



Heavy pecking: the late Bob Welch & his bird

1995

February

For reasons lost in the mists of time we move our anniversary to February and wish ourselves a happy birthday.



February 1995

March/April

We beg for money to help us keep going, the Clissold Arms reopens, complete with Kinks Corner.

May

Main feature is 50th anniversary of VE Day, full of memories and photos. Gwen Conacher contributes some ration book recipes. Elsewhere McDonalds' plans to open a "restaurant" are announced.

June

Locals protest at McDonalds' plans and "Bertie the Bollard" gets bashed again.

July

Desecration of graves in the cemetery makes the front page.

August

Tourism spoof gives ten reasons to holiday in sunny East Finchley.

September

Archer stalwarts John Dacam and Kevin Finn take over the catering at Welch's. "Fat & Finn" offer "Sino-Franglais" cuisine - don't ask!

November

David Tupman writes the definitive article on "Archie", Eric Aumonier's statue at East Finchley station.

December

Welch's bar manager Mark Penfold's tragic death is reported and THE ARCHER pleads for money (again).

1996

February

THE ARCHER becomes the first community newspaper to have its own web site (the address was longer than the content). Shopkeeper and former ARCHER volunteer, Noel Lynch - famously misquoted in a national tabloid ("Baby For Sale") - puts paid to rumours of grave robbing in East Finchley!

March

McDonalds abandon restaurant plans.

April

Finchley lido complex opens to complaints and it is revealed that the Aga Khan Foundation is financing an Islamic community centre on the old church site in East End Road.

July

THE ARCHER welcomes Sue Holliday, Diana Cormack, Daphne Chamberlain and Toni Morgan to its ranks.

August

Arnold Schwarzenegger visits the Warner Brothers Cinema complex and we feature East Finchley's pubs.



October 1996

October

Stephen Tompkinson, Bill Owen and Neil Morrissey are amongst the stars who unveil a plaque celebrating the Phoenix's role in the history of cinema in Britain.



February 1996: Two firsts for The Archer - a new website and a national exclusive. Plus THAT picture of mayor Suzette Palmer.

November

East Finchley Traders Association launched, cuts in fire service.

1997

January

Arguments rage over plans to stop Baronsmere Road being used as a rat run. We profile local poet Alan Smith.

February

There's controversy at Bishop Douglass over the showing of "Trainspotting" to students, Barnet Health Authority launches its "war on drugs", and we run a health and fitness feature.

March

£1.4 million grant for Strawberry Vale announced, the Baronsmere Road debate continues and Sonia Singham retires as head of Holy Trinity.

April

College Farm saved from developers, North London Hospice Walk raises £30,000.

May

Labour's Rudi Vis beats John Marshall to become our new MP. Diana Cormack interviews anti-apartheid activist and former cell mate of Nelson Mandela's, Denis Goldberg.

June

Festival preview. By now Sue Holliday has transformed our finances from dubious to viable.

July

Festival report: A case of I came, I saw, I got soaked. McLibel verdict announced and a profile of former GLH Car Hire owner Cyril Wilds.

August

Holy Trinity School celebrates its 150th birthday, Rudi Vis writes about life as an MP.

September

Environment special, the war on pigeons continues.

October

The George in Market Place threatened with closure.

November

New tube trains sighted. In the aftermath of Princess Diana's death, we profile local funeral directors, Leverton and Sons, the official undertakers to the Royal Family.

December

Row over plans for the Cherry Tree Wood pavilion. Lawrie Chivers and other members of the traders association organise Xmas lights on the High Road.



November 1996 and East Finchley Traders Association is launched. L-R: Roger & Lawrie Chivers and the late Sofo Sofocli of A1 Motor Stores. Photo by Erini Rodis

Open House for Archer Party

THE ARCHER is celebrating its tenth birthday this month, and is marking the occasion with a community party. Invitations are going out to all contributors, deliverers and advertisers for the party, which will be held at Maddens Ale House, 130 High Road, at 7:30pm on Saturday 1 March 2003.



Angie, The Archer's favourite barmaid. Photo by John Dearing

This party is a community event, to which any reader, past or present will be welcome. Live music, a small buffet, and lots of community spirit should make for a wonderful evening. If you have no other social engagements on the 1st, please do come along - we would all love to meet you, and hear your opinions of our newspaper.

1998

January

Pupils at Bishop Douglass suspended over drug abuse, East Finchley Village signs announced.

April

Turpin's Oak to be re-erected.

May

Change in the catchment area for Fortismere School looks likely to exclude East Finchley children, face-lift for Strawberry Vale announced, feature on Cherry Tree Wood and the future of the pavilion.

June

Rachel Abedi starts campaign for pedestrian crossing on Fortis Green; we profile the organisers of the festival.

July

The controlled parking zone (CPZ) returns to the front page, the crossing campaign continues. After five years Paul Savill "retires" as editor, David Hobbs takes over.

August

Park Lodge demolished, traders propose alternative to CPZ. We pay tribute to longstanding ARCHER team member, Gwen Conacher, who dies after a long illness.

September

Neurological Hospital closure announced.

October

Haringey performs a neat U-turn on Fortismere School, Ofsted praise Martins Junior.

November

Plans for the Eruv approved, consultation promised over Cherry Tree Wood. We remember the Great War on the 80th anniversary of the Armistice.

December

Murder of Carol Parsonage at her home in Durham Road, closure of Territorial Army base announced.



September 1997. As always traffic and the environment dominate the issue