



The newsletter of The Enfield Society

New planning guidance threatens the Green Belt

Threats to the Green Belt come and go but it appears that our widely cherished policy is now under a more realistic threat than for a long time. A report by *The Times* Environment Editor on 1st July warns that vast tracts of countryside may be developed under new planning guidance that could trigger a building boom by weakening environmental standards.

He has seen a recent draft of the new Planning Policy Framework, due to be published this month (July). It would tilt the balance in favour of developers. Current guidance, which contains a strong presumption against development, will have to give way to a need to demonstrate that the adverse effects of Green Belt development significantly outweigh the benefits.

Planning authorities will no longer be able to require housing estates to have good public transport links and walking and cycling links to shops and workplaces. This can be taken into consideration only if resulting traffic congestion and pollution would be so severe that it outweighs the urgent need for new homes. It will become much harder to obtain affordable housing in this free for all.

If planning authorities do not identify a five year supply of housing sites attractive to developers they will be obliged to approve all applications. There will be no more need to prioritise brown field sites. To crown this exercise in philistinism, councils will lose the power to prevent landowners putting up advertising billboards in the countryside.

Will we need to revive these posters from our campaign of 38 years ago?



CPRE leaflet

DEFEND ENFIELD'S GREEN BELT

Publicity materials used in the "Defend Enfield's Green Belt Campaign" in 1973-1974, in which the Enfield Preservation Society played a leading role.

The coalition's agreed commitment to protect green areas of particular importance to local communities (what about localism?) seems to have gone by the board. It looks as though a campaign that puts in the pale the opposition to the Forestry Commission sell off will be needed if we are to have a green and pleasant land much longer. It will need the active support of all our members.

Chris Jephcott

The Draft National Planning Policy Framework has just been published. It is available on the website of the Department for Communities and Local Government at <<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/drafftframework>>, where comments are invited. This consultation will close on 17 October 2011.

Change of dates for TES membership renewal

See the important notice about this on the back page.

Localism

Localism Bill

With fewer recent planning applications to consider the Conservation Advisory Group devoted a session to a workshop looking at the impact of the Localism Bill and the associated draft Section 106 Supplementary Planning Document (further information from Natalie Broughton on (020) 8379 1451 or natalie.broughton@enfield.gov.uk).

In effect the Bill undoes a number of changes and additions to the planning process of recent years. As Richard Stones explained in the last *TES News*, the intention is to devolve more responsibility from the centre to the grass roots. Gone are Regional Plans, introduced in 2004, and the responsibility for nationally significant infrastructure projects, such as additional airport runways, is restored again to Parliament with the abolition of the unelected Infrastructure Planning Commission.

I am not sorry to see the back of 'Statements of Community Involvement', 'Annual Monitoring Reports' and 'Local Development Schemes' with their often impenetrable jargon and I hope that the new 'Community Planning Statements' will be more approachable. But new 'Neighbourhood forums' will have to have a structure that ensures their continuity, with all the required skills.

Defining and agreeing particular 'Neighbourhoods' could prove a headache and, as Richard suggests, local authorities could end up doing more, not less work.

Chris Jephcott

The government has published a series of explanatory documents about the localisation bill, including the two shown here: *A plain English guide* and *An essential guide*. These and over 30 "Impact assessments" of the bill's provisions, are available at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/decentralisation/localismbill/>

Letter to the editor

I refer to the article on page 10 of the Spring 2011 issue of *TES News*. This usefully discusses the Localism Bill, but is mistaken in stating that the bill gives some pointers to the way the *Big Society* works. The two have nothing whatever to do with one another. The bill is concerned with the population at large having more say, and the Government less, about what *should* be done; but over and again, the Government have made it plain that the *Big Society* is concerned with who actually *does* it.

Furthermore, I am mystified by your author's mention of "those of us who are not sure exactly how the *Big Society* is supposed to work". Surely no such persons exist, for although, upon this matter as upon all others, the pronouncements of the Government are pure sophistry, on this occasion their real meaning is as clear as daylight, and they are fooling none of the people none of the time.

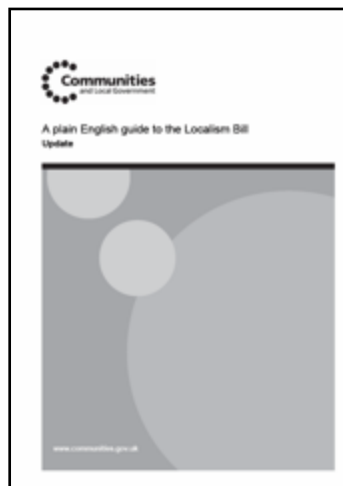
"We want voluntary organisations and charities to play a bigger role", they say, while at the same time increasing the tax burden on every individual, and (as noticed on the front page of the same issue of *TES News*) reducing the funding available for the support of such bodies. If anyone really does need an explanation of the *Big Society*, here is one that is simultaneously brief, simple and complete:-

1. We pay taxes to the Government so they can do things for us.
2. They take the money and tell us to do the things ourselves.

Trevor Patten

Richard Stones replies:

My comments on the "Big Society" were written some time ago (and even then rather tongue in cheek). I agree with Mr Patten: the aim as it has emerged seems to be to get neighbourhoods to choose who provides their services, rather than to decide what services to have. But this seems to me consistent with the thrust of the Localism Bill provisions I described. Both seem designed to by-pass the local authority, as a decision-maker and a provider of services, in favour of ad hoc "grass-roots" groups. One key question is whether these measures (even if they are less cynical than Mr Patten believes) will do anything to encourage real local autonomy: or will they undermine local government and give Whitehall more control rather than less?



Decentralisation and the Localism Bill:
an essential guide

HM Government

Consultation on local planning regulations

The Department for Communities and Local Government has set up a public consultation, on which they seek responses by 7th October 2011. They say:

"In response to reforms in the Localism Bill, the Government is revising the regulations which govern the process by which local councils prepare their development plans. This consultation seeks views on whether the revised regulations are fit for purpose....This consultation sets out the background to amending the regulations on preparing local plans and seeks

views on the Government's proposals. It does not seek views on the provisions in the Localism Bill, or the National Planning Policy Framework, rather it asks for comments on how the regulations have responded to the planning reform programme. ...This consultation paper invites your views on the specific questions set out in the document, and other comments you may wish to make."

The consultation document, which includes a draft of the proposed new regulations, is at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/localregulationsconsultation>

Sales table

Christmas cards



Trent Park House



Whitewebbs House

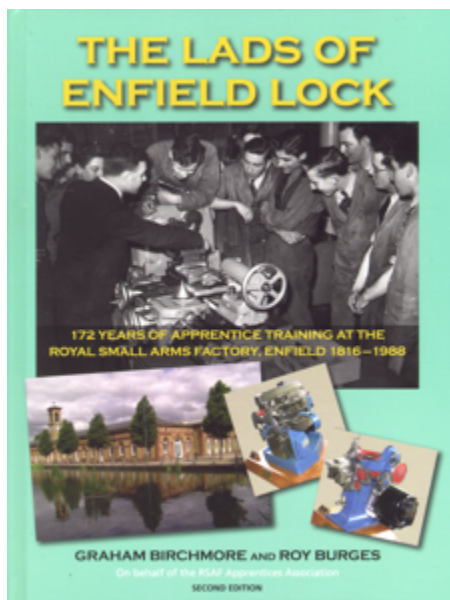


New River Loop



Forty Hall decorated for Christmas

In common with many other publishers, the Enfield Society has found that sales of Christmas cards have fallen considerably in the past few years as many people send text or e-mail greetings instead. We therefore have a considerable stock of Christmas cards and it has been decided not produce a new one this year. So we are offering a pack of one of each of the four cards shown above, with envelopes, for £1. If you prefer one design, packs of 5 of any of the above are available to members at a reduced price of £1.25.



There are two new books now on sale which are likely to appeal to those interested in the region's industrial history. One is the second edition of "The Lads of Enfield Lock" by Graham Birchmore and Roy Burges. The original version has been updated and includes many new photos together with reminiscences by fifty former apprentices at the Royal Small Arms Factory. The changes in apprentice training over 172

years is described with the development of new technologies and advanced educational requirements for engineers, technicians and craftsmen. This hardback is illustrated by photographs and reproductions of historic documents.

The lads of Enfield Lock : 172 years of apprentice training at the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield, Middlesex, England 1816-1988 / researched and written by Graham Birchmore and Roy Burges on behalf of the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield, Apprentices Association. 2nd edition. - Faringdon : Libri Publishing, 2011. - 190p. : 27cm. - ISBN 978-1-907471-30-8 : £15.

There is also a new book in Jim Lewis's Lea Valley series which explores the region's rich heritage as a crucible of world industry and technological firsts. Entitled "Regeneration and Innovation – invention and reinvention in the Lea Valley (price £9.99), this book charts the dramatic change from medieval farmland to 21st century Olympic Village. It includes studies of the steam engineer, Walter Hancock, the chemical company Johnson Matthey, the Great Eastern Railway works and others. Copies of the other six book in this series are available and are listed in the enclosed Order Form.

Situation vacant

I have overseen the Publications and Sales of the Society's publications for 15 years and think it is now time to hand over to someone with new ideas. This is an important job as profits on our sales over 30 years amount to more than £100,000, which has contributed to the maintenance of the very small membership fee. It is also one of the faces of the Society seen by the general public at the Autumn Show, Edmonton Carnival and other events.

The job includes commissioning new publications, arranging rotas of volunteers to staff Jubilee Hall meetings and outside events, overseeing the supply of books and other items to retailers, despatching orders by post to members and booksellers, purchasing copies of relevant books from other publishers for re-sale to members, maintaining stock records, banking revenue and sending an update on publications available to the Newsletter Editor.

As this person takes the sales items to events, a car is essential. So is a computer, as many orders from booksellers outside Enfield arrive by e-mail. Some knowledge of the publishing world is useful but not essential. Time taken varies from one or two hours a week to two days in the week of the Autumn Show. If you are interested and would like further information please phone me on (020) 8367 5920. I do not intend to resign until some time in 2012 but suggest that the various aspects of the job warrant a lengthy handover.

Monica Smith

All items can be purchased from the Sales Table at Jubilee Hall meetings, the Autumn Show and the open morning in December at Jubilee Hall, the date of which will be announced in the next Newsletter. An order form with details of all items on sale is enclosed with this Newsletter for those who prefer to order by post. Additions since last year's form are marked NEW for ease of reference. They include the new and expanded Footpath Map of which over 400 copies have been sold.

Monica Smith

Myddelton House, Bulls Cross

The Elizabethan Bowling Green House was purchased in 1724 by Michael Garnault. The house eventually passed to Anne Garnault (1771-1812) who in 1799 married the print seller and publisher, Henry Carrington Bowles (1763-1830). He had Myddelton House built of yellow Suffolk brick in 1818 to a design by George Ferry and John Wallen, and the adjoining Bowling Green House was then demolished. The house, which together with the gardens is listed Grade II, commemorates Sir Hugh Myddelton, who was responsible for the construction of the New River between 1609 and 1613.

In 1954 the London School of Pharmacy bought Myddelton House, which it shared with the then Royal Free Medical School. The kitchen garden was used as a pharmacognosy garden.

Myddelton House is now the headquarters of the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority, to which it was sold in 1968. Sections of the gardens have recently been restored, funded by a Heritage Lottery Fund grant. They are open daily, free of charge, May to September, 9.30 am to 6.30 pm and October to April 9.30 am to 4.30 pm.



The east front of Myddelton House, as seen in 1821 *
(from W. Robinson's *History of Enfield*)

The house passed via Bowles' son, also Henry Carrington Bowles (1801-1852) to his nephew Henry Carrington Bowles Treacher (1830-1918), who changed his surname to Bowles. Col. Sir Henry Carrington Bowles (1858-1943), second son of H.C.B. Bowles, lived at Forty Hall from 1895 (see *TES News* no. 173, page 4) and was Conservative MP for Enfield for 1899-1906 and 1918-1922. Edward Augustus "Gussie" Bowles (1865-1954), fourth son of H.C.B. Bowles, began to develop the gardens from about 1890 and they became internationally famous for their many rare and unusual plants. E.A. Bowles was the author of a series of books about his remarkable gardens. The connection with the Bowles family is still maintained today, and Brigadier Andrew Parker Bowles OBE (great-great nephew of E.A. Bowles) is the current president of the E.A. Bowles of Myddelton House Society.

There is a new Visitor Centre, with tea room and heritage exhibition telling the compelling story of E.A. Bowles, in the 19th century stable block. (See *TES News* no. 182, page 2). "*The crocus king: E.A. Bowles of Myddelton House*", by Bryan Hewitt (Rockingham Press 1997, ISBN 1-873468-47-4: £6.95 paperback) is available in the Visitor Centre. There is also an excellent audio guide and guided tours of the gardens are available for groups by arrangement. For more information telephone 08456 770 600 or visit <www.leevalleypark.org.uk>.

Myddelton House has a car park for visitors and may be reached by train to Turkey Street station or by buses 217 and 317 along the A10 to Turkey Street, 5 minutes walk from the house.

On Sunday 18th September the house will be open from 10 am to 4 pm as part of the Open House London weekend, when many properties throughout



E.A. Bowles ***



An extension with bay windows on the ground and first floors was added on the north side in about 1870



A conservatory for the more tender plants was built outside the drawing room on the south front. The morning room to the right with a bay window faces south and east.

London not normally open to the public may be seen free of charge. Visit <www.londonopenhouse.org/> for details.

- Images marked * were provided by Enfield Local Studies Library and Archive.
- Images marked ** were provided by the E.A. Bowles of Myddelton House Society <www.eabowlessociety.org.uk/> (telephone 01707 874317).
- The image marked *** was provided by the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority.

Stephen Gilbert

Historic buildings



The drawing room was decorated in the Greek revival style with a white marble fireplace, cornices, ceiling rose, chandelier and pelmets decorated with strapwork, garlands and cresting.



E. A. Bowles' drawing room, about 1890 **



The ceiling of the c.1870 dining room has gothic revival strapwork based on a 15th century design



E. A. Bowles' bedroom in the 1930s **



The painted stone and cast iron fireplace in E. A. Bowles' library **



This listed 1832 iron bridge was constructed over a section of the New River which was bypassed in 1859 and grassed over in 1968. The lead ostriches, made by John van Nost in the 1720s, came from Gough Park, Forty Hill, which was demolished in 1899. They were recently moved to the Visitor Centre after their restoration. *



The market cross stood in Enfield Town between 1826 and 1904 before being moved to Myddelton House rose garden. (See *TES News* no.182, page 5)



This sundial, over 300 years old, was stolen in 2005 but after re-discovery of the pedestal in 2008 it was restored in 2010 with a new dial (see *TES News* no.179, page 11)

Historic Buildings Group meetings and visits

A good number of TES members attended Graham Dalling's interesting talk on Norfolk churches on 14th April. Details of an illustrated talk on *Enfield's railway stations, past and present* by Dave Cockle, on 19th January 2012, will be in the next *TES News*.

As the Friends Meeting House at Winchmore Hill had a prior booking on 7th May, Graham Dalling arranged for TES members to see the nearby listed St. Paul's Church. The nave was built in a gothic revival style in 1826-7 with the chancel being added in 1888-9. The church archivist, Peter Hodge, had prepared an informative display of prints and photographs relating to its history and he explained to visitors what there was to see.



Clissold House, 1790, and reinstated New River

Mick Coe led an interesting walk around Stoke Newington on 14th May. After passing the 1790 neo-classical Clissold House, which is currently undergoing restoration, we traced the former route of the New River through and near Clissold Park and were able to visit the two very different churches dedicated to St. Mary pictured on page 2 of *TES News* no.181. The old medieval church was rebuilt in 1563 and repaired and enlarged by Sir Charles Barry in 1828-9 but still retained its "village church like" appearance. The newer large Victorian gothic revival church opposite was designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott and built in 1854-8, the spire being completed by John Oldrid Scott in 1890. Mick then pointed out some of the surviving Georgian houses in Stoke Newington Church Street. On a brief visit to Abney Park Cemetery, opened in 1840, we saw the Egyptian-style entrance and lodges, and memorials to various Salvation Army leaders, including William and Catherine Booth.

Mick Coe hopes to lead a walk around Dulwich Village next year and details will be in *TES News* nearer the time.

Stephen Gilbert

Diary dates

This list gives a selection of forthcoming events, not including our regular Jubilee Hall meetings listed on page 7. Contact details for the organisations responsible for these events are given in the notes at the end. 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/>

Sunday 14th August, 3 – 5.30 pm, Hilly Fields

The Roosters Rock 'n' Roll Group. In Support of the North London Hospice [FoHF]

Wednesday 17th August

Groundforce project: Camlet Moat

De-silting and removal of previous de-silting piles also checking Silver Birch for any that may be in a dangerous condition, general scrub clearance. [GF]

Sunday 21st August 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Enfield Conservation Volunteers project: Hilly Fields

Meet at the top of Cooks Hole Road. The stream at the bottom of Hillyfields is getting clogged with debris. We will be clearing it, along with some surrounding vegetation. [ECV]

Thursday 25th and Wednesday 31st August. 1.00-2.00 p.m. All Saints Church, Church Street, Edmonton

Organ recitals. No need to book. Free but donations welcome to restoration fund of this church on its 875th anniversary. Information: (020) 8803 9199

Wednesday 31st August

Groundforce project: Mile & Quarter Footpath

General maintenance and fencing inspection. [GF]

Saturday-Sunday 3rd-4th September, 10.30 am - 6.00 pm, Enfield Town Park

Autumn Show. Visit the Enfield Society stall.

Thursday-Sunday 8th-11th September

Heritage Open Days. English Heritage. Many openings throughout Hertfordshire and Essex. <www.heritageopendays.org.uk>

Tuesday 13th September, 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall

The history of the Lea Valley Regional Park (illustrated), by Michael Rye, followed by AGM [HA]

Wednesday 14th September

Groundforce project: Hilly Fields

Continuing with small tree growth clearance. [GF]

Friday 16th September, 7.30 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall

Life in the Imperial War Museum by Steve Turner, IWM. [EAS]

Saturday-Sunday, 17th-18th September

Open House London Weekend. Details at <www.londonopenhouse.org> or libraries.

Wednesday 21st September, 7.45 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall

Flora Robson in Southgate and Palmers Green, by Richard Pulver. [EHHS]

Wednesday 28th September

Groundforce project: Holly Hill Farm

Groundforce Grove: cutting back scrub growth in and around trees and pond [GF]

Tuesday 11th October, 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall

Big numbers and something out of nothing: charity and poor relief in 18th century Britain, by Dr Sarah Lloyd (University of Hertfordshire) [HA]

Friday 14th October, 7.30 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall

BBC Digging for Britain site – Happisburgh site by Dr Nick Ashton, British Museum. [EAS]

Wednesday 19th October, 7.45 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall

WW1: aspects of the home front, with slides and a display of postcards and ephemera of the time, by David Green [EHHS]

Saturday 29th October, 10.00 am to 4.30 pm, Jubilee Hall

Day conference of EHHS. [EHHS]

Tuesday 8th November, 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall

Henry VIII's Reformation (illustrated) by Dr Lucy Wooding (King's College, London) [HA]

Tuesday 15th November, 2.15 for 2.30 pm, Jubilee Hall
Comediennes from the 30s–60s, by Geoff Bowden [EHHS]

Friday 18th November, 7.30 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall

EAS Digging for Enfield sites – the roast beef of Old England by Neil Pinchbeck, EAS Osteo-archaeologist. [EAS]

Tuesday 13th December, 7.45 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall

Seasonal meeting of EHHS [EHHS]

Other guided walks are organised by Enfield Council's Parks Outreach Team. Details are in the "Walk Enfield" brochure which can be downloaded from the Council's Web site at <http://www.enfield.gov.uk/downloads/download/1083/walk_enfield_brochure>. Phone (020) 8441 8272 or email <alan.mitellas@enfield.gov.uk> for more information.

If you are interested in participating in Groundforce or ECV projects, please contact them in advance for details.

GF: Groundforce. Contact Eileen Jessup (020) 8805 1974;

ECV: Enfield Conservation Volunteers. Contact Jenny Willmot, Outreach and Community Officer, Parks Office, Trent Park, Cockfosters Road, Barnet, EN4 0PS, tel. (020) 8449 2459, email <jenny.willmot@enfield.gov.uk> or see the ECV website at <www.ecv.org.uk>.

EAS: Enfield Archaeological Society. Visitors are very welcome (£1.00 per person). <<http://www.enfarchsoc.org/index.html>>

EHHS: Edmonton Hundred Historical Society <<http://edmontonhundred.freeukisp.co.uk/index.htm>>.

FoHF: Friends of Hilly Fields <<http://www.hillyfields.info/>>

HA: The Historical Association, North London Branch.

<http://www.history.org.uk/resources/he_resource_1170.html> These meetings are open to all and there is no fee. Contact the Branch Secretary, Robin Blades (020 8368 5328), <robin.blades@virgin.net>

Where have all the roses gone?



Letter to the editor

We have lived in Uvedale Road for 48 years and enjoy our regular walks in the Town Park. The flower beds have always been admired, especially the Rose Garden. However we are dismayed to see that at least six of the beds in the Rose Garden are currently empty of plants and several have been planted with lavenders and similar plants. We understand that the remaining beds will be similarly planted. Presumably this is a cost cutting move to save what can only be a small amount of money.

We hope that this strategy will not be permanent and roses will again be planted to once again enhance the appearance of the park instead of the dull grey colours of the lavenders etc. I am attaching a photo to show three of the empty beds, the others are behind the remaining roses.

We trust that you will have some influence to press for the Rose Garden to continue to be just that – a Rose Garden.

Mr. M and Mrs. W. Roedel

On 25th June we asked the Council if they would like to respond to this letter, explaining their plans for the rose garden, but we had not received any reply by the time we went to press, 24th July.

- Ed.

Jubilee Hall meetings

Tuesday mornings 10.00 for 10.30 am.
Some meetings may finish a little later than normal.

August – no meeting

27th September

Bangkok to Beijing, by Sheila and John Smale, with a digital presentation.

25th October

A touch of glass, by Garry Lakin. Historic aerial photography from 1900 onwards, including pictures taken from Tiger Moth and Puss Moth aircraft.

29th November

The time line, by Margaret Bale, with slides.

13th December

Christmas, with Christine and Peter Padwick

Thursday evenings 7.30 for 8.00 pm

August – no meeting

15th September

London here and there, by Frank Bayford, with slides.

20th October

In and around Enfield, by Stephen Sellick, with slides.

17th November

Grand tour of Syria, by Monica Smith, with slides.

Hire Jubilee Hall for your meeting

Jubilee Hall is available for hire to local groups and societies for seated meetings, conferences, etc.

The hall can accommodate up to 80 people, and there are facilities for making and serving tea and coffee.

Enquiries about bookings should be made to Pat Keeble, tel: (020) 8360 3873 or by email to <hall.bookings@enfieldsociety.org.uk>

Trees Group

Tree nursery help needed

Fighting the weeds on the Trentwood Side allotment tree nursery plot is proving quite a headache for the few active members of the group. Any volunteers to put in the occasional couple of hours would be welcomed with open arms. Contact via Jubilee Hall.

Chris Jephcott, Convener.

The Chairman's column



I am going to be controversial. The new wheelie bin system currently spreading over the whole of Enfield has some advantages.

Having spent a considerable amount of time over the past 10 days discussing it and answering letters from our members, while seeing the bins sprouting like new trifids from behind garden walls all around, I can see the disadvantages. They are large, they are ugly, and they are difficult to move when full. I'm sure many of you can find other things to say about them too. But they do seem to work.

In The Crescent, where there was a huge problem with rubbish and litter, not to mention a severe infestation of rats, the scene is vastly improved within two weeks of the bins arriving. Going down another Enfield road recently I saw a fox looking extremely hungry, and no bags torn open with rubbish strewn all over the road and pavement left in a wake behind him. The council also reports a million pound saving in the expense of rubbish disposal and increased satisfaction with rubbish collection and street cleaning.

I have also seen people being very inventive in their disposition of the bins, cutting holes in hedges to hide them, and getting the floral covers which are

apparently available to disguise them.

Though I am sceptical that three 5 foot high bins can ever convincingly resemble a row of sunflowers there are ways of making them less intrusive. The slim-line bin is one, the same height it is true, but they can be hidden slightly more easily. You can also ask for a free composter from the council, though I can't see this would alleviate the need for the garden/food waste bin. We had been told bags were an option but it seems that this is really not the case unless you do not have a front garden. The other alternative is to share with a neighbour...

Having discussed the bins with the council at nearly every one of our meetings with them over several years, we have been unable to change their policy, contracts having been signed and money spent, and we now have to live with the results. I wish all of you well in your attempts to do so, you can be sure that living in a terraced house myself with a small and pebbly front garden I will be having the same problems, and currently am trying to decide between a giant plastic row of tulips, or a hole in the tree – I fear both may be necessary.

Janet McQueen

Evening meetings 2012

Unfortunately we have not had any response to the request for an evening meeting organiser. Consequently there will not be a regular monthly Thursday evening meeting as from January 2012. However the Historic Buildings group will continue to have talks in certain months and these will be advertised in the newsletter as usual. Everybody is welcome to these talks which are extremely interesting and usually focus on buildings with local or national interest and importance.

To help fill the gap, and as next year is a special one with the Olympics and the Queen's Jubilee, we will be supporting the Council in putting on a programme of local events with a focus on Enfield past and present. These will to some extent replace the regular evening talks, at least for one year, but if there is anyone out there who feels able to help the Society in taking over organising and running the regular evening meetings then we would love to hear from you – contact Janet McQueen or Monica Smith via (020) 8363 9495.

Janet McQueen

TES AGM 2011

This year's AGM was held on 9 June at Jubilee Hall. The Meeting approved the 2010 Accounts and went on to approve changes to the Management Committee. Dave Cockle, John Davies and Leonard Will, who retired from office by rotation, were re-elected, and the appointment of Tony Dey, who had been co-opted to the Committee, was confirmed. The Meeting also heard with regret that Olive Sharman and Derrick Stone had retired from the Committee and that Olive had also resigned as Membership Secretary. The Chairman thanked Derrick and Olive for their contributions to the Society.

The Meeting also confirmed the Management Committee's nomination of Tony Langston as a Vice-President of the Society in recognition of his many services to the Society over the years.

After the formal business was concluded, we enjoyed an informative and entertaining talk by Stephen Gilburt on royal palaces in England, illustrated with Stephen's excellent slides.

Richard Stones

Future walks

Train details are correct at press date but TES cannot be responsible for subsequent alterations. Please always check with operating train companies' enquiries line (08457 48 49 50) or with their websites. For TFL London area Tube, DLR, London Overground and bus details, ring 0843 222 1234 or check TFL website.

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.

If you have a Freedom Pass or National Bus Pass please bring it 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.

Sat 13 Aug. Just north of Enfield. Meet **10.30am** Tesco Superstore, Mutton Lane, Potters Bar (242, 298 buses and 10.01am 313 bus from Cecil Road, Enfield Town, all stop outside and 84 bus stops 200 yards away). 8.5 mile linear walk ending at Crews Hill Station with shorter options of 3.5 and 5.6 miles. A surprisingly rural route, with good views, a Japanese garden and nature reserves, plus some paths that may be new to you. Bring lunch or pub food at Northaw. If joining group for afternoon section of 5 miles, be at Northaw by about 1.30pm. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Wed 24 Aug. Capital Ring and Rivers. Meet **11.00am** Richmond Station or travel with Dave on the 9.34am train from Enfield Chase, changing at Highbury & Islington for the 10.10am London Overground train to Richmond. 9 mile linear walk ending at Greenford but many shorter options. Waterways and green spaces throughout, with much of the route beside/near the Thames, Grand Union Canal and River Brent, via the historic centre of Isleworth and Syon Park. Bring lunch or food available. All travel within Freedom Pass area. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Sat 27 Aug. Edmonton Heritage. Meet **2.30pm** in car park of Millfield House Arts Centre, off Silver Street, N18 (on bus routes 34, 102, 144 & W6 plus routes 217 and 231 nearby on A10). 2.5 to 3.0 hour linear walk using some of the paths shown on the new TES map via Pymmes and Craig Parks. Ends with a visit to the Church Street conservation area, from where car drivers can return to start by direct bus. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Bank Holiday Mon 29 Aug. Four Rivers. Meet **10.35am** Ware Station. *Note:* if, as normally on a bank holiday, NEEA operate a Sunday service, then a through train at 10.12am from Southbury Station without usual need to change at Cheshunt – **but check before travelling.** 8 to 9 mile circular walk via New River and the pretty valleys of the Rivers Lea, Ash and Rib. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Wed 7 Sept. Between the Rivers Beane & Rib. Meet **10.20am** Hertford North Station (10.01am train from Enfield Chase) for about 8.5 mile circular walk with attractive valley and pastoral scenery, via Stapleford, Tonwell and Chapmore End. Possible shorter options – *either:* (i) by return to Hertford by bus *or* (ii) when route goes near Hertford East Station (convenient for anyone travelling home by the Lea Valley line). Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader: Breda Jenkins*

Sat 10 Sept. White Water Centre. Meet **2.15pm** Broxbourne Station (1.44pm train from Southbury Station changing at Cheshunt for the 2.09pm train or, catch the 1.55pm train from Tottenham Hale which also stops at Ponders End, Brimsdown & Enfield Lock Stations). 5 mile linear walk via the rivers & waterways of the Lea Valley Park with a visit to the new Olympic Centre. Ends at Enfield Island Village by about 5.45pm (return by 121 & 491 buses). Shorter option. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Mon 19 Sept. Mid-Hertfordshire. Meet **10.34am** Welwyn North Station (10.11am Cambridge train from Finsbury Park mainline station or 10.21am from Potters Bar Station). A different format to this linear walk – about 8.5 miles in unspoilt countryside via Harmer, Burnham & Bulls Greens and Tewin, ending at Hertford North Station. *Note: as the walk involves travelling out on the mainline and returning on the Hertford Loop, purchase an off-peak day return ticket from the Freedom Pass boundary to Stevenage.* Bring lunch or pub food available. *Leader: Martin Langer*

Sat 24 Sept. Highgate and Hampstead Heath. Meet **10.30am** Highgate Station – booking office/Priory Gardens entrance. Access by Northern Line from either High Barnet (about 20 mins) or from Central London (possible engineering works involving King's Cross branch, so may need to go from Euston – *check with TFL*). Otherwise, by train to Finsbury Park, 210 bus to Archway (about 14 mins), then either one stop on the tube, a short bus ride or walk up Archway Road. Also station car park.

The morning route will explore the fine buildings and historic heart of Highgate plus nearby open spaces, whilst after lunch

is the contrast of a Gothic Village and then a “country walk” across the Heath. Shorter options. Bring lunch or food available.

Leader: Stuart Mills

Mon 3 Oct. Chiltern Scenery. Meet **10.54am** Chorleywood Station (10.27am Chiltern Railways train from Marylebone mainline station or 10.08am Met Line train from Baker Street). About 8 mile walk in delightful Chilterns countryside. Possibility of shorter option. Bring lunch or pub food available. By car via M25 (junction 18) then A404. All travel within Freedom Pass area. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Sat 15 Oct. Enfield's Countryside. Meet **10.10am** at the main entrance gates to Chase Farm Hospital, The Ridgeway (W8, W9 & 313 buses or about 12 mins walk from Gordon Hill Station).

The route follows the newly opened “Merryhills Way” into Trent Park and then via the Jubilee Path to the “Robin Hood” pub, Botany Bay, for the lunch stop. Afterwards we go via Tingey Tops, Crews Hill Station and Whitewebbs to end at Gordon Hill Station. Full route 8 to 9 miles. Shorter options. If joining group for afternoon only, be at Botany Bay by 1.40pm (1.21pm 313 bus from Cecil Road, Enfield Town). Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Wed 19 Oct. Conservation Countryside. Meet **10.15am** Bayford Station (10.01am train from Enfield Chase) for 7 mile circular walk through varied and attractive countryside with lunch stop in Newgate Street Village. Bring lunch or pub food available. Possible shorter option by using bus. Car drivers could park in Bayford village (please park considerately and not in pub car park) and walk down to meet group at station (allow 10/12 mins). *Leader: Roy Dyer.*

Sat 29 Oct. Essex Villages. Meet **10.48am** Stansted Mountfitchet Station (10.10am Cambridge train from Tottenham Hale or 9.44am train from Southbury Station changing at Cheshunt for either the 9.55am Stansted Airport train or the 10.18am Cambridge train). 8 to 9 mile circular walk via Ugley Green, Manuden and other pretty, but curiously named, villages. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. By car: either A10, A120 & B1383 or via M25, M11 (junction 8), A120 westwards & B1383. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Wed 2 Nov. Autumn Colours. Meet **10.30am** Chingford Bus Station (next to rail station – 313 buses from Church Street, Enfield Town, currently at 9.40am & 10.00am). 6 to 7 mile circular walk through lesser known parts of Epping Forest via Woodford Wells, Woodford Green, Highams Park Lake and River Ching. Shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Norman Coles*

Future walks

(continued)

Sat 12 Nov. Capital Ring & Harrow-on-the Hill. Meet **10.45am** Greenford Station (Central Line – about 38 mins from Liverpool Street, 31 mins from Holborn & 28 mins from Oxford Circus). Otherwise, travel with Dave on the 9.29am train from Enfield Chase. Today's relatively short section ends at South Kenton Station, but is full of contrasts and will include an extra compared to the standard route – namely, a tour around Old Harrow going past many of the historic buildings and visiting famous viewpoints. Shorter options (including leaving from Old Harrow). Bring lunch or food available. All travel is within the Freedom Pass area. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Wed 16 Nov. River Thames, Commons & Woods. Meet **10.45am** North Greenwich Station (Jubilee Line). *Note:* Roy intends to join the 9.34am train from Enfield Chase at Grange Park, changing at Highbury & Islington for the 10.10am London Overground Crystal Palace train to Canada Water Station (from where the start is 6 mins on the Jubilee Line).

After using the Thames Path to the Thames Barrier, Roy follows sections of the Green Chain Walk via parks, commons (Woolwich, Plumstead & Winns) to enter the ancient woodlands of Great Bartlett's, Bostall Woods & Heath and Lesnes Abbey Woods before ending at a nearby station. Full route 7.5 to 8.0 miles but many shorter options. All travel is within the Freedom Pass area. Bring lunch or food available. Details: (020) 8360 0282. *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Sat 26 Nov. The Old East End. Meet **9.50am** Cambridge Heath Station (9.22am train from Enfield Town) for a linear walk highlighting changes from the East End to the rejuvenated Docklands via the Mile End Greenway, Poplar High Street, Limehouse Basin and Wapping. Bring lunch or food available. Although full route is 8 miles, finish point will depend upon weather conditions etc on the day. Many shorter options. Details: 07703 470 156. *Leaders: Toby Simon & Margaret McAlpine*

Wed 30 Nov. More tales from 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 Blitz, and by popular request, Brian will explore more parts of The City that were so irrevocably altered by the Blitz. Full route will end by 1.30pm but many shorter options. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Stuart Mills

Natural environment

Open spaces, gardens and wildlife

Members who joined the Footpaths Group on their recent walk from Chipstead in the Surrey Downs not only saw magnificent scenery but were privileged to see something that, unfortunately, is now becoming rare – namely, large numbers and varieties of butterflies.

Such large numbers exist in that area because Surrey County Council and the Banstead Downs Conservators had the foresight many years ago to protect and subsequently manage the land to maintain a very rich and varied plant and insect population.

It was reminiscent of 30 to 40 years ago when, on a summer's day, you would have reasonably expected to see large numbers of insects or, even perhaps "clouds" of butterflies, not only in the countryside but in the average suburban garden. Today their numbers are disastrously declining throughout the United Kingdom but particularly in urban areas.

It should be borne in mind that private gardens are an integral part of the ecosystem, and especially in London, where they make up 20% of London's total land area and 33.3% of all green spaces in the capital. A patchwork of rear and front gardens (whether large or small) can be a haven for wildlife and will have a significant impact on the local and regional environmental landscape.

Unfortunately over the past 15 to 20 years there has been what can only be described as an epidemic in hard paving makeovers and the use of decking materials (no

doubt partly encouraged by TV programmes, the media and designers/suppliers), resulting in the loss of huge areas of vegetation throughout London. It is estimated that in London during this period front garden land amounting to 32 square kilometres (about 12.5 square miles) was lost to hard paving. Often householders do not leave any space for plants and pave from boundary to boundary.

Apart from the inevitable visual degradation in the street scene and for neighbours, as frequently documented, the resultant damage to the environment includes increased flooding, overloading of sewer systems (even in periods of moderate rainfall), higher urban heat and dust levels that occur when vegetation is removed, less carbon dioxide absorption and increased subsidence.

In turn, such changes have led to significant loss of insect mass including butterflies in urban areas, which contributes to the decline of many bird species, although it has to be said that rats and other rodents love decking (a ready made and safe home for them!).

We can all help to stem this adverse trend. For instance, if you need to create off-road parking, only pave the minimum area for the vehicle using a permeable material, leave space for vegetation including perhaps a grass strip between the vehicle's wheels and, elsewhere in the garden, plant nectar heavy plants, not just for the summer but also for throughout the year – e.g. on a sunny day in the winter, bumble bees love winter flowering heathers.

Stuart Mills

Not past it

After seeing the article on the new Merryhills Way footpath I was tempted to explore it. I managed it without difficulty, despite not being able to walk for long now, so I am writing to encourage more of you to try it. If, like me, you look at the enticing walks page in each issue and regret being past it, you could still enjoy a section of the Merryhills Way. If you can walk slowly for 25 minutes (I did it with an arthritic hip, knee and foot) you can now walk through countryside from the Drapers Road bus stop (route 313) to the Jolly Farmers bus stop (routes 121, 307 and 377); 35 minutes takes you from the Jolly



Farmers to the riding stables bus stop (121 and 307). The reward is an astonishing walk in complete peace with views of farmland, wildflowers and butterflies, and the sound of larks to keep you company. Because of uneven ground and occasional patches of nettles, trousers and stout shoes are advisable – but worth donning even for this short walk, which feels a world away from the city it borders: a huge thank-you to all those whose hard work created it.

Sheena Will

New buildings

Current developments

In Enfield Town the scaffolding erected around the new Library almost as soon as it opened has now disappeared. We learned that attention to the lead flashing around the roof was needed to prevent staining of the (expensive) stone work which had quickly become apparent.

On the construction side, work has finally started on the long, long vacant site in Silver Street next to Lloyd's Bank. Permission for an infill building with flats over retail was approved some while ago. Generally we were happy with the design. The same developer is now considering alternative uses for the Little Park Gardens car park site. The proposed day centres were not popular. On the former Rialto/Gala site the first brickwork is now to be seen. We were given assurances earlier that no roof plant would be visible.

In the Green Belt the planned conversion of the former Hadley Road Pumping Station into eight residential units with the detached workshop as an additional house appears to be a sensitive and appropriate use.

Chris Jephcott



A crane towers over the Market Place and the recently refurbished King's Head as work progresses on the former Rialto/Gala site.

Roof clutter

The Conservation Advisory Group has been concerned by the number of larger developments in which structures such as roof plant and equipment are not shown in the agreed plans, but then appear as a fait accompli, with an application for respective planning consent.

A case in point, which we highlighted some years ago, is the roof clutter marring the appearance of Thomas Hardy House. The new Evangelical Free Church was found to need large ventilation structures like ships' funnels jutting from the copper coloured, pyramidal roof, to which the Group had previously devoted quite extensive scrutiny.

The latest concern is the refurbished Clock House Parade in London Road. Whilst we were glad to see the building upgraded in place of the proposed block of flats, the prominent plant and trunking situated immediately behind the clock considerably spoil the appearance of the building looking south along London Road. We were glad to hear that retrospective permission has been refused.

Chris Jephcott



Roof clutter: Thomas Hardy House, Clock House Parade and the Evangelical Free Church

Groundforce and Enfield Conservation Volunteers

In our Spring issue, no.181, we reported our concern at the suggestion that Enfield Council might withdraw their support from Groundforce and the Enfield Conservation Volunteers (ECV). We are very pleased to have received the following report from John Smith of Groundforce, indicating that things look brighter for the future.

"Following several constructive and amicable meetings with the directors and staff of the Parks and Property Services Departments, Groundforce has now been reorganised as an

independent group supported by the Council.

This includes retention of their workshop and equipment at Trent Park and the use of a loan vehicle to transport tools and materials to site.

Groundforce will now be able to continue with their twenty year history of environmental work in the Country Parks and Green Belt and the construction and maintenance of the rural footpath network."

We notice that Robin Herbert has also put a note on the ECV website, reading:

"Recent news of the impending death of Enfield Conservation Volunteers has been greatly exaggerated.

Following the departure of our contact in the London Borough of Enfield, Christina Lee, to the wilds of Wales

and widespread budget cutbacks in all local authorities, not just LBE, the future of ECV appeared to be in doubt. Certainly, without the support of LBE (for example with guidance on suitable tasks and insurance), ECV would have difficulty continuing in its valued work in the parks and open spaces of Enfield.

However, we're happy to report, LBE have appointed a replacement for Christina Lee – Jenny Willmot – and with the support of Shirley Scott, the LBE Partnership & Outreach Services Manager, it looks like ECV will emerge from uncertainty with refreshed vigour!

ECV is alive and kicking and all are welcome!"

Some forthcoming projects and contact details for Groundforce and ECV are listed in "Diary dates" on page 6.

Leonard Will

New building

New day centre for North London Hospice



Architects' drawing of the new building

For many years the North London Hospice has wanted to bring hospice services closer to the people living in the Borough of Enfield who need their care.

The Hospice has been providing end of life care in Enfield since 1984 but realised some years ago that a facility was needed within the borough that would provide a Day Centre, drop in clinic and offices for their specialist team of doctors, nurses, social workers, bereavement counsellors and physiotherapists who care for patients in their own homes.

At last in 2008 a suitable site was found in Barrowell Green. The building there had been used as a NHS clinic and the hospice was able to buy the site from the NHS as a preferred purchaser. The vision to build a Day Hospice in Enfield was going to become a reality.

The decision was taken not to refurbish the existing building but to design a facility that really suited our needs. An architect was chosen, and a design agreed. This was not an easy process as the hospice wanted a building that was appropriate to the area, and accepted by the local people, and yet they wanted it to be interesting and therefore noticed. It was also important that the building was as sustainable as possible.

As you can see from the drawing the building is modern but with pointed roofs. It will be built of brick in keeping with its surroundings. From the sustainability point of view, the main features will be:

- High glazing and insulation specifications
- Green roof over the day centre
- Energy efficient lighting system
- Heating provided by solar collectors and ground source pumps.

All was agreed, planning permissions granted and building began this February with anticipated completion early 2012.

The design of the gardens surrounding the Day Hospice has been important to everyone planning the facility. A range of trees and shrubs, with seating and walkways will be enjoyed by patients and visitors as well as by those passing by on Barrowell Green and Ash Grove.

This is a very exciting project that will make a real difference to Hospice patients living in Enfield and their families. It will become an essential part of the local community.

*Pauline Treen
Director of Enfield Appeal
North London Hospice*

TES on-line discussion group

The Enfield Society on-line discussion group has been quite lively recently, with several requests for information, answers, reminiscences and a series of quiz questions posed by Stephen Sellick. Topics include Enfield Cable Company, Sixth Avenue, Camlet Moat, war memorials, bits of London Bridge now in Enfield, oldest oak trees in the borough,

wartime evacuees, the cable-supported tree in Little Park Gardens and an early film of a street party in Edmonton.

If any of these topics intrigues you, or if you have something else to discuss, do join the group, which is at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/EnfieldSociety/>. You can view the discussions on-line without joining, but you have to join in order to participate. We look forward to seeing you there.

Leonard Will

New members

We warmly welcome the following new members:

Ms D Abrahams, Mrs J Alaimo,
Mrs S Bayhan, Mr A Beckett,
Ms D.M. Compton, Mr G Davis,
Mr & Mrs A & C Farahar,
Ms S Fifer,
Mr & Mrs R & C Halliday,
Mr W Hawes, Mr K Judge,
Mr & Mrs L Knight, Mrs D Pickett,
Mrs J Prestage, Miss M Rowsell,
Mr J Studman, Mrs M Thompson,
Mr & Mrs R & J Turner, Mr R Weil,
Mrs Y Wesley, Mrs B Wigmore,
Mrs J Wiltshire.

Joyce James

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>](mailto: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 21st October 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



This is a new on-line service intended to enable citizens to discuss and prioritise issues of local or national interest. Those matters which gain the most support from participants are referred to MPs, who can then make a direct response on the web pages and join in the discussion if they wish. The service is fairly new and some of the campaigns suggested are rather imprecise and unrealistic, but it does have the potential for identifying topics which many people feel strongly about. Inevitably, though, it will not show the views of the silent majority.

The starting page is at

[<http://www.digitaldemocracy.org.uk/>](http://www.digitaldemocracy.org.uk/)

Leonard Will

TES Directory

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Chairman: Janet McQueen

Hon. Secretary: Richard Stones

Hon. Treasurer: David James

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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.

Web site: <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. 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 3171 (Joyce James)

Press and publicity
020 8363 5732 (Bob Fowler)

Records and Research
020 8372 0092 (Leonard Will)

Trees
020 8360 5677 (Chris Jephcott)

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Coach outing

Coach trip to Walmer Castle and Sandwich on Sunday 4th September

There are a few places remaining on the coach trip to Sandwich and Walmer castle on Sunday 4th September 2011, though the boat trip is full. If you would like to join us then please send a SAE to, Coach Outings, Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield, EN2 0AJ, enclosing a cheque made payable to "The Enfield Society" for £15 for coach only, £21 for coach and Walmer Castle.

Please include a contact telephone number. Full details of the trip are in the Summer issue of *TES News*, no. 182.

Janet McQueen



The Queen Mother's Garden at Walmer
© English Heritage Photo Library

Membership of The Enfield Society

Change to a fixed date for membership renewals

The recent change of membership secretary has given us the opportunity to review our membership arrangements.

We have decided to change to a FIXED ANNUAL RENEWAL DATE of 1st January as this will simplify our administration, help keep membership records accurate and make less work for the membership secretary, as well as reducing costs incurred in sending out first, second and final reminders throughout the year.

For those of you who pay by cheque, the **one and only reminder** for renewal will be included in the Winter newsletter, which comes out in November. Many people will have up to 9 months free membership this year, while we adjust to the new pattern. If you have paid a subscription after 31st March 2011 we will treat this as your membership for 2012, so you will receive free membership for the remainder of 2011. As most people send in additional donations above the £2.50 minimum we considered this the least we could do; donations will be gratefully accepted at any time.

We would ask, though, that you pay promptly as soon as you receive the Winter newsletter, as it is the extra work involved when people have overlooked their subscription that causes most problems. If payment has not been received by 31st March then your membership of the Society may lapse.

Perhaps you would consider changing to payment by standing order, by sending a note to your bank worded as follows, filling in an amount of £2.50 or more (£5.00 for couples) where marked *:

Please pay to Barclays Bank (sort code 20-29-77) for the benefit of The Enfield Society (account number 50363820) the sum of £.....* on 1st January 2012 and £.....* on the same date each following year until further notice.

If you already pay by standing order with a payment date other than 1st January, please ask your bank to change the payment date to 1st January each year. It would help us considerably if you could do this as soon as possible.

Anyone who pays UK tax can also help the Society by telling us that they want their subscription and any donations to be treated as Gift Aid.

We did consider increasing the membership fee from our current £2.50 minimum per person, which I am sure most of you will agree, is exceptional value for money. However as most people very generously give more than this minimum we have decided to leave the subscription as it is for the moment.

New members are always welcome. Membership forms can be downloaded on-line from <www.enfieldsociety.org.uk> or picked up at the Central Library, The Civic Centre, and The Dugdale Centre or at any meeting held in Jubilee Hall.

The Management Committee have amended the Society's Rules to reflect the new subscription arrangements and to make other minor changes. A copy of the revised rules is available from the Hon. Secretary.

David James, Hon. Treasurer
Joyce James, Membership Secretary