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Pick and mix at the East Finchley Arts Festival

Director Geoffrey Hanson introduces this year's programme, which has something for most people. So read right through, select your favourites, and maybe stay in the Olympic spirit by also sampling something new to you.

All events are at All Saints' Church, Durham Road, which has disabled access and facilities.

Box Offices: Black Gull Books, 121 High Road, N2 8AG Tel: 020 8444 4717

Les Aldrich, 98 Fortis Green Road, N10 3HN Tel: 020 8883 5631

Online at: Ticket Source www.e Finchleyarts.ticketsource.co.uk (10% surcharge on each ticket).

Visit our website: www.eastfinchleyartsfestival.org.uk

The Programme

Friday 5 October 6.30-8.30pm

Art Exhibition Preview

Admission Free

This exhibition of works by local and national artists will be open on evenings when concerts and events are held, and from 12 noon at weekends during the Festival. Works sold will be in aid of the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice.

Saturday 6 October

7.30pm

London Mozart Players

Premiere of Geoffrey Hanson's Odyssey for cello and orchestra; soloist Sebastian Comberti. Other works by Elgar, Britten & Boccherini.

Tickets: £20, £15, £9, £1 (18 and under).

Sunday 7 October 7.30pm

Young Artists' Recital

North London Festival prizewinners Eleanor Janes (soprano) and Matthew Higham (flute). Mozart, Strauss, Brahms, Britten, Nicolai. Donizetti, Handel, Moquet, Heath, Burton.

Tickets: £10, £8, £1 (18 and under).

Monday 8 October 7.30pm

Collegium Regale, Choral Scholars of King's College Cambridge

The men's voices of one of the most famous choirs in the UK in a concert of secular and sacred music.

Tickets: £20, £15, £9, £1 (18 and under).

Tuesday 9 October

7.30pm

Pop-Up Opera.

The young Pop-Up Opera company give a spirited staged performance of Donizetti's opera L'Elisir

d'Amore, which includes audience participation. Matthew Parris recently wrote "If Pop-Up Opera pop up anywhere near you, pop in. You'll stay to cheer." Tickets: £20, £15, £9, £1 (18 and under).

Wednesday 10 October 7.30pm

East Finchley Writers

Local writers present a selection of their work to move, amuse and surprise you. Admission free. Bucket collection for Noah's Ark Children's Hospice.

Thursday 11 October

7.30pm

Paprika

Violin, Accordions, Guitar, Bass and Percussion hailing from Romania, Serbia and the UK. Traditional Eastern European, Balkan, Gypsy and classical music.

Tickets: £16, £12, £9, £1 (18 and under).

Friday 12 October 7.30pm

Young Artists' Recital.

North London Festival prizewinners Timothy Ridout (viola) and Agnieszka Pluta (piano). J S Bach's Da Gamba Sonata no 1, York Bowen, Scarlatti, Paderewski, Tchaikovsky, Ginastera.

Tickets: £10, £8, £1 (18 and under).



Waiting for East Finchley's Olympic Legacy. Picture is by Colin Casimir

The flame burns for Stanley Field

Inspired by a love for sport, Friends of Stanley Field greeted the Olympic Flame as it passed the Town Hall in Hendon on 25 July. They demanded that Councillors save the field and give East Finchley an Olympic Legacy.

An added bonus for the younger ones was seeing the torch carried by flame-haired Rupert Grint from the Harry Potter films.

A banner outside Budgens reads "Inspire a Generation". But the Friends were asking where the inspired generation would play sport, if East Finchley's playing field were to be sold off to a housing developer? They say that if demand for sport increases, this may just increase frustration in East Finchley.

Ruth Brown from the Friends says, "We've taken our two teenagers to the Olympic gymnastics

and judo, and they've also been yelling their support at the TV! I think they really have been inspired, it's not just hype. At the moment my daughter goes all the way to Crouch End or Finsbury Park to do sport. The lack of facilities in East Finchley is a massive obstacle, especially for the younger ones who can't navigate two buses each way.

Barnet's own official report shows East Finchley lacks sports facilities. We hope it's not just a generation that's inspired by the Olympics, but the Council, too – perhaps they'll re-think their plans to develop Stanley Field.

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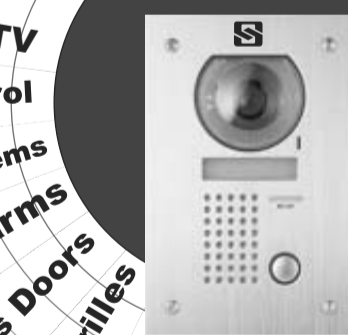
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