



# Summary Annual Report & Accounts for 2021

## 1 Review of the Year and Future Developments

It has been a challenging year due to the changing Covid restrictions. We have lost some income through being unable to let Jubilee Hall to other organisations for meetings. (This was offset in 2020 by our Treasurer, Tony Foster, successfully applying for government grant funding to help small businesses like TES. In the first half of the year Covid restrictions prevented us from holding our programme of talks in Jubilee Hall. However, we arranged a few talks by “Zoom”, before resuming meetings in the Hall during the second part of the year. The Covid restrictions also limited our guided walks, earlier on in the year, but a series of “Self-Guided Walks” by Stuart Mills, leader of our Footpaths and Open Spaces Group, have appeared in our quarterly newsletter. These have proved extremely popular.

During 2021 we saw Bill Wilson, Janet McQueen and Anne Osborne leave the Management Committee. We would like to thank them all for their valuable contributions throughout their terms of office. Bill continues to attend meetings of our Finance Committee, and Janet continues to serve the Society in many ways, including managing Jubilee Hall. In October 2021 the Management Committee nominated Janet to be a Vice-President of the Society, subject to confirmation by the Annual General Meeting in 2022. We are pleased that John Cole and Alison Yates agreed to be co-opted onto the Management Committee, both having been TES members for some time.

Membership has continued at around the 1,800 mark. Our newsletter, Enfield Society News, continues to be sent to all of our members four times a year. We additionally send out monthly E-news to members who have supplied us with an email address. We have continued to work closely with the Council, meeting Council officers regularly. We have also worked closely with Southgate District Civic Voice, Thames 21 and Enfield Climate Action Forum on various projects.

Looking ahead we are formulating our next steps with the deeply contentious Local Plan and the threat to our Green Belt. We will also be working with the Council on reviewing the Local List of Heritage Assets. Also we will be holding an internal Strategy Review on the Society’s forward plans. Other activities of the Society in 2021 are covered in the following reports.

## 2 Implementing our Objectives

### 2.1 Architecture and Planning Group

The Group aims to benefit the public by improving the quality of the borough’s built environment through monitoring and commenting on planning issues. During 2021 much of the work of the Group has been taken up with comments on the Enfield Draft Local Plan. The Society had serious reservations about some aspects of the Plan, particularly the proposals to develop on parts of the Green Belt and the way in which the proposed tall buildings strategy focused on all transport hubs across the Borough rather than prioritising certain areas. The Society submitted detailed comments on the Plan and is preparing for the next stages that will follow in 2022/23.

In addition we have continued our normal work of commenting on a significant number of larger planning applications and responding to planning concerns raised by our Members. This included the major development at Edmonton Town Centre and the TfL car park schemes at Arnos Grove and Cockfosters.

## **2.2 Cleaner Neighbourhoods Group**

The Group's litter-picking benefits the community by removing some of the rubbish which blights our streets and open spaces. Coronavirus restrictions inevitably had an effect on the Group's activities during 2021 with several events affected by the rule of six, that is to say that no more than six participants were permitted.

Nevertheless we were able to organise various litter-picking events, which took us to several parts of the Borough including Bury Lodge Wetlands in Edmonton, Bramley Road in Southgate, and World's End Lane in Winchmore Hill. Other notable events included a return visit to the Boundary Ditch footpath on the border between Ponders End and Edmonton when we were pleased to welcome the participation of local councillors including the Council Leader, Councillor Nesil Caliskan,

In October we helped to organise a joint event with Thames 21 and Enfield Council. This took place at Carrs Basin on the New River Loop alongside Enfield Town Park and saw some of our members putting on waders and getting into the river to clear duckweed as well as picking up litter.

In total during the year we collected approximately 150 bags of litter plus many other items of discarded rubbish. As well as helping to keep our environment clean and tidy our events have a beneficial social function. Members of the Group enjoy the camaraderie of our activities.

## **2.3 Conservation and Heritage Group**

Following the Council's decision to amalgamate a number of consultative groups involving conservation areas, the Green Belt and transport matters into a new Environment Forum, the Society thought it helpful to create a new Conservation and Heritage Group. This Group brings together those with an interest in historic buildings, the conservation area study groups and the Society's former Historic and Buildings at Risk Group. The Group was established during 2021 as the Covid restrictions lifted. Its objective is to achieve public benefit through the enhancement and conservation of buildings of architectural or historical interest.

The Group has been active in proposals to bring the Charity School in Edmonton back into use and supporting a National Lottery Heritage bid for refurbishment of the buildings. It has also raised concerns with Council Officers about a number of Listed Buildings, including the future of Southgate House and North Lodge, the impact of development proposals on the Holden designed Underground Stations at Arnos Grove and Cockfosters and the deterioration of Listed Buildings in the Fore Street Conservation Area. Plans were also put in place to work on updating the Local List of Heritage Assets during 2022.

## **2.4 Edmonton and Eastern Enfield Group**

The Group aims to pursue the Society's objectives in the east of the borough. With the lifting of Covid restrictions the Group was glad to be able to hold an autumn meeting at All Saints Church Edmonton. We are grateful to the new Vicar, The Reverend Roxane Liddell, for allowing us use of the Church Hall. The meeting was a joint one with The Edmonton Hundred Historical Society. We had an interesting illustrated talk, by Sam Bentley Toon, about the work of Thames 21 cleaning up the polluted tributaries of the River Lea. Other activities the Group have been involved with which benefit the community include litter picking and a vegetation cut back along the Boundary Stream. Group members staffed The Charity School for Open House Weekend and subsequently took part in a vegetation cut back (jungle!) of the garden there. We have been in regular contact with the Council about the long delay in connecting up the new footpath on the West Bank of the Lea Navigation at Ponders End with Mollison Avenue. The path runs behind the Beaver Town Brewery. Some progress has been made but a proper signed connection is still outstanding.

## **2.5 Enfield Chase and Gordon Hill Stations**

Groups of our members work together to enhance the environment of two local stations for the benefit of the travelling public.

### **2.5.1 Enfield Chase**

Our team of volunteer gardeners entered the station for the "Enfield in Bloom" competition under the "Public Building" category. The Team was pleased to receive a gold award for their colourful display of planting on

the station platforms. 2021 was the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Great Northern Railway (GNR) opening its Enfield Branch. The team celebrated the occasion by commissioning two mosaic murals in the station forecourt. The murals depict lost heritage buildings in the vicinity of the station - the former Enfield GNR Terminus and the old Smock Windmill that used to stand near the top of Windmill Hill. The murals were created by local artist Debbie Dean.

### **2.5.2 Gordon Hill**

In September the Society established a Friends of Gordon Hill Station group to brighten up the Station and reimagine the space. Much interest locally was stimulated by commissioning a mural in the station car park by the street artist Shaypress, taking inspiration from two artists, Norman Rockwell and Richard Estes. The Friends also invited The Edmonton Camera Club to hold an exhibition of photos of London in the waiting room on Platform 2. It has become a cosy, interesting and inviting place for the travelling public. In December the station was the venue for a film specially commissioned as part of the Enfield Council Winter Lights Festival, showing the sights and sounds of the station and the local area. Future plans include a mosaic to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Both stations now have a well-stocked book exchange and displays of art created by local children. Platform Poetry now adorns nearly all the Stations on the Hertford Loop.

## **2.6 Footpaths and Open Spaces Group**

The aim of the Group is to benefit the public by protecting and enhancing open spaces in the borough and by encouraging the appreciation of these spaces, and of the borough's historic environment, by organising walks. For the second year, the Society's walks programme was severely curtailed in 2021 due to the pandemic. We continued with an email-based pre-booked system of walks until early autumn, when a limited published programme of 11 walks re-commenced for the last four months of 2021: these attracted 205 participants.

Each newsletter contained a series of self-guided walks, including Cuffley and Northaw to Cockfosters; a multi-sectional circular walk from Forty Hall; and a short circular walk from Hadley Wood Station. These were designed to highlight the quality and varied attractiveness of Enfield's countryside, which was soon to come under the threat of being built over by Enfield Council's Draft Local Plan. As a contrast, there was also an urban walk from Enfield Town to Meridian Water which included interesting historical sites en-route. All proved popular with hundreds of downloads from the TES website.

Ironically, whilst seeking to build on large areas of our Green Belt, Enfield Council continued with the Enfield Chase re-forestation project of planting over 100,000 trees.

The section of the London Loop between Hadley Road and The Ridgeway has been diverted and upgraded to ultimately become a combined path/cycleway, with a new short section created linking with Rectory Farm Road. Wetland sites were also created beside this route and elsewhere, notably one in Albany Park.

Throughout 2021 we continued to press Enfield Council to have an effective footpath maintenance programme applying to rights of way and permissive paths in both the countryside and the urban landscape. Once again, the issue of a formal northern exit from Ramme Marsh continued throughout the year.

## **2.7 Historic Buildings**

The aim of the Group is to encourage greater understanding and appreciation of the borough's historic buildings, mainly through articles originally published in the newsletter but also generally available on the website. In 2021 the subjects covered were Lower Edmonton and the Green since 1914; 1930s Public Buildings in Southgate; Historic Buildings of Chase Side Enfield; and Zion Chapel and Chase Side Chapel, Enfield. There has also normally been a programme of talks and visits, but this did not happen in 2021 because of the Covid pandemic.

## **2.8 Records and Research**

The Records and Research Group restarted work on the TES Archives after lockdown restrictions were lifted. Thanks to the work of our volunteers, we have made good inroads into rationalising our book collection

and have just completed the logging of our large plan chest of assorted maps, posters and old exhibition panels. Some of the items we have uncovered include material from when we campaigned in the 1970s against development on the Green Belt. Now these archives are logged we can preserve them and use them to answer the enquiries we continue to get from members and the public alike.

## 2.9 Trees

The Trees Group seeks to enhance the environment of the borough for the public benefit by supporting tree planting initiatives across the Borough and by protecting trees through monitoring tree maintenance and taking up any concerns with the Council. We try to ensure that trees with Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and those in Conservation Areas are not removed without consent. We also work closely with Enfield Council to ensure the replacement of trees which need to be removed due to age or decay. Once trees are planted, we aim to ensure that they are protected and will thereby benefit future generations.

The Group maintains the Society's tree nursery at Trentwood Side. Our main priority is to encourage the planting of native British species. This involves bringing on saplings and planting them out at sites that need new or replacement trees. We work closely with the Friends of Parks Groups and the Council to identify suitable sites. During 2021 we have moved trees to the Forty Hall estate and other sites. We have also started to diversify the number of species that we are cultivating. We have over 100 trees at Trentwood Side. We are grateful to our many members who have donated saplings allowing us to replace trees that are moved on. The Group has regular allotment working party meetings to maintain the tree nursery and plan new initiatives. We are grateful for the support that we receive from our helpers and those who have provided saplings.

## 2.10 Grants

The Society makes grants to outside bodies to assist with funding projects which further our objectives. Grants made in 2021 included payments to Cleanup UK, a national charity which provides support for our litter-picking operations, and to the Girls' Sunday School Foundation, owner of the historic Charity School in Edmonton, to fund insurance and to assist it in resolving legal issues in relation to its title to the property.

## 2.11 Membership & Publicity Group

### 2.11.1 Membership

Membership at 31st December 2021 stood as follows:

	Households	Members
Membership	1425	1850
New members joined in 2021	193	250

Membership fell slightly over the year of 2021. As of 31st December 2021 the total number of members was 1,850 (1,000 Individual and 850 Joint). We removed around 150 members from the list during the year as they had not renewed. Despite not being able to hold our regular programme of talks and walks we recruited 250 new members which helped cover some of those that were lost over the year. Nearly all new members used the web-site to join. There are still a significant number of renewals being completed by cheque. Our Membership Secretary, Anna Maria Foster, stepped down from her role at the end of the year and we were fortunate to quickly find Alec Tyler to pick up the reins at a busy time of the year. We wish to record our thanks to Anna Maria for her time as our Membership Secretary from March 2020.

### 2.11.2 Web-site and Social Media

Our web-site showed continued growth in 2021, as shown in the table below.

Year	Sessions	Users	Desktop	Tablet	Phone
2019	15553	11573	53.96%	13.05%	32.99%
2020	33241	26560	43.31%	9.09%	47.61%
2021	44956	34880	42.19%	7.62%	50.19%
Change, 2020–21	+35.2%	+31.3%			

Access from mobile phones continued to rise and reached 50% in the year.

The Society operates three Social Media feeds: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Followers of these are recorded below:

Year end	Facebook	Twitter	Instagram
2020	1600	200	1000
2021	2211	459	1192

### 2.11.3 Web-site Sales

Our online store continues to make a significant contribution to memberships and publication sales. Figures for 2021 are given in the table below:

Year	Sales	Orders	Products	Member-ship (single)	Member-ship (joint)	Publications sales	Publication orders
2020	£3130.34	348	488	131	88	£1892.84	269
2021	£6928.19	693	868	360	200	£1653.19	308
Change	+121%	+99%	+78%	+175%	+127%	-12%	+14%

### 2.11.4 Newsletter

Our Spring and Winter issues were 12 pages, with our Summer and Autumn issues both being 16 pages. All four issues of Enfield Society News were distributed by a mailing house, continuing a process established in 2020. We continue to monitor the costs of the newsletter printing and mailing and must report these have increased considerably in the year, primarily due to postage costs. Our Membership and Publicity Group, together with the Treasurer, have been assessing the overall costs of membership compared to membership subscription income.

### 2.11.5 Publications

As the year started with lock-down, sales to bookshops and other outlets did not resume until April when restrictions started to ease. There were no outside events until August and only one Society meeting, September's AGM. Royalties from the Publishers' Licensing Service for the use of our books by public libraries, universities and other academic institutions were down because the 2021 figure included back payment for royalties due over a number of years. The breakdown of publications income was as follows:

Source	Income 2021 (2020 figures in brackets)
Publishers' Licensing Services (Royalties)	£280 (£2016)
Online store	£1357 (£1045)
Sales through shop outlets (Waterstones etc.)	£675 (£408)
Member publication order form (Winter newsletter)	£259 (£400)
Sales from Jubilee Hall meeting and outside events	£265 (£98)

Online sales performed well with total sales of publications of over £1,300 from 116 orders, up from 129 orders (£1,045) in 2020. The biggest selling publication in 2021 was, once again, the Footpaths map, followed by Heritage Walk No. 5 (Clay Hill and Whitewebbs). Sales to retail outlets rose by over 50%, and receipts from outside events also increased, with added income from secondhand sales. Profit on sales was £1,374, compared with £1,090 in 2020. Sales via the publication order form (enclosed with the Autumn newsletter) have, however, declined.

### **2.11.6 Publicity events**

With the easing of Covid restrictions a number of events were held in the Borough and the Society attended five. Sales of publications and membership were low.

### **2.11.7 Evening Talks**

We were delighted to welcome Carole Todd as our new Evening Talks Programme Organiser, taking over from Stephen Gilbert who stepped down in early 2020. Due to uncertainties with Covid, the Membership and Publicity Group took the decision not to resume talks until January 2022.

## **2.12 Jubilee Hall**

We are very fortunate to have, in Jubilee Hall, a headquarters which is a heritage building in its own right. Under the management of Janet McQueen and Emma Halstead (who provides paid caretaking and cleaning services) the Hall provides a venue for the Society's activities while covering its running costs through lettings to external users.

## **2.13 Volunteers**

The Management Committee is very grateful for the continuing hard work and commitment of the many volunteers who sustain all aspects of the work of the Society.

*This Report and the accompanying abbreviated Financial Statement should be read in conjunction with the Society's full Statutory Report and Accounts for 2021.*

### 3 Abbreviated Financial Statement

#### The Enfield Society

#### Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating the Income & Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Un- Restricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and legacies				
Donations	7,677	-	7,677	67,063
Charitable activities				
Subscriptions and activities	6,314	-	6,314	9,887
Other trading activities				
Publications income	3,051	-	3,051	4,053
Investment Income				
Bank Interest	524	-	524	1,202
Rental income	4,229	-	4,229	3,544
Other Income				
Other income	-	-	-	10,000
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<b>Total</b>	21,795	-	21,795	95,749
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Raising funds				
Costs of Publications	1,440	-	1,440	1,278
Charitable activities	32,254	-	32,254	32,684
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<b>Total</b>	33,694	-	33,694	33,962
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<b>Net income/ (expenditure) and movement in funds</b>	(11,899)	-	(11,899)	61,787
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>				
Total funds brought forward	438,471	17,837	456,308	394,521
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<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	426,572	17,837	444,409	456,308
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A statement of total recognised gains and losses is not included in these accounts, as there are no recognised gains and losses other than the loss or surplus for the year.

The information in this document is extracted from the Society's full statutory report and financial statements. These are available on our website ([enfieldsociety.org.uk](http://enfieldsociety.org.uk)) and copies can be obtained by e-mailing the Secretary ([secretary@enfieldsociety.org.uk](mailto:secretary@enfieldsociety.org.uk)) or by writing to him at Jubilee Hall.