



Two children from Holy Trinity's School Council receive a cheque from Alnoor Thobhani of Cootes Pharmacy for their building project. Photo courtesy Holy Trinity School

Holy Trinity appeal

Two children from Holy Trinity's School Council receive a cheque from Alnoor Thobhani of Cootes Pharmacy for their building project.

Holy Trinity School is keen for local businesses to feel involved in the school's new Special Needs room and library building and so far Prickett & Ellis and Stewart Duncan opticians have also made generous donations. All sponsorship will be permanently recorded in a display at the school and donors will be offered prominent seats at the official opening. For more information contact Sylvia Duthie, Chair of Governors, at Holy Trinity School.

Intelligent oysters

By Tony Roberts

Those of you who use a prepay oyster card should benefit from TfL's plan to introduce fare capping. No longer will you need to decide in advance whether to use a one day travel card; the Oyster card will do it all for you.

Transport for London has provided the following information from their web site enquiries.

"Currently Pre Pay Oyster cards can only calculate single fares. In the future a facility known as 'Capping' will be introduced. It will work by calculating the best combined fare(s) for your day's travel. For example, if you make five London Underground journeys between zones 1&2 using Oyster card Pre Pay, at a cost of £2.00 per journey, the cost

for those five journeys would currently be £10.00. Fare capping will ensure that as soon as your journey costs reach a pre-set level, your fares will be 'capped' at that rate, so these five journeys, if made off-peak, would cost you the off-peak capped rate of £4.30."

"Until such time as Capping is introduced you should continue to purchase paper Day Travelcards if you intend on doing multiple journeys in any one day."

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Combating cemetery crime

In June the whole of Camden Cemetery Service, including St Pancras cemetery, transfers into Islington's control, after several years of planning.

We understand that drastic measures are to be taken to combat crime and vandalism. CCTV is being installed, the gate at Coppett's Road may be kept closed and some cemetery roads may be barred to vehicles. The new Cemetery Service Head is determined to tackle "the huge challenge" of fly-tipping and vandalism, as well as repairs to monuments.

The Three Peaks Challenge

By Diana Cormack
Local park keeper Chris Ward is taking part in a gruelling endurance event at the end of this month. Some people might find travelling between the highest mountains in England, Scotland and Wales enough of a trial in the short space of a weekend, but Chris has set himself the daunting task of climbing them too, with a time limit of just 24 hours.

Chris is hoping for sponsorship in reaching the top of Scafell Pike, Ben Nevis and Mount Snowdon, as the aim of the challenge is to raise money to buy a modified vehicle for a close friend who has been left paralysed by a horrific domestic accident.

If you would like to help with sponsorship, then you can see Chris when he is on duty in Cherry Tree Wood.

Finchley County memorial lives on

By Daphne Chamberlain

Finchley County School's unique hand-painted war memorial was lost when the school building - opposite the Hollywood Bowl - was demolished this year. However, the names it recorded will be set in stone for passers-by to see.

The original, recording names from both World Wars, had a William Morris inspired background about 40ft by 20ft, painted in 1921 by the school's art master, Bill Howland. Unfortunately it was painted directly onto the plaster of one of the end walls of the hall.

Preserved throughout the building's later use by Finchley Manorhill School and the Professional Development Centre, its admirers hoped it might help gain the old school Grade 2 listing. Their application was unsuccessful.

As Barratts of North London found they couldn't construct Fallowgate, their new apartments, within the shell of the old building, the bulldozers went in.

Godfrey Mann, Chair of

the Old Fincunians (former Finchley County pupils), found Barratts "very helpful and understanding".

"We tried to have the memorial moved in situ, but it wasn't possible," he said. "Anyway there was nowhere big enough for it to go, and also be accessible. In the end, we accepted the inevitable. After all, the key elements were the lists of names."

Set in stone

These will be reproduced on a stone tablet recessed into the wall on the High Road side of the building, with a hook for a remembrance wreath. The memorial, which Barratts have undertaken to maintain, will also carry an explanation of its history, the original inscription and the school crest.

Bill Howland's painting was not lost altogether. The Finchley Society's Norman Burgess, himself an Old Fincunian, took a scaffolding tower to the school before demolition, and together with Bob Payne cleaned the memorial with soap and water. Then he and Oliver Natelson took a comprehensive range of photos inside and outside the building. These will illustrate a book on the history of Finchley County, due out this autumn.

Norman keeps a photo of the memorial in his sitting room. As a schoolboy, he looked every morning at the names of Finchley County boys lost in World War I. Now, as he looks at the names from World War II, he remembers his classmates.

Support your friendly pharmacist

The annual charity walk organised by The Oshwal Pharmacists is taking place on Sunday 27 June at Northaw in Hertfordshire. This year, participants in the 10 km walk will be raising funds for the National Asthma Campaign, Macmillan Cancer Relief and N.S.S. Polio India.

Paresh Shah, pharmacist at the C.W. Andrew Pharmacy, will again be taking part. If you would

like to support him, there are sponsorship forms available in the shop at 32 High Road, East Finchley.

Opening time?

With the arrival of some good weather, visitors to Cherry Tree Wood are once again asking, "When is the café going to open?"

The replacement for the old kiosk, which was burned down in November 2002, arrived at the end of last summer.

Barnet Council stated last month that they were sending

out notifications to any tenders that have been received. They hope that this will allow enough time for the successful applicant to set up their business before the summer.