



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.



Lookalike: Woody Allen, left, and Simon Schatzberger

Stand up and be Woody

By John Lawrence

Before Woody Allen became famous as a filmmaker, he spent much of the 1960s earning his living from stand-up comedy. Typically, he said there was nothing about the lifestyle he liked and he's never returned to it.

Tapes of the shows he gave then don't often get an airing. So with Allen just about to hit 80 and still directing films, it would have seemed that his fans today had missed their chance to enjoy his stage patter in the flesh.

Simon's tribute

That's where East Finchley actor Simon Schatzberger comes in. He had been contemplating starting his own stand-up act when he listened to some of the old Allen routines and decided to learn those instead. Now, as Woody Allenish, he could be starting a whole new trend in comedy tribute acts.

"I've loved Woody Allen since I was 16," says Simon. "When I perform as him I'm playing a character. It's difficult standing up with a microphone and trying to be yourself, but I find it more comfortable taking on his personality."

Timeless routines

Simon got his first gig earlier this year at Muswell Hill Synagogue and has since gone on to perform at the Edinburgh Festival. Next step is to take his act to Woody Allen's hometown, New York City. He adds: "I've gone back to the original material which is 50 years old now but really it's timeless because it was never topical. It was always about relationships or being bullied at school. The response from audiences has been amazing. To some it's like rediscovering an old friend, to younger people it's like finding a whole new comic voice."

Simon believes there's major gap in the market for comic tribute acts. He's holding auditions for

an evening of classic comics, so maybe soon we could see Woody Allen on the same bill as Tommy Cooper, Steve Martin and Victoria Wood.

Meanwhile, you can catch his solo spots at various upcoming gigs. Check out the dates and venues at www.woodyallenish.com

Christmas is coming

St Mary's Church at 279 High Road invites everyone to its Christmas Fair on Saturday 21 November from 12 noon to 3pm.

Come and see the living nativity scene, meet Santa in his grotto and enjoy kids' activities, tombolas, arts & crafts and of course festive food and carols. The event is sponsored by estate agents Martyn Gerrard and entry is free.

Learn Chinese

Language teachers are holding classes at Christ's College Finchley for everyone interested in learning basic conversational Chinese.

The classes are free and will run in term time every Wednesday at the school's sixth form centre from 4-5pm. The experienced teachers are based at the London School of Economics.

If you would like to know more, contact Andrew Bratt, deputy head of sixth form, at amb@ccfplus.com.

Caffeine and celluloid

By Nick Young

Film premieres are usually associated with a red carpet, but back in September it was all about coffee as the Phoenix Cinema hosted the first UK screening of *Caffeinated*, a documentary which provides an insight into where coffee comes from and highlights the role of the producers.

Unusually, this was followed by a professional-style coffee tasting in the cinema's café where movie-goers got to sample coffees from around the world.

The one-off screening was the idea of Campbell & Syme, the café and coffee roastery located on Fortis Green, which supplies the Phoenix with their coffee. "One of my colleagues knows the film-maker," explained co-founder Joe Syme, "so we thought it would be a fun thing to do."



Pour show: Film fans get a taste of coffee in the Phoenix café.

As well as the Phoenix, Campbell & Syme supplies the coffee for Boydens Pantry on Church Lane and the Tintico coffee shop in Finchley Central.



It's for you: Natalie White as Peggy and Maya Ellis as Tessa

Curtain up on Plater play

Garden Suburb Theatre are bringing *Peggy For You* to the heart of Highgate Village. Alan Plater's play about a day in the life of his own larger-than-life theatrical agent was first performed at Hampstead Theatre in 1999 with Maureen Lipman as Peggy.

This witty, wry but unsentimental account will be performed at Upstairs at the Gatehouse, Highgate Village, on 26-28 November at 7.30pm and 29 November at 4pm. Tickets cost £12 (£10 concessions). For further details, see www.garden-suburbtheatre.org.uk or call 020 8340 3488.

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What's On...

Sunday 8 November

• **Free concert at East Finchley Methodist Church**, High Road, opposite Creighton Avenue, N2, 7.30pm; Masterpieces for Piano Trio including works by Haydn, Khachaturian, Smetana and Mendelssohn. Free admission with collection in aid of British Red Cross. Venue is fully accessible.

Saturday 14 November

• **Geological Walk in Coldfall Wood**, led by local geologist Diana Clements. Meet 10.30 am, east gate on Creighton Avenue. £3 donation welcomed. Booking not essential but helpful: www.coldfallwoods.co.uk

Sunday 15 November

• **Battle of Barnet: guided walk** with Paul Baker, City of London guide. Meet at junction of Great North Road and Hadley Green Road, 11am. For more details contact Paul on 020 8440 6805 or visit www.barnetwalks.talktalk.net

Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 November

• **East Finchley Open artists hold their 11th annual art fair**, giving the opportunity to browse and buy original jewellery, ceramics, textiles, paintings, photos and more; Archer Academy, Stanley Road, 11am-5pm.

Saturday 21 November

• **St Mary's Church at 279 High Road** invites everyone to its **Christmas Fair** from 12 noon to 3 pm. Spectacular Living Nativity Scene, meet Santa in his grotto and enjoy kids' activities galore, manicures, tombolas, arts & crafts and of course festive food, refreshments and carols. Free entry.

• **Finchley Choral Society performs Kodaly, Gorecki, Lauridsen, Part and Arensky**, St Michael's Church, Highgate, N6 6BJ, 7.30pm. Tickets £15 (adults), £7 (students) and £1 (under 16s) available from box office, 020 7263 3358, and on the door.

Thursday 26 November

• **All Over By Christmas: Life on the Home Front in Barnet during WWI**; David Berquer

will deliver the 2015 Jean Scott Memorial Lecture at 8pm in Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley N3 3QE. For further information, see www.finchleysociety.org.uk

Saturday 28 November

• **Holy Trinity Primary School Christmas Fair**, Eagans Close, N2, 12noon. Everyone is welcome to enjoy home-made food, stalls, Christmas gifts and music.

• **Battle of Barnet: guided walk** with Paul Baker, City of London guide. Meet at junction of Great North Road and Hadley Green Road, 11am. For more details contact Paul on 020 8440 6805 or visit www.barnetwalks.talktalk.net

Sunday 29 November

• **Charles Dickens in Barnet and Finchley: special Christmas guided walk** with Paul Baker, City of London guide. Meet at High Barnet tube station, 11am. For more details contact Paul on 020 8440 6805 or visit www.barnetwalks.talktalk.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. **Monday 14 to Monday 21 December**
• **Alexandra Palace Amateur Productions presents Cinderella on Ice**, a magical recreation of the classic fairy tale. School shows 14-16 December, public shows 18-21 December. Tickets on sale now at www.alexandrapalace.com

Wednesday 16 December to Sunday 31 January

• **Upstairs at the Gatehouse Theatre, Highgate, presents Legally Blonde, The Musical**, based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the MGM movie. Winner of three Olivier Awards, this is an all-singing, all-dancing romantic comedy. Box office: 020 8340 3488 and www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com

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