



Regular Events

Sport & Fitness

- **Finchley & Hornsey Ramblers Group**
Call Vivien 8883 8190
- **Glebelands Indoor Bowls Club**, Summers Lane N12. New and experienced bowlers welcome.
- **Muswell Hill Bowling Club**, Kings Ave, N10. New & experienced bowlers welcome. Tel: 8883 0433.
- **Outdoor Fit Camp** Lyttelton Playing Fields, N2, 6.30pm Wed and 9.30am Sat. Call Martin on 07809 593952.
- **Pilates class** Weds 3.30 & 7pm at Ann Owens Ctr, N2. Call Penny 8444 2882.
- **Pilates Classes** Tue 9.30, Fri 9.15 & Sun 11am. www.pilatesineastfinchley.co.uk. Michelle 07767 804 564
- **Tai Chi & Qigong** in N2, Weds 12pm, 1pm, 6pm & 7pm. James 8883 3308/07836 710281 or james@taiji.co.uk
- **Tennis club** with four clay courts off Southern Road. Call 8883 7723.
- **Yoga, breathing & relaxation**. Weekly drop-in classes - N3, N6, N10. Phone Judy on 07956 375607.
- **Yoga beginners' course** at Yogalogy, High Road, N2. Contact 020 70187377 or info@yogalogy.co.uk
- **Yoga**, pregnancy yoga, meditation classes. Call Sunnah 07941 321 772 www.stretchingpeople.co.uk.
- **Women's kick boxing**, Thursdays 9.30am, East Finchley Combat Academy, Church Lane, N2. Contact 07956 340540.

Music, Dance & Creative Arts

- **The Archer Community Choir**, Tuesdays 7-9pm, The Archer Academy, Eagans Close, N2. Email: archercommunitychoir@gmail.com.
- **Art Classes**. Call Henry on 8888 5133.
- **A-Chord**, friendly choir, all genres, open to all. Thursdays 8pm at NNLS, East End Rd. Laura 07732 120464. www.a-chord.uk
- **Ballroom & Latin American Dance Classes** - beginners & improvers. Wed & Fri eve, Bishop Douglass Sch. 8207 2323.
- **'Calm & Sing' workshops**. Contact Angie on missangiea@yahoo.co.uk
- **Creative writing classes** in informal, friendly atmosphere. Tel Sallie Rose 020 8444 7217.
- **Creative Writing** at Friern Barnet Community Library. Every Saturday, 12pm, 07488 230580.
- **Dance conditioning classes**. New body in 10 lessons. Diana: 07580 041270. www.boldbodies.co.uk.
- **East Finchley Writers Group**, Weds at the Old White Lion. Contact Ralph 8444 5903.
- **East Finchley Poetry Writing Workshops**. Monthly on Saturdays. Contact Dennis Evans 8346 9528.
- **Memory Lane Singing Club** - friendly singing 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.
- **Muswell Hill after school ukulele club**, Wednesdays 4.15-5.15pm, ages 6-10. Contact Margie 07909 439513.
- **Rock 'n Roll dance lessons**, 8pm every Weds at the Constitutional Club, The Walks. Drop-in. Call Kav 07721 489489.
- **Traditional tunes** @ TOC Highgate Hill, join in playing by ear - 1st & 3rd Tues monthly from 8.30pm. Free. 07958 282898.

Clubs & Social

- **Bingo evening**, 8pm Sundays, at the Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2.
- **Bingo Club** Mondays 7-9 pm, Green Man Centre, Contact: Jan 8815 5452
- **French conversation** in small friendly group with native speaker. 8444 9395.
- **Friends of Cherry Tree Wood** www.cherrytreewood.co.uk or 8883 7544.
- **Haringey Recorded Music Society** informal meetings locally. Call David Moldon on 8361 1696.
- **Muslim Ladies Lunch Club** 1st & 3rd Weds, Ann Owen Ctr., Oak La. Call 8432 1415 to book.
- **Bridge Club**, Thursday & Saturday afternoons, Age UK, Oak Lane, N2 8LT. Contact Ray Tiano 07944 562180.



Robert Peston.

Photo by Alan Davidson



Simon Jenkins



Nicholas Hytner.

Photo Johan Persson

Words and walks at the Proms

The centrepiece of the Proms at St Jude's festival in Hampstead Garden Suburb from 23 June to 1 July is always the music (see *The Archer*, April 2018) but it also runs a very popular literary festival on its first weekend.

ITV pundit Robert Peston will discuss his new book as will former National Theatre director Nick Hytner and columnist Simon Jenkins. Other big names appearing include stand-up

comedian Viv Groskop, Tony Blair's speechwriter Philip Collins and famous grammarian Lynne Truss.

When the LitFest is finished, the Proms has a programme of

nine Heritage Walks through the area, led by expert guides, including Kenwood, Hampstead Heath and Belsize Park. Find the full Proms programme at www.promsatstjudes.org.uk.

Jive and swing

Singer and teacher Angie A is hosting a jump jive night as part of the North Finchley Festival on Sunday 20 May featuring her own band playing jive and swing music from the 1940s and 1950s. The event is an off-shoot of her regular Keep Calm and Sing workshops held every fortnight at Trinity Church.

Angie will be hosting the dance event at the Bohemia in North Finchley and hopes to promote her favourite charity Wheelchairs For Ukraine. To find out more and book tickets for £5 go to her website www.angie-a.co.uk.

Forbidden Planet

Winner of the 1990 Olivier Award for Best New Musical *Return to the Forbidden Planet* will be on stage Upstairs at the Gatehouse in Highgate Village, N6, from 12 May to 17 June.

Loosely based on the 1950s sci-fi film *Forbidden Planet*, which itself was based on *The Tempest*, it is a riotous mix of Shakespeare, B-movie science fiction and some of the biggest pop hits from the fifties and sixties.

Songs featuring in the show include *Great Balls of Fire*, *Good Vibrations*, *Teenager in Love*, *The*

Young Ones and *The Monster Mash*. More information and



bookings at www.upstairsatthegatehouse.com.

Rossini at All Saints

Review by Ken Carter
At All Saints' Church in Durham Road, N2, at the end of March, the London Ripieno Singers gave a rousing performance of Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*, written for the consecration of a private chapel of a wealthy friend.

This concert was organised and conducted by East Finchley Arts Festival director Geoffrey Hanson in aid of the All Saints Roof Appeal, raising £1,000 to that end, thanks to a large audience attending.

This "poor little mass" was the first music Rossini had composed for 30 years. Written for modest resources, it is nevertheless forward-pushing and exuberant. Together, the choir including soloists, with Sandra Smith on piano and Jon Dods on organ, made a joyous noise in jubilant celebration. This really was a most happy occasion, glowing from the choir's experienced togetherness.

Matthew Bernstein, bass, had a voice of rich quality, and Chris Huggon, tenor, sang the *Domine Deus* with firm, lucid purity. Rebecca Hardwick, soprano, sang with accomplishment and a most agreeable mellowness. It was fitting, though, that the *Agnus Dei* should be carried by Marie-Anne Hall, contralto. She brought the performance to its conclusion with quiet, serene exaltation - exactly appropriate for this open, untroubled, basically may one say happy version of the mass. I left the church stronger and refreshed.

Follow us!



@TheArcherN2

What's On...

Sunday 6 May

• **Dawn Chorus at Long Lane Pasture**, Long Lane, opposite fire station. Meet at gazebo 4.45/5am. Come and hear the symphony, help identify the birds and watch the sun and mist rise over pasture and pond.

Saturday 12 May

• Free talk by Barnet Heritage Officer Hugh Petrie on the **Edgware Highgate and London Railway**, which used to run through East Finchley, accompanied by photos from the Alan Lawrence Collection; Finchley Church End Library, 2-4pm. For details and booking email hugh.petrie@barnet.gov.uk or phone him on 020 8359 3961.

• **Hampstead Garden Suburb Horticultural Society** annual plant sale, Fellowship House, Willifield Way, NW11, 10.30am-12noon; discounted annuals, perennials, vegetable and herb seedlings for allotments and garden plots. Bring your own bags.

• **Fortismere Community Choir** and Fortismere Symphony Community Orchestra perform **Haydn's oratorio The**

Seasons, 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church, Alexandra Park Road, Muswell Hill, N10 2DD. Tickets (£10/£8) on the door or online www.fortismerecentre.co.uk/events/the-seasons.

• **Holy Trinity School's Spring Fair**: plenty of traditional attractions including face painting and hook a duck, as well as a few surprises. Home-cooked food available to buy. Holy Trinity School, Eagans Close, N2 8GA. Open 12 to 3pm. Entrance £1 for adults, free for children.

Sunday 13 May

• **Wild Flower walk, Coldfall Wood**, led by botanist David Bevan. Note start time: 3.0pm., east entrance, Creighton Avenue. Book at info@coldfallwoods.co.uk

• **Free concert by Serafini Baroque Ensemble** at East Finchley Methodist Church, High Road, N2, opposite Creighton Avenue, 7.30pm; Janet Marsh on baroque flute, Elizabeth Dockrell Tyler on violin, Dinah Beamish on violoncello, Kate Gordon on recorder and Chris Rowland on harpsichord. Free entry; collection in aid of the Enfield Wildlife Rescue and

Ambulance Service. Fully accessible venue.

Monday 14 May

• **Stand-up comedy night** at the Phoenix Cinema raising funds for The Archer Academy secondary school in East Finchley, starring Ian Stone, Jo Caulfield, Hal Cruttenden and Geoff Norcott. Tickets £25 plus booking fee, available at tinyurl.com/archercomedy2018. Doors open at 8.30pm for a 9pm show. Please note the event is for over 18s only.

Saturday 19 May

• **Finchley Symphony Orchestra** presents **Serenades and Symphony for Spring** with music by Dvorak and Beethoven, Trinity Church, Nether Street, N12, at 7.30pm. Tickets £15, concessions £13, under 18s £6. Save £2 per ticket by advance booking online at www.finchleysymphony.org/concerts.

Sunday 20 May and Sunday 27 May

• **Finchley Horticultural Society's annual plant sale**, 10.30am to 1.30pm at its allotments at Gordon Road, N3 1EL. Annuals and perennials, herbs, vegetable plants and local honey

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

for sale. Refreshments served from new accessible tea hut. Free entry.

Saturday 2 June

• **Invertebrates Walk, Coldfall Wood**, led by bug-expert Edward Milner. Meet 2.0pm, east entrance, Creighton Avenue. Book at info@coldfallwoods.co.uk

• **Remember Disco**, a fun evening to the very best of Motown, Blues and R & B at Waterfall Tennis Club, Pymmes Green Road, New Southgate, N11 1DD from 7.30pm - midnight. Entrance adjacent to 100 Pymmes Green Road. Bar, nibbles, raffle. All proceeds go to the North London Hospice. Tickets £10 in advance. Call 07506 701130 or email happydays18@icloud.com

Saturday 9 June

Wild Flower and Pollinator Day 10am-12 noon at Long Lane Pasture, opposite fire station, Long Lane, N3; after warm, dry weather the pasture will look its prettiest and wild flowers, grasses and insects will bring the site alive. Booklets and advisors available to identify finds.