

Lynch House History



Mixed Infants' Class, early 1920s



*The new school building on Drury Lane, opened in 1908.
(In 1701, the first school building was situated in Green Ground, Portugal Street / St Clement's Lane. Subsequent school sites included Milford Lane, Houghton Street and Stanhope Street.)*



The present school building, as extended in 1928.

Mrs Mabel Lynch was a teacher at the school in the early 1920s. She was headmistress during the Second World War.

Mrs Mabel Lynch arrived as a teacher in the early 1920s and became Headmistress of the Infants' School when the school was three different schools – boys', girls' and infants' departments (hence the different doorways). Mrs Lynch made great improvements to the education of the youngest children.

In 1926 the three schools merged and Mrs Lynch was promoted to become the first Head of the united school. A section school building was extended towards the pavement in 1928 (our present-day Year 4, Year 5 and Nursery classrooms). Mrs Lynch ran the school through the problems of the 1930s and then during the Second World War. When many of London's school children were evacuated, Mrs Lynch ran an emergency wartime school in our present school buildings.

Pennington House History



Revd Septimus Pennington and his daughter, Louie



St. Clement Danes, early 1900.



The first annual Oranges and Lemons service, 1920.

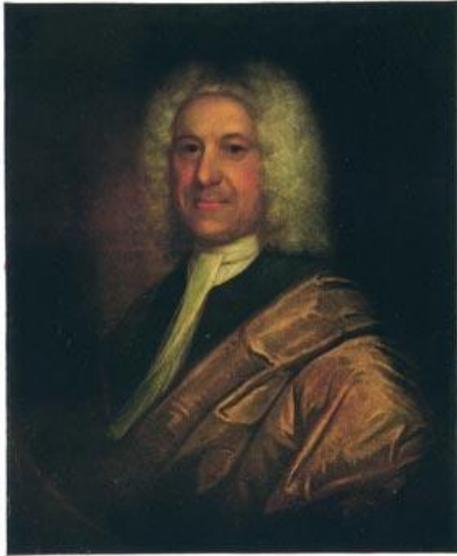


School children are given oranges and lemons. Revd. Pennington-Bickford is in the centre of the back row.

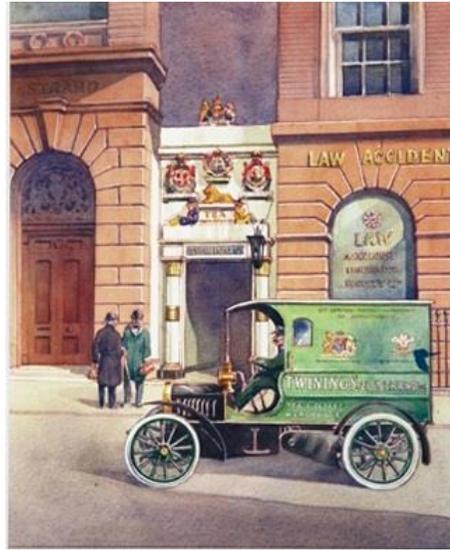
The Pennington vicars and their families of did a lot of work for our school and for the parish of St Clement Danes.

The Reverend Septimus Pennington was rector of St Clement Danes 1889-1910 and was a Manager (Governor) of the school. He was rector when the present school building was opened. His son in law, the Reverend William Pennington-Bickford was rector from 1910-1941 and was Chairman of the Managers (Governors). Reverend William's wife, Louie Pennington-Bickford, was also a Manager. All three did a vast amount of work for the school and the children of the Drury Lane area.

Twining House History



Thomas Twining



'Tom's Coffee House' has been selling Twining's tea on the Strand since 1706!



Samuel Harvey Twining was the school's Treasurer from 1855 until 1900.

The Twining family have supported our school for over 300 years!

The Twining family have sold tea in the Strand since 1706 and are the longest continual ratepayers in the City of Westminster. The founder of the business, Thomas Twining, first became a subscriber to the school in 1710 and every generation subsequently have served either as Governors or on the Foundation which owns the school. Samuel Harvey Twining virtually ran the school from 1850 until 1900. The latest Samuel Twining was Chairman of the Foundation until 2008.

Exeter House History



Sir William Cecil,
The Lord Burghley, chief advisor of
Queen Elizabeth I



Sir Robert Cecil served both
Queen Elizabeth I and King James I



Sir Thomas Cecil, 1st Earl of Exeter



The Lyceum Theatre



David Cecil, 6th Marquess of Exeter,
was an Olympic gold medalist

The Cecil family, who have held the title of Marquess of Exeter for nearly 400 years, were very important in this area.

The link was established by Sir William Cecil, who was the chief advisor of Queen Elizabeth I for most of her reign. Sir William's son was Sir Robert Cecil, who became Leading Minister after the death of his father and was believed to be the principal discoverer of Guy Fawkes' Gunpowder Plot. Sir Robert's son, William, was baptised in St Clement Danes Church. Sir Robert's half brother, Sir Thomas Cecil, was the first Earl of Exeter. The Cecil family owned a large house and estate in the Strand where the Lyceum theatre now stands. The Cecil family still own the right of presenting the rectors of St Mary le Strand with St Clement Danes. The 1928 extension at the school was opened by the 5th Marchioness of Exeter. Her son, David Cecil, the 6th Marquess of Exeter, won the gold medal in the 400m hurdles at the 1928 Olympics!