



OBITUARY

Jonathan Adams, 1931 - 2005

Jonathan Adams - artist, actor, musician, and former East Finchley resident - died in June.

He played many roles in the theatre, but is probably best remembered as the Narrator in the Rocky Horror Show, both in the original 1973 production at the Royal Court and in the 1990 revival at the Piccadilly theatre. In the film version, the Rocky Horror Picture Show, he played Dr Everett Scott, the Rival Scientist.

Television appearances included parts in Bergerac, Yes, Prime Minister, Z Cars and The Bill, while radio listeners may remember him singing his own songs on Round Midnight.

Trained at the Chelsea School of Art, he exhibited at many venues, including the Barbican Centre. His last exhibition, in April of this year,

was at Riverside Studios, Hammersmith.

Originally named John Adams, he spent his childhood in Northampton, but East Finchley people with memories of the 1970s recall his contribution to life in our part of North London. He was an active member of EFNA - the East Finchley Neighbourhood Association (see right) - which did so much to establish the character of this area today.

In later years, Jonathan Adams suffered from Parkinson's Disease and had several strokes. He spent his last days in a home for retired actors at Northwood. Jonathan is survived by his partner, Joan Elliott.

Terry Surrey

By Daphne Chamberlain
We were sad to hear from Kathleen Surrey that her husband, Terry, died last year. Terry was a genuine local man, and I had a very interesting interview with him four years ago for our series, 'East Finchley families'.

The Surreys lived and worked here for several generations, mainly around the Market Place area. Terry, who attended Holy Trinity and Tollington (now Fortismere) schools, was a newspaper boy for Brysons when they still ran their shop in the High Road.

A keen footballer in his youth and a local allotment holder, Terry had many interesting stories to tell.

He and Kathleen had a holiday home at Poole, and it was there that he collapsed last November. He died in Bournemouth hospital at the



age of 73.

Kathleen, who comes from neighbouring Boscombe, hopes to move back to that area soon to be near their son, Kevin and his family. There will still be a memento of the Surreys in East Finchley, though: a bench in the communal garden of the Green Man Centre. It is a memorial to the Surreys' other son, Colin, who was killed in a road accident in 1999 at the age of 19.

Jonathan's diaries...

Nearly 30 years ago, East Finchley Neighbourhood Association was producing a regular newsletter called, remarkably, The Archer. An occasional feature was a diary entry written by Jonathan Adams in the style of Samuel Pepys. It was witty and gossipy, full of references to EFNA personalities and events. Some of the 'diaries' would mean little, therefore, to Archer readers today but this extract shows that some things never change...

A comely maid did inform me that the county roads were going to the dogs and becoming plaguey with their daily droppings, and that the people nearabouts were taking up arms against a sea of doggy defecation. Was informed that Cherry Tree Woods had become a bog which only hardened denizens dared to enter; that many a child lay in the Hospice of My Lady Whittington suffering from St. Bernard's Disease; that householders dared not put a foot outside of their doorsteps for fear of the noxious effluvia and a fouling of the footwear.

Noticed of a sudden a muffled figure, with a strangely high-stepping gait, perambulating gingerly along the seamy gutters. My pretty informant told me that this was the Officer of Health and Plague from Old Barnet Town Chambers who had been alerted by the sickened citizens of the City to take action. Methinks that East Finchley is in dire peril and that Transportation for life of all tykes to the Canines' Home at Battersea Bay would be a saving grace to our fetid area.

Letters to the editor

A legacy to Lawrie

Dear Editor,

Many local places such as streets and buildings carry the names of people who made a special contribution to life in this area. Examples are the Martin schools and the Wilmot Centre, both named after councillors. Wouldn't it be fitting for the name of Lawrie Chivers, of Chivers Bros. in the High Road, to be remembered in the same way? He has done so much for East Finchley, over several decades. He's been a school governor, led the EF Traders' Association and got us our annual Christmas lights. Someone should suggest this to Barnet Planning Department.

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Dudley
Durham Road, N2

Frederick Puddefoot

Dear Editor,

I was most interested to see a picture of my uncle Frederick Puddefoot and the erstwhile East Finchley Old Boys' Football Club. Incidentally, there is no 'l' in his surname - it is Puddefoot.

Fred worked for my grandfather, John Wesley Puddefoot, who for many years printed, amongst other things, 'The Finchley Press.'

My grandfather originated from Luton. Some of his family worked on the land and some were in the straw-hat-making business.

He became an apprentice printer - I have his indentures - and three of his sons, Arthur, Frederick and Ernest all subsequently worked for him.

Frederick and his family lived in Muswell Hill but, sadly, all have since died. Puddefoot is an unusual name and I think, on this side of the family, only one male remains. Fred had no sons, Arthur had a daughter and Ernest's grandson is Deputy Headmaster of Eton College. I have an interesting certificate of Arms for the name.

Yours faithfully,
Gwendolen Dale
Leopold Road, N2

Have you seen Leo?

Dear Editor,

We would appreciate it if readers could look out for our lovely three year-old ginger and white cat, Leo. He went missing from our home in Leicester Road on 21 July, and nothing has been seen of him since.

He was wearing a purple collar with an ID disc and bell, and he is also microchipped.

It is a total mystery, and while we are still hopeful of finding him safe and well, we also need to know if anyone has found him injured or worse.

If you have any information, please contact 0779 1867061. We love Leo very much, and thank you for any help you can give.

Yours

Rose Wallace
Leicester Road, N2

VE Day

To the Editor,

I was on leave to Conferles from Germany, where I was wounded. It was my first leave since I married Edna on 1 January 1944, so it was our second honeymoon.

On VE Day I remember the feeling of joy that I would not be going back to that war zone.

I am still wed to Edna after 61 years.

J. Deacon

Pulham Avenue, N2

Footnote: Mr Deacon contacted us in response to our request for VE or VJ Day memories.

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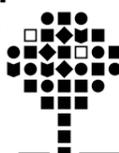
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