



The newsletter of The Enfield Society

An unholy threat to the Green Belt



There is an important area of Green Belt between Enfield Road, Cotswold Way and Lowther Drive which restrains the urban spread of Enfield from the next settlement at Oakwood along this main East-West route. The land is owned by the London Diocesan Fund which recently circulated a letter stating "The Fund has entered into a joint promotional agreement with Fairview Enfield Ltd. whom we have selected to act on our behalf to take the interests of the Diocese forward and will seek to promote the land in the medium term as a credible option for the Borough in contributing towards satisfying future housing requirements".

The Society has joined with Western Enfield Residents' Association and others

in making known our total opposition to this proposal. We recognise the essential work of the Fund and its financial needs but this does not give it the right to ride roughshod over the protection laid down for the Green Belt. Fortunately the official response from Enfield Council is that the development of this land for dwellings is not required as there is sufficient land within the Borough to accommodate the numbers of dwellings in the Core Strategy; and the Authority feels that residential expansion into this area of Green Belt is unjustified and will be strongly opposed. This is good news but probably is not the end of this threat.

Colin Pointer

TES AGM 2010

The Society's seventy-fourth Annual General Meeting was held on 3rd June at Jubilee Hall. The AGM is a legal requirement, but it also serves to emphasise that the Management Committee is responsible to the Society's membership as a whole. On this occasion Bob Fowler, Stuart Mills, Colin Pointer and Derrick Stone, all of whom had come to the end of a three year term of office, were re-elected, and Graham Dalling and Janet McQueen, who had been co-opted during the year, were confirmed in office. David James was re-elected as Honorary Treasurer and Richard Stones as Honorary Secretary.

The meeting went on to reappoint Chris Jephcott as President and to appoint Beryl Dorrington as a new Vice-President, in recognition of her tireless work for the Society over so many years. Colin Pointer gave his final report as Chairman and announced that Janet McQueen had agreed to take over from him. He also paid tribute to the late Stanley Smith for his outstanding photography and for all his work for the Society. Janet then proposed a vote of thanks to Colin which was enthusiastically endorsed by the meeting.

After the formal business concluded we enjoyed a sparkling talk by Graham Dalling on a "Life in Local History" – a vivid account of the people and problems Graham had encountered in his career.

It was generally agreed that holding the AGM at Jubilee Hall had been a success – not only in terms of cost and convenience but also because it was an occasion for the Society to receive its members "at home".

Richard Stones

Beryl Dorrington – Vice-President

At the AGM in June we were delighted to appoint Beryl as a Vice-President of the Society. She was elected to the Council of Management in 1989 and soon took on the responsibility of Minute Secretary. In 1991/2 Beryl chaired the protracted but successful RAGE (Residents Against Gaming in Enfield) campaign which defeated an attempt by Rank Leisure to open an amusement arcade in Church Street. After the sudden death of Irene Smith in December 1996 she took over as Honorary Secretary of the Society and two years later agreed to become Chairman of the Publicity Committee. In 2002 major health problems forced Beryl to retire as Hon. Sec. but she continued to be a very active member of the Management Committee until early 2007 when a severe fall brought forward her intended retirement. Beryl brought enthusiasm and dedication to every job and task she undertook and I can think of no-one more deserving of the accolade of joining the Enfield Society's small group of Vice-Presidents.

Colin Pointer

Retirements from Management Committee

Two longstanding members of the Committee have recently retired – Tony Langston and Peter Perryman. Tony was Chairman from 1997 to 2001 and served on the Architecture and Planning Group and Press and Publicity Group. He computerised all the membership records (2,000 names, addresses, etc.) and programmed the printing of label details for the quarterly newsletter. For many of us Tony is well remembered for all his work over more than three years on setting up the Forty Hall Trust to take over the running of the Hall which had been placed on the At Risk Register by English Heritage; when the Conservatives took control of the Council in Spring 2002 they decided to abandon the Trust and continue to have the Hall run by the Local Authority.

Peter Perryman joined the Society's A & P Group in the mid 1970s and was then elected to the Council of Management. On becoming an Enfield Councillor he resigned to maintain the Society's non-political status. Giving up the political life Peter was re-elected to the Council of Management in 1999, since when his advice and insight were invaluable.

Our sincere thanks to them both for their considerable contribution to the Society over so many years.

Colin Pointer

Donation of books

We are very grateful for a recent donation of eleven books and pamphlets on the history of Enfield. These were the property of the late Mrs D. R. Sawyer. Her daughter, Rowena Sawyer, writes:

"I would like to thank the Society for the pleasure she derived firstly from joining you in your walks and then, when she could no longer do that, from your magazines and talks.

I know the history of the area was something she felt passionately about and has, over the years, collected books on the subject. She has expressed a wish that these be offered to you as a resource."

Leonard Will

Conservation

The Council's Conservation Advisory Group were given a very full tour of Capel Manor to enable a better assessment of the proposed Masterplan for the College site, which made it very clear that the long term strategy had been well thought out and would result in real improvements to what is already one of the Borough's major assets.

The Advisory Group has also been kept well up to date about the increasingly effective work of the Envirocrime Unit in dealing with planning breaches, unauthorised advertisement hoardings, etc.

With the current squeeze on finance, major proposals within conservation areas have become few and far between. We do notice that a hoarding has now appeared around the former Rialto Bingo Hall site in Enfield Town, so perhaps the proposal for flats and shops featured in our Spring 2009 News is about to be implemented.

A word of praise for Enfield Council for repairing and repainting the ornamental railings next to the former Chapel of Rest in Chapel Street. These were moved at the suggestion of EPS from the Arts And Crafts Fir Tree House at the time it was demolished to make way for the first phase of the Civic Centre.

Chris Jephcott

Trees Group

Our list of prominent trees growing on private land, compiled with a view to checking whether they are covered by Tree Preservation Orders, is almost complete and ready for submission to Enfield Council. Any suggestions for additions to the list would still be welcome. As I mentioned last time, there is no data base of TPOs in the Borough currently available for public inspection. We were told last year that one would be produced and are chasing this up.

When the bulk of the Highlands Village had its conservation area status removed last year we were informed that an assessment of all the trees in the area affected would be carried out to see which of the many fine trees would merit formal statutory protection, now that they have lost their automatic protection. To date we have not heard the result – something else to follow up.

With the Library Green still not complete, it is too early to judge the final result. We are pleased to see a considerable amount of new tree planting, including replacement of the large oak tree, and also the two plane trees on the corner, previously donated by the EPS, which had to be removed because the trunks had been allowed to grow through their protecting cages.

*Chris Jephcott
Trees Group Convener*

Publicity Group

Christmas is coming

The new Christmas card is of Whitewebbs House (right) and will be on sale from September. The price remains £1.50 for a pack of 5 cards and envelopes. The only other packs available are New River Loop, the painting of Trent Park House and the Forty Hall Dining Room decorated for the festive season, all shown below.



Packs of 4 different cards are also on sale at £1. If ordering by post please use the order form which is enclosed with this newsletter. It gives details of all the items on sale – the latest additions being the series of six books by Dr Jim Lewis on the history of the Lea Valley. These are of especial interest to people who worked in industry there. "From Gunpowder to Guns" tells the story of the Royal Small Arms Factory and the Gunpowder Mills. "Water and Waste" documents 400 years of improvements to public health, including the engineering feat of the New River. "Battleships, Buses and Bombers"

is about the transport firsts, including A.V.Roe's historic flight in 1909. "Weapons, Wireless and World Wars" explores advances in weapons manufacture and the development of wireless technology. "Industry and Innovation" looks at the numerous inventions which sprang from the Lea Valley and the growth of major business such as Ediswan light bulbs and Gestetner copying machines. "From Eton Park to the Olympics" contains a wealth of information on the area connected with the 2012 Olympics All are priced at £9.99.

Monica Smith

Diary dates

This list gives a selection of forthcoming events. Other events and updates may be found on our web site at www.enfieldsociety.org.uk and on the Enfield Council site at www.enfield.gov.uk/events/

Saturday 14th August

Guided tours of Forty Hall. 12 noon to 3 pm on the hour. Free costumed tour lasting about 45 minutes. Tour requires standing throughout. Booking (required) and information from forty.hall@enfield.gov.uk or (020) 8363 8196.

Sunday 15th August, 10 am

The New River walk. *

Sunday 22nd August, 2.30 pm

The Enfield Society Heritage Walk: Southgate. See below..

Sunday 22nd August, 3 – 5.30 pm

Hilly Fields bandstand concert. The Roosters. Rock 'n' Roll music in support of the North London Hospice.

Friday 27th August, 8 pm

Forty Hall evening bat walk. *

Saturday 4th – Sunday 5th September, 10.30 am – 6 pm

The Enfield Autumn Show, Town Park, Enfield. The Borough's largest annual community event. Admission £3 adults, £2 concessions, under-16s free. The Enfield Society will be there.

Sunday 5th September 3 – 5 pm

Afternoon tea in aid of The Nightingale Community Hospice Trust, with entertainment, "The English", by Christine and Peter Padwick. Grange Park Methodist Hall (Church in the Orchard), Park Drive, N21 2LS Contact: Joyce: 01992 633446 / 07706 485825, Christina: 020 8363 9119 or Hospice Office: 020 8366 9674. Tickets £5. Good food, company and cause.

Thursday 9th September 3 – 5 pm

Afternoon tea in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care, with entertainment, "The 1930s" by Christine and Peter Padwick. St Andrews Parish Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, EN1 3EG Contact: Carole: 07984 623362 or Pauline: 07784 797722 Tickets £5. Good food, company & cause.

Tuesday 14th September, 8 pm

The land of Boudica: Iceni and Roman Norfolk, by Paul Hodge (illustrated) **

Saturday 18th – Sunday 19th September Open House London Weekend – details at www.londonopenhouse.org/public/london/generalinfo.html.

Saturday 18th September, 10 am – 4 pm Christ Church United Reformed Church, Chase Side, built 1874-5, will be open for visits and guided tours. See page 5.

Saturday 25th September, 11 am – 4 pm Colchester Birds of Prey Display Team and Enfield Chase Dog-Training Club displays. (Friends of Bush Hill Park.) See page 9.

The Chairman's column



Having just taken over as chairman of The Enfield Society from Colin Pointer I would like to thank him for the way he has managed the Society over the past four years. He took on the chairmanship (for the second time) very altruistically in 2006 after a brief period when we were leaderless and has done a marvellous job – both steering the Society through various challenges to the Green Belt and updating some of the internal organisation. Colin has always been an efficient and effective chairman, unfailingly polite but firm when the occasion demanded it. He has extensive knowledge both of Enfield and planning laws, seemingly boundless energy and enthusiasm, and will be a very difficult act to follow. I would like to extend the grateful thanks of everyone on the Management Committee for all his hard work and dedication over the past years and hope he continues long on the Committee to give his expertise and assistance to the Society in future battles during the years to come. As we now appear to have a new threat to the Green Belt in the Fairview option on land in the west of Enfield, this will be vital.

However, it seems to me that the Enfield Society has many roles besides protecting the Green Belt. It is important in the promotion of Enfield, it provides a focus for research and protection of the historical aspects, and an informative and social role with the talks programme,

walks and coach trips. Besides checking the planning requests made to the council and objecting when we feel it appropriate, we publish and sell various books and maps as well as producing the newsletter and website as forums to voice opinion and inform. We try to protect the local footpaths, and develop new ones where possible. We also meet regularly with the council to try and improve the local environment and have worked with them on decluttering the street scene and other projects.

There are problems though – we seem to be considered as a Society for older people, we work mostly in isolation from other local societies, and are not always as effective as we would like, in part due to a lack of active members. As a Society we need to work together to try and improve these and other things and I would very much like to hear your opinions both on the Society and Enfield itself on how we can do this. I would particularly like to get younger people joining the Society and have more active members. If you think you can help please do contact us or if you just want to let us know how you feel we can improve then please either write or ring via Jubilee Hall or the website. I look forward to hearing from you.

Janet McQueen

Sunday 26th September, 10 am

Guided walk: Albany Park to Trent Park (L.O.O.P. 17). *

Thursday 7th October, 8 pm

Historic towns in south-east England, an illustrated talk by Graham Dalling at Jubilee Hall. (TES Historic Buildings Group meeting, see page 5.)

Tuesday 12th October, 8 pm

The British in Berlin 1945-49, by Emma Peplow (London School of Economics) **

Tuesday 9th November, 8 pm

Sex, shrubbery and symphonies: London's pleasure gardens 1660-1880, by Dr Jonathan Conlin (University of Southampton) (illustrated) **

Tuesday 11th January 2011, 8 pm

Clothing and material adornment in politics and popular protest in England, 1780-1848, Dr Katrina Navickas (University of Hertfordshire) (illustrated) **

* These Enfield Council guided walks are organised by The Parks Outreach Team. Details

are in their leaflet and on the Council's Web site at https://www.enfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/2022/guided_walks_programme. Phone (020) 8441 8272 or email alan.mitellas@enfield.gov.uk for more information if necessary.

** Meeting of The Historical Association, North London Branch, at Jubilee Hall. These meetings are open to all and there is no fee. More details from the Branch Secretary, Robin Blades (020 8368 5328), robin.blades@virgin.net.

Heritage walk

Sunday 22nd August at 2.30 pm

Southgate. Starting from **The Cherry Tree** we will be taken around this conservation area and told about the interesting buildings. We will also visit Christ Church (see page 4) and the Southgate Beaumont Home – the building featured as Arnos Grove in our Spring 2010 newsletter.

Tickets for the walk are free but limited. Please write to Jubilee Hall, stating that you wish to attend this walk and enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope.

Sadie Isaksson

Historic buildings

Christ Church, Waterfall Road, Southgate

This Grade II* listed church will be visited on the Southgate Green conservation area heritage walk on Sunday afternoon, 22nd August. (See *TES News* no. 178, Summer 2010, page 5, for details.) Buses 121, 298, 299 and W6 all go to Southgate Green and bus 298 also passes the church. (Images 1, 2, and 5 were provided by Enfield Local Studies Library and Archive.)

Stephen Gilburt



1. In 1615 the brewer, Sir John Weld, built a small wooden chapel in the grounds of his estate at Arnolds, west of Southgate Green. The Weld Chapel was enlarged and altered several times but remained a Chapel at Ease to All Saints Church, Edmonton (see *TES News*, Summer 2010) until 1859, when Southgate became a separate parish.



2. In 1861 work began on Christ Church, to a design by (Sir) George Gilbert Scott. This photograph shows the church under construction next to the Weld Chapel, which was demolished after the completion of Christ Church.



3. Christ Church was consecrated in 1862. The church tower has an octagonal broach spire 180 feet high. Scott's other works include St. Pancras Station Hotel and the Albert Memorial.



4. The facade of this Victorian gothic revival church is made of Kentish ragstone with Bath stone dressings.



5. A view of the nave looking east to the chancel in 1898.



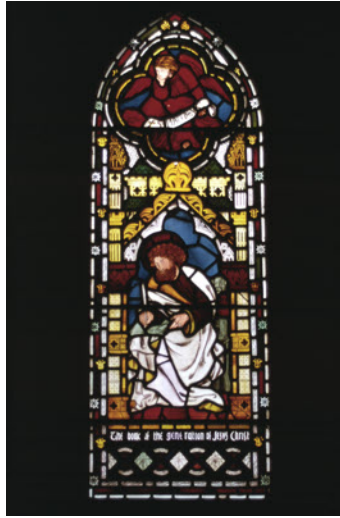
6. On the walls of the Lady Chapel are a fresco of the Annunciation and oil paintings on oiled paper of angels, the Virgin and Child, and stories of the childhood of Jesus by Percy Bacon and Bros., London, dated 1906.

Historic buildings

Christ Church, Southgate, is famous for its Pre-Raphaelite stained glass windows from the 1860s onwards, by Messrs Morris, Marshall, Faulkner and Co.



7. Windows on the north wall of the chancel, designed by Sir Edward Burne-Jones, depict Dorcas offering her cloak to a bare-headed girl and the Good Samaritan holding a flask to the mouth of the injured traveller lying on the ground.



8. In the Lady Chapel there are windows showing the four gospel writers. The figure of St Matthew writing on a scroll, by William Morris, may be a self-portrait. The surround is by Philip Webb.



9. Windows by Burne-Jones, on the wall of the north aisle, illustrate various Christian virtues. Temperance is shown emptying a wine jar, while Charity is looking after two needy children.

Historic Buildings Group

Meetings and visits

On 17th April Dave Cockle and Stephen Gilbert led several guided tours around two of Enfield's finest Victorian gothic revival churches – St Mary Magdalene Church and Christ Church URC, Chase Side. St Mary's is hoping to start restoring the Westlake paintings in the chancel this year (see page 7).

For those unable to see Christ Church on 17th April, it will be open again to visit and for guided tours between 10am and 4pm on Saturday 18th September, to coincide with the Open House London weekend. (See page 3 for a link to the web site giving more information on other buildings open to the public that weekend). There will be a display illustrating the architecture, history and activities of this Grade II listed church, which opened in 1875 on the site of Zion Chapel, built in 1780. The church will be decorated for the Harvest Festival service the next day.

The Society hopes to be able to arrange tours around the Friends Meeting House and St Paul's Church, Winchmore Hill, next year. Details will be in *TES News*.

On 12th June Graham Dalling led an interesting tour around Georgian Islington, from Highbury to the Angel, and "introduced" us to some of the more famous residents, both factual and fictional. Details of a proposed walk around Stoke Newington will be in *TES News* next year.

Following Stephen Gilbert's talk on Royal Residences in England on 17th June, the next Historic Buildings Group meeting will be held in Jubilee Hall at 8pm on Thursday 7th October. All members of TES are invited to an illustrated talk by Graham Dalling on historic towns in south-east England.

Stephen Gilbert

Walk around Islington, 12th June 2010



Samuel Lewis Housing Trust Buildings, Liverpool Road, by C. S. Joseph and Smithem, 1909-10.



Tower and steeple of St Mary's Church, Upper Street, by Launcelot Dowbiggin, 1751-1754. The remainder was rebuilt, 1954-1956.



Decorative detail on Samuel Lewis Buildings.

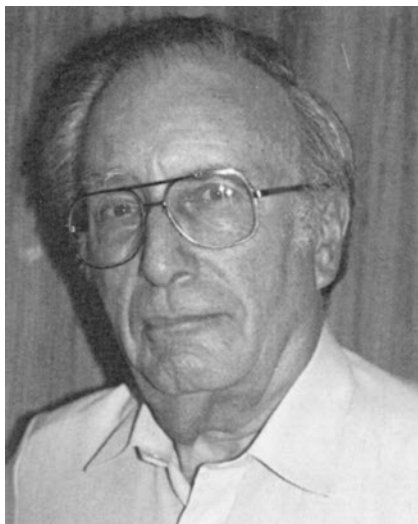


Charles Lamb's Cottage, 64 Duncan Terrace. 1760s, with later stuccoed front



Members of the Historic Buildings Group near Islington Green

Stanley Smith 1925–2010



Stan first began to be actively associated with the Enfield Society in 1969 and continued helping in an impressive variety of ways right up until his very sad death in May this year. His first role was in helping Irene in collecting signatures against the destruction of trees for a car park (sounds familiar?), but after he retired in 1985 he gave even more of his time to the Society. He was on the Management Committee for many years, retiring in 2007, and was both treasurer and publications manager during this time. In 1990 he was elected Vice-President of the society together with his wife Irene in recognition of his work.

His most obvious memorial is Jubilee Hall. After its donation by Don Gresswell he and the rest of "the Gang of Five" worked on it several days a week for two years. It is now in daily use on behalf of the Society, one of our most useful assets. He has since spent hours in the Hall projecting for meetings and attending various committees as well as doing the bookings over a number of years. He continued to help run the Hall right up until his death.

Most of you will also know him from his wonderful slide collection from which many a Christmas card has been made, as well as a large selection of post cards. His wish was that this be left to the Society for our use and his family have very generously agreed to this. He will be missed by us all – not only for all his work and dedication to the society over the years but also as a kind and thoughtful man, who was always willing to turn his hand to anything. He often acted quietly in the background but was absolutely reliable and was always there ready to help. May he rest in peace.

Janet McQueen

Railway centenary celebratory events at Gordon Hill

To mark the Centenary of the extension of the railway from Grange Park to Cuffley two events took place at Gordon Hill Station on Tuesday 27th April in front of an enthusiastic crowd of local on-lookers.

A commemorative plaque donated by the Enfield Society (TES) was unveiled in the Ticket Hall and one of the trains, which operates over the Hertford Loop was named "Captain William Leefe Robinson". This was in recognition of his part in the area's history, when he shot down a German airship over Cuffley during the First World War in 1916. It was a very nice touch being able to invite a descendant of Leefe Robinson to "pull the curtains" and unveil the train's name.

The events were organised by TES members, Dave Cockle, Roger Elkin, John Rowe and Cuffley resident Peter Dace with the co-operation of train company, First Capital Connect.

Dave Cockle



Enfield railway historians. Standing to the left of the train name (left to right): John Rowe and Roger Elkin. Standing to the right of the train name (left to right): Dave Cockle and Peter Dace.



Standing to the left of the train name (left to right): Mr Jordan & Mrs Elizabeth Robinson Scott Jordan. Mrs Jordan is a descendant of Leefe Robinson. Standing to the right of the train name (left to right): Neal Lawson, Managing Director First Capital Connect, and Rufus Barnes, former Chief Executive of London Travel Watch and a Gordon Hill commuter.

The Mary Larrett Award 2010

£100 prize for an essay on local history

In order to commemorate the contribution the late Mary Larrett made to the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society over many years and also to ensure that her generous legacy to that Society is used specifically to further its established aims, the EHHS Committee has decided to institute an award in her name with the intention of encouraging original research and historical scholarship within the Hundred.

In creating the Mary Larrett Award, instituted to further this objective, the Committee of the EHHS invites all members and anyone with an interest in Edmonton Hundred to contribute an original piece of work in the form of an essay dealing with any aspect of the history within the area of the old Hundred which includes the modern Edmonton, Enfield, Southgate, Tottenham, Wood Green, Potters Bar, Monken Hadley and South Mimms. The contributor deemed have produced the most worthy essay will be awarded a £100 book token and an award certificate.

The closing date is 30th November 2010. If you would like to submit an essay for the Mary Larrett Award and wish to discuss any issues relating to the eligibility of your proposed topic or any other aspects of the regulations please contact the Society, c/o The Local Studies Unit, Thomas Hardy House, London Road, Enfield EN2 6DS, tel: 020 8379 2839, or visit the Society's website at www.edmontonhundred.org.uk where the full terms and conditions are available.

EHHS Committee

Jubilee Hall meetings

Tuesday mornings 10.00 for 10.30 am

August - no meeting

28th September

A nice cup of tea, by Russell Bowes, with slides.

26th October

Beatrix Potter: artist, author and conservationist, by Pamela Wright, with slides.

30th November

Plymouth to Palermo: a long distance sailing trip, by David Toynbee, with slides.

14th December

The sideways look at Christmas, by Christine and Peter Padwick (Come and enjoy this fun programme)

Thursday evenings 7.30 for 8.00 pm

August - no meeting

16th September

Ethiopian experience by Colin Field

21st October

Hypnotherapy by Mrs M. Jackson

18th November

Dig for Victory by Russ Bowes, with slides

Church of St Mary Magdalene paintings restoration project



Built in 1883, the Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene, Enfield stands in a commanding position atop Windmill Hill and is a well-known local landmark. Commissioned by Georgiana Twells and designed by William Butterfield, it contains within it some very fine Victorian wall paintings and a painted ceiling, which only those who have ventured inside will have seen. Even then, in recent years, the ability to actually see these paintings has been diminished by age and dirt, and in by occasional water ingress over the last century. With the beauty and significance of the artwork in mind and in the hope of restoring this hidden gem of Victorian art to its former glory, the Vicar and the Parish Church Council have decided to try to raise funds to have the paintings and ceiling cleaned and the damage rectified in a project that will cost around £60,000. We are asking the parishioners and community and are extremely grateful for every penny!

The Reverend Gordon Giles
St Mary Magdalene's Vicarage,
30, The Ridgeway. Enfield EN2 8QH
www.saintmarymagdalene.org.uk



The corner of the the East Wall, showing water ingress and damage to paintings



Panels from the ceiling showing the effect of the proposed restoration techniques on a trial area at the lower left..



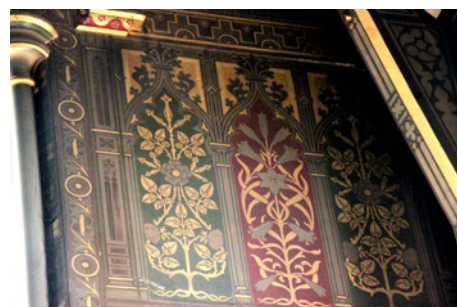
Abraham and isaac, showing signs of their age, with water damage



Saints Columba and Augustine. The upper image shows them as they are now, faded and dirty; the lower picture and some of the others have been electronically enhanced to reveal more of the colour and detail.



Faded Bishops Athanasius and Germanus



Painted wall panels, almost invisible to the naked eye



Two panels from the Chancel Ceiling

The ceiling painting was the last gift of Georgiana Twells before her death in December, 1898. Painted by Buckeridge, the figures on the ceiling, represent the whole company of angels from cherubim to archangels, and they are shown with symbols of the Church – a dragon, a lily, a fish and staff, a book and scroll. The seraphim are shown below the archangels, holding scrolls bearing the words ‘Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus’. Next to the archangels are the four angels of the Passion, below which the cherubim are depicted. Below the seraphim and cherubim are sixteen panels bearing gold shields, each shield carrying a symbol of the Church or the Apostles. Each angel is presented in a canopy of elaborate arcading. The angels have gold wings, the seraphim are red-winged and the cherubim blue-winged. The wings are folded and finely feathered. There is extensive use of gilding. The angel faces are fine-featured and emotionless.

Joy Heywood

Edmonton plaques

The report in the last Newsletter that the Enfield Society had part-funded a replacement blue plaque for Gladys Aylward prompted the Edmonton Group to check if other plaques were missing. The Council has a list of 47 blue plaques in the Borough, dated March 2008, at www.enfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/199/blue_plaques_list

Ten of the plaques listed are in Edmonton, and of these eight were found. These are:

- Site of Pymmes House
- Site of The Angel
- Charles Lamb's Cottage, Church Street
- Site of Office of Edmonton Local Board of Health
- Memorial to John Keats, on the site of the pharmacy where he worked
- Aylward School
- 133 Chichester Road, commemorating Charles Coward's rescue of people from Auschwitz Concentration Camp.
- Gladys Aylward's house (shown in our last issue).

The plaque listed as at the site of The Bell, Fore Street, immortalised in Cowper's poem "The diverting history of

John Gilpin" is missing, but there is a commemorative sculpture there in the form of a bell, engraved with scenes from the poem. This was sculpted by Angela Godfrey and unveiled in December 1996.

Another plaque which is missing should be on the site of Weir Hall, in Weir Hall Gardens. The Enfield Society is considering funding the replacement of other missing plaques in the Borough.

Edmonton Heritage Trail

In addition to these "blue plaques", there is another series of 15 green plaques in Edmonton, four of which are illustrated below. These mark points of historical interest on the Edmonton Heritage Trail, launched by Enfield Council in 1996. A leaflet was produced with descriptive text by Graham Dalling, and introduced by Cllr. Rita Smythe with the words "Edmonton makes a very significant contribution to the London Borough of Enfield's rich mix of history particularly in terms of buildings and personalities. Follow the trail and you will see our heritage come alive ..."

In addition to the leaflet, smart notice boards with a map of the area and a list of the points on the trail were erected at Edmonton Green railway station, at Angel Place and near All Saints Church, in Church Street. These are still in place, but sadly in need of maintenance. The posters inside are faded and dirty, bedecked with cobwebs, and the one at



Faded and water-damaged notice for the Edmonton Heritage Trail

All Saints Church is so badly damaged by damp as to be mostly illegible. The red "Enfield beast" symbols have also been covered with black paint.

The notice boards say that leaflets are available, but regrettably these have been allowed to go out of print and no copies remain.

It is a great pity that the work, enthusiasm and expense that was put into setting up this project should be lost by lack of provision for continuing maintenance. Presumably the original artwork has been retained so that fresh copies of the posters and leaflets could be printed at small expense.

We are grateful to the Enfield Local Studies Library and Archive for photocopies of the heritage leaflet and related press cuttings.

Monica Smith and Leonard Will

(Photos by Irmlinde Adibe, Monica Smith and Leonard Will)



Site of Pymmes House



Site of The Angel



Charles Lamb's Cottage



Site of office of the Local Board of Health



Memorial to John Keats



Aylward School



Memorial to Charles Coward



The Bell, sculpture by Angela Godfrey



Edmonton Girls Charity School



Lamb's Cottage



Millfield House Arts Centre



St. Aldhelm's Church

TES photographs on the Web

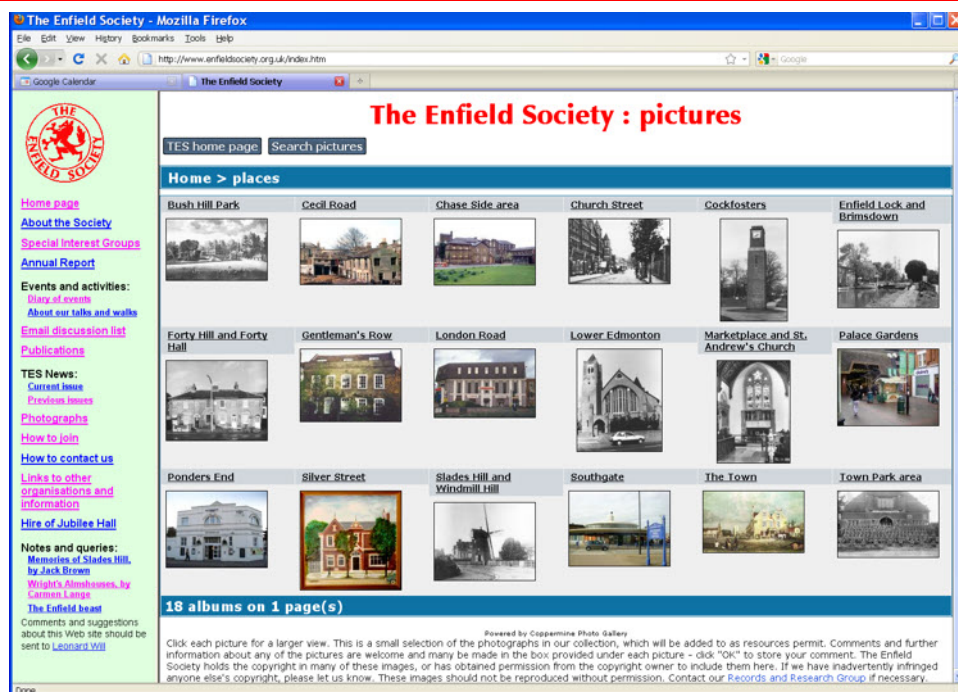
The Enfield Society has a substantial collection of photographs, mainly of buildings in Enfield taken in the second half of the 20th century, many of which were used in TES exhibitions and books.

We are now making some of these available for viewing on our web site – go to www.enfieldsociety.org.uk and choose the link “Photographs” from the menu at the left hand side.

Photographs are grouped under subjects and also, mostly, under places, so headings for these are shown on the first screen. If you click on a heading it will show a list of “albums”, and clicking one of these will display a set of thumbnail images. For example to find pictures of Gentleman’s Row, click on places, then select Gentleman’s Row, for the pictures we hold of this area. Clicking on each of these will expand it to a larger image with a caption and description, and clicking on the image again will display it at the largest size. To go back, you can click on any of the words in the title line, e.g. Home > places > Lower Edmonton

In addition to photographs of buildings, we have included some images that have appeared in other TES publications including this newsletter, and some photographs taken on TES Footpath Group walks by John Bourne and others.

We have over 240 images on-line now, and will gradually be adding to them. In many cases the descriptive information is lacking – we do not have dates for many



of the prints and no information about the history of buildings or why they are interesting. Some may even be wrongly named or located. We shall try to add more description gradually, for example from some of our books such as “*Treasures of Enfield*”, “*Enfield’s architectural heritage*” and “*Portrait of Gentleman’s Row*” but this will take time.

We hope, though, that you, our members, will have things you can tell us which are not recorded in sources such as these. There is a space for comments under each picture, and you are welcome to add

anything you think would be of interest to other viewers. If you add a comment, you will be asked to type two distorted words which will be displayed to you – this is a check that you are a human and not an automated system dumping spam or advertising rubbish on any site it can get access to! Comments will be moderated, so that anything inappropriate will not appear.

We look forward to hearing what you think and any views on how this project should develop.

Leonard Will

Bush Hill Park is flying high

Friends of Bush Hill Park invite you to come and enjoy the **Colchester Birds of Prey Display Team** who will be in **Bush Hill Park** on Saturday 25th September from 11.00 a.m. till 4.00 p.m. The 30ft marquee will hold 24 birds, including different kinds of falcons, hawks and owls. Apart from the displays, workshops and training sessions will also be on offer.

The Enfield Chace Dog-Training Club will also be coming to give demonstrations and will make themselves available to give advice to local dog owners – and it’s all free!

While you are there, come and see the changes we are making:-

- The **derelict old shelter** has been transformed into a work of art with the help of Debbie Dean of ArtStart, together with the children of George Spicer and Bush Hill Park Primary Schools.
- The **toilets** are refurbished, the children’s **new playground** will be finished by then and a skate park is underway.
- The **wild life garden** for which we got a grant from *Awards for All* will be on show.
- **Free refreshments** will be available in our newly refurbished Fellowship Hut.

Bush Hill Park lies between Southbury Road and Lincoln Road.

For more information contact Caroline Wilmer <c.w.p.wilmer@blueyonder.co.uk> or Jo Hornby <jo.hornby@yahoo.co.uk>

With thanks to The London Borough of Enfield who are funding our event.



Getting rid of the nettles in the wild life garden



The transformed shelter in the park

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, South West 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 bring your Freedom Pass / National Bus Pass with you as we might use a bus for access.

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

Mon 23 Aug. Village London. Meet **10.47am** Chislehurst Station (10.24am Orpington train from London Bridge mainline station – usually from platforms 1-4) or travel with Stuart on the **9.34am** train from Enfield Chase, changing at Moorgate for the Northern Line to London Bridge. About 7.5 to 8.0 mile circular walk in an outstanding rural enclave of South East London with commons, ancient woods, National Trust farmland, a country park and historic connections. Shorter options, including ending at the lunch stop in Chislehurst Village – food available or bring lunch. All travel within Freedom Pass area. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Sat 28 Aug. Dollis Valley Green Walk. Prompt start at **2.30pm** from Odeon Cinema, Barnet (on 307 bus route at junction of Barnet Hill/Great North Road and Station Road). About 3 hour linear walk via Highwood (tea break/option to end) and Moat Mount, ending at Barnet Gate. Return to start by 107 bus or to Enfield by 107 & 307 buses. *Leader: Ken Cooper*

Bank Holiday Mon 30 Aug. River Stort & Sawbridgeworth. Meet **10.34am** Sawbridgeworth Station (9.42am train from Southbury Station, changing at Cheshunt for 10.09am train. *Note: train times assume a Sunday service will apply. If not, then times for other days vary slightly. Check before the day.* 9.5 mile figure-of-eight walk. Option to end or join at town centre lunch stop (if joining, meet group in town centre by **1.30pm** – not at the station). Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Wed 8 Sept. Capital Ring. Meet **11.07am** Beckenham Hill Station (10.30am train from St. Pancras First Capital Connect and Southeastern domestic mainline platform). *Note: Dave will travel on 9.34am train from Enfield Chase intending to reach St. Pancras about 10.05am.* Today's max 9 mile linear walk via parks, woods and commons ends at Streatham Common Station. Many shorter

options including from the lunch stop at Crystal Palace (about 5 miles). Bring lunch or food available. All travel within Freedom Pass area. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Sat 11 Sept. St. Albans – over 2000 Years of History. On the Heritage National Open Days Weekend, today's walk will explore historic features of St. Albans from the City centre to Verulamium. St. Albans usually has a wide range of properties participating in the scheme, including the Town Hall/Court House, Clock Tower, Cathedral, Watermill, Roman Hypocaust & Theatre, but 2010 details not available for TES news copy date. Walk distance probably up to about 5 miles but will be flexible on day depending on route etc. (many shorter options). The lunch stop will allow time for short viewing of the Cathedral's interior.

Meet **10.45am** outside Old Town Hall at junction of St. Peter's Street and Market Place (near to Tourist Information Office and opposite Skipton Building Society office). For afternoon route only, join group by **1.30pm** in the vicinity of the Cathedral's refectory/café.

Public transport: 84 bus from Potters Bar Station at 9.47am & 10.08am and stops within 50 yards of Town Hall. By car: to avoid city centre congestion, suggest use car parks just outside of centre (e.g. those off London Road) and have 10 mins walk to Old Town Hall. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Wed 22 Sept. Old Middlesex. Prompt start at **11.00am** from Perivale Station (Central Line – 35 mins from Liverpool Street, 28 mins from Holborn) for 7.5 to 8.0 mile linear walk, ending at Osterley Station.

The route is very green/semi-rural, virtually all off-road, and goes past historic properties etc that feature in the London Open House Weekend (18 & 19 Sept 2010) Shorter options, including ending from lunch stop in Brent Lodge Park. *Note: bring lunch as NO pub, although park café does drinks, ices and snacks.* Tea break at Osterley House – bring National Trust card if you wish to view garden or house. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Sat 25 Sept. London Bridges. Meet **10.30am** at entrance to Platform 1 Liverpool Street mainline station (9.52am train from Enfield Town) for a linear walk using many of the Thames bridges going westwards from the City, probably ending at Battersea Park Station. Numerous shorter options, including from the lunch stop at the South Bank Centre (food available). Details: (020) 8360 0282. *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Wed 6 Oct. Gobions Estate. Prompt start at **10.30am** from Potters Bar bus station (next to rail station – bus routes 313, 298, 84, 242 & 610) for a total 2.75 hour linear walk via attractive farmland and woods. Lunch stop at the Dutch Nursery, Bell Bar. Afterwards, a short afternoon walk to Welham Green to catch the 610 bus - this should arrive back in Enfield about 3.00pm (it goes via Potters Bar Station). *Leader: Ken Cooper*

Sat 9 Oct. The Blackwater Trail. Either meet **11.00am** at Witham Station (10.18am Harwich train from Liverpool Street mainline station) or travel with Dave on the 9.22am train from Enfield Town. Dave will then catch

the 10.18am Harwich train. Freedom Pass boundary for this journey is Harold Wood – Groupsave available thereafter but you must travel as a group of either 3 or 4 persons on both outward and return journeys.

Today's 8 mile linear walk follows parts of the long closed local rail line through pretty Essex countryside via Wickham Bishops (lunch stop), ending in the delightful & historic town of Maldon. The return to Witham will be by bus. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Wed 20 Oct. Woods, views and history. Meet **10.59am** Moor Park Station (10.29am Metropolitan Line train from Baker Street) for 8.5 mile linear walk following a very green section of the London Loop via woods, commons, Grim's Dyke, the scene of W.S. Gilbert's drowning and near Fighter Command HQ in WWII. Ends at Stanmore Station (return by Jubilee Line). Shorter options including from lunch stop near Hatch End (4.5 miles) – bring lunch or food probably available. *Leader: Martin Langer*

Sat 30 Oct. Unspoilt Mid-Herts. Meet **10.20am** Watton-at-Stone Station (9.49am train from Enfield Chase) for a contrasting figure-of-eight walk via parkland, the River Beane Valley, arable farmland and perhaps some early Autumn colours in the woods. Morning and afternoon sections are about 4.0 and 4.5 miles respectively. Option to end or join at Watton lunch stop (if joining, meet group in village centre by **1.30pm** – not at the station. Train from Enfield Chase at 12.49pm). Bring lunch or pub food available. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Wed 3 Nov. Epping Forest. Meet **10.55am** Chingford Bus Station (next to rail station) at 313 bus terminus. 313 buses from Enfield Town, Church Street, currently at 10.00am & 10.20am. Circular walk of 6.5 to 7.0 miles through the autumn colours of the Forest. Depending upon actual route, possibility of shorter 5.0 mile option. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader: Norman Coles*

Wed 17 Nov. Chelsea. Meet **10.30am** outside Sloane Square Station (District & Circle Lines). Monica will explore some of the colourful streets and open spaces of Chelsea and intends to include visits to the Dining Hall and Chapel of the Royal Hospital (home of the Chelsea Pensioners) and also to Chelsea Old Church (connections with Sir Thomas More). Bring lunch or choice of lunch venues. Finishing about 3.30pm but many shorter options. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Sat 27 Nov. Finance (old & new) and old commerce. Meet **10.00am** at entrance to Platform 1, Liverpool Street mainline station (9.22am train from Enfield Town). Today's max 6 mile linear walk will initially cross The City to catch a DLR train into Docklands, from where the walk will highlight the contrasts between the area's original commerce and the Canary Wharf etc. regeneration. Many shorter options. Bring lunch or food probably available. Finish by mid-afternoon. Details: 07703 470 156. *Leaders: Toby Simon & Margaret McAlpine*

Stuart Mills



Footpath flooding problem

TES members having to bypass the flooded section of the new Bulls Cross – Mile and a Quarter Alley path on Dave Cockle's "North Enfield" walk on 5th June. TES have made representations to the Council to resolve this problem. Even after a three week dry spell in July the path remained impassable.

Myddelton House sundial

In our Summer 2005 newsletter we reported the theft of this valuable historic sundial from the front lawn at Myddelton House, owned by the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority. It is now back in the garden at Bulls Cross following some remarkable detective work. Fortunately excellent photographs of this early 17th century pedestal were held by the E A Bowles of Myddelton House Society, and immediately after the theft copies were circulated by the Metropolitan Police to antique dealers, auction houses, and added to the files of missing fine art pieces. A copy was also passed to Andrew Newman, the chairman of the Friends of Forty Hall Park. Some time later he met Mike Cowham, a member of the British Sundial Association, at Beckwith's antique shop in Hertford and told him about the missing sundial. Andrew sent a copy of the photograph to him.

Almost three years later, in January 2008, Richard Crowther, a leading London antique dealer, contacted Mike Cowham. He was looking for a gnomon and dial plate to place on top of a "fine pedestal" he was selling. Mike thought that he recognised this pedestal and compared it with the photograph from Andrew; it was the missing Myddelton House sundial. Richard Crowther had purchased the pedestal in good faith, and reported his possession of the stolen item to the police. Sadly the dial-plate had been lost, which was why Richard had been looking for a replacement.



The sundial back in place, with (left to right) Mike Cowham, Geoff Nash (a committee member of the E A Bowles of Myddelton House Society), Richard Crowther and Andrew Newman.

The sundial pedestal was returned to Myddelton House, underwent a complete restoration and was fitted with a new dial – works undertaken by Rupert Harris and Taylor Pearce Restorations, Fulham. It now stands on the front lawn in full view of the house, and as Paul Roper, the LVRPA Special Projects Leader told those present at the recent unveiling ceremony "it is bolted from its base to Australia"

The restoration was a jointly funded project between LVRPA, the E A Bowles of Myddelton House Society and the Enfield Society. We were pleased to donate £1,000 towards the substantial total costs.

Colin Pointer

Vicarage Farm footpaths – help needed.

As mentioned in the last *TES News*, negotiations have continued throughout 2010. Resulting from a recent site meeting with the landowner's agent, it is very pleasing to report that in mid-July we received agreement from the landowner to the final route. Although statutory procedures etc still have to be carried out, this is excellent news and may result in the paths being officially open for public use the end of 2010.

However, part of the route will require some limited clearance, installation of stile/kissing gates etc., especially in the vicinity of the old gun site near the Jolly Farmers pub.

With this in mind, we consider it is now appropriate to appeal for volunteers to assist with this work which will be in conjunction with Western Enfield Residents' Association and the Council's Ground Force team. Work is likely to start in the Autumn.

Dave Cockle is coordinating volunteers – please speak to either him or myself on walks or ring Dave on (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. Many thanks.

Stuart Mills

St Andrew's Church organ

The Parish Church of St Andrew, Enfield Town, has launched an organ restoration appeal. The Church has a long and distinguished musical history, at the centre of which is the magnificent 1752 organ with its 3 keyboards and 1,924 speaking pipes. The last major work undertaken on this organ was in 1958 and it is now in urgent need of complete refurbishment – at a cost of £250,000. For many years the Society has been allowed full use of St Andrew's in support of our Historic Walks around Enfield Town, and in recognition of the historical importance of the Church in our community the Management Committee has agreed to donate £1,000 towards the appeal for the equally historically important organ.

Other recent donations we have made include:

- £500 to Jesus Church Forty Hill towards cost of bollards to prevent fly tipping;
- £217, being 50% of the cost of the replacement Gladys Aylward blue plaque

Colin Pointer

Carmen Lang has added additional material on Wright's almshouses to her article on our website, mentioned in our last issue.

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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 8367 7374 (Janet McQueen)

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 Gilbert)

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
Dave Cockle, Graham Dalling, John Davies, Robert Fowler, Stephen Gilbert, David James, Janet McQueen, Stuart Mills, Colin Pointer, Olive Sharman, Monica Smith, Derrick Stone, Richard Stones, Leonard Will.

Vice-Presidents
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Coach trip to Great Dixter via the steam train!



Front porch, Great Dixter
(Photo by Fergus Garrett)

Our next coach outing will take place on **Tuesday 21st September**. It will involve an early start but should be a really wonderful day out. We will leave Enfield and travel by coach to the Kent and East Sussex railway at Tenterden to catch the 10.40 steam train to Bodiam arriving at 11.25. A five minute walk on the flat gets you from the station to the village and castle. We will then have time to explore the castle, have a walk, sit in the local pub or visit the nurseries as well as having lunch before leaving on the coach for the short journey to Great Dixter. Both the shop and restaurant as well as all the castle grounds are open to the public, but you will need to pay a fee or use your National Trust card to gain entry to the castle itself.

Great Dixter, as many of you will know, was the family home of the well known

horticulturalist and writer Christopher Lloyd and he has created one of the most beautiful gardens in the south of England. This in association with a visit to his fifteenth century house (part of which has only just been opened to the public) should make for a lovely afternoon. There are limited refreshments (tea and biscuits) available at Great Dixter, hence the need for a stop for lunch elsewhere.

You may also be interested to know that The Garden Museum – next to Lambeth Palace – is doing an exhibition on Christopher Lloyd and his garden at present (until 12th September) and this is well worth a visit in anticipation of our trip.

The cost of the trip is **£30 per person** and this includes entry to Great Dixter and the train journey but not the driver's gratuity nor entry to Bodiam Castle.

We will leave from the bus stop at Colman Parade, Southbury Rd at 8am on Tuesday 21st September and depart from Great Dixter at 5pm so we should be back in Enfield about 7.15pm.

Please make cheques payable to "The Enfield Society", and send them to Janet McQueen (coach outings) Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield, EN2 0AJ. Please ensure you include a SAE and your telephone number.

Janet McQueen

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 15th October 2010, 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

New members

We warmly welcome the following new members:

Mr F Barker, Mr. & Mrs. C.J. Clark,
Miss C. Coe, Mr & Mrs. T. Dey,
Mr. & Mrs. D. Fisher,
Mr. & Mrs. S. Gray, Dr. P. L. Harris,
Miss N. Johns, Ms F. Kapasi,
Miss C. Kealy, Miss S. Macve,
Mr. W. J. Measure, Ms A. Miller,
Mrs. C. M. Needham, Mrs. P. Pearson,
Ms B. Rajani, Mr. & Mrs. M. Rapier,
Mr. & Mrs. T. Stone, Mr. R. Young.

Olive Sharman