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 **❖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 ❖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 07956 375607

❖ Yoga, pregnancy yoga, meditation classes. Call Sunnah 07941 321 772 or see www.stretchingpeople.co.uk.

MUSIC, DANCE & **CREATIVE ARTS**

Art Classes. For info call Henry on

* Ballroom Dance Classes, Wednesday eves for beginners & improvers . St Mary's Church Hall, N3. 8444 0280. ❖ Ballroom & Latin American Dance **Classes** - beginners and Improvers. Wed & Fri eve, Bishop Douglass Sch. 8207 2323.

Club Dramatika drama club for kids. Creative writing classes in informal, friendly atmosphere. Tel Sallie Rose

Drama Classes for 11-18 year olds. Mondays at 6.30pm. Contact Carolyn on 07905 481682

* East Finchley Writers Group, Weds at the Old White Lion. Contact Carola 8883 5808 or Lilian 8444 1793.

East Finchley Poetry Writing Workshops. Monthly on Saturdays. Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528. Finchley Jazz Club: Live jazz on

Mon 8 & 22 June at 8.15pm, Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3. ❖ Line dancing Tuesdays from 8.30pm at The Constitutional Club.

Call Maureen 8440 8530 Memory Lane Singing Club friendlysinging 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. *Salsa lessons Mondays, EF Methodist Church. Call Ronnie Raul 07958 605 773 e:ronnieraul@rocketmail.com

Street Dance every Tuesday at Old Barn for children of various ages Contact Lorna 07976 203669.

❖SwampRock Louisiana Dance Club. Live music, Contact Carole 8810 7454

or www.swamprock.org.uk Symphonic Wind Orchestra Contact Caroline Egan 8340 2706

Tap Dance for children at Old Barn on Mondays, Call Sharon 8349 4613

❖Traditional music at EF Constitutional Club on 2nd Monday each month from 8.30 pm. Free to join in or just listen.

CLUBS & SOCIAL

❖ Bingo Club Mondays 7-9 pm, Green Man Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5459 Contact Lunch Club Tuesdays at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book. * EF National Childbirth Trust contact Joanna 8883 0941 or joannabrunt@cybergal.com

Finchley & District Philatelic Society, Contact Brian 8444 3251 Friendly Rubber Bridge on Weds

afternoons, call 7722 6209 Friends of Cherry Tree Wood www.

cherrytreewood.co.uk or 8883 7544. ❖ Highgate Film Society, call 8340 3343 or email: admin@hlsi.net.

❖ North London Bridge Club, Muswell Hill. Contact 8348 3495

Jewish Friendship Club for over 60s, Tuesdays 1-3 pmat Muswell Hill Synagogue, Tetherdown. Call Anita Shaw 8886 6140. Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge, contact 8883 4390

Old Barn pre-school club, contact 8349 4613/1961

Parent & Toddler Group, Green Man Centre, Iulia 8444 2276

Probus Lunch Club for retired professionals. Call John 8883 8114. Stepping Stones, interactive play session for under 3's. Karen 07957 278860.

June at the Phoenix

By the Phoenix Cinema's Paul Homer

By the time you read this we should know the result of our application to the Heritage Lottery Fund to restore the cinema. We asked for £606,000 to make this cinema beautiful again. If we're hanging out the bunting we've been successful; if we're hanging our heads, we've not.

It's been a massive amount of work for an organisation the size of The Phoenix, but just going through the process has been immensely beneficial.

We now know exactly what we want to do to this 99-year-old cinema and we have a strong business plan for the next four years.

Either way, we're a much stronger organisation than we were when we started this process and either way we'll be making significant improvements to the building. And we're grateful to everyone who has donated, we've already raised £260,000 but we need a further £200,000 to do the job properly. We'll make sure you can read about the outcome in *THE ARCHER*.

Film-wise June is full as

always. Look out for an advance screening of Ken Loach's new film Looking for Eric, hot from Cannes, and we hope to have Ken in person to talk about it.

Our special events continue with a live-by-satellite performance of *Phedre* with Helen Mirren from the National Theatre on 25 June.

Sunday afternoons are a festival of early Bond films with Dr. No, From Russia with Love, Goldfinger and On Her Majesty's Secret Service playing on consecutive weeks. It's a chance to remember how great Bond used to be prior to descending into car chases and guns.

Our box office is on 020 8444 6789 and our website is www.phoenixcinema.co.uk



Art lovers admiring the works on display at last year's East Finchley Open weekends. Photo by Adam Justice-Mills.

Open House weekends

By Dina Katz

Nineteen East Finchley Open artists will welcome visitors into their houses and studios in and around East Finchley on two weekends in July. You have the chance to relax, browse and meet the artists, and also to buy their work.

Fifty exhibitors will be displaying their work in painting, sculpture, ceramics, textiles, jewellery, calligraphy, photography, prints and glassmaking.

This year the EFO is expanding its horizons. The 2009 Open event will be complemented by a group exhibition, THE EFO@KOUKAN. New and cutting-edge, the Koukan Gallery is located at 106A Alexandra Park Road, Muswell Hill, N10 2AE. The exhibition will be open daily Saturday from 4-12 July

The EFO weekends in East Finchley are on 4-5 July and 11-12 July from 11am to 5pm. Look out for more information locally or get full details on www.eastfinchleyopen.org.uk

Club shows its hand

By Stella Burnett Many people enjoy playing

bridge but are hesitant to do so at a high-powered bridge club.

Highgate Bridge Club is holding a free open afternoon on Wednesday 24 June, starting at 1.30pm in the Scout hut in Sheldon Avenue, N6. It's on the 263 bus route and there is plenty of on-street parking.

If you don't have a partner, we'll try to match you up with someone if you contact us. For details, contact Stella Burnett on 020 8444 7860 or email sjburnettn2@aol.com.

A friendly welcome awaits you

EAST FINCHLEY METHODIST CHURCH

197 High Road, London N2 (opp. Creighton Ave.) tel: 0208 346 1700 www.eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk

Sunday service at 10.30 a.m. With Creche and Junior Church

Worship Music Social events Youth Club Wheelchair friendly e-mail: info@eastfinchleymethodist.org.uk Room hire tel:0208 444 4453

Review: Damien,

St Mary's Catholic Church

By Linda Dolata

This play was a monologue in the storytelling tradition by Father Edward, who had that very day flown in from Canada. He is a priest of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The story he told was of Belgian Father Damien de Veuster, who from 1873 until his death in 1889 was the first priest for the leprosy colony on the Kalaupapa peninsula, on a Hawaiian island. Until his arrival, the lepers had been abandoned in a barren harsh environment, without even shelter, for seven years.

The tale was told as if from the grave, as during his ministry Damien begged and cajoled anything and everything to give these desperate people back some human dignity. Eventually the man who shared so much with his lepers also came to share their fate. Fifty years after his death, his body was disinterred and taken back to Belgium, where the slow process of canonisation began. He is to be made a saint by the Pope on 11 October this year.

The story was a good one but words cannot convey the presence of Father Edward himself. The beauty of his speaking voice and the wonderful, echoing, shadowy chamber of St Mary's as dusk fell was spellbinding. The piece ended with a translated Ukrainian folk tune, and as the haunting last tenor notes died away the 'pindrop' silence was at last broken by applause. I feel very privileged to have been there.

What's On...

Saturday 6 June

 Summer Fair at All Saints' Church, Durham Road. 11am-2pm.

Sunday 7 June

• Sponsored Bike Ride in aid of the North London Hospice. Join a 20 - 40 mile circular ride through country lanes from Queenswood School, Brookman's Park. Adults £15, children £5 including refreshments. Contact Evelyn on 8446 2288 or elydon@northlondonhos pice.co.uk

JCC HummusFest; 3:30 - 5pm, Hampstead Town Hall, 213 Haverstock Hill, NW3. Price: £6 in advance, £8 on the door. Tickets and information: 020 *7*431 9866. www.jcclondon.org.uk

 Guided walk: Battle of Barnet. Meet at junction of Great North Rd and Hadley Green Rd at 2pm. Contact Paul Baker on 020 8440 6805.

Monday 8 June

Barnet and District Local History

Society hosts "Foul deeds and suspicious deaths in Barnet, Finchley and Hendon", a talk by Nick Papadimitriou. 3pm at Church House, Wood Street, Barnet (opposite Barnet Museum).

Tuesday 9 June

 The 48th Annual General Meeting of the Hendon and District Archaeological Society, 8pm, Avenue House, East End Road, N3. Members will present an overview of the society's activities and field work during the year. For further information, visit www.hadas.org.uk

Sunday 14 June

 Greenacre Bicycle Rally. Three and a half mile circuit of Finchley, with escort of trained stewards and police cyclists. Suitable for all ages, including children. Free juice and muesli bar for every cyclist. Fancy dress and entertainment. Starting at 11 am outside artsdepot, North Finchley. Details from Mike Gee on 020 8346 5503.

Wednesday 17 June • Friern Barnet coffee morning.

"Amy Johnson", a talk by David Keen from the RAF Museum. 10.30 am in Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Road

Sunday 21 June

 Several gardens open in HG Suburb1-6pm in aid of the North London Hospice. Tickets £6 in advance, children free (with SAE and cheques payable to HGS Horticultural Society) from Open Gardens, 48 Erskine Hill, NW1 6HG. Start and map from 4 Asmuns Hill NW11. Further details from Marjorie Harries, 8445 6507, or www.hortsoc.co.uk

Thursday 25 June • The Finchley Society hosts a talk by Tony Roberts, "East Finchley's His-tory through Maps", 8.30pm. This

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

follows the Society's Annual General meeting at 7.30pm. Avenue House, East End Road, N3 (tel. 020 8346 7812). Non-members welcome. Admission fee £2.

Saturday 27 June

 Buffet supper concert. Summer Serenade, by Serenata: a programme of vocal music by Purcell, Handel Haydn, Mendelssohn, Delius and Gershwin, 7.30pm, All Saints' Church, Durham Road, N2. Tickets: Combined Supper & Concert ticket: £15 (pre-booked only), concert only: £10 (at the door). Bookings: 020 8444 9214. Catering by Amici Delicatessen.

• North London Chorus Concert at St James Church, Muswell Hill, 7.30 pm, Haydn, Handel and Purcell. Ticketline: 020 8444 2142 (£16, £12, £8) also from Les Aldrich, 98 Fortis Green Road, N10 3 HN or at the door.

Sunday 28 June

• Fabulous Finchley! A guided walk through 1,000 years of Finchley history. Meet at Finchley Central tube (Ballards Lane entrance), at 2pm. Walk finishes at East Finchley. Contact Paul Baker on 020 8440 6805.

Saturday 4 July

 Coffee morning at All Saints' Church, Durham Road in aid of The Children's Society. 10am - 12 noon.

 Rock and Stroll! Women's 6 mile sponsored circular walk from Woodside Lane N12 at 6pm. Regis tration fee £20. Party after the walk with family and friends: BBQ and live band. Tickets: Adults £15, children £6, walkers free. Contact Azey or 020 8446 2288 or fundraising@no rthlondonhospice.co.uk

What's On at artsdepot Sunday 7 June, 12 noon and 3pm,

The Little Mermaid: music, live theatre and puppetry for children aged four and over. **Tuesday** June, 7pm, The Art of Abstraction. Friday 12 June, 8pm, Pappy's Fun Club. Sunday 14 June, 12 noon and 3pm, Journey of a Turtle: traditional story plus puppets for five years plus. Wednesday 17 June, 8pm, The Glass Mountain. Thursday 18 June, 7pm, An Evening of International Big Bands. Sunday 21 June, 2.30pm and 7pm, Encore: 10th anniversary celebration of Centre Stage, song and dance from local talent. Sunday **21 June**, 12 noon and 3pm, *Terry* Jones' Fairy Tales for children aged four to 11 years. Monday 22 June to Wednesday 1 July, 7pm, Barnet Schools Music Festival. Saturday 27 June, 8pm, Cuban Groove. Sunday 28 June, 3pm, Room on a Broom: adventures of a witch and her cat, songs, laughs and scary fun for children aged three years and over. Sunday 28 June, 8pm, Josh Howie, Chosen. Thursday 2 July, 7.30pm, Piccadilly Dance Orchestra.