



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 07795 503752.
- **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, Church Lane N2. Contact: 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 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.
- **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.
- **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. 07958 282898.

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.
- **LGBT?** 1st Weds every month in a local pub. Welcoming atmosphere. Email efinchleylgbt@hotmail.com
- **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
- **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. Anita 8886 6140.
- **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, contact 8883 4390



Karen Davies, who makes unique handmade kiln-formed fused glassware under the name Hearts of Glass, was one of the artists at the East Finchley Open fair. Photo by John Lawrence.

Enlightening artwork

By Adam Justice-Mills

On a beautifully sunny day, the East Finchley Open artists held their own Winter Fair at the Treehouse School in Muswell Hill.

Mentioned recently in a Guardian article by Zoe Williams, the Treehouse School is part of a national charity, Ambitious About Autism, helping young people with complex autism. It's also specially built to be the greenest school in the country. The aim of the event was to raise money for their charity, so we were pleased to donate £200 to them after the event.

A big thank you to more than 500 people who came along on the day, many of them seeing our work for the first time, with a lucky few winning a piece of art in our prize draw. Thanks also to the school and the parents for their support, lovely cakes

and great atmosphere.

We were also delighted to play our part in the first East Finchley Christmas Festival in early December. Encouraging creativity in the local community is a big part of what East Finchley Open is about. Our 'make your own Christmas decorations' stall gave us a chance to say thank you to all those in the area who have encouraged us in our work over the past nine years.

Our next event is in the Highgate Gallery from 8-21 March, where we will be showing new work on the theme of 'Cycles'. More details in next month's *ARCHER* and on www.eastfinchleyopen.org.uk.

Buddy, won't you buy a book?

By Daphne Chamberlain

The Olympics took place off the Cornish coast, and the slowcoach champion was Tommy the Turtle. If you live underwater you will know this already. I got my information via Aubrey Rose from Hadley Wood. He had told his grandchildren tales of Tommy, high-jumping champions Smoky the Salmon and Freddie the Flying Fish, and security guards Sammy the Shark and Billy the Whale. Then, when he sat next to teacher Elizabeth Newson in a Barnet cafe, a book was born. She was sketching their fellow customers, but soon found herself illustrating Mr Rose's story.

Aimed at the 5-9 year-old age group, this picture book includes information about geography and sea creatures as part of the fun and games. **Sea Olympics**, by Aubrey Rose and Elizabeth Newson, published by Chaville Press, ISBN 978-0-9569344-3-7, was promoted in an event at artsdepot at the end of October, which also launched three other Chaville Press books.

Finchley artist Mari l'Anson's **Indian Sketchbook**, ISBN 978-0-9569344-6-8, is a record of her two journeys through India. Mari has a real gift for bringing what she sees before us as if we were seeing it ourselves.

The Friern Hospital Story, by David Beguer, ISBN 978-0-9569344-4-4, tells the story

of the building which started as the Colney Hatch Asylum, and became luxury apartments.

We Used To Write Letters, by Keith Martin, ISBN 978-0-9569344-5-1, is written by the publisher himself. A collection of letters between himself and his family and friends, it not only covers their own lives, but reveals a lot about the changing world around them (the last few pages concentrate on the battle to save Friern Barnet Library.)

The launch event, featuring sofas, singers and a piano, was well-attended and entertaining. One of the songs was "Buddy, won't you spare a dime?" Maybe you will....

Contact book shops, Amazon, or Chaville Press (020 8445 7850 or email keith.martin18@btinternet.com).

January at the Phoenix

By Carina Volkes, operations manager at the Phoenix

It's January so in the film world that can only mean one thing: the start of awards season, and a whole lot of films by Oscar winners.

The month begins from 4 January with Dustin Hoffman's first foray into directing. Starring British greats such as Maggie Smith, Billy Connolly and Michael Gambon as retired opera singers, *Quartet* is a comedy that is guaranteed to put a smile on your face.

Following the dizzying commercial and critical highs of *The King's Speech*, all eyes are on Tom Hooper as he delivers his follow-up, and with *Les Misérables* from 11 January it looks as though he may have done it. Look out for Anne Hathaway delivering a blistering rendition of 'I Dreamed a Dream' performed live in the take without any post-synchronisation work.

We finish the month from 25 January with *The Sessions*, the powerful but funny true-life account of journalist and poet Mark O'Brien, who at the age

of 38 set out to lose his virginity despite being confined to an Iron Lung.

If you're looking for something special, check-out Russian Cannes winner *Elena* on 29 January, or go behind the scenes at the Phoenix with our tours on Sunday 13 January. Places are strictly limited for the tours so be sure to book.

On 13 January we welcome Academy Award winner and film historian Kevin Brownlow to introduce a classic screening 'From the Archives'. It was filmed in 1927 and stars the legendary Clara Bow. The score will be performed live by leading silent film accompanist Stephen Horne.

As always, our café is open daily to take the chill off with our range of hot drinks and a chance to try out our brand new furniture. Happy January, film fans!

Golden jubilee for music society

Review by Ken Carter

On 1 December at All Saints, Durham Road, East Finchley residents, visitors and past singers from the London Ripieno Society came together to celebrate the society's 50th year under the benign guidance of Geoffrey Hanson, its founder.

This was a choral concert, befitting the occasion. We heard Bach's *Magnificat in D*, Haydn's *Nelson Mass* and the first performance of Hanson's *Ode to the Human Voice*.

Performers took their places on the raised part of the church, with conductor and soloists at the front, instrumentalists behind and choir at the back. As a result, the choir of some 40 people sounded recessed, but the trumpet did well.

The Baroque works were vigorous without being rushed. Geoffrey Hanson is not disposed, thank goodness, to race ahead fashionably, as if the music were hardly worth lingering over.

Ode to the Human Voice, a musical setting of local writer Fleur Adcock's graceful but probing poem written to celebrate the Ripieno Society's 50th

anniversary, suited Geoffrey Hanson's style - contemporary but mindful of the past, light but conscious of the dark.

There were soloists in each work. Elisabeth Clarke, soprano, took a while to find her style; once found, her singing had grace and intelligence. Pauline Wetherill, second soprano, had a creamier voice, with fewer demands being put on it. Bethia Hourigan, mezzo-soprano, had grave distinction, while William Davies, tenor, had a good, clear, ringing attack and Andrew Thompson had a gruffer, more grounded manner. Nicholas Luff made the organ's presence known.

All in all, the Ripieno Society's high, dignified standard was maintained. Why don't more people in East Finchley come along to enjoy this local treasure?

What's On... E-mail your listings to: the-archer@lineone.net

Tuesday 8 January

• **Egyptian Pharaoh Akhenaten**: talk by Lucia Gahlin, hosted by Hendon and District Archaeological Society; 7.45pm, Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, N3 3QE. Tea and biscuits.

Sunday 13 January

• **Monthly litter pick** at Stanley Playing Field. Meet 2.0 pm, equipment provided.

• **Heritage tour of the Phoenix Cinema**: a chance to go behind the scenes at this historic picture house. Places are limited and cost £2 per person. Contact box office,

020 8444 6789.

Thursday 31 January

• **Dig for Victory**: talk by Russell Bowes, hosted by The Finchley Society; 2.30pm at Avenue House, East End Road, N3 3QE. Everyone welcome; £2 admission charge for non-members.

Saturday 9 February

• **Supper Quiz in aid of NSPCC**, 7.0 pm for 7.15, Parish Hall, St Mary at Finchley, 32a Hendon Lane, N3. £12.50 (incl. fish supper, byo drinks). Tickets: 83612663 or email holborough43@aol.com