



The newsletter of The Enfield Society



'Best value' demands houses, not parks

The long saga of the temporary car park in Cecil Road continues. The original houses there were demolished as part of the proposed ring road and then subsequently around 1989 permission for sheltered flats was given. Nothing transpired and the land was laid out as an extension to the Town Park. So successful was this visually in bringing the park right up to the town centre that hopes were raised that this might become permanent open space. The EPS offered to provide trees for a new park entrance. But this was not to be. The site was proposed for the replacement Evangelical Free Church, displaced when the Thomas Hardy House car park was constructed – either there or over the rose garden site. Then came the news that 'best value' demanded residential accommodation on the site. The EPS suggested informally that if this had to be then perhaps it could take the form of a mews type terrace, sited at right angles to Cecil Road, so as to maintain the view into the park.

Plans were put forward for the church on the western end of the site, but discovery of a culvert brought it to the opposite end. We regret that the revised plans for the Evangelical Free Church, now sited there, are less successful than what was envisaged

at the western end. It seems that the size of the congregation now demands a bulky building that it is very difficult to fit into the available space. Five car parking spaces scarcely seem adequate and the disparate elements of the building to cover its many functions do not sit well together. A rectangular, curtain wall projection on the façade to Cecil Road to house meeting rooms is more reminiscent of an office block than a church.

The ES has a long standing offer of trees for the proposed formal entrance to the Town Park across the car park, but a plan we were shown recently indicates merely a narrow corridor between the church and a large residential block. We are now suggesting that a development brief should be produced for this important site, showing how the open aspect through to the park can be retained, and the same applies to the two other vacant sites around the Town Centre in Palace Gardens and Silver Street. It would be very nice if, after all these years with a hoarding along the front, the design of the Silver Street frontage could reflect the vernacular buildings that were demolished in the 1960s, much as the block above Bathstore, further up the street, reflected its predecessors.

Chris Jephcott

Situations Vacant

Company Secretary

We are still looking for a volunteer to act as Company Secretary to the Society as a limited company and as Secretary to the Trustees of the Society as a registered charity. This might give the impression of requiring a lot of skill and time; this is not the case – common sense is the main requirement plus a commitment of no more than a couple of hours a week at most. Firm or vague responses please to Colin Pointer, 020 8366 2406.

Architecture and Planning Group

The Group would welcome new members to help, among other things, to monitor planning applications and to assist in responding to the more important or controversial applications with the considered views of the Society. Inquiries please to John Davies, 020 8363 7707.

Membership Secretary

We are now looking for someone to take over this interesting and responsible post from Pat Atkins who wishes to retire after 15 years looking after our members. Further details from Pat on 020 8886 3829.

Annual General Meeting

The 2008 AGM will be held at the Mount Carmel Centre in London Road on Wednesday 18th June starting at 7.30pm. Enclosed with this newsletter is the formal notice convening the AGM, the Management Committee Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2007.

After the break for refreshments our very good friend Frank Bayford will be giving another of his illustrated talks, this time *A Nostalgic Walk around Enfield, Part 2*.

Conservation and planning

New conservation areas

We have been keenly awaiting announcement of the decision on where any new conservation areas would be. Finally, we have learned from the Leader of the Council, Mike Rye, that these are to be in Grange Park N21, Meadway N14, Southgate Circus N14, The Crescent, Hertford Road N9, and an extension to the Winchmore Hill Green Conservation Area N21. No details of the proposed boundaries as yet, but this is a start.

Truro House

An alternative design for a smaller amount of enabling building in the grounds of Truro House in Green Lanes, which would enable the full restoration of the listed house, won the support of the Conservation Advisory Group, though it has yet to be put before English Heritage.

Palace Gardens café

The glass café between the back of Pearsons and M & S was turned down, so we are watching this space.

Planning

I referred in my column to the new Core Strategy Issues and Options Report and Area Action Plan documents, part of the Local Development Framework. Although wordy with much talk about “place shaping” etc., the documents seem to contain fewer specific policies than the Local Plan they will replace. Raising the issue of why the section on conservation and the built environment is so short in the Core Strategy, I was informed that there is little point in repeating the extensive government guidance which now covers such issues and I suppose there is some sense in this.

Regarding the North East Enfield Area Action Plan, I read with some cynicism its reference to one of the “Areas of Opportunity” that this could include improvements to the pedestrian environment along Hertford Road, making this a safer and more attractive place and presumably this would also apply to Ponders End High Street. A recent application, now approved, proposes replacing the closed post office

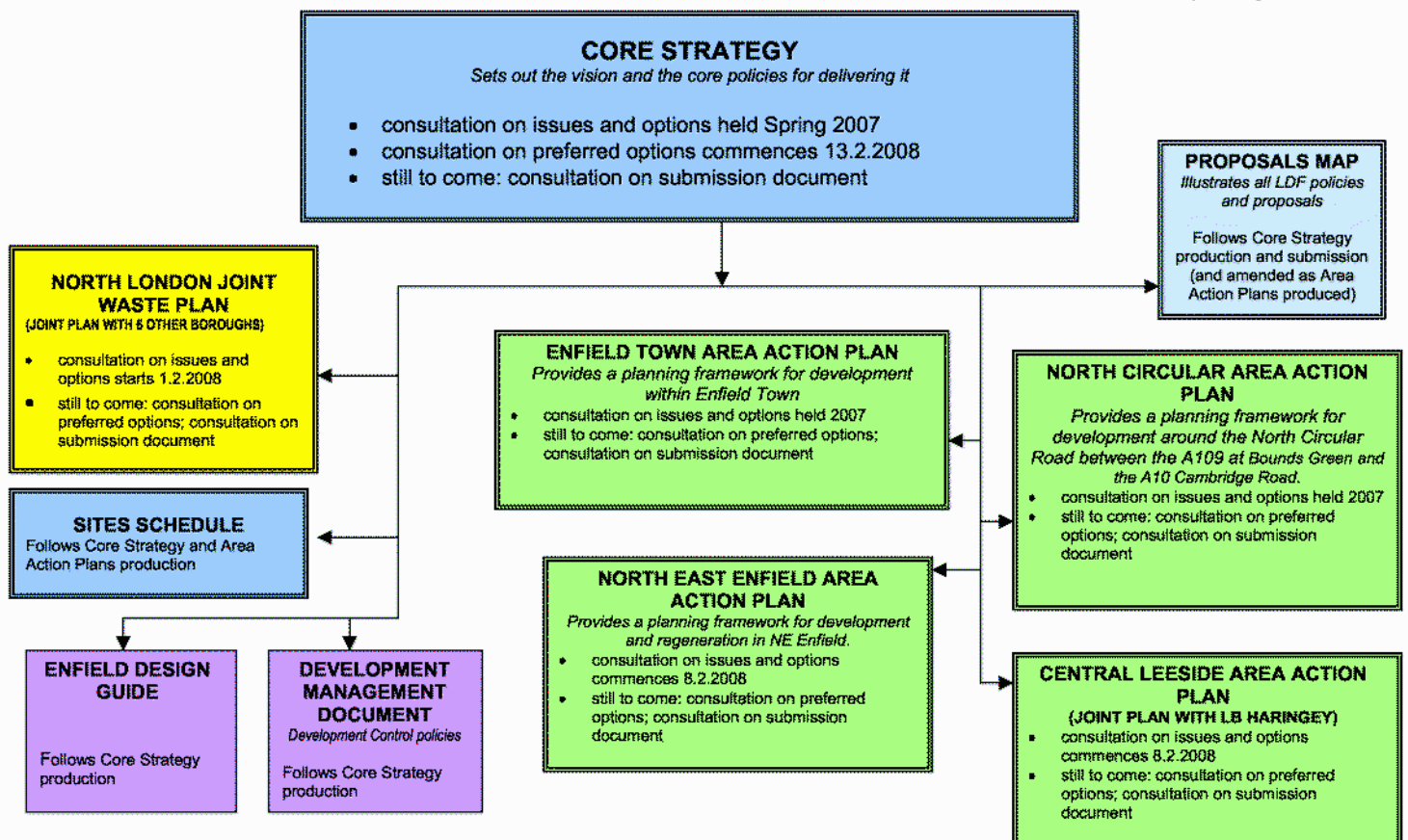
building there, which is set back with space for two trees surrounded by circular seats in front, with a development of flats above and retail below coming forward to the line of the other buildings along the frontage and so eliminating this little pedestrian amenity. We pointed this out in our objection, but to no avail.

Chris Jephcott



Enfield's Local Development Framework – Planning Documents Production position at 1st February 2008

Summary of LDF diagram - 12.2.2008



This diagram, from Enfield Council's web site, shows some of the various inter-related planning documents that fall under the umbrella title of a “**Local development framework**”. Further information is given at <http://www.enfield.gov.uk/856/index856.htm>, from where many of the documents can be downloaded.

Green Belt

Green Belt Forum

The first meeting of the reconstituted Green Belt Forum was held on 3rd April before an invited audience of those who had previously attended Forum meetings in its original format. We were told that the Council would welcome help to establish a strategy for our Green Belt after decades of poor management and a total lack of direction. The Society will certainly put forward suggestions; but with the hope that there will be no repeat of the grant of the 99 year lease of prime Green Belt land to Spurs, should an attractive price be offered for any further slices of this precious environmental commodity

Spurs

Formal planning consent was finally granted on 11th April 2008 for Spurs' proposed development at Bulls Cross. We understand that the long delay was due to lengthy discussions on the content of the Section 106 Agreement which involved Spurs, the Council and Lee Valley Regional Park Authority. We have not yet received satisfactory answers from the Council to a number of queries and reasonable demands made by our legal team. As we stated in the last newsletter it is our considered opinion that the decision of the Planning Committee to approve Spurs' application was unlawful. The final whistle has not yet been blown.

Colin Pointer

No more archery in Archers' Wood

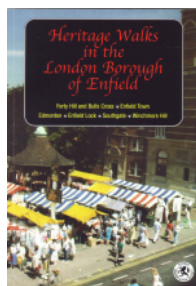
An unlooked for further consequence of the Spurs approval is that the Cloth of Gold Archery Club has had to give up its use of Archers Wood behind Forty Hall for its activities. Instead the Council has offered it the use of Little Beechhill Wood, south of The Ridgeway, subject to planning approval. Unfortunately this will mean the parking of cars at weekends, usually up to 30, but four times a year up to 100, on the small field next to Windrush on the Ridgeway and very close to the road. We are not happy at all about these visually intrusive parking arrangements in the Green Belt countryside and hope a less conspicuous site can be found.

Chris Jephcott



Heritage walks

This year we will be doing the remaining three walks from our publication *Heritage walks in the London Borough of Enfield*.



Thursday 5th June, 7pm

Enfield Town. Starting at the Market Place, the walk will follow the "Annual Walk" route, with guides telling you about all the interesting places and buildings in the conservation area. Visits to St. Andrew's Church and the Tudor Room will be included. The walk ends at Jubilee Hall, where refreshments will be available and the sales table will be open for any purchases to be made.

Sunday 3rd August, 2.30pm

Southgate. The walk commences at the underground station, following along the High Street and other streets in the area. Guides will cover all the interesting buildings and tell their history. It is hoped that visits to Christ Church and The Beaumont Home can be made. The walk finishes near Broomfield Park.

Saturday, 13th September, 2.30pm

Enfield Lock. Starting at the railway station, guides will take and tell you about all the noteworthy buildings in this interesting area. The walk will end at Government Row, near the 121 and 491 bus stop.

Tickets for all the walks are free but limited in number, and will be available from the libraries nearer the dates.

Sadie Isaksson

Public sculpture in Enfield

The Records and Research Group recently came across a collection of photographs and slides of public sculpture, given to us some years ago from the estate of Bob Errington. We have donated these pictures, none of which are of items in Enfield, to the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association (PMSA), based at the Courtauld Institute of Art. They are compiling a database of public sculpture throughout the UK, but they have not yet recorded any from our borough. We should like to fill this gap, and would welcome suggestions of items that should be included. The scope of the scheme is detailed on the PMSA web site at <http://www.pmsa.org.uk/>, and suggestions may be sent to records.research@enfieldsociety.org.uk.

Leonard Will

Diary dates

Sunday 15th June

Charity open day at Myddelton House Gardens hosted by Enfield Group of the London Wildlife Trust. 12 noon to 4pm. Admission £3.00, concessions £2.50. Enjoy a leisurely stroll in the gardens. Refreshments, plant sale, children's activities. For further details contact Marion Sellers on 020 8804 5909.

19th-22nd June

Lee Valley Festival. This four day festival includes a range of activities taking place on and around the River Lee, engaging North London's diverse community and business sectors. A Sport and Activity Day at the Lee Valley Athletics Centre on 22 June, includes a Festival of Cycling (see p.8). For more information call the Lee Valley Regional Park Information Service on 01992 702 200, email info@leevalleypark.org.uk.

Saturday 21st June, 1-5pm

Annual Festival of Life. Pymmes Park, Edmonton. A free family event to celebrate culture, health and the environment. Community stalls, free children and family activities, and performances. 020 8884 0594, email: yes.cepo@btconnect.com

Saturday 21st June

Visit to Wathamstow village. See p.4.

Sunday 29th June

Hilly Fields Bandstand concert. See p.8

Sunday 13th July

Hilly Fields Bandstand concert. See p.8

Sunday 27th July

Hilly Fields Bandstand concert. See p.8

6th-7th September

Autumn Show. Town Park

20th-21st September

Open House. London Annual Event. The Buildings Guide will be available from mid-August through www.openhouse.org.uk

Until 2nd November

The Shell Guides: surrealism, modernism, tourism an exhibition at the Museum of Domestic Design & Architecture, Middlesex University, Cat Hill, EN4 8HT. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10 am. to 5 pm., Sunday 2 to 5 pm. Admission free.

Civic environment

Tree pollarding programme now extended to lampposts



Members may have noticed around Enfield a number of lamp post stumps as shown in the photograph. Truncated, presumably because they were in a dangerous condition, they now await replacement. In the way of things, a new post must be installed, then the utility company must connect, then the old stump must be removed; this could be a protracted process. The example shown, at the time of writing, has been waiting for over a month. Please give us light!

Tony Langston

Library Green

Many of the problems in the Enfield Town area highlighted in recent issues remain. Further modifications have slightly further improved the design of the enlarged Central Library, but without addressing its overall weakness as a solution to grafting a modern building on to a very vigorous older design. These have now been approved, as presumably have the proposals for the Library Green, but we can still not understand, since the footprint of the building has not been enlarged, why it is "not possible" to keep at least one of the group of three trees which would break up the long façade to the Library Green.

Chris Jephcott

Historic buildings

New listed building



English Heritage has awarded Grade II status to 2 Queen Anne's Place, Bush Hill Park. It was built in 1905 as an estate office for the Bush Hill Park area and is now used as a day nursery.

Forty Hall

Enfield Council has now submitted its Stage 1 Application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Forty Hall and Estate Development Project. We hope that this will be successful and subsequently will lead to a major grant offer from the Lottery Fund as the Hall particularly is in dire need of a major injection of funds to help rescue it from years of neglect.

Trees group

The reactivated Trees Group has continued to meet regularly, now in the Scout Hut in Green Road, N14, thanks to member Keith Lawrence. We are making progress on our monitoring of tree work applications across the borough and gaining knowledge of the subject. It is encouraging that many more street trees are being planted this year and have already appeared on many of the sites where we thought trees could be planted with advantage without our having needed to request it.

The two trees to replace cherries donated by the Society 40 years ago in Lyndhurst Gardens, and which have died of old age, have now been ordered. Unfortunately we are still waiting after 8 weeks for the promised letter from Communal Services confirming our access to the allotment at Trentwoodside, earmarked for our Tree Nursery.

Next meeting Thursday 6th June, 7.15 pm at the Scout Hut. All welcome.

Chris Jephcott, Convener

Visit to Walthamstow Village

A visit has been planned to Walthamstow on Saturday 21st June starting at 1.30pm.

Mick Coe will be the guide for this walking tour which is predominantly on level ground and will last about three hours, although there will be several opportunities to leave the tour early.



The Chestnuts, Hoe Street, Walthamstow. A substantial mid 18th Century detached house, formerly the home of wealthy merchants. Birthplace of Charles Green, Captain of Essex Cricket Club 1883-88.

The route centres on the historic village of Walthamstow but includes some of the remaining eighteenth century houses within the former borough. The meeting point is the Selborne Road entrance to Walthamstow Central station. (Main line and Underground)

Enfield Society members wishing to come along should contact Mick promptly on 01707 875662, as the number participating on this tour is limited to 20.

Mick Coe



A fine fastigiate hornbeam in the Ridgeway shows its natural shape well as the first green leaves appear. Pity about the blue bin.

Publicity Group

The Publicity Group continues to be involved in a variety of activities including the Newsletter and other TES publications, event organization, walks, coach outings, TES AGM, the Enfield Autumn Show and more.

A key objective currently is assisting the Society to gain more members through increased publicity. Look out for the first of our monthly columns appearing in the *Enfield Advertiser* in the week commencing 28th April. Articles are also appearing monthly in *The Enfield Echo*, distributed to 8,000 homes in The Ridgeway, Oakwood and other western parts of the Borough, in *EN Magazine* and *The Loop*. A poster advertising TES will shortly be appearing in Enfield Town Post Office. The poster will also be displayed in Libraries and on other community notice boards. The main Library has also agreed to take remainders of each Newsletter and make these available to the public in the First Stop information room.

We gained some useful publicity through our sponsorship of the bi-annual Enfield Design Awards including a small stand and representatives at the award ceremony held at the Civic Centre on 24 January.

Bob Fowler

The President's column

The three months since the last newsletter have seen the publication of three large documents as part of the move by Enfield Council to produce its Local Development Framework. First of all is the new Core Strategy setting out the Preferred Options for the Enfield Plan. This follows the Issues and Options consultation document issued last year to which we made around 60 separate responses. Unfortunately it is difficult to detect their influence in the new Strategy. For instance, on designating Areas of Distinctive Quality (ADQ) in places which have a special character, but do not quite measure up to conservation area status, we are told there was no support for this. In fact, only one of the six responses was against the idea. We were strongly in favour. The process of setting up new conservation areas is slow and limited and would in any case leave many attractive streets vulnerable to change, such as building over gardens or replacing individual houses with blocks of flats. Once one house has gone, the precedent is set for wholesale change. ADQs should give some increased protection against this.

The other two bulky consultation documents concern

Area Action Plans covering the NE Enfield and Central Leaside districts. These do identify the many issues facing this part of the Borough. The only problem is that it is difficult to keep up with and respond to the numerous documents the Council is required to produce as the Local Development Framework to replace its Unitary Development Plan. Because it is getting out of date, Planning Inspectors now give less weight to this Plan when deciding planning appeals.

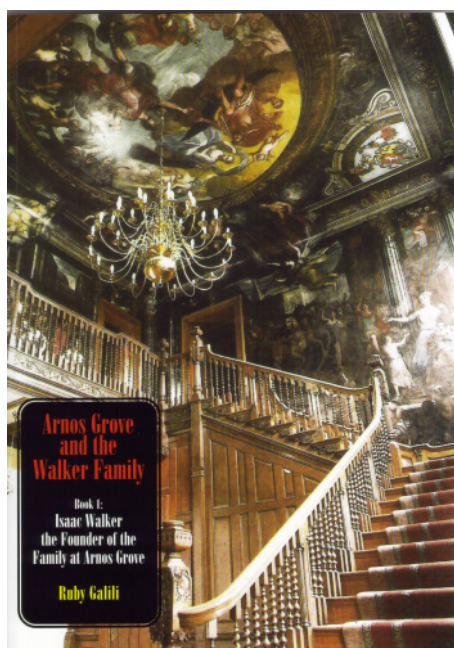
Some of the most effective jobs are those that attract little notice because they are performed quickly and efficiently without hitch. Just such has been that of Membership Secretary, involving much ongoing work with our large membership, which has been carried out by Pat Atkins over the past 15 years. Pat now feels it is time to relinquish this post and I should like to place on record our appreciation of all the hard effort she has put in over that time. We are very grateful.

Chris Jephcott



Sales table

New book



Arnos Grove and the Walker Family. Book 1: Isaac Walker the founder of the family at Arnos Grove / Ruby Galili. – London : Southgate District Civic Trust, 2008. – 72p. ; 30cm. – ISBN 978-00905494-09-8 : £9.95 (paperback).

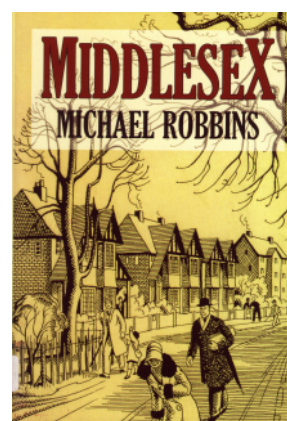
This recent addition to items on sale, *Arnos Grove and the Walker Family* by Ruby Galili, covers the life and work of Isaac Walker, the founder of the family. He was a Quaker cloth merchant who bought the house, Arnos Grove, on Cannon Hill, Southgate, with its 250 acres of parkland, where his descendants were to live for 150 years. The building is now the Beaumont Care Home. It is Grade II* and it is hoped that members joining the guided walk of Southgate in August will be able to view the exceptional painted hall. The Walkers were philanthropic landowners who made considerable charitable gifts to the people of Southgate and were heavily involved in local enterprises. Despite being Quakers Isaac and his family lived as members of the gentry and the probable source of their wealth is surprising. This book is intended to be the first of three to relate the story of this remarkable family.

Copies of David Pam's latest booklet (see review by Peter Perryman on page 7) *Enfield Town – village green to shopping precinct* are also now on sale at £4 (add 50p for p&p).

Monica Smith

Special offer

The few remaining copies in stock of *Middlesex* by Michael Robbins are now on sale to members at £12. David Pam wrote of this book, a revised edition of the local history of the county "at £17.99 [the original price] the book is a bargain, 420 pages, 74 illustrations and with maps and diagrams it is still the best single volume on the county and immensely useful". Copies can be purchased from the Enfield Society Sales Table. Please add £2 towards postage and packing if you would like a copy sent to you by post.



Future walks

Note: Train details are correct at press date but The Enfield Society cannot accept responsibility for last minute changes.

Enquiries: for National Rail train enquiries and times ring 08457 48 49 50; for TFL London area tube, DLR, London Overground and bus details, ring 020 7222 1234.

Reduced price train travel: GroupSave Cheap Day Return tickets allow 3 or 4 adults to travel together for the price of 2 adults on First Capital Connect, London Midland, Chiltern or National Express East Anglia. Even for travel to the start of linear walks, GroupSave Day Return tickets are normally cheaper than buying a standard price single but you must travel as a group, not separately.

Please wear walking boots or stout walking shoes – trainers are not usually suitable, even for London parks.



Sat 17 May

Meet **10.30am** High Street, Standon Village (follow A10 for 6 miles north of Ware then east for 1 mile on A120 and High Street is on the right leading to parish church). About 8.5 mile circular walk in the unspoilt countryside of the **Upper Rib and Ash Valleys**. Lunch stop in pretty **Much Hadham**. Bring lunch or pub food available. *Leader:* Stuart Mills

Wed 21 May

Meet **10.15am** at The Arkley PH, Barnet (307 bus terminus) for about 2.75 to 3 hour walk via **Dollis Valley, Totteridge Fields nature reserve and Moat Mount** ending at Barnet Gate for 107 bus return to start (or 20 mins walk). Option for lunch at The Gate PH before return. *Leader:* Ken Cooper

Bank Holiday Mon 26 May

Epping Forest. Meet **10.38am** Theydon Bois Station (Central Line trains 10 mins frequency & taking 31 mins from Liverpool Street Station) for 9 to 10 mile circular walk in Epping Forest via **Debden Green, High Beach & Ambresbury Banks**. Bring lunch or food available. Details: 020 8364 0300. *Leader:* Colin Adams

Sat 31 May

Meet **2.33pm** at Botany Bay (313 bus stop outside Robin Hood P.H.) for about 4 mile linear walk through **Enfield's countryside** via field paths, **Whitewebbs and Hillyfields**, ending near Enfield Town. *Leader:* Ken Cooper

Wed 4 June

Meet **10.30am** Cheshunt Station (10.16am train from Southbury Station) for 2.5 hour circular walk in **Lea Valley Park** with coffee break at Park Farm. Bring binoculars for bird viewing en-route. *Leader:* Brenda Brown

Sat 14 June

Ashridge Estate. Meet **10.30am** Berkhamsted Station (9.54am train from Euston) for 9 to 10 mile circular walk via **Berkhamsted and Ashridge Commons**. Lunch stop in Little Gaddesden. Possible shorter option of 5 miles (returning to either start or Hemel Hempstead by bus from lunch stop). Bring lunch or pub food available. By car about 45 mins from Enfield via M25 (junction 20) & A41. Details: 020 8364 0300. *Leader:* Colin Adams

Mon 23 June

Epping Forest. Meet 10.50am Chingford Station (10.20am 313 bus from Enfield Town) for a 7 mile circular walk in the Forest visiting some interesting geological features. Lunch stop at **High Beach**. Bring lunch or pub/cafe food. *Leader:* Norman Coles

Sat 28 June

Benington Floral Festival Weekend. Meet **10.25am** Watton-at-Stone Station (9.49am train from Enfield Chase) for 8 mile circular walk with lunch stop in Benington allowing ample time to view **open gardens and floral display in church**. Bring lunch or teas/pub food available. Possible 4 mile option (travel by bus from Benington to either Hertford or Stevenage for return to Enfield or Watton). *Leader:* Stuart Mills

Wed 2 July

Three Villages. Meet **10.54am** Bayford Station (10.41am train from Enfield Chase) or 11.00am in Bayford Village (please park considerately) for 6.5 to 7 mile circular walk with lunch stop in **Essendon**. Bring lunch or pub food available. *Leaders:* Carol Cope & Kinu Ohki

Sat 12 July

Heaths, Woods & Villages. Meet **11.05am** Sandy Station (10.27am direct train from Finsbury Park or 10.21am from Potters Bar, change Stevenage at 10.46am) for 9 mile circular walk via **Everton, Pottton and Sandy Lodge (RSPB)**. Bring lunch or food probably available. By car via A1. Details: 020 8360 0282. *Leader:* Roy Nicholls

Wed 16 July

Evening Walk. Meet **7.30pm** St Luke's Church (corner of Browning Road/Phipps Hatch Lane, Enfield) for 2 hour circular walk through part of Enfield's country parkland. *Leader:* Brian Frear

Sat 26 July

London Loop. Meet **10.30am** Chingford Station (9.56am 313 bus from Enfield Town) for 9 mile linear walk ending at The Ridgeway (opposite Oak Avenue), Enfield. Many shorter options including ending at Enfield Lock (3.5 miles), Hertford Road (4.5 miles), A10 (5 miles), Forty Hall area (about 6 miles) and Hilly Fields area (about 7 miles). Lunch stop at Enfield Lock (pub/café food available). For option of only afternoon walk meet group at lunch stop by about 1.00pm. Details: 020 8366 2242 or 07948 204025. *Leader:* Dave Cockle

Wed 30 July

Regent's Canal (Part 1). Meet **10.30am** Warwick Avenue Station (Bakerloo Line) for 2.5 hour linear walk following this interesting waterway and ending at The Angel Station (Northern Line), Islington. *Leader:* Monica Smith

Sat 2 Aug

North Mymms Estate. Meet 2.30pm South Mimms village (White Hart P.H.) for 3 to 3.5 hour circular walk through a mix of woodland, estate parkland and arable fields. By bus: 313, 298 or 84 to Potters Bar Station then 84 or 298. *Leader:* Stuart Mills

Wed 13 Aug

Meet **10.15am** outside Sainsbury's in New Barnet (307 bus from Enfield) for about 2.5 hour linear walk via **Hadley Woods, Monken Hadley and Hadley Green** ending at High Barnet. *Leader:* Ken Cooper

Sat 16 Aug

Herts/Essex Border. Meet **11.17am** Harlow Mill Station (10.16am train from Southbury Station, change Cheshunt for 10.54am train). About 7 mile circular walk via **High Wych, Sawbridgeworth, Pishiobury Park and River Stort**. Shorter option of 4.5 miles. Bring lunch or food available. By car, suggest A10, then A414 into edge of Harlow and follow A414 past Harlow Town Station for about 1.25 miles. *Leader:* Norman Coles

Bank Holiday Mon 25 Aug

Tewin. Meet **10.37am** Hertford North Station (10.19am train from Enfield Chase) for 8 to 9 mile circular walk in an attractive part of mid-Herts. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader:* Brian Frear

Sat 30 Aug

Lea & Ash Valleys. Meet 2.21pm St Margaret's Station (1.46pm train from Southbury Station change Cheshunt for 2.10pm train) for 5.5 mile circular walk via Amwell and the scenic Easneye Estate. *Leader:* Christine Fookes

Stuart Mills

Jubilee Hall meetings

Tuesday mornings 10 for 10.30 am

27 May

Villages of East London by Peter Lawrence (with slides)

24 June

Gershwin – The Man and his Music by John and Ruth Hill (with slides)

29 July

Robert Peel to P.C. Neal by John Neal (with slides)

August

No meeting

30 September

The Ring of Fire – the soft side by Anne Johnson (with slides)

Thursday evenings 7.30 for 8 pm

15th May

Wildlife rescue by Barry Smitherman (<http://www.zednet.co.uk/wras/index.html>)

17th July

“A bit of this and a bit of that” – poetry and stuff by Christine Williams

18th September

Gardens and travel by Bill Bossom, with slides

16th October

Sharks of the UK by Stuart Nicholls

20th November

Bees and honey by Pete Burling

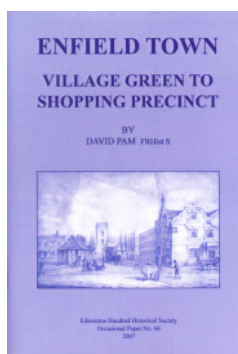
New members

We warmly welcome the following new members:

Miss M. Barker, Ms J-A. Brown, Mr C. Davies, Mr A. Dierckx, Mr R. Hart, Mrs R. Judd, Mr & Mrs A. Kumar, Mrs T. Lefley, Mr & Mrs J. McAndrew, Mrs C. Oakland, Mrs A. Petrie, Mrs M. Rocca, Mr D. Rumney, Mrs H. Ryan, Mrs J. Vickers, Mr A. Vokins, Ms J. Ward, Ms M. Wong, Mrs H. Yiu.

Pat Atkins

Book review



Enfield Town: village green to shopping precinct. (EHHS, 2007, 36 pages, ISBN 978-0-902922-66-2, £4).

David Pam's latest publication shows how justified the Royal Historical Society was in granting the author Fellowship of the Society. This volume traces the development from 1267 when the name Enfield first appeared to the present day. The story starts when the Green, an area where London Road, Silver Street and the Market Place converge, was the scene of a murder committed in broad daylight but because the case against the murderer was brought to court by the victim's sister, and not by his wife, the case was dismissed! A weekly market was granted to the Lord of the Manor of Enfield as early as 1303 but a century of harvest failures and periods of the Black Death hindered the growth of a market. Six small shops provided the only signs of commerce and these comprised manufacturing rather than retailing. Accounts for the manor in the 15th century show 'shambles' or stalls set up for butchers and a bakehouse appeared next to St. Andrews church.

The Tudor Manor House – often mistitled by some to that of a 'Palace' – passed through several hands until a Baron of the Exchequer, Sir Thomas Trevor, occupied it at the beginning of the Civil War. The origins of Enfield Grammar School started with the first schoolmaster, a chantry priest provided with funds to say prayers in order to save the souls of Agnes Myddleton and her four husbands. The parish considered he could more usefully be employed educating children of the poor and teaching them to read their bibles in English. The first home for the school may have been the Old Coffee House, standing next to the church tower. By 1597 the parish had built a new school – which still stands in Church Walk – and cost more than £400. The Market next surfaces with a controversy over a Sunday meat market held at the church gate and this came to a head in the reign of Elizabeth the First. This became a national issue involving Lord Burghly and the Bishop of London. A charter in 1613 set up a market and annual fair with its own court of pie powder (pied poudre – court of dusty feet) to govern such things as weights and measures to ensure fair trading. The Civil War led to Enfield Chase being sold off to former officers in Cromwell's army. These enclosures of what had been open grazing land incensed the locals. Fighting broke out between soldiers and the locals and at the end of the day a sergeant and ten soldiers had been taken prisoner. The Restoration in

1660 restored peoples rights to Enfield Chase.

The 18th Century is covered in some detail, with poaching thriving and much support from the local people for the guilty. Pubs such as the George and Kings Head flourished and rum and brandy were so cheap that a labourer could get blind drunk for two pence. Vandalism in the 19th Century was rife and in 1808 a handbill offered a reward of £10 – a very large sum – for the arrest of a gang who had thrown down and broken gravestones in the churchyard. Church windows were also smashed. In an endeavour to civilise the lower orders Enfield's first National School had been opened in London Road in 1840 and in 1879 moved to Cecil Road – where Marks and Spencers now stands. The Cowden Clark schoolhouse – where Enfield Town station now stands – with a facade so ornate that it now rests in the Victoria and Albert museum, was the school where John Keats learned his love of poetry.

Subjects such as Public Health, and Transport are covered in considerable detail and some interesting photographs complement the excellent story. History, especially local history, is not just a chronicle of dates but a fabric of ordinary peoples' lives and David Pam is a master of providing such a picture. Enfield Town by David Pam can be bought at Waterstones, Church Street, Enfield Town.

Peter Perryman

TES Directory

President: Dr. C.J.A. Jephcott

Chairman: Colin Pointer

Hon. Secretary: [See "Situations vacant" notice on page 1]

Hon. Treasurer: David James

Office: 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield,
Middlesex, EN2 0AJ.
Telephone: 020 8363 9495

When there is nobody in the office, messages left on the answering machine will be dealt with as promptly as possible.

Website: www.enfieldsociety.org.uk

Helplines:

For information on TES activities or to report matters you think need investigation or action, please phone the appropriate number below:

Architecture and Planning
020 8363 7707 (John Davies)

Coach Outings
020 8360 8974 (Jim Deamer)

Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Green Belt
020 8360 5677 (Chris Jephcott)

Edmonton Group
020 8367 5920 (Monica Smith)

Footpaths and Walks
020 8367 5168 (Shirley Cotton)

Historic Buildings Group
020 8363 0031 (Stephen Gilburt)

Jubilee Hall Bookings
020 8360 3873 (Pat Keeble)

Membership
020 8886 3829 (Pat Atkins)

Press and publicity
020 8363 5732 (Bob Fowler)

Records and Research
020 8372 0092 (Leonard Will)

Trees
020 8367 9696 (Emma Collins)

Management Committee
Pat Atkins, Dave Cockle, John Davies, Robert Fowler, Stephen Gilburt, David James, Tony Langston, Stuart Mills, Pam Pemberton, Peter Perryman, Colin Pointer, Monica Smith, Derrick Stone, Leonard Will.

Vice-Presidents
Mr A. J. Skilton, Mr D. Pam, Mr S. R. Smith, Mrs P. Lowen, Lord Graham of Edmonton, Mr J. W. E. Jackson, JP, Mr M. Saunders, MBE, Mr C. Pointer.

Newsletter Editor
Leonard Will
(newsletter@enfieldsociety.org.uk)

The Enfield Society.
Registered in England as a limited company no. 312134.
Registered Charity no. 276451.

Printed by Studio Projects Ltd

Cycling in Enfield

There are members of Enfield Society who also belong to the local cycling club.

Do you want to cycle with people from in and around the Enfield Borough area on friendly leisure rides? Then read on....

Rides vary in type and frequency, but tend to be once a fortnight, usually starting either in Enfield

Town or Edmonton Green. There are also bike maintenance workshops twice a month and an evening meeting once a month (often in a pub) where we plan our rides and have a natter.

Check out the web site at www.EdmontonCyclingClub.fsnet.co.uk or ring membership secretary Paul Lafosse on 020 8808 3473 or Trevor Stone on 07931 776577.

Bike week is coming soon (3rd week of June) with extra rides and events happening, finishing with the Festival of Cycling on Sunday 22nd. When the first Enfield Festival of Cycling was held in Enfield Town in 2007, hundreds of people attended the fun day even though there were some showers. This year it is joining up with the Lee Valley Festival sport and activity day at Picketts Lock Athletics Centre.



Hilly Fields bandstand concerts for 2008

Sundays, 3 – 5.30pm approx.

June 29th

Colin Peters jazz Quartet, with Guest Stars Digby Fairweather and singer Trudy Kerr

July 13th

R & B with Roxi and the Blue Cats with Jim Dawson

July 27th

Irish Folk music with Séanachie óg, plus Colin the Clown to entertain the children

I am also hoping to arrange a fourth concert in November (possibly on Saturday 29th) at St Luke's Church at 7pm. Details will be in the press, and advertised locally.

We trust our audience will continue to be generous in supporting this years good causes, which are the North London Hospice (Jazz) Wildlife Rescue Service (R & B) and Enfield Alzheimer's Society.

Parking: please advise friends to use Whitewebbs Golf course car park, via Beggars Hollow, which is the first

Newsletter contributions

Contributions to the newsletter from members are most welcome, and may be in the form of letters, articles, news items, responses to previous articles, opinion pieces or photographs. We cannot undertake to publish everything, and we reserve the right to shorten or edit items before publication, depending on content and the space available. Copy in electronic form is most convenient, and can be sent as an email attachment to newsletter@enfieldsociety.org.uk, but if this is not possible then items on paper can also be accepted. Contact the Newsletter Editor, Leonard Will, at the above email address or by telephone at 020 8372 0092 if you have any questions about making a contribution. Copy dates for the next issues are Autumn: 18th July and Winter: 17th October, but items can be sent at any time and having them in advance is most helpful. The newsletter is distributed about three weeks after these dates.

Leonard Will

turning behind the Rose & Crown public house, and *not* to park in Browning Road alongside Hilly Fields as it obstructs the traffic.

I'm sure we are all looking forward to another season of concerts. If weather is inclement we will use St Luke's Church. I look forward to seeing you. For further information please visit our web site, www.hillyfields.info

Tony Claydon
Chairman, 'Friends of Hilly Fields'
Registered Charity No 1088698

John Pryor

Last month John retired after 22 years service with our Council, the last 12 years as Director of Environment. We always found him to be a very friendly and approachable person and we enjoyed regular meetings with him and members of his staff to raise various matters and concerns. The Society thanks him for his outstanding service and contribution to the community and wishes him a long and happy retirement.