



The original congestion charge?

By Diana Cormack

Traffic problems in London are not the making of modern times. As long ago as 1681 the Corporation was attempting to control the number of carts and carriers on its streets, and eventually a method was devised for identifying all licensed carts within the City of London. It was decided to mark and number all licensed carts – with the City arms on the shafts, and a brass plate. Presumably non-licensed carts were impounded and returned for a fee?

No doubt a member of the Worshipful Company of Carmen could answer that question, for they still hold a Cart Marking ceremony every year at the Guildhall. Competition is strong and this year Greater London Hire, which is based on the High Road opposite East Finchley tube station, was invited to take part in the prestigious event on 14 July. The Lord Mayor, wearing protective gloves presented by the Master Glover, does the symbolic branding on a wooden plaque that bears the City and

Corporation badges.

GLH managing director John Scott, who is a Full Liveryman of the City of London, chose to send the newest addition to his fleet of courier bikes. Facilities Manager Bernard Case, who has been with the company for over 20 years, rode a Honda CB 500. Ten of these will be added to the 40 motorbikes already in use. They will be needed, for GLH has secured the contract for the 2012 Olympics bid and will be carrying organisers and visiting officials to the various proposed sites in and around London.



Miss Newberry with Katie Reid and the nursery children.
Photo by Helen Drake

Thirty-Eight Years at Martin School

By Helen Drake

It was September 1966. Carnaby Street was swinging, England had just won the World Cup and Sue Newberry stepped over the threshold of Martin Infant School for the first time, to start her long teaching career. And after thirty-eight happy years teaching reception and year 1 classes, as well as in the nursery, and serving under four different head teachers, Sue Newberry is retiring.

A farewell coffee morning was the first of several events held on 5 July to give staff, children and parents the opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to her. It was a day filled with cards, presents and flowers, as well as a few tears. The morning nursery children honoured their teacher by singing some of her favourite action songs. In the afternoon it was the turn of the rest of the Infant School, who held an assembly at which they gave a performance of a song, specially written for Miss Newberry by Alan Gruner, the music teacher.

A special teacher

Why is Miss Newberry so special? Lesley Smith, one of the nursery teachers explained, "There are many parents who went to Martin School them-

selves, and who are now bringing their own children. She has brought a sense of continuity." Debby Hogan, a parent who had come to say her goodbyes, expressed her feelings this way: "She is a unique character with so much experience as a teacher. She is unflappable and doesn't patronise children."

A view to kill

Three two-hour films under the title *Murder Prevention*, written by the *This Life* creator Tony Garnett, are to be shown on Channel 5 in the autumn.

Featuring a relatively unknown cast, they are about a police force's murder suppression unit that aims to identify potential killers before they strike.

Viewers in East Finchley can play detective and see

Roger of Finchley retires

By Daphne Chamberlain

Alexis used to have very long hair. "It was just above my knees, and Roger is the only one who has ever cut it (except for somebody in Knightsbridge). I've been coming here for 26 years. People are really going to miss him."

Amelia Mendel, a customer for well over 20 years, and Jill Shepherd agreed. 15 years ago, Jill had a very important appointment, and Roger had done her hair so nicely she had been a client ever since.

Lilian Bernstein said, "It's always been like a happy family here. I've come here for nearly 25 years, and everyone is always friendly and joking. I hope Roger's staff stay on."

It was Roger Brown's last day in the Fortis Green salon, Roger's of Finchley, that he had run for 28 years, following five and a half years in a shop around the corner, and his clients were obviously sad to see him go. Roger will miss them too. He told *THE ARCHER*, "I want to thank all my old clients for their support over the years. I'm planning to do nothing – just seeing how things go. I'll relax and have some holidays, but I'll still be flitting around East Finchley from time to time. I'm like a fixture, but they'll probably be glad to have a youngster in!"

Zainab, the new owner, is re-opening the shop at the end of July, when it will incorporate a beauty salon.



Roger in his salon on his last day Photo- Daphne Chamberlain

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Litter Pick

Each year the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood hold a litter pick. Last year's event was the best attended yet (around 40 people) and we were particularly pleased by the number of young participants and huge amount of rubbish collected.

The litter pick really is important for the Wood as it ensures that neglected litter in all areas of the Wood is collected at least once a year.

This year's event falls in the school holidays, the busiest time of year for the park, so there's bound to be lots for the participants to do.

The Summer Litter Pick will take place from 11am to 1.00pm on Sunday 15 August and everyone is welcome. We're also hoping to have one or two little surprises for the children on the day.



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