



Pollen giver: An intimate study by Michael Wasser.

Intimate life of flowers

Inner Landscapes is the theme of an exhibition of paintings by artist Michael Wasser running at Lauderdale House in Highgate from Wednesday 1 to Monday 27 April.

Michael's colourful acrylic-on-canvas pieces focus on the central parts of flowers in various stages of metamorphosis. He has worked on this first solo project for the past three years, and is donating part of the proceeds to the North London Hospice.

The gallery at Lauderdale House is open Monday to Wednesday, 11am to 4pm, Thursdays 11.30am to 4pm, and on Sunday 5 and 12 April. More information at www.lauderdalehouse.org.uk

Pub is rocking with laughter

By Nick Allan

The Bald Faced Stag pub continues to raise a smile at their monthly stand-up comedy nights. The April date, to be confirmed, will feature as one of the heats for the British Comedian of the Year, the highest-paid comedy competition in the UK. It will be hosted by last year's winner and local resident Mark Maier, who walked away with £10,001, beating the top prize at the Edinburgh Fringe by £1.

Bald Faced Stag manager Ian Ball told *The Archer*: "The comedy night has been running for six months now and is proving very popular with local residents who want to leave their cares at the door and have a drink and a good laugh with a wide range of new and established comedians."

The comedy shows are on Sunday evenings from 7pm, continuing on Sunday 15 March and Sunday 19 April. Find out who's 'standing up' at www.thebaldfacedstagn2.co.uk or phone the Stag on 020 8442 1201.



Making merry: The audience at the Bald Faced Stag

Pat and his band go on the road... around East Finchley

After he had been named in the *i* newspaper as one of the most inspiring people in Britain (*The Archer*, October 2019), teacher and MOBO award winning musician Pat Leacock said that one of his goals was to continue to put on more events in East Finchley.

Now the songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and former East Finchley Festival compere is embarking on a mini music tour of the area to promote local businesses and live music.

His band The MercyZone will be performing smooth, soulful instrumental favourites and original compositions at BuFi, on the corner of Fortis Green and the High Road, on Monday 2 March and the Two Brothers Fish Restaurant, Ballards Lane, N3, on Friday 27 March.

Then as well as playing an ever popular 'Pat Have Mercy' DJ set, his band Dex & Mercy will be performing dancefloor



On tour: Pat Leacock

filling disco and funk classics at The Five Bells, East End Road, N2, on Friday 26 June, and also at Madden's, not forgetting performing at the East Finchley Festival itself on Sunday 21 June.

Pat says that East Finchley has the most amazing community spirit, commenting on its wealth of local businesses, outstanding schools, a plethora of volunteer-run events that cater for everyone's needs, great places to wine and dine, plus social media and newspapers like *The Archer* to help spread the word. Contact him via Facebook at 'DexandMercySoul andFunkNite' or email dexandmercyband@gmail.com

Big issues of the day at art gallery

Street artist Ben Wilson, otherwise known as The Chewing Gum Man, will be creating a piece on the pavement outside the Offshoot Art Gallery in East Finchley as part of a weekend of special events.

The *#FakeNews* exhibition investigating contemporary consumer culture will preview at the High Road gallery on Thursday 5 March, when Ben will be there, and run through to International Women's Day on Sunday 8 March.

On the Friday there will be a climate change protest by local children after school from 3.30pm to 5pm and on the Saturday there will be upcycling fashion workshops. On the Sunday there will be a panel talk on women running sustainable projects within the local community. The weekend event is curated by three local women, artists Lisa-Marie Price and Rosha Nutt and arts marketing professional Holly Collier, in association with contemporary arts organisation ArtCan, which exhibits on topics around identity, sustainability and inequality. There will be pieces on show from more than 30 artists in response to these issues. Find out more at www.offshootartspace.com

What's On...

E-mail your listings to: news@the-archer.co.uk

Wednesday 4 March and every Wednesday

• **OWL Comedy stand up night** at the Old White Lion, High Road, N2, from 7.30pm every Wednesday.

Thursday 5 March to Sunday 8 March

• **#FakeNews exhibition** presented by ArtCan: artworks that probe sustainability, climate change, inequality and immigration; Offshoot Art Gallery, High Road, N2. Includes climate change demo; upcycling fashion workshops and special events for International Women's Day.

Sunday 8 March

• Volunteers welcome to join a **litter pick in Cherry Tree Wood** 2pm-3pm. Bring gloves and meet at Summerlee Avenue gate.

Wednesday 11 March

• **Professor Catherine Loveday** gives a talk *exploring the brain and relationships*, the chemistry of love and connections in groups; Ann Owens Centre, Oak Lane, N2, from 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Licensed bar available. Tickets free but booking essential as places are limited so email Wendy at [wendy](mailto:wendy@nutman@ageukbarnet.org.uk).

nutman@ageukbarnet.org.uk or call 020 8432 1421.

Thursday 12 March

• **N2United community and business meeting** to discuss concerns and opportunities affecting East Finchley's businesses and community organisations. This month the focus is East Finchley Festival. 7pm, The Clissold Arms, Fortis Green, N2. All welcome.

Saturday 14 March

• **Finchley Symphony Orchestra** under guest conductor Robert Hodge with soprano soloist Emily Garland presents a concert of Mozart, Wagner and Mahler at Trinity Church, Nether Street, N12 7NN, at 7.30pm. Tickets £15, concessions £13, under 18s £6. Save £2 per ticket by advance booking online at www.finchleysymphony.org/ concerts

Sunday 15 March

• **Bald Faced Laughter stand-up comedy night** at the Bald Faced Stag pub, High Road, N2. Come and enjoy top quality comedy acts. More details at www.thebaldfacedstagn2.co.uk.

Thursday 19 March

• **Quiz night at Stephens House and Gardens**, East End Road, N3. Everyone welcome. Tickets priced £15pp include supper; 7.30pm. Call 020 8346 7812, option 1 to book.

Sunday 22 March

• **Mother's Day lunch at Stephens House and Gardens**, East End Road, N3, from 12-3pm; all mothers receive a garden related gift. Call 020 8346 7812, option 1 to book.

Thursday 26 March

• **Curry night and Indian wine tasting at Inky's Supper Club**, hosted at Stephens House and Gardens, East End Road, N3, 6.30-8.30pm. Book via www.stephenshouseandgardens.com/ events

Saturday 28 March

• **Muswell Hill Indoor Car Boot Sale**, 10-1pm at Hornsey Parish Church Hall, Cranley Gardens, N10 3AH; admission 50p; refreshments available. More information from: 020 8368 8180 or 07708 152354.

Saturday 28 March

• **Voxetera** presents Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Ola Gjeilo's *Sunrise Mass*; Jane Hopkins conducts Voxetera chamber choir and ensemble; with

Poppy Ewence (soprano), Helen Footman (mezzo-soprano) and Katrina Makepeace-Lott (alto); St Michael's Church, South Grove, Highgate, London N6 6BJ at 7.30pm. Refreshments available. Tickets £20, £16, £12. Book at voxcetera.co.uk

Sunday 29 March

• **Ramblers Association walk from Alexandra Palace**, all welcome. Meet 11am outside BBC tower at Alexandra Palace for five-mile walk through eight conservation areas and nine parks, finishing at Bruce Castle about lunchtime. Bring sandwiches; tea and coffee available in museum. Leaders: Chris Barker and Joyce Rosser (020 8347 7684 or 07951 905 490).

Saturday 4 April

• **Ramblers Association walk around Mill Hill East**, all welcome. Meet 10.30am at Mill Hill East underground station for leisurely five-mile circular walk via Darlands Nature Reserve where we might see Snake's Head Fritillaries. No picnic stop but possible call at Finchley Nurseries cafe. Leaders: Julia and John Haynes (020 8906 0563 or 07803 892 496).

Come and network with local businesses

By Charles Haydn

Meetings are hosted by networking group N2United in The Clissold Arms on the second Thursday of each month to bring together the organisations and businesses of East Finchley to share ideas and unite in trying to solve local issues that affect us all.

The February meeting was attended by representatives of local shops and businesses, as well as Grange Big Local, The Archer, the new team running the East Finchley Festival and Councillor Claire Farrier.

It started with congratulations to the festival team for reaching their crowdfunding target and they in turn extended their thanks to members of the East Finchley community who pledged money. There will be an opportunity at the next meeting on 12 March to see how you can support and get involved with East Finchley Festival.

Alongside the usual good humour of these monthly meetings, talk turned to the difficulties we are facing as a community and what can be done to reduce the increasing effects of crime, improve road safety and help a declining High Road. Future meetings will focus on how we can address these issues including a presentation by the local Police team who are keen to work with the local community. Find out more at www.n2united.co.uk