



The newsletter of The Enfield Society

Dereliction at the centre of Enfield Town

For many years the closed Rialto cinema at the heart of Enfield Town has been steadily deteriorating and now presents a very sorry spectacle. In more recent times it has been joined



by the closed and boarded up Kings Head public house. Together, these two buildings, which border the Market Place, present a scene of dereliction totally at odds with the historic centre of Enfield Town.

Over the years uses have been suggested for the Rialto that might have seen it re-born as a multi purpose arts and social centre. This would have given a living focus to the somewhat dead atmosphere of the Town out of shopping hours, but it was not to be. The best that can be hoped for now is some combination of flats and shops on the site. The owners of both these buildings owe it to the people of Enfield to resolve this unhappy situation and bring these important sites back to useful life as soon as possible.

Tony Langston

Redevelopment plans: Rialto/Gala Club Building



Image: Brooks/Murray Architects

application is given the go ahead. Sadly there will be no community facilities, but it seems that there is a good chance the development will actually be built. Some while ago we were shown some proposals for the area in a modern idiom that we felt had considerable promise, but it seems that a "conservation" style was the preferred council choice. What we have now is carefully designed to represent a group of buildings in a period style forming a pedestrian road from the corner of the Market to Burleigh Way, largely red brick but with one "house" in a contrasting brick. A weakness is that, unlike the earlier design, the unsightly rear of the buildings along Church Street is not screened. Whatever one's views about the style, this promises to be a considerable enhancement to this long neglected corner of Enfield Town. Perhaps it will act as a spur to bring the sadly decaying "Kings Head" building back into use.

Chris Jephcott

Town and park developments

The major conservation area developments in the past three months have been around Enfield Town. The latest design for the Evangelical Free Church off Cecil Road was welcomed by the Conservation Advisory Group and is likely to be approved in February. The long design process has produced a modern building with a clear distinction between the church auditorium to the rear and the office and meeting rooms in front that relates well to its surroundings. The low pitched roofs in green copper colour seem to have met with general approval. The picture will allow readers to judge for themselves.



Image: CPL Architects

We have seen the first ideas for the housing development for the other half of the Cecil Road car park. The grand formal entrance to the Town Park for which the Society has long offered to plant trees has, as we feared, been whittled down to an 8 metre wide pathway along the centre. McCarthy and Stone appear to have acquired the site and are proposing a very large, red brick 'C' shaped block of 39 sheltered units in 3 storeys with numerous projecting bays and half timbered gables, a great disappointment and an opportunity to link the Town Park visually with the town squandered.

Of the two sites released by the council for development, the Silver Street car park revised application has now been approved and a second pre-application scheme for a children's day nursery in Little Park Gardens, now two square 2-storey elements with single storey links and preserving the Spanish chestnut tree on the corner, looks much more suitable than the previously proposed, rectangular 2-storey block.

Chris Jephcott

Members' interests questionnaire

Don't overlook the important enclosure with this newsletter. See page 8 for more information.

Conservation

Conservation area review

The four new conservation areas welcomed in our last issue have now been adopted. We congratulate Enfield Council on this, but what was not clear at the time was that the conservation area budget has not been increased. This could lead to problems, as inevitably more conservation areas means more work for planners.

The next phase of the Enfield Conservation Area Review, now in draft form following consultation, makes suggestions for additions to some areas, but also proposes removing parts of areas with low scores in the Borough Characterisation Study carried out by the Paul Drury Partnership.

Currently the Fore Street, Edmonton, Conservation Area dodges about from side to side of the road in a confusing manner and this will be revised by including the opposite sides of the road along these sections. Although a considerable increase, this should not generate much extra work, as planning applications for buildings adjoining conservation areas already require special consideration. Unfortunately, more than half of the Highlands Conservation Area is considered not up to standard and

identified for exclusion. We have expressed great concern at this proposal, since much care over many years went into making sure that all the new development in the Highlands Village was in the same style as the preserved hospital pavilions, to a high architectural standard and using high quality materials. This would remove all its special safeguards.

Our fear is that the forthcoming Council belt tightening will lead to watering down of this valuable initiative, just when we have seen encouraging progress after years of stagnation.

Chris Jephcott

A blue MUGA in the park



This is a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area). Part of a very good initiative – to spread these installations around open

spaces in the borough to encourage young people from all areas to play together and not in ghettoised gangs. But why is it where it is, bang in the middle of the vista looking across the Town Park up to the golf course, and why blue? The answer to the first is that it is next to the existing tennis courts. But these are practically invisible from a distance, whereas you can't miss what was described at a Friends of the Town Park meeting as looking like a blue plastic milk crate. They seem to come in blue – but are also available in three shades of green. Planting a screen is now suggested and, more realistically, swapping for a green one from a less sensitive location.

As it is not a planning matter no consultation was needed on the siting; the lesson seems to be that someone with landscape qualifications should be involved in this sort of instance. The Society recently sent its comments on the London Mayor's draft *Open space strategies – best practice guidance*. We made the point that outer London Boroughs such as Enfield have inherited many historic landscapes and that as a subsidiary element it should include a landscape strategy. Enfield is in fact well on the way to producing its Open Space Strategy and we have reiterated our point.

Chris Jephcott

Green Belt

Spurs – an agreement is reached

After lengthy negotiations with Spurs, Enfield Council and Capel Manor College an agreement has now been reached which covers the following main points: Spurs will construct and pay for an alternative footpath across land leased to Capel Manor College, linking Whitewebbs Lane to Bulls Cross; the Society will withdraw its threat of applying for a Judicial Review of the Council's pending decision to grant a lease to Spurs for the construction of a Training Ground on Council land at Bulls Cross; Tony Claydon will withdraw his appeal against the Council's refusal to add a claimed footpath to the Definitive Map, running from Myddelton House mainly across Council land to Whitewebbs Lane; part of Camp Field, at the western edge of Spurs' site, which is included in their lease but not required for football purposes, will be developed as a private nature reserve, with the Friends of Forty Hall Park having an involvement in its setting up and ongoing management.

From the outset in 2005 the Society strongly opposed Spurs' plans to develop

an Academy and First Team Training Centre on 56 acres of Green Belt land at Bulls Cross, most of which is owned by Enfield Council and forms part of the historic Forty Hall Estate. In August 2006 Tony Claydon submitted a claim to Enfield Council for the recognition of a footpath running partly across Spurs' site. Spurs' first planning application was rejected by the Council's Planning Committee in September 2006. Spurs appealed against this decision but withdrew after submitting another planning application following their purchase of the Whitewebbs Sports Centre; this additional land allowed marginal improvements to the submission, but in the opinion of the Society the application still represented inappropriate development in the Green Belt. In November 2007 this second application was approved by Planning Committee, swayed by argument that the very special circumstances claimed by Spurs outweighed the harm to the Green Belt through inappropriate development; we certainly did not accept that claim.

The Society considered applying for a Judicial Review of the planning consent

on the basis that it was unlawful for a number of reasons. The cost of this would have been high and, even had we succeeded, a new application would have been submitted by Spurs, with all the defects dealt with, and it would almost certainly have been approved by a subsequent Planning Committee. However, we carried forward the possibility of a Judicial Review of the proposed lease to be granted to Spurs by the Council, again on the basis of a number of claims. The Society accepted that any further action open to it would only delay the start of Spurs' development since the planning consent could not be overturned. In February 2008 Tony Claydon appealed against the Council's refusal to accept his footpath claim.

The Society and Tony Claydon agreed that a sensible and fair compromise should be negotiated with Spurs to overcome the continuing uncertainties and finalise the longstanding disputes. With the co-operation and involvement of Council officers and Capel Manor College the agreement with Spurs, as set out above, has now been achieved.

Colin Pointer

Jubilee Hall meetings

Tuesday mornings 10 for 10.30 am

24th February

Encounters with animals by Monica Smith (with slides).

31st March

The removal of Temple Bar back to London, and other stories by Brenda Brown (with slides).

28th April

Mr Bowles and Myddelton House by Bryan Hewitt (with slides).

26th May

The work and history of MacMillan nurses by Naomi Safir.

Thursday evenings 7.30 for 8 pm

19th February

Bats: an illustrated talk by Mrs P. Briggs, with slides.

19th March

The music of Barbara Streisand by Maurice Franklin.

16th April

The Intimate Theatre by Geoff Bowden. Joint meeting with the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society, with slides.

21st May

The Titanic by Steve Jennings

June

No meeting, because of AGM on 17th

16th July

Leaving the East End by Raymond Kalman, with slides.

August – no meeting.

17th September

Norfolk by Frank Bayford, with slides.

15th October

Libya revealed by Monica Smith, with slides.

19th November

Inland waterways by Richard Moules, with slides.

The President's column



This issue of the News is the closest we have to the New Year. In 2009 in particular, in these troubled times, it seems right to look at how the events of the coming year are likely to affect us as an amenity society. Fortunately, thanks to prudent management and generous benefactors, the financial position of the society is sound, though interest income must fall. But the downturn is likely to affect our interests and activities. As bad news succeeds bad news, vacant shops

appear along the high streets, the Woolworths stores stand empty and building sites half completed lie abandoned. There are rumours of big cuts in next year's council budget in areas that concern us, with fewer staff in amenity and leisure services. We must be on our guard to be sure that the cuts do not fall disproportionately on the things we care about.

Chris Jephcott

Diary dates

Until 1st March

Life and landscape in line and colour : an exhibition by Paul Rocca. Forty Hall Gallery.

Until 1st March

Filzy : an exhibition of felt work by Christine Carty. Rainton Room, Forty Hall.

17th February, 2.00 for 2.30 pm

2000 years of Valentines, by David Groen. Edmonton Hundred Historical Society. Jubilee Hall.

22nd February

The Pymmes Brook Trail. Meet at 10 a.m. outside Edmonton Lee Valley cinema, Picketts Lock Lane, for a 10 mile walk to Trent Park. Free transport provided back to the start. For further information contact The Parks Outreach Team.

22nd February, 10.00 am

Enfield Conservation Volunteers. Grovelands Park. Work on the island to improve it for wildlife.

4th-29th March

Edmonton Camera Club Annual Exhibition. Forty Hall Gallery.

4th-29th March

Botanicals : an Exhibition of paintings by Jill Kidger and friends. Rainton Room, Forty Hall.

8th March, 10.00 am

Enfield Conservation Volunteers. Pymmes Park. Cutting back sycamore and Norway maple that are shading out the native flora.

Contact details:

Forty Hall is usually open from Wednesday to Sunday and details of events held there can be obtained from <www.enfield.gov.uk/fortyhall> or (020) 8363 8196

The Parks Outreach Team. Phone (020) 8441 8272 or email alan.mitellas@enfield.gov.uk.

Enfield Conservation Volunteers. See <www.ecv.org.uk> or phone Christina Lee, Rural Outreach Officer, Trent Country Park, (020) 8449 2459.

Edmonton Hundred Historical Society. See <www.edmontonhundred.org.uk> or email edmontonhundred@freeukisp.co.uk. Talks are free to members; there is a charge of £1 per head for visitors.

18th March, 7.45 for 8.00 pm

Edmonton Hundred Historical Society A.G.M. followed by *Yet more London suburbs, by Graham Dalling.* Jubilee Hall.

22nd March

From Albany Park to Trent Park. Meet at 10 a.m. at Albany Swimming Pool car park, Hertford Road, to walk the nine mile section of the London Loop. Transport back to start provided. For further information contact The Parks Outreach Team.

22nd March, 10.00 am

Enfield Conservation Volunteers. Oakwood Park. Scrub clearance.

5th April, 10.00 am

Enfield Conservation Volunteers. Trent Country Park. Work on nature trail, etc.

16th April, 7.30 for 8.00 pm

The Intimate Theatre, by Geoff Bowden. Edmonton Hundred Historical Society, joint meeting with the Enfield Society. Jubilee Hall.

19th April, 10.00 am

Enfield Conservation Volunteers. Grovelands Park. Installing boardwalk.

20th May, 7.45 for 8.00 pm

Secrets of nature. How the wild life film was developed in Southgate, by Tim Boon. Edmonton Hundred Historical Society. Jubilee Hall.

17th June, 7.00 for 7.30 pm

The Enfield Society AGM, Mount Carmel Centre, London Road

Help wanted

Is there someone out there with a little technical knowledge who can assist at our monthly Tuesday morning meetings? We need help to set up our projector equipment, screen and microphone. For further information please leave your details on our answering machine at Jubilee Hall – (020) 8363 9495.

Historic buildings

Forty Hall

Forty Hall was built between 1629 and 1633 for Sir Nicholas Rainton (or Raynton), who was Lord Mayor of London in 1632. Forty Hall was owned by members of the Meyer family from 1799 and by members of the Bowles family from 1895, before being sold to Enfield Council in 1951. The house is usually open to visitors from Wednesday to Sunday, free of charge.

Stephen Gilbert



1. The entrance gate, listed Grade II, dates from about 1800.



5. This monument was erected in St. Andrew's Parish Church to Sir Nicholas and Lady Rainton, who died in 1646 and 1640 respectively. His nephew's family, including the great-nephew who succeeded as heir, were probably added later.



9. A Georgian study was re-created as part of an exhibition on Enfield and the transatlantic slave trade in 2007.



2. South-east view of Forty Hall, which is one of only two Grade I listed buildings in the borough (the other one is Grovelands).



10. In 2005 this room was furnished in the style of the 1940s in conjunction with an exhibition on Enfield at war.



6. Much of the original decoration survives, including this fine 17th century plastered wall and ceiling.



3. The original entrance to the house was through a porch on the east side.



11. This 1630 Grade I listed gateway provides the entrance to a rectangular courtyard which is flanked by the 17th century Grade II listed former stable range, now a banqueting suite.

7. In 1994 the house was presented as it might have appeared during the 1640s and a Civil War battle was re-enacted outside.



4. Sir Nicholas and Lady Rainton showing visitors around their home.



8. The first floor panelled room was laid out as a 17th century bedroom.



12. Two 17th century Grade II listed barns were restored in 1998 and, together with other farm buildings west of Forty Hall, are leased to Capel Manor College.

Letters to the editor



Should one of these signs say 74 or 76?

Murray Coleman writes:

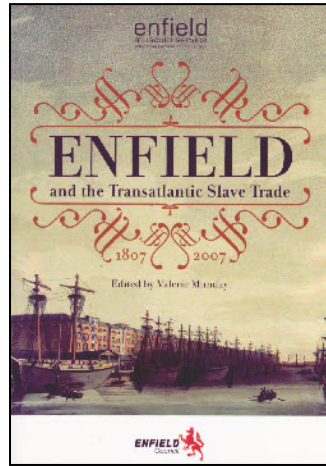
"The enclosed photo taken outside the HSBC bank opposite Southgate tube station gives a good idea how money is wasted on needless 'upgrading' and bad co-ordination, leaving this 'mess' for a long period of time.

My own particular gripe is the installation of large expensive signs in residential areas which point through obvious walkways and say 'Footpath'. Not where to, why or what! Will we next get signs pointing and saying 'Road' or 'Houses'?"



David Howard writes:

"LB Enfield, who have the largest collection of pre-1963 direction signs in London by a factor of about 5 have now started removing them. As they were mainly in good condition and clearly did their job for over 45 years it seems an arbitrary and antisocial decision and anything that can be done to persuade them the signs are valuable and worth keeping will be greatly welcomed. Enfield have ripped out three perfect signs on the Bramley Road roundabout entrance and two which just needed a coat of paint. The new signs are covered in plastic and need replacing when they wear out. The old ones are cast iron or pressed steel and can be repainted indefinitely. It is therefore more economical to paint them every 30 or so years than change the new ones at the same intervals."



Enfield and the transatlantic slave trade 1807-2007 / edited by Valerie W. Munday. – Enfield : Enfield Museum Service, 2008. – 109p. ; 21cm. – ISBN 0-906076-02-1 : £5.00. Available from Forty Hall or the Local History Unit, Thomas Hardy House. Orders by post should be sent to Enfield Museum Service, PO Box 58, Enfield, EN1 3XJ including £1.00 p.& p. The book has been distributed free to every school in Enfield thanks to a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Few people would associate Enfield with the transatlantic slave trade, but anyone reading this recent publication by Valerie Munday would be surprised at the involvement of so many residents in the campaign to abolish this evil practice. Some twenty million people still suffer some form of slavery across the world and much of this exists in countries on the African continent where technically it is banned.

The book deals in considerable detail with the historical background and its growth from the Tudor period. It records the many Quakers who resided in Winchmore Hill and played such a prominent part in the trade's abolition in England and her colonies. George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends (Quakers) often visited Richard Chare and other Quakers at Winchmore Hill, where Quakerism had been established since the first preacher arrived in 1661. Later meetings were held in a barn and in 1688 a purpose-built Meeting House was constructed off Winchmore Hill Green.

The group co-opted William Wilberforce to address Parliament on the question because as Quakers, who refused to take oaths, they could not become MPs. Another supporter of abolition was a David Barclay Jnr. who, contrary to popular opinion, was never involved in the banking business. In 1801 he briefly found himself the owner of a farm and 32 slaves in Jamaica; he quickly granted them their freedom and resettled most of them in Philadelphia.

Another section of the book gives considerable detail of the Poor Law operation in Enfield with baptisms and burials of black people in local churches. Humphrey Weld of Arncliffe Grove took an active part in the formation of the Virginia Company which established plantations in North America and thus enjoyed the benefits of slavery. Other prominent residents were associated with profits from plantation slavery, but in 1807 Parliament finally abolished slavery and the Royal Navy in 1811 began capturing slave ships in order to release the human cargoes.

At a cost of £5 the book is a bargain.

Peter Perryman

Benches or burgers in Palace Gardens?



Julie Hinckley writes:

"Why has the double-sided bench outside Mothercare in Palace Gardens shopping precinct been taken away? This was the ONLY undercover place to sit in the whole of the precinct and was constantly used by the elderly, as a place to rest, out of the rain. Without the bench there is nowhere else for elderly people (and those who are pregnant or disabled or parents who need to feed their baby) to sit down undercover. Please could it be replaced immediately?

I would also like to know why a burger stall has been permitted to trade inside the precinct, which not only smells vile but also makes it hard to walk through the precinct as it blocks the way, causing a lot of congestion every time I have tried to walk past? I do not believe burger stalls should be allowed in the precinct, as it is spoiling what is a fantastic place to shop."

Centre Management for Palace Gardens have replied (explaining that these are not necessarily the views of the Landlord):

"The benches were removed to accommodate a planned new retail mall unit and future promotions so unfortunately they will not be reinstated, we have mother and baby facilities for parents feeding their babies, and other benches located throughout Palace Gardens and Palace Exchange.

The food outlets are being trialed out due to feedback from other shoppers who said Enfield Town did not have sufficient fast food on the go outlets, to date these outlets have been very popular; they are not in the centre but on the entrances. I am sorry you feel they spoil the centre and hope they do not impact on your future visits too much."

Future walks

Train details are correct at press date but we cannot accept responsibility for last minute changes.

Enquiries: for operating train companies' 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 Off-Peak Day Return (previously Cheap Day Return) tickets allow 3 or 4 adults to travel together for the price of 2 adults on First Capital Connect, London Midland, Southeastern, Southern, Chiltern or National Express East Anglia. Even for travel to the start of linear walks, Groupsave tickets are usually cheaper than buying a standard price single but you must travel as a group.

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

Sat 14 Feb. Beyond the Lea. Meet **10.30am** at Enfield Lock Village (at main river bridge where 121 bus enters the village) for 8 to 9 mile circular walk via Waltham Abbey and High Beach. Bring lunch or pub food available. *Leader: Christine Fookes*

Sat 28 Feb. Epping Forest. Meet **10.25am** at public car park on Honey Lane/Woodriven Hill (A121) near Volunteer PH (opposite The Woodbine Inn) - about 0.25mile east of M25 junction 26 towards Wake Arms/City Limits roundabout. 9 mile circular walk via Connaught Water, Strawberry Pond and Wake Valley with lunch stop at The Owl PH, Lippitts Hill. Bring lunch or pub food available. Public transport: 250 bus from Waltham Cross bus station at **9.55am** (journey time 17 mins). Details: 8364 0300. *Leader: Colin Adams*

Wed 11 March. New River & Country Parks. Meet **10.30am** Waltham Cross bus station for 2.5 to 3 hour linear walk via Cedars Park, New River, Whitewebbs and Hilly Fields ending in Enfield Town. *Leader: Ray Moss*

Sat 14 March. West Anglian Way. Meet **10.30am** Cheshunt Station (10.14am train from Southbury Station or 9.40am C1 bus from Cuffley Station) for 7 mile linear walk ending at Broxbourne Station. The varied route follows this newly opened path via lakes, waterways, edge of Epping Forest with splendid views over the Lea Valley and finally part of the New River path. Shorter options that return to start. Bring lunch or

pub food probably available. Details: 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Mon 23 March. Mid Herts. Meet **10.34am** Welwyn North Station (ticket office). About 7 mile circular walk in pretty countryside. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. By train: 10.11am train from Finsbury Park Station (access by Piccadilly & Victoria Lines or by 9.34am or 9.49am trains from Enfield Chase) or 10.21am train from Potters Bar Station (313 or 298 buses). By car: station is near Digswell about 1 mile east of A1M (junction 6) or follow B1000 from Hertford. *Leaders: Carol Cope & Kinu Ohki*

Sat 28 March. North of Enfield. Meet **10.25am** Crews Hill Station (10.19am train from Enfield Chase Station) for 9.5 mile circular walk in the Enfield/Herts border countryside with the lunch stop in Northaw. Shorter options including afternoon only by joining group in Northaw by 2.00pm. Bring lunch or pub food available. *Leader: Colin Adams*

Wed 8 April. Cardinal Manning & Lord Lytton Connections. Meet **10.15am** Odeon Cinema, Barnet (307 bus route) for about 2.75 to 3 hour walk in Barnet's countryside via the Dollis & Totteridge Valleys, historic Totteridge Village and Folly Farm. *Leader: Ken Cooper*

Bank Holiday Mon 13 April. Upper Lea Valley. Meet **10.30am** in public car park at rear of The Bull PH in Wheathampstead Village for about 9 mile circular walk via Bocket Hall Estate, Ayot villages/hamlets and perhaps seeing early bluebells in the woods. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. By car about 35 minutes from Enfield via A1M (Junction 4), then B653. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Wed 22 April. Knole Park (National Trust) & Greensand Ridge. Meet **10.50am** Sevenoaks Station (10.23am Hastings train from London Bridge Station or travel with Stuart from Enfield Chase Station on **9.34am** train). 9 mile circular walk via historic parkland and the magnificent Knole House (N.T.) and with splendid views over the Kent Weald. Bring lunch or food probably available. Note: Sevenoaks is only two stations beyond the Freedom Pass boundary. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Sat 25 April. Fulham Palace/River Thames. Meet **10.30am** Hammersmith tube station (by the Tesco store exit) for a walk visiting the recently refurbished Fulham Palace & gardens (free admission). Full route of about 7 miles via Barnes Village includes parts of the

interesting Thames riverbank and ends at Kew Gardens Station. Shorter options, including leaving at the lunch-stop near Putney Bridge immediately after palace visit. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Bank Holiday Mon 4 May. Chess Valley. Meet **10.51am** outside ticket office of Chalfont & Latimer Station (10.10am Metropolitan Line train from Baker Street but check with TFL for engineering works - if so, frequent buses/coaches will replace trains, but allow longer journey time). About 10 mile circular walk via Sarratt and Chenies villages. Bring lunch or pub food available. By car about 45 minutes from Enfield via M25 (Junction 18) and A404. *Leader: Christine Fookes*

Sat 16 May. Ash Valley. Meet **10.30am** Bishops Stortford Station (9.44am train from Southbury Station, change at Cheshunt) for about 10 mile circular walk via the Ash Valley and pretty Much Hadham. Option to end at lunchtime after about 5 miles and return to either start or St Margaret's Station by bus. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Wed 20 May. Royal Parks. Meet **10.30am** Green Park Station (Victoria & Piccadilly Lines). Be a tourist for the day and join Brenda for a walk through central London parks in Springtime. Numerous points to leave throughout the day but walk will end before the rush hour starts. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Brenda Brown*

Bank Holiday Mon 25 May. Richmond Park/Isabella Plantation. Meet **11.00am** Richmond Station for about 8 mile walk via historic Richmond, River Thames, Richmond Park and Isabella Plantation (azaleas and Spring flowers). Shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Norman Coles*

Sat 30 May. Hertfordshire/Cambridgeshire Borders. Meet **11.00am** Ashwell & Morden Station. Either 9.49am train from Enfield Chase, change Stevenage, or 10.11am direct Cambridge train from Finsbury Park (10.21am from Potters Bar). About 10 mile circular walk via Steeple Morden, Ashwell (lunch stop) and Hinxworth. Shorter options by use of bus service or by spending part of afternoon looking around pretty Ashwell village. By car: either via A1M (Junction 9) then A505 eastwards or A10 to Royston and A505 westwards. Bring lunch or food available. Details: 8360 0282. *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Stuart Mills

Freedom Pass travel update

Availability of use for Older Persons Freedom Passes has been extended as from 2nd January 2009. (*Disabled Persons Freedom Passes availability of use may vary*).

You can now travel free on TFL-controlled Buses, Tubes, DLR, Tramlink and London Overground (including to Watford Junction) services at any time of the day – the previous Monday to Friday restrictions have been removed. This does not include National Rail Services.

Most non-TFL local bus services operating in London now accept Freedom Passes on their services from 09.30-23.00 hours on Monday to Friday and at any time at weekends and public holidays.

Use on National Rail services within the Greater London zonal area is only from 09.30am on Monday to Friday but at any time at weekends and public holidays. Certain limited sections of National Rail services now allow use at any time (contact TFL or see details on TFL website) – the main ones of interest to Enfield residents would be between Finsbury Park to either King's Cross or Moorgate.

Other aspects:

(i) Freedom Pass holders can travel free on local buses anywhere outside London and within England between 09.30 and 23.00 hours on Monday to Friday and at any time at weekends and public holidays. Does not apply to other forms of public transport.

(ii) Freedom Passes are NOT valid on National Rail services outside the Greater London zonal area except between St Marylebone and Amersham, between London and Dartford and between London and Swanley.

(iii) Freedom Passes are NOT valid on train services operated by National Express East Coast, Midland Mainline, Virgin Trains, Heathrow Express, Heathrow Connect between Hayes & Harlington and Heathrow or for first class travel.

(iv) Holders get discounts on certain Thames riverboat services.

Please note that this information is as per TFL as at the January 2009 news-copy date. It is only for guidance and is not intended to be exhaustive. TES cannot accept responsibility for any errors or subsequent changes.

Stuart Mills

Publicity Group

We have now entered another year and are engaged in arranging the press and publicity programme for 2009. Regular activities include our monthly column in The Enfield Advertiser, articles in other publications such as the Enfield Echo, Heritage Walks, coach outings, the New Members Evening (scheduled for Wednesday 25 March), promoting our publications and planning new and updated ones. We intend to be present at the New River Festival (in June) and the Enfield Autumn Town Show. We are looking at other local events where we may have the Society stand to promote our activities, sell publications and sign up new members.

Bob Fowler



Community notice boards

We are grateful to the train operating company First Capital Connect for allowing us to have a "Community Notice Board" at Enfield Chase Station (see picture). A condition of providing the board is that a named individual is responsible for regularly checking the board and keeping it up to date. T.E.S. member, Dave Cockle looks after the Enfield Chase board.

First Capital Connect have indicated that they may be able to let us have similar boards at the following stations providing we can give them the name and contact telephone number of a nominated individual willing to look after the board: Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill, Grange Park, Gordon Hill, Crews Hill and Hadley Wood.

Could anyone who would be prepared to adopt a community notice board at any one of the listed stations please contact Dave Cockle? (020) 8366 2242.

Dave Cockle

Edmonton



Members were greatly saddened by the death of Cllr. Christopher Andrew in November at the age of 31. Chris joined The Enfield Society at the inaugural meeting of the Edmonton Group and was an active and helpful member of the committee until he became ill. He worked hard on behalf of the residents of Edmonton and especially those in Jubilee Ward and was well liked by all he met.



A tree was planted in Jubilee Park in his memory (see photo) and The Enfield Society was happy to contribute to the cost.

Monica Smith

Trees Group

It is our experience that all proposals for work to trees within conservation areas and preserved trees seem to be approved unmodified and there appears to be a general reluctance to create new Tree Preservation Orders within the borough. All this is discouraging. Julian Jackson, Head of Development Control, will be talking to the Conservation Advisory Group in March on tree policy and we are looking forward to hear what he has to say.

All the same we should be very pleased to hear from anyone wishing to join the group, and volunteers are needed to help with setting up the allotment tree nursery.

Chris Jephcott

New members

We warmly welcome the following new members:

Ms. M. Allen, Mr. & Mrs. C. Borg, Mr. & Mrs. P. Cook, Mrs. V. Dods, Dr. A. Emke, Mrs. M. Jones, Mr. & Mrs. J. Manley, Mrs. D. McGuire, Ms. A. Morgan, Mr. & Mrs. T. Pardy, Mr. P. Preston, Mrs. J. Saunders, Mrs. H. Vann.

Olive Sharman

President: Dr C.J.A. Jephcott

Chairman: Colin Pointer

Hon. Secretary: Richard Stones

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

Helpline:

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 8367 6189 (Olive Sharman)

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, Olive Sharman, Monica Smith, Derrick Stone, Richard Stones, Leonard Will.

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

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Visit to Hackney on 20th June



Hackney Terrace, the present 20-54 Cassland Road, built in 1792-6. Designed by William Fellowes, this was an early development by a building society. 'The earliest of Hackney's few palace-front terraces and the most ambitious of its Georgian survivals', it is of stock brick, each house being of three bays and three storeys over a basement; a central pediment bears the arms of William Fellowes with those of the other two promoters.

A visit has been planned to Hackney on Saturday 20th June 2009, starting at 1:30 pm. Mick Coe will be the guide for this walking tour which is predominantly on level ground and will last about three hours. There are several bus routes close to the tour route which will facilitate leaving the tour early.

The linear route showcases some of the remaining nineteenth century houses which reflect the changing social status of the area. The meeting point is the café in Victoria Park at the junction of Old Ford Road and Grove Road. The 277 bus passes this from both Mile End

Underground station and Hackney Central station (on London Overground line from Highbury and Islington). The latter is in turn only a short walk from Hackney Downs station, which has a service from Enfield Town station. If time allows, it is proposed to have a tea break at Sutton House (National Trust) before completing the tour at Hackney Downs station. 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

2009 Coach outings

Due to health problems I am unable to make arrangements for a Spring outing this year. For future outings I am endeavouring to find a volunteer to carry on this aspect of the society's social activities, a feature which has proved to be very popular over many years. Any member who feels able to carry on this work is welcome to contact me in the first instance on 0208 360 8974.

Jim Deamer

Members' interests questionnaire

Enclosed with this issue of TES News is a questionnaire which all members are invited to complete. The Society is eager to gain a full understanding of current member interests. We want to ensure that activities the Society is engaged in are closely aligned with member interests. We also welcome suggestions of any activities that members would like the Society to add to its ongoing programme.

The Society is particularly keen to hear from any members who are able to give some of their time and skills to assist in furthering its aims and objectives.

Please take some time to complete the questionnaire and return it as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing from you and will be providing an update on the results in the next issue.

Bob Fowler

Friends of Hilly Fields

The Friends are looking for someone to organise the four events they run every year. Further information and details can be obtained from Tony Claydon – 020 8363 5837

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. Copy in electronic form is most convenient, and can be sent as an email attachment to newsletter@enfieldsociety.org.uk, but 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. The copy date for the next issue is 17th April 2009, but items can be sent at any time and having them in advance is most helpful. The newsletter is distributed about three weeks after the copy date.

Leonard Will