



Enfield Society News

No. 196, Winter 2014

Cycle Enfield – what next?

There seems to have been little obvious progress on “Cycle Enfield” (previously called “mini-Holland”) since we last wrote about it in the summer 2014 newsletter; however there has been quite a lot of activity behind the scenes though we have had to be very proactive to keep track of it. Council comments have largely been limited to “there will be a public consultation in the autumn”. Well we have reached autumn now – mid October as I write this and no sign of any activity to allow the public to have their say as yet though the Council have been allocated a first tranche of money – £700,000 for this financial year to start the project off.

We have had confirmed that Ringway Jacobs have been appointed as the consultants on the scheme and despite requests no separate consultant on conservation issues will be appointed. The first element of the scheme to be implemented will be Palmers Green and Green Lanes but we are not yet aware of the timescale proposed. As far as Enfield Town is concerned 6 different proposals are being looked at by the consultants but only 2 or 3 of these will be brought forward to the public for their comments.

At the September cabinet meeting the governance arrangements to be put in place to oversee the delivery of the project were agreed. We were pleased to see the replacement of a cabinet member on the project board by an independent advisor, but still feel that many groups are under-represented and there is a lack of expertise.

The Enfield Town Conservation Area Study group held a meeting supported by the Enfield Society exploring the shared space option – see the report on this page, and we feel that much more discussion and debate are needed before a major change to the town centre is made. Making a rapid decision on major changes in the Borough because money has suddenly become available may not be in the best interests of Enfield.

We will continue to keep our eyes on the situation and would like to arrange a public meeting to discuss options but as yet there seems to be little to base our discussions on. We remain concerned that once the limited list of options is opened to public debate viable alternatives will have already been dismissed and so not ever visible as possibilities.

Janet McQueen

Report from meeting with Ben Hamilton-Baillie

In a packed room in July, a leading transport, traffic and urban design consultant – Ben Hamilton-Baillie – gave a presentation on an alternative way of looking at the traffic issues in Enfield Town. He emphasised that town centres are in danger of being side-lined and showed how a new vision of street and pavement traffic can help to rejuvenate them making them desirable places to visit and defining the whole area as welcoming to all.

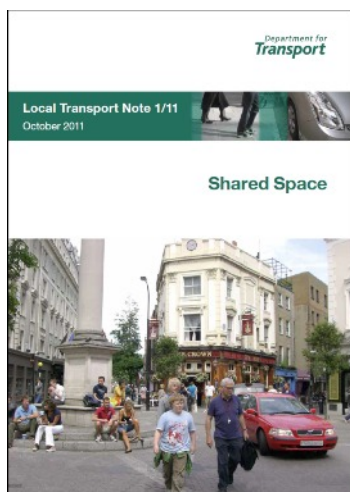
He stated that speed is the main factor determining the relationship between traffic, bicycles and pedestrians and if this is decreased to under 20mph users are able to respond to their surroundings in a different way. More space is created as vehicles need less space to manoeuvre at lower speeds and if there are fewer traffic lights and forced stops then the overall speed of passage through a town is the same or greater. There would be no need for a separate provision of cycle lanes in a shared space scheme as bicycles would be simply another user along with cars and pedestrians.

He gave several examples of where this has worked both on the continent and in Britain and pointed out the TFL current objections to these schemes on the basis of safety is confusing as statistics have convincingly shown them to be as safe – or more so – than current road schemes.

Many of those at the meeting seemed to feel that this approach of a shared space for Enfield Town could be a way forward and would address many of the problems with the initial proposals of the mini Holland bid. Removing all the expensive barriers, signs and blocks to free movement could enable the town centre to again become an attractive space welcoming all users and connecting currently cut off areas of the town, rejuvenating trade while increasing traffic flow and improving the safety of both cyclists and pedestrians.

The next step suggested was to make this possibility more widely known and press for it with the Council, so it becomes – at the least – one of the possible options.

Janet McQueen



The Department for Transport has issued a 55-page guidance booklet on the shared space approach to street design: *Local Transport Note 1/11*. It is available on their web site at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/shared-space>

A 30-minute radio programme entitled **Thinking streets**, broadcast on the BBC in January 2012, includes contributions from Ben Hamilton-Baillie and other experts on “shared space” and the psychology of road users, with links to other sources of information. You can listen to it on the BBC web site at

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b018xs8t

A cautionary note is in a 2013 study by S. Moody and S. Melia: **Shared space: research, policy and problems** (to be published in *Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers – Transport*). This concludes that some of the claims made on behalf of shared space have overstated the available evidence, and that caution is needed in implementing shared space schemes, particularly in environments of high traffic flows. A preprint is at eprints.uwe.ac.uk/17937/

Conservation

Chase Farm Hospital looks set to see some decisive changes.

On July 1st 2014 Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust was acquired by the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust. The Royal Free are planning a £100m redevelopment of Chase Farm Hospital, to be financed by land sales, government money and funds secured by the Royal Free as part of the acquisition agreement. Speaking at a stakeholder meeting on 23rd July, CEO David Sloman did not mince words about the state of the hospital. "Chase Farm is in a terrible condition and the quality of the site is abysmal. Buildings are far too spaced out and many have been left to ruin. The hospital is not fit for purpose." It is refreshing to see spelt out what has been obvious for years. All credit to the existing staff, who continue to deliver a decent service in these difficult circumstances.

The plan now is to divide the site into three, using one part to develop new health facilities to replace those currently there, to use part for a three form entry junior school and the remainder for housing. All

the buildings apart from the multi storey car park and Highlands Ward would be demolished. The hospital section would include some flexibility to accommodate changing clinical needs and the height would be limited to four storeys. The housing would include some affordable units. Whilst pleased that at last some decisive action is being taken, we are also conscious of the regard many local people hold for the original buildings dating back to 1884, notably the clock tower. English Heritage has on several occasions refused to list any of the buildings but we would strongly press for some reminders of the Chase Farm's long history and associations with Enfield to be retained. As well as the Clock Tower block, the Gate Lodge is also well worth keeping at the very least. An outline planning application is expected very soon, with the preliminary work planned to start next year. Unfortunately at going to press and despite reports to the contrary, Enfield Council were unable to provide any plans for viewing, pending the planning application.

Spurs latest

Following on from recently being allowed to build a 500 seat stand at its Training Centre, Tottenham Hotspur FC has lodged an application to build a 45 room player lodge at Myddelton Farm, in the Bulls Cross Conservation Area. The aim is to allow players a comfortable night's sleep before a big home match. For any other organisation a proposal to build a 45 bedroom residential facility in the Green Belt should be unthinkable. Why should Spurs expect special treatment just because it is a football club?

The proposal would be for a sausage shaped, 2-storey building, partly sunk into the ground, containing 40 ensuite bedrooms, running along the back of the site, with the other 5 being provided in the house and outbuildings. The black, shiplap boarded barn behind the locally listed farmhouse would be replaced by a replica but without the vernacular character. Main access would be from within the training complex and, of course, numerous greening, landscaping features are proposed. Bulls Cross as a small rural hamlet has kept its character, despite the Training Ground behind but I can't see how it could any longer if this large scale intrusion is allowed.

Quite apart from its unacceptability on Green Belt and Conservation Area grounds, the proposal would have serious consequences for the residents of the

hamlet. Already they have to put up with the inconvenience associated with the football club's need to reseed the pitches each year and having the tall hedgerow trees immediately to the east of the site removed because they shaded the grass of the pitches. Disturbance connected with the construction could be expected to continue for months.

For anyone prepared to devote a few hours to reading the multi page application on the Council's website, the reference is 14/03915/FUL.

English Heritage

We learn from Civic Voice that the Government has approved the restructuring of English Heritage. As a charity, the organisation will have additional freedom for creativity and to bring forward proposals for generating additional income. It will be awarded nearly £90 million over the next few years to invest in the National Heritage Collection of 420 historic sites, monuments and collections in its care. This will support the plan to transfer management of the Collection to a new charity, The English Heritage Commission, licensed by the governing body. Planning and heritage protection responsibilities will be taken on by a separate government funded body, to be known as Historic England.

Chris Jephcott

Trees

Enfield Town station

For some months the Society has been concerned with the poor appearance, despite its importance as the gateway to Enfield Town, of the forecourt to Enfield Town Station. Following visits with the Station Manager, Dave Cockle and I have managed to secure some cosmetic improvements to the forecourt. We have also been concerned about the

Dave Cockle



four 30 year old ash trees in the forecourt. One has been dead for years and one almost dead. Recently vandals disposed of the dead tree and we are pressing for the removal of the other. So we were disappointed that, following the inspection by a property section officer, he recommended the removal of all the trees on safety grounds, as the grilles around them were becoming lifted. It is evident from the appearance of the remaining trees that they have suffered bad treatment in the past and they have not grown well. As the picture shows, they do provide some vital greenery though. We are going to recommend that replacements of more suitable species for the two dead trees are planted, making sure the sites are properly prepared. When these are established the question of replacing the ash trees could be considered. Possibly this is something the Enfield Society might support financially?

Stop press: I have just heard that contractors cut down all the ash trees yesterday, 20th October. So much for our efforts!

Chris Jephcott

Sales table

Christmas cards and books

The full range of Christmas cards and books will be on sale at Jubilee Hall meetings in November and December and the Sales Table will also be open on the morning of 6th December from 10 am to 1 pm for those who are not free during the week. Waterstone's Bookshop in Enfield Town stock all our books. I had hoped that Volume 4 of the *History of Enfield* would be on sale by Christmas but it is now unlikely to be published before January, for reasons beyond my control. There will therefore be another special opening of the Sales Table in the New Year when signed copies will be available. Details will be in our next Newsletter.

As advised in the last Newsletter there is no new Christmas card this year. However, you can buy a pack of five cards of Whitewebbs House, Hilly Fields or the Rose and Crown at the reduced price to members of £1.25. The popular

£1 packs of four different cards are also available from the Society or they can be purchased at the Church Street Post Office and newsagents in Enfield Town. If ordering by post please add a contribution to postage as given in the publications order form sent with the Autumn Newsletter which is £1 on orders up to £5, £2 for those totalling £5-10 and £3 for £10-20. All our publications can now be ordered online from our website and paid for by debit or credit card as an alternative to sending a cheque. We use PayPal to process payment cards for us but you do not

need a PayPal account. This is convenient for those who are not able to visit our sales tables in person and especially for people living overseas as currency conversions are taken care of automatically. This is the only way we can accept payments by cards.

Monica Smith



Hilly fields on a snowy day



Whitewebbs House



The Crown and Horseshoes

TES Study day: the First World War in Enfield

In September we held our second day conference in association with the Museum and Local Studies service. The topic of the First World War in Enfield was chosen to complement the current exhibition in the Museum at the Dugdale centre and it proved an extremely interesting one.

Over 50 people attended, our numbers being swelled by six First World War re-enactors from the Royal Artillery Museum who gave a cogent description of the life of a soldier in the trenches and the use of the Lee Enfield rifle. This was made even more interesting by Philip Abbot, Archivist at the Royal Armouries who spoke about the archives of the Royal Small Arms factory – largely unexplored until now as they were thought to have been destroyed. He brought some recent discoveries including ledgers containing details of some of the employees between

1914 and 1918, which enabled one delegate to identify a close relative who had been a worker in the factory at the time. There are apparently many more discoveries to be made and if anyone is interested in exploring the archives he can arrange it.

Further information on events in Enfield during the war was provided by Ian Jones who gave a fascinating talk on the production of arms and other weapons in the Borough – not just at the RSA but at several other factories that were important too. He had some wonderful photographs to illustrate the topic – highlighting for me the lack of health and safety rules in the period! More information can be found in his recently published second edition of Geoffrey Gillam's book – *Enfield at War 1914-1918* – on sale on the day.

The Enfield Poetry group was another highlight of the day with its members reading a combination of their own and published first world war poetry.

Listeners were clearly moved by the power of the poems and readings.

The entertainment continued with an informative talk from the perspective of a First World War munitions factory girl, her face an interesting shade of yellow caused by the pollution from the chemicals. We also had a performance from Cecil Arnold, a fictitious journalist giving us all an understanding of what it must have been like to wait for the bombs from the German airships, which seemed to be almost indestructible until one was finally shot down over Enfield and crashed near Cuffley.

Add in an excellent lunch, the possibility of starting your Christmas shopping at the sales tables, and meeting old friends, and anyone who wasn't there missed a treat.

Janet McQueen

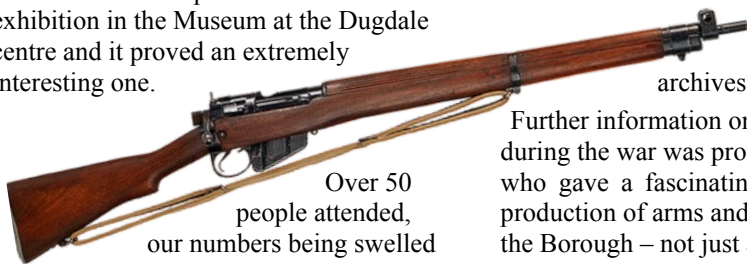


Image of a Lee Enfield rifle by Antique Military Rifles [CC-BY-SA-2.0 (creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0)], via Wikimedia Commons

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 January 2015, Dugdale Centre, 39 London Road, Enfield. Exhibition: *Enfield at War 1914-18*. Free admission. Open Monday-Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sundays 10am to 1 pm.

Thursday 13th to Saturday 15th November, 7.45 pm, Dugdale Centre. *A doll's house* by Ibsen.

Friday 14th November, 7.30 for 8 pm, Jubilee Hall. *Roman sculpture from South-East England*. Francis Grew, Senior Curator (Archaeology) and Archive Manager, Museum of London. [EAS]

Tuesday 18th November, 2.15 for 2.30 pm, Jubilee Hall. *Samuel Pepys "Plague, fire and Mrs Willett"* by Geoff Hales. [EHHS]

Tuesday 18th November, 8 pm, Jubilee Hall. *Abraham Lincoln as a war leader*, by Professor Brian Holden Reid (King's College, London) [HA]

Thursday 27th November to Sunday 4 January, Millfield Theatre. Morning, afternoon and evening performances of pantomime, *Sleeping beauty*.

Saturday 6th December, 10 am -1 pm, Jubilee Hall. *Special Christmas opening of Sales Table*.

Wednesday 10th December, 12.30-1.00pm, St Mary Magdalene Church, Windmill Hill. Concert: *Laura Seddon & Katherine Carter, Cello and Flute*.

Wednesday 17th December, Jubilee Hall, 7.45 for 8.00 pm. *A seasonal entertainment (to be announced)*. [EHHS]

Thursday 4th December, 7.45 pm, Dugdale Centre. *Community Cinema: "Joyeux Noel"*

Saturday 6th December, 7 pm, and Sunday 7th, 3 pm, Dugdale Centre. *Children's International Voices: Christmas concert*

Saturday 13th December, 11 am, The Green, Winchmore Hill. *St. Nicholas Fair*. n21.net/events-activities-whats-on-around-n21/5-the-st-nicholas-fair-2014.html

Tuesday 13th January 2015, 8 pm, Jubilee Hall. *Living beyond the barbed wire: the familial ties of British POWs in Europe during the Second World War*, an

illustrated talk by Dr Clare Makepeace (University College, London) [HA]

Wednesday 14th January, 12.30-1.00pm, St Mary Magdalene Church, Windmill Hill. Concert.

Tuesday 10th February, 8 pm, Jubilee Hall. *The Pastons and the Wars of the Roses*, by Professor Virginia Davis (Queen Mary, University of London) [HA]

Wednesday 11th February, 12.30-1.00pm, St Mary Magdalene Church, Windmill Hill. Concert.

Wednesday 18th – Saturday 21st February, 7.30pm (Sat Matinee 2.30pm), Wylyotts Theatre, Potters Bar. *The Mikado*. Southgate Opera presents Gilbert & Sullivan's most popular comic opera. Box Office 01707 645005. www.southgateopera.co.uk

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/ and www.ecv.org.uk but these may not always be up to date.

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.

HA: The Historical Association, North London Branch. Non-members are welcome (£1 per meeting). More details from the Branch Secretary, Robin Blades (020 8368 5328), Associate Membership available for £5 a year for an individual or £8 a year for a couple. robin.blades@virgin.net

Publicity Group

Help wanted

The Publicity Group carries out a wide range of activities in supporting and publicising the work of The Enfield Society, including: coordinating production and circulation of four quarterly issues of *Enfield Society News*; publication and sales of books, leaflets, maps, cards and other items; circulating press releases, letters to the press, interviews and articles; arranging evening meetings and visits; updating community notice boards; organising attendance at Edmonton, Enfield Town and other shows; arranging three to four Heritage Walks, coach outings, an annual new members evening and the AGM. All of these activities help to raise money, generate new members and increase awareness of the Society.

We would very much welcome additional assistance with administration of the group and to perform a number of specific tasks. If you would like to help please give me a call on 020 8363 5732 to discuss or send an email to press@enfieldsociety.org.uk. I look forward to hearing from you.

Bob Fowler

Town Show



TES had a stall at this year's Town Show and many people paid us a visit. There was a great deal of interest in our activities and we obtained some new members as a result of our presence at the show. Old postcards and Godfrey maps were our most popular sales items. I would like to thank the TES volunteers who gave up their time to staff the stall and helped us raise £264 over the weekend.

Dave Cockle

Enfield Society events

Tuesday mornings 10.00 for 10.30am, Jubilee Hall. No tickets required.

25th November: Cobbling and cord waining, an illustrated talk by Rev. Gordon Giles

16th December: The women I have married by Richard Selby

2015

27th January: An English violin maker by Ron Atkinson

24th February: Sicily – island of flowers and history by Anne and John Wallington

Evening meetings, 7.30 for 8 p.m. at Jubilee Hall unless otherwise stated. No tickets required.

Monday 17th November: Kensington Palace, an illustrated talk by Lee Prosser, Curator, Historic Royal Palaces

Monday 19th January 2015: The origins of the Edmonton Hundred by Jason Peters. (Joint meeting with EHHS),

Special events

Saturday 6th December 10am -1 pm, Jubilee Hall. Special Christmas opening of Sales Table.

Friday 17th April 2015, 8 pm All Saints Church Hall, Edmonton. All Saints Church and its monuments. (Joint meeting with EHHS)

New members

We warmly welcome the following new members:

Mr B J Baker,
Mr & Mrs A & A Bishop-Laggett,
Ms D Biss,
Mr & Mrs I R & C L Blunn,
Mrs J A Darby, Mrs M A C D'Arcy,
Mrs T V Delaney,
Mr & Mrs M G & J Dixon,
Mr & Mrs P & C Doe,
Mrs S J Fisher, Miss N M Gadsdon,
Mrs G F Hartland,
Mrs N J Hutchings, Miss T Irwin,
Mr B L Jackson, Mr J James,
Ms M Jason, Ms A Kemp,
Mr P Kingham, Mrs M Kirby,
Miss P E Large, Mrs B Lewis,
Ms C Matthews, Mr M Morgan,
Mr & Mrs G & E Morris,
Mr M Neave, Mrs J Northrop,
Mr J G Peters, Mrs R Pickard,
Ms K Richardson,
Mrs K Smith-Millett, Mr T Wells,
Ms A M White, Mrs B J Wilson,
Ms N Zaninetti

Joyce James

The Chairman's column



I recently attended a presentation at the Civic Centre about re-launching Neighbourhood Watch schemes. The police officer giving the talk said that apart from crime prevention, quality of life issues were seen as equally important. He was referring to pleasant surroundings with streets free of litter and graffiti, which is generally what we have here in Enfield.

The Council's street cleaning team works hard in achieving the above environment but it requires input from us all to report even seemingly trivial examples of neglect.

Recently, a free newspaper dispenser was



spotted on the pavement beneath the railway bridge in Windmill Hill (EN2). On contacting the Council's Environmental Crime section by e-mail it became obvious that they had not given

permission for the dispenser to be sited there, so they contacted the newspaper asking for the dispenser to be removed. The dispenser was merely moved round the corner into a new position in Enfield Chase Station forecourt. As GTR Great Northern, the train company running the station, had not given permission either they too contacted the newspaper to

ensure that the dispenser be removed.

Unbelievably, a new tactic was deployed the following day when a small Perspex dispenser holding the same newspaper was spotted in Windmill Hill attached to railings by cable ties. Once again Environmental Crime contacted the newspaper and the Perspex dispenser was removed.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the town, outside Enfield Town Station, the company was asked to remove another of its dispensers which was mounted on the pavement without the Council's permission. A few days later after the dispenser was removed, a bundle of the newspapers was spotted dumped on the ground by the entrance doors to the station. Abellio Greater Anglia, who run Enfield Town Station, contacted the newspaper, who finally understood the message that they are not at liberty to plant their equipment and newspapers throughout the Borough without permission. In theory, this is an easy way to claim high circulation figures, but in practice there was little take-up of these free newspapers, which ended up littering the streets.



Dave Cockle

Learning outside the class-room at Forty Hall and Estate

The Council's Learning and Education Programme at Forty Hall, which is sponsored by the Society, has completed its second year. Frances Cherry, the Learning and Education Outreach Officer, who is responsible for this programme has prepared a full report on the project, which is on our website at

www.enfieldsociety.org.uk/LearningAtFortyHall.pdf

We are very pleased to learn that for the second time Forty Hall has been awarded a Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Award for excellence in its education work.

The wide range of topics covered included computer graphics, microscopy of pollen grains, 17th century cookery, history, archaeology, photography, history and art, all drawing on Forty Hall and its grounds for inspiration.

Colin Pointer

An urban woodland



Genotin Road, 18th October 2014

The exceptional growing conditions of 2014 have emphasised the importance of the street scene when considering planning applications. Vistas along side roads are enhanced by the many shades of green from trees and shrubs.

It is unfortunate that this outburst of green growth is matched by an equal outburst of estate agent signs.

John Davies

The Meadway Estate, Southgate

Following the extension of the Great Northern Railway, via stations at Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill (and later Grange Park) to Enfield (Chase) in 1871, there was a considerable development of private houses and shops. This was increased with the extension of the Piccadilly Line, via stations at Arnos Grove, Southgate and Oakwood, to Cockfosters in 1933. Southgate planning authority wanted to ensure that there was an ordered increase in housing “to preserve health and the amenities, as more and more people are choosing Southgate for the first time, where the land offers so much that is still blissful and remote No cheap or nasty project [would be] allowed.” One developer advertised “A House, a Home, a Little Palace, in a convenient healthy district, purchasable by anyone with a small capital and regular income.”

Development of the Meadway estate took place following the death in 1922 of Russell Walker, the owner of Southgate House (which was to become Minchenden School). Land between Southgate High Street and The Bourne was sold to J. Edmondson and Son (later Messrs Edmondsons Ltd.) builders, who had their head office in Winchmore Hill. They had previously built high quality middle-class houses and shops in Muswell Hill and Winchmore Hill, from 1895 onwards.

Most of the roads on the Meadway estate were constructed in 1923 and 1924, before the houses were built, although the southern part of Greenway and Norman Way date from 1933.

By 1925 14 houses had been occupied in Ridgeway and 2 houses on the south side of Meadway. By 1927 26 houses had been occupied in Ridgeway and 34

houses in Meadway. Development was largely completed by 1929, although Parkway was not finished until 1932. The varied superior “Tudorbethan” style detached and semi-detached houses were built of red brick with either pebbledash or cement render and half-timbered features and gables, some of which had rusticated weatherboarding. The rustic effect was enhanced with front garden walls made from the linings of brick kilns and blast furnaces. Some of the garden walls have since been rebuilt in brick or stone. One critic in the inter-war period considered that “the popular love for the Tudor, whether bogus or genuine, [was a sign of] a wish to escape ... insecure and frightening times”.

The informal rural layout of the estate was increased by bushes and trees on the verges, greens at road junctions, allotment gardens, tennis courts and the adjoining Minchenden School playing field (which is now another housing estate). A crescent of red brick and terracotta shops was constructed facing the High Street at the entrance to the Meadway estate.

In the late 1990s the character of the estate was threatened by a proposal to demolish one house and redevelop the tennis courts with new housing. In 2008 an area comprising Meadway, Bourne Avenue, Parkway, Ridgeway and parts of Greenway and The Bourne was made a conservation area to help protect the buildings and other structures such as garden walls from demolition and the use of inappropriate modern materials and inappropriate extensions. (See TES News no. 172.) Later plainer and cheaper houses at the southern end of Greenway, completed by 1936, and Norman Way, completed by 1938, were not included in the Meadway conservation area.

Buses 121, 298, 299 and W6 pass along the High Street and bus W9 passes along The Bourne. The nearest station is at Southgate, on the Piccadilly underground line.

For more information on north London suburban private houses in the 1920s and 1930s, and the way of life of their inhabitants, see *Little palaces, house and home in the inter-war suburb* by Mark Pinney, Philippa Mapes, Sue Andrew and Malcolm Barres-Baker, published by Middlesex University Press in 2003. It has chapters on architecture, decoration, household management, leisure and transport. Information on suburbia can also be found in *Suburban style: the British home 1840-1960* by Helena Barrett and John Phillips, published by Macdonald in 1987; *Semi-detached London: suburban development, life and transport 1900-39* by A. A. Jackson, published by Allen and Unwin in 1973; *London's underground suburbs* by Dennis Edwards and Ron Pigram, published by Baton Transport in 1986; *Dunroamin: the suburban semi and its enemies* by Paul Oliver, Ian Davis and Ian Bentley, published by Barrie and Jenkins in 1981; *The 1930s home* by G. Stevenson, published by Shire in 2000; and *Something in linoleum* by P. Vaughan, published by Sinclair-Stevenson in 1994. A view of inter-war London suburban family life can be seen in the 1944 film *This happy breed*.

The black and white photographs were provided by Enfield Local Studies Centre and Archive, which also has details of the case prepared for the then proposed Meadway conservation area.

Stephen Gilbert

Houses on the Meadway estate varied in size, design and layout, but many had a garage, fuel store, outside toilet and large back garden. Generally a ground floor vestibule entrance with hanging cupboard led to the entrance hall, sitting room, dining room (often with beamed ceiling and panelled walls) and kitchen. In some houses the sitting room and dining room were linked by glazed double doors. On the first floor there were up to four bedrooms, the largest of which often had its own hand basin with hot and cold water. The black and white half-tiled bathroom had a porcelain enamelled bath, a hand



basin and an airing cupboard containing a hot water tank. There was a separate half-tiled toilet with a high-level cistern. The residents were proud of their new facilities and one claimed “We Southgate people in our new



houses are a pretty clean and gentlemanly lot. We don't boast about our baths and bathrooms, but the fact remains we take our ablutions seriously”.

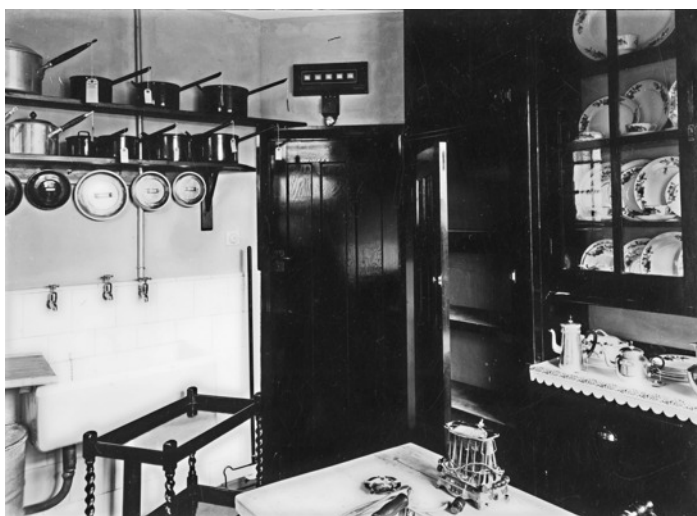
Historic buildings



This room in the 1928 Meadway show house room had a tiled fireplace with a pointed gothic-style arch, an oak mantel shelf and a plate shelf high on the walls. There was a maid call button to the right of the fireplace and an electricity point in the skirting board. The furniture in the show house, including these studded leather-covered chairs, was supplied by Henry Haysom, a local Palmers Green store.



The sitting room/lounge where visitors would be received had a fireplace with a tiled surround and a light-coloured wooden mantelpiece, a hearth rug and a carpet. A glazed door led to the back garden. The room was furnished with a fire screen, an upholstered settee and armchairs, a pouffe, a round occasional table, a nest of three tables, a needlework box, mirrors, potted plants on stands and various ornamental vases.



The white half-tiled kitchen was equipped with a white glazed butler's sink with hot and cold water, a food trolley, a cupboard, a dresser with a glass-fronted cupboard for crockery, a ventilated larder, a washing tub, an enamelled domestic boiler, a selection of pots and pans and various electrical appliances. As purchasers of the houses would have a choice, this show house displayed both a gas and an electric cooker. The cook would prepare food on the table which could also be used for servants' meals. The display panel above the kitchen door would indicate in which room the housemaid or cook was required. Some families without live-in staff would employ a "daily" or "treasure" from the nearby working-class areas to help with the housework. However with the availability of labour-saving devices such as electric irons and vacuum cleaners, washing tubs with mangles, hot water boilers, and gas and electric fires, middle-class households in the inter-war period were increasingly servant-free.

Green belt solar park: application withdrawn

In our last issue we highlighted a threat to the green belt from an application to build a 15.2 MW solar panel installation on a 25 hectare site at Sloeman's Farm, between Whitewebbs Road and the M25.

A detailed 34-page report on the proposal was drawn up by the Council's Assistant Director, Planning & Environmental Protection, for consideration at a meeting of the Planning Committee on 4th September.

This report stated that ten written objections to the scheme had been received, and one letter in support. It quoted several government statements urging such developments on brownfield rather than greenfield sites, and noting that in 2013 the Minister for Energy and Climate Change said *"...we need to be careful that we do not over-incentivise large-scale ground-mounted projects in inappropriate places – I am thinking of greenfield agricultural land – that could generate strong opposition to our community energy agenda... ..It needs careful design and thoughtful consideration. It certainly could not be a scheme about renewable energy at any cost. Impacts on the local community, on landscape and on consumer bills have to be a real consideration..."*

The report recommended that the application should be rejected, on the following grounds:

- The applicant has failed to demonstrate the 'very special circumstances' to justify the scheme and the resultant development would represent inappropriate development within designated Green Belt Land, effectively urbanising the site which is prejudicial to the open character and visual amenity of the site and resulting in the creation of an obtrusive and overly dominant form of development ...
- The applicant has failed to meet the relevant tests set out in Policy for the selection and sequential assessment of potential sites for the development of large scale renewable energy installations. In this regard, it is considered that the proposed development will result in the loss of high quality viable and productive agricultural land ...
- The development would have adverse effects on trees and insufficient information had been provided to the

Council to determine the ecological impacts of the proposals.

The application was withdrawn by the applicants on 4th September 2014, so was not considered by the Planning Committee.

Details of the application and the report quoted above are available on the Council's web site at

[<http://tinyurl.com/solemanssolar>](http://tinyurl.com/solemanssolar)

Leonard Will



Solar Panels in a field along the A303 road in South Somerset. (Image © Copyright Lewis Clarke and licensed for reuse under a Creative Commons Licence)

Renewable energy and Enfield

To avoid catastrophic climate change we need to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by 3% pa, starting now. The UK has benefited hugely from burning fossil fuels so we ought to cut our emissions much faster. How can Enfield cut its greenhouse gas emissions and create the green jobs our people need?

We can exclude waves and tides (no sea) and hot rocks (wrong geology). Large hydroelectric schemes are also out though I believe that the Council plans a small turbine in the River Lee. The Council also plans a heat network to distribute spare heat from the Edmonton incinerator. That's low-carbon energy provided that it's our last resort for dealing with waste. Reuse and recycling are clearly better options where available. It may also be possible to add other sources of spare heat to the heat network or to support another heat network.

Could we use sustainably produced fuels in a heat network or even in cars? Perhaps. In the UK today these fuels are mainly biodiesel from vegetable oil and some sustainably produced wood. In practice the biodiesel isn't always low carbon due to the deforestation that precedes palm oil production. Further, the UK already has a number of power stations that burn wood chips and other biofuels with others planned but their

appetite for fuel greatly exceeds the supply of sustainably-produced fuel – even allowing for imports. The greenwash is particularly thick in this sector!

With appropriate regulation this may become an important sector as there are several novel fuels under development. However, these are all possibilities for the future not fuels we can use now. So we come to the big ones: sun and wind.

Wind is actually a bit marginal in urban areas. Big turbines are impractical, small turbines are inefficient and may damage any wall or roof they're attached to. Larger turbines might be installed in the north of the borough – though the many restrictions would make it hard, perhaps impossible, to find suitable sites.

Finally sunlight. We could all use sunlight to heat our water and generate electricity. Government subsidies (Feed-in Tariff and Renewable Heat Obligations to be technical) make investment profitable for the homeowner whilst contributing power to the grid. Unfortunately Enfield lags behind on solar electricity – only one home in 362 has solar panels – compared to 1 in 8 in Waltham Forest. Enfield has only 1.5MW of installed solar capacity.

Solar photo-voltaic panels are not limited to private homes. The Council has installed panels on the Civic Centre and on schools. Many offices and factories could also benefit from solar panels. As a Green I'd like to see the Council make this mandatory for new and existing buildings. But national legislation makes this impossible and the need to persuade hundreds of employers and to co-ordinate thousands of installations in a voluntary programme is daunting. And speed is vital.

That's why I support the proposed solar array for Sloeman's Farm. Once approved it would provide 15MW within just a few months. That's **ten times** Enfield's current solar capacity and it would increase London's solar capacity by 30%. No other current scheme can do so much so fast. Renewable energy is not a fad. To reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, fast, is an obligation we owe to future generations, to people in low-lying lands and to all the species threatened by climate change. Inaction is not an option I can live with.

A longer version of this article can be found at: [<tinyurl.com/GreenEnfield>](http://tinyurl.com/GreenEnfield)

David Flint

As with other signed articles, the views above are those of the author. The Enfield Society Management Committee agreed to oppose the Sloeman's Farm solar array, for reasons set out on the front page of our last issue.

David Pam (1920-2014)

The following obituary is a slightly edited version of one which appeared in the September 2014 newsletter of the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society.

With great sadness we must announce the death of David Pam, the London Borough of Enfield's former Local History and Museums Officer, the former President of the EHHS, and long serving Chairman, historian, author, lecturer and inspiration.

As reference librarian for the old Borough of Edmonton he joined the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society in the late 1950s, transforming the Society into one of the most highly respected local history societies in the London area. In 1975 he was appointed Local History and Museums Officer for the new London Borough and, with the help of Graham Dalling, established the borough's local history library and archive collection. However, he will be best remembered for his books. He wrote numerous pamphlets, papers and articles, including a weekly column for the Enfield Gazette, but his greatest works, written after his retirement in 1982, were the magnificent three volume *History of Enfield*, *The story of Enfield Chase* (both published by The Enfield Preservation Society) and *The Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield and its workers*.

I worked with David Pam, or Mr Pam as I always referred to him then, for only three years from when I started in 1979 until he retired in 1982. I was somewhat in awe of him in those days, though he was generous and kindly and would listen patiently to what I had to say. I knew nothing, of course, and could contribute little. He ran the department energetically taking on more and more work, building up the collection, putting together exhibitions for the two local museums, going out to give lectures to schools and local groups, and writing papers and pamphlets. He was enthusiastic and optimistic and he loved what he was doing.

After his retirement he continued as Chairman, and later as President, of the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society and served on the Council of Management of The Enfield Society. He was a frequent visitor to the Local History Unit while he was researching his books and writing his weekly column for the Enfield Gazette. He should have held a post at a prestigious university, but he chose instead to devote himself to writing the history of Enfield. He looked the part of an absent minded professor, with a brilliant mind, sharply focused on the



David Pam gave many talks to The Enfield Preservation Society, both in Jubilee Hall and on heritage walks round Enfield Town, as here. He was elected a Vice-President of the Society in 1990.

things that mattered to him. Enfield was lucky to have had David Pam.

Graham Dalling worked with David Pam in the Local History Office at Palmers Green and they made a good team. Graham, who died at Christmas in 2012, should have been the one to write this tribute. In 2001 acknowledging David's achievements, Graham wrote "He is a genial and good natured man with a basic warmth and humanity that shines through both in his lectures and his writings. He has become a deservedly popular public figure in Enfield. For all his achievements he remains an essentially modest man and, more significantly, has never sought to exploit his skills for personal profit".

David Pam was passionate about local history. In 1984 he wrote an article for *The Local Historian* reproduced for the Edmonton Hundred's 75th anniversary newsletter, in which he argued "*If a local historian can bring back to life one long deceased villain who once basked in the admiration of the countryside, if he can revive the feeling of hatred formerly felt against some autocratic justice of the peace, if he can relate a story to make the later twentieth century laugh, or cry, over the late eighteenth, he will have achieved all that a good local historian should desire*". He felt that local history was not sufficiently valued by many in the academic world and he set out to change that. His books were well reviewed in the academic press and he finally received proper recognition when he was made a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in 2006.

The Local Studies and Archives continues and thrives under archivist John Clark. With the new technology it is all very different now, but we still refer constantly to David Pam's work. We stand on the shoulders of a giant.

Kate Godfrey

The demise of the rat-run in Enfield?

Should you have the stamina to delve deep into the Mini-Holland bid, now called Cycle Enfield, you would find that in addition to cycle lanes, Dutch-style roundabouts and the like, the Council is planning to create 37 Quieter Neighbourhoods (called Residential Cells in the bid document) at the rate of five or six per year. This is a policy aimed at improving the quality of life for residents as well as reinforcing council plans to encourage cycling.

A Quieter Neighbourhood is defined both in terms of area and organisational arrangements. Thus these will be purely residential areas bounded by what are officially known as secondary roads, but locally as through roads. Physically through traffic will be excluded using part-barriers at one end of some/all streets which could range from gates, to bollards, to tree-planted road narrowing/pavement widening. Also these will have a low speed limit - presumably 20mph, and, if these areas follow the Dutch model, the streets will be organised on a Shared Space basis so that pedestrians, cyclists and traffic have equal priority. An example illustrating the sort of neighbourhood which could be chosen is the area to the north-west of Palmers Green bounded by Green Lanes, Aldermans Hill, Bourne Hill/The Bourne and Cannon Hill/High Street, which is under consideration now leading to consultation soon.



So much for the basic idea, but what are the implications for residents? Streets which are rat-runs at present will be improved for residents, both in terms of weight of traffic and speed. Overall the whole area is likely to become quieter and more people-centred, with a greater likelihood that children will be able to bike/walk to school or park. Put another way it seems that streets are likely to become social areas again, strengthening the local community and allowing local play. I'd take a bet that house values will increase where these arrangements are installed.

David Hughes

Future walks

Travel details are correct at press date but TES cannot be responsible for alterations. As rail travel may be subject to alteration, especially at weekends, always check (either via 08457 48 49 50 or using the operating train company website). For TfL area Tube, DLR, London Overground and bus details, ring 0843 222 1234 or check TfL website.

For Hertfordshire bus times see www.intalink.org.uk

Reduced price travel on most local trains around London: Since 18th May Groupsave has been amended. It now applies to 3 to 9 people travelling together who will get a discount of about 34% each in respect of Off Peak Day Single and Return tickets and, when available, Super Off-Peak Day Single and Return tickets. **Cannot be used in conjunction with any Railcards or promotions and you must travel as a group throughout.**

In case we use buses, always bring your Freedom Pass or National Bus Pass.

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

Sat 15 Nov. Hampstead Heath. Meet 10.30 Hampstead Heath Station (10.09 London Overground train from Highbury & Islington) for about 7.5 to 8 mile walk over the Heath and environs, with perhaps some late Autumn colours. The walk will end at a point suitable for return to Enfield. Many shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Wed 19 Nov. River Tyburn. Meet 10.40 St John's Wood Station (Jubilee Line) for a 6 mile linear walk tracing the fascinating route of one of London's "hidden/lost" rivers via Regent's Park, Marylebone, Mayfair and Green Park until it reaches The Thames near Pimlico. The walk ends in Westminster. Many shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Roy Dyer*

Sat 29 Nov. Green Chain Walk. Either meet Roy at 09.56 at entrance to Platform 9, King's Cross mainline station (arrival time of 09.30 train from Enfield Chase), or on the Thameslink southbound platform at St Pancras International by 10.05. From there, Roy will travel to Blackfriars mainline station to catch the 10.42 Southeastern Sevenoaks train to Ravensbourne. *All travel within Freedom Pass area.*

Today's 7 mile circular walk starts from Ravensbourne Station at 11.09 and is mainly on good condition paths for late Autumn through contrasting parts of south-east London, including England's largest public golf course. Shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. Details: (020) 8360 0282 or roynicholls@btinternet.com *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Sat 6 Dec. Between the Ash and Stort. Meet 10.21 St Margaret's Station (09.44 train from Southbury Station and change at Cheshunt for 10.09 train; or by direct train at 09.55 from Tottenham Hale Station which also stops at intermediate stations).

About 7 to 7.5 mile circular walk in pretty countryside with lunch stop in Hunsdon. Bring lunch or simple/basic pub food probably available, but extent of food unknown at press date, as this pub has recently changed hands. However, nearby is also a gastro-pub. *Leader: Breda Jenkins*

Thurs 11 Dec. Hidden London – Pimlico. Meet at 10.40 outside the Vauxhall Bridge exit (exit 1) from Vauxhall underground station (Victoria Line) and in front of the Pret A Manger shop. Vauxhall mainline station is about 3 mins walk across roadways.

About 2.25 hour linear walk in the Pimlico area via charming conservation areas, garden squares, secluded streets and with Thames riverside views. Coffee break en-route. Many shorter options. Walk will end at Tate Britain which has a café and outside seating for those with own lunch. Details 07973 747 454. *Leader: Nigel King*

Wed 17 Dec. Update on Sustainable Drainage Systems. Meet 10.00 Winchmore Hill Station for about 3 mile linear walk highlighting the recently completed work to improve the water quality of the waterways ultimately feeding into Salmon's Brook and the River Lea. Project details were in TES newsletter Spring 2014 and we hope a representative from Thames21 will again be present.

The route will include the lake and watercourses in Grovelands Park, Hounsden Spinney, Boxer's Lake and Glenbrook, ending on Slades Hill/Enfield Road (near the Jolly Farmers P.H.) for buses 121, 301 & 377. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Sat 27 Dec. Inner London Scenes (Part 3). Meet 10.10 at entrance to Platform 9, King's Cross mainline station (09.30 train from Enfield Chase arrives 09.56) for a linear walk that will include

historical and architectural features, squares, gardens, parks and The Thames. Numerous shorter options. Lunch stop at the South Bank Centre (bring lunch or food available). *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Thurs 1 Jan. Christmas Lights. Meet 15.00 at the Buckingham Palace/Green Park signed exit from Green Park Station (Victoria & Piccadilly Lines). About 2 hour linear walk featuring a varied selection of Christmas lights and related scenes, many of which are off the usual tourist routes and away from the crowds. Contact on day of walk only: 07931 963 086. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Sat 10 Jan. Fulham Palace, River Thames & Barnes Common. Meet 10.30 Putney Bridge Station (District Line from Victoria and Earl's Court) for a varied 7 mile linear walk. The morning route of 4 miles visits the refurbished Fulham Palace Gardens, then crosses the river and follows the Thames and Beverley Brook onto Barnes Common.

After the lunch stop at Barnes Village (food available or bring lunch), the walk follows the Thames to end at Kew Green. Shorter options. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Tues 13 Jan. Waterways of East London. Meet 10.20 Tottenham Hale Station (either Victoria Line or 10.06 train from Brimsdown which also stops at Enfield Lock and Ponders End). Also, bus 192.

About 7 mile linear walk with constantly changing river and canal scenes via Lee Navigation, Hertford Union Canal and Regent's Canal. Shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. Return from either Wapping or Shadwell Stations by London Overground to Highbury & Islington. Details: 07904 193 098. *Leader: John West*

Mon 19 Jan. Local paths in Enfield. Meet 10.00 Library Green, Church Street, Enfield Town, for a 2.5 to 3 hour circular walk using a varied selection of paths that link open spaces and still retain a "green" feeling, despite being within the urban environment.

Please note that walking boots are essential as some paths (including beside the New River) are on unmade surfaces which may be muddy! Full route 5 miles but numerous shorter options. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Sat 24 Jan. London Loop. Meet 09.45 outside Sainsbury's, New Barnet (307 bus from Enfield or by 09.17 train from Finsbury Park mainline station arriving New Barnet Station at 09.33).

About 9 mile linear walk via a mix of Green Belt countryside, woodland and country parks, ending at Elstree & Borehamwood Station. Return either by

train to St Pancras or 107 bus to Barnet – *all travel covered by Freedom Pass*. Shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Tues 27 Jan. Alexandra Palace and Highgate Wood. Meet **10.11** train from Enfield Chase for 2.5 hour linear walk through the Palace grounds and along the disused railway path into Highgate Wood. Shorter options. Route ends in Highgate Village – lunch facilities and/or return by bus 210 to Finsbury Park. *Leader: Mick Spinks*

Sat 31 Jan. Changes in London's East End. Meet **10.30** at entrance to Platform 1, Liverpool Street mainline station, for a linear walk that will include Spitalfields and Victoria Park and also some of the less well known areas in the East End that are constantly undergoing change. Route will end at a station but many shorter options. Food available or bring lunch. Details: (020) 8360 0282 or roynicholls@btinternet.com *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Thurs 5 Feb. Hadley Common and Trent Park. Meet **10.30** outside Waitrose in The Spires shopping centre off High Street, High Barnet – allow about 10 mins to walk from 307 bus stop near Barnet Church. Local buses 234, 326, 383, 384, 389 & 399 stop outside The Spires.

6 to 7 mile linear walk via Monken Hadley Common and Hadley Woods with a lunch stop in Cockfosters. Then around Trent Park and via the Merryhills Way to end at the Jolly Farmers P.H., Enfield Road (for buses 121, 307 & 377), or possible extension to The Ridgeway near Chase Farm Hospital (for 313 & W8 buses). Shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. Contact on day of walk only: 07946 729 053. *Leaders: Vanessa and Margaret*

Sat 14 Feb. Royal Parks and more! Meet **10.40** at the Wellington Arch, Hyde Park Corner Island – about 3 mins by signed exit from adjacent Hyde Park Corner underground station (Piccadilly Line).

About 6 mile circular walk with an attractive mix of parks, conservation areas and historic buildings via Hyde Park, The Serpentine, Kensington Gardens, Palace and Village, Holland Park, Campden Hill and The Long Water. Lunch stop in Kensington Village (food available or bring lunch). Many shorter options. Details 07973 747 454. *Leader: Nigel King*

Wed 18 Feb. Snowdrops and Myddelton House. Meet **10.15** outside the front door to Forty Hall Mansion for a 3 hour circular walk which we hope will coincide with the snowdrop display in Myddelton House Gardens and near Forty Hall lakes. The route will initially visit Myddelton House Gardens for coffee and the opportunity to walk through the gardens, before continuing via footpaths on the Forty Hall Estate. Contact on day of walk only: 07984 813 636. *Leader: Norman Coles*

Mon 23 Feb. Modernising King's Cross. Meet **10.30** at entrance to Platform 9, King's Cross mainline station, for a 2.5 to 3 hour circular walk during which Roy will include an update on the on-going regeneration programme taking place near the station. Much has been achieved since the last TES visit. Details: (020) 8360 0282 or roynicholls@btinternet.com *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Sat 28 Feb. From Canary Wharf to Greenwich Park. Meet **10.45** in main ticket office concourse at Canary Wharf Jubilee Line Station (**NOT** at the DLR Canary Wharf Station which is 5 to 10 mins walk away).

About 7.5 mile linear walk from the 21st Century redevelopment on the Isle of Dogs to the oldest Royal Park. Shorter options.

The morning route of about 4 miles will include waterside views in Canary Wharf and recently opened sections of the Thames frontage. After lunch stop in Greenwich Village (food available or bring lunch), we will walk past some of the historic Maritime Naval Buildings before entering the recently restored Greenwich Park with breath-taking views over the Thames. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Stuart Mills

One step at a time

John Bourne



The recent TES walk in the beautiful Mole Valley near Box Hill, Dorking, gave the more adventurous members of the Footpaths Group walk the opportunity to cross the River Mole on stepping stones. There was an alternative path crossing the river by means of a bridge but the stepping stones proved more popular.

Footpaths

Reference was made in the last newsletter to the ever-present water problem affecting the path from Bulls Cross next to Myddelton House Gardens. TES recently met with the officer in Enfield Council responsible for rights-of-way and was advised that an engineering solution is currently being drawn up, with the intention of Groundforce carrying out the works.

The blocked path south of Potters Bar has been re-opened through self-help by local residents. However, Enfield Council has agreed that Groundforce can be used for installation of a permanent bridge.

Over recent months Enfield Council has completed repairs to the section of the Greenway/London Loop from St John's Church, Clay Hill, to The Ridgeway near the Royal Chace Hotel, thereby hopefully resolving the almost permanently flooded section of Strayfield Road. We understand work is not likely to commence on the next section westwards towards the Cockfosters Road until the 2015-2016 financial year.

Stuart Mills

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. Contributors' views may differ from those of the Management Committee of The Enfield Society; anonymous items are not published. 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 16th January 2015, 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

President: Dr C.J.A. Jephcott

Chairman: Dave Cockle

Hon. Secretary: Richard Stones

Hon. Treasurer: David James

Office: 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield,
Middlesex, EN2 0AJ.

Telephone: 020 8363 9495

When there is nobody in the office, messages left on 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
020 8363 0031 (Stephen Gilburt)

Jubilee Hall Bookings
020 8363 9495 (Janet McQueen)

Membership
020 8367 3171 (Joyce James)

Press and publicity
020 8363 5732 (Bob Fowler)

Records and Research
020 8372 0092 (Leonard Will)

Trees
020 8245 2758 (Chris Jephcott)

Volunteers coordinator
M.Wilkie@enfieldsociety.org.uk
(Moira Wilkie)

Management committee
Dave Cockle, John Davies, Tony Dey, Robert Fowler, Stephen Gilburt, David James, Joyce James, Janet McQueen, Stuart Mills, Val Munday, Colin Pointer, Monica Smith, Richard Stones, John West, Moira Wilkie, Leonard Will.

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Lord Graham of Edmonton,
Mr P. A. Langston, Mrs P. Lowen,
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Mr A. J. Skilton

Newsletter editor
Leonard Will
<newsletter@enfieldsociety.org.uk>

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Parks for People project

Following the restoration of Forty Hall itself, major work is now in progress to enhance its park and grounds. A successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund has resulted in a budget of £1.8 million, with an LBE contribution of £200,000.

The main elements of the project, as described on the Hall's website at <www.fortyhallestate.co.uk> are:

- Restore Turkey Brook bridge and weir, (linking parkland to a public footpath leading to Capel Manor, Myddelton House and gardens).
- Restore 18th century design of ornamental lake, mound and approach drive in front of the Hall (including de-silt of lake, replace edging, replace existing furniture in keeping with historic landscape, remove/reduce height of hedge row to restore historic views of Lime Avenue, resurface approach drive)
- Reveal 18th century designs of Pleasure Gardens, restore leat and reform shape of ephemeral pool, introduce seating, signage, interpretation information and planting, remove memorial trees
- Improve café courtyard – access, planting and paving, reduce public car parking (retaining disabled parking)
- Reconfigure existing public car park with improved entrance arrangements, new bin storage, improve access, signage and planting
- Widen existing main gated entrance
- Create a new play area and path in the woods
- Introduce educational and informative signage throughout the park

Lest we forget

The proposal for the *Lest We Forget* WW1 commemoration was overwhelmingly supported at a public meeting held at Forty Hall on 31st October 2013. It was signed off by London Borough of Enfield, to be created and maintained by volunteers as no budget was available.

The letters were carved from the turf, to be read from the 1st and 2nd floor north-facing rooms of the Hall, looking down the main formal vista of the double Lime Avenue. The original location, closer to the Hall, was amended at the request of Enfield Archaeological Society to avoid conflict with any potential archaeology near the Hall structure. Flanders poppy seeds were sown using seed purchased personally by the Estate's Learning and Conservation Officer which included donations to support the British Legion.

Many poppies germinated and grew and an interpretation panel was installed, with railings to protect the work. However, Forty Hall's management were concerned that residents hoping to hire the Hall as a venue might object to these, so the railings and description of the work were removed. Consequently, unsupervised children (even supervised children and adults) ran up and down the letters, and the poppies were mostly killed off.

The contractor working on the Forty Hall Estate restoration works kindly donated grit which volunteers placed on the letters of exposed soil as shown in the photograph above.

The feature was intended as a four year commemoration, and a focal point for Armistice Day activities with hopeful attendance of local school children and representatives of the Princess Diana Regiment (formerly the Middlesex Regiment, with connections to the Forty Hall Estate). This Armistice Day, local school children from primary schools will lay poppy wreaths and individual 'hand-made' poppies in the letters.

Next year the Learning and Conservation Officer will grow poppy plants at his home until they are ready for planting as juvenile plants in the Spring of 2015, again by the volunteer assistants. If these also fail, then 2015 will be the last year the feature remains. Comments received by the local public, volunteers and visitors from out of the Borough are very positive, especially from senior local Enfield residents who lost family members in the Great War.

If any members of the Enfield Society wish to volunteer their time and energy on the Forty Hall Estate, on a range of projects, you will be most welcome. Kindly leave your details with reception staff at Forty Hall.

Jason Peters, Learning and Conservation Officer, Forty Hall.

