



Regular Events

Sport & Fitness

- **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
- **Ladies Keep Fit Class** for over 50s. Tues 10.30-11.30am at Tetherdown Hall. Sheila 8444 0084.
- **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 Classes** Tue 9.30, Fri 9.15 & Sun 11am. www.pilatesineastfinchley.co.uk. Michelle 07767 804 564
- **Tai Chi & Qigong** in N2, Weds 1pm. James 8883 3308/07836 710281 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.
- **Women's kick boxing**, Thursdays 9.30am, East Finchley Combat Academy, Church Lane, N2. Contact 07956 340540.

Music, Dance & Creative Arts

- **Art Classes**. Call Henry on 8888 5133.
- **A-Chord**, friendly choir, all genres, open to all. Thursdays 8pm at NNLS, East End Rd. Laura 07732 120464. www.a-chord.uk
- **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.
- **Dance conditioning classes**. New body in 10 lessons. Diana: 07580 041270. www.boldbodies.co.uk.
- **East Finchley Writers Group**, Weds at the Old White Lion. Contact Ralph 8444 5903.
- **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.
- **Muswell Hill after school ukulele club**, Wednesdays 4.15-5.15pm, ages 6-10. Contact Margie 07909 439513.
- **Traditional tunes @ TOC Highgate Hill**, join in playing by ear - 1st & 3rd Tues monthly from 8.30pm. Free. 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
- **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.
- **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.

New front man for Phoenix

The Phoenix Cinema Trust has announced the appointment of James Kessler QC, barrister, as its new chairman. He has been a trustee of the cinema for six years and takes over from Stephen Barr, who has held the post since 2008.

After saving the cinema from the threat of demolition in 1985 the Phoenix Cinema Trust has run it as a charitable organization: a "cinema for the community" in East Finchley and across north London. The cinema has several noteworthy patrons including Benedict Cumberbatch, Mark Kermode and Maureen Lipman.

James Kessler comments: "The cinema plays an important role in the North London community, offering education and entertainment to individuals, schools and other organizations and this is something that will be an even greater focus during my tenure."

"For over a century, film

lovers have been able to visit the cinema and thanks to the work of the Trust it's still as vibrant now as it was then. The cinema provides a connection to our shared past as well as an opportunity to promote the arts within the community today. I've long felt it to be the jewel of East Finchley."

Dating back to 1910, the Phoenix Cinema is one of the last remaining purpose-built cinemas of its era. Known for its 1910 original barrel ceiling and 1938 art deco panelling, in 2000 the cinema was listed by English Heritage in recognition of its historic and architectural significance.



Charity raises the bar

In September, Advocacy in Barnet became the only Barnet Charity ever to be honoured with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. Lizzie Sturm, Advocacy's Chief Executive, said that receiving this fantastic accolade in their 18th year was especially fitting.

Despite being entirely reliant on independent funding, Advocacy in Barnet has become a strong organisation with a diverse and dedicated team of over 60 volunteers and staff delivering a range of projects for their 50 Plus Matters work, which includes services to the most isolated and vulnerable older Barnet residents.

Guests attended the presentation by Mr Martin Russell the Queen's Representative, at Avenue House, Stephens House and Grounds. Anyone who thinks they could benefit from advocacy support, or who would like to train as a volunteer advocate, can contact Advocacy in Barnet on 020 8201 3415. Donations are also very welcome.

Arrr, Jim Lad!

This year the pantomime being staged by The Guild Players will whisk you off to Treasure Island. Written by Mike Sparks, it will be a treat for the whole family.

Performances take place at Finchley Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane, N3, from Wednesday 9 to Saturday 12 December, including a Saturday matinee. Book tickets by phoning 020 8346 6337 or online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/theguildplayers.

What's On...

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

Saturday 5 December

• **East Finchley Christmas Festival**, along the High Road from 10am; live entertainment, carols, Father Christmas and live reindeer, mince pie baking competition, stalls and more.

Wednesday 9 to Saturday 12 December

• The Guild Players present their pantomime version of Treasure Island at Finchley Methodist Church Hall, Ballards Lane, Finchley, N3 1NB; 7.30pm daily, plus Saturday matinee 3pm. Foyer opens 7pm (2.30pm for matinee). May not be suitable for children under five. Book online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/theguildplayers, or on 020 8346 6337.

Until Saturday 12 December

• Exhibition of paintings by Parisian artist

Sassou Pourroy at The Aylmer, Aylmer Parade, N2. Joyful, atmospheric paintings inspired by natural scenes on the continent and in Ireland.

Saturday 12 December

• Martin School Christmas Fair, Plane Tree Walk, 12noon-3.0pm: an exciting afternoon of games and activities plus the magic of Santa's Grotto. All are welcome.

Sunday 13 December

• Open Sunday at Stephens House and Gardens, 17 East End Road, N3 3QE. House open 12 noon to 5pm. Lunch in house, 12 noon to 3pm. Stephens Collection, museum of the famous ink company, open 1pm to 5pm. General gardens open as usual, but Bothy Gardens closed. Tel. 020 8346 7812 or www.stephenshouseandgardens.com



Story time: Louise Bland at a summer festival.

Storytelling tradition alive and well

Black Gull Bookshop is branching out into storytelling for youngsters. Actress, singer and storyteller Louise Bland will be telling two or three tales on Sunday afternoons at the High Road shop.

Using old folk tales, she weaves dramatised action and characters with song and poetry to create a modern twist to old favourites. She likes stories that tell us about our own humanity but also tales that have great characters and are ultimately fun.

Louise said: "The power good storytelling has for people to learn and develop in a positive way is never ending. Children naturally understand what a

story is about and I love that they respond so easily to the form, something we adults could do with re-learning."

The Black Gull sessions are on Sunday 6 and 13 December, both at 2pm for about 45 minutes. Spaces are limited so book your place in advance at black.gull.finchley@gmail.com. Children must be accompanied. Tickets are £3.50 per child.

Meeting of minds for small businesses

A new event has been set up to help leaders of small businesses in north London make contacts and develop their entrepreneurial skills.

Bright Sparks is run by the Small Business Network, which has been established in the area for eight years. Going further than a typical business networking event, the Muswell Hill workshop encourages participants to share their business challenges in small groups, allowing the exchange of advice and knowledge.

Business coach Rebecca Fishman says: "Small businesses have all the challenges of big businesses, but they don't have the same resources and support. At Bright Sparks we use an approach called

Masterminding, whereby business people can get a close understanding of each other's issues and pass on their recommendations and learning."

Bright Sparks is hosted at Zebra Café, in Alexandra Park Road, N10. The event costs £10 for non-members and £7.50 for members of the Small Business Network. For more information, visit bit.ly/bright-sparks-event.

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