



Traders back the Phoenix

Traders in East Finchley have put their hands in their pockets to support the Phoenix Cinema Restoration Project. Hundreds of pounds have been raised from businesses in the High Road and Fortis Green.

David Barron, who runs his own photography business in Muswell Hill, organised the donations. He said East Finchley traders recognise how important the Phoenix is in bringing visitors to the area and keeping it vibrant for people who live and work here.

He's a big Phoenix film fan himself ("Anything with Penelope Cruz in it," he says) and thanked all the businesses who had made a donation.

Here is the list of donors: Dan & Decarlo, Italian coffee & food; Fetch 22, pet grooming and pet accessories; Phone City Direct, mobile phones; Josephine's, florist; Amici, Italian delicatessen; The Manor, health and leisure centre; Emporium, tea room and gifts; Amazing Grates, fireplaces; Gus, gents hair stylist; Poseidon, fish restaurant; Culture Vultures, fancy dress hire; Smiles, dentist; East Finchley Electrical Contractors, electrical shop; J G Bryson, printers; Lazooli, vintage-retro-new fashion clothing; Amy's, hardware store; Never-Never Land, toys and dolls houses; N10 Hair, hair salon; Indian Rasoi, Indian dining; Hair Arena, hair salon; Lazy Sally Café, Cherry Tree Wood; TD Hair Designers, hair salon; The Noble Sage, art gallery; Bike & Run, cycling-running-triathlon; The Bald Faced Stag, public house; New Local Café, dining; Chorak, bakery-coffee-food.

Goodbye, Dr Dougall

By Sippy Azizollah

Woodlands Medical Practice in Leopold Road has said goodbye to Dr Ben Dougall, who arrived from Barnet General Hospital last August. Woodlands is recognised as a training practice where postgraduate doctors who have been qualified for at least three years and have decided to specialise in General Practice work for one year alongside a trainer.

During his year, Dr Dougall has successfully passed all his postgraduate exams and assessments and is now a member of the Royal College of General Practitioners.

He said: "Working here at Woodlands Medical Practice for the last year has given me an excellent basis on which to continue my career as a GP."

All the staff and patients including myself wish Dr Dougall the best of luck in his new practice in Dalston.

As well as training doctors, the practice has set up a patient group that meets every few months. It provides feedback to Woodlands Medical Practice on how to improve the service they deliver.



Dr Paul Dakin (Right) bids farewell to Dr Ben Dougall. Photo by Sippy Azizollah

The group is looking for more members to join so that it has the opinions of a broader range of ages and cultures. Your comments can be put in the suggestion box in the waiting room, or you can email woodlands.medical-practice@nhs.net



Paul Homer rattles his bucket outside the tube station.

Phoenix Cinema out on the streets

Staff and supporters of our iconic Phoenix Cinema have taken to the streets to raise awareness and money for the cinema's Centenary Restoration Project by holding collections at local tube stations.

The Phoenix Cinema Centenary Restoration Project aims to restore, renovate and develop the beautiful but ageing cinema in time for its centenary celebrations in 2010. A total of £1.1 million is required for the project and over 85% of this has been raised, leaving just £125,000 to be found to complete the project.

Collections have been held

at East Finchley, Finchley Central and Highgate tube stations, with great success. Paul Homer, Chief Executive of the Phoenix Cinema, said: "We are enormously grateful to the people of East Finchley for their generosity and support so far. The restoration project is vital for the Phoenix and it is exciting to be so close to achieving the funds we need to start building work."

Life after cancer

Fiona Castle, bestselling author, cancer campaigner and widow of TV presenter Roy Castle, will visit East Finchley Baptist Church on Friday 6 November for a special evening.

Fiona and Roy regularly attended the church near their home, until Roy's death in 1994, aged 62, from lung cancer. Despite never smoking, Roy contracted his illness after years of playing the trumpet in smoky jazz clubs early in his career. Since Roy's death Fiona has supported lung cancer research and was a key figure in campaigning for the British smoking ban, which came into effect in 2007.

Fiona will share her personal experience of living through very tough times, and the moving story of Roy's illness with cancer and subsequent death. She will speak of the practical and spiritual problems they had to face, and the faith that has sustained her.

Simon Dyke, pastor of East Finchley Baptist Church, said: "We'd like to invite people to come and hear Fiona speak of her journey in life, her humour in ordinary experiences and the joy and hope that she's



Fiona Castle

known through the pain, and sorrow."

Fiona will be at East Finchley Baptist Church on Creighton Avenue on 6 November from 7.45-9.45pm with light refreshments provided. Tickets are free, although donations will be accepted for North London Hospice. To book tickets, contact the church office on 020 8883 1544 or e-mail eastfinchleybaptistchurch@yahoo.co.uk.

October at the Phoenix

By the Phoenix Cinema's Paul Homer

It's all hands to the pump at the Phoenix as we inch closer to our fundraising target to restore the cinema. We now need a further £125,000, though we do need most of that by the end of this month so as not to jeopardise the project timescale. Our supporters have been wonderful, from local businesses holding evening events, to individuals giving us prints to sell and even organising yoga classes with the proceeds going to the restoration. If you have an idea to help raise money, please do get in touch with me.

The film line up for October is very exciting. The late Heath Ledger comes to the Phoenix on 16 October in the new Terry Gilliam film *The Imaginarium of Dr Parnassus*, which has all the wonderful weird ideas that one wants from a Gilliam film.

Then 30 October sees one of the most anticipated debut performances for a long time. Carey Mulligan stars in *An Education*, based on the memoir of Lynn Barber.

We're delighted, as always, to be welcoming the London Film Festival back to the Phoenix on Monday 26 October with screenings of *Defamation*, which examines whether anti-semitism is used by right wing Zionists for their own ends, and *Ajami*, which looks at a mixed Israeli neighbourhood.

On 27 October we have the second of Older Women in Film events and a new screening strand kicks off on 2 November when we'll be playing *In the Night Garden* for younger audiences. Our box office is on 020 8444 6789 or visit www.phoenixcinema.co.uk

Diamond anniversary art

A major exhibition of paintings and other art works by members of the Finchley Art Society will run from 7-22 November at Trinity Church Centre, North Finchley, N12.

The show marks the 60th anniversary of the society, founded in 1949 by Paul Smythe, and will be opened by his granddaughter Barbara Pierce at 11am on Saturday 7 November. 200 works of art will be exhibited, along with original pictures by Paul Smythe.

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