



Regular Events

Sport & Fitness

- ❖ **Badminton** on Wednesdays. Call 020 8349 0170
- ❖ **Body Control Pilates** classes. Call Deanna Wisbey 020 8883 7029
- ❖ **Counselling and psychotherapy service** at the Green Man Centre. For details phone 8346 0194
- ❖ **London Cycling Campaign** (Barnet), has monthly meetings & rides. Call 020 8440 9080.
- ❖ **Ramblers Association** (Finchley & Hornsey) Vivien Malindine 020 8883 8190
- ❖ **Tae kwon Do** Green Man Every Thursday 7-9pm 07949 612 706
- ❖ **Tai Chi** the Green Man Monday 1.30-3pm (new class 16 Sept)
- ❖ **Tennis Club** off Southern Road. Call 020 8440 6953
- ❖ **Yoga & Meditation** classes at Holy Trinity Church, 020 8444 7217

Dance, Drama, Art & Music

- ❖ **Adult Line Dancing**. Call Footloose 020 8440 8530/ 8216 5633.
- ❖ **Art Classes**. For info call Henry on 020 8888 5133.
- ❖ **Barnet Schools Music Centre** call 020 8359 3111 for details.
- ❖ **Broadway & West end Musical Singing Workshop** call Idit Gold 020 8449 0011.
- ❖ **Chipping Barnet Folk Dance Club**, Vivien Malindine, 020 8883 8190
- ❖ **Club Dramatika** drama club for kids. Call Vicky 020 8883 1554
- ❖ **Country & Barn Dancing**, at Oakleigh Park, 020 8349 0754
- ❖ **Columbian party dancing** classes, Call Nelsy 020 8444 2012
- ❖ **Incognito Theatre workshops**, Colney Hatch Lane, 020 8883 0911
- ❖ **Finchley Jazz Club**, Mobday 13 & 27 Jan, 10 & 24 Feb at Wilf Slack Cricket Pavilion, East End Rd, N3.
- ❖ **Over 60s come dancing** at Ann Owens Centre 020 8346 8736
- ❖ **Pottery Class** at The Green Man, Call Celia Holmes 020 8349 9315
- ❖ **Learn to sing** at Finchley Methodist Church 020 8455 2403
- ❖ **Private singing lessons**, all levels Contact Anouschka 0208 444 82 05
- ❖ **Symphonic Wind Orchestra** of North London, Contact Stephen Kelsey, 020 8883 3365

Clubs & Social

- ❖ **All Saints Beer and Wine Circle** Call Richard Baldwin 020 8883 7081
- ❖ **Bingo**, Green Man Community Centre, 020 8883 4916
- ❖ **Contact Lunch Club** at the Green Man. Call 8444 1162 to book a place. Every Thursday. 12.30-2pm
- ❖ **East Finchley National Child-birth Trust**, Contact Ann Sullivan, 020 8442 1941
- ❖ **East Finchley Writers** meet weekly at the Old White Lion. Contact Lillian on 020 8444 1793.
- ❖ **Fairacres Monday Club** for Jewish people, Rene & Reuby Hyams, 020 8883 0448 or Sylvia Lee 8958 7878
- ❖ **Finchley & District Philatelic Society**, Contact Brian Merryweather 020 8444 3251
- ❖ **Friendly Rubber Bridge** at The Old Barn, 020 8349 4613
- ❖ **Hampstead Social Group**, membership late 30's-late 40's Call David Morris, 020 8348 3495
- ❖ **North London Bridge Club**, Muswell Hill, 020 8348 3495
- ❖ **Muswell Hill and Highgate Pensioners' Action Group** Call Bob Cottingham on 8444 7635.
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Association** call Gerry Saunders 020 8883 7274
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Synagogue**, Tetherdown, 020 8883 5925
- ❖ **Muswell Hill Tetherdown Bridge**, 020 8883 4390
- ❖ **Old Barn pre-school club**, 020 8349 4613/1961
- ❖ **Parent & Toddler Group**, Green Man Community Centre, Julia 8444 2276
- ❖ **Probus Lunch Club** for retired professional and business people, Details Eric Dalton 8340 0822
- ❖ **Single Solution** over 30s night. call 020 8802 2326/ 8363 2328

An Evening With The NLC

It was clear from the queues of people waiting to go in and the merry buzz of conversation that this was a popular and long-anticipated event.

7 December had finally arrived and St James' Church, Muswell Hill, was packed with people eager to listen to the North London Chorus' performance of Handel's Messiah.

I was not disappointed. The joyous sacred music was pleasing to the ear from start to finish, and the acoustics were commendable. The elegance of the building coupled with the lively atmosphere added to a thoroughly enjoyable night.

The performance was filled with energy from beginning to end, engaging my ears with sounds from the harmonious Soprano, Alto, Tenor & Bass (SATB) choir to the diverse sounds of the strings, or the bare but beautiful harpsichord, all displaying true virtuosity.

Watch this space, as I am sure the NLC's chairman, Jeremy Pratt, will be busy organising more events. Rumours of a Brahms Requiem next summer have surfaced and I shall be in line for a ticket as soon as this is confirmed!

Book of Life

By Daphne Chamberlain

Finchley Remembered, a book produced by the Finchley Society and with a lot of local appeal, was launched at Waterstone's, North Finchley, in November. Laila Thomson, the store's assistant manager, told *THE ARCHER*, "I fell in love with this book at first sight, and it's already selling extremely well".



Finchley Society members at the launch. Photo by Toni Morgan

The Finchley Society's president, Bill Tyler, after revealing that the idea for the book surfaced 10 years ago, commented that "great things are achieved through perseverance".

Primary sources

An anonymous benefactor also had a hand in this project, donating £500 towards the cost of professional editing. He received an inscribed copy from Mr Tyler, as did the editor, Lynn Bresler, and artists Mari I'Anson and Peter Marsh.

The originator of the idea, David Smith, told *THE ARCHER* that the book is primary source material, the recording of local history through people's personal recollections.

Quite a few of these recollections are about East Finchley, and they make fascinating reading. In fact, attentive readers may well recognise some of the contributors and contributions from *THE ARCHER*'s past pages!

Finchley Remembered

Review by Tony Roberts
This 103-page soft back production by the Finchley Society neatly encapsulates the memories of 43 Finchleians, from shortly after the turn of the century until the 1960s.

It is delightfully presented with numerous archive photographs, line illustrations by several contributors and three Ordnance Survey maps of 1938.

The attributed reminiscences are grouped into ten subject areas including Home Sweet Home, Rural Echoes and School Days, and there is a section on famous Finchley residents.

For anyone interested in social history, or in Finchley, or even for the photos and illustrations alone it is a snip at £8.95 from local bookshops, or telephone 020 8883 4154.

Art Show for World Water

By Erini Rodis

Local artist Mari I'Anson, is currently showing works in a joint exhibition with other Finchley artists at the newly opened "Bertold Gallery" in Hendon Lane, which was opened in September this year.

The exhibition's theme is water - the aim being to raise money for the charity Water Aid, an organisation which campaigns for the provision of safe domestic water in some of the poorest parts of Africa and the Indian sub continent. Linda Samuels, who runs the gallery, started life in Africa and has made Christmas cards based on some of the landscapes.

The works are an eclectic mix of landscapes, snap shots and memories, with colours evoking thoughts of warmer climes and uncomplicated lives around the Thames, Venice, and the South of France, alongside more exotic locations.

I'Anson has travelled through and painted, in her favourite mediums, oil and acrylic, scenes from Thailand, Turkey and Singapore. She is planning a two month trip to India in January.

Also exhibiting are: Ros Morley, Clare O Hagan, Cathy Mansell, Linda Samuels, Sheila Neal, Linda Gevertz, Brian Tregidden, Cathy Mansell, Fiona Goldbacher, with Shirley Isaacs and Sylvie Koechlin exhibiting jewellery.

The Bertold Gallery's opening hours are 11am-7pm most days. The show runs until 24 January 2003. For info call 020 8343 2283

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.
Prayer requests are gladly accepted.

The Parish has a flourishing social life and a riotous Youth Club for church members. Contact the Vicar, Fr Christopher Hardy, on 020 8883 9315.

All Saints' also has a strong musical tradition and an enthusiastic choir of both adults and children. Experienced singers are always welcome. Contact Geoffrey Hanson on 020 8444 9214.

<http://www.allsaints-eastfinchley.org.uk>

GARDENING

Winter Fragrance

By Zena Robson

So after all that Christmas excess, it's time to get out and about and walk it all off. As you go, hopefully you'll come across some choice winter-flowering specimens in some neighbours' gardens that will waft their scent across your slowly-turning-blue nose.

Specials are the upright Mahonias, with their holly-like leaves and yellow fragrant flowers that remind me of lily-of-the-valley. Next there's the smaller evergreen known as Christmas Box, botanically *Sarcococca*; tiny flowers clustered along the undersides of stems but boy, do they put out a wonderful pong. But for me, the real stunner is the winter-flowering shrubby honeysuckle, *Lonicera fragrantissima*. It flowers on bare stems and the scent can knock you over. Its size and unprepossessing leaves for the rest of the year make it a back of the border shrub but all you need to do is snip off some of the branches to bring indoors and the house will be full of its scent - much better than those smelly, smoky candles!!

The non-smellies have charms of their own. *Jasminum nudiflorum*, the winter flowering Jasmine, puts out its starry yellow flowers but it will need some support, as although often used where a climber is needed, it does not have the capacity to climb at all. If it needs a tidy, wait until it's finished flowering and take out some of the old twiggy growth. Then there's the Cornelian cherry, *Cornus mas*, which is covered in small, mimosa-type puffy yellow flowers that light up its bare outline. The early flowering Viburnums are meant to be scented but I must always have a cold when I have a sniff! The wonderful sight of the spidery flowers clinging to the witch-hazels, *Hamamelis*, is something else to stop and admire, but boy, are they slow growing! But we gardeners are nothing if not patient!

For ground cover, heathers and conifers come into their own now and to be perfectly honest, it's about the only time that I appreciate them (sorry, conifer-lovers!). For me, the sight of the peeling red bark on a *Prunus serrula*, or *Acer griseum* shining in the sun is a far prettier sight.

Well, I've waxed lyrical and hope that I've whetted your appetites for the delights that await you, so now to the more practical bits. I'd be staying off the lawn for a wee while even if we have a few days of fine weather and you think about getting out to mow; resist! All that autumn rain is still sitting there and you'll do more harm than good, and don't be tempted to wield the secateurs just yet either - a mild spell will stimulate growth that will be killed off in the first frost. However, if you are a Wisteria owner, you might want to do some winter pruning to make sure you have established those flowering spurs.