



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 4 & 18 July 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.
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
- ❖ **Traditional music** at TOC, Highgate Hill on 1st & 3rd Tue each month from 8.30 pm. Free. All musicians welcome. Info 07958 282898.

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 1-3 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.



Cherry Tree Wood by Avril Macdonald

A sense of space

By Ann Bronkhorst

Avril Macdonald's new exhibition of prints and artwork is called *Seeking Space*, a clever play on the urges and constraints that characterise her distinctive work. Avril has exhibited at the Phoenix and at All Saints' Church in Durham Road, but her latest exhibition is at The Haberdashery, 22 Middle Lane, Crouch End, from 19 August to 18 September.

Last autumn, her print of trees in Cherry Tree Wood won the Visitors' Choice award at the Islington Arts Society exhibition. Avril's lyrical, slightly melancholy images of trees in silhouette or of twilight woods ("fox-time") have immediate appeal, especially for people who recognise her north London settings.

Wilder settings in her native Scotland have been the stimulus for Avril's prints of islands (the North Uist series) and of sheep, fish creels and even wire, with striking patterns creating abstract shapes rooted in the natural world.

Welcoming the accidental

Avril enjoys solitary walking ("one of life's great luxu-

ries") and atmospheric weather. The strange skies after the 2005 Bunsfield fire, for example, provided her with remarkable photos and, later, prints. "I like the accidental," Avril says, "and I look for strong shapes."

That sense of shape and pattern was influenced by studying textile design at art school and by a lifelong interest in photography. A career in journalism and PR took her in another direction but in recent years, through courses at the Institute with Barbara Jackson and Theresa Pateman, and with encouragement from Tark Butler and David Aaronson, she has found her 'voice' as an artist.

Check out her website at www.avrilart.com

What's On...

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

Sunday 7 August

- **The Battle of Barnet:** a guided walk across the famous Wars of the Roses battlefield of 1471 with City of London guide Paul Baker. Meet at junction of Great North Road and Hadley Green Road, 2.30pm. Contact Paul on 020 8440 6805.

Friday 12 August

- **Barnet Ghosts:** a guided walk with City of London guide Paul Baker. Meet at High Barnet tube station booking office, 7.30pm. Contact Paul on 020 8440 6805.

Friday 19 to Sunday 21 August

- **Friern Barnet Summer Show** at Friary Park, Friern Barnet Lane. There will be a dog show, a baby show, live music, a 'battle of the bands', crafts, flower and vegetable exhibitions, and a firework display.

Monday 8 to Sunday 21 August

- **Falconry Fortnight** at Royal Air Force Museum, Hendon: three free displays daily. Details from 020 8205 2268.

Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 August

- **Finchley Fire Station Open Days:** meet your local firefighters, see fire demonstrations and the fire engines. 1pm-4pm, entry free. 227 Long Lane, Finchley, N3. Parking not available.

Saturday 10 September

- **The Spike Milligan Statue Fund** hosts another of their quiz nights, 7.30 for 8pm at the Utopia Scout HQ, Grove Road, North Finchley. £5 entry. Nibbles and coffee free. Tickets from Barbara Warren on 020 8346 5258.

Sunday 11 September

- **Muswell Hill Festival and Donkey Derby**, Cherry Tree Wood, N2. Come and join this fun-filled family day in aid of The London Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy. A dog show, donkey rides and races, and the annual Monster Vegetable competition will feature. For stalls or sponsorship, contact Daisy Mathabula on daisy@cplondon.org.uk or 020 8444 7242.

Cakewalk at the Palace

By Daphne Chamberlain

Sally Wood, who lives near Alexandra Palace, has a passion for the place. She told *The Archer*, "I want to make it a people's palace." That's the story behind her *Cakewalk Revival* in Ally Pally's spectacular Palm Court.

The Revival events are tea dances featuring swing and ragtime. One fan who sampled a recent session said: "The joint was jumping. Be there."

LPs and pre-war swing records conjure up the '20s and '30s, when Alexandra Palace was pioneering television, and the live swing and ragtime jazz band brings back happy memories of the

1970s. Sally says, "So many people have told me about the Sunday jazz sessions here at that time"

She told us that over 100 people have been turning up at events to join in the fun. "Lots are vintage dancers, and some wear vintage dress, but it's designed for everyone. We have people from nought to 90-odd. One lady of 95 loves to be on the dance-floor, and we have a treasure hunt with prizes for children at the same time."

You can be at Cakewalk Revival on the last Sunday of every month. It gets going at

5.30, and you can jitterbug on until 10.30pm. As well as live piano, vocals, LPs and the band, there's sometimes the chance of beginners' swing dance lessons. The bar and kitchen are available until 9pm.

Entry fee is £5, or £8 including a dance lesson. Under-16s are free, and Concessions may barter at the door. For more information, call Sally on 07989 513 577, email sally@thepeoplespalace.org.uk, visit www.thepeoplespalace.org.uk, or see www.facebook.com/thepeoplespalacepage



75 years for Odeon Muswell Hill

By Daphne Chamberlain

The Odeon Muswell Hill will be 75 years old in September. Like the Phoenix, it is one of the few survivors of the many cinemas in and around Finchley before World War 2. Those of us who saw the Phoenix exhibition a little while ago may remember the film of the Odeon's opening night, which looked a bit like a page from a 1930s celebrity magazine.

Were any of you there, either rubbernecking in the crowd or working? Does anyone have any other memories of the Odeon? We'd enjoy reading them. Our contact details are on page 2.

Phoenix memories

The Phoenix Cinema is inviting everyone to watch films from its oral history project, *The Centenary Storybook*, and to add memories or comments of their own about the historic cinema.

You can watch people telling their own tales of the Phoenix on YouTube at www.youtube.com/user/PhoenixCinemaTrust#grid/user/59F5F11F816CF758

Telecare technology

Barnet Council's Telecare uses sensors to alert carers or a call centre when a difficulty has arisen at home. Sensors include falls detectors, bed sensors and a carer's voice alert. Smoke detectors, flood detectors and bogus caller buttons are also available.

For more information contact Barnet Council's Social Care Direct on 020 8359 5000 or email socialcaredirect@bar.net.gov.uk