



Out & About...

with Noel Lynch

Hit-man?

A well-known "face" around East Finchley will be named as an international hit-man, in a book soon to be published. He denies the allegation.

EastEnders in East Finchley

On Thursday 14th October, viewers of BBC1 will have seen Cindy Beale leave Albert Square to a hide-out in France. However, she is not in France, but in East Finchley. In real life, Michelle Collins has just taken up residence near the High Road, bringing the total of past and present EastEnders stars to three: Michelle, Steve McFadden and Susan Tully.

Big Promotion

Robert Wong, former resident of Summerlee Avenue, is now deputy manager of Merrill Lynch Bank of Singapore. He is a frequent visitor to East Finchley to visit his mother.

Van Gogh

An art historian tells me that Vincent Van Gogh lived for a while in East Finchley. Some of us have visions of finding an attic full of his masterpieces!

Phantom bus stop

Does anyone know why the bus shelter is still outside my shop when the actual bus stop was moved many months ago? Not a day goes by that I don't have to inform some hapless traveller that the bus stop is 100 yards up the road.

Tara's Theme

East Finchley's connection with the Olympics? Well, the beautiful BBC introduction music was written by Hertford Road resident, Steven Spiro! The CD is selling well.

A snip

Nash Auctions of North Finchley had an unusual item to sell at their recent Monday auction. Estimated at £300/£500, the silver circumcision set developed an epic bidding duel between a Moslem dealer and a Jewish dealer. The latter was finally victorious at £5,200, which was not bad for something that cost £11 at a boot sale! I'm told that it has since been sold again, this time for £11,000.

Leaving us

Mandy Smith has sold her residence in Creighton Avenue. Of all the personalities we have served at The Bargain Centre, Mandy is probably the nicest.

Dosh

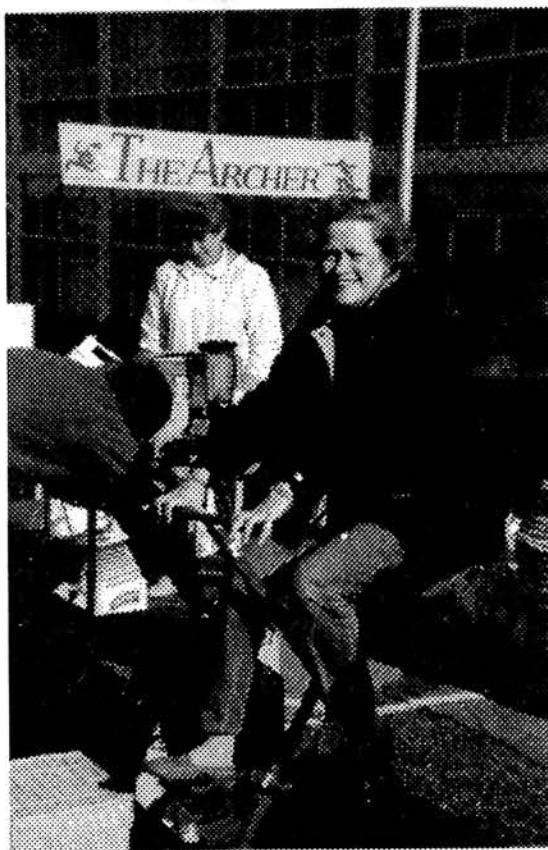
The boot sale at Martin Schools figured recently on the Channel 4 programme "Dosh". It was interesting to see so many familiar faces. However, the presenter was a bit too optimistic in her ideas about prices. A lot of people visited here, last Sunday, for the boot sale, but were disappointed to find that the next sale is not until March.

New Association

The founding meeting of The East Finchley Traders Association took place recently at Chivers Brothers Shop. See details on the front page of The Archer. A six-man steering group was elected. We need more help. Details from Chivers Brothers or from myself at The Bargain Centre.

Any news?

If you have anything of news value, suitable for this column, please contact Noel Lynch at The Bargain Centre, 212 High Road or phone 883 0234.



Trying out the goods at the car boot sale. Photo: Sue Holliday.

Car Boot Sale

On Saturday 19 October, Fortismere School Association held a car boot sale, organised by parent Sue Walker, on the south wing car park off Twyford Avenue. Money raised from the hire of pitches went to the school fund. Money raised by The Archer stall gave a much-needed boost to our funds. Our stall was mostly manned (or should that be womanned!) by Pam Kent, Toni Morgan and Diana Cormack with just over £100 being made in three hours. Thank you to the people who provided things to sell or who helped in other ways. Thanks also to those who came along on the day to spend their money.

News Flashes

*A new youth club for both able-bodied and disabled youngsters over 11 years of age has been opened at the Old Barn Community Centre in Tarling Road.

The club was opened by Olympic silver medalist, Jackie Agyepong, on Friday 18 October for the young people of Barnet. For details call Barry Rawlings on 0181 349 4613.

*Finchley Memorial Hospital have installed a new access ramp and walkway for wheelchairs and a conservatory costing £30,000.

The walkway will provide access for wheelchairs and will also help disabled and elderly patients to learn to walk using their Zimmer frames.

*Two local men who work for the privatised refuse collection contractor, Service Team Ltd, suffered serious injury in the course of their work and Barnet Council are to be prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive.

The council face a maximum fine of £20,000 if they are found guilty of a breach of safety regulations.

The contractors, who have since lost the contract, face a similar charge.

*East Finchley resident, Danny McAvooy, was crushed between the bin lift and the rear of the dustcart back in March 1993.

The other man injured, Dean Aris from Whetstone, had his foot amputated after the wheel of a bin went over it.

The case is to be heard at Barnet Magistrates Court on 7 November.

= Save our Cornish Pasty Campaign =

Poor Taste!

By John Dacam

The Archer is launching a "Save our Cornish Pasty Campaign"... British food lover, John Dacam, recently tried Cornish Pasties available in the High Road and was shocked by what he found. If you agree, disagree or wish to comment on food in N2, write to The Archer.

Britain has, for some time, had a poor reputation for food: a fact which is annoying to those of us who appreciate its great roasts, pies, game dishes, puddings, desserts etc.

However, when we have something outstanding, like the Cornish Pasty, we seem to be content to let it degenerate into a mass-produced farrago.

Disgace

The Archer tried five makes of pasty readily available in the High Road, but found it impossible to recommend any of them.

One of these brands used to be an acceptable pasty, but this is now gristly and covered in the same uniformly disgraceful, damp-cardboard pastry as all of the others.

Two of the others were simply tasteless while the one

tasted only of sausage meat and another tasted like mouth-wash.

Do it Yourself

Roll out 12 ounces of shortcrust pastry into four six-inch discs. Finely chop (do not mince!) threequarters of a pound of chuck steak, a small onion and two or three potatoes and pile them onto the pastry, adding salt and pepper. A little diced turnip or swede is an optional extra.

Moisten the pastry edges and form the pasties, then brush them with beaten egg.

Cook them fast for 10 - 15 minutes at gas mark 7 (425) then turn the heat down to gas mark 2 (300) and cook them for another 30 - 40 minutes.

So, food manufacturers, how hard was that?

A new, Whiter Lion?

The White Lion, one of East Finchley's oldest and most historic pubs, is to have a face lift. Work has already started on the refurbishing.

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