



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
- ❖ **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** 4 & 18 Jan 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
- ❖ **Street Dance** every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages Contact Lorna 07976 203669.
- ❖ **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 evening** at the Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2. Sundays at 8pm.
- ❖ **Bingo Club** Mondays 7-9 pm, Green Man Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5459
- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **Dads' Club:** Get-togethers for dads looking after young children in East Finchley. Adam 07957 441435.
- ❖ **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@hlsi.net.
- ❖ **LGBT?** 1st Weds every month in a local pub. Relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. Email efinchleylgbt@hotmail.com for info.
- ❖ **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.

An artsdepot audience with Angela

By Diana Cormack

When she became the first woman to present BBC TV news regularly, Angela Rippon was the subject of much media comment. Despite this and her impressive career in radio and television, she is famously remembered for her dance routine with Morecambe and Wise in their 1976 Christmas Show. Her lovely long legs kicked away the stuffy news-reader image, a forerunner perhaps to performances by today's news teams on Children in Need.

Listening to her clear, crisp tones as she told her life story at artsdepot in November, it seemed inevitable that Angela would have become a presenter. But there is much more to this elegant and engaging lady than having a voice that holds the attention; she also possesses a wealth of knowledge about her profession. As she told her large audience: "I didn't go to university and do a degree in Media Studies. I learned on the job."

A grounding in journalism
Having left her Plymouth girls' grammar school at 17, Angela spent three years learning every aspect of local newspaper work. She became a West Country BBC radio journalist, then an editor for Westward Television before moving to London.

Angela feels she gained the news reading position "purely by chance" because she happened to be around when the regular newscaster and his male counterparts were all unavailable. Angela commented



Angela Rippon. Photo courtesy of the artsdepot.

on the Royal Wedding in 1981 and the only downturn in her award-winning career appears to be a brief involvement with launching TV-am the following year, after which she left to work in the United States. Her four years using all her professional skills as the voice of LBC Radio's News Talk are still much admired.

I can thoroughly recommend artsdepot's "Audience With..." productions, particularly the question and answer section. In this, Angela's views were sought on the BBC being ageist, particularly towards women. Her answer was measured and diplomatic, but then being a 65-year-old woman presenter, would she bite the hand that feeds her?

Review:

Organ delights

By Ken Carter

The All Saints' Church organ itself is a magnificent beast, bombed out from Clapham, given a home in Durham Road and restored in the 1990s.

Geoffrey Hanson put the revived organ through its paces. Usually, the organist is a remote figure, hidden somewhere behind us. Here, on a wide screen right before our eyes, we could see him throughout the performance.

He chatted to us. We saw his fingers leap along, over and across three keyboards; we saw his knees pound the pedals at his feet. We heard the majesty and swell we expected from Bach, Handel and Boellman.

More of a surprise was a light, tripping chorale prelude from Oley, a Bach/Handel contemporary, a soft cradle song from Vierné, an elegant cascade from Saint-Saëns and the Purcell *Rondeau* that Benjamin Britten made famous.

Fittingly, the programme ended with Geoffrey Hanson's own *Rose Variations*, seven of them. The theme, ideal for varying, had long phrases with moments of syncopation and chromaticism. Hanson's explorations were riveting and engaging, some tersely fragmentary, others smoothly meditative. We ended, splendidly, with the *Rose* of Advent flowering warmly.

What's On...

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

Tuesday 12 January

• An evening lecture by Ken Marks on the archaeology of Anglo-Jewry in London, The Drawing Room, Avenue House, East End Road, N3. Entrance free. Hosted by the Hendon and District Archaeological Society.

Wednesday 13 January

• **Crochet class**, all materials and refreshments provided. Make beautiful gifts and accessories after just one class. Starts 7pm at an East Finchley venue. Call 07932 035325 for details or register online at www.omarama.co.uk.

Saturday 23 January

• **Quizical Extravaganza** at The Alexandra, Fortis Green, at 7.30. Raising money for The Animal Hostel Trust. Big Prizes to be won!
• **Spring Park Motel** music evening at the East Finchley Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2, showcasing acts from north London.
• **Pavement Pounders** at The Institute: **Rembrandt and the Dutch Republic**. Meet at The Institute, East Finchley, for morning talk at 11am, then at The National Gallery at 2pm. Enquiries: course tutors David or Maryanne on 020 8340 7178 or www.pavementpounders.org.uk. Bookings: The Institute on 020 8829 4141 quoting course reference 517.

Saturday 6 February

• **Pavement Pounders** at The Institute: We look at **20th Century British art**. Meet at The Institute for morning talk at 11am, then at Tate Britain at 2pm. See above for contact details. Institute course reference 510.

What's on at artsdepot

Art gallery: **Ed Pien: Memento**, Wednesday 13 January to Sunday 28 February, 12pm - 4pm. **Sunday Buzz** free lunchtime concert: **Christian Brewer**, Sunday 17 January, 1pm. **Stewart Francis: Tour De Francis**, Thursday 21 January, 8pm. **Folk in the Foyer** free concert, Friday 29 January, 8.30pm. **John Bishop Elvis has Left the Building**, Friday 5 February, 8pm.

Review: Make laugh not war

By Lucy Chamberlin

A packed-out back room in The Alexandra pub in Fortis Green was the venue for the launch of new monthly comedy outfit Make Laugh Not War on 22 November. The crowd was young on the whole, trendy and artsy but on the polite side of raucous.

Masters of Ceremony Katrina Thompson and Lou Sanders provided a lively if slightly chaotic evening, covering for late comedians and introducing acts with pizzazz and in one or two cases significantly more ability than the acts themselves.

Tom Webb got the evening off to a good start with his darkly funny gags and very successful audience repartee. Grainne Maguire, though winning over a few audience members with her endearments, was a little too girl-next-door to pack many comedy punches. Daniel Simonsen brought his own sardonic Scandinavian take to some hilariously

recognisable scenarios and, in time, should be one to watch on the comedy circuit. The wild and wacky Roisin Conaty undoubtedly had the most stage presence and had us in stitches with her brilliantly conceived mime.

The headline act Paul Foot was, well, weird in every way. His exaggerated mannerisms and pedantic long-windedness were at best not everyone's cup of tea, and at worst simply exasperating. That said, Katrina and Lou are on to a brilliant idea. Check out the site at www.makelaughnotwar.co.uk for their next gig. It's right on your doorstep and, at only £5, it beats the West End hands down.

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