



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
- ❖ **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.

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 11 & 25 April 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 T.O.C. (The Old Crown) Highgate Hill on 1st & 3rd Tue of month, 8.30pm. Come to join in or 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 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, 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 1-3pm 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.



Christopher Hunter and the double bass.. Photo courtesy of The Noontide Sun

Christopher's highly-strung co-star

It may be all doom and gloom in the city but here in East Finchley the sun is shining. Established actor Christopher Hunter, long-time resident of the county roads, has taken the exciting step of forming a new theatre company, The Noontide Sun.

The inaugural production is the brilliant one-man play *The Double Bass* by Patrick Süskind, award-winning writer of the novel *Perfume*. Funny and tragic, it is the compelling tale of a frustrated musician and his ubiquitous instrument. He is at a crossroads in his life and he has an enormous choice to make. Will an act of daring ruthlessness change his life forever?

Christopher has wanted to perform the play since reading it more than 20 years ago. Recently a double bass has moved into his house and taken over life there. Although Christopher generously introduces the double bass as his co-star it is quite clear who is the dominant character in their relationship, and it's not the actor.

The Double Bass comes to the New End Theatre, Hampstead after opening in Colchester. Tickets are already starting to sell out for the run from 6-24 April. Telephone the box office on 0870 033 2733 and visit Christopher's website at www.thenoontidesun.

An evening of poetry and music

Celebration Press invites you to an evening of poetry and music at the Church of Mary Immaculate & St Gregory the Great, 82 Union Street, Barnet EN5 4HZ. East Finchley resident Dennis Evans will be reading from *Paper in the wind* and music will be provided by Heather, Janette, Louli & Steph. The event takes place on Saturday 7 May at 7.30pm and half of all proceeds will go directly to Cherry Lodge Cancer Care. Admission is £10 and includes a copy of *Paper in the wind*.

What's On...

Tuesday 5 April

- **Evening Carers Group** meeting on care home selection, 7pm, Community Networks, 27 Castle Road, N12.

Wednesday 6 April

- **North London Hospice Art and Opera Lecture Series, Caravaggio: Sacred & Profane** by Lucrezia Walker, 11.30am-2pm at Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley N3 3QE. £20 including coffee and sandwiches. Contact Valerie Spencer on 8906 3134.

Thursday 7 April

- Author **Dave Robson** talks about his new book *The Five Pillars of Happiness*, Alexandra Park Library, Alexandra Park Road, N22, at 7.15pm.

Sunday 10 April

- **Fortis Green History Walk**, approximately 2.5 hours, starting from the United Reform Church Hall, Tetherdown, at 2.30pm and taking in the area's hidden history. Tickets £2. Contact Joy Nichol on

020 8883 8486 for more details.

- **Fabulous Finchley: guided walk** with City of London guide Paul Baker. Explore 1,000 years of Finchley history. Meet at Finchley Central tube (Ballards Lane exit) 2.30pm. Walk finishes at East Finchley tube. Contact Paul on 020 8440 6805.

- **Alzheimer's Society Sunday Club.** Barbara Knott McCaire talks about gardening myths. 2.30-5.30pm at Dove House, Bunns Lane, NW7. Drop in, or ring Remi on 020 8937 7171 for details.

- **Free concert at East Finchley Methodist Church**, High Road, 7.30pm. *The Ladies Entertain:* Andrea Whittaker, soprano, Viola da Cunha, mezzo soprano, Jane Rosenberg, mezzo soprano and Muriel Ray, piano, perform their favourite songs about women or by women composers. Collection in aid of Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Venue fully accessible to people with disabilities.

Peter Donohoe at The Red Hedgehog

Review by Ken Carter

Peter Donohoe is a world-renowned great pianist. He is a great bear of a man, robust in manner, but gentle in speech. His utterly serious concern is to show off the music to its best living advantage. With full-blooded individuality, he lends panache, distinction and style in service to the music.

The works on the afternoon's programme at the Red Hedgehog near Highgate Station (Liszt, Chopin, Schumann and Mendelssohn) were largely conceived and largely presented. Donohoe's performances are grandly sculpted. Through his keen sense of form and drama, musical phrases become blocks of sound, dynamically shaped and projected forward in a thrust of life-wresting urgency.

In his hands, the music lives and breathes with inner vitality. He delivers robust delineations of light and shade, vigour and passion, an almost brutal

directness and moments of great and tender gentleness. His performances are imposing. They engage you.

His choice of programme made demands. Late Chopin (*Polonaise-Fantaisie/ Ballades 3 & 4*) is dark, musically searching and rides the keyboard with restless unease, deeply uncertain. The Schumann *Arabesque* and Mendelssohn *Andante & Rondo op. 14* were attractive, light-weight tracery. The Liszt pieces *Années de Pèlerinage* were serious-minded depictions of places. In the first of the Venezia pieces, for example, I certainly heard the gondolier's song. Then, soon after, I heard - yes, heard! - the glowing sheen on the lagoon's waters in the light from the sun. This was writing and interpreting of distinction.

Small is beautiful

For their first show at artsdepot, East Finchley Open artists are presenting an exciting and innovative range of small works. With the challenge 'Small is Beautiful', EFO members have submitted works that all measure 13 x 18cms or less.

Painters, photographers, jewellers, ceramicists and textile artists all took up the challenge. The EFO says the diversity of the response makes the display exciting and novel. The show runs until 30 April at artsdepot in North Finchley and entry is free.

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

Linda Dolata to explore the native plants and associated animals. Starts 2pm from Heath entrance by Kitchen Garden, Hampstead Lane, and should last about 1.5 hours. Sensible footwear advisable.

- **Evening of poetry and music** in aid of Cherry Lodge Cancer Care. Poetry read by Dennis Evans with music by Heather, Janette, Louli and Steph. Church of Mary Immaculate & St Gregory the Great, 82 Union Street, Barnet EN5 4HZ at 7.30pm. Admission £10, including a copy of *Paper in the wind* by Dennis.

What's on at artsdepot, North Finchley

An Audience with Imran Yusuf, Thursday 7 April, 8pm. Sunday Buzz Free: **Dunajska Kapelye**, Sunday 10 April, 1pm-2.45pm. **Private Peaceful**, Thursday 14 to Saturday 16 April, 7.30pm and 3pm Sat. **National Theatre Connections, Regional Festival**, Tuesday 12 to Saturday 16 April. **Sunday Buzz Free**, Sunday 17 April, 1pm-2.45pm.

Saturday 16 April

- Browse for bargains at **garage sales** in Abbots Gardens, N2, 2-4pm. Organised by Cromwell Hall Residents' Association.

Thursday 28 April

- **The Finchley Society** hosts *Slides of Yesteryear and Planning Issues: North Finchley*, presented by Derek Warren. 8pm, Trinity Church Centre, 15 Nether Street, N12. Non-members very welcome. Admission £2.

Tuesday 3 May

- **Evening Carers Group** meeting with Dr Marc Lester, Consultant Old Age Psychiatrist, 7pm, Community Networks, 27 Castle Road, N12.

Wednesday 4 May

- **Tumbleweed Comedy**, Old White Lion, High Road, 7.30pm. Acts include Holly Walsh, Cariad Lloyd, Thomas Nelstrop and Sara Pascoe.

Saturday 7 May

- **Guided walk on Hampstead Heath** with official Kew guide