



Regular Events

Sport & Fitness

- **Finchley & Hornsey Ramblers Group**
Call Vivien 8883 8190
- **Glebelands Indoor Bowls Club**, Summers Lane N12. New and experienced bowlers welcome.
- **1-2-1 boxing and Pilates** training with Martin Carroll at home or private studio, call 07809 593952
- **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.
- **Tennis group lessons** for adult beginners and intermediates, weekends, Park Road, N8. Contact Maz on tennisgift@gmail.com.
- **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.
- **Jazz Club** at the Bohemia, North Finchley. Call 020 7998 6217 or 07957 347411 for more information
- **Memory Lane Singing Club** - friendly singing club meets every Friday in Finchley. Call Valerie 8458 4508.
- **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.



Massed voices: The Big Choir is ready to make music in East Finchley. Photo Joe Forbes

Sing out loud for cancer research'

The Big Choir is coming to East Finchley! It is a community fundraising choir, raising money through monthly subscriptions and ticket sales for the work of scientists at The Francis Crick Institute in Kings Cross who are seeking cures for 200 different types of cancer.

The choir is looking for new members, of all ages and genders, to go along to their first East Finchley session at The Constitutional Club, The Walks, N2, on Monday 7 January at 7.30pm. There is a bar too, for anyone who wants to socialise afterwards, as singing can be thirsty work.

You don't need any experience, as long as you love to sing. Members range from first-timers to experienced, and everything in

between. There are many performance opportunities and organisers say they are always looking for those brave enough to take on solos. Their repertoire is mainly pop, with some gospel, in fact anything that makes the heart pump a bit faster.

Find out more at www.thebigchoir.org. To book a free January taster in East Finchley, contact Sharon on 07971 957188, or by email at info@thebigchoir.org.



Tina McNaughton presenting the prizes to Peter Bloom.

Photo Tam Hughes

A fitting memorial to Neil

For many years Finchley Manor Tennis, Squash and Health Club has held a Christmas tennis tournament. A highlight of their tennis calendar, it was organised by Archer team member Neil McNaughton, who sadly passed away in June 2018.

Only the previous year Neil had donated the Neil McNaughton Trophy for the winner of this event, all of which is now to be renamed in his honour, reflecting the hard work he put into organising it.

This year the winner also received a signed copy of The Cutting Edge (The Story of

the Beatles' Hairdresser) on which Neil collaborated with Leslie Cavendish, manager of All Aboard on the High Road in East Finchley.

The presentation was made by Tina, Neil's widow, who will be returning to the club in the spring for the unveiling of a bench dedicated to his memory.



World premiere: Composer Eric Wetherell with organist Jennifer Bate OBE at All Saints'. Photo Marian Harris

Composer hears first performance at All Saints

By Fleur Adcock

A memorable celebration took place at All Saints' Church in Durham Road, N2, late last year with the first performance of the *Missa Brevis* by Eric Wetherell at the parish mass.

The 93-year-old composer himself was present, with other members of his family. His daughter Pauline sings in the church choir, and helped to arrange the event – a factor that spurred her father on to finish his beautiful piece. The choir was augmented by additional singers in order to do full justice to it.

Wide-ranging musical career

Eric Wetherell has had a distinguished career as a composer and in many other fields of music. He studied composition under Herbert Howells, and has been a professional horn player, conductor for several important orchestras, associate musical director with Welsh National Opera, and a senior musical producer for the BBC, among other positions.

His inspiring and revelatory new work shows his powers to be undiminished. From the melodious and expressive Gloria through the lovely, ethereal Credo to the hypnotic Agnus Dei, its changing moods skilfully

reflect the contrasting emotional content of successive parts of the Mass.

Music and All Saints

The occasion of its first performance marked two important days in the church calendar: the feast of Christ the King and that of St Cecilia, patron saint of music. All Saints has a carved wooden statue of this saint, donated in memory of the late viol maker Dietrich Kessler by his widow Jane, who died recently. It symbolises the gift of music, which is such an important part of church life at All Saints.

The church is also the home of the East Finchley Arts Festival, founded 21 years ago by retired organist and choirmaster Geoffrey Hanson. It was his successor, Mark Denza, who rehearsed and conducted the choir for this special performance, while the celebrated organist Jennifer Bate played the accompaniment. The whole event was a showcase of talents.