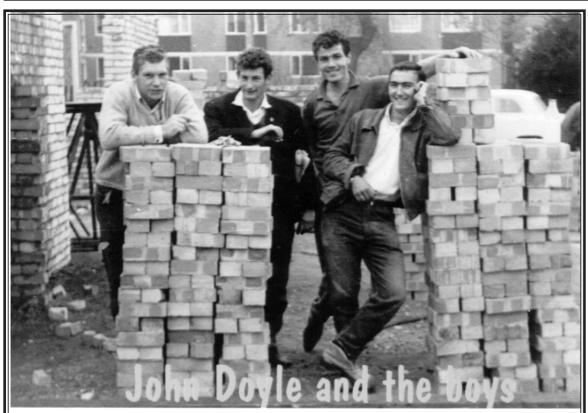


### THE ARCHER - 08717 334465



### Where are they now?

John Doyle (2nd from right) and the Boys pictured in 1958. Does anyone know what became of them? If so please let THE ARCHER know. Photo submitted by the regulars of the Duke of Cambridge.

# **Dial-a-Ride Debacle**

#### By Sippy Azizollah.

but, instead of my name I

found someone else's name,

and my address. I spent half

an hour trying to get through

to the office and when I finally

did, I was told that all the

North London Dial-A-Ride

users were in the same pre-

Every year around Christmas time Dial-A-Ride update their records. A form is sent out to each user to see if their circumstances have altered in any way.

This time I received an dicament. envelope from Dial-A-Ride,

#### What a blunder!

The person I spoke to told me to put my name and user number in the correction box on the form, and return it. I have since heard that other users were told to destroy them. I am also aware that some users sent them back with 'unknown happened.

at this address' written on the envelope.

How could this have happened?

It can't be blamed on the computer, can it? I have no idea how much this blunder cost, but I think we'd all like to know how this could have

• Regular surgeries are held

at the Green Man. The surgeries need to be held in a more central position in East Finchley. Or why not go to the people? Hold surgeries at all retirement-type homes (sheltered etc.) first as they

familiar doesn't it?

needs:

Surely some basic rules for • Surgeries are held twice a month.

These need to be held at least once a week on alternating days Pensioners very often have appointments or treatments on regular specified days.

- Surgery hours are 2–4pm. These need to be earlier, preferably 11am–1pm, as people often need to take one or two buses or Dial-a-Ride and 4pm can be dark and busy.
- **Further information advice** from 0845 number.

I got no advice - except a recorded message telling me to try again later and that cost me 20p. Why not inform me how many calls are waiting or have an answering machine that takes a message and ring the person back? Better still, have a free-phone number.

So that all pensioners in the area are informed of events like the introduction of this scheme, why not use the old familiar method that's been around since 1635. It's called the Postage Stamp! So what's new?

# **Cold Comfort for Winter**

#### By Mal Jacobs

Hypothermia, the dictionary states, is "a condition of abnormally low body temperatures". Not a very pleasant thought is it? But certainly one we have to think about and avoid during the cold winter weeks. For the older generation it is a time for being a little extra careful when doing some of the things that we normally do.

For instance, making sure we have some good hot soups plus a mixture of five differand vegetables during the day, as recommended to maintain good health. Kiwi fruit is an extremely good and economibut, after all, the most impor-

extra padding worn in winter of us look our best lying flat on the ground injured and

## Mistresspiece

usually require help the most.

**The New** 

starting any new business venture

are: to deliver a service that most

people want, to let them know

about it and to provide it in the

most practical location. This new

local business is called The Pen-

sion Service.I went to the Green

Man Community Centre on

Monday 6 January at 2pm. After

a fifteen-minute wait, the recep-

tionist and I decided they weren't

coming today. Not deterred, of

course, I decided to phone them.

The recorded voice informed me

that "All the operators are busy,

please ring later". That cost me

20p. That sort of service sounds

arrangements with pensioner

Let's compare the present

By Mature Ed

**Pension Service** 

So what's new? The rare occurrence of something new for pensioners is worth checking out at any time!The leaflet I saw by chance stated: "Regular surgeries to be held at the Green Man Community Centre on the first and third Monday of each month from 2–4pm. Further information and advice from 0845 60 60 265 or website www.thepensionservice.gov.uk" It sounded wonderful.

By Daphne Chamberlain

A mistresspiece is 'a feminine masterpiece'. That's what I read the other day. So is this a dubious attempt at political correctness? If you thought not, you are absolutely right. In 1971 the Oxford English Dictionary listed it as a word in use from the 1640s to the early 1900s.

Anyway, writers of all pieces should submit them with a wish for a happy St.John Bosco's Day. Who he? The patron saint of editors. (His day is 31 January, but don't let that bother you.)



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