Alan Ayckbourn's classic *Seasons' Greetings* provided a festive treat for Incognito's December theatregoers. Diane Lefley led a brilliant cast through the shenanigans of a family Christmas which descends into anarchy and farce.

What with misunderstandings, character clashes and entertaining banter between couples, laughs were ten-a-penny, and the scenarios, apart from the liaison between Clive and Belinda and the shooting at the end, entirely believable.

A particular high point was Bernard's (David Longstaff) disastrous but hilarious puppet show rehearsal, assisted by his arch-enemy and militant chauvinist uncle Harvey (Chris Goldie) and the comically pregnant and confused Pattie (Jackie Pearce).

Drunk in charge of an oven

Desiree Silverstone grew on us as Bernard's wife Phyllis. Initially "drunk in charge of an oven", she continued to have immense fun being sozzled and giggly, and delivering one-liners to great effect. She confused gay people and train drivers ("I'm so glad you're not a train driver") and entreated Clive to "teachhh me all aboutt Englishshhh Lisherashure" creating priceless innuendo.

David Parsons, as retiring guest novelist Clive, was every woman's target, but his painful exchanges with the repressed, unpredictable Rachel (Julianne Mullen) somehow carried over into his awkward conversations with the rest of the family, making a travesty of his brief declaration of love for Belinda. Diane Lefley's Belinda was entirely credible as the long-suffering wife figure, attracted by the romance of a young writer.

As always, the set was custom-built and immaculate, utilising the small space to create the illusion of two separate rooms, a hallway and a staircase.

Peter Kenyon's direction brought out both the play's humour and its irony, as a familiar family Christmas held together by tradition is deconstructed by its members' individual fears, misunderstandings and desires. Ayckbourn makes hugely enjoyable theatre, and Incognito did ample justice to it, with a production that thoroughly entertained.



Rivka Sinclair with some of her work

Artist's big break

By David Melsome

When artist Rivka Sinclair needed treatment after breaking her collarbone, she couldn't help noticing that University College Hospital had a very nice art gallery.

It immediately inspired her to create her own solo exhibition for the space and that is now running at the hospital's 'The Street Gallery' in Euston Road.

Rivka, of Summerlee Gardens, is a full-time artist who likes to experiment with different painting styles and techniques, sometimes combining mixed media for textural effects.

Although Rivka Sinclair's landscape and location paintings are based on real places, the work itself is very imagi-

native and is done mainly from memory, which gives it a special evocative quality. Rivka has lived in East Finchley for 40 years but grew up in Jerusalem, a place that continues to be a source of inspiration for her work.

Her exhibition is part of a wider hospital art project that aims to improve hospital life for patients and staff through the use of art. All her work is for sale and a percentage of the sales will be donated to the hospital. Find out more at www.rivkasinclair-artist.co.uk.

What's On...

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

Friday 16-Thursdays 29 January:

• **In the Woods: exhibition of paintings by Emily Ault** of Queen's Wood, Highgate, at Highgate Gallery, 11 South Grove, N6; 020 8340 3343; www.hlsi.net

Sunday 25 January:

• **Historical High Barnet, a guided walk with Paul Baker** through 1,000 years of history. Meet outside Barnet College, Wood Street, at 11am; £7, under 12s £3. For details of this and other walks, phone 020 8440 6805.

• **Jewish Book Week: Reluctant Refugee**; Gillian Slovo, Edie Friedman and Caroline Moorehead discuss the dehumanisation faced by refugees, by giving submerged narratives a voice through fiction, testimony and journalism; The Tricycle Theatre, 269 Kilburn High Road, London NW6 7JR, 6pm. Price: £6.50. Tickets and information: 020 7372 6611.

Thursday 29 January:

• It's always on tap and we don't think twice about it but how do we get our water? Illustrated talk to the **Finchley Society: 'Our water supply, from source to tap'** by Ian Pilsworth, legal adviser to Three Valleys Water; Avenue House, East End Road, N3, 2.30pm. Entry for non-members £2.

What's on at artsdepot, North Finchley:

Thursday 15 January to Sunday 15 March, 12-4pm: **Vardi Hahana, One Family**. Sunday 18 January, 1pm: **Matsukaze**. Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 January, 7.30pm: **Oh, What A Lovely War**, The Compton School. Sunday 25 January, 1pm: **Darren Dutson-Bromley**. Thursday 29 January, 8pm: **Clive James in the Evening**. Friday 30 January, 8.30pm: **Folk in the Foyer**. Sunday 1 February, 1pm: **Nice Toy**. Sunday 1 February, 8pm: **The Al Pitcher Picture Show**. Tuesday 3 February, 7pm: **Gallery Talk, Mark Rothko**. Thursday 5 February, 8pm: **Ballet Boyz**.

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Sundays 11am

www.ggu.org.uk

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EAST FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH

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

tel: 0208 346 1700

www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk

Family service and Junior Church Every Sunday at 10.30 a.m.

Worship Music Social events Youth Club Wheelchair friendly

e-mail: info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk

Room hire tel: 0208 444 4453

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>