



The newsletter of The Enfield Society

Protecting our Green Belt

In 1993 the Society discussed with Councillors and Council officers the possibility of transferring the freehold of the Council's Green Belt Estate into an independent charitable trust. This initiative had come from the Directorate of Property Services, and of course the response from the Society, and from many other groups and associations was overwhelmingly in favour. We agreed that this action would safeguard the Green Belt and take it out of the political arena. The Council then had cold feet and scrapped the proposal.

Instead, the Green Belt Forum was set up in September 1994 as a consultative forum consisting of representatives from local groups, including our Society, Council officers and three elected members. It met on an ad hoc basis, debating and reporting on issues such as the Leisure Tourism Strategy, the Green Belt Management Plan, educational opportunities and recreational activities in the Green Belt. Its main concern was to act as a watchdog on policies and activities affecting the Green Belt and to ensure its continuous protection.

Now, without any public consultation whatever, our Council has decided to reorganise the Green Belt Forum, retaining its name but restricting its membership to just 7 Councillors and stating that "the Forum meetings take place in public, with an open invitation to local interest groups"! So the Forum becomes just another Council committee and, with the recent approval of the controversial Spurs' planning application at Bulls Cross, what protection and safeguards are there likely to be in the future for our Green Belt? In 1993 the Council lost a great opportunity to keep the Green Belt safe for future generations; what are the prospects now? – rather bleak it seems.

Colin Pointer

For more information about green belts and what the Campaign to Protect Rural England is doing to protect them, see the Campaign's Web site at <http://www.cpre.org.uk/campaigns/planning/green-belts>



Enfield Society members enjoy a walk in the Green Belt on 10th November

Spurs win replay

Despite major opposition from so many groups and individuals, on 12th November 2007 the Council's Planning Committee approved Spurs' controversial plans for the construction of an Academy/Training Centre in the Green Belt at Bulls Cross. This decision was surprising since there were only marginal improvements on the earlier application which had been heavily rejected by the Planning Committee in September 2006. Once again the Planning Officer recommended approval, and this time the Labour members on the Committee voted en bloc in favour. It is our considered opinion that the Committee did not have adequate information and advice to ensure that its took into account all relevant matters to enable it to make a proper decision. Our legal team has referred this back to the Council and is seeking to persuade it that the Committee's decision was unlawful and should be re-visited.

Spurs will have antagonised a considerable number of Enfield residents by retaining in their application the proposal for a building of 127,000 sq ft on 3 levels. It will have a maximum height of 34ft above ground, on a footprint of 2.1 acres, covering almost twice the area of Sainsbury's superstore on the Enfield Retail Park. This building is to be constructed on a 27 acre

agricultural field which forms part of the historic Forty Hall Estate, which was bought by the Council in 1951 to benefit all Enfield residents. The area to be covered on the overall Spurs' site of 67 acres by new buildings, roads, hard surface car parks and artificial pitches would total 7¼ acres. With the purchase of the Whitewebbs Sports Centre Spurs had the opportunity to consider a compromise redesign and place their new buildings within the existing site of the Centre; the integrity of the Forty Hall Estate would have remained intact apart from possibly some football pitches.

Spurs' proposals to increase their training and educational activities with young people in Enfield is obviously strongly supported; but this increase should not have been made dependent upon receiving planning permission at Bulls Cross. Community access to Spurs' new facility is to be restricted to 20 hours a week, and only during the first 10 years of their 99 year Council lease.

The present Council will also have antagonised a considerable number of Enfield residents by its cavalier attitude towards our Green Belt, despite claims in their manifesto that it will be protected. With Spurs' plans at Bulls Cross now agreed we can expect more attempts to encroach further upon our Green Belt.

Colin Pointer

A further look at Enfield Town

Without wishing to concentrate on Enfield Town at the expense of the rest of the Borough, quite a few developments either recent or mooted deserve another look.

Central Library and Local History Unit

The Central Library is due to move to Thomas Hardy House (the new community building on the corner of London Road and Cecil Road) whilst the Carnegie Library at the other end of Cecil Road is rebuilt. The Local History Unit is also due to relocate to part of the first floor there from Southgate Town Hall basement in early 2008. Because of the presence of the library some of the archive material will remain at the Town Hall until it moves back (projected for 2010).

The Enfield Society had some concerns about the relocation of the Unit and we have written to the Environment, Parks and Leisure Scrutiny Panel and the Cabinet emphasising the importance of local history in a borough such as Enfield with now such a diverse population mix. Chris Davies, Information Services Team Leader, has now replied asking that we inform our members fully about what is intended. The aim is to take 80% of the accumulated stored material to Enfield Town, leaving behind unsorted, uncatalogued items. The new unit expects to retain its existing telephone number(s). We are told the new search room will be larger than the existing, with public access to computers in addition to the current facilities. We look forward to an improved unit and hope that these split storage arrangements will work in practice.



Our pictures show the architect's drawings of the projected, upgraded library as depicted in pre-application consultations. A decision was taken in favour of a modern design, in stone or render rather than red brick. The new, two storey wing, replacing the dull Children's Library, will present a largely blank face to Cecil Road, which we consider a major weakness. As a foil to the vigorous architecture of the original building, even as modified in the latest version by a grid of grooves in the stonework, it does not work. The glazed frontage to the Library Green, now to house the main entrance, is more successful, but the scheme envisages the loss of the fine group of trees shown in the picture. I have discussed this with the



architects, but so far they have not been able to work out a way to save the group. We would like to keep at least the two evergreens as a foil to the long façade. In fact, the drawings show other trees around the green removed, but I was assured that the intention is to plant more and produce a really nice setting for the new building.

A planning application, which I am told tries to meet the various objections, will unfortunately come just too late for this News to comment.

Chris Jephcott

Thomas Hardy House



The vision - Architect's impression



The reality - roof clutter

18 months ago the newsletter carried some pictures showing how the appearance had changed from what was first envisaged. What none showed was the clutter of plant etc. that has now appeared on the roof and which the wooden screen is quite ineffectual in concealing. It seems inconceivable that the roof line of this prestigious building should have been allowed to be disfigured in this way.

Palace Gardens

To us the architecture of the original shopping precinct is greatly preferable to the new Palace Exchange with its "urban trees". Evidently its owners do not agree, since a planning application proposes extending the stone effect paving of the new scheme along the open space between Pearsons and M & S. In place of the brick planter, with its graceful silver birch, a glass café will fill most of the space. In future all the existing red brick pavers throughout the precinct may also be replaced. Whether yet another café is needed is not a planning issue, unfortunately. All we can do is record our disappointment.

Chris Jephcott



South elevation as discussed with CAG on 4th September 2007



Updated south elevation showing reduced bulk of rooftop plant enclosures, panel jointing to new stonework, new ramp and planting bed

News on the Rialto

The Inner Circle Group are putting forward development proposals for the former Rialto bingo hall. Their architects have made a very welcome offer to seek our comments on the proposals for a carefully designed building comprising commercial units on the ground floor with residential above. Alternative options put forward for the Rialto under the Area Action Plan for Enfield Town include refurbishment for cultural use as well as commercial/residential redevelopment. Obviously we would prefer cultural use, especially since the expected public hall at Thomas Hardy House failed to materialise, but it seems we could go on waiting for this indefinitely. So a positive use for the site might be preferable.

The King's Head



The dilapidated, empty, locally listed Kings Head, adjoining the Rialto, is now advertised as seeking a further tenant. At least the ground floor windows have recently been boarded up. We were fearful for the fine etched window glass. Enfield would be sorry to lose its famous market tavern.

Silver Street



Finally we understand another long standing gap in Enfield Town could be filled, to the benefit of the townscape. The front section of the New River car park, behind the hoardings, has been bought for development. Under the Area Action Plan this is shown as office / retail / residential.

Chris Jephcott

14 Bush Hill

Welcome news is that the application reported last time to replace 14 Bush Hill with several residential units was turned down.

Street Lighting



It seems that the weakest design for the tall heritage columns on principal routes, the one with a feeble scroll supporting bracket, is the one chosen for general use. Examples can now be seen in Chase Side, Enfield.

Lamp post advertising

The only lamp post illuminated panels we have seen so far are on the car park of the retail centre off the A10, which seems entirely appropriate amidst all the other blatant signs. But now we have seen three applications for something even worse in Green Lanes and Chase Side, Southgate, a bulky cylindrical "digital advertising display unit" around the lamp post, surmounted by a sort of wire cornice. We hope none get permitted anywhere in the borough.

Planning issues

An appeal against refusal of permission to extend the existing 2nd floor restaurant at Pearsons was dismissed as not being sympathetic to the design of the existing building and failing to preserve or enhance the character of the conservation area. Similarly an attempt to put a mansard roof third storey on the extension to Redlingtons in Silver Street was lost on appeal.

We oppose an application to demolish 28 and 28a Slades Hill to build a 2-storey block of 9 flats, because of its size and bulk and because the exit for cars is near the dangerous junction with Chase Ridings. We note another application to build 14 flats in place of 9A, 11 and 13 Slades Hill.

Conservation areas

The **Conservation Area Review** carried out by the Paul Drury Partnership following the completion of the Management Proposals for the existing conservation areas has produced a short list of potential new conservation areas. These, together with their cost implications, were reported to the Council's Conservative Group in September and voted on. Unfortunately the results of the vote are yet to be made public.

Chris Jephcott / John Davies



14 Bush Hill - saved for the moment

Space, energy and the urban environment

The photograph of 14 Bush Hill (winter edition of TES) nestling quietly in the dappled shade of its setting seemed to me to personify the best of urban living. Yet the picture with its report about probable demolition in favour of 'several units' also reminded me of a dilemma which has been bothering me for years. Where does the balance lie between keeping the best of what we have, the need to provide affordable housing for key workers, and, vitally, the need to reduce carbon emissions and conserve scarce oil?

I come at this from the perspective of an environmentalist who is very pessimistic about the future; I think we will be lucky to save our culture even if draconian efforts are eventually made to avoid climate chaos. At the time of writing the arrival of the companion catastrophe of "peak oil" (the peak of available oil supplies) is also being claimed by Energy Watch, backed by independent geologists who have long claimed that governments and oil companies are overstating reserves. Both these issues demand reduced use of fossil fuels, which in cities can be achieved by high-density populations close to work, shops and services to facilitate walking and public transport.

By European standards London is a sprawling city with a low population density, and Europe provides plenty of examples of excellent urban spaces devoid of the individual houses and private gardens which are part of our heritage. I can even visualize spaces in the UK, one in Enfield, which are a pleasure to be in without being spread out. To steal from Bill Clinton: "It's the planning (and the planting), stupid."

Where this leaves me I'm not sure; my opinion changes from day to day, usually depending on what is concerning me at the time. However, one thing is certain: the environmental imperatives are not going away, nor research which claims that high-density living accompanied by no traffic or low-speed traffic fosters community cohesion.

My feeling is that it would be useful to debate these issues now, because, as surely as day follows night, the pressure will mount.

David Hughes

The street scene - an update

In May 2003 the then EPS published the results of a street scene audit of Church Street and The Town. The audit, which can be seen on the ES web site, was mainly concerned with street furniture rather than road or pavement surfaces. It illustrated the deplorable state of the street scene in the main shopping street of Enfield. The poor condition of street furniture, general clutter, surplus and unnecessary signage and over-provision of railings were just some of the characteristics that contributed to a thoroughly depressing visual environment.

So concerned was the EPS that in 2004 it offered the Council £10,000 of match funding for a project to clear up the area around the traffic island at the junction of Church Street and Cecil Road. It was intended that the results would demonstrate the standards that should obtain in the modern environment.

Today, nearly five years on, the Enfield Society is returning to the subject to see what progress has been made. Nationally, the environmental benefits from improvements to the street scene are widely acknowledged.



Kensington High Street

The Royal Borough of Chelsea and Kensington still represents the gold standard for its pioneering work to make streets a safe and pleasant experience for both pedestrian and motorist. This has been the result of commitment and drive by the local authority. The project involved the removal of over 90 per cent of the original pedestrian guard-railing, and this has led to an average reduction of 64 per cent in the number of pedestrian injuries in each of the first two years after its completion.

Meanwhile, not a lot seems to have changed in Enfield. The Church Street/Cecil Road project is still only partially completed. Although a significant number of signs have been removed from the area, which demonstrates what can be done, the island remains unfinished.



Church Street / Cecil Road junction

Enfield Town has suffered over the past few years from the combined effects of the building work for Palace Exchange and the new road layout and more latterly from seemingly never ending road works. As a result clearing up clutter and improving the street scene has been given a low priority and it is now time for effort to be refocused on to this area.

Investing in the street scene is an activity that is very cost effective in the benefits that can be obtained for the money spent. It does however require an awareness of the quality of our surroundings. The Council at all levels must take a questioning attitude as to what street furniture is installed, what remains and how it is maintained. The Enfield Society intends to contribute to this process.

Tony Langston

Enfield Civic Environment Group

The Enfield Civic Environment Group (ECEG) meets every couple of months and has representatives from The Enfield Society, Federation of Enfield Ratepayers and Allied Associations, Southgate District Civic Trust, Enfield Business and Retailers Association, Forty Hall and Bulls Cross Study Group. Some members also sit on the Enfield Council's Conservation Advisory Group.

The purpose of the ECEG is to exchange information between the various groups concerning mainly civic environment in the London Borough of Enfield. One of the main aims of the group is to help secure a better street scene by supporting projects that help to de-clutter our streets.

Streets are the foreground of our buildings and the backdrop to everyday lives. Yet Enfield's streets are increasingly cluttered with a proliferation of traffic signs, bins, bollards, guard rails and street furniture. This results in streets that are both unsightly and lack character. Coordinated action is needed to reverse this decline.

We hope you will notice that, around the borough, unnecessary railings are being taken away, sign posts are being amalgamated onto a single post or onto nearby railings or lamp posts and the new lamp posts are being repositioned.

There is still a long way to go with street de-cluttering and half the battle is convincing the local Council that this works and improves safety. The Council are particularly worried about removing existing rails but schemes have shown that traffic is more cautious when not being funnelled through a "race track" of railings. The railings have been removed outside Enfield Town library and this area feels more open and attractive.

Further information can be found about "Streets for All" on English Heritage's website at <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/>



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Forty Hall

The Council is submitting a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a substantial grant to cover major capital work on the Hall and on the Estate. We do not know the details as we have had only one meeting with Council officers.

Over 7 years ago the Society was instrumental in proposing a trust to take over Forty Hall, on lease from the Council, following the decision of English Heritage to place Forty Hall on the At Risk Register. Early in 2002 everything was in place – trustees and an excellent chairman appointed, a business plan agreed, and a charitable company incorporated. The Conservatives were returned to power in April that year and decided that the Council would look after Forty Hall and did not need a trust, which then had to be disbanded. Forty Hall Estate contains a Grade I listed Hall, other listed structures, a Grade II registered Garden, a Scheduled Ancient Monument, and what is now left of a 147 acre farm; naturally the Society is deeply interested in all plans for the Estate and would be prepared to be a partner in the Lottery application, provided we were able to agree with the proposals to be included in the bid.

Diary dates

Wednesday 20th February

7.30 for 8 p.m. Joint meeting with Edmonton Hundred Historical Society, at Charity School Hall, 24 Church Street, Edmonton. Gary Boudier, author of the recent book on the *North Middlesex Hospital*, will answer questions on the history of the hospital.

Thursday 21st February

Trees Group meeting - see below.

Until 24th February

The suburban landscape – 200 years of gardens and gardening. An exhibition at the Museum of Domestic Design and Architecture, Cat Hill. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm, Sunday 2 to 5pm. Admission free.

Sunday 24th February

Walk from Albany Park to Chingford on the LOOP (4 miles). 10 am to 2 pm, from Albany Swimming Pool car park. Arranged by Enfield Council's Parks Outreach Team. More information from 020 8441 8272, 020 8449 2459 or alan.mitellas@enfield.gov.uk.

Sunday 2nd March

Enfield Conservation Volunteers, Trent Park, 10 am. For details of this and other activities, see <http://www.ecv.org.uk>

Friday 7th March

Enfield Archaeological Society, Jubilee Hall, 7.30 for 8 pm. *English Heritage work on recent sites in North London*, by Kim Stabler, English Heritage. For details of this and other activities, see <http://www.enfarchsoc.org>.

Trees Group

The reactivated Trees Group has held two meetings since the last report. We agreed to concentrate first of all on making representations on applications for work on protected trees or trees in conservation areas and so gaining expertise in the subject. We also plan to make suggestions on where street trees could be planted with advantage (Enfield Council has a good budget for this currently) and to investigate bringing our proposed tree nursery, off Trentwood Side, into use. Emma Collins is acting as Secretary (020 8379 9696).

The next meeting will be on 21st February at 7 pm at The Jolly Farmers, and all are welcome.

Chris Jephcott

The President's column



As members will now know, the THFC application for a training centre at Bulls Cross was approved by the Planning Committee by nine votes to four. So, what have we gained from all the effort and members' generous response to our appeal for funds? Firstly, had we not tried our hardest to defeat this insidious threat to our precious Green Belt countryside we could feel we had betrayed our principles. Secondly, as a result undoubtedly of our campaign, the Club abandoned its appeal against the refusal of the previous application and came up with a proposal that was undoubtedly an improvement in several respects. – less take of agricultural land, removal of some intrusive buildings. Unfortunately, the main drawback, the siting of the building and floodlit artificial pitches at the most sensitive point in the agricultural field near to Forty Hall Park remains. Also the borough has lost the independent Whitewebbs Sports Ground and it must be asked whether the package of support to schools is a bargain.

All the same I must admit to being bitterly disappointed.

Enfield Council is currently consulting on its budget for 2008/09. Obviously, of particular interest to the society are the proposals for Environment, Street Scene and Parks. We are pleased to note increases in expenditure on front line services, including substantial additional investment in highways and parks. Against this must be set concerns at "efficiency savings" mainly from reduction in a number of posts across the department, notably from Environmental Protection and Regulation Division (8 posts) and Planning and Transportation (4 posts) and additional income from increased charges (£1,139,000 in all). I was told that these are not front line staff. It is disappointing that it seems that the additional expertise we were hoping for in dealing with tree applications will not be forthcoming. An interesting trend is that better compliance by motorists has meant a significant reduction in the income from parking penalty charges – estimated at £500,000 for the forthcoming year.

Chris Jephcott

Enfield Design Awards

The bi-annual Enfield Design Awards (EDA), to encourage a wider awareness of good design in the built environment, reaches a climax with the award ceremony which was scheduled to take place in the presence of an invited audience at the Civic Centre on Thursday 24 January. Award categories are: new residential development; commercial development, community building or project; household extension or conversion; shop front and listed building. The winners in each category receive a plaque and runners up a certificate. More information about the EDA can be found on the Council's website <http://www.enfield.gov.uk/> under 'E' in the A-Z of services. TES, who are a sponsor of the Awards, will be represented by Chris Jephcott, Colin Pointer, Monica Smith, Tony Langston and Bob Fowler. A review of the Ceremony will appear in the next issue of *TES news*.

Bob Fowler

What's in a Name?

Jim Deamer noticed the following in a recent edition of The Times. Roy Strong (a former Edmonton County School boy) wrote: "Preservation is admirable but the word has begun to take on negative connotations. A replacement is needed that shows a desire to move on."

Sales table



BADGES for The Enfield Society are now on sale. The cost is £3 each. If you would like to order one by post, please send a cheque for £3, made payable to "The Enfield Society" to: The Enfield Society (Publications), Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield, EN2 OAJ (no charge for p&p).

"THE ENFIELD BOOK" by Graham Dalling. Further stock has now been obtained. Price £14.50 (plus £2 for p & p if you would like a copy posted). A review of this book, by David Pam, is on page 7.

Monica Smith

Edmonton

Please see Diary Dates (above) for details of the joint meeting with members of EHHS on the History of the North Middlesex Hospital on 20 February. All members welcome.

Monica Smith

Future walks

Note: Train details are correct at press date but The Enfield Society cannot accept responsibility for last minute changes. Please always check: for National Rail train enquiries and times ring 08457 48 49 50; for TFL London area tube, DLR, London Overground (ex Silverlink Metro) and bus details, ring 020 7222 1234.

Reduced price train travel: GroupSave Cheap Day Return tickets allow 3 or 4 adults to travel together for the price of 2 adults on First Capital Connect, Silverlink, Chiltern or One Railway. Even for travel to the start of linear walks, GroupSave Day Return tickets are normally cheaper than buying a standard price single but you must travel as a group, not separately.

Please wear walking boots or stout walking shoes – trainers are not usually suitable, even for London parks.

Sat 23 February

Meet **11.00am** at Ickenham Station (10.18am or 10.28am Metropolitan Line trains from Baker Street) for 9 mile circular walk in **Colne Valley Park** via lakes, canal and woodland. Option to end at lunchtime after about 4 miles. Bring lunch or pub food available. By car Ickenham is on the B466 just north of A40 at Hillingdon. *Leader: Christine Fookes*

Wed 27 February

Meet **10.44am** at Watton-at-Stone Station (10.21am train from Enfield Chase) for contrasting figure of eight walk which we hope will coincide with the snowdrop display in the estate grounds of **Woodhall Park**. Morning and afternoon sections about 3.5 to 4 miles each. Walk can be left or joined at the lunch stop in Watton (if joining, meet group by 1.30pm). Bring lunch or pub food available. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Sat 8 March

Meet **10.37am** Hertford North Station (10.19am train from Enfield Chase) for about 7 mile circular walk via **Letty Green** along the quiet byways and field paths to the southwest of Hertford. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader: Brian Wragg*

Wed 12 March

The New River and Old Wood Green.

Meet **10.15am** outside Palmers Green Library, corner of Broomfield Lane & Green Lanes, Palmers Green, for a 2.5 hour linear walk ending at Wood Green underground station. Note: boots recommended as New River path often muddy. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Good Friday 21 March

Daffodil Display. Meet **2.30pm** at 307/121 bus stop next to Trent Park Riding Stables on Enfield Road for about 3 hour linear walk ending at The Ridgeway/Chase Farm Hospital. With luck the walk will coincide with the annual daffodil display but the full 4.5 mile route will also include the Water Garden, lesser known parts of **Trent Park** and field paths. Shorter options of 2, 3 and 4 miles. *Leaders: Carol Cope & Kinu Ohki*

Bank Holiday Mon 24 March

Meet **10.30am** Ware Station (9.46am train from Southbury Station, change at Cheshunt) for 8 to 9 mile circular walk via **Wadesmill** (lunch stop) and **River Rib Valley**. Bring lunch or pub food available. Details: 020 8360 0282. *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Sat 29 March

Capital Ring Path. Meet **10.45am** Boston Manor Station (Piccadilly Line) or travel with Ray from Enfield Chase Station on the **9.29am** train. Info: journey time from Oakwood Station is about 1 hour 10 mins. This interesting and varied 8 mile linear walk follows the Capital Ring via Grand Union Canal, River Brent, parks and semi-rural open spaces ending at Sudbury for return by Piccadilly Line or other routes. Many shorter options. Bring lunch or pub food available. Details: 020 8366 0149. *Leader: Ray Moss*

Wed 9 April

St Pancras International. Meet **10.30am** adjacent to platform 9 Kings Cross Mainline Station (9.49am train from Enfield Chase to Finsbury Park Station for 10.08am mainline train into KX) for 2.5 hour linear walk that, by popular demand, will include another visit by Roy to this prestigious development. Details: 020 8360 0282. *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Sat 12 April

Meet **11.02am** Bayford Station (10.49am train from Enfield Chase). Car drivers can park (considerately) in Bayford Village and walk down to meet Dave at station (allow 10 minutes). 7 to 8 mile circular walk with lunch stop in **Newgate Street Village**. Pub food or bring lunch. Shorter option of 3.5 miles returning to Bayford or travelling on to Cuffley Station by 308 bus from lunch stop. Details: 8366 2242. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Mon 21 April

Royal Parks of Hampton Court and Bushy. Meet **10.55am** Kingston Station. By 10.27am train from Waterloo Station or at 10.31am from Vauxhall Station or travel with Stuart from Enfield Chase Station on **9.32am** train. About 7.5 mile circular walk with option to end at lunch stop near Hampton Court Palace (about 4 miles). Bring lunch or food available. Apart from the Royal Parks, we hope that the route

will also include Thames Path and the beautiful Woodland Gardens in Bushy Park. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Sat 26 April

Chess Valley Walk. Meet **10.41am** outside booking office of Chalfont & Latimer Station (10.00am Metropolitan Line train from Baker Street) for about 10 mile circular walk through the delightful scenery of the Chess Valley. Shorter option of 6 miles by returning to start by train from the lunch stop in **Chesham**. Bring lunch or food available. By car about 45 mins via M25 (junction 18) and A404. *Leader: Christine Fookes*

Bank Holiday Mon 5 May

Meet **11.06am** Richmond Station. Note: check with TFL as possibility of Richmond branch of District Line being closed this weekend – if so, we suggest that you go via Waterloo (fastest trains take only 16 minutes to Richmond) or use Victoria Line to Vauxhall and catch South West trains from there. 7 mile linear walk ending at Wimbledon Park Station via **Richmond Park, Isabella Plantation, Wimbledon Common and Park**. Bring lunch or food available. Shorter options of about 4.75 and 6 miles. *Leader: Norman Coles*

Wed 7 May

Meet **10.15am** at the War Memorial, corner of Windmill Hill & Chase Side, Enfield, for about 2.5 hour linear walk following the **New River Path** and ending in Palmers Green. Coffee break en-route. *Leader: Brenda Brown*

Sat 17 May

Meet **10.30am** High Street, Standon Village (follow A10 for 6 miles north of Ware then east for 1 mile on A120 and High Street is on the right leading to parish church). About 8.5 mile circular walk in the unspoilt countryside of the **Upper Rib and Ash Valleys**. Lunch stop in pretty **Much Hadham**. Bring lunch or pub food available. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Wed 21 May

Meet **10.15am** at The Arkley PH, Barnet (307 bus terminus) for about 3 hour walk via **Dollis Valley, Totteridge Fields nature reserve and Moat Mount** ending at Barnet Gate for 107 bus return to start (or 20 mins walk). Option for lunch at The Gate PH before return. *Leader: Ken Cooper*

Bank Holiday Mon 26 May

Meet **10.38am** Theydon Bois Station (Central Line trains 10 mins frequency & taking 31 mins from Liverpool Street Station) for 9 to 10 mile circular walk in **Epping Forest via Debden Green, High Beach & Ambresbury Banks**. Bring lunch or food available. Details: 020 8364 0300. *Leader: Colin Adams*

Stuart Mills

Jubilee Hall meetings

Tuesday mornings 10 for 10.30 am

26th February

Three famous women by Christine Padwick.

25 March

From Sewit to Poet by Brenda Harley

29 April

Tickets for All Parts of the World – the story of Mr. Thomas Cook by Joy Hooper (with slides)

27 May

Villages of East London by Peter Lawrence (with slides)

Any suggestions for speakers for Jubilee Hall meetings are welcome – please leave a message on the Jubilee Hall telephone: (020) 8363 9495.

Thursday evenings 7.30 for 8 pm

17th April

The salt and pepper man by Peter Bayman, Chairman of the British Novelty Salt and Pepper Collectors Club. (<http://www.bnspec.com/>)

15th May

Wildlife rescue by Barry Smitherman (<http://www.zednet.co.uk/wras/index.html>)

17th July

“A bit of this and a bit of that” – poetry and stuff by Christine Williams

18th September

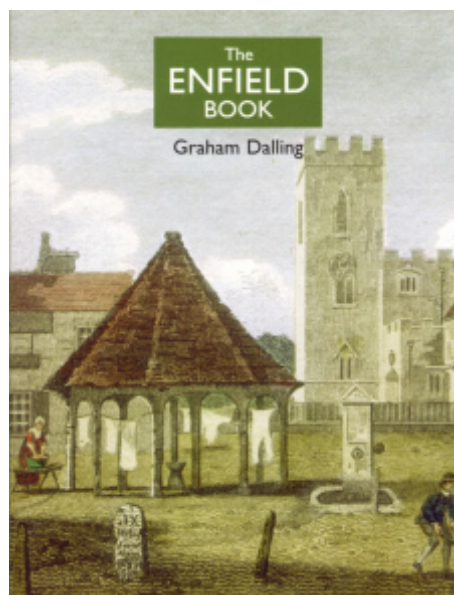
Gardens and travel by Bill Bossom, with slides

New members

We warmly welcome the following new members:

Mr & Mrs S. Appleby, Mr & Mrs R. Bennett, Mr & Mrs A. M. Bowring, Mrs R. Bruce, Mrs B. Campbell, Mr & Mrs D. Cooper, Mr & Mrs M. J. Garrett, Mrs S. Grover, Ms J. Hinckley, Ms E. Laier, Mrs J. R. Matthews, Mrs N. McDowall, Ms S. McLachlan, Mr & Mrs M. Sparrey, Miss H. Thomson, Mr & Mrs P. Way, Ms P. Whitmarsh, Mrs P. Whittall

Pat Atkins



The Enfield book / Graham Dalling. – London : Historical Publications, 2007. – 120p. ; 25cm. – ISBN 978-1-905286-20-1 : £14.50.

David Pam has kindly given permission for the reproduction of the following review of this book which he wrote for Edmonton Hundred Historical Society.

“Graham Dalling’s new book ranges his topics, in alphabetical order, in the form of an encyclopaedia. It covers the ancient parish of Enfield, not the modern monstrosity of the London Borough, although it willingly informs us on such close neighbours as Grange Park, Bush Hill Park and even Winchmore Hill but no further into Edmonton or Southgate, except under broader topics such as Railways or the Lee Navigation.

Graham has a range and style of his own in both the selection of his subjects and in the very wide coverage he is able to provide on each entry. Characters may be found

eligible of his attention either by being born in Enfield or through having lived there, although they perhaps never played any notable part in Enfield history. Thus there is an entry for Adrian Bell, the father of Martin Bell, the former Independent Member of Parliament in recent times. Adrian was a prolific novelist whose books were mostly set in East Anglia although he did write one “A Young Man’s Fancy” which includes, as Graham points out, ‘accurate descriptions of Enfield’, Graham’s vast memory enables him to provide unexpected detail on the people he writes about, their connections, families and houses, far outside the usual range of a local historian; thus under the entry from Francis Augustus Bevan is shown the relationship of the family with Barclays Bank and with the Quaker movement and their austere life at Trent Park. Similarly the involvement of the Bosanquets with Lloyds Bank is revealed, as is the history of their family in Enfield at Clayesmore and elsewhere. Moreover so is, unexpectedly, the story of Reginald Bosanquet’s ‘alcohol fuelled gaffes’ on television in more recent times.

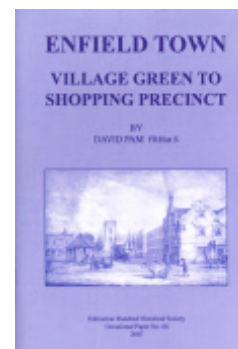
Place names also feature strongly in the book: Botany Bay is said to appear in the Greenwood map of Middlesex in 1829 and is explained by the author as an ironic allusion to the remoteness of that area at the time. There is a similar attribution to account for the meaning of the name World’s End, thus our 19th century forbears seem to have had an unanticipated sense of humour. An apparently more mundane place, like Browning Road, may also be found of interest to some readers for it appears on the Tithe Map of 1754 but then it was known as Cocker Lane.

Subject headings, such as the one provided for Cinemas, are sometimes given longer

entries. This one begins with the Enfield Empire, opened in a converted drill hall in Silver Street in 1909, and is pursued through the time of the super cinema in the 1930s when we all expected them to be attracting vast audiences for at least the next hundred years, and ends with their ignominious decline into bingo halls. One of Graham’s special topics, public transport, is considered under headings like Buses and Coaches and, above all, Railways, on which an entry could scarcely be devised which says so much in so few words.

There are no entries under such terms as common fields or the parish workhouse nor under the Strand Union or the Stamford Hill Green Lanes Turnpike Trust. Most enquiries for which this book will be consulted concern more recent times and will require brief information, and this book is most admirably designed to meet such demand”.

Monica Smith



We have just received a copy of David Pam’s latest publication: **Enfield Town: village green to shopping precinct.** (EHHS, 2007, 36 pages, ISBN 978-0-902922-66-2, £4).

This will be reviewed in our next issue.

TES Directory

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

Printed by Studio Projects Ltd

Coach outing

Visit to Nymans Garden and Standen, Saturday, June 7, 2008

The first of our visits this year is a combined trip to National Trust properties that are temptingly near each other in West Sussex. Unfortunately to take advantage of such an opportunity we cannot visit by coach on a Sunday because of coach parking difficulties at Nymans Garden

The National Trust's handbook describes Nymans Garden as "an inspirational 20th-century garden, created by three generations of the Messel family. Their outstanding plant collection is still to be found throughout the garden. Further evidence of the Messel's sense of style can be seen in the surviving rooms of the romantic ruined house."

There is a licensed restaurant at Nymans where lunch can be taken before we leave to drive to Standen, an Arts and Crafts family home with Morris & Co. interiors, set in a beautiful hillside garden. Philip Webb, friend of William Morris, designed the house in the 1890s, a showpiece of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

We depart at 8.15am from Ridge Avenue, Winchmore Hill at the junction with Bush Hill Road, Winchmore Hill and from the Genotin Road bus stop in Enfield Town at 8.30am and journey first to Nymans Garden. Traffic permitting we should arrive there by 10.00 am when the Garden is open; the House opens at 11.00. Since Standen house closes at 4.30pm we should arrive back in Enfield soon after 6.00pm.

The cost of the trip is £13.00 to National Trust members and £26.00 to non - NT members and includes a gratuity to the coach driver.

Bookings to Jim Deamer, 32, The Orchard, Winchmore Hill, N21 2DH, Tel: 0208 360 8974. When booking please clearly indicate your chosen pick-up point. Cheques should be made payable to The Enfield Society and, since coach seats are reserved on receipt of a booking, please enclose a sae for acknowledgment of your reservation. Acknowledgments are made ONLY on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

Jim Deamer

Spurs' Appeal Fund

When Spurs' first planning application was roundly defeated by the Planning Committee in September 2006, despite the Planning Officer having recommended approval, they then decided to appeal. The Society then decided that it should be separately represented at the public inquiry which would hear the appeal. This course of action would require substantial funding to cover all our legal costs. We launched an appeal for donations and our members and supporters responded magnificently, contributing a total of just under £9,000. Spurs submitted another planning application in August 2007 and some weeks later withdrew their appeal. As members will now know, (and see the article on page 1), that second application was surprisingly approved. There will now be no appeal so we feel that it is only fair to return, on request, any of the donations so generously given. Anyone wishing to have a refund should please either write to Jubilee Hall or leave their name on our telephone answering machine. Any remaining money will be transferred into a designated fund to fight all future threats to our Green Belt or open spaces.

Colin Pointer

Where to go in Enfield

The Enfield Over 50s Forum newsletter reports that the Council have arranged to pay more than 20 businesses about £600 per year each to make their toilets available to the public without any obligation to buy anything. Signs will be displayed in their windows, and the scheme should start in April 2008.

The Council are also spending £620,000 to refurbish the toilets in six parks over this year and the next.

Leonard Will

Situation vacant Secretary to the Society

We are still without a company secretary and we need to fill this important post. Some organisational skills are required but experience in the field is not essential and the time commitment is very modest. For further information please contact Colin Pointer (020 8366 2406).