



How I wish...

Compiled by David Hobbs
This being the first ARCHER of the new millennium I asked all the team members to come up with a 'New Millennium's Wish'. They agreed on the condition that I name no names. So here goes, in no particular order...

- ∩ The return of public toilets to East Finchley. The toilets in East End Road were closed several years ago, there are no toilets at the tube station and it gets embarrassing having to ask shop keepers and café owners if you can use theirs.
- ∩ A graffiti clean up campaign. It is unsightly and unnecessary.
- ∩ All shops, pubs and cafes to provide proper facilities for the disabled.
- ∩ The permanent departure of the pigeons from outside Budgens.
- ∩ Cycle lanes, if only to stop cyclists feeling that they have to ride on the pavements.
- ∩ A tapas/wine bar.
- ∩ No more cafés!
- ∩ The council finally puts the long promised pedestrian crossing on Fortis Green.
- ∩ A right hand turn filter light at the junction with the northbound High Road and Fortis Green
- ∩ Protect 'Bertie the Bollard' and stop heavy lorries turning left into Fortis Green from the High Road.
- ∩ Extending the 144 bus route to East Finchley Station and a bus service to Hampstead.
- ∩ Somewhere to buy knickers.
- ∩ A proper birthday celebration for the Archer on the tube station - he's 60 this year.
- ∩ No Christmas decorations, shop signs, etc. to be put on display until 1 December.
- ∩ Ban women saying, "He's very good" because her husband/partner takes some part in household chores.
- ∩ Do not read any newspaper articles which have "may", "might" or "could" in the first couple of sentences.
- ∩ Stop using the word "only" with prices to make them look cheaper.
- ∩ Stop rounding prices down by a penny for the same reason - "only £999.99."
- ∩ Prevent people saying "one pence" for "one penny".
- ∩ PO workers stop franking over postcard pictures.
- ∩ Postal workers stop folding postcards to put through my large letterbox.
- ∩ Politicians actually answer the question they've been asked.
- ∩ Drivers that you let in always indicate their thanks and never turn off at the very next corner!

SNAPSHOTS OF THE CENTURY

By Daphne Chamberlain

PARK LODGE *THE ARCHER* reported in August, 1998, "a unique old Victorian house, a landmark in East End Road for 110 years with its steeple and weathervane, is now just a pile of rubble. Despite attempts to save it as a listed building, it has now been demolished to make way for a four-storey block of flats. The Lodge housed Doctor Giwelb's surgery for 40 years."



Park Lodge photo by David Tupman



Photo by David Tupman

PETER BAILEY **PHOENIX PROJECTIONIST**
If the Phoenix is East Finchley's most famous institution, the most famous person at the Phoenix is Chief Projectionist Peter Bailey.

Peter went to Allder School, where one of his school friends was David Jason's brother. He got his hand in projecting by running films for the geography master, and started his cinema career at North Finchley Odeon, aged 16.

He has been at the Phoenix for about 40 years. Every autumn, when the cinema has its Open House, you can visit Peter in his projection room.



Ex-pupil Audrey Keon looks back over school records. Photo by Diana Cormack

HOLY TRINITY REMEMBERED

In 1997, Holy Trinity School celebrated its 150th anniversary. The festivities went on all week. In "Oranges and Lemons", a play written for the occasion by actress Carolyn Pickles, today's pupils re-created the history of East Finchley. Former pupils of all ages contributed to a book compiled by Pat Douglass, called "The Life and Times of Holy Trinity School - seen through the eyes of those who were part of it".



The Archer team at the 1998 Community Festival
Photo by Erini Rodis

FESTIVAL

At midsummer, East Finchley has its own spot of madness. Stall holders, entertainers and most of the rest of us seize the chance to meet each other in Cherry Tree Wood. It's now an established tradition, but, as 91-year-old Bill Markham told us this year, it began in the 1970s when East Finchley Neighbourhood Association (EFNA) roasted a sheep and carried it down the High Road.



TRAMS

THE ARCHER's oldest contributor, Robert Kent, has written for us about several subjects, including the great days of the tram. In July, 1998, he remembered how "twin tracks ran down the centre of the main road from Barnet Church through East Finchley to Archway, with branches to Wood Green, Golders Green and beyond... The passenger seats inside ran lengthways, so the occupants faced one another. Being made of highly polished wood, the seats were slippery, so that - in descending a hill - the passengers slid together to the front of the vehicle. We were very friendly people in those days!"

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