



Home sweet home: How the Muswell Hill cohousing project will look.

## **Co-housing** community looking for members

A different type of housing scheme is under construction in Muswell Hill aimed at people mostly aged 55 plus who want a separate home in a cluster with others as part of a self-governing community.

co-housing project being built on the old St Luke's Hospital site off Woodside Avenue. All residents will have access to a shared common house for community activities, a shared garden with allotments and a shared car pool.

There are currently vacancies, including one, two and three-bedroom flats, for residents who would like to move in when the scheme opens in May 2017. A group of future residents is already meeting monthly.

Sheila Fletcher, who is one of them, said the idea for a cohousing group in Muswell Hill came from local people who wanted to live sustain-

There will be 30 homes in the ably and together with their neighbours. Most will be downsizing from larger homes. Sheila said: "The benefits for me are getting to know my neighbours and finding that I like them, even before I have moved in. I am ready to move into a smaller home now and it will be much easier to manage, but I will still have a shared garden and allotments. Both the flats and site will be fully accessible so mobility will be easy for the future."

The entire site is being developed by a joint venture partnership between Hanover Housing Association and Hill Residential. Find out more at www. cohousingwoodside.co.uk.

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

Sunday masses at 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. Weekday masses at 10.00 a.m.

(Coffee served after mass on Sunday and Thursday)

Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

The Parish has a *flourishing* social life. Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy, on 020 8883 9315.

All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir.

Experienced singers are always welcome. Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.

http://www.allsaints-eastfinchlev.org.uk

## Arts festival unleashes fireworks of sound

Each year, All Saints in Durham Road comes joyously into bloom for nine days with East Finchley's very own Arts Festival. You missed it? Become a regular in 2016!

On the opening day in early October, after Punch and Judy in the morning, we had Handel's 'Messiah'. All Saints, being somewhat smaller than the Albert Hall, gave us arousing 18th century-style 'a capella' affair. No orchestra, but Ben Woodward drew seductive, gentle sounds from the church's organ. Nor was there a choir. 'Come & Sing', the brochure said. A score or so of women and four men rehearsed in the afternoon and performed an hour or so later. Ad hoc? Rough edges? Shaky timing? Not a bit of it. I sat back andrelaxed, delighting in the lively, accomplished choral flow.

Later in the week, the **London** Mozart Players gave us Handel, Hanson and Schubert and played conductor-less for the two American pieces: Adagio for Strings [Barber] and Quiet City [Copland]. In the first half, Geoffrey Hanson's 'Trumpet Piece' blazed triumphantly in the splendour of its first performance.

The next night gave us string quintets from Divertimenti, dominated by the massive D 956 of Schubert's by-now-dying genius. The performance had a searing, unforgettable intensity. This was a different musical world indeed from the Opus 1 of Ethel Smyth, slighter but with its own sprightly charm.

Thursday broughtus 'Crocodiles In Cream', the late David Horlock's endearing, engrossing 'portrait' of Lewis Carroll. With captivating skill, Kevin Moore conveyed something of the person who lived for 31 years in rooms at Christ Church, Oxford ... and died 17 years' later at his sister's house in Guildford. With great virtuosity, Moore conveyed to us the languid, somewhat distracted manner of a mathematician of brilliant, restless mind looking for somewhere to go.

Kosmos, the next night, was bright-eyed and luminescent. Harriet MacKenzie [violin], Meg Hamilton [viola] and Milos Milivojevic [accordion] each



The Massive Violins. Photo Mike Coles



Kosmos. Photo Mike Coles



Pop-Up Opera. Photo Mike Coles



Divertimenti. Photo Mike Coles

shone with vitality. The audience greeted these fireworks in sound with loud acclaim. Earlier, the trio had performed for children from Martin Primary School. And Martin children had joined with Holy Trinity Primary pupils to front their own concert for an appreciative crowd.

When only 21 years old, Rossini wrote 'L'Italiana In Algeri' in 3-4 weeks. This was the closing night's illustrious bloom from Pop Up Opera which revels in joyous mayhem of this sort, where impeccable singing meets knockabout farce in a fiesta of riotous incongruity.

Festival director Geoffrey Hanson hopes to make a CD of some of the music he has written for the festival over the years. He is looking for £10,000 to fund this project and would welcome any donations. Contact him by email at eastfinarts@btinternet.com.

