



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 0433.
- ❖ **Pilates** in East Finchley, qualified teacher. Contact Dee on 8883 7029
- ❖ **Pilates class** Weds 3.30 & 7pm at Ann Owens Ctr, N2. Call Penny Hill 8444 2882.
- ❖ **Tae Kwon Do** for children & adults at Finchley Lido Mon & Fri 7-9pm 07949 612 706
- ❖ **Tai Chi class** at East Finchley Methodist Ch, Weds at 1pm. Call James Drewe 8883 3308 or james@taiji.co.uk
- ❖ **Tennis club** with four clay courts off Southern Road. Call 8883 7723.
- ❖ **Yoga, breathing & relaxation.** Weekly drop-in classes - N3, 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 evenings 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.
- ❖ **Creative writing classes** in informal, friendly atmosphere. Tel Sallie Rose 020 8444 7217.
- ❖ **Drama Classes** for 11-15 year olds. Mondays 6.30-8pm. Contact Dominic Conway 0777 284 3958
- ❖ **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 Apr at 8.15pm**, Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **SwampRock** Louisiana Dance Club. Live music. Contact 07957 344 724 or www.swamprock.org.uk.
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
- ❖ **Traditional music** at EF Constitutional Club on 2nd Monday each month from 8.30 pm. Free to join in or just listen.

CLUBS & SOCIAL

(See p8 for Parent & Toddler Clubs)

- ❖ **Bingo evening, 8pm Sundays**, at the Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2.
- ❖ **Bingo Club** Mondays 7-9pm, Green Man Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5452
- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Haringey Recorded Music Society** informal meetings locally. Call David Moldon on 8361 1696.
- ❖ **LGBT?** 1st Weds every month in a local pub. Welcoming atmosphere. Email efinchleylgbt@hotmail.com
- ❖ **Muslim Lunch Club** 1st & 3rd Weds at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495
- ❖ **Jewish Friendship Club** for over 60s, Tuesdays 1-3 pm at Muswell Hill Synagogue, Tetherdown. Call Anita Shaw 8886 6140.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, contact 8883 4390
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professionals. Call John 8883 8114.

REVIEW:

A captivating trio

By Ken Carter

The concert programme on 27 February at All Saints Church, Durham Road, comprised a violin sonata by Brahms, along with a cello sonata and a one-movement trio, both by Rachmaninov. Common to all three pieces was the pianist Rimantas Vingras, last heard here to riveting effect in Geoffrey Hanson's 2nd Piano Concerto at his 70th birthday concert.

Brahms' *Violin Sonata* was exceptional and unforgettable. Vingras and Orpheus Papafilippou (violin) caught the idiom exactly with impassioned clarity and a vigour of spring and weight. Vingras's deftness and Papafilippou's urgent lyricism partnered each other in exemplary balance.

Rachmaninov's *Cello Sonata* (soloist Gregory Duggan) was less endearing. As a pianist, Rachmaninov writes with ardour, but his ear does not quite discern how easily the cello's low tones become lost in this competition, and he strains to be weighty.

Performing balance was not happy, either. We heard arresting individual performances, with some ravishing moments, rather than a partnership of sound. The piano lid was too open and, to my taste, there was too much pedal. This work is rarely played and I applaud Messrs. Vingras and Duggan for giving it an outing.

Rachmaninov's *Trio Elégaique* is a student work of great beauty. Written very simply, with a newcomer's caution, its heart is a haunting melody. Our three performers passed this lament round in flowing, poignant tones, making a sad yet eloquent culmination to an excellent concert.

Finchley Jazz Club

Some of the very best professional musicians play traditional jazz at the Finchley Jazz Club, which meets on alternate Mondays at the Wilf Slack Memorial Cricket Ground Pavilion, 19 East End Road, N3, from 8.15pm to 10.45pm.

Forthcoming dates are 12 and 26 April. Tickets are just £6 on the door and everyone is very welcome. For more information, contact Pam Kent on 020 8444 6690 or visit www.finchleyjazz.co.uk.

Poet, teacher and publisher Dennis Evans was inspired by a recent visit to the club to write the following poem:

All that Jazz

*In-jokes,
and out-jokes.
We're in the palm of their hands.*

*Jokes about pay and wrong notes,
Pros behaving like kids!*

*Old standards, busy music.
They're dancing!*

*Mainstream, Be-bop, Trad!
'Playing around the tune', you said.*

*The toe-tapping syncopation
of 'Honeysuckle Rose'.
The slide and rasp of the trombone
driving, inventive; tender.*

*A fugue, Bach-like,
from clarinet and trombone.
'If I had you...'
takes me inside myself.*



Photography by Kate Plumtree

Worn to be wild

By Sheila Armstrong

An unusual costume exhibition is running at artsdepot until 18 April. Inspired by animals and birds, textile artist Kate Plumtree is showing a selection of her unusual theatrical costumes. Perhaps the most striking is one inspired by the hedgehog: a golden dress complete with prickles.

Elsewhere, a mute swan has inspired a featherlike white ball gown. The badger, the red deer and the golden eagle have also inspired Kate. Each costume, mainly dresses, represents a fashion style such as the 1960s or the Elizabethan era. A variety of textile crafts have been used, including printing, dyeing and quilting as well as straightforward sewing.

Kate has included working sketches and photos showing meticulous research into each animal and giving insight into the design process. There are

fabric sample boards and an area for trying on some of the costumes.

An experienced costume maker, since graduating from Wimbledon College of Art in 1992 Kate has worked on such West End shows as *Wicked* and *The Lion King* and with companies like the ENO and RSC. She also designs for private clients and does workshops with colleges and museums.

The show goes on tour round the country after 18 April. If you can't get to artsdepot, you can view her work at www.kate-plumtree.com.

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

What's On...

Until Sunday 18 April

• **Free exhibition celebrating 50 years of twinning between Barnet and Chaville, France**, at the Church Farmhouse Museum in Greyhound Hill, Hendon. The photographic display documents the many civic exchanges, sports competitions and educational trips that have taken place between the two areas over the past half-century.

• **Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story**, Upstairs at the Gatehouse, Highgate. Tuesday to Saturday at 7.30pm, Sunday at 4pm. Box office: 020 8340 3488. Website: www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com. Tickets: £12, £15 (concessions available).

Saturday 10 April

• **Spike Milligan Quiz Night**, hosted by The Finchley Society; 8pm at Martin Primary School, Plane Tree Walk, N2. Admission £5 per person, includes a raffle. Puzzles, books and shirts for sale. Nibbles, tea and coffee provided by Budgens. Further information from Barbara Warren on 020 8346 5258 or barwar@waitrose.com.

Sunday 11 April

• Free concert at East Finchley Methodist Church, High Road, 7.30pm; **Die Fledermaus** by Johann Strauss. Concert performance presented by Amici del arte; Andrea Whittaker, soprano, Violla da Cunha and Victoria Ward, mezzos, Ivan Sharpe and David Furnell, tenors, Ray Schöne, baritone, Don Ray, compère, and Muriel Ray, piano. Free admission; collection in aid of Children with Leukaemia. Venue fully accessible to people with disabilities.

Sunday 18 April

• **East Barnet village: guided walk.** Meet at East Barnet Library, Brookhill Road, 11am. Stroll through 1,000 years of the history of this lovely, unspoilt village with walking guide Paul Baker.

• **Join the Jewish Community Centre Weekend Walkers** to meet new people and enjoy the countryside. New event for singles in their 30s and 40s wanting to get out of London for fresh air, food and conversation. Meet at a central London train station at 9am, details provided after booking. Price: £20, includes

train fare. Tickets and information: 020 7431 9866.

• **Maureen Lipman** and other show-business stars present an evening of entertainment to raise money for the Spike Milligan statue fund, set up by The Finchley Society; 7.30pm at Middlesex University Hendon Campus, The Burroughs, NW4. Tickets, costing £15 and including interval refreshments, available from David Smith on 020 8883 4154, Barbara Warren on 020 8346 5258 or through website www.spikemilliganstatuefund.org.uk.

Tuesday 20 April

• **Love and War in Finchley:** readings of quirky pieces inspired by local history archives kept at Barnet Local Studies Centre. Performed by Made in East Finchley, a creative writing group, at East Finchley Library, 226 High Road, N2, at 7.30pm.

Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 April

• **Once on this Island:** musical at Finchley Youth Theatre, High Road, 7 pm, tickets £7 or £5 for children. Book at 07958 409863

Thursday 29 April

• **My granny had one of these, but she threw it away**, a talk by Maurice Collins, with the audience invited to guess the use of various contraptions and gadgets dating from 1851 to 1951. Hosted by The Finchley Society at Avenue House, East End Road, N3, starting at 8pm. Non-members very welcome. Admission £2. For more details, telephone 020 8346 7812.

Wednesday 5 May

• **Beginners Crochet Class**, 7pm, at an East Finchley venue; all materials and refreshments provided! Make beautiful gifts and accessories after just one class. Call 07932 035325 or visit www.omarama.co.uk for more details.

Saturday 8 May

• **Dads' Day** for local dads to bring their families for a fun day out; Highgate Children's Centre (behind Highgate Primary School), Gaskell Road, Highgate N6 4ED. Telephone 020 3213 0004 or find out more about the Dads' Club at <http://theadclublondon.blogspot.com>.