



## 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 14 & 28 Feb 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.

## Hallelujah, Brent Cross

### breaks out in song

By Marian Bunzl

A flash mob or, as north London calls it, a spontaneous cultural event, took place on the Saturday before Christmas at Brent Cross. Organised by the Highgate Choral Society, about 200 singers (including members of North London Chorus) gathered incognito at the shopping centre. Our instructions were to dress and act as Christmas shoppers.

At 11 am, at a signal from a hidden organ, we were to burst into Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus* and at the last "Hallelujah!" throw our arms into the air, and melt into the crowd again. We had to learn the work by heart, as carrying the scores would s"For ever and ever"

Just before 11 am, we gathered in the central corridor and as the introductory bars sounded, off we went. The sound spread through the whole centre. Some came

singing out of the lifts, others up and down the escalators, shoppers joined in at random, and mobile phones popped up everywhere recording the event. Under the circumstances, it couldn't be a very polished performance, but the response was heartwarming: cheers, applause and hugging, and somehow everyone looked much less stressed.

An hour later Brent Cross closed down for the day. It wasn't us, Guv! It was the snow.

## To northern Canada and back in a day

By Jake Eiseman-Renyard

Ruth Gibson and Bruno Martelli's installation *Visitor* invites the viewer to step into a landscape set in a fictional, though convincing, region in the Canadian Rockies, effectively teleporting you thousands of miles away without having to travel any further than to artsdepot in North Finchley.

Although there are only three exhibits, they are packed with imagination and originality. The first is a black and white shack; effectively a 3D, tangible black and white photograph of a shack, cleverly reflecting the monotony of mid-winter weather.

Inside the shack, guests can try out a rowing boat simulator and continue their virtual journey by water, with a black and white screen featuring forests, buoys and jetties, under a snowy sky. At the touch of a button, you can get a wrap-round view of the boat and the lake.

What I love about this exhibit

is it is effectively an avant garde video game, interactive, yet arthouse. Although the artists visited northern Canada for inspiration, they build on the idea of "virtual" journeys, inviting others to share experiences far beyond simply seeing peoples' holiday photos or videos.

The concept of making "virtual places" by mixing and matching is well-used, but the media in *Visitor* add a whole new dimension to it. This time it was the Rockies, but who knows where else you could build a virtual experience from to visit within Finchley? *Visitor* runs until 27 February.



Calligrapher Cherrell Avery's work in support of Zimbabwe poets.

## Artist supports poets in Zimbabwe

By Adam Justice-Mills

At the EFO Summer Open last year, I saw an amazing collection of calligraphy by local artist Cherrell Avery. One piece caught my attention: a particularly strong representation of a poem, describing life in Zimbabwe.

The story behind the work was also remarkable. Cherrell is a professional calligrapher and lettering artist and is President of North London Lettering Association. She is always looking for new sources of inspiration and heard a Radio 4 programme about young poets in Zimbabwe. She was moved by their plight and through the Poetry International (Zimbabwe) website, she chose the words of two poets to interpret.

Responding intuitively to the meaning of the words she created beautiful visual

interpretations of the poems in three art works, and the poets granted permission for them to be on exhibition. Cherrell arranged a "silent auction" of the works, with 50% of the proceeds going directly to the poet. One piece was sold (luckily for me, my bid was successful) but the other two are still available for discerning collectors.

You can contact Cherrell through her website [www.cherrellavery.co.uk](http://www.cherrellavery.co.uk) if you would like to buy one of these works. The money will make a big difference to the poets' lives in difficult times.

## What's On...

**Saturday 5 February**

• **An evening of entertainment raising funds for Chalise Village and Area Schools Project, Nepal.** Special guests: Ania Lichota, Everest summiteers 2010, Dame Kelly Holmes, Rebecca Stephens. Suggested entrance price £5-£30. Finchley Progressive Synagogue, Hutton Grove, N12, 6pm. More information from Ann Goldstein, 020 8341 3737.

**Sunday 6 February**

• **Fabulous Finchley: a guided walk.** Meet at Finchley Central tube station (Ballards Lane exit) at 11am. A tour of Finchley Central and East Finchley with Paul Baker, City of London guide. 020 8440 6805.

**Saturday 12 February**

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

**Saturday 19 February**

• **Spike Milligan Statue Fund event.** Quiz night at Martin School, East Finchley. £5 per person. Contact 020 8346 5258 for tickets.

**Sunday 20 February**

• **The Battle of Barnet: a guided walk.** Meet at junction of the Great North Road and Hadley Green Road at 11am, with Paul Baker, City of

London guide. 020 8440 6805.

**Tuesday 22 February**

• **Code Breaker, an evening with Ruth Bourne** who was a Bletchley Park Code Breaker during World War II; 7pm at Avenue House, East End Road, N3. Tickets £15, including wine, from Jo Ferris at North London Hospice 020 8446 2288 or Sue Fox 020 8458 3348. All proceeds to North London Hospice.

**Wednesday 23 February**

• **Il Trovatore: Are There Four Main Roles?** Lecture by Josie Steinfield, 11.30am-2pm at Avenue House, East End Road, N3. Tickets £16, incl coffee and sandwiches, from Val Spencer on 020 8906 3134 or email [v.spencer1@btinternet.com](mailto:v.spencer1@btinternet.com). All proceeds to North London Hospice

• **Blood donor sessions:** mobile unit in car park to rear of East Finchley tube station from 9.40am-12.20pm and 2pm-4.40pm. Further details and appointments 0300 123 23 23 or visit [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk).

**Thursday 24 February to Saturday 26 February**

• **Half-term at artsdepot, North Finchley: Mischief** at 3pm, an award-winning mix of dance, visual art, puppetry, live music and playful clowning, for ages five plus; **Ribbon Dance Workshop** at 2-2.45pm and

4.30-5.15pm, swirly whirly ribbon dancing inspired by *Mischief*, for ages 5 plus. Further details from box office on 020 8369 5454, or email [info@artsdepot.co.uk](mailto:info@artsdepot.co.uk).

**Thursday 24 February**

• **The Finchley Society hosts an illustrated talk about The Royal Air Force Museum by David Keen**, head of the museum's access and learning team. Aviation and general RAF history, with images from archives and present day; 2.30pm at Avenue House, East End Road, N3 (tel. 020 8346 7812). All welcome; admission fee of £2 for non-members.

**Saturday 26 February**

• **Buffet Supper Concert** at All Saints' Church, Durham Road, N2, at 7.30pm. Beethoven, Hanson, Achron and Shostakovich performed by Orpheus Papafilippou, violin, Gregory Duggan, cello, and Rimantas Vingras, piano. Catering by Amici Delicatessen. Concert and supper: £15 (must be pre-booked by midday Friday 25 February); concert only: £10 on door. Information 020 8444 9214. Box Offices: Les Aldrich, 98 Fortis Green, N10 (0208 883 5631), Black Gull Books, 121 High Road, N2 (0208 444 4717).

**Sunday 27 February**

• **Marvellous Mill Hill: guided walk.** Meet outside Mill Hill East tube station at 11am, with Paul

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

Baker, City of London guide. 020 8440 6805.

**Saturday 5 March**

• **Sound of the Suburb**, live at Madden's Ale House, 130 High Road, N2. Tel: 020 8444 7444. Local band and regular performers at the East Finchley Festival play high energy rock 'n roll cover songs for your listening and dancing pleasure, 9pm to 12 midnight. Free admission.

**Sunday 6 March**

• Find out more about **St Mary-at-Finchley** (Hendon Lane, N3, close to Church End Library). **Guided tours of church and churchyard**, and opportunity to be interviewed for The Finchley Society's Oral History Project. Teas in the Parish Hall, 2.30pm-5pm. Admission free.

**What's on at artsdepot**

Saturday 5 February, 7.30pm, **Shiraz**. Sunday 6 February, 1pm-2.45pm, **Sunday Buzz Free - Strangeworld**. Thursday 10 February, 7.30pm, **Balletboyz: The Talent**: London premiere. Saturday 12 February, 7pm, **Clive**. Tuesday 15 February to Wednesday 16 February, 7.30pm, **The Caucasian Chalk Circle**. Saturday 19 February, 7.30pm, **Emily Smith**. Friday 25 February, 8pm, **Zoe Lyons: Clownbusting**. Friday 4 March, 8pm, **Gwyneth Herbert**.