



## 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** Wednesdays Christ Church N12. Ring Bridie 8883 5269
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Bowling Club**, Kings Ave, N10. New & experienced bowlers welcome. Tel: 8883 1178.
- ❖ **Pilates** in East Finchley, qualified teacher. Contact Dee on 8883 7029
- ❖ **Pilates class** Wednesdays, 2.15-3.15pm at Youth Theatre, N2. Ring Penny Hill 8444 2882.
- ❖ **Tae Kwon Do** at The Green Man Thursdays 7-9pm 07949 612 706
- ❖ **Tai Chi** at the Green Man on Mondays 1.30-3pm. An "ageing well" class for older people.
- ❖ **Tennis club** with four clay courts off Southern Road. Call 8440 6953.
- ❖ **Wood Walk**, meet 10am at Cherry Tree Wood cafe on 1st & 2nd Mon of month for 1 hr walk. Call 8883 8750.
- ❖ **Yoga, breathing & relaxation**. Weekly drop-in classes - N2, N6, N10. Phone Judy on 8444 7783.
- ❖ **Yoga classes** Tuesdays 8-9:30pm at EF Methodist Church. Experienced teacher. Call Rosalind 8444 8134.

### DANCE, DRAMA, ART & MUSIC

- ❖ **Art Classes**. For info call Henry on 020 8888 5133.
- ❖ **Ballroom dancing classes**, beginners and improvers. Phone 01707 642 378
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call Vicky 8883 1554
- ❖ **East Finchley Writing Workshops**. Creative writing, poetry and prose. Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club**-2, 16 & 30 May at Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3. New members welcome
- ❖ **Line dancing** Tuesdays from 8.30pm at The Constitutional Club. Call Maureen 8440 8530.
- ❖ **Memory Lane Singing Club** - a communal singing club. Call Idit Gold 8458 4508.
- ❖ **Over 60s come dancing** at Ann Owens Centre 8346 8736
- ❖ **Pottery Class** at The Green Man, Call Celia Holmes 8349 9315
- ❖ **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church. Call 8883 4070 for info.
- ❖ **Street Dance** every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages. Contact Lorna 07976 203669.
- ❖ **SwampRock** events: Call Carole 8810 7454 or Neil 01727 830280 www.swamprock.org.uk
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** of North London, Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706
- ❖ **Tap Dance** for children beginning at Old Barn every Monday, Contact Sharon 8349 4613

### CLUBS & SOCIAL

- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** Thursdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book.
- ❖ **East Finchley National Childbirth Trust**, Contact Sophie on 8444 1890
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers** meet weekly at The Old White Lion. Call Lilian 8444 1793
- ❖ **Fairacres Monday Club** for Jewish people. Contact Rene & Reuby 8883 0448 or Sylvia 8958 7878
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn. Contact 8349 4613
- ❖ **Haringey Recorded Music Society** informal meetings locally. Call David Mouldon on 8361 1696.
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495
- ❖ **Muswell Hill and Highgate Pensioners' Action Group** Call Bob Cottingham on 8444 7635.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, contact 8883 4390
- ❖ **Old Barn pre-school club**, contact 8349 4613/1961
- ❖ **Parent & Toddler Group**, Green Man Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professionals. Call Eric 8340 0822.
- ❖ **Stepping Stones**, interactive play session for under 3's. Karen 07957 278860.

# Film fest at the Phoenix

By Sheila Armstrong  
**The Phoenix Short Film Fest for students by students, masterminded by film student and Phoenix employee Ava Grauls, took place at the cinema on 4 April.**

A variety of shorts were shown from Godot Isn't Coming to French Fries on the Golden Front. There was a spoof detective movie, an animation about a woman's role in the fifties, a very short and funny film about the dangers of sneezing and the touching animated tale of a toilet who finds himself. It was a very entertaining couple of hours.

The winner by popular vote was *The Russian Conspiracy* by Joseph Asher and Simon Ryninks - the amusing 'tec film and worthy winner. Second was *Torque* by Janine-Opal Fischer. The White Lion donated the prizes - bottles of champagne - and hosted the prize-giving event.

### Young talent

Ava, who is in her second year at the University of Westminster, organised the whole festival, aided by a grant and by help from the Phoenix staff. She told *THE ARCHER* that she feels young film-makers are not given a lot of assistance, and that it's hard for new talent to enter films, the whole industry being dominated by the big studios and companies. But because of the Phoenix Shorts Film Fest London film students could make the films they wanted to make, with the assurance that their work would be screened. Let's hope it's an annual event.

## 'Spellbound' to aid reading charity

Can you read this?  
 "eltil ssim teffum tas no reh teffut"

**This is the first line of the well-known nursery rhyme Little Miss Muffet written backwards; it may be how words appear on the page to a child who has some difficulties reading.**

Volunteer Reading Help recognises the importance of time spent with children at primary school level by building up their confidence in reading.

### Charity screening

The London North West Branch of Volunteer Reading Help, which covers the Barnet and Brent areas, is having a charity film screening of the hit film *Spellbound* at the Phoenix cinema on Sunday 15 May at 11am. The film is a fascinating, moving and very amusing documentary about one of the annual, ferociously contested children's spelling bees held in the USA. It follows eight of the 10 million children who took part, highlighting their varying family backgrounds, successes and disappointments, as they chase the American Dream.

VRH is always keen to recruit new volunteers aged 18 plus from all cultures and backgrounds. There is no upper age limit. After six hours of training the volunteer works with the same three children individually, for half an hour each, twice a week in a local primary school. The aim is to increase the children's confidence and self esteem in a relaxed, fun environment, making reading seem enjoyable and achievable.

For film tickets, call VRH on 7372 7523. Adult tickets are £8, children £5 and family tickets (up to 4 people) £20

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for VRH and can commit to working for at least two terms, then please contact Harriet Watson at VRH, London North West Branch, Suite 101, 254 Bel-size Road, London NW6 4BT.



Mari I'Anson at her Chorak exhibition in April.  
 Photo by Daphne Chamberlain.

## From Leslie Road to Asia

By Daphne Chamberlain  
**Chorak welcomed back an old friend last month. The first artist to exhibit there was Mari I'Anson, and 12 years later she has returned for the fourth time.**

"I like coming back to East Finchley," she told *THE ARCHER*. "There's a good atmosphere here, with such a lot going on."

Mari lives in Church End, Finchley Central, now, but in the 1970s Leslie Road was her home. She was a member of EFNA (the East Finchley Neighbourhood Association), which started our annual Festival among other things, and her children went to Martin School.

When her daughter taught in an international school in Thailand, Mari spent four winters there as artist-in-residence.

That was the start of her travels with paintbox, sketchbook and camera, recording daily life and landscapes around south-east Asia and India, where she has made several good friends.

Anyone who, like me, loved the figurework in her exhibition, would be fascinated by glimpses of her sketchbook from the Chennai Arts Festival in southern India. This was her introduction to drawing dancers in movement.

Some of her most memorable paintings portray people - stallholders, street people, child beggars, road sweepers. With those people in mind, she recently held a sale in aid of the Tsunami appeal, which went "very well".

### Future plans

She does, however, also specialise in portraits of a more unusual kind. If you want a watercolour of the outside of your home, Mari could be your woman.

A few years ago, she illustrated *Finchley Remembered*, The Finchley Society's collection of reminiscences by local people.

The Finchley Society is currently raising money for a statue of Spike Milligan and some of Mari's paintings of trees will be sold as packs of greetings cards at the Church End Festival at Avenue House on Sunday 15 May, from 1-4pm.

It's probably inevitable that her friends are suggesting she might like to compile a book about her travels. Will she consider it? Watch this space.

Mari I'Anson can be contacted on 020 8346 7011.

## What's On...

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

### Saturday 14 May:

• **May Fair** 11am to 2pm at All Saints Church Durham Road. Plants, gifts etc. and refreshments.

### Sunday 15 May:

• **Church End Festival** at Avenue House, East End Rd, N3. 1-4pm.

• Charity film screening of *Spellbound* at the Phoenix Cinema, High Rd, N2 at 11 am.

### Friday 20 May:

• **An evening of Indian Dance** at the Arts Depot, North Finchley, 7.30pm.

### Sunday 22 May:

• **Bothy Open Day** - at the restored Bothy, in the grounds of Avenue

House, East End Road, N3, 2-5pm. Will include an exhibition by local artists.

• **Cromwell Hall Residents' Association** annual 'Garage Sale' in Abbots Gardens from 12 noon - 3 pm. Residents will set up their 'Stalls' in front gardens up and down the road.

### Saturday 18 June:

• **Summer Fun Day at Martin Schools** - Entertainment for all the family with food stalls, tombola, bouncy castles, arts and crafts tables and face-painters. Other stalls include cakes, plants, second-hand clothes, books, toys and much more. 12 noon to 3pm. All welcome.

## U Can Do IT



**U Can Do I.T. is a charity which provides 1 to 1 computer training for blind deaf & disabled people in their own homes in every London Borough**

Looking for a job, or in need of some qualifications, then we may be able to help, as we have new funding in selected London boroughs which is linked to **FREE COMPUTERS and training**



For more information write to: **U Can Do I.T. Highfield House, 4 Woodfall Street, London SW3 4DJ. Or call us on 020 7730 7766**