



## Regular Events SPORT & FITNESS

- ❖ **Badminton** Weds eves 8-10pm all abilities, contact George 8349 0170 or John 8444 7163.
- ❖ **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 8444 2882.
- ❖ **Tae Kwon Do** for children & adults at Finchley Lido Mon & Fri 7-9pm 07949 612 706. [www.taekwondo-uktd.co.uk](http://www.taekwondo-uktd.co.uk)
- ❖ **Tai Chi class** at EF 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](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 & 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 16 & 30 August 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](http://www.swamprock.org.uk).
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
- ❖ **Traditional music** at EF Constitutional Club on 2nd Mon 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
- ❖ **French conversation** in small friendly group with native speaker. 8444 9395.
- ❖ **Friends of Cherry Tree Wood** [www.cherrytreewood.co.uk](http://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](mailto:efinchleylgbt@hotmail.com)
- ❖ **Muslim Lunch Club** 1st & 3rd Weds, Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495
- ❖ **Northside Bridge Club**, EF Methodist Church, Thurs 7.30-11pm. 8346 8145.
- ❖ **Jewish Friendship Club** for over 60s, Tues 1-3 pm at Muswell Hill Synagogue, Tetherdown. Call Anita 8886 6140.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, contact 8883 4390
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professionals. Call John 8883 8114.

## Review: Night and Twilight

By Ken Carter

**Night: Responding spiritedly to Murray Hipkin's incisive enthusiasm, the North London Chorus and Orchestra gave us 'A Little Night Music' at St. James's Church, Muswell Hill, on 3 July with customary precision and conviction.**

Mozart's *Solemn Vespers* (K339) is a virtuoso piece. Declamation, alternately austere and florid, rubs shoulders with plainsong, counterpoint and fugue. The NLC/O conveyed all this with polished ease. Mary Nelson's rich soprano solos were a ringing delight. Sir Arthur Bliss' gently melodious *Pastoral* of poems celebrating Pan had soft, lyrical conviction and, where needed, vigour. *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* (for strings alone) was brisk and warm; but not quite stylish enough. Britten's *Serenade for Strings, Tenor and Horn* was swaggering and ravishing.

**Twilight** fell at All Saints, Durham Road on Sunday 11 July. Emma Kirkby and Jakob Lindberg gave us songs and lute solos from 17<sup>th</sup> century Europe. Three features were exceptional: the distinguished voice of Emma Kirkby, Sixtus Rauwolf's lute (the oldest with its original soundboard still playable) and, not least, All Saints' outstanding acoustics, a not-well-enough-known treasure of East Finchley. The outcome was an evening of rare calm and stillness whose soft sounds were incisive, telling, differentiated and clear.

## Review: The Recruiting Officer

By Daphne Chamberlain

**I saw the Garden Suburb Theatre's latest production on one of the hottest days of last month's heatwave. What better place to be than under the trees of Little Oak Wood? Though the audience could relax in the shade, the open stage area might have accounted for my only minor quibble: Restoration romps could do with just a bit more energy.**



Kate Woff as Silvia (right) and Marilyn Greene as Melinda, promoting *The Recruiting Officer* at East Finchley Festival

Overall, the production and acting were excellent, with minor characters bringing their roles to life as much as major ones. *The Recruiting Officer*, written in 1706 by George Farquhar, is an entertaining tale of dubious army recruiting officers (who draw the line at enlisting solicitors, because "a person who can write can draw up a petition"), a bogus fortune-teller, women disguising themselves as men, and men who are "Constant to 15 women at a time, but never melancholy about one". (Well, hardly ever).

Director John Colmans first came to know the play when

he began his acting career in *Our Country's Good*, a play set in the Australian penal colony, where the convicts put on a production of *The Recruiting Officer*. As it happened, *Our Country's Good* was also the first production in the Garden Suburb theatre's present season.

The Garden Suburb Theatre stages six plays a year, using half a dozen venues, including the Gatehouse at Highgate and the Bull at Barnet. To find out more, visit [www.gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk](http://www.gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk), or call the Membership Secretary on 020 8346 4448 or Box Office on 020 7723 6609.



Family tensions portrayed by the cast of *New England*.

Photo courtesy Incognito Theatre

## Review: New England

By Lucy Chamberlin

***New England* is the kind of drama that the Incognito theatre group does best. A family-gathered-together-at-a-critical-moment kind of drama, in which we discover that surface tensions run deep and awkward situations take on a farcical or sinister appearance.**

The critical moment in this play comes in the first few minutes, as Harry, a disillusioned academic who left England for America many years ago, shoots himself. His family, also English exiles in the US, gather at his home with his girlfriend Alice, who is played with versatility by the talented Moira Wallace.

American playwright Richard Nelson shrewdly captures the underplayed snobbery of the English expat, as well as providing his characters with some suitably acerbic and often very funny lines. With Harry's ashes in an urn on the kitchen table, Alice declares: "When we throw the ashes (in the garden), the man said to make sure our mouths are closed."

Graham Sawtell's depiction of Harry and his brother Alfred

was strikingly assured, whilst Catherine Little expertly navigated the mercurial emotions of the hard-edged Elizabeth. Maria Casey was very convincing as liberated artist Gemma, and Spencer Clayton and Julia Curtis made a good double act as a harassed husband and his cosseted French wife. Huw Morgan provided successful perspective on the increasingly neurotic bereaved family as reluctant outsider Tom Berry.

Incognito director Sonja Taylor can usually be relied upon to produce a notable show, and this latest offering, a difficult one to direct due to minimal action, was no exception.

## What's On...

**Tuesday 10 August to Friday 13 August**

- **Othello**, by William Shakespeare at Theatre On The Lawn, Lauderdale House, Highgate Hill, N6, 7.30pm. Tickets: £12 (£10 concession/£8 under 16). Pre-booking offer: £2 off all tickets purchased the day before the performance. Box office: 020 8348 8716 (Mon - Fri, 10am - 5pm); online: [ticketsource.co.uk/venividitheatre](http://ticketsource.co.uk/venividitheatre)

**Saturday 14 August**

- **Vintage jumble sale** at The Alexandra, Fortis Green. Come and rummage through silk scarves, 1970s jewellery, books and vintage clothes. Proceeds to local theatre company Drop Stitch as they try to demystify mental health issues with the play *Blue/Orange*. To find out more, email [dropstitchcollective@googlemail.co.uk](mailto:dropstitchcollective@googlemail.co.uk)

**Sunday 15 August**

- Russian-born pianist **Sergei Podobedov** plays work by Boris Goltz, a Russian composer who perished during the siege of Leningrad in 1942, aged just 28. Lauderdale House, Highgate Hill, Waterlow Park, London N6 5HG, 7.30pm. Tickets £10 (£7.50 concs) at the door.

**Sunday 29 August**

- **East Barnet Village: a guided walk.** A stroll through 1,000 years of history. Meet outside East Barnet Library, Brookhill Road, 2.30pm. For details, call Paul Baker on 020 8440 6805.

**Wingate & Finchley FC Pre-season fixtures:**

- Tuesday 3 August Oxhey Jets (Away) k/o 7:45pm
- Saturday 7 August - Rushden & Diamonds (Home) k/o 3pm
- Saturday 14 August - Wealdstone (Home) k/o 3pm

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

## Museum marks 350th anniversary

**An exhibition looking back at the life and times of Barnet's oldest surviving house has gone on display in Hendon. The 'House on the Hill' display at the Church Farmhouse Museum, Greyhound Hill, recounts the building's 350-year past, from its early use as a hay and dairy farm through to a family home and then museum.**

Among the many artefacts on display are materials that belonged to the Dunlops, the last family to live and work at the Church Farmhouse. The exhibition also features a display on Mark Lemon, the co-founder and first editor of *Punch* magazine, who lived at the Church Farmhouse in the early 1800s.

Children visiting the museum will have the chance to be creative by drawing or painting the building, with their pictures then put on display. The 'House on the Hill' exhibition runs until 19 September.