



The newsletter of The Enfield Society

Is this the place for an ice rink?



Library Green

The final layout of the Library Green could I suppose be considered a success, albeit with an enormous number of lamp posts, but hard on the heels of its being finished comes an application to turn a major part of it into an ice rink, with associated viewing platform, marquee and equipment cabin, from mid-November to early January. The Society has objected strongly; there are plenty of sites around Enfield Town, such as the Town Park, if an ice rink is needed, not replacing newly laid turf on what is essentially a large traffic island. We hope the Green will be regarded as an adjunct to the Library which should be a place for study and reflection, not as a venue for ever changing “attractions”.

Chris Jephcott



The new fountain on the Library Green

Core Development Strategy approved

Following a long and thorough Public Inquiry into Enfield Council's Core Development Strategy the Planning Inspector's final and binding report in effect completely endorses the strategy and makes no recommendation for changes regarding its soundness. We had no major issues with the strategy, so obviously this is a good result. The strategy will now be formally adopted at a full Council meeting on 10th November. The process included a consideration of Enfield's Green Belt and endorsed its existing boundaries. As part of his investigation the Inspector specifically visited the site to the south of Enfield Road and agreed with the Council's view that this should remain Green Belt. There has been no application for change of use of the site but representations were made concerning its future at the Inquiry. The Council does, however, within the next few months plan to review the whole boundary of the Green Belt to remove anomalies, so we must remain vigilant.

A major policy of the Strategy is that the bulk of new housing development within the Borough should be at Meridian Water, immediately to the south of the North Circular Road in Edmonton. The “vision” is an “eco neighbourhood” with up to 5,000 new homes and 3,000 new jobs, new schools and a railway station and all the facilities to create a balanced, independent community. LDA Design has been chosen to take the project forward.

Chris Jephcott

Enfield Town

It is encouraging to see that the King's Head is being refurbished as a restaurant and public house and, next door, the redevelopment of the Rialto site is now under way. A final planning application, essentially the same but with some modifications to incorporate the ‘safe streets’ policy into the design of what will be a rather narrow alley, was supported by the Conservation Advisory Group.

Chris Jephcott

Wanted: Caretaker for Jubilee Hall

The Society is looking for someone to clean and maintain Jubilee Hall. The post requires someone able to work flexibly to fit in with bookings and to work independently. They will need to attend the hall for about an hour several days a week to clean it, keep the path swept and outside areas neat and tidy. They would on occasions need to be available to open the Hall for outside agencies such as fire inspectors, plumbers, etc., and also to do tasks such as setting the heating control and purchasing supplies as required.

They would report any problems or difficulties to the Jubilee Hall Management Committee and attend meetings with them 2-3 times a year.

Hours and rate of pay to be agreed – probably requires 3 hours a week.

If you would like any further information or wish to apply then please contact Janet McQueen either by phone on 020 8363 9495 or in writing to-

Janet McQueen, Jubilee Hall,
2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield, EN2 0AJ.

Pump House Steam and Transport Museum – The Lea Valley Experience



This project is still being developed by volunteers but visitors are welcome on Thursdays and Sundays between 11 am and 3 pm. There is already much to interest those with connections to local inventions and industries. There is a modest entrance fee of £2 or £1 (concessions). It is situated at 10 South Access Road, Walthamstow, London, E17 8AX.

A Grade II listed building which was once a Victorian sewage pumping station is being restored together with its two historic steam engines. The yard is occupied by historic vehicles such as cars, buses and railway coaches. The aim is to create a heritage museum, which will tell the story of some of the many (an estimate is more than 100) industrial innovations and achievements of the Lea Valley

For more information see
<www.leavalleyexperience.co.uk> or
phone (020) 8521 1766

Monica Smith

Historic Buildings Group

Following Graham Dalling's interesting talk on *Historic towns in south-east England* on 7th October, the next Historic Buildings Group meeting will be held in Jubilee Hall at 8pm on Thursday 6th January. All members of The Enfield Society are invited to an illustrated talk by Stephen Gilburt on *Medieval English cathedrals*.

Stephen Gilburt

Publicity Group



As usual, we had a TES stand at the Enfield Town show on 4/5 September. This year we signed up 24 new members and made £310 from sales of TES publications.

Community notice boards

We continue to keep a number of 'community notice boards' updated with some pages from *TES News* and a poster advertising the benefits of membership. We also have a regular monthly article in the *Enfield Echo* and less frequently in the *Enfield Advertiser*.

Spare copies of *TES News* continue to be available from the Information Desk at the Central Library and the Dugdale Centre where our membership application forms are also displayed. In addition, the Dugdale Centre has a display of TES publications for sale.

Publications

We are well advanced on the production of an updated and extended footpath map, which now includes the whole of the London Borough of Enfield area. A new

TES Christmas card is available with a photograph showing Whitewebbs House in the snow.

New members party

An evening for new members is being held on Wednesday 17th November at Jubilee Hall providing an opportunity to learn more about the society and meet with committee members over drinks and light refreshments. Invitations have been sent out to all members who have joined TES since March 2009.

And finally, an idea promoted by the Publicity Group, is to hold an open meeting with similar civic societies in areas adjoining the London Borough of Enfield to discuss and share ideas and experiences on issues of common interest. This is being planned to take place early next year.

Bob Fowler

The Enfield Society on Radio Enfield

In July this year Monica Smith took part in Radio Enfield's 40th anniversary weekend broadcast. Monica was interviewed "live" on air by David Scarff, Deputy Chairman and Trustee of Radio Enfield. She discussed a wide range of subjects including the history of the Enfield Society, the walks and talks, current active issues and even managed a plug for the 2010 Christmas cards! Monica has taken part in several previous Radio Enfield broadcasts so is becoming a regular contributor to the hospital radio station, based at Chase Farm.

Radio Enfield is Chase Farm Hospital's very own closed circuit radio station, providing entertainment 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The service is owned and operated by volunteers in their spare time and financed by various fund raising activities and from donations.

David Scarff



Monica Smith and David Scarff at the Radio Enfield studio after their broadcast.

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/

Until 21st November, 11am to 4pm, Wednesday to Sunday

Little Poland in Enfield: an exhibition at Forty Hall.

Until 20th March 2011

A passion for painting patterns: an exhibition of the textile designs of Raymond Honeyman, at the Museum of Domestic Design and Architecture, Cat Hill. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10 am to 5 pm, Sunday 2 to 5 pm. Admission free.

Tuesday 16th November, 2.15 for 2.30 pm, Jubilee Hall

English towns*, Graham Dalling. *

Wednesday 15th December, 7.45 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall

Seasonal meeting, EHHS.* *

Saturday 4th December, 10 am to 1 pm
Sales table open at Jubilee Hall.

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) ***

Tuesday 8th February 2011, 8 pm

***The age of Justinian: the flowering of Byzantium*, Dr Fiona Haarer, King's College, London ***

Friday 25th February, 7.30 for 8 pm

Discovering historic buildings in Edmonton, Winchmore Hill and Southgate: a slide show by Stephen Gilbert. (Joint meeting with Edmonton Hundred Historical Society at Charity School Hall, Church Street, Edmonton.)

Tuesday 8th March 2011, 8 pm

***Simon de Montfort: the first leader of a political movement in English history*, Professor David Carpenter, King's College, London ***

Tuesday 12th April 2011, 8 pm

***The origins of the American Civil War and its complications*, Professor Brian Holden Reid, King's College, London ***

Thursday 9th June 7.30 pm

The Enfield Society AGM at Jubilee Hall

* 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.

** Meeting of the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society. Talks are free to members, and there is a charge of £1 per head for visitors. For details see

<http://edmontonhundred.freeukisp.co.uk/>

The President's column



My turn again. By the time you read this we shall know the worst about the effects of 'the cuts'. If the proposed scrapping of the good work done by Ground Force to save a few hours of administrative time reported elsewhere in the newsletter is anything to go by we are in for a grim time. It is up to us to emphasise the value of voluntary groups in so many areas of local activity and their contribution to the smooth functioning of society, 'big' or otherwise.

Following up on the thread in the Chairman's column in the last issue, we do tend to work to a considerable extent separately from other local groups, though we do of course have representatives on the London Forum and the London Green Belt Council as well as on local Conservation Area Study Groups. Mindful of this, our Steering Sub-committee has proposed we set up a meeting of similar societies to ourselves based around NE London. We do have particular interests in common and our proposal was welcomed at the latest meeting of the London Forum, on which our representative is Monica Smith. One such common interest is preparing to mark the 400th Anniversary of the New

River in 2-3 years' time. We have compiled quite a long list of local groups and societies and are planning a date in next February or March.

Jubilee Hall is one of our greatest assets. Without Don Gresswell's gift in 1986 we would be an altogether different society. So a word of recognition of the services of Pauline Claydon, our caretaker for many of the years since then, is not out of place. Ill health has now forced her to give up and I would like to express our gratitude for her loyal service.

Also, the last issue of the News did not give me an opportunity to have my say on the retirement of Tony Langston. As a reliable and effective member of firstly the Architecture and Planning Group, then of the Council of Management, including a stint as Chairman and latterly in setting up the street scene initiative, his level headed, sound advice and practical support and expertise in so many ways have added up to an enormous contribution and I would like to add my personal thank you and good wishes.

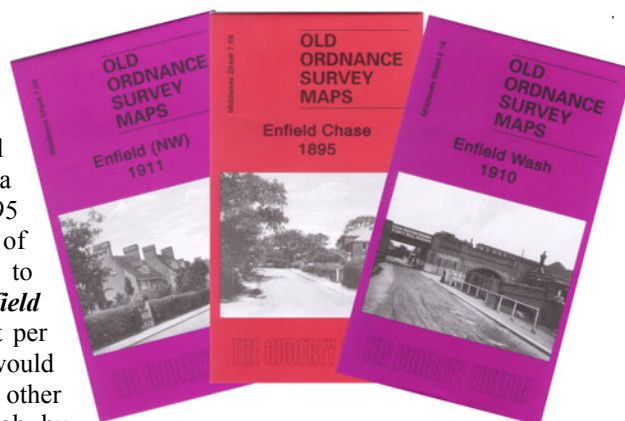
Chris Jephcott

Sales table – three new Godfrey maps

At last Godfrey maps have produced the missing ones of Enfield. ***Enfield NW*** covers the area from Barnet Road to just past Chase Farm Hospital in 1911. ***Enfield Chase*** is a reproduction of the 1895 Ordnance Survey map north of the Hospital. Albany Park to Bullsmoor Lane is on the ***Enfield Wash*** map of 1910. The cost per map remains £2.25 but if you would like to order these or any other Godfrey maps of the borough by post, please include a contribution to the postage as detailed below.

Christmas cards of Whitewebbs House, the New River Loop, the painting of Trent Park House and the Forty Hall Dining Room are available £1.50 for a pack of five with envelopes. Packs of 4 different cards are also on sale at £1

We have obtained a few copies of two books which have been out of print for some time; ***"The story of Enfield Chase"*** by David Pam (£6.95) and ***"Enfield past"*** by Graham Dalling. (£10 special price to members).



A new, enlarged ***Footpath Map*** is in production and should be available by the end of this year.

A list of all items we stock was sent to members with the Autumn Newsletter. If ordering the above or any other items by post please include in your cheque a contribution towards postage: £1 on an order up to £10, £2 on orders £10-£20 and £3 for any totalling more than £20. For those members who cannot get to Jubilee Hall for meetings, the Sales Table will be open on Saturday 4th December from 10 am to 1 pm. Do call in.

Monica Smith

Historic buildings

Wright's Flour Mill, Wharf Road, Ponders End

There has been a mill at Ponders End for 900 years and the present mill, owned by members of the Wright family since 1867, is Enfield's oldest working industrial building. The old mill, two houses and a barn are listed Grade II for their group value and together with the water meadows form the Ponders End Flour Mills Conservation Area.

The buildings can be reached by buses 191, 313 and 491 and may be seen from the footbridge at Ponders End railway station or from Wharf Road, but close public access is not now permitted. *(Image 1 was provided by Enfield Local Studies Library and Archive).*

Stephen Gilbert



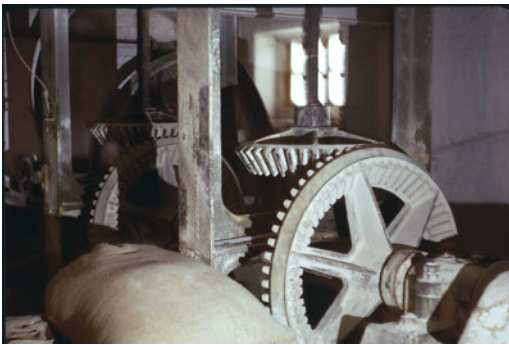
1. A 1910 view of the 18th century, part-weatherboarded old mill. It was powered by water from a mill stream diverted from the River Lea until 1909, when electric power was introduced. In the centre is a projecting sack hoist.



2. By 1968, when Geoffrey Gillam photographed the buildings, the mill stream no longer flowed past the old mill. Since then a modern loading bay extension has been constructed.



3. The bagged flour was transported by horse-drawn carts until 1906, when steam wagons were purchased. The stables can be seen on the left.



4. Some of the disused machinery in the old mill.



6 The new mill to which wheat was brought by barge along the River Lea.

5. Mill wheels used to grind the wheat.



7. A pre-cast concrete silo was added in 1957 and the new mill was extended in 1960.



8. The 18th century mill owner's house has dormer windows in the mansard roof.



9. A 2009 view of the early 19th century Lodge Cottage at the entrance to the mills.

Jubilee Hall meetings

Tuesday mornings 10.00 for 10.30 am

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)

25th January 2011

Turn right at Nice, by John Merrill, with slides.

22nd February

Around the world in 23 years, by Linda Scoles, with slides.

29th March

Warships to the Olympics – a history of the lower River Lea Valley, by Peter Lawrence, with slides.

Thursday evenings 7.30 for 8.00 pm

18th November

Dig for Victory by Russ Bowes, with slides

20th January 2011

National parks and monuments in the American West from Yellowstone to the Grand Canyon, by Stephen Gilbert, with slides.

17th February

Acting, by Dave Newby, with slides

17th March

Carolyn Grace – a lady and her spitfire, by Maggie Radcliffe, with slides.

21st April

Joyce Grenfell, by Malka Baker

19th May

Animal magic, by Maggie Radcliffe, with slides.

June

TES AGM, no meeting

July

no meeting

August

no meeting

We are sorry to report that the following members have died recently:

Mrs P.M.Burton, Miss D.Tilbrook and Mr B.Eastwood

First ATM commemorative plaque



Today most of us draw out money from any one of the estimated 1.8 million ATMs (Automated Teller Machines) worldwide. In 1967 the very first hole-in-the wall automatic cash dispenser, built into the front wall of Barclays Bank in The Town, was officially opened by the actor Reg Varney who lived in Clay Hill at the time. Sadly the original commemorative plaque was stolen but Barclays have now replaced it with an attractive blue plaque. The ATM was invented by a Scottish entrepreneur, John Shepherd-Barron, who was the managing director of the currency printing firm, De La Rue Instruments. He took his idea of delivering standard amounts of money round the clock to Barclays Bank which

commissioned him to build six cash dispensers.

Approved customers were given a batch of 10 vouchers at a time, with a pattern of holes punched in them corresponding, in encrypted form, to the user's PIN. A voucher was placed in a drawer in the machine, light shining through the holes was detected and the authenticity of the voucher was verified using radiation. The ink used in the Barclays logo was mildly radioactive, and was measured by an in-built Geiger counter set to expect a given level of radiation.

Once the PIN was entered, checked and the voucher verified, a drum turned, depositing a £10 note in a second drawer. A light flashed on telling the customer that the money was ready. The voucher was retained and cleared like an ordinary cheque, with the £10 withdrawn from the customer's account some days later. Online transactions and plastic cards were still some years away.

Colin Pointer and Leonard Will

<http://www.computing.co.uk/computing/news/2062213/bath-pink-gin-cashpoint-born>

New members

We warmly welcome the following new members:

Ms J.Allen, Ms V.Allen,
Mr I.Attwell, Mr P.Baker,
Mrs J.Barker, Mr D.Barton,
Ms B.Bean, Mr & Mrs P.Bradly,
Ms Y.Brown, Ms L.Chandler,
Mrs L.Clarke, Mrs J.Conlon,
Miss J.Daniel, Mrs C.Drinkwater,
Mr K.Dunmore, Mrs M.Dwyer,
Mr R.Fenwick, Mrs E.Flack,
Mr & Mrs C.Ford, Mrs E.Glazer,
Ms M.Grande, Mrs J.Green,
Mrs R.Hanchett, Mr F.Heinley,
Mr & Mrs T.Humphrey, Mr P.Jones,
Miss Y.Keast, Mrs B.Kibasi,
Ms J.Laban, Mr M.Mair,
Mr & Mrs J.Marshall, Ms S.Meggie,
Mrs P.Phillips, Mrs B.Richenberg,
Mrs D.Robinson, Mr & Mrs Rolph,
Mr R.Sanders, Mr J.Scott,
Mrs J.Seymour, Ms D.Shap,
Mrs S.Sims, Mr D.Still,
Ms D.Strachan, Mr A.Tredgett,
Mr R.Turner, Miss H.Vare,
Mrs J.Wagner, Mr N.Wall,
Mr & Mrs N.Ward,
Mr & Mrs D.Wilkinson,
Mrs D.Wood, Miss S.Wright,
Ms P.Wurzel, Mrs G.Yaz,
Ms A.Zoltie.

Olive Sharman

More benches in Enfield?



A new bench at the corner of the Library Green, to which the old plaque has been transferred, reading "Donated by Enfield Preservation Society 1991".

A suggestion has been made that Enfield would benefit from more benches particularly at request bus stops where people often have to wait and there is nowhere to sit. On discussions between ourselves and the Council it was suggested we ask our membership for suggestions as to where they are needed, so **over to you**. Please let us know if you have any ideas about where a seat would be well placed and useful and we will pass the information on and consider funding the work.

Janet McQueen

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.

Wed 17 Nov. Chelsea. Meet **10.30am** outside Sloane Square Station (District & Circle Lines). Monica explores 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 (Sir Thomas More connections). Bring lunch or various lunch venues. Finishing soon after 3.00pm but many shorter options. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Sat 27 Nov. Old and new finance with 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 initially crosses The City to catch a DLR train into Docklands, from where the walk will highlight the contrasts between older commerce and the Canary Wharf etc. regeneration. Many shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. Finish by mid-afternoon. Details: 07703 470 156. *Leaders: Toby Simon & Margaret McAlpine*

Wed 1 Dec. Enfield's New River. Meet **10.15am** in The Market Place, Church Street, Enfield Town, for about 2.5 hour linear walk, initially via some of the footpaths to the north of the Town, and then following the New River towards Winchmore Hill. *Leader: Ken Cooper*

Mon 13 Dec. Capital Ring. Meet **10.50am** Streatham Station (10.18am Sutton train from St. Pancras First Capital Connect mainline platform). *Note: Dave will travel on 9.34am train from Enfield Chase.* Today's max 5.5 mile linear walk ends at Wimbledon Park Station. It crosses two extensive commons (Tooting Bec & Wandsworth) and is mainly level with a firm surface throughout. Many shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. All travel within Freedom Pass area. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Sat 18 Dec. River Lea and Ash valleys. Meet **10.20am** St Margaret's Station (9.44am train from Southbury Station changing at Cheshunt for 10.09am train) for 3 hour circular walk in this unspoilt scenic area. After walk optional lunch available in Stanstead Abbots. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Wed 29 Dec. Ancient woods, heath and historic Hampstead. Meet **10.30am** East Finchley Station (Northern Line from either High Barnet, Kings Cross or Euston Stations or 102 bus from Edmonton/Bounds Green. Also station car park). A varied circular walk via Highgate, Hampstead Heath & Village and the Kenwood Estate. Many shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Bank Holiday Mon 3 Jan. West End scenes. Meet **10.30am** Green Park Station (Victoria & Piccadilly Lines) for a walk via parks, open spaces and historic buildings, together with some lesser known sights. Many shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Mon 10 Jan. The City and the London Blitz. Meet **10.30am** beside the steps at the main western entrance to St. Paul's Cathedral. With the 70th anniversary of the London Blitz, Brian will today explore the area of The City between St. Paul's and the Bank of England that was so irrevocably altered by the Blitz and highlight some of the changes. Full route will end by 1.30pm but many shorter options. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Sat 15 Jan. From River to Forest. Meet **10.32am** on east side of level crossing at Brimsdown Station (either 10.25am train from Tottenham Hale Station or by 307 bus which is scheduled to take about 20 mins from Enfield Town but will take longer with heavy traffic). About 8 mile linear walk ending at Chingford Station (with return to Enfield by 313 bus) via the Lee Navigation towpath, Larks Wood and then the River Ching in Epping Forest. Shorter options, including from the lunch stop near Highams Park Station. Bring lunch or food available. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Sat 29 Jan. "Four Weddings and a Funeral"? Meet **10.30am** Notting Hill Gate Station (Central Line – *N.B. Circle Line is scheduled to be closed*) for a linear walk through an area of West London with distinct contrasts and sights, including Portobello Green, Kensal Green Cemetery and the Grand Union Canal. Many shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. Details: (020) 8360 0282. *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Mon 7 Feb. Waterways and lakes. Meet **11.00am** Broxbourne Station (10.14am train from Southbury Station changing at Cheshunt for 10.39am train) for about 6 mile circular walk via New River, River Lea and Lea Valley Park. Morning section is about 2 miles with option to leave or join the group at Rye House Station (to join, catch 12.39pm train from Cheshunt). Bring lunch or pub food available at "The Rye House" P.H. near the station. *Leader: Norman Coles*

Sat 12 Feb. Dollis Valley Greenwalk. Meet **10.30am** Totteridge & Whetstone Station (Northern Line from High Barnet, Kings Cross or Euston Stations. 251 or 34 buses from Arnos Grove Station or 125 bus from Southgate Station. Also station car park). Today's max 7.5 mile linear walk is semi-rural and goes via woods, fields, open spaces and garden suburb "twittens" to end at Golders Hill Park café (with bus/train return to start or Enfield). Many shorter options, including from the lunch stop near Mill Hill East Station (2.75 miles) and at 5.5 miles (with both these points giving connections back to start/Enfield). Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Wed 23 Feb. Bloomsbury squares and gardens. Meet **10.15am** at entrance to Platforms 9 & 10, Kings Cross mainline station, for a linear walk linking some of the many squares and gardens in this district. Full route ends by about 1.15pm near Leicester Square Station, but many shorter options. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Sat 26 Feb. Dulwich. Meet **11.00am** Sydenham Hill Station (10.40am Orpington train from Victoria – earlier trains are every 15 mins). Alternatively, travel with Margaret & Toby on the 9.29am train from Enfield Chase or meet them at 10.00am at entrance to Platforms 9 & 10, Kings Cross mainline station. Today's 6 mile circular walk is through historic Dulwich Village, commons and woods, finishing mid-afternoon with the option to visit the famous Dulwich Picture Gallery. Bring lunch or food probably available. *Leaders: Toby Simon & Margaret McAlpine*

Stuart Mills

Trees Group

What do these trees all have in common? (* Answer below)



Birch and hedge, St. Peter's, Viga Road



Chase Farm



Carterhatch Lane



Holtwhites Hill



Christ Church, Chase Side



London Road



Poplars, Hoe Lane



Yews, St. Andrew's Churchyard



Lyndhurst Gardens

** They were all planted through the Trees Group of the Enfield Preservation Society. The Group is now growing on young trees in its allotment Tree Nursery for use in future planting schemes.*

Trees Group

A year ago Aled Richards, Head of Development Services, promised Enfield Council would consider appointing a dedicated Tree Planning Officer. We are very pleased to learn that Steven Downing, who has arboricultural expertise, has now been appointed to this position.

We are also pleased to find that, using the MOLE (Mapping On Line in Enfield) search facility on the Council's website,

it is possible to identify preserved trees across the borough – time consuming, but very useful.

The felling of the well loved chestnut tree on the Palmers Green Triangle has caused a good deal of local concern. When I last saw it the tree appeared to be dead or dying. There was little root space around the base. We would like to suggest a good replacement site for a well grown specimen would be in the centre of the triangle, replacing the huge, ugly, Council notice board which today was

displaying the scrolling message "Make Enfield Clean and Green". That would be a good start.

I can be contacted re tree enquiries on (020) 8360 5677.

*Chris Jephcott,
Trees Group convener*

*For details of Tree Preservation Orders on the Council's website, see:
<http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/508/planning-tree_preservation_orders/152/tree_preservation_orders/>*

President: Dr C.J.A. Jephcott

Chairman: Janet McQueen

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Hon. Treasurer: David James

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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.

Web site: <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. Email addresses are given on the "Contacts" page on our Web site.

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 8360 5677 (Chris Jephcott)

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

Mrs B. Dorrington, Lord Graham of Edmonton, Mrs P. Lowen, Mr D. Pam, Mr C. Pointer, Mr M. Saunders, MBE, Mr A. J. Skilton

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Footpath flooding problem: before and after



We are grateful to Enfield Council for their sterling efforts in resolving the problem with flooding on the new Bulls Cross – Mile and a Quarter Alley footpath, described and illustrated in our last issue. A number of drains were installed to divert the surface water and the level of the path raised with liberal deposits of recycled tarmac.

Dave Cockle

Concern over green belt footpaths

The Enfield Society has been told that the Council will cease to fund Groundforce Volunteers from April 2011 and that until that date they will be required to work in the country parks. Who then will do the necessary work to maintain the footpaths, woods and open spaces in the Green Belt? Groundforce was formed 20 years ago and the volunteers have met fortnightly since then in all weathers. They have worked on over 500 tasks and the total number of man (and woman) hours they have contributed is an impressive 55,174. They have, for example, planted trees and hedges, cleared footpaths, changed stiles to kissing gates, built bridges over streams and ditches, fenced paths and nature reserves, dredged ponds and put up many signposts. The 8 mile London Loop through Enfield's countryside and other new paths were mainly the work of Groundforce and recently they have cleared two new footpaths.

The Council has a statutory duty to keep footpaths easily passable and free of obstructions. Without regular attention many paths will soon fail to meet this standard. The saving to the Council by cancelling this voluntary work will be 20% of one officer's salary, the use of a Land Rover once a fortnight and the occasional replacement of tools. I understand a bid is being made to the Heritage Lottery Fund and other sources of finance are being sought. The Enfield Society will consider what it might do to ensure the survival of this important group when plans are clearer. The volunteers are eager to continue and it is difficult to believe that in the present financial climate the Council will find

the funds to pay contractors to do the necessary work. Contractors would charge substantially more than the minimal costs incurred through the Groundforce Volunteers. We are all being urged to contribute to The Big Society by doing voluntary work – Groundforce Volunteers have been doing this for 20 years.

Monica Smith

For background, see "Groundforce celebrate 500th task", at
<http://www.enfield.gov.uk/news/article/167/groundforce_celebrate_500th_task>

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 14th January 2011, 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