



Regular Events

Sport & Fitness

- **Finchley & Hornsey Ramblers Group**
Call Vivien 8883 8190
- **Glebelands Indoor Bowls Club**, Summers Lane N12. New and experienced bowlers welcome.
- **Muswell Hill Bowling Club**, Kings Ave, N10. New & experienced bowlers welcome. Tel: 8883 0433.
- **Outdoor Bootcamp** 9.30am & 10.30am every Sat; **Boxing and Kettlebells**, 6.45pm Weds, Victoria Park, N3. Contact Sarah 07956 589902.
- **Outdoor Fit Camp** Lyttelton Playing Fields, N2, 6.30pm Wed and 9.30am Sat. Call Martin on 07809 593952.
- **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 beginners' course** at Yogalogy, High Road, N2. Contact 020 70187377 or info@yogalogy.co.uk
- **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.
- **'Calm & Sing' workshops**. Contact Angie on missangiea@yahoo.co.uk
- **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.



Audience award: The Phoenix crowd applauds one of the short films. Photo Adeel Ikram

A short voyage of discovery

The third edition of the discover.film awards showcased 40 of the best short films from around the world over two afternoons at the Phoenix Cinema. Discover.film hold their festival in East Finchley twice yearly, and their event has been voted one of the top 100 film festivals by filmmakers.

As well as organising the festival, the team distributes short films, streams them online, and runs a brand new app designed to change the public perception of short films.

Head of Judges, Jaime Green, chaired a Q&A with the directors of the films after their screenings, giving the enthusiastic Phoenix audience a chance to ask the filmmakers directly about their inspirations and methods.

A highlight from the weekend at the start of April was Danny DeVito's *Curmudgeons*, a humorous romance about a pair of senior citizens whose relationship shocks their families, which took home the Best International Comedy Award.

Further memorable entries included the beautiful story of a young man driving home to see his dying mother in *Lost Memories*, for which the director Eamonn Murphy

won Best Director and tied the Audience Award with Philip Staal's *Small Steps*. The awards ceremony itself was held at Stephens House and Gardens in East End Road with discover.film delivering a night of red carpets, champagne, and celebrations.

Find out more by visiting <https://discover.film> and get more information about the next festival coming up in October by emailing james@discover.film.

Fear and gnomes inside the Neighbourhood Watch

Garden Suburb Theatre is performing Alan Ayckbourn's *Neighbourhood Watch* at the Bull Theatre in Barnet. Bluebell Hill Development is a wonderful place to live, until an innocent mistake leads to the residents taking extreme measures to protect themselves.

In this play, highly topical given recent political events, Ayckbourn suggests that the biggest threat to the neighbourhood is not the danger that lies outside it but the fear that spreads within it. With some blissful comic moments, love at first sight, affairs, medieval torture devices and gnomes, there is something for everyone.

Performed 11-13 May at 7.30pm at the Bull Theatre. Tickets £12/£10 concessions. Visit www.gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk to book tickets.



Keep watch: Teresa Poland, Chloe de Salis and Debbie Lane in rehearsal

What's On...

Saturday 6 May

• Following its critically acclaimed Edinburgh Festival debut, **Open Sky** present *Scorched*, using new writing, visual physical theatre, period music and an innovative set to create the workings of a mind sinking into the sands of time. Jacksons Lane, Archway Road, N6. Tickets £14.95/£12.95. Box Office 020 8341 4421 and www.jacksonslane.org.uk

Thursday 11 to Saturday 13 May

• **Garden Suburb Theatre** perform Alan Ayckbourn's *Neighbourhood Watch* at the Bull Theatre in Barnet, 7.30pm. Tickets £12/£10 concessions. Book tickets at www.gardensuburbtheatre.org.uk.

Saturday 13 May

• **Hampstead Garden Suburb Horticultural Society's annual plant sale** at Fellowship

House, 136a Willifield Way, London NW11; hundreds of flower and vegetable plants for sale; 10.30am to 12 midday.

• **Fortismere Community Choir and Symphony Orchestra** present Mozart's Mass in C Minor, Haydn's Inसानae et Vanae Curae, Schutz's Magnificat and Mozart's Exultate Jubilate at St Andrew's Church, N10 2DD, at 7.30pm. Tickets £10 (concessions £8 and under-12s free). More information at www.fortismerecommunitychoir.org.uk

Sunday 14 May

• **Wild Flower Walk** in Coldfall Wood, led by botanist and conservationist David Bevan. Meet 2.30 pm. Details and booking: www.coldfallwoods.co.uk

• **Free concert at East Finchley Methodist Church**, High Road, opposite Creighton Avenue, 7.30pm; Concordia Guitar Duo play

a programme to include Haydn, Schubert and works by Tarrega, Llobet, Turina and Torroba. Free admission, collection in aid of Lauderdale House. Venue fully accessible.

Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 May

• **North Finchley Festival**; live music in eight café and bar venues, free entry. Local performers are encouraged to get involved. Email northfinchleyfest@gmail.com and follow NorthFinchleyFest on Twitter and Facebook.

Saturday 20 May

• **Finchley Symphony Orchestra** presents a **feast of French music**, including Ravel, Debussy and Fauré; Trinity Church, Nether Street, North Finchley, N12, at 7.30pm. Tickets £15 (concessions £13, under 18s £6) bookable in advance by calling 07928 278449 or by emailing tickets@finchleysymphony.org.

Not the Same River

Review by Diana Cormack
Former Summerlee Avenue resident and Archer deliverer Anne Lalaguna may be remembered by some of our readers for the active role she took for many years as chair of the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood. She and her husband now live near their family in Suffolk, but Anne still keeps in touch with East Finchley and loves reading about it in *The Archer*.

Recently Anne's first book *Not the Same River* was published. Its title is based on a quotation from the Greek philosopher Heraclitus: 'No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river and he's not the same man.'

The main characters in the story certainly reflect this for, having had a relationship as young students, their meeting many years later at a university reunion is between two people whose subsequent behaviour bitterly underlines how much they have changed.

The theme is familiar: an unwanted pregnancy and its repercussions, but different in that it involves a very successful older couple. Both still single and approaching 40, Dr Maggie Savernake is a distinguished university lecturer and Jack Millfield an advertising agency executive. Their tale unfolds over 18 months of tension and mental torture. Jack put me in mind of Rob Titchener in *The Archers*. Then, just when you think Maggie has reached the haven she deserves, things take a turn for the worse.

Having experience in both the worlds of advertising and academia, Anne is able to write about them convincingly in this very readable book, with detailed descriptions bringing the whole story to life. There is even a touch of glamour from the film world. Overall I tend to agree with the publishers Matador Books who say, 'It will appeal primarily to female readers'.

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

finchleysymphony.org.

Sunday 21 May

• **Spring Plant Sale** at Gordon Road Allotments, N3 1EL; gates open at 10am but come early for best choice of young vegetable plants, bedding plants and unusual perennials all grown by members of the Finchley Horticultural Society. Very competitive prices. Tea and cakes also provided.

• **Open garden** for the National Gardens Open for Charity Scheme at 66 Abbots Gardens, N2, from 2pm to 5pm. Entry £3.50.

Saturday 27 May

• **Battle of Barnet: guided walk** with City of London guide Paul Baker. Meet at junction of Great North Road and Hadley Green Road, 11am. More details from Paul on 07506 761294 or at www.barnetwalks.talktalk.net.