



Modern tale: A still from the short film *Crowning*

Debut explores life as a woman

By Ellie Franklin

In her own words, Hannah Jessop's debut short film "holds an intimate lens to the complexities of being a woman". Shot in one day, it will premiere at the Everyman Cinema in Chelsea this month.

Writer and performer Hannah, who has lived in East Finchley for the last three years, trained as an actor for three years at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts in Wood Green before being prompted by the pandemic to turn to writing.

Her 12-minute film *Crowning* was inspired by her own experiences as a single woman living in London and turning 27. It focuses on societal pres-

ures for women regarding marriage, pregnancy and relationships. Hannah describes it as an abstract and feminist piece that is unapologetic, fun and dark.

Crowning was written, shot and produced by an all-female team. Hannah says that once the director had seen the script, there was a quick three-week turnaround, and the film was shot in various locations around south London in one

day at the end of February. The production team received no funding; however, Hannah has applied for Arts Council funding for her next short film.

Crowning will premiere at the Everyman Cinema in Chelsea on Tuesday 25 May where Hannah hopes it will get noticed and picked up by some film festivals. She says: "I want to make sure women are taking up space and leading the lives they want to lead."

An end for the Arts Festival... and a new start?

By Daphne Chamberlain

For more than 20 years East Finchley has had its own Arts Festival but following the death last summer of its director, Geoffrey Hanson, the annual event has come to an end.

Members of Geoffrey's long-serving committee have acknowledged that they do not have the artistic direction or the funds to take it forward and so have discontinued their work. The remaining funds of £209 have been donated to charity.

This doesn't necessarily mean that we will stop all celebration of the arts in this area. How that can continue is up to all of us. East Finchley has talent; there is no doubt of that. We have writers, singers, musicians of all types, performance and visual artists, actors, dancers of all ages and levels of experience. Many of us have contacts with artists outside the area, too. If we want to bring our community together in this way, now is our chance.

Flourishing Arts

The Arts Festival was traditionally centred on All Saints' Church in Durham Road, and there is a possibility that the Ripieno Society, founded by Geoffrey, might give occasional concerts in

the church. Some people have also suggested that the church might host evening supper concerts, which have proved popular recently.

Other suggestions are possibly linking with the Muswell Hill Music Festival, East Finchley Festival and N2United.

Now is the opportunity to open up the range of activities and venues. There is certainly

enough talent and enthusiasm in this area to make a mark. Events could be spread throughout the year. There could be public performances or individual pieces of work displayed in different places. The way is open to everyone. *The Archer* would love to hear your suggestions. Email news@the-archer.co.uk or write to The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 2DE.

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Notice is hereby given that KATERINA GEORGIU has applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Barnet for a Premises Licence to permit: **THE SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL**

for the premises **POSEIDON** situated at **100-102 HIGH ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY, LONDON, N2 9EB**

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at 8th Floor, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, London, NW9 4EW or appointments to inspect the register can be made by telephoning 020 8359 7443 during office hours.

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The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Authorities Sub Committee and will therefore pass into the public domain.

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Dated this **16th day of April 2021**

I always knew I had a novel inside me

Christina McLellan had a career as a lawyer and company director but ever since she was a schoolgirl she'd had an ambition to write a novel. Here she tells how it finally happened.

As a result of a chance meeting at a party I joined a local writers' group which still meets regularly in the Tally Ho pub in North Finchley when allowed. This was a real stroke of luck as it consisted of three other excellent writers including East Finchley resident Shirla Philogene, who has written and published a novel and some wonderful short stories about life in her native St Vincent.

beyond the original idea into an examination of the implications for society as a whole of embedding sophisticated AI into all our lives. The novel, which begins in a desert camp in Kenya, ends in parts of north London which most readers will find familiar.

Black Gull has *Almost Human*

The novel is available as a paperback from all major retailers and as an e-book but, having recently discovered the wonderful Black Gull bookshop in East Finchley, I went in just before the latest lockdown and introduced myself and my novel which they were keen to stock. Incredibly, a Turkish friend was then sent a photograph of the novel on display there, which her English friend had noticed while browsing in East Finchley.

I'm continuing to write short stories. Two were published by *The Lady* magazine last year, and as soon as allowed, our writers' group will be reconvening in members' gardens. My message to everyone is: if you've always wanted to write, sit down and start.



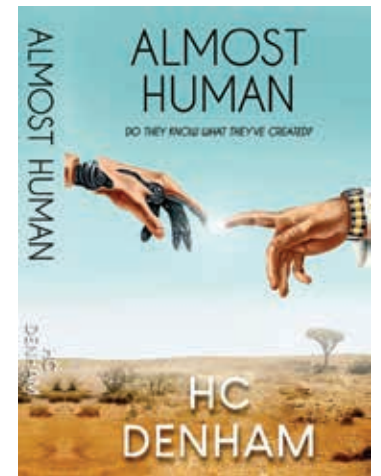
Debut author: Christina McLellan

Apart from being great fun, the group gave me the confidence to show my writing to others and learn from constructive criticism.

Exploring AI in our lives

My novel *Almost Human*, written under my pen name HC Denham, started at least six years ago as a short story. After reading many articles about artificial intelligence and the development of humanoid robots, I began thinking about the implications for human relationships of a person being able to design his or her perfect partner.

The theme developed far



Out now: The cover of Christina's novel

All Saints' Church, Durham Road, East Finchley Church of England

You are welcome to join us for:

Sunday mass at 10.00 a.m. and Weekday masses as advertised on the website. Face masks must be worn for the time being.

Or join our live-streamed services on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsef/>

The church is also open for private prayer as advertised on the website.

Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

For more information, contact the Vicar, Fr Ian Chandler, on 020 8883 9315

Email: vicar.saintsabounding@gmail.com or check out our website:

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>