



Enfield Town under threat from 26-storey tower block

 complete the survey via our website

While the proposed Deutsche Bank investment is welcome, the six tower blocks are not!

Sue Grayson Ford

Few disagree with the need to regenerate Enfield Town. Church Street has suffered under-investment for decades, while 40-year old Palace Gardens and the newer Palace Exchange have recently lost tenants and become increasingly unappealing. As elsewhere, the pandemic has accelerated decline by reducing footfall to our shopping centre and increasing online shopping. Some years ago, DWS—the investment arm of Deutsche Bank—acquired long leases from Enfield Council for both shopping centres. It now hopes to maximise its investment by redeveloping Palace Gardens (Phase 1), then Palace Exchange (Phase 2). A detailed planning application is due this Spring.

The Palace Square scheme is superficially appealing as it includes several of the elements for high street regeneration promoted by retail experts Mary Portas and Bill Grimsey: converting redundant retail units to residential use; a wider range of independent shops and catering; shared workspace, a gym; boutique cinema, better landscaping and an evening economy. However, there is of course no guarantee that desired businesses will sign-up.

What makes the scheme controversial is the proposal to fund it by constructing 600 build-to-rent residential units in six 7 to 26 storey blocks (over twice the height of the Civic Centre) above the shops. These would tower over our historic market town, overshadowing the surrounding Conservation Area and green spaces.

While 600 new flats may be a welcome addition to Enfield's housing stock, the borough's most urgent need is for family houses, not high-rise units. The build-to-rent model is aimed primarily at mobile young people who are reluctant, or unable, to buy and therefore unlikely to put down roots in the town. This suits high density commercial areas such as Canary Wharf, where young professionals on short-term contracts can live a few minutes' walk from work. Unfortunately Enfield cannot offer jobs likely to attract this demographic and, as no parking will be provided, the flats may not attract young families, or those dependent on a vehicle for work.

Two of the Borough's MPs have announced fierce opposition to the current scheme in the Enfield Dispatch: Feryal Clark MP said "one of the oldest markets in the country can't be overshadowed by a 26-storey tower. By all means create a night-time economy, but not like this" and Bambos Charalambous MP said "it is in the nature [of developers] to do whatever they can get away with and



How Palace Square might look based on the current information provided by the developers (Dec 2020). Background ©Google Earth

maximise their profits. They need to be a lot more sensitive to what is good about Enfield Town and respect the Conservation Area."

DWS presented initial proposals at two public webinars last October, threatening that, unless the high-rise residential component was approved, we could expect no improvements to our shopping centre. Such an ultimatum, together with minimal public consultation, is unacceptable. We believe that no more than 350 residents joined the webinars, and that the time allowed for feedback at these sessions, and for the subsequent survey, was insufficient. That is why we invited Civic Voice, the national charity which engages people with planning issues, to host a new, independent survey to record residents' views.

The Civic Voice survey has been set up to encourage wider public consultation, allowing many more residents to voice their aspirations and concerns. You will find the link to the survey from our web-site. Thanks to those who have already completed it: if you have not, please do so as soon as possible. We ask everyone to share the link widely via social media. Please call The Society on 020 8363 9495 to receive a paper copy.

This huge development, which would change our town permanently, must reflect our Council's statutory duty to *protect, enhance and celebrate the town's many historic characteristics* (the words of Enfield's Leader, Councillor Nesil Caliskan).

Armed with the results of this independent survey The Society will work with other community and residents' groups to urge DWS to revise their scheme so that it is more appropriate to our historic town centre, more appropriate to Enfield's post-COVID future and—most importantly of all—will better serve the needs of residents and visitors of all ages.

Chairman's Column



Dave Cockle

It's been good to see so many residents making use of the Borough's network of footpaths and open spaces during the prolonged periods of lock-down. Being out and about on foot makes one realise how much green space we have in Enfield.

However, I have noticed an increase in graffiti, some of which has been in situ for some time. Enfield is generally graffiti-free, and long may it remain so. I would urge any of you who see graffiti to take a photo of it, if you can, and report it on Enfield Council's "Report it" website. It is very easy to use and their response is usually within days.

The street scene can so easily be degraded, a recent example being a mobile phone company adopting a bright yellow shade of paint for equipment cabinets. This may well suit an industrial complex, but it has no place at the road side in our green Borough.

A Society member complained to the Council about these unsightly cabinets, one of which was in Merryhills Drive, next to the landscaped Glenbrook wetlands, and another in Worlds End Lane, with the hedgerow to the Middlesex University Sports Ground as a backdrop. I'm pleased to be able to report that after some initial difficulty in ascertaining which Council department to contact, the issue was raised at the Highlands and Town Wards Forum. Thanks to the Forum's Chair, Cllr Michael Rye's intervention, these ghastly yellow cabinets have now had a coat of grey paint applied, this making them far less intrusive.

In closing, I would like to thank all of our Enfield Society volunteers who put a great deal of time and effort into ensuring the business of the Society is dealt with swiftly and efficiently. I would like to extend a warm welcome to two TES members who have recently been co-opted onto the Society's Management Committee, Sue Grayson Ford and Phil Page (see page 10). Sue is energetically leading the campaign against the proposed building of tall towers above Palace Gardens & Exchange in the Town Centre. Phil, who has also joined the Architecture & Planning Group, brings with him a wealth of expertise in public sector strategic management.

Quarterly Society/Council meeting report

Richard Stones

Members of the Society's Management Committee have regular meetings to discuss matters of concern. In December we met Cllr Nesil Caliskan (Leader of the Council), Sarah Cary (Executive Director Place) and Vincent Lacovara (Head of Planning). The main items discussed on this occasion were:

Relocation of the Museum and Local Studies

The Dugdale Centre is to be a COVID vaccination centre for up to a year and so permanent changes in its use would be postponed. In the interim the Council were hoping to establish a temporary centre for cultural activities in a vacant shop in Palace Gardens.

Regarding the future use of the Dugdale Centre, we were assured that the reconfigured museum space on the ground floor would be adequate for permanent and temporary displays and could accommodate school visits. Cllr Caliskan was adamant that they had no wish to downgrade the Museum as an important feature of the Town Centre.

Sarah Cary felt that the Civic Centre was a highly appropriate location for Local Studies. We referred to suggestions that the archive storage would be in the basement of the Civic Centre which was cold and damp. Sarah said they were keen to keep the Archive's current accreditation with the National Archives, who would need to be satisfied with the appropriateness of the new space.

We asked if the Children's Service really needed all of the first and second floors in the Dugdale Centre, given current changes in working patterns. Sarah Cary said that the plans had been made in the context of an overall appraisal of the need for office space across the Council, which took account of these issues. However she said that she would arrange for us to have a formal response on the Children's Service's need for space.

The Council would also arrange for the Society to meet the Council's Cultural Officer, Rebekah Polding, in the New Year and she would be able to tell us more about the proposals.

See also Val Munday's article on page 8.

Palace Square

We explained the Society recognised the need for investment in the Palace Gardens centre, but objected to the height of the proposed residential development. Cllr Caliskan felt it was essential for the town

centre to adapt to changing circumstances. In her view we were fortunate that the developer was interested in developing the shopping centre, and she did not want the town to lose this opportunity. A key issue was viability for the investor. However she acknowledged that height was a major issue.

Vincent Lacovara reiterated that a sustainable future for the site was really important, as were improvements to the public realm. He said that it was part of the planning process to challenge the developer's viability claims but accepted that the current scheme would cause harm as regards impact on heritage. The Council would push the developer to mitigate this harm, and it would be necessary for the developer to demonstrate that any residual harm was outweighed by public benefits. Vincent Lacovara said it would not be possible to please everyone.

Cllr Caliskan hoped that some of the residential space would be in "managed" rental properties where the developer retained responsibility for managing the common parts of the property and provided communal facilities such as rooms to hire for parties. She hoped that this would provide "starter homes" for people who were not eligible for social housing but could not afford shared ownership.

Edmonton Green

We said that we were concerned about the very long timescale for the development. There was a risk that the improvements to the public realm would be postponed to the end of the period. It was particularly important for the area that the market continued to function. Cllr Caliskan said that the Council shared this concern and would seek to address it in the Planning Conditions. She also felt that a cinema was an inadequate response to the need to improve the social environment, and said that they would press for other amenities, such as a theatre or dance hall/studio.

Summer 2021 newsletter dates

We accept copy by e-mail or paper. Contact the Editor, Andrew Lack, (info@enfieldsociety.org.uk) if you have any questions about making a contribution. The copy date for the next newsletter is Friday 16th April 2021 and it will be published on Tuesday 11th May 2021.

Planning report

John West

Despite the COVID pandemic, developers have been busy during the winter months submitting planning applications across the Borough. In addition to the Palace Square scheme covered on pages 1 and 2, Members will be interested in the following projects;

Edmonton Green Shopping Centre. This scheme was referred to in the Winter Newsletter and the new owners Crosstree, are now in the final phase of public consultation on the plans and there are still opportunities to provide feedback. Display boards showing the proposals are in the shopping centre (50 South Mall). The Society welcomes investment in the shopping centre, our main concerns are that any development should be high quality; that the existing traders are protected as part of the redevelopment, that the long-established market is retained throughout the work; that the scheme does not dominate the adjoining Conservation Areas and that the Council ensures that the whole master plan proceeds, not just the housing elements. Edmonton is a very vibrant shopping centre and we want to see that continue.

Meridian Water. The Vistry Partnership are developing proposals for the first phase of Meridian Water on the land to the east of Meridian Water station. The Society was pleased to see a strong emphasis on landscaping on a site that is flat and challenging in terms of development. The Society is particularly keen to see improvements along the Pymmes Brook trail that crosses the southern part of this site and is an important east-west walking route across the Borough.

Metaswitch Building, 100 Church Street. The planning application was considered by the Council's Environment Forum in December and the Forum Members expressed similar views to those of the Society. While the design is reasonably high quality, there are concerns that the taller block adjacent to St Paul's Centre will dominate the site and is too close to the New River Path.

Ross House, Windmill Hill. The developer was originally intending to demolish the existing office building and replace it with a new block of residential accommodation. A permitted development application for the conversion of offices to residential use has now been submitted with the addition of two storeys. While the Society has serious reservations about permitted development proposals as they often result in small

flats, the current proposal has the advantage of retaining the existing set back on Windmill Hill, keeping the very fine Blue Cedar tree and working within the footprint of the existing building.

Oak House, 43 And 45 Baker Street.

This site is immediately north of Enfield Police Station. The planning application involves demolition of the existing building and erection of 3, 6 and 8 storey residential units with a resident's gym,

Planning application visual



communal courtyard associated landscaping and parking. The Society has concerns that the development is out of character with the rhythm of the street scene as it steps down from the Civic Centre to domestic housing. The future of the Police Station is uncertain and the Council is being asked to look at this part of Baker Street to ensure that there is not piecemeal development. As with so many of the current planning applications the height of the 8 storey building is also an issue of concern.

New Southgate. A major development is planned at the junction of Station Road and Telford Road, site of the former New Southgate gasometers, now demolished. This is a difficult site to develop being adjacent to the North Circular Road and the east coast mainline. The Society is pleased to see that landscaped pedestrian routes will be included linking to Millennium Green and then to Arnos Grove tube station.

TfL Car Parks. At the time of writing the Society is not aware of any development in relation to the TfL scheme to develop residential accommodation on the Cockfosters TfL Car Park. However the Council's recent decision at its January Planning Committee to refuse planning approval for the Arnos Grove Car Park development on the grounds that there was a lack of affordable housing and drop off facilities may force TfL to rethink their strategy.

Joyce James

Jan Leach

It is with much sadness we learned of the passing of Joyce at the end of October, aged 90.



Joyce was born in March 1930 and was an Enfield girl through and through, her early life starting at Cornwallis Avenue in Edmonton. She was an only child and once asked her father for a bible but was told she'd be much better off with a dictionary—Joyce was never short of words!

Her early life was spent as a Court Dressmaker. Those who knew her often described Joyce as tall and elegant and she was always immaculately turned out with outfits generally co-ordinated with her nail varnish. She was a really good needlewoman and loved to knit and crochet throughout her long life.

Joyce was first married to Harold Hassel and they moved to Holtwhites Hill where she lived for the rest of her life. Joyce worked at Fergusons on the A10 (later Thorns) in the personnel department. There she met David who worked in Finance and in 1992 they married following the death of Harold the previous year.

Joyce and David were actively involved in the Enfield Society for 30 years. Joyce organised the morning meetings until 2011 when she became the Membership Secretary and David was Treasurer. They decided to 'retire' in 2019. Together they introduced a computer system to record membership details and Joyce organised the quarterly newsletter posting, the annual social evening for new members of the Society as well as handling all the Membership correspondence and annual renewals.

Theirs was a great partnership as they had many shared interests and hobbies. I recently asked Joyce to tell me which years she would like to go back to and without a moment's hesitation she said it was when she had retired at 60 and had just married David. Joyce felt that she had been blessed to have had David by her side for so many years.

Across Enfield Chase from Cuffley to Cockfosters

Stuart Mills



Approximately 8 mile linear walk through attractive farmland and woods of Enfield Chase. As there are extensive southerly views from a series of hilly ridges, it is recommended to walk in the direction described on a dry sunny day. There is an optional 1 mile extension visiting the Fir and Pond Wood nature reserve. With shorter options, there are places for picnic stops and a pub in Northaw. Sturdy walking boots and a stick are highly recommended as the route is currently very muddy in places.



Cuffley to The Ridgeway (4¼ miles)

Leave Cuffley Station via the subway under the railway to reach Tolmers Road in 75yds. Turn right uphill along Tolmers Road and after 350 yds turn into a narrow, fenced but unsigned footpath on the left-hand side between house numbers 49 and 51 **1**. This path climbs steeply to reach a residential road (Kingsmead). Turn left and, just before Plough Hill, look left for a view over East London and Kent Hills (about 35 miles away). Turn right past an 1800's water pump. Then Plough Hill turns left and becomes East Ridge Way at the group of trees commemorating the 1987 hurricane.



After 100 yds, and opposite the pillar box, is a memorial erected to Captain William Leefe Robinson VC who, on 3rd September 1916, shot down the first German airship destroyed over British

soil **2**. Continue along East Ridge Way which after the bend becomes The Ridgeway. Opposite house numbers 12 and 14 is a public footpath (N1 on the Society's map) and signed to Northaw.



Enter, and before going steeply downhill, look left for another view over Central London and the Crystal Palace aeries to the Shirley and Addington Hills (over 25 miles away). Continue downhill on this pretty woodland path and exit at the bottom through a kissing gate.

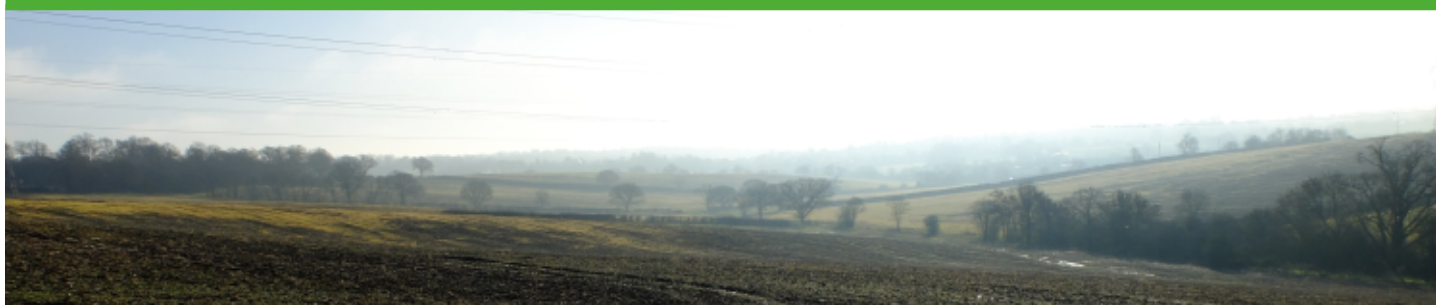
Shorter option: to return to Cuffley Station, turn left onto path N9 and proceed for ¾ mile to Northaw Road and turn left to reach Cuffley shops in a further ½ mile.

Otherwise, turn right after the kissing gate **3** and continue on path N1 with a stream and hedge on your left, over a small bridge and then climb Hems Hill with attractive views over a wooded valley—a scene much loved by Charles Lamb (pictured top). At Vineyards Road turn left to Northaw. The road is named after



vines once grown on the adjacent hill slopes that are now covered by Nyn Park Woods. As you enter Northaw, note the Victorian centrepiece to the Village School and then the elegant Georgian Old Vicarage before reaching the Victorian parish church, built 1881. The original Medieval church founded by Westminster Abbey was replaced in 1809 by a church that was itself destroyed by a storm in the 1870's. Near the village green are several old properties. There is seating in the churchyard and around the green for a picnic lunch and nearby is the Two Brewers pub. *Note:* the 242 bus service is now very infrequent.

From the Edwardian lynchgate to the church, turn left and past the Two Brewers and the 1903 Kidson Institute and enter unmade Hook Lane (path N149 **4**) on the right which goes steeply downhill, crosses Northaw Brook and climbs through Hook Wood (which has bluebells in the Spring). Nearby land was used for a large greyhound breeding, training and kennels business,



now replaced by housing and the Oshwal Centre owned by the Jain community with a Jain temple. On reaching Coopers Lane Road, cross and enter Fir Wood opposite.

Whilst land between Coopers Lane Road and the M25 remained in Enfield, the Society worked with Enfield Council to stop repeated large-scale fly-tipping over an 18 month period. Then the Society and Groundforce created a 1¼ mile long belt of trees on the south side of the road incorporating a footpath (now a bridleway), and for many years Society members helped in maintaining the nature reserve.

Option: Fir and Pond Wood nature reserve is probably the best surviving part of the original Enfield Chase with old oak and hornbeam woodland, meadow and wetland habitat. As the two woods form a figure-of-eight shape, it is suggested you follow the outer edge of both sections in a clockwise direction, returning to where the walk entered Fir Wood. *Note the permissive path beside Turkey Brook from Pond Wood to bridleway 110 is only usable in very dry weather.*

To continue the walk from where it entered Fir Wood, walk along the bridleway with the road on your right for 300 yds to reach bridleway 110. Turn left on the surfaced track downhill ⑤ past Five Acre Wood ⑥, over Turkey Brook, past more Society and Groundforce hedge plantings and under the M25 to reach the Ridgeway near New Cottage Farm, 4¼ miles from Cuffley. *Option:* end by catching 313 bus.

The Ridgeway to Cockfosters (3¾ miles)

Cross the road (**dangerous, so take care!**) and enter path 279 opposite. From this point until Hadley Road all the paths were proposed and some were built by The Enfield Society. Go downhill on the left side of the hedge with lovely views over Salmon's Brook valley (pictured top) and with a possibility of a



picnic stop. Cross the bridge, turn left and then where path 279 turns sharp right uphill, continue straight ahead along the permissive path with the hedge on your left until, as the field narrows and you get near Stagg Hill, look for a gap in the hedge on your left ⑦. Use the plank bridge to cross the stream. Turn right with the hedge now on your right, cross a farm road, go through a kissing gate and along the right-hand field edge for a short distance and turn right over a large footbridge. Continue ahead in next field parallel to Stagg Hill to reach after 325 yds a small gap in the hedge ahead. Go through onto West Lodge Path. *Shorter option:* 298 bus stop beyond the hedge on the right (5¼ miles from Cuffley) ⑧.

Head away from Cockfosters Road along West Lodge Path with the hedge on your left to reach Jubilee Path 276 (part of the London Loop) ⑨ and turn right uphill to Hadley Road with good views. This section is probably in the worst condition of the route. At Hadley Road turn left and in 125 yds enter Trent Park woods to meet a wide track in 15 yds. Turn right and past the obelisk (view to Trent Park Mansion) and continue on track to the edge of wood where the main track turns left. Instead, go straight ahead on a hedge-lined path towards a water-tower. Continue until you reach

Cockfosters Road ⑩ then turn left remaining inside Trent Park grounds to reach the reservoir.

The field between here and the car park can be very muddy, so take the narrow path through the trees to the left just before the reservoir to avoid the worst. At the car park you will find the café and toilets. Either follow the London Loop signs to Cockfosters Station or, for simplicity, follow the exit roadway to Cockfosters Road and turn left for the station and buses. Total distance 8 miles, excluding any visit to Fir and Pond Wood nature reserve.

Map extracts are from the Enfield Society Footpaths map, £3.50 including postage available through our web-site.



Lower Edmonton and The Green after 1914

Stephen Gilbert

This article follows on from Stephen's look at the area before 1914, which appeared in our last newsletter. The black and white images are reproduced courtesy of Enfield Local Studies Library and Archives. A detailed bibliography can be found in the online version of this article.



1 Just to the north of Edmonton Green is the Crescent 84-132 Hertford Road, built as a speculation by a London solicitor between 1826 and 1851, although the northern end was not completed. This terrace of brown brick houses with stucco covered ground floors, seen here in 2020, is listed Grade II for its group value and in 2008 was made a conservation area.

Each three storey house with a basement is two windows wide with an arched doorway and ground floor windows. The first floor windows have balconies with cast iron railings and brick arches above. The centre and southern end have tall stucco Corinthian pilasters rising from the first floor.

The terrace has been restored, although the communal grass area and carriage drive at the front have not been reinstated and the area remains divided into separate front gardens.



2 Lower Edmonton, now Edmonton Green station on the direct rail route from Liverpool Street to Enfield Town, was constructed by the Great Eastern Railway in 1872. This recent view shows that both platforms have retained their original canopies. The station now has a new ticket office and lifts to the platforms.



3 This 1934 view from the air looking south shows Edmonton Green which was formed in the triangle between the road from Ponders End on the left and the road from Enfield Town on the right. The third side of the triangle was marked by Salmon's Brook and later by the 1849 railway line.

In the foreground can be seen the war memorial constructed in 1924 and the station house for the low-level railway. The line closed to passenger traffic in 1939 and the track was lifted in 1965.

To the left on the far side of the railway line is the Cross Keys inn rebuilt in brick in 1886. It survived the redevelopment of Edmonton Green, but was restructured several times to provide, in turn, a stage and dance floor, a variety theatre and a night club, before being gutted by fire in the 1980s and replaced by a block of flats.



4 Market traders' carts can be seen in front of the shops in this view of the east side of Edmonton Green in about 1949. From the left are Edmonton Bakeries, Boots dispensing chemists, Linwood's noted for its fresh fish and Henson's with "food for health and vigour".



5 Geary's baker and pastry cook, seen here in 1949, was established in Lower Edmonton in 1903. To the right is "Tesco Stores Ltd. The Modern Grocers".



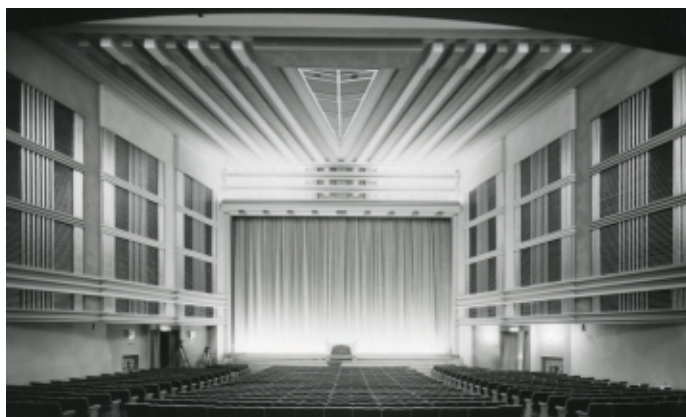
6 This view from around 1955 shows Dale's department store on the east side of The Green at the junction with Balham Road. It was established in 1851.



7 This is the furniture department of Dale's in 1955.



8 This 1961 photograph shows the Golden Lion at 42 The Green. Parts of the building dated back to the 16th or possibly the 15th century. The earliest landlord recorded is in 1521. In the 18th century it was a coaching inn and the archway on the left led to a courtyard with stables and a coach house. In the 19th century the Golden Lion was used as an office by tax officials, Monarch Fire and Life Insurance and Tottenham and Edmonton Association Omnibus. A shop to the right later became an off licence. On the left was Edgley's butchers.



9 The Edmonton Empire music hall opened in 1908. In 1933 it was reconstructed internally to show sound films and the stage was enlarged for live performances. It was renamed the Granada in 1951. In later years it was used for wrestling and bingo but closed in 1968 and was demolished in 1970.



10 New Road was built to take traffic over the 1849 railway line and avoid the level crossing by The Green. Behind the bank and other soon to be demolished buildings in this photograph, which I took in 1970, can be seen a new multi-storey car park and a tower block of flats.



11 This model shows the comprehensive redevelopment plan for Edmonton Green by Frederick Gibberd and Partners, which was agreed in 1960. It included a pedestrian shopping area (which had room for the market traders), spaces for 3000 cars in multi-storey car parks, two tower blocks with 750 flats and new amenity and civic buildings. Following the amalgamation of Edmonton with Southgate and Enfield to form the London Borough of Enfield in 1965, plans for new civic buildings to replace Edmonton town hall were dropped, although a leisure centre was built later. The redevelopment of Edmonton Green was carried out between 1965 and 1974. See Sue Jacob's article on the 1970s development in our previous newsletter.

Article concludes on back page

Council rejects Society's proposals for the Museum & Archive

Val Munday

Just as our last newsletter was being finalised we received a letter from Mark Bradbury, LBE's Director of Property, responding to our alternative proposals for the Museum and Archive. In addition to a well-argued case, the Society also offered £20,000 to the council to improve the displays at the Dugdale if they agreed to the archive and museum staying in their current locations.

In our proposal *Ever Stronger Revisiting Enfield Council's Plans on Dugdale Centre/Thomas Hardy House* we pointed out that little consideration in the original proposal was given to changes in working practice which would lead to less need for office space as post pandemic staff have expressed a wish to continue to work from home. We felt that the space for Children and Family Services could be reduced from two whole floors to one floor thus enabling the museum and archive to stay in their present location and the displays could be enhanced with the additional money we were offering.



Society Trustees outside the Dugdale Centre in October with copies of our proposals. Left to right: Hilary Morris, Dave Cockle, Bob Fowler, Andrew Lack, Richard Stones and Val Munday

However, in Mark Bradbury's response he seemed to think that we were suggesting that in some way our offer would compensate for the considerable savings, running to hundreds of thousands of pounds each year, which would be achieved by bringing Children and Family Services into one hub. This was not our suggestion at all.

We still maintain that it is highly preferable in terms of: efficiency of staff use; saving of money; access to both the museum and archive collections and reduction in damage to the archive if both were to stay in the Dugdale

whilst Children and Family Services occupied one floor.

There will still be a need for conference facilities not only for council staff but also for outside organisations if these areas on the first floor are to be allocated to Children and Family Services. This will mean that the council will have to spend money on hiring space for staff meetings and will lose the income from outside organisations.

Enfields of the World—United!

This is the working title of the latest book by TES member Colin Saunders, who wrote the official guide to the Pymmes Brook Trail, as well as several other books. Colin is currently researching material for the book, which will contain descriptions of the many Enfields around the world. So far, as well as our Enfield, he has identified one in Greater Manchester, one in County Meath, Ireland, five in the USA, three in Canada, three in Australia and one in New Zealand, as well as an Enfield Park in Cornwall. Then there's the Lee-Enfield rifle, the Royal Enfield motorcycle, and perhaps even Harry Enfield! Members are welcome to suggest others they may know of by contacting Colin, preferably by e-mail cswriter@btinternet.com, or you can write to him at 35 Gerrards Close, Oakwood, London, N14 4RH.

A donation of £1 for each book sold will be made to The Enfield Society.

Details of Colin's other books can be found online at colinsaunders.org.uk. They include his first foray into fiction: a rom-com entitled *Fifty Paces Forward!* about the humorous adventures of a group of ramblers, set in the early 1960s.

Angel Walk

The Council have announced that the Angel Walk is now complete. This project transforms a derelict piece of land into a wonderful new community space. In addition to this, the project provides a link between Meridian Water and Edmonton Green, with the route continuing via Salmon's Brook, enabling a safe walking and cycling connection all the way through to Enfield Town.

Dave Cockle



Angel Walk seen from Montagu Road

The project has seen a huge amount of planting and includes places for people to sit, rest and enjoy the space. The project has been funded by Transport for London and is part of the Borough's initiative to create an active travel network.

Richard Eason, Programme Director
Healthy Streets, LBE

As reported on page 2, the Society met with the leader Nesil Caliskan and Sarah Cary, Executive Director of Place who is responsible for regeneration and development across the London Borough of Enfield. Sarah Cary felt that the Civic Centre was a very appropriate location for Local Studies although we had understood that there is a possibility that the archive could be located in the basement of the Civic Centre.

This would be totally unsuitable as it is located next to the redundant loop of the New River which could lead to high humidity levels. We would hope that British Standard BS EN16893 2018 *Conservation of Cultural Heritage. Specifications for location, construction and modification of buildings or rooms intended for the storage or use of heritage collections* be taken into account when choosing a suitable venue as we understand that the standard specifically advises against using basements where water and sewage pipes are commonly found. Sarah Cary told us they are keen to keep the Archive's current accreditation, and the accrediting body would need to be satisfied with the appropriateness of the new space.

It is interesting to note that the council have chosen the Dugdale rather than the Civic Centre as a vaccination centre for COVID jabs which would suggest it is a more accessible location.

More ghost signs spotted round the borough. . .

Phil Whittemore

Since the publication of my original article in Newsletter 218 (Summer 2020) I am delighted to report that a number of further signs have been discovered.



On the corner of Browning Road and Brodie Road, Enfield, EN2 0EJ is a well preserved 'ghost' that reads BUILDER & UNDERTAKER; FIRMIN; SANITATION & DECORATION; 80 BROWNING RD TELEPHONE ENFIELD 2. The sign is only visible as you go down Browning Road towards Lancaster Road. The business was located at this address for a large space has been left for a builder's yard to the left of the house.

An out of the way sign is visible on the flank wall of 14 Granville Road, Bowes Park, N13 4RR. The sign overlooks the New River and the backs of the houses on the other side of the river. The sign reads C (or G) W. SHAW; & SON; REPAIRS OF ALL KINDS; BUILDER & DECORATOR. Like the Browning Road example, Shaws business was sited at this address with space left for builder's yard alongside the house.



On the front of 508 Hertford Road, Enfield, EN3 5SS, above Hills Café, is a painted sign in good condition that reads: Eat Hills Gold Seal; Bread. The wording suggests that Hills was formerly a bakery. I can find nothing about the bread, presumably the advertising was implying that the brand was of superior quality.

A sign advertising Hovis can be seen on the flank wall 331 Ordinance Road, Enfield, EN3 6HE, now King Kebab and Pizza House. The original sign has at some date been over painted with a new sign for Hovis. Across the top is the letter F . . . while HOVIS is written twice diagonally down the wall. At the top are the words GOLDEN [Brown]. At the bottom is BOTH the . . . B / of . . . / FOR / HEALTH.

On the side of the Gunaydin Restaurant, 325-327 Fore Street Edmonton, N9 0PD is a worn sign that reads: RECORDER; EDMONTON; BICYCLES; SPECIALISTS; MOTOR . . . This may be a combination of two signs, one advertising a local paper, the other obviously a cycle shop.

A few unreadable signs have also been found. On the flank wall of Black Tiara, 103 Ordinance Road, Enfield, EN3 6AG is a very worn sign that unfortunately cannot be read, the only letters that

can be made out are GAR while on the gable wall of Saathi Restaurant, 142 Chase Side on the corner of Gordon Hill, Enfield, EN2 0QX now mostly covered by a newer building is the name BURGESS. . . of. . .

On the end of 198 Lancaster Road, Enfield, on the flank wall of Lloyds Pharmacy and all but covered by a modern billboard, is a solitary letter 'N' and the edge of the former advertisement. Presumably the remainder of the advertisement is underneath the new sign.



To bring the story up to date, some modern examples of painted advertising have been discovered. On the side of the Prestige Hair Salon, 153 Ordinance Road Enfield, EN3 6BE on the corner of Catisfield Road, EN3 6AE is a superb piece of modern artwork depicting three women sitting under hair driers, while on a front wall is a girl with long flowing hair.



On the wall of Pymmes Mews, between Pymmes Road and Moffat Road, Palmers Green, N13 4PF, is a sign that reads: Miss M's / BAKERY / Est. 1890. WHOLESALE FLOUR & C. This harks back to the days when a bakery was on the site.

And finally an update. The 'ghost' mentioned in the original article at Masons Corner, Winchmore Hill that read Barnard. They were almost certainly an estate agents.

May I renew my plea? Are there any more such signs remaining in the Borough? Please keep looking.

My thanks are due to the following Society members for spotting a number of these 'ghosts': Joyce Barnard, Frank Bayford, Chris Bushill, Mike Carmi, David Evans, Diana Gutkind, Emma Halstead, Julie Hinckley, John Hughes, Mike Palos, Ian Reynolds, Julian Rhys-Williams, Rich Stoney, Joe Studman, Janet Walby and Sue Whittemore.

New Trustees

We are delighted to announce that Sue Grayson Ford MBE and Phil Page have been co-opted as Trustees of the Society.



Sue Grayson Ford

Sue's career as an arts administrator began with founding the Serpentine Gallery in Kensington Gardens as a platform for emerging artists, and later for exhibitions of renowned artists like Giacometti and Henry Moore. Among many projects Sue has curated a sculptural menagerie for the Liverpool International Garden Festival, was first exhibitions director of Manchester's Cornerhouse, chaired the National Association for Gallery Education (Engage) and in 2000 launched The Big Draw. Sue moved to Enfield in 1991 attracted by its green spaces and has joined the Society to lead our campaign opposing Palace Square.

Phil Page

Phil was born in Edmonton, adjacent to Pymmes Park and attended Latymer Grammar School and has lived in the Borough all his life. He began working life in local government and reached the position of Strategic Director of a multi-disciplinary professional directorate of some 275 staff in an inner London borough. Phil has spent time with the Audit Commission and ultimately set up his own Management Consultancy specialising in public sector projects. Since 2018 Phil has been Chair of Governors at George Spicer Primary School in Enfield. In addition to being a Society Trustee, Phil has joined the Architecture & Planning Group.

Membership Renewals

Having joined the Society just under a year ago, this is the first renewal effort I have been involved with. I am very pleased that many of you have opted to pay online. In these unprecedented times

it really helps with our administrative processes as well as making the Society more environmentally friendly. I am aware that not everyone is comfortable with online payments so I wanted to reassure you that we are still providing you with the opportunity to pay by standing order, bank transfer, cheque and cash, and a form will be included with this newsletter issue unless you have paid already. As this is a particularly busy time of the year, if you have recently contacted me about your payment please bear with me, I will be in touch as soon as this is processed. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your generosity and continued support of the Society.

New Members

The Enfield Society welcomes the following new members who have joined since our last newsletter.

Mrs B Bond, Ms H Brown, Mr D A Brown, Mr P B Chapman, Ms C Coyne, Mr J Cracknell, Mr S Davy, Mr J Davy, T Deamer, L East, Mr D Epstein, Mr G Ferrari, Ms J Gannon, Mr G Grant, D Gunsaya, Ms L Hadden, F Hallsworth, Ms H Innes, Ms J Lloyd-Jones, Ms M Lucas, Mr A Maydon, Ms V McConnell, Revd M Meatcher, Mr D Mickleburgh, Ms D Richardson, Ms J Sheen, Ms B Slade, Revd M Smith, Mr M Smith, Mr M Woolley.

Anna Maria Foster

Publications

I am pleased to be able to report that Alison Parker has offered to take over the management of the Society's sales and stock from me. She has recently retired and has worked in publishing and printing so brings useful experience to the post. Her appointment has been confirmed by the Management Committee and I will transfer the files to her when the COVID restrictions permit us to meet. Meanwhile continue to send orders for books, maps etc via the web-site or by post and cheque to Jubilee Hall. Some publications are on offer to members at reduced prices—see the last newsletter for details.

Monica Smith

Litter Group find a stolen bicycle

Inevitably due to coronavirus restrictions Cleaner Neighbourhoods Group activities

have been severely curtailed during the past 12 months. Whilst observing the rule of six, that is to say no more than six participants, we did play our part in the rescheduled Great British Spring Clean organised by charity Keep Britain Tidy which, instead of taking place last Spring, actually took place in September. We also organised a small scale event at the beginning of December, again complying with the rule of six. This event was notable due to the fact that one of our volunteers discovered a bike hidden in some bushes. What was surprising was that this was not an old machine in neglected condition but a well maintained up to date model of a well known make and no doubt of significant value. This discovery was promptly reported to the police who were able to re-unite the bicycle with its rightful owner who said it had been stolen from his garage in Cockfosters a week or so previously. Needless to say he was very pleased to get his bike back.

Finally, during 2020 there were two other events organised by other groups in which some Enfield Society members took part. These were in Palmers Green in September and in Pymmes Park Edmonton in December.

What has been evident during 2020 is that lock-down restrictions played little or no part in deterring persistent offenders from dropping their rubbish in our parks and streets. Indeed judging by the number of discarded face masks littering our streets, it made the situation even worse.

Nigel King

Privacy Notice and Rules

Two documents which concern the administration of the Society have recently been updated.

Our Privacy Notice explains how we deal with personal data which we receive from members. It has been updated to reflect our current practice in relation to email communications to members.

Our Rules set out how we deal with various administrative matters. They have recently been amended and expanded to include a policy on conflicts of interest, to set out the rights of "Associate Members" such as churches or schools and to simplify the procedure for admitting new members.

Both documents can be found on our web-site.

Richard Stones

Map donations

Andrew Lack

In the Autumn a member living in Winchmore Hill donated two large hand-coloured OS maps to the Society. Both date to around 1860. One is of Winchmore Hill and shows the area before the coming of the Railway in 1870 (below, left).



The other is of Palmers Green (above, right). After removing the map from its frame, it was found to have once belonged to the Edmonton Local Board of Health. For some reason they were interested in *Deadman's Bridge* which is where Pymmes Brook passes under Green Lanes. Both are now at Jubilee Hall where members may wish to take a look once we get back to some kind of normality.

In January we were contacted by Peter White who now lives in Cambridgeshire, but who once resided in Raleigh Road Enfield. Peter has donated a map of building plots which were auctioned on 10th July 1865 in Bishopsgate. The map, part of which is reproduced below, shows the plots mainly in Sydney Road, most of which appear to have been reserved prior to the auction (shown blue). Of the two for sale (shown pink), one was to become the Enfield Police Station.

The Society is most grateful for the donations.



Meetings on Zoom

The Enfield Society is currently not offering members talks owing to the closure of Jubilee Hall. We also have no organiser for the evening programme. If you would like to know more about this role, please contact us. We will be unable to resume evening talks unless we can find someone to take this on.

The following talks may be of interest to members;

Historical Association

Meetings of the North London Branch are open to non members. Please contact the Branch Secretary, Robin Blades, to check how meetings are being held, book places or obtain Zoom details. E-mail robin.blades@outlook.com

Tuesday 9th March, 8pm, *The Bonds of Family: Slavery, Commerce and Culture in the British Atlantic World* by Dr Katie Donington (London South Bank University)

Tuesday 13th April, 8pm, *The First World War's Impact on the British Monarchy* by Professor Heather Jones (University College, London)

City of London Archaeological Society

Events are free and open to all but need to be booked. See colas.org.uk/events

Friday 19th March *Londinium, Britannia and the Rhine Frontier* by Harvey Sheldon, Honorary Research Fellow Birkbeck College, University of London

Enfield Arts Society

Lectures are open to non-members at £5 each. Please e-mail jntmcqn@gmail.com if you would like to attend. See theartsocietyenfield.org.uk for more information.

Thursday 25th February 10.30am, *Provenance matters. The mass faking of the Russian Avant Garde on the world market* by James Butterwick.

Thursday 25th March, 10.30am, *Moorish Architecture: The Legacy of a Vanished Kingdom* by Ian Cockburn.

Thursday 29th April, 10.30am, *Eleanor Coade and her Stone* by Angela Smith.

Society Directory

Joint Presidents: Monica Smith MBE
Colin Pointer

Vice Presidents: Mr M. Saunders MBE,
Mr A. J. Skilton, Mr L. Will


Chairman: Dave Cockle


Hon. Secretary: Richard Stones


Hon. Treasurer: Tony Foster

Management Committee: Dave Cockle,
Sue Grayson Ford MBE, Anna Maria
Foster, Tony Foster, Robert Fowler,
Stephen Gilburt, Nigel King, Andrew
Lack, Janet McQueen, Stuart Mills,
Hilary Morris, Val Munday, Anne
Osborne, Phil Page, Richard Stones,
John West, Bill Wilson.

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dealt with as promptly as possible.

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Architecture and Planning: Bill Wilson

Cleaner Neighbourhoods Group: Nigel
King

Coach Outings: Janet McQueen,
020 8367 7374

Conservation Areas: John West,
020 8886 6080

East Enfield and Edmonton: Val
Munday

Footpaths and Open Spaces: Stuart
Mills

Green Belt: Dave Cockle, 020 8366
2242

Heritage at Risk: Janet McQueen

Historic Buildings: Stephen Gilburt,
020 8363 0031

Jubilee Hall bookings: Janet McQueen

Membership Secretary: Anna Maria
Foster

Publications: Monica Smith

Records and Research: Hilary
Morris, 020 8372 3080

Trees: John West, 020 8886 6080

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Henry Jacobs sent us this fine view of Forty Hall at sunset at the end of November during our second 'lock-down'. Henry wrote to say that his mood was always lifted by visiting the beautiful areas of Enfield. Members will feel just the same.

Henry reminded us that The Forty Hall Cedar of Lebanon tree is recorded as one of the "Great trees of London" dating from the 17th C. It is reputed to be the second oldest specimen in the country. It was planted by local horticulturist, Dr. Robert Uvedale. The Forty Hall tree suffered damage in the 1987 storm. In 2014 the Council released a statement regarding the tree being the second oldest in London and reported the loss of a number of branches and discovery of fungus near the base.

The Cedar of Lebanon is botanically a member of the pine family. The earliest cultivated cedar in the UK dates from 1638 with the oldest existing tree being in the rectory garden at Childrey near Oxford dating from 1646. The tallest example is at Petworth Park, West Sussex. Most of the cedars alive today date from the late 18th C. as earlier plantings were mostly killed by frost.

Lower Edmonton and The Green after 1914

continued from page 9



12 This 2010 view shows the 1924 war memorial now isolated on a traffic roundabout. In the 1990s the former department store was adapted to provide a library and offices. Parts of the earlier development were replaced by lower blocks of flats and two taller blocks at the rear retained. There is now a bus station in front of the flats.



13 This view of Edmonton Town Hall, built in Fore Street in 1884, was taken shortly before it was demolished in 1989.

Notice of Enfield Society AGM elections

Any Society member is entitled to propose candidates for election to the Management Committee at this year's AGM, which we hope can be held in June as normal. A proposal must be signed by the candidate and by at least ten members supporting the proposal and must be sent or delivered to the Secretary at Jubilee Hall so as to be received not later than 1st May 2021. If you wish to propose a candidate I would encourage you to contact me beforehand to make sure that the correct procedures are followed.

Richard Stones