



Print ready: Founder JG Bryson, centre right, watches the installation of one of the original Italian presses.

# Printer adapts to the digital age and thrives in its second century

By Pedro Redig

One of the oldest businesses in East Finchley has thrived despite being tucked away from view for more than a century. JG Bryson Printer, producers of popular leaflets for the Phoenix Cinema, operates from the former stables at the back of number 158 High Road. You can only reach the mews-style access through Huntingdon Road.

### Four generations

“My great grandfather came from Scotland in 1903 and took the lease of number 158 which was then a stationery shop,” director Iain Bryson told *The Archer*. “Stationery soon became printing when the first of four generations who founded the business got an order to make catalogues and seed bags for a flower competition in a newspaper.”

Bryson produced manuals for aircraft undercarriages during the Second World War and election ballot papers for Canadian soldiers to vote abroad. “We’ve printed all sorts of things over the years but these pass out as memorable,” says the owner.

Sometimes Iain’s father Andrew pops in to help his son. At 73, he has spent his whole life

in the family business. “My first memories were sitting in a printing press when I was three watching the proceedings in the press downstairs,” Andrew remembers with a smile.

### Personal service

Father and son agree it is imperative to adapt to match the online competition. To survive, especially in the lucrative business card market, Iain offers deals that match the internet giants. There is also another a human factor that only a local printer can offer. “We can add personal service. People come in here and talk to us. You don’t get this online,” Iain says.

Despite all the efforts, the



Still involved: Andrew Bryson

man who runs this centenary business sees a bleak future ahead for all local traders: “It is a shame that banks in East Finchley have all left. They were really one of the backbones of the high street. Now people go to other places for their banking and that is killing the high street.”

# Measure of the times

Garden Suburb Theatre is performing a Renaissance play with great relevance for our own time. With themes of corruption, abuse of power and sexual exploitation, *Measure for Measure* holds a mirror to our world now as much as in Shakespeare’s day.

In the play, Duke Vincentio absents himself from court leaving his deputy Angelo in charge. Angelo abuses his position, seeking to take advantage of Isabella whose brother he has condemned to death.

Performances are on 6-7 and 11-14 July at 7.30pm and 7,8,14 July at 3pm at Little Oak Wood, Hampstead Garden Suburb. Tickets priced £12/£10 are available from www.garden-suburbtheatre.org.uk.



Play for today: Clare Janew as Isabella and Edwin Couatts as Angelo in *Measure for Measure*.

# RICKY SAVAGE ...

“The voice of social irresponsibility”

## Wether you like it or not

Just when you thought it was safe to go down the pub and celebrate the end of the World Cup with a glass of French fizz the pub landlord has intervened. Yes, Big Tim Martin, boss of Wetherspoons, has announced that from this month he won’t be selling champagne or foreign beers. It’s called getting your Brexit in early.

Why stop there? There’s all those French and Italian wines that can go next. Chablis, Muscadet, Claret? Not in Tim’s Brexit bar. But don’t worry, he’s got it covered. Instead of a Belgian wheat beer still brewed by monks to a recipe first used in 1660, there will be something chucked together in a shed in Norfolk by a couple of blokes with beards.

Champagne he’ll be replacing with ‘alternatives’ from England and Australia. Seriously? Apparently there are some amazing Aussie sparkling wines out there. Maybe something from the vineyards of Kent might be OK if you’ve run out of the good stuff, but who’s going to toast the bride in anything but champagne?

At least Big Tim hasn’t started removing funny European food from the menu yet. When he does it’s goodbye pasta and hello lumpy mash. Fish and chips will probably have to go. It was the Spanish who started the fish frying thing and the Belgians who invented chips so you can’t have those anymore. And don’t even mention French fries.

Who will be the first supermarket chain to join in by removing everything foreign from the shelves? Will paté be banned, and what about mayonnaise? It’s French so time to get really Brexit and stock up on salad cream.

These really are weird times, so there is only one thing to do and that’s think the unthinkable. Yes, folks, it’s time for East Finchley to declare independence from Westminster and demand the right to have a French market and to remain in the EU. Failing that, maybe we should be grateful we don’t have our own Wetherspoon’s to avoid.

## New Local Cafe Restaurant



Bring this voucher and receive 10% off with any purchase.

Come and try from our wide range, delicious menu.

All our food is freshly prepared by our experiences chefs with fresh ingredients from scratch.

Our menu includes...

- Tasty Grills
- Grilled Kebabs
- Chicken Dishes
- Fresh Fish
- Vegetarian Dishes
- Jacket Potatoes
- Pasta & Pies
- Omelettes
- Salads
- Hot & Cold Starters
- Breakfast (served from 6am)

Do not miss out on our special offer:

Order one of tasty freshly prepared grill and get a free glass of wine. Offer ends on 31 July 2018.

For bookings please call 0208 444 1332. We are located at 42 High Road, East Finchley, London N2 9PJ.



## Holy Trinity Church

Church Lane, East Finchley

Church of England

We’re a warm and friendly congregation who look forward to welcoming you

Sunday Parish Communion at 10.00 am

Children’s Sunday Club ♦ Meet over coffee after church

Fr. Marius Mirt is happy to answer any enquiries:

email: marius.mirt@htef.org.uk

tel: 020 3565 4430

www.holytrinityeastfinchley.org.uk