



Above: The Holy Trinity School building among fields in 1850. Below: As it is now on East End Road.



Demolition leaves original Holy Trinity School still standing

By Diana Cormack

During the ongoing redevelopment of the former Bobath Centre on East End Road, N2, and the demolition of some of the frontage, passers-by were concerned about the fate of the old Holy Trinity School building that makes up much of the site.

However, consent had been given to demolish only the parts of the complex built later than the original school buildings designed by local architect and designer Anthony Salvin.

Pioneer school

Opened in East End Road in 1847, Holy Trinity School was the first industrial school in England and was funded by the National Society and donations of money and land from the Bishop of London and local gentry.

The building was divided into infants, girls and boys schools (their entrance signs are still visible from the road) with cottages for the Master and Mistresses. It had a mill,

garden plots, a well and an area for looking after hens, pigs and rabbits.

'Weekly pence'

Industrial training was based on instructions set out in The Finchley Manuals (well worth an online search). The objectives of duty, discipline and cleanliness prepared children for service. Pupils also attended class lessons; 'weekly pence' was paid by parents to combat truancy, but absences were frequent for local fairs, haymaking and strawberry picking in fields nearby.

As the first wealthy subscribers left the area they were replaced by tradesmen and clerks who favoured a more

conventional education for their children. The older pupils were by now mainly concentrating on annual exams. The school received an extra payment for each successful result.

Moving on

By the turn of the century there had been many changes. Extra classrooms were built to accommodate growing numbers. The classes were mixed and the infant lessons were less formal, with 'maternal chastisement' the only punishment to be administered to the younger children.

The school log book tells of life during the war years. Inspection of gas masks, evacuation of school groups and long periods spent in air raid shelters are recorded. Happier events such as the annual Empire Day song and dance displays and centenary celebrations are fondly recalled by ex-pupils.

The school moved 250m to its present-day Eagans Close site in 1974 where it was opened by Finchley MP Margaret Thatcher.

With thanks to Cherrell Avery, taken from her 1997 documentary produced to celebrate the school's 150th anniversary.

Drivers of worst polluting vehicles must cough up

By David Melsome

Owners of the worst-polluting vehicles won't be able to drive them around East Finchley in two years' time without paying a daily charge of at least £12.50 as the capital's new Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) expands all the way out to the North Circular.

There was a flurry of publicity last month when the ULEZ was introduced to the area of central London already covered by the congestion charge. Motorists most likely to have to pay the charge are those with petrol vehicles registered before 2005 and diesel vehicles registered before 2015. From October 2021, the daily charge currently standing at £12.50 will apply to anyone who uses such vehicles anywhere within the area between the North and South Circular roads. That, of course, means all of N2. By today's count, around 2.5 million drivers across the capital would be eligible to pay. The ULEZ charge applies 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and there is a fine of up to £160 for failing to pay.

While many welcome this attempt to clean up London's air quality, there are concerns that those least able to afford a new vehicle will be most heavily penalised. Glen Gray, who recently retired from running a garage right next to the underpass of the North Circular in Long Lane, N2, said small businesses would be hit hard. "There are a lot of small companies and one-man-bands who drive diesel vans and they're going to find it very hard to afford a new vehicle, particularly as their current one will have hardly any re-sale value," he said.

You can check immediately if your vehicle is liable to the ULEZ charge by going to tfl.gov.uk and searching for 'ULEZ vehicle checker'.

East Finchley's claim on England captain

By Diana Cormack

England is hosting the Cricket World Cup at the end of this month, with Eoin Morgan expected to be the country's captain and hopefully lead his squad to victory.

A couple of unknowns there, but one thing for sure and not particularly well known is that Eoin used to live in East Finchley. Not only that, he lived in a house owned by a member of *The Archer* team!



Although he was born in Ireland in 1986 and played for them at international level, from the age of 16 he used to come over to train at The Middlesex Academy in East End Road, N2.

For the following five years whenever he was in London he lodged at a house in nearby Hamilton Road, opposite Bishop Douglass School. It was owned by the late Pam Kent, *Archer* proof reader and stalwart supporter, who every month sorted nearly 10,000 papers into rounds for distribution.

Eoin made the full-time move to England in 2009 to gain greater scope in the cricketing world and the rest is history.



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