



# Memories of Cromwell Hall

By Tony Roberts

At The Finchley Society's Local History Group meeting on 26 November at Avenue House, David Smith talked about Cromwell Hall and the sourcing of information for the book *Collected Memories of our Neighbourhood* produced by Cromwell Hall Residents' Association.

He opened with slides: an aerial photograph of East Finchley in the 1960s and maps charting the development of the area from 1800 to the present. The final, large-scale map showed the location of Cromwell Hall by the spot on the north side of Abbots Gardens now known as the 'keyhole'.

David listed as sources contemporary local papers (not always totally accurate), the Borough and Finchley Society Archives, local registers (Holy Trinity School register around 1871 included parents' occupations) communications with the descendants of those who lived there (eventually cross-correlations reinforce credibility) and archaeological evidence/artefacts discovered in gardens. He brought with him pencils originating from Percy Honri's putting green, clay pipe fragments and the inlet from a village pump.

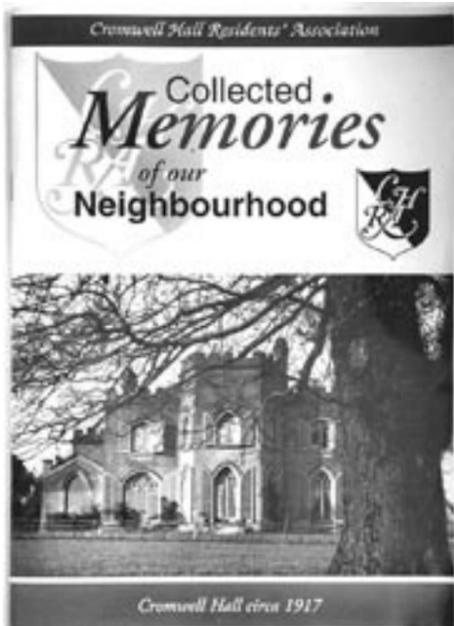
## Chance encounter

A chance encounter with a poster mentioning a Peter Honri led David to Mary Honri, another family member, who provided much information including lease and sale documents. He was able to trace the occupancy of Cromwell Hall from the time it came into the hands

of the wealthy Butler family (Edward Butler and Miss Butler) and thence to the Honri family who held the property until its demolition in 1933. Miss Butler and Percy Honri were larger-than-life characters and David regaled his audience with examples of their life-styles. The evening ended with slides of the Hall and its occupants, the Honri family, taken shortly before the Hall was sold for development.

The book contains a wealth of information about the Hall and East Finchley generally and includes fascinating maps and photographs. It is available from David Smith, 8883 4154, for £3.60 including p&p.

For details of the next meeting visit [www.finchley.society.org.uk](http://www.finchley.society.org.uk).



The *Collected Memories of our Neighbourhood* by Cromwell Hall Residents' Association. Photo by Tony Roberts

# Utopia

By Daphne Chamberlain

Beauty therapist Mette Knudsen got the name for her new health and beauty clinic from a client having a facial. Mette told me: "Actually, the name she suggested was *Beautopia*, but this place is not just a beauty salon. We want it to be a place of harmony and well-being."

Mette has leased the premises in Leicester Mews for eight years, and sub-lets to other therapists, who are self-employed.

Many East Finchley people already know Mette herself, complementary therapist Fiona Hurlock, massage therapist Mariana Arando and chiropodist/podiatrist Mary Goulbourn. Mary, expecting a baby at the time of writing, plans to job share with Judith Costa, who has already started tackling the feet of East Finchley's residents.

"It's a pleasure coming in to work," said Fiona. "We're a group of friends, and we hope that friendly atmosphere reaches our clients."

Clients present and potential had the chance to try some of the treatments at the official opening day last month. Mette was pleased with the response. "People just relaxed, some going from one treatment to another. We would like to repeat the experience, perhaps with special getting to know you evenings."

So what can you choose from? Reiki, shiatsu, acupuncture, reflexology, Hopi ear candles, different types of massage, chiropody and the



Fiona Hurlock & Mette Knudsen at Utopia. Photo by John Dearing.

full beauty treatment. Anyone thinking they might need a little more help can arrange to see a doctor specialising in non-invasive cosmetic treatment (Botox and other techniques), though he will not actually be practising in the clinic.

Both sexes and all ages are welcome, though be aware that only the chiropody room is on the ground floor. Utopia is at the newly refurbished 1A Leicester Mews (just behind Cootes Pharmacy). For further information, ring 020 8444 4226.

# Coming to the aid of witnesses

By Diana Cormack

For many of us, the only experience we have of a courtroom is what we see on the screen or if we are selected for jury service. But for those called to give evidence it can prove a daunting prospect, particularly if it is for the first time and they do not know what to expect. This is where the Witness Service is on hand to help.

This free and confidential service aids witnesses, victims and their families before, during and after the hearing. It is run

by Victim Support, the national charity that helps people cope with crime. The Witness service is in every Crown Court centre in England and Wales and is used by an increasing number of magistrates' courts.

Trained volunteers run the Witness Service. Margaret McAllister, who lives in one of the county roads, told *THE ARCHER* that there are no specific requirements except to be good with people and have the time to spare.

Margaret works for the Witness Service at Haringey Magistrates' Court in Highgate, which is looking for more volunteers.

They need to be over 18 and able to commit to at least one day a fortnight for a year or more. Six days' training is given, of either two days for three weeks or three days for two weeks; volunteers don't have to live in Haringey to participate.

One of Margaret's young colleagues described it as "very interesting; fascinating; never boring. You learn a lot and you get thanked a lot."

The Haringey Witness Service is at Aztec House, 397-405 Archway Road, N6 4EY. For more information, phone 020 8347 9405.

# Pedestrian dies after collision with bus

A woman pedestrian died after she was run over by a double-decker bus in the bus terminus at Tally Ho Corner, N12.

Dulcie Bailey, 89, of Muswell Hill, suffered leg injuries and was taken by the London Ambulance Service to the Royal Free Hospital, where she later died of her injuries.

The accident happened on the afternoon of Saturday 19 November, 2005. An inquest was subsequently opened and adjourned at Hornsey Coroner's Court.

Police are appealing for anyone who saw the collision to contact Sgt Dave Tanner at Alperton traffic garage on 020 8998 5319.

# Budgens backdrop for TV drama

By John Dearing

On two consecutive Sunday mornings in November and December, Budgens supermarket in the High Road was the location for filming scenes for a new ITV drama called *Vital Signs*, starring former *EastEnders* Tamzin Outhwaite.

The film crews, who also took over the 'Pay and Display' car park by Viceroy Close for their fleet of vehicles, were blessed with mostly sunny weather during the filming sessions.

In *Vital Signs*, Tamzin Outhwaite plays Rhoda Bradley, a busy mother of three who is fed up with her job as a supermarket check out assistant. The series is written by John Forte and made by Tiger Aspect Productions.

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