



# Time of Trial

By Daphne Chamberlain  
Godfrey Faulkner was 20 when he was sent to Hong Kong to defend Japanese accused of war crimes.



Godfrey Faulkner photo by Daphne Chamberlain

He was a commissioned army subaltern in the Buffs, with six months university training in military and international law. This was all that was necessary, as War Crimes Courts were run on the lines of a military tribunal or court martial, the only qualified lawyer being the presiding officer - in this case, a Colonel Laming. (Politicians were tried in the Civil Courts.)

Defendants were not allowed to plead guilty, both to avoid accusations of an unfair trial, and to ensure that as much as possible was recorded for posterity.

In practice, he says, there were virtually no attempts by the accused to defend or justify themselves. "Everything was done in the name of the Emperor. The Emperor was God, and God doesn't apologise."

### "A Decent Man"

One exception was a Captain Mayazumi. This man, a naval officer, came across a ship called the Bahalar, which was trying to find port for its passengers outside the war zone. He was going to escort them to port, but his admiral ordered their "disposal". A witness testified that Captain Mayazumi argued at length against the order, but was told he would be beheaded if he didn't carry it out.

The admiral was found guilty of war crimes, and hanged. Captain Mayazumi was sentenced to 12 years imprisonment. Godfrey remembers him as "a very decent man", distressed by what he had done. He spoke fluent English, and when Godfrey visited him in Stanley Prison, he asked for a copy of David Copperfield to translate.

### No hiding place

Someone who at first seemed to get away scot-free was a man nicknamed "Slap Harry", who slapped prisoners to death with a bayonet. He successfully appealed against the death sentence by pleading Canadian citizenship through his father. However, he was picked up by the Canadians and taken

back to the same court, to be found guilty of treason. He was hanged.

Godfrey's first case was Major Hiraio Yoshiro, the head of the Japanese equivalent of the Gestapo, who "would often kill for kicks". He witnessed his execution.

Godfrey now lives at Fairacres, East End Road, in accommodation for Jewish Blind and Disabled. He doubts whether mankind has learned any lessons from that time of atrocities. "Killing the enemy is easier than making peace."

# Fun at the Five Bells

By Sippy Azizollah

**The Five Bells Pub in East End Road held a 'Fun Monty Karaoke Nite' in aid of Comic Relief on 16 March. There were raffles, a Take Your Pick competition, an all male strip group called 'The Chipolatas' and of course the Karaoke.**

Something in excess of £550 was raised, which was a fantastic effort on behalf of all who were there. I sang two songs, but due to alcoholic floatation (if that is a genuine word) I'm unable to recall exactly which songs they were.

The grand sum of £100 was raised in a matter of minutes for Pat, the pub manager to sing a song, which he did with great aplomb.

Eddie Goodman the quiz master at the Five Bells Monday Night quiz, was the MC for the evening, and did a great job coaxing and cajoling everyone into emptying their wallets for this all important cause.

On a personal note I'd like to thank everyone for taking part, and to Pat, Eddie and all the hard working staff at the Five Bells, thank you for giving us such an enjoyable evening.

# Count me in

Tenth March 2001 marks the bicentenary of the Census in Britain. For 200 years the Census has been the cornerstone of planning in Britain.

The first Census in 1801 was taken amidst fears that Britain's growing population might outstrip the country's supply of food. It asked five questions and counted ten million people living in two million households.

In comparison, the 2001 Census, which takes place on 29 April, will count almost sixty million people, living in approximately twenty four million households. It will ask forty questions and generate two billion bits of information.

Two centuries of Censustaking have produced a record of remarkable changes in society. In 1991, 90% of the population lived in urban areas compared to just 16% in 1831. The average size of households has fallen by half to approximately 2.4 persons today.

Whatever some older people may say about the "youth of today", they can console themselves with the knowledge that those now under the age of 20 only constitute 25% of the population - 37% of the population being over the age of 45. In 1861, those under 20 constituted 35% of the population, with those over 45 constituting 23%.

### The Five Bells

"The Five Bells" on East End Road, as a public house, dates back to the eighteenth century; but the present building is mid-nineteenth century. If Pat O'Shaunessy, the current licensee and resident, feels a little crowded at the moment, he might consider the plight of his predecessor Robert Drummond who, in 1851, shared the pub with fifteen individuals.

In 1851 there were 15,000 persons inhabiting 2,900 houses in the area. In 1991 293,500 shared a housing stock of around 118,000. One hundred and fifty years ago in the eastern side of the London Borough of Barnet and Potters Bar area, 62% of the population were born in Hertfordshire and Middlesex. Of the remaining 38% only about 1% were born abroad (with two individuals born at sea). In 1871, of around 8,000 women over 20, in the same area, 4,659 (58%) were housewives, working occasionally in their husbands' businesses and in 1780 (22%) were servants.

### The Census Today

In 1991 an estimated 98% of the population of England and Wales completed and returned their forms. In 2001 a particular effort is being made to reach those groups who were under-represented ten years ago - elderly women, men aged 20-29 and babies.



The Five Bells in the early 1900s. Photo courtesy Barnet Library Services

Whilst Censuses such as the Domesday Book were originally carried out for military and taxation purposes, they now provide detailed information for government, local authorities, health authorities,

voluntary organisations and local communities involved in the planning and delivery of services. This year all personal information is kept absolutely confidential and cannot be released until 2101.

# ARTS AND CINEMA

BY GEOFF GARFIELD

**For avid readers, I usually end this column with the forthcoming showings at the Phoenix. Well, it's topsy turvy time as I want to promote the film of the only book that I managed to finish last year - normally I only get as far as the index - *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*.**

This long-awaited movie is based on the highly successful book by Louis de Bernieres, in fact it was a rare event to take a tube or bus journey without spotting someone reading it. Set on the Greek island of Cephallonia during the Second World War, it is a romantic drama/comedy starring Nicholas Cage and Penelope Cruz. It starts at the Phoenix on 4 May and I am giving sufficient notice on the understanding that you will have read April's Archer by then. The other date I wish to bring to your attention is 22 April, which is a focus on the director Ridley Scott. This is in association with the pocket essential film guide and is a discussion on the works of this director, followed by *Gladiator* which, at the time of writing and stated in last month's *Archer*, is this year's most likely candidate for the Oscar for best movie: Two not-to-be-missed events.

### Always on a Sunday

I trust that those who saw the two documentaries at Human Rights Watch International Film Festival on 1&2 April were appropriately moved by the content of these films. *Escape to Life* the Klaus and Erika Mann story, narrated by Corin and Vanessa Redgrave, told the story of life in exile of the Manns, who were an integral part of Germany's pre-war intelligentsia. The other offering, *Terrorists in Retreat* made in 1985, focused on the resistance of the Jewish underground movement in occupied Paris. Both films had introductions and were followed by discussions. This emphasises what I have said for some time - Sunday is special at the Phoenix.

Other offerings include 8 April *In the Mood For Love* plus *Brief Encounter*, a heady cocktail of David Lean, Noel Coward and Rachmaninov. On 15 April *Almost Famous*, life on the groovy music trail of the seventies.

### One over the eight

I have been asked what films I would see over and over again, given the option. It is a near impossible task but I have narrowed down to a desert island eight. In no particular order of preference they are: *The Third Man*, *Jules et Jim*, *Some Like it Hot*, *The Apartment*, *Apocalypse Now*, *Once Upon a Time in America*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Producers*. For my luxury item on my island I will go for another movie, *Dr Strangelove*. So now you know.

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