



Dino Loizou of East Finchley Electrical Contractors. Photo by Sippy Azizollah

Dino the Dynamo

By Diana Cormack

Twenty-five years ago Dino Loizou's father set up shop at 115 High Road, East Finchley. Twenty years later Dino joined in the business, which sells all manner of electrical goods at competitive prices. Much of the trade today comes from contracting work and the shop is known as East Finchley Electrical Contractors.

Out of the limelight

Dino puts in long and hard hours at the shop, but he still manages to find the time for the community. Much of his work is unheralded and unseen, yet every year proof of his involvement is seen up and down the High Road. The main example of this is East Finchley's much admired display of Christmas lights, which Dino has instigated alongside neighbouring shop owner Lawrie Chivers, raising money and support from the council and from local businesses.

Small is beautiful

Being a founder member of East Finchley Traders Association, Dino is well qualified to pass on their views at the council meetings and Town Centre Forums he attends. He was involved in the fight against the redevelopment of Brent Cross and with the CPZ scheme, as well as with on-going things like the street furniture that affects the look of the area.

The slogan for his shop is "No job too small." It is one that could also be applied to all the work done by Dino on behalf of East Finchley.

Do you know an "unsung hero" in our community? Let *THE ARCHER* know so they can get the praise they deserve!

ARTS AND CINEMA

By Geoff Garfield

By the time you will be reading this we may have swapped one government for another - but I doubt it. It is probable that we will have more of the same. Whether you support the status quo or not, what is apparent to all is the ongoing changing face of culture in London.

Although the lottery has helped enormously in funding innovative programmes and both fringe theatres and stand-up comedy venues appear to be flourishing, the dearth of repertory cinema in London could be indicative of how home entertainment, plus technology, has impinged upon the movie world. Although it can be considered part of a natural evolutionary process, what might be a boon would be a government initiative to encourage young would-be film makers to produce short films for presentations in cinemas round the country. A five-minute opener preceding the main feature may not only persuade a budding Kubrick that there is an audience for their work, but would highlight any untapped talent.

Reel thing

While we are on this theme, why not a film equivalent of the Royal Academy Summer Programme e.g. a five-day exhibition of short reels? I am aware that the National Film Theatre and also the Phoenix do themed programmes but a higher profile would be welcome.

Now down to business. As mentioned in last month's Archer, the Phoenix is going to close soon for a refurbishment programme and open again in late September. I did not give dates then, but I have them now for your diary. It closes from 11 to 15 June and then operates sporadically through July, closing again from 23 July until 16 September. There will be confirmation of this in the July Archer as changes to the schedule may alter.

The programme planned will be: 22 June, *Les Gout des Autres* (French, quel surprise, comedy drama), 29 June *Amores Perras*, a Mexican romantic comedy by Alejandra Gonzales. For any further information over times, matinees and programmes ring the box office on 020 8444 6789.

YOUNG ARCHER

Saturday Morning Pictures

By Diana Cormack

When I was a child I spent every Saturday morning at the cinema with most of my friends. Whilst it gave our parents a break, the staff there must have dreaded it!

We were ever so noisy particularly in the interval, when the manager would encourage us to scream and shout out during his little competitions. He used to read out "lucky numbers" for us to match to the ones on our ticket. If they were the same, you went up to collect a prize. Though I always thought I was going to win I never did, but it was all good preparation for the National Lottery I suppose!

Chaps stick

It was useful too for "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" I've often been able to answer a question that the contestant couldn't from something I learned during those visits to the cinema. For instance, someone lost because he couldn't tell Chris Tarrant who would wear "chaps." Having watched so many westerns, I knew that they were leather leg protectors worn by cowboys.

Rebirth

Recently one of the large cinema companies said it was thinking of reviving Saturday morning cinema clubs. Well, the Phoenix in East Finchley has been running one for years and you can do a lot more there than just watch the film! There is an hour of structured film-related activities starting promptly at 11am (numbers limited) aimed at 6-11 year olds or you can just go along for the film.

You can become a Phoenix Freddy and get a membership

card, "the fred file" which is full of information and activities to go with the Saturday morning films, plus reduced prices for Saturday mornings and for children's films and special events during the school holidays.

The Phoenix is keen to continue with children who have outgrown their kids' club. This month sees the launch

of a practical film making course for 12-15 year olds, run in association with Finchley Youth Theatre. It will include three film screenings at the cinema and special guests.

If you want further details, call in at The Phoenix, 52 High Road or telephone 020 8444 6789 or e-mail: ruth@phoenixcinema.demon.co.uk

Do You Like Drawing?

In September *THE ARCHER* will be publishing its one hundredth edition! We would like children in East Finchley to help celebrate this occasion. One of the things we plan is to have posters done by you on display throughout the area. They will be on A4 size paper in any medium you like - coloured pencil, felt tip, paint, collage, etc. - and can be funny or serious, but they must be something to do with *THE ARCHER*.

Details will be given to the local primary schools, but you can still contribute if you go to other schools. We'll tell you more about this next month, so get thinking about what you could do!

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Diana Cormack

Holy Trinity

Congratulations to Lucy Lawrence who swam an amazing 200 lengths of the Cophall pool in one and a half hours. Taking part in the BT Swimathon, Year 6 pupil Lucy raised £150 for cancer research.

In this month's national Walk to School Week, each class will keep a graph to record their daily number of walkers.

Rope tricks

A Skipping Workshop showing a variety of skipping methods with different sorts of ropes was enjoyed by all, with some youngsters being invited to take part.

Holy Trinity School Association held a quiz night and also organised a May Fair. The children brought in objects for the Tombola stall in exchange for not wearing their school uniform on Mufti Day. School Journey went to Sandown, Isle of Wight.

Head teacher Duncan Mills is rhythm guitar player with a group of local headmasters who go by the wonderful name of Squawking Heads! They will be appearing at various local school events throughout the summer.

Martin Junior School

Year 6 went to the British Museum to research for their work on an Assyrian frieze. This was for their contribution to the whole school's impressive corridor display, focussing this term on art and customs around the world.

Year 5 children are learning cricket skills, coached by Ranjit Bhanabhai of the Middlesex County Cricket Club. A visit to Lords is in the offing!

Year 4 children are receiving football coaching as part of an Adidas supported project culminating in a festival this month.

Sporting Life

Children from Year 6 are learning book making at the new British Library.

Many children have entered a competition to design a logo for the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood. The winners will be displayed at their stall at the East Finchley Festival.

The school has had visits from Councillor Alison Moore and from Paul Fallon, who is Barnet's Chief Children's Officer from the Children and Families Department.

Head teacher Maggie Driscoll is delighted with the school's new, glossy prospectus. Prospective parents can order a copy by phoning 020 8883 7404

Martin Infant School

In addition to the gymnastics club, after school ballet classes have begun. As it was much appreciated before, the PTA has again held a Cake and Children's Clothes sale, with profits going to the school fund.

Open Afternoon

If you want to see a primary school in action you can visit Martin Infant and Junior Schools on the afternoon of Wednesday 4 July. It is also the infant school's Science Week.

Film

Oscars

Every year there is a special ceremony in Hollywood to which everyone wants to be invited. Film stars, producers, directors, composers, in fact most of the people involved in the making of a successful film go there hoping to be given a golden statuette. It is awarded for "outstanding performance in the various fields of the motion picture industry."

The awards began in 1927 and for four years they had no name. When a lady called Margaret Herrick first saw one she said that the little statue reminded her of her Uncle Oscar. By chance, a newspaper reporter overheard her, wrote about it and the name has stuck for 70 years!