

Headmaster's house is marked on history map

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AN IMPORTANT landmark in Gorleston's educational history was remembered this week with the unveiling of a commemorative blue plaque.

The East Anglian School for Deaf and Blind Children taught youngsters for more than 70 years and on Monday, local history fans revealed the remembrance marker on the site of the school's headmaster's house.

The hanging of the plaque was organised by Great Yarmouth Local History and Archaeological Society and revealed to the gathered crowd by one of the group's members Maurice Joel, who is compiling a book on the history of the school.

He said: "What really made the school was the dedication and professionalism of the staff. You had to give yourself to the school to make it work. Before the war the house mothers had one afternoon off a month."

The school opened in May 1912 after 17 acres of land was gifted to the Great Yarmouth borough. Authorities from across the region, including Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire,



PLAQUE: Maurice Joel unveils the plaque marking the spot of the headmaster's house at the East Anglian School for Deaf and Blind children.

Picture: SUPPLIED

clubbed together to establish the school, which took pupils from across East Anglia.

Through its 73 year history it was led by six headmasters who lived in a house at the front of the school site.

The house suffered severe damage

during the second world war when it was bombed in 1941, but was rebuilt and habitable again by 1945.

The school continued to teach until July 1985 when it was closed down. Its buildings remained empty for some time and were targeted by vandals,

before the site was cleared to make way for a swathe of new homes.

Reminders of the school's legacy remain, however through East Anglian Way - the road serving the homes - the sound of children from the playground of St Mary's Primary

InBrief

All aboard for cheap tickets

RAIL passengers looking to bag a festive bargain can snap up a ticket to the capital for £5 one way through a special festive offer.

Greater Anglia is offering customers the chance to travel cheaply from Great Yarmouth to London, with a change at Norwich, for travel between January 2 and February 28.

Andrew Goodrum, customer service director, said: "We're delighted to offer these cut price tickets which will help passengers to banish the post Christmas blues with a bargain day out for shopping or leisure."

The tickets are available now but must be booked in advance before January 1. Visit www.greateranglia.co.uk or call 0845 600 7245.

Stamp appeal

RESIDENTS are being urged to cut out and keep the used stamps from their Christmas cards this festive season to help the RNIB. The national sight charity receives £4.50 per kilogram of British stamps and £12.50 for foreign ones. Stamps should be sent to RNIB, PO Box 6198, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 9XT. For more information call 0845 345 0054.

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