



The newsletter of The Enfield Society

Goodbye to Eastern Enfield's last farmhouse

It is not only the threat to Enfield's Green Belt described in my piece overleaf on Crews Hill that worries us. Recent months have seen permission given for developments in Local Metropolitan Open Land (MOL), which within towns has the same protected status as Green Belt. The latest Planning Committee meeting approved the demolition of College Farm, in Albany Park to make way for a day care centre. The attractive farmhouse was built in 1854 by Trinity College, Cambridge for their farm in the area. Latterly owned by Enfield Council, it was divided into three flats. Though run down and with an unfortunate toilet block addition, the planning documents make it eminently clear that it was easily capable of being brought back into good condition. Although considered listable it did not have any statutory protection. The proposed new facility is a decent, if unremarkable, single storey structure, but this was not the only possible site. However, expediency prevailed and Hertford Road, the historic thoroughfare out of London, has lost another of its few remaining tangible links with the past.

Chris Jephcott



College Farm, said to have been used as an overnight stop for cattle being driven to London Markets. A "Planning and heritage statement" for the proposed day care centre, prepared for Enfield Council by Indigo Planning Ltd. in December 2012, includes an assessment of the history and heritage value of the existing building. This is available at <http://forms.enfield.gov.uk/swiftlg/MediaTemp/96340-210715.pdf>

New River 400th anniversary celebration event: Saturday 28th September 2013

In order to commemorate the four hundredth anniversary of the New River the Enfield Society and the Enfield Museum and Library service are jointly holding an event on Saturday 28th September at the Dugdale centre. The cost per person will be £13 which will include all the activities outlined below plus coffee and biscuits, lunch and tea. The day will start at 10am and will include a guided walk round part of the New River loop, a visit to the *Water, water, everywhere: 400 years of the New River* exhibition currently at the



Sir Hugh Myddelton, 1560-1631
Driving force behind the construction of the New River

Dugdale Centre, a lecture on the New River by Dr Essex-Lopresti, whose book *Exploring the New River* is well known, and live performances.

You are advised to apply early as places are limited, and though Society members are being given preferential early booking we expect the event to be sold out. Please send a SAE and a cheque (£13 per ticket) payable to "The Enfield Society" to **New River Event, Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield, EN2 0AJ** and include your telephone number.

Conservation

The Drury McPherson Partnership updating of the Conservation Area Appraisals is going ahead in four phases, expected to take several months to complete. Regarding my entry on the subject in the last edition of the News, I have been asked to make it clear on behalf of the Southgate District Civic Trust that they do have a local group dealing with conservation areas in their patch. That role is taken on by their Planning Group. I am happy to make this clarification.

Crews Hill

The 26th March Planning Committee, after a Members site visit, approved the building of four 5-bedroom houses on a site off Tingey's Top Lane at Crews Hill. Despite our reiterated objections, other letters of protest and a 45 signature petition, approval was recommended on the grounds, *inter alia*, that it would comply with the Green Belt Guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework as rebuilding a previously developed site and that it would contribute to increasing London's supply of housing, particularly for large families. The overall building footprint would increase, but there would be less hard standing. It was considered that very special circumstances outweighed the harm to the Green Belt.

What is worrying is that these criteria could be applied to a large proportion of the Crews Hill area. In Enfield's Unitary Development Plan it is designated as the Crews Hill Defined Area within the Green Belt. This recognises that it is a distinctive part of the Borough, being its major area for horticultural activity, although in recent years many of the glasshouses have been replaced by garden centres as well as various unauthorised storage and other commercial activities. Some of these are subject to enforcement action. The site of the present application is currently used for architectural reclamation and was approved as such following an appeal. It might be considered useful here as there are few such facilities in the London area. Enfield's approval relies considerably as a precedent on a recent decision in Broxbourne, concerning a glasshouse area with similar characteristics to the Tingey's Top Lane site. The complete demolition of all the buildings on Halstead Nursery was allowed in favour of 10 detached houses.



Some of the current residents of the architectural reclamation site in Tingey's Top Lane

The Tingey's Top approval is by my recollection the first for speculative housing within the Crews Hill Area since our 1973 "Save Enfield's Green Belt" Campaign saw off the threat of a large scale Laing housing development. When the application was first submitted our routine letter of objection was on the assumption that it would of course have been turned down on Green Belt policy grounds. We wrote again when it was clear that this assumption was over optimistic. The Planning Officers' joint report to the Committee mentions specifically a letter from the Crews Hill Residents' Association but not our two letters. The report relied heavily throughout on compliance with the new NPPF, realising our worst fears. Where do we go from here?

Spurs again

Tottenham Hotspur are again tinkering with their training ground site. A new application seeks to create bunds (earthwork embankments) around the western field, which it was agreed should remain open. The planted bunds will further alter the character of this patch of Green Belt, though unfortunately the proposal does not include removing the existing, ugly chain link fence along Whitewebbs Lane, which would have been a benefit.

Chris Jephcott

George Spicer Primary School

The Planning Committee meeting that approved the demolition of College Farm also approved a new single-storey extension doubling the size of nearby George Spicer Primary School at Bury Farm off Craddock Road, Enfield within the King George V Playing Fields. Although this piece of MOL was previously occupied by a teaching annexe, the application encroaches on allotments and creates a new car park near to the access from Ladysmith Road. The difficulty is that, with previous school playing fields having been sold off at a time of falling rolls, there is now a dearth of suitable sites for school expansions. Not unnaturally the proposal was very unpopular with Ladysmith Road residents, who will now have a large school building within feet of their back gardens and who will have to put up with an influx of cars twice a day. Our suggestion for possible alternative sites was not taken up.

Chris Jephcott

Trees Group



The Group is grateful for a £30 donation from the family of the late Eileen King, following her funeral. She had always enjoyed the planting of trees to improve the environment.

On 16th March, 30 well grown saplings from the Trees Group allotment tree nursery were planted out at the Woodcroft Wildspace during their tree planting day. Along with our trees 1,000 whips were planted, a donation from Ikea to the Woodland Trust. Our photograph

shows the volunteers taking a tea break on this cold, wet morning.

The fine specimen Liquidambar 'sweet gum' tree planted in front of The George in Enfield Town is the end result of a consultation on the future of the planter there, which was considered to be encouraging antisocial behaviour. Though our preference would have been for two or three plane trees, it has to be admitted that the end result is impressive. We look forward to the brightly coloured autumn foliage.

Subscription increase

Members will see from the AGM notice that the Management Committee is proposing an increase in the Society's annual subscription from £2.50 to £5.00. We are of course aware that many members already add a donation to their subscription, and/or contribute funds to the Society in other ways. However the Society needs to have money to fund its charitable objectives – the campaign to save Chase Green is a recent example – and we feel that the "minimum" subscription should at least cover the cost of printing and posting the TES News, which is not the case at the present rate.

The current subscription rate has been in place for many years. The Committee believes that the proposed increased rate is still modest by the standards of similar societies, and hopes that Members will support the proposal.

Also in Enfield Town is the Tulip Tree on the green in front of the Register Office in Gentleman's Row. Planted I believe by Irene Smith, it unfortunately had to be severely pruned after it split down the middle. Following the suggestion of Andy Robinson, Enfield's Arboricultural Officer we would support the use of the Residents' Priority fund to procure a decent sized replacement and the Society would be pleased to add its contribution if required.

Chris Jephcott

Lincoln Road level crossing

The level crossing in Lincoln Road has been closed to road traffic for some time, and there has been discussion on our Facebook page and in our Yahoo! email discussion group as to when and if it will be reopened.

In response to enquiries, Network Rail replied

"On 14th December 2012 this level crossing was struck by a road vehicle which necessitated its closure for safety reasons. Consequently, the damage that has been caused means the replacement of the level crossing gate in its entirety and includes the procurement of individual mechanical locks and hinges which have to be manufactured exclusively for each site. ...The history of what is now Lincoln Road, and the level crossing, is complex. Research into any rights of way that may exist at the level crossing is underway and

will inform any long term plans. Network Rail will be reviewing the possibility of closure once the status of the level crossing is ascertained."

The crossing may not be a right of way for vehicular traffic, but may just be a permissive crossing which Network Rail have the right to close. When in use it was open only from 6 am to 6 pm and was closed on Sundays. It is suggested that when the railway was built Lincoln Road was just a private lane, and that its subsequent upgrading to a public road does not affect the permissive nature of the crossing. It is also argued that it is unsafe, because although it is too narrow for two vehicles to pass on the crossing some drivers still attempt to do so, encroaching on the pedestrian space which is separated from the roadway by only a white line. It is also too narrow for automatic barriers,



which might cause a vehicle to be trapped on the crossing.

However, Enfield Council are contesting Network Rail's assertion that the crossing was merely permissive. A previous attempt to close it in the 1980s was abandoned after objections by Royal Mail and a dairy whose milk float batteries would not last for the length of the detour that would be needed.

Some residents want it closed, others want it kept open. We await developments.

Leonard Will

Diary dates

This list gives a selection of forthcoming events, not including our regular Jubilee Hall meetings listed on page 5. 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/

Until 5th January 2014, Enfield Museum, Dugdale Centre
Water, water everywhere – an exhibition celebrating the 400th anniversary of the completion of the New River. See page 8 for more details.

Wednesday 15th May, 7.45 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall
Isaac Walton – the fisherman's friend, by Robert Waite. [EHHS]

Friday 17th May, 7.30 for 8 pm, Jubilee Hall
Skeletons in the Museum of London, by Jelena Bekvalac (Museum of London) [EAS]

Saturday 18th – Sunday 19th May, Grovelands Park
Grovelands Park centenary celebrations (Friends of Grovelands Park). For details see <http://www.grovelandspark.net/>

Sunday 2nd June, 10.00, Hertford
New River walk from Hertford to Enfield led by John Polley. (New River Action Group). For details, see <http://www.newriver.org.uk/>.

Wednesday 12th June, 12.30 – 1.00pm, St Mary Magdalene Church, Windmill Hill, Enfield.
Concert: Roddy Elmer and St Monica's School Choir.

Thursday 13th – Saturday 22nd June, Capel Manor
The comedy of errors by William Shakespeare. A Principal Theatre Co. production. Book on line at www.millfieldtheatre.co.uk or phone (020) 8807 6670.

Thursday 13th June, 7.30 for 8.00pm, Jubilee Hall
The Enfield Society 2013 AGM, followed by an illustrated talk entitled *Baker Street and Silver Street, past and present* by Frank Bayford.

Friday 14th June, 7.30 for 8 pm, Jubilee Hall
Geoffrey Gillam Memorial Lecture [EAS]

Wednesday 19th – Saturday 22nd June, Capel Manor
Hamlet by William Shakespeare. A

Principal Theatre Co. production. Book on line at www.millfieldtheatre.co.uk or phone (020) 8807 6670.

Wednesday 26th June, 7.00 for 7.30 pm, Bruce Castle
Subject to be announced (Joint meeting with the Friends of Bruce Castle) [EHHS]

Thursday 27th - Saturday 29th June, 7.30pm, Wyllyotts Theatre, Potters Bar
Tchaikovsky's opera Eugene Onegin, sung in English, with orchestra. (Southgate Opera). Box Office: 01707 645005. www.southgateopera.co.uk

Wednesday 10th July, 12.30 – 1.00pm, St Mary Magdalene Church, Windmill Hill, Enfield.
Concert: Sandra Sinclair, viola, with accompanist.

Wednesday 17th July, 7.45 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall
Samuel Pepys "Plague, fire and Mrs Willett" by Geoff Hales [EHHS]

Friday 13th September, 7.30 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall
The Chiseldon Cauldrons, by Alexandra Baldwin, British Museum [EAS]

Wednesday 18th September, 7.45 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall
Octavia Hill, by Pamela Wright. [EHHS]

Saturday 28th September, 10.00 am, Dugdale Centre
New River celebration event: walks, talks and performances. See page 1 for details.

Wednesday 16th October, 7.45 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall
Enfield railways. Part 2 (west): Great Northern Main Line and the Hertford Loop by Dave Cockle [EHHS]

Friday 18th October, 7.45 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall
The Roman bones of old Enfield, by Neil Pinchbeck, EAS [EAS]

Groundforce (GF) and Enfield Conservation Volunteers (ECV) do practical conservation work in Enfield's parks and countryside, such as hedge laying, coppicing, bridge building and path construction. Groundforce meets on alternate Wednesdays and ECV on alternate Sundays. As the tasks are determined according to current needs, you need to contact them for details of their latest projects. Contacts are:
GF: Eileen Jessup (020) 8805 1974 or email

groundforce.enfield@gmail.com.
ECV: Judy Mayo (07791473844), email judy@ecv.org.uk or Jenny Willmot, Outreach and Community Officer (020) 8449 2459, email jenny.willmot@enfield.gov.uk. They have websites at sites.google.com/site/groundforce99/home and www.ecv.org.uk but these may not be complete and should not be relied on.

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

EHHS: Edmonton Hundred Historical Society www.edmontonhundred.org.uk. Talks are free to members – there is a charge of £1 per head for visitors.

New members

We warmly welcome the following new members:

Mr G Allen, Ms S N Beard,
Mr M Bowden, Mr N H W Clark,
Mrs P Creer, Miss D Eagling,
Mrs & Mr J M Farnsworth,
Mr A J Ford, Mr B Freeman,
Mrs M R Fuller,
Mr & Mrs J & K M Hecker,
Mr I A Johnson,
Mr & Mrs S Moloney,
Dr A Noor, Mr C Saunders,
Mr T Shimada, Mr M K Sleath,
Mrs W Stephens, Mr K C Thorogood

Joyce James

Volunteers required for Town Show 7th/8th September 2013

The Society will be having its regular stall at this year's event which takes place over the weekend of 7th/8th September. We would be pleased to hear from any members who would be able to assist with the setting up on Friday evening 6th September or Saturday morning 7th September and taking down our stand on Sunday in the early evening of 8th September. The assistance required will involve some lifting and carrying of boxes of books and other stand and sale materials. To register your interest, please contact Bob Fowler by email at R.Fowler@enfieldsociety.org.uk or by phone on (020) 8363 5732.

Enfield Society events

Meetings are held at Jubilee Hall unless a different venue is shown.

Tuesday mornings 10.00 for 10.30 am. Some meetings may finish a little later than normal. No tickets required.

28th May. *St. John's to Little Venice*, by Stuart Harvey, with digital images.

25th June. *Coast from Whitby, Wales, Southend to St.Ives* by Brenda Brown (with slides)

30th July *The work of the Wildlife Trust* by Mike Watts (illustrated)

August No meeting

24th September. *I was an Olympic Volunteer* by Lindsay Rawlings (illustrated)

Evening meetings, at 7.30 for 8 pm. No tickets required.

Thursday 16th May. *St Andrew's Church and its personalities*. An illustrated talk by Janet McQueen.

Thursday 13th June. *Annual General Meeting of The Enfield Society* followed by an illustrated talk entitled *Baker Street and Silver Street, past and present*, by Frank Bayford

Thursday 17th October. *Enfield Grammar School on film, 1933-1966*, introduced by Stephen Gilburt.

Thursday 21st November. *In the steps of Charles and Mary Lamb*. An illustrated talk by Helen Walton.

Please note that the Dugdale Centre is now selling only the Footpath Map and no other Enfield Society publications.

Joyce Bourne

John Bourne would like to take this opportunity to thank all TES members who sent him messages of condolence and sympathy following the recent death of his wife, Joyce. These messages were very much appreciated.

The President's column



There are worrying signs that the malign effects of the Eric Pickle's *National Planning Policy Framework* are making themselves felt. Not only is our local Green Belt under threat, as I mention in my piece on Crews Hill, but unsympathetic planning decisions have also undermined the status of Metropolitan Open Land. The rumour that Enfield Council was in negotiations to build housing on the open field to the south of Enfield Road proved to be just that, without foundation, but more serious is the decision to allow a speculative planning application to build four very large houses at Crews Hill. It needs to be made very clear that this was a very bad decision which must not be regarded as a precedent.

This will be my last column before the AGM, so I take this opportunity to mark Janet's standing down as her three years as Chairman come to an end. Her energetic and effective leadership steered us successfully through a number of issues, notably our participation in the Forty Hall HLF restoration and the threat to Chase Green. She saw through a useful reorganisation of our Management Committee structure. She leaves the Society in good shape. I look forward to welcoming Dave Cockle as our next Chairman.

Chris Jephcott

The Enfield Society offers grants for projects that advance its aims

The Enfield Society is able to make grants for projects which will further its aims and objectives as a charity. The Society's object is the conservation and enhancement of the civic and natural environment of the London Borough of Enfield and its immediate surrounding area for the public benefit. In particular it aims to:

- Conserve and enhance buildings of architectural quality or environmental interest
- Defend the integrity of the Green Belt
- Protect and improve open spaces and views
- Ensure that new developments are environmentally sound and well designed and take into account the relevant interests of all sections of the community
- Assist in the preservation of footpaths, commons and rights of way.

Applications will be considered for grants of between £100 and £5,000.

Applications should be made to the Secretary of the Society at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield EN2 0AJ (or by email secretary@enfieldsociety.org.uk) and should include:

- The full name and address of the applicant
- If the applicant is not an individual:
 - ▶ Details of its legal status (eg registered charity, limited company)
 - ▶ The name of the individual responsible for the application and his or her status in relation to the applicant (eg director, trustee, secretary)
- A brief description of the project for which the grant is requested.
- The amount requested.

The Society may require additional information in order to make a decision. Making any grant is at the discretion of the Society and its decision is final. Decisions are made by the Society's Management Committee, which normally considers applications for grants once a quarter.

If a grant is made:

- The Society will expect to be kept informed about the progress of the project
- The Society reserves the right to require repayment of the grant if the money is not applied towards the project within an agreed period
- The grant may be made subject to other conditions determined by the Society.

Richard Stones

Historic buildings

Gentleman's Row, Enfield Town

On 5th June there will be a guided walk around the Enfield Town Conservation Area when the houses in Gentleman's Row will be seen, including the interior of the Tudor Room adjoining Little Park. The inside of Christ Church (URC) in Chase Side will also be visited; this Victorian Gothic building is Grade II listed. (See page 12 for booking details for the Enfield Town and other guided walks.) For more information, read *A portrait of Gentleman's Row*, which is available from The Enfield Society.

Stephen Gilbert



Gentleman's Row has many fine Grade II listed 16th to 19th century houses. The footpath in front of the houses originally formed the boundary of Enfield Chase and the gardens to the west were encroachments on the Chase when this section was cut off by the New River.



This 18th century house was bought in 1888 by the Enfield Board of Health. It was later a public library and is now the Registry Office. The square bay to the right was added in the 19th century.



The Edwardian exterior of **Little Park** hides an interior, parts of which date back to Tudor times. The Tudor Room on the right was built to house a fine stone fireplace, panelling and a ceiling rescued from the 16th century Enfield Palace which was demolished in 1927. (See *TES News* no.186).



The 18th century brick front of **Elm House** hides an earlier 17th century house. Now in private occupation, it has been a school, hall and store, and was a convalescent home in the First World War.



Fortescue Lodge. This late 17th century timber framed stableman's cottage was provided with an early Georgian façade covered in white stucco. To the left, the 16th century L-shaped timber-framed barn later became a coach house before being converted to a house in 1957.



Fortescue Villas were built in the 1840s and were at one time a school and later a children's home.

Historic buildings



The Grade II* listed **Clarendon Cottage** was originally a 16th century timber-framed hall house and was extended in the 17th century. At the end of the 17th century it was a girls' school and in the early 19th century it was a boarding house run by a Mrs Leishmann. Charles and Mary Lamb stayed there in 1825 and 1827 before they moved to live in Chase Side. To the left are the 17th century timber-framed **Eastbury** and **Sedgecope**, both with early 18th century red brick fronts.



The recently restored **Archway House** dates from 1750 and was a beer house before the First World War. The archway to the right led to Love's Row, now called Chapel Street. The mainly 19th century house on the left was at one time the stables for the Archway tavern and later a general shop until the late 1960s.



The 300 year old farm bothy on the left was replaced in 1970 by a neo-Georgian house. On the right the early 19th century fronted **The Haven** originally faced on to the New River and the occupants had "dipping rights" enabling them to draw drinking water.



There were fewer cars in Gentleman's Row in 1969. On the left, **William Place** dates from 1871 while the four cottages in the centre are early 19th century. The bay-fronted **Belmont Cottages** out of view opposite were built in the 1890s.



The early 19th century **Rivulet House** originally faced on to the New River.



Brecon House is a mid-18th century three storey gentleman's residence. It has two single-storey flanking blocks each with a Venetian window.

400th anniversary of the New River

The New River was constructed by Sir Hugh Myddelton between 1609 and 1613, to bring drinking water from springs at Amwell and Chadwell in Hertfordshire, and later from the River Lea at New Gauge, between Hertford and Ware, to a reservoir at New River Head, Islington. From there the water was carried through elm pipes to the City of London. The New River roughly followed the 100 foot contour, which involved long detours, and had a fall of about 15½ feet over its 40 mile length. This was later reduced to about 24 miles, using embankments and aqueducts, to a new terminus at Stoke Newington. The route through the borough of Enfield includes about 12 miles of the original course, of which 6 miles are still in use. The disused loop around Enfield Town has been preserved as an ornamental feature and was restored with a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Enfield Museum has mounted an exhibition entitled “Water, water everywhere: 400 years of the New River”. This looks at the course of the river through the borough of Enfield and its associated bridges, aqueducts and pumping stations. It also examines the problems of providing clean water to, and removing waste water from, homes and places of work. The exhibition is now open on the ground floor of the Dugdale Centre, Thomas Hardy House, 39 London Road, Enfield EN2 6DS from 9 am to 5 pm on Mondays to Saturdays and 10 am to 1 pm on Sundays, until 5th January 2014.

On Saturday 28th September 2013 there will be talks and live entertainment at the Dugdale Centre and guided walks along part of the Enfield Town loop to celebrate the 400th anniversary of water flowing through the New River. See page 1 for details of the programme of events and how to obtain tickets.

For more information, see *London's New River* by Robert Ward (Historical Publications, 2003).

Stephen Gilbert



In 1820-21 the cast iron Flash Lane aqueduct was constructed with brick parapets and was supported on three brick piles to carry the New River over Cuffley Brook.



This pumping station in Whitewebbs Road was built in 1898 by the New River Company to raise water from an underground aquifer to the New River. It is now the Whitewebbs Museum of Transport.



Enfield Town loop by Gentleman's Row in 1969. The listed wrought and cast iron foot bridges date from the early to mid 19th century.



The Grade II listed 19th century 40-foot brick water tower in Quaker's Walk was intended to provide an improved water supply to a newly built estate in Bush Hill Park, although it was never used for its original purpose.



Gates were operated from this late 18th century Grade II listed Bush Hill sluice house to control the flow of water over the Bush Hill frame.



The Grade II listed Clarendon Arch, rebuilt in 1682, forms the entrance to a brick vaulted tunnel constructed to carry Salmon's Brook under the Bush Hill frame. The frame was an aqueduct made of caulked timber, later lined with lead, which was replaced by an earth embankment in 1786.

Roundabout advertising: danger, clutter and visibility

In our last issue we drew attention to the fact that Enfield Council were installing advertising signs on traffic roundabouts, despite their contribution to road clutter and, more seriously, the danger they pose by distracting motorists and obscuring the view of oncoming traffic.

One of our members, Ronald Bates, agrees, and has written as follows:

I read with interest your article regarding the mini roundabout at the junctions of Chase Road, Avenue Road and Merrivale. On August 29 of last year, following two accidents I was aware of, I wrote to the Council pointing out the shrubs planted on the roundabout were some 4-5 feet high and completely preventing motorists from seeing approaching cars and indicators. I suggested that the shrubs should be replaced with grass or, at least, low level plants. This was passed to a horticulture technician, but all that happened was that they finally cut the shrubs down to 2-3 feet – doubtless in the spring they will grow again.

Now, as you stated, they have added advertising signs – each approximately 3 feet wide and 4 feet high around the roundabout.

Eye level from a car is some 4 feet and, together with the shrubs, it will be impossible to see whether an approaching car is signalling to turn right or left – assuming you can even see the car. To add to the stupidity it beggars belief that the Council have, in small letters, printed “Please drive carefully” on every sign!

It would appear Councillors in Northumberland, who have thrown out a similar scheme, have more common sense than those in Enfield.

We approached Enfield Council for their comments on this, asking them

- How much revenue they are obtaining from these advertisements, to justify the danger and clutter they produce.
- What their policy is on keeping roundabouts clear of obstructions to ensure that oncoming traffic, and its signals, are clearly visible.
- Whether planning permission is required for these advertisements, and if so when it was obtained.



When emerging onto the roundabout there is very little time to see oncoming right-turning traffic, which has right of way.

The Council's reply is as follows:

“Sponsorship advertisements on roundabouts and in shrubberies, notwithstanding their size, are not covered by any deemed express consent under the Advertisement Regulations

The nearest relevant class is Class 1 : ‘functional advertisements’ by public bodies. Guidance indicates that advertisements in Class 1 are those which are needed by public bodies (such as government departments and local authorities, the public utilities and public transport operators) to give information or directions about the services they provide. This can include sponsorship to roundabouts / shrubberies where the Council has responsibility for maintenance.

There is no size criteria for such an advertisement. Enfield currently does not require advertisement consent for such sponsorship advertisements as they are all currently subject to internal approval in terms of site, location, impact and traffic safety. This is consistent with many other local authorities, but we are aware that some planning authorities do require advertisement consent.”

The Council officers also told us that they got £1000 revenue per year per roundabout and that there were seventeen roundabouts involved.

The first sentence of their reply is confusing, because “deemed” and “express” consent are alternatives, and if these advertisements are not covered by deemed consent then express consent, a type of planning permission, is required. If the Council are arguing that these advertisements are covered by deemed

consent, being within the definition of ‘Class 1’ in *The Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007*, then the regulations say that it applies to

“An advertisement displayed wholly for the purpose of announcement or direction in relation to any of the functions of ... a local authority ... which ... is reasonably required to be displayed for the safe or efficient performance of those functions ...”

It is unconvincing to argue that an advertisement such as the one pictured above falls within this definition, which rather appears intended to cover functional advertisements such as this:



CPRE are continuing to campaign on this issue and the following articles discuss the problem elsewhere:

- *Taking action on roadside advertising.* (CPRE Fieldwork, December 2010, p.10) <<http://tinyurl.com/CPREfieldwork2010>>
- *Roundabout advertising plan branded ‘dangerous and unnecessary clutter.’* (Berkhamsted and Tring Gazette) <<http://tinyurl.com/cyds54g>>
- *Northumberland roundabout advertising plans rejected* <<http://tinyurl.com/d9su2p4>>
- *Motorists driven to distraction by advertising ‘clutter’* (Daily Mail) <<http://tinyurl.com/bunzerk>>
- *Signs on roundabouts. Letter from the King’s Lynn Civic Society.* (Lynn News) <<http://tinyurl.com/chz7ky4>>

Leonard Will

Future walks

Travel details are correct at press date but TES cannot be responsible for alterations. Rail travel may be subject to alteration, especially at weekends. Please always check (either via 08457 48 49 50 or using the operating train company website). 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 tickets allow 3 or 4 adults to travel together for the price of 2 adults on First Capital Connect, Greater Anglia, Southeastern, Chiltern, Southern, South West Trains or London Midland. You must travel as a group. Also available on Off-Peak Day Single tickets.

If you have a Freedom Pass or National Bus Pass, please bring it as we may use buses.

Please wear walking boots or stout walking shoes – trainers are rarely suitable.

Sat 25 May. Woods, village greens, and Mimram Valley. Meet **10.34am** Welwyn North Station (by ticket office). 10.11am Cambridge train from Finsbury Park mainline station (access by tube or 9.30am train from Enfield Chase Station) or at 10.21am from Potters Bar Station (313 or 298 buses).

About 8 mile circular walk in an attractive part of Mid-Herts with pretty village greens and cottages. Bring lunch or pub food probably available.

By car: Welwyn North is near Digswell about 1 mile east of A 1 (M) (Junction 6) or follow B 1000 from Hertford. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Wed 29 May. Epping Forest – Centenary Walk. Meet **10.35am** Woodgrange Park Station (10.18am London Overground train from South Tottenham Station or catch this train at 10.21am from Blackhorse Road Station – latter has interchange with Victoria Line). Alternatively, travel with Dave on the 9.52am train from Enfield Town, changing at Seven Sisters for short walk to South Tottenham Station.

8 mile linear route following the Centenary Walk, initially crossing Wanstead Flats and then via an attractive ribbon of Epping Forest to end at Chingford Station. May be muddy in places. Many shorter options available including ending/joining at Highams Park station. Bring lunch or options of pub & cafes. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Mon 3 June. Lea Valley. Meet **10.15am** Broxbourne Station. Travel either by 9.44am train from Southbury Station and change at Cheshunt for 9.56am or 10.09am trains; or by direct train at 9.55am from Tottenham Hale which also stops at intermediate stations. Today's figure of eight walk of about 8.5 miles connects the lakes and waterways in this area. Lunch stop will be in the vicinity of Broxbourne Old Mill & Meadows (about 5 mins walk from the station) – bring lunch or food available. For afternoon section only, either meet group at the lunch point or be at the station by 2.00pm. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Wed 12 June. Shuttleworth and Old Warden. Meet **11.02am** Biggleswade Station. Travel by 10.28am Peterborough train from Finsbury Park mainline station – does *not* stop at Potters Bar but can be joined at Stevenage at 10.47am by train from Enfield Chase at 9.41 am. By car via A1.

About 8.5 mile linear walk via the Shuttleworth Estate and Mansion, lovely Old Warden village (lunch stop) and part of the Greensand Ridge Walk. Return to Biggleswade will be by bus. Bring lunch or food probably available. Details: (020) 8360 0282. *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Wed 19 June. Enfield's Green Belt. Meet **10.15am** Crews Hill Station (10.01am train from Enfield Chase) for linear walk via Tingey Tops, Holly Hill Farm, Jubilee Footpath and Trent Park, ending at Oakwood. Options to end earlier, including from the intended lunch stop at the Ferny Hill Farm tea-rooms. *Leader: Roy Dyer*

Mon 24 June. Hampstead Heath. Meet **10.32am** Hampstead Heath Station (10.19am London Overground train from Highbury & Islington station – previous trains at 10.04am & 10.11am).

About 7.5 mile circular walk exploring the diversity of the Heath and environs with lunch stop at Golders Hill Park. Many shorter options. Bring lunch or option of park café or nearby Old Bull & Bush pub. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Sat 29 June. Chilterns and Chequers Estate. Meet **10.53am** Wendover Station (10.12am Chiltern Railways train from London Marylebone Station – *Freedom Pass boundary is Amersham*). By car: about 1 hour 5 mins via M25 (junction 20), A41 to Tring North, then B4009.

About 7.5 mile circular walk with outstanding scenery, fine beech woods and lovely views, including from Coombe Hill at over 800 ft above sea level. An area still threatened by the HS2 train project. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader: Martin Langer*

Wed 3 July. Evening Walk. Meet Gordon Hill station (train arrivals at 6.49pm & 6.58pm or W8 bus) for *prompt start at 7.00pm*. About 2 hour circular walk via Hilly Fields, Flash Lane and Whitewebbs Park. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Tues 9 July. Valentine's Mansion and Wanstead Park. Meet **11.00am** Gants Hill Station (on Hainault branch of Central Line, about 21 mins from Liverpool Street). Otherwise, about 25 mins on 123 bus from Blackhorse Road Station (Victoria Line). Only 5 mins walk from the station, and recently restored, is this beautiful 300 year old country house and gardens set in parkland, which you will be able to explore at your own pace until we re-assemble after lunch. Bring lunch or onsite Gardener's Cottage café. After lunch there is an optional 3 to 3.5 mile linear walk crossing the Roding Valley and through historic Wanstead Park to end at Wanstead Station (Central Line and buses). *Leader: Breda Jenkins*

Sat 13 July. River Lea and Pymmes Brook Trail. Meet **10.32am** on east side of level crossing at Brimsdown Station (10.25am train from Tottenham Hale, or by 307 or 191 buses, allow about 30 mins from Enfield Town). About 6.5 mile linear walk via Mossops Creek, River Lea, Pickett's Lock and Salmons Brook path into Edmonton Green (lunch stop – bring lunch or cafes etc available). Afternoon section starts at 1.30pm from Edmonton Green Station and goes via Pymmes Park, Millfield House and the Pymmes Brook Trail to end in Palmers Green. Shorter options. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Wed 17 July. Beane Valley. Meet **10.10am** Hertford North Station (9.41am train from Enfield Chase) for 9 mile circular walk in attractive countryside and parkland scenery. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. Possibly a shorter option. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Mon 22 July. Parkland Walk. Meet **10.20am** Palmers Green Station (10.10am train from Enfield Chase) for a surprisingly semi-rural 2.5 hour linear walk via Broomfield, Arnos and Oak Hill Parks and then Oak Hill Woods nature reserve to end at Cat Hill roundabout, Cockfosters (307, 298 & 299 buses or tube/shops nearby). *Leader: Norman Coles*

Sat 27 July. Rib Valley. Meet **10.24am** Ware Station (9.44am train from Southbury Station changing at Cheshunt for 10.09am train, or direct train at 9.55am from Tottenham Hale which also stops at intermediate stations).

About 8 to 9 mile circular walk with lunch stop in Wadesmill Village and option to end by returning to start by bus. Bring lunch or pub food available. Details: (020) 8360 0282. *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Wed 7 Aug. North Herts. Meet **10.21am** Stevenage Station (9.41 am train from Enfield Chase or 9.58am Cambridge train from Finsbury Park mainline station). **NB: please exit station quickly enabling group to catch 10.26am SB7 bus for 10 mins journey to start at Great Ashby.**

Future walks

(continued)

8.5 mile walk in attractive countryside with long distance views via Weston, Graveley (lunch stop and option to end early) and through historic Old Stevenage which has many interesting old buildings. Bring lunch or pub food available. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Mon 12 Aug. Epping Forest. Meet **10.45am** Chingford bus station (10.09am 313 bus from Church Street, Enfield Town – previous buses at 9.29am & 9.49am).

The leaders plan a maximum of 6 miles walk “at a relaxed pace with plenty of shade for a hot summer’s day!” Bring lunch or food available.

Leaders: Margaret/Androula/Vanessa

Sat 17 Aug. Trent Park. Meet **2.30pm** Oakwood Station for about 2.5 hour circular walk through varied parts of Trent Park with hopefully a tea break. *Leader: Norman Coles*

Wed 21 Aug. Conservation Countryside. Meet **10.14am** Bayford Station (10.01am train from Enfield Chase) or **10.25am** in Bayford Village for car drivers, but please park considerably and NOT in pub car park, nor in the residents' area opposite the pub.

About 8 mile circular walk in pretty countryside. Bring lunch or pub food available. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Bank Holiday Mon 26 Aug. Chilterns and Ashridge Estate. Meet **10.30am** at the National Trust Visitor Centre, Bridgewater Monument, Moneybury Hill, Ringshall, Berkhamsted HP4 1LT. O.S. Map 165 Grid Ref: 970 131 with car parking beside approach road to Centre. By car via M25 (junction 20), A41, A416 into Berkhamsted, then left on A4251 for 1 mile to Northchurch and right on B4506 for 2.5 miles.

About 8 mile circular walk through the Ashridge Estate with ancient woodlands, dramatic scenery and possibly Ivinghoe Beacon. Bring lunch or food available in pretty Aldbury Village. Details: 07703 470 156. *Leaders: Toby Simon & Margaret McAlpine*

Sat 31 Aug. Haileybury. Meet **10.20am** St Margaret's Station (9.44am train from Southbury Station changing at Cheshunt for 10.09am train, or direct train at 9.55am from Tottenham Hale which also stops at intermediate stations).

About 7.5 mile circular walk via Haileybury College, woodland and nature reserves. Lunch stop in Hertford Heath from where option to end early by using bus to either Hertford or Hoddesdon. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Stuart Mills

Footpaths

Stagg Hill link footpath – progress at last

The Stagg Hill Link footpath has been shown on the TES footpath map as a proposed path for over ten years but numerous problems have thwarted getting it open.

The Ground Force team spent quite a bit of time in the noughties clearing vegetation and installing stiles. The final hurdle has been difficulties in providing a suitable site to erect a small footbridge to cross Salmons Brook on Plumridge Farm

Good news: a suitable site has been found and construction work has actually started on the footbridge. Four steel piles have been sunk and steel cross beams attached ready to carry the main bridge beams. The Council says that they expect their contractors to have the bridgework completed by the end of April.

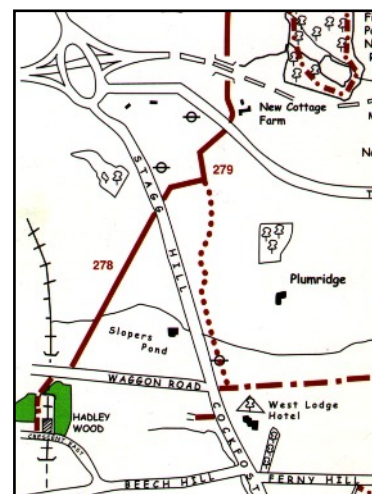
Once the path is open it will open up opportunities for circular walks within Enfield's Greenbelt avoiding the crossing of main roads.

Dave Cockle



Photo: LBE Highway Services

The dotted line on this extract from our footpath map shows the new path and the point at which it will cross Salmons Brook when the bridge is completed.



Joining The Enfield Society

If you are not already a member, you can join the Society by sending your name and address, telephone number and email address to **Membership Secretary, The Enfield Society, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield EN2 0AJ**. The minimum annual subscription is £2.50 per person (£5.00 per couple), but additional donations are welcome. Please make cheques payable to “The Enfield Society”. Membership is for a calendar year; subscriptions received now will give membership until the end of 2013. If approved by the AGM, the subscription payable after 1st July will be £5 per person and will give membership until the end of 2014.

It would assist the Society if you were able to include the following wording, signed and dated. This will allow us to reclaim tax on your subscription at no cost to yourself:

“I confirm that I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. Please treat all subscriptions and donations I make to The Enfield Society until further notice as Gift Aid payments”.

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. Anonymous items are not published, and contributors' views may differ from those of the Management Committee of The Enfield Society. 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 19th July 2013, 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

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Chairman: Janet McQueen

Hon. Secretary: Richard Stones

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When there is nobody in the office, messages left on voice mail 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 8245 2758 (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 8363 9495 (Janet McQueen)

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

Printed by Cambridge Printers Ltd.

ISSN 2042-1419 (Print)
ISSN 2042-1427 (Online)

Guided walks

We are once again organising a series of guided walks round local areas. All of these are **free** and open to both members and non-members of the Enfield Society but as places are limited you do need to obtain a ticket via Jubilee Hall. This year we are limiting tickets to 3 per application for each walk (except the Enfield Town one), though you can apply for more than one event. If you do request a ticket but then find you cannot come please let us know via the telephone at Jubilee Hall (020 8363 9495) as we often have a waiting list.

Wednesday 5th June:

A guided walk around Enfield Town, to include visits to the Tudor room and Christ Church, Chase Side. Starts 7pm.

Sunday 21st July:

Palmers Green, led by Joe Studman, starts 2.30. A 90 minute walk looking at Palmers Green before and after the spread of Edwardian suburbia. Hear about Billy Biscuit, Loch Melville, the elopement in a laundry basket and the air crash of 1912. There will also be a brief visit to Oxfordshire.

Saturday 27th July:

A walk around Edmonton, led by Monica Smith, with visits to Lamb's Cottage and All Saints' Church, starts 10am.

Sunday 4th August

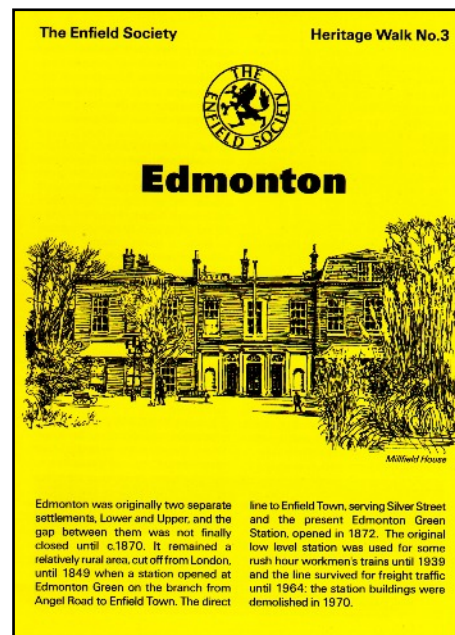
A walk round Southgate with Peter Hodge, starts 2.30pm and will include entry to the Beaumont and Christchurch Southgate.

To apply for tickets please send a stamped, addressed envelope to

Emma Halstead,
Jubilee Hall
2 Parsonage Lane
Enfield
EN2 0AJ

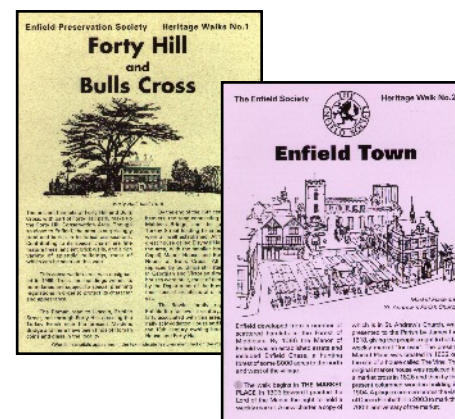
with a clear indication of which walk(s) and how many tickets you would like. Remember that tickets are limited to only 3 per person for all walks except Enfield Town. Please also include your telephone number so that we can notify you if there is any change or problem.

Self-guided walk leaflets



Heritage Walk no.3, Edmonton, has now been published. The cost is £1 and copies will be on sale at the AGM and other meetings at Jubilee Hall or by post from TES Publications, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield EN2 0AJ. (Please add £1 for postage).

This walk covers the Church Street area with its ancient church and grave of Charles Lamb and other conservation areas and buildings of historic and architectural interest.



Our other two walks leaflets are also still available:

No. 1: Forty Hill and Bulls Cross

No. 2: Enfield Town (recently revised.)

These also cost £1 each and may be purchased at meetings or by post, as above. We also have a book: **Heritage walks in the London Borough of Enfield** (£6.50 plus £2 p&p) describing six walks.

All our publications may be ordered online on our web site at
<<http://www.enfieldsociety.org.uk/sales/>>