



Regular Events

Sport & Fitness

- **Badminton** Weds eves 8-10pm all abilities, contact George 8349 0170 or John 8444 7163.
- **East Finchley Flyers running club**, Tuesdays 7pm at the tube station, 7k run and socialising. Nick 07593 367134.
- **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.
- **Pilates Beginners Classes** Tue 9.30-10.30am, Holy Trinity Church Hall. Michelle 07767 804 564
- **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 1pm. James 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 www.stretchingpeople.co.uk.

Music, Dance & Creative Arts

- **Art Classes**. 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.
- **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.
- **Ladies Keep Fit** Class for over 50s. Tues 10.30-11.30am at Tetherdown Hall. Sheila 8444 0084.
- **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

Clubs & Social

- **Bingo evening**, 8pm Sundays, at the Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2.
- **Bingo Club** Mondays 7-9 pm, Green Man Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5452
- **Contact Lunch Club** Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- **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.
- **Muslim Ladies Lunch Club** 1st & 3rd Weds, Ann Owen Ctr., Oak La. Call 8432 1415 to book.
- **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495
- **Bridge Club**, every Saturday 1.30-4pm, Ann Owens Centre, Oak Lane, N2 8LT. Contact Ray Tiano 07944 562180.
- **Jewish Friendship Club** for over 60s, Tues 1-3 pm at Muswell Hill Synagogue, Tetherdown. Anita 8886 6140.
- **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, contact 8883 4390
- **Youth Club** at Green Man Community Centre, Strawberry Vale every Tues in termtime. Ages 8-13, £1 entry.



Jazz at Bishop Douglass School

Toe-tapping tunes for a special team member

On 22 October an evening of jazz took place at Bishop Douglass School, Hamilton Road, in memory of long-term Archer team member Pam Kent.

It was a fitting venue as Pam had worked at the school for several years. Pam loved jazz and used to run the fortnightly Finchley Jazz Club, so this was a particularly suitable tribute. Organised by John Bayne, who put up a sale of Pam's CDs and tapes alongside a raffle, the event raised £552 for the North London Hospice.

Pumpkin on the button

By Sheila Armstrong

Tireless local fundraiser Brian Hooper has recently sent *THE ARCHER* the results of this year's Guess the Weight of the Pumpkin competition, again hosted by The Old White Lion pub.

Mark Edwards guessed the precise weight of the enormous and locally grown vegetable which was 78 pounds or 35.45 kilos, though there were 28 people who were within half a pound of that weight. The prize was a £50 voucher to spend at the pub. Interestingly, guesses varied from 16 pounds to 175 pounds.

The total raised at the time of writing was £1,500. Brian will be handing over a cheque to the RSPCA and half of that amount

will go to the East Finchley Branch. Pumpkin jam is still for sale in the pub.

In the lead up to the festive season Brian will be organising other fundraising activities at the pub. He also runs the quiz night there every Tuesday; The Archer's Quiz Team put in an appearance twice in November. Contact Brian on Facebook at O W L / Brian's Tuesday Quiz, email briansquiz@aol.com, or on his mobile 07775 932 906.

Meditating at Noon

By John Ryan

A blistering blast of winter wind from the east Serves me well as I wander Cherry Tree Wood, and meditate on life's vagaries. We look To life's consistencies, are uneasy with life's Unpredictabilities. And we sometimes fear the Winds of change.

The winter wind winds its way to my very Bones: one of life's consistencies these times. I'm moodily meditating on how we adapt to Essential facts: birth, and - of course - death.

Yet all is optimistic: this is very late winter. Already the first buds are tentatively showing Through. Begone, this long, foul winter in my Soul. Adieu!

Welcome, soothing springtime, full of Optimism and new growth, in my soul. Welcome! Bonjour!

I cogitate and ruminate upon life's flimsy fragility In the face of wintry winds in the mind and soul. But they will pass, and we will enter a Garden of Summer, brimful, even overgrown, with floral Delights.

Time is indeed the Great Healer, but for now a Blistering blast of winter wind.

New director for the Phoenix

By Sheila Armstrong

Elizabeth Taylor-Mead became executive director of the Phoenix Cinema at the start of November. The appointment is part of the cinema's on-going renewal programme which began with a major overhaul of the fabric of the building in 2010. Former executive director Paul Homer, now at the Jerwood Collection in Hastings, steered that project through successfully.

Elizabeth Taylor-Mead recently commented: "The Phoenix was an important venue in my film education as a young filmmaker in London, and I have watched its development with great enthusiasm and respect."

Welcoming the new director, Stephen Barr, chair of the Phoenix Board of Trustees, said: "The cinema landscape is moving rapidly, and Elizabeth is just the person to lead the cinema through the exciting challenges that lie ahead."

Elizabeth has extensive experience in the film industry in both the UK and US. She was founder of Metropolis Pictures and of the Association of Independent Producers. Most recently she worked for one of the top art house cinemas in the US, the Coolidge Corner Theatre.



New at the Phoenix: Elizabeth Taylor-Mead

Make friends with a book

Get Into Reading groups are perfect for people of all ages, whether you're a reader, a non-reader, or someone who would simply like some time and space to relax. And it's all free.

A new group has started meeting at Age UK Barnet, Ann Owens Centre, Oak Lane, N2, every Friday from 10.30am to noon. You can simply drop in and sit down, there's no pressure to talk, to read, or even to drink tea.

The group will read a wide range of short stories, novels and

poems by our greatest writers, and they will all be read aloud: you can just listen. You won't have to read aloud unless you want to as the group facilitator will do that.

If you are interested, contact Paul Higgins on 07985 718744 or paulhiggins@thereader.org.uk. Or just drop in.

What's On...

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

Tuesday 3 December - Sunday 5 January

• **The Tiger Who Came To Tea**. The classic children's picture book comes to arts depot. Box Office 020 8369 5454. www.artsdepot.co.uk.

Wednesday 4 December to Saturday 7 December

• **The Guild Players present Jack and the Beanstalk**, by John Morley, at Finchley Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane, Finchley, N3 1NB. Box Office enquiries: 020 8346 6337. All Tickets £8.

Saturday 7 December

• **East Finchley Christmas Festival** and French Market along the High Road, 10am to 6pm, with plenty of activities in the Bobath Centre, East End Road. Family fun, live entertainment, food, drink and things to buy. Come along and support our local businesses and community groups.

Thursday 12 December to Sunday 26 January

Award-winning Broadway musical **Kiss**

Me Kate, music and lyrics by Cole Porter, Upstairs at the Gatehouse, Highgate, N6. Box office at www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com or 020 8340 3488.

Saturday 14 December

• **Martin School Centenary Christmas Bazaar**, 12noon to 3pm, Martin School, Plane Tree Walk, N2. Bigger and better than ever this year, with loads of fun for the kids and plenty of gorgeous gifts to buy. And Santa's been invited. Entry £1 per family.

• **Charity auction evening for the Art for Ark's Sake** exhibition of works by artists and celebrities, in aid of the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice, 6pm, Original Gallery, Hornsey Library, Haringey. The works are on display at the same venue until Saturday 4 January.

Tuesday 17 December

• **Live band featuring Kenny Charles** at The Victoria pub, North Hill, Highgate, from 8pm. The pub also runs a quiz each Wednesday from 8pm, £2 per player, and a Friday live music session from 8pm.