



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 12 & 26 Oct 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 Ruby Yang or Patrizia Canwell at 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 or 8883 7544.
- ❖ **Highgate Film Society**, call 8340 3343 or email: admin@hfsi.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.

Frost star goes back to the footlights

TV actor Sir David Jason, star of *Frost and Only Fools and Horses*, will be guest of honour at a fundraising dinner hosted by Incognito Theatre. The Gala Dinner on Saturday 21 November at Hendon Hall is part of a £120,000 fundraising campaign to create a spacious and comfortable theatre for both members of the company and audience.

Sir David began his own career with the group and remains their star patron to this day. Formerly David White, he grew up in Friern Barnet and joined the amateur theatrical group around the age of 14 before moving on to drama school and taking up acting professionally. Incognito is one of north London's largest theatre groups, with around 130 active members staging six productions a year, and a regular contender in the Barnet Festival.

The company was set up more than 70 years ago and occupies a 65-seat theatre in

Friern Barnet. Backstage space is limited and the auditorium is tiny by the standards of other theatres. However, the quality of Incognito's productions receives frequent praise.

The exclusive Black Tie dinner will help to raise funds to create a new foyer and bar area, to make proper provision for youth work and to provide an extra rehearsal space and disabled access. To reserve a ticket (price £75 including arrival drink, three-course dinner and wine) contact Ruth Nixon on 020 8886 3274 or email Ruthrhedel@aol.com.

Fancy dress delights

By Diana Cormack.

Do you want to look like Rod Stewart or is Marie Antoinette more to your taste? Maybe a touch of Spiderman or Wonder Woman is what you're looking for? Whichever character takes your fancy, Culture Vultures at 200 High Road could probably help you out. They have more than 200 costumes available for hire.

THE ARCHER wondered if there were ever any strange dressing up requests. "Strange doesn't seem strange any more," owner Deborah Handford replied. "It's all quite normal."

The fancy dress shop has been there for more than 20 years. Deborah worked part-time for the previous owner Colin Scott and took over with her husband David some five years ago. He used to work in banking, she at Middlesex University. Together they set about giving the whole business a work over, which included raising their profile with their own website.

Festival fun

Since then business has increased by 50% and they have established a wide circle of customers coming from as far afield as south London and Watford. Some of them are well known personalities and local celebrities. Busiest times are at festivals such as Christmas, New Year, Purim and Hallowe'en. Passersby now expect to see Boris the Hallowe'en Spider and Billy the Waving Snowman in the



Culture parrot - Teresa Khan waits to be served

shop window at the appropriate time of year.

Culture Vultures' impressive range of accessories accounts for some of the increase in trade. Wigs, hats, masks, glitter, allergy-tested face-paints: if you can't find what you want, they will try to get it for you. There is a sale rail, which has on occasion been snapped up completely by a school or drama club. Visit www.cvfd.co.uk or call 020 8883 5525 for more information.

Review: Bel Canto Singers

By Ken Carter

On Sunday 13 September at the East Finchley Methodist Church there was Something for Everyone, in aid of Contact. This was the Bel Canto Singers' first outing in two years, a reunion, virtually a family get-together. The seven singers were well known to many of the audience and our compère was assured yet engagingly diffident, a very English mix.

The event was charming, varied and quite stunningly accomplished, in the best sense 'amateur' to its fingertips. The singers showed refinement and panache, wooing us with soothing harmonies from our folk tradition, rousing us with a Handel-like chorus and enlivening us with brash, syncopated

melodies from Broadway.

Solo spots were Sarastro's bass aria from *The Magic Flute*, a cameo from Ravel's *Sonatine* and a brazen, 'give it all you've got' musical number. An arrangement of *Autumn Leaves*, with moments of filigree counterpoint, was enchanting perfection.

What's On...

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

Thursday 1 October to Friday 30 October

- **Exhibition of colour photographs by Emilie Selbourne** entitled *Rus in Urbe: urban but rural places* in north London, including Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Long Lane Pasture; Chorak Cafe Gallery, High Road. For more details visit www.emilieselbourne.com

Monday 5 October to Sunday 1 November

- **East Finchley Open art show at the Phoenix Cinema**. Around 25 artists will show their work, many inspired by the cinema. Pieces available to buy, proceeds to Phoenix Restoration Fund.

Friday 9 October

- **East Finchley Jazz Band** live at the East Finchley Constitutional Club, The Chestnuts, The Walks (off Park Road, south of Leopold Road, N2), 8.30pm to 11.30pm; £5 entrance; telephone 020 8807 7552 or 020 8292 2911.

Until Sunday 11 October

- **East Finchley Arts Festival** continues at All Saints Church, Durham Road. Tuesday 6 October, 7.30pm, poets Fleur Adcock & Dannie Absbe read from their works; Wednesday 7 October, 7.30pm, Pantagruel Early Music Group; Friday 9 October, 7.30pm, Fidelio Piano Quartet play chamber music by Mozart, Faure & Brahms; Saturday 10 October, 11.30am, 2pm & 3.30pm, Punch & Judy for the children, Geoff Felix presents his traditional Punch and Judy show in the church garden, indoors if wet; Saturday 10 October, 12.30pm, Young Artists' Recital; Saturday 10 October, 7.30pm, London International Orchestra, conductor Toby Purser; Sunday 11 October, 7.30pm, Finchley Children's Music Group. Box offices at Black Gull Books, 121 High Road, N2, (tel 020 8889 7112), Les Aldrich, 98 Fortis Green Road, N10, (tel 020 8883 5631). Book online: www.ticketsource.co.uk/efinchleyartsfestival

Sunday 11 October

- **Live music at East Finchley Methodist Church**, High Road (opposite Creighton Avenue), 7.30pm. Red Baroque quartet presents *Autumn Serenade*, with works by Haydn, Schumann and Shostakovich. Free admission with collection in aid of the North London Hospice. Venue fully accessible to people with disabilities.

Saturday 17 October

- **Romantics in Hampstead guided walk** with Pavement Pounders at the Institute. David Lay and Dr. Maryanne Grant-Traylen give an 11am illustrated talk at the Institute, East Finchley, followed by a 2pm walk from Hampstead Underground Station following in the footsteps of Keats, Shelley, William Blake and many more, ending at the Bull and Bush. Details from David or Maryanne on 020 83407178 or visit www.pavementpounders.co.cc. To book, phone the Institute on 020 8829 4141 or visit www.hgsi.ac.uk

- **St Michael's Church**, South Grove, Highgate, hosts a **gala concert to raise funds for the Dyspraxia Foundation**.

Channing School Chamber Group and Choir, with baritone Alastair Hamilton of Southgate Opera, himself affected by dyspraxia; 7.30 pm. Part of Dyspraxia Awareness Week. Tickets £10 adults, £7 concessions, £3 students and children from Les

Aldrich Music Shop, Muswell Hill, or David Hamilton, 29 Twyford Avenue, N2 9NU. Telephone 020 8444 7722. (Cheques payable to Dyspraxia Foundation and please send SAE).

Sunday 18 October

- **JCC Break-Up Wall - Break-Up Night**; join the Jewish Community Centre to celebrate the closing of the Break-Up wall with singers and storytellers, including Jonny Berliner and Mark Greenfield; a unique evening of heartache; closure has never been so entertaining; The Gallery, 190 Broadhurst Gardens, London NW6 3AY, 7.30pm. £5 in advance, £7 on the door. Tickets and information 020 7431 9866. www.jcclondon.org.uk

Wednesday 21 October

- **Mark Evison**, Manager of **Alexandra Park**, and Paul Braybrooke, Communications Manager for **Alexandra Palace Trading Company**, talk about the palace and the park. Questions welcomed. Hosted by the Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association; 8pm - 9.30 pm at North Bank, Pages Lane, N10.

Saturday 24 October

- An evening of music and laughter with **The Confections**, St. Mary's Church Hall, 279 High Road, N2 at 7.45 p.m. Tickets £7 (conc) and £8 (including refreshments) from 020 8440 2817 or at the door on the night. All proceeds to St. Mary's.
- **Jazz meets the classics** when the **BBC Elstree Concert Band** hold their fourth fund-raising concert in aid of the North London Hospice at St James Church, Muswell Hill; 7.30 pm.

Thursday 29 October

- **Jane Blackburn** talks about **Hampstead Garden Suburb: Place and People**. This is the Jean Scott Memorial Lecture, hosted by The Finchley Society; Avenue House, East End Road, N3, at 8pm. Everyone welcome; £2 admission for non-members. Telephone 020 8346 7812 for more details.

Friday 30 October and Saturday 31 October

- **Hallowe'en Barnet Ghost Walk** with guide Paul Baker. Meet at High Barnet tube, 7.30pm. Prize for the spookiest costume. Contact Paul on 020 8440 6805 for more details.

Friday 6 November

- **Martin Primary School fireworks display**, Plane Tree Walk, N2. Gates open at 6pm for food and drinks, fireworks at 7pm. Tickets priced £4 for adults and £1.50 for children available in advance from the school; £5 and £2 on the door. All OAP tickets £2.

- **Fiona Castle**, widow of TV presenter Roy Castle, will be at East Finchley Baptist Church on Creighton Avenue from 7.45-9.45pm to **talk about Roy's illness with cancer and her campaign since his death**. Tickets free although donations accepted for North London Hospice. Light refreshments provided. To book tickets, contact the church office on 020 8883 1544 or e-mail eastfinchleybaptistchurch@yahoo.co.uk.

Saturday 14 November

- **Art and Craft Fair** in aid of the Family Holiday Association, Henrietta Barnett School, Central Square, NW11, 10.30am to 4.30pm. Entry £2. Over 20 stalls selling jewellery, pottery, glass, scarves, cards and beauty products. Café, tombola and opportunity for a relaxing massage. Ideal place to buy your seasonal gifts.

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