

RA Summer Picnic – 11 June 2017



Fizzie Lizzie, the balloon modelling 'queen'

Another afternoon of fun and entertainment for the whole family is in the making, so make a note in your diary to be on Central Square on Sunday, June 11!

Central Square, which lies between St Jude's Church and the Free Church in the centre of the Suburb, will host the RA's annual family picnic accompanied by music and a range of familiar (and some new) attractions and entertainment.

The afternoon will kick off with the popular Happy Hour between 12.30-1.30 where you can pick up a free glass of Pimms, wine or juice. Live music will be provided by our very own local band, Sound of the Suburb.

There will be an dazzling array of sideshows including:

- Punch & Judy shows
- Donkey Rides
- Animal Encounter
- Dog Show
- Children's entertainer
- Balloon artist
- Face Painting
- Homemade cakes

It promises to be a super afternoon with something for everyone. You can bring your own blanket or hire a table and

chairs for the afternoon and enjoy Sunday lunch 'al fresco' with family and friends.

As always we are still looking for volunteers to help on the day with the setting up and general organisation of the event. We are also appealing to baking enthusiasts to contribute a cake or cookies to the Cake Stall.

Proceeds will go to support the various events put on each year by the RA Events Committee,

Painted Penguin face painting



and this year we will also be collecting for the renovation of St. Jude's church.

We are now taking bookings for picnic tables and chairs. If you would like to book a table for you and your family, or you'd like to join our Volunteers Rota and be part of the team to put up gazebos or help at one of the stalls, or you are just after further information then please email raevents@hgs.org.uk.

North London Sinfonia fills Free Church

A programme of Beethoven, Brahms and Schubert attracted a capacity audience to the Free Church on Saturday, March 25 for the Spring Concert given by local amateur orchestra, the North London Sinfonia, under its Conductor and Music Director Owen Leech.

An exciting opening with a spirited rendition of Beethoven's Fidelio Overture was followed by a performance of Schubert's Symphony No.4, 'The Tragic', in C minor which managed to convey both the tempestuous and dramatic character of the outer movements of the work together with the contrasting ideas of the slow movement.

Perhaps the highlight of the concert was the Brahms Double Concerto for violin and cello, performed with both technical skill and instinctive feeling by soloists Jo Keithley, who is the orchestra's principal cello, and Clare Wheeler. This work, which

has become one of the most admired of the late Romantic period, was a big ask for an amateur outfit, but judging from the audience's enthusiastic reception, it rose admirably to the challenge.

The orchestra has strong connections with the Suburb, and its Summer concert is at the same venue on Saturday, July 15, with a programme which includes Kodaly's Summer Evening, Bartok's Romanian Folk Dances and First Rhapsody for Violin and Orchestra, Ravel's Tzigane with soloist Hartmut Richter on violin, and Roussel's Le Festin de l'Araignée.

The orchestra puts on three concerts a year, including well-known works from the classical and romantic repertoire, alongside gifted professional soloists. It has also acquired a reputation for taking on less common works and composers, including some premieres and new music. As

Owen says "...I think people are attracted by our repertoire, but also because we are a friendly, welcoming orchestra..." Its players come from diverse backgrounds, but what they all have in common is a shared passion for playing music. Owen has been described as getting the most out of them. This concert proves that.

NLS always welcomes new players (no auditions). Visit www.nlsinfonia.org, email nlsinfonia@gmail.com or ring 07773 717747.



PHOTOS: HARRY GRINDROD



50 years of music making at YMC

The Youth Music Centre is celebrating its 50th anniversary with a spectacular concert on Sunday, June 18 at 6pm at St Jude's. YMC's magnificent Orchestras and Choir will perform a programme including the wonderful Happy Birthday Variations by Peter Heidrich, Handel's Passacaglia along with works by Albinoni, Bizet, some fiery Tangos and Haydn's Toy Symphony.

Our centre owes its existence to the late Emanuel Hurwitz CBE and Kay Hurwitz MBE, who started the Youth Music Centre in their own house, and, with their friends, gave students the opportunity to play chamber music together.

Emanuel Hurwitz was one of Britain's great chamber musicians, orchestral leaders and teachers, and his wife Kay was a viola player in many major orchestras, but is best remembered for her passionate

work teaching young children. The inspiration and tireless efforts of these distinguished musicians has led countless pupils to brilliant careers in music.

Nigel Goldberg and his team of dedicated teachers are continuing the work of the school's founders in the spirit of the school they so loved. Every time YMC students and teachers meet on Saturday morning at the base in Bigwood House at Henrietta Barnet School an

exciting morning of chamber music, orchestral playing and choir singing unfolds.

Children can take part in voice, theory and recorder classes apart from the larger scale music making. All this is for our young future musicians from the age of three!

The 50th Anniversary concert is free of charge, and afterwards everyone is welcome to join us for a picnic.

MARINA SOLAREK



HGS Golf Society

The Spring meeting of the HGS Golf Society took place on March 31 at Hadley Wood Golf Club. Six teams of three took part in a most enjoyable round of golf with the first prize going to the Cornwood Chippers – Helen Cohen, Ian McCannah and David Morris. The runners up were the Denham Drivers – Alison Cook, Douglas Conn and David Carman.

Whilst we managed to avoid any rain, the sun did not show

its face until later in the day but this did not detract from a most enjoyable gathering. A delay in the kitchen resulted in our lunch being served a little later than planned which meant that not everyone was able to enjoy the meal together. Those who did enjoyed a very satisfying meal, having worked up a decent appetite on the golf course.

The Autumn meeting will return to our local Hampstead

Golf Club on October 9 and further details will follow.

We are planning to arrange group tuition, which we hope will encourage anyone who would like to try golf for the first time, or those who simply want to improve their skills. Any readers who would like to take part should contact Paul Wenham at paulwenham@hotmail.co.uk, or Sandra Okin at sandraokin@yahoo.co.uk.

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The RA website is www.hgs.org.uk