



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 music at TOC**, Highgate Hill, on 1st & 3rd Tues each month 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.
- **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

What's on at the Phoenix in September

By Nick Walker

In September the Phoenix is screening some not-to-be-missed films. Here are some of the highlights. To book tickets, come into the foyer or visit www.phoenixcinema.co.uk

In Woody Allen's *Irrational Man* an impotent, alcoholic philosophy professor played by Joaquin Phoenix finds a sense of purpose after overhearing a stranger's conversation. Woody Allen uses this darkly humorous quasi-thriller to contemplate the perfect murder, combining the weightiness of his best dramas with the playfulness of his best comedies.

Director Anton Corbijn offers a glimpse of James Dean's early career through the lens of Robert Pattinson, playing an ambitious photographer whose professional horizons open when he spots the actor's raw charisma. *Life* tells the story behind the 1955 photo spread that brought moody young heart-

throb Dean to the attention of the American public, just seven months before his tragic death aged 24.

Veteran actors Robert Redford and Nick Nolte go for *A Walk In The Woods* in director Ken Kwapis' adaptation of Bill Bryson's 1998 memoir. After two decades in England, travel writer Bryson (Redford) decides to hike along the East Coast of the United States on the Appalachian Trail, the longest continuous footpath in the world, as a way to re-connect with his homeland. Joined by a long-estranged high school pal they face off with each other, nature and an eccentric assortment of characters and learn that some roads are better left untravelled.

Choir awaydays

By Marian Bunzl

This summer North London Chorus has been playing away. In May we joined the Bury Bach Choir for a performance of Britten's *War Requiem* at the beautiful St Edmundsbury Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds.

Fortunately, Bury is a comfortable and scenic coach ride away, so we were able to visit each other for day workshops and Philip Reed, Bury's musical director, could commute to take several rehearsals with us.

By the performance day, both choirs were in tune with each other and ready for our dress rehearsal with all the forces involved in this epic work: two orchestras, three choirs, three soloists and two conductors. The

resulting performance received thunderous applause (magnified by the Cathedral's splendid acoustic) from a near-capacity audience. It was a most uplifting experience and we very much hope we can repeat it.

In June, we only went as far as Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church. We invited choral singers within reach of central London to join us there in a workshop day and evening performance of Handel's rarely



Mark of quality: Long Lane Pasture displays its Green Flag Award.

Pasture paradise

Long Lane Pasture has been named as one of the best green spaces in Britain and will be flying a Green Flag Award.

The open land, opposite the fire station in Long Lane, is a two-acre remnant of the original Finchley Common, once used for making hay and grazing horses. It is managed by volunteers under trust deed on a lease from Barnet Council.

Its Green Flag is a sign to the public that the space boasts the highest possible standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent facilities.

Dennis Pepper, Chair of the Long Lane Pasture Trust, said: "We are absolutely delighted to receive a Green Flag Community Award for the fourth year running, especially as it is the only one awarded in Barnet from Keep Britain Tidy."

"This achievement is entirely due to the imagination of our hard working management Committee and our volunteers. In eleven years we have transformed a bramble-covered wasteland into a peaceful haven for wildlife, and a place for enjoyment for the people of Finchley."

Snap to it

This year's Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association Photographic Competition is open for entries.

The theme is 'My Muswell Hill' and photographers are invited to submit entries that reflect their personal emotional or physical connection to anything about Muswell Hill.

First prize is £50 and the deadline is 30 September. More details from www.mhfga.org

What's On...

Saturday 5 September

• **Fabulous Finchley: guided walk** through 1,000 years of the history of Church End and East Finchley with City of London guide Paul Baker. Meet 2.30pm at Finchley Central tube station (Ballards Lane exit). More details from Paul on 020 8440 6805 or www.barnetwalks.talktalk.net

Sunday 6 September

• Caroline and David Broome open their beautiful garden to raise funds for the **British Red Cross Open Garden Day**, 79 Church Lane, N2, from 2-6pm. Entry £3 (under-14s free but must be accompanied by an adult).

• **Bothy Garden Party at Stephens House and Gardens**, East End Road, N3, 3pm to 5pm. Enjoy tea and homemade cakes in the walled garden. Home-made jams, chutneys, home-grown vegetables and plants will be on sale and there will be quizzes for children. Admission £5, children free, tea and cake included. More details from www.stephenshouseandgardens.com

Monday 7 September

• **Build a Capsule Wardrobe**, an expert talk with Daisy from Wardrobe Workshop, Clissold Arms, Fortis Green, 8pm. Tickets and more details from www.sortingself.com

Friday 11 September

• **Family bat walk** in Coldfall Wood, led by Cindy Blaney, local bat expert. Meet 7.0pm (note change of time) at east entrance on Creighton Avenue. Free or voluntary donation of £3. Booking advisable: info@coldfallwoods.co.uk

Saturday 12 September

• **Cat and kitten rehoming day** at Goddards Kennels and Cattery, 160 Chingford Mount Road, Chingford, E4 (along N. Circular). Lots of RSPCA-checked cats and kittens available for rehoming. More information from Derrick Yapp on 07715 540279 or derrick.yapp@rspca.org.uk

• **Children's March for Libraries**. Protest march against Barnet library cuts. Starting at East Finchley Library at 10.15am and marching up East End Road to Church End Library, where we will be joined by a brass band and open-top bus, then on to North Finchley Library. All welcome. See www.eflug.org.uk for info.

Sunday 13 September

• **Heritage Open Sunday at Stephens House and Gardens**, East End Road, N3, 12 noon to 5pm. Access to upstairs rooms of Avenue House, including tower, and to the Bothy, the Lodge and the Water Tower. Tours at 1pm and 3pm, maximum of 20 people per tour. More details from www.stephenshouseandgardens.com

• **Battle of Barnet: guided tour** of the famous Wars of the Roses battlefield of 1471 with City of London guide Paul Baker. Meet 2.30pm at junction of Great North Road and Hadley Green Road. More details from Paul on 020 8440 6805 or www.barnetwalks.talktalk.net.

Monday 14 September

• **Singing in London choir open evening** at the Archer Academy, Beaumont Place, N2, from 8-10pm. Find out more about

this welcoming singing group. Book your place online at www.singinginlondon.com

Sunday 20 September

• **St Mary's Church International Sunday**: come and celebrate the diversity of cultures in our community. Mass at 12 noon followed by lunch and entertainment in the Parish Centre, 279 High Road, N2. If you'd like to share your culture bring a dish or come dressed in your country's national costume, or just turn up and enjoy the day with us. All welcome.

Wednesday 23 September

• **Garden Suburb Theatre perform** a semi-staged reading of 'The King's Own Boys' in the drawing room and salon of Avenue House at Stephens House and Gardens, East End Road, N3, 7.30pm. The play is written and directed by Adam Sutcliffe, set in the closing months of the First World War and tells the story of his grandfather in the Royal Flying Corps and the unsolved mysterious disappearance of one of the war's unsung heroes. Tickets £8, £6 concessions, call 020 8346 7812 opt 1 or go to www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/185401.

Thursday 24 September

• **'Education in East Finchley'** will be the theme for the **Hinchley Society's 'outreach' meeting** at Holy Trinity School, Eagans Close, N2. Hear about the oldest schools, Holy Trinity and Martin Primary, up to the recent opening of the new Archer Academy building. Speakers: David Smith, Roger Chapman and Lucy

Harrison. All welcome. Non members £2. Refreshments available from 7.30pm.

Saturday 26 September

• **Austen's Women**. At artsdepot, North Finchley: 3.0pm. Tickets £13 or £11 for over-60s. Box Office 020 8369 5454.

• **Muswell Hill United Reform Church's Live Music Day**: organ and piano festival 10.30am to 3pm at the church at 34 Creighton Avenue, N10. Coffees and pastries from 10.30am; refreshments available throughout the day. Admission free but donations welcome as this is a fundraising event for the running and repair costs of the church organ.

Sunday 27 September

• **Grange Big Local Community Festival** 12 noon to 4pm at Bishop Douglass School in Hamilton Road, N2. Come along for games and activities and find out what the Grange Big Local project has been doing over the past year.

Saturday 3 October

• **Fun Palace**, 11 am to 4pm artsdepot, North Finchley Box Office 020 8369 5454. Included free events for older people.

• **Fungi walk in Coldfall Wood** led by Andy Overall, local mycologist. Meet at 2.30pm at east entrance on Creighton Avenue. Free or voluntary donation of £3. Booking advisable: info@coldfallwoods.co.uk

Saturday 3 October

• **And this is my friend, Mr Laurel**. 4.30pm. artsdepot, North Finchley. Tickets £14 or £11 for over-60s. Box Office 020 8369 5454.

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