



The newsletter of The Enfield Society

Entertainment on Chase Green, 7 am to 11 pm?



was in 1935 when "the champions of Chase green gathered in force" and a Society was mooted to "ensure change did not interfere with the natural beauties and amenities of the district" -something we feel this licence is likely to do. It gives the Council carte blanche

These notices appeared around Chase Green recently and have given rise to a great many emails, phone calls and letters to the Society. Our letter of objection was on hold for a few days while we clarified the legal position of the Chase Green - whether it is registered as a common or village green, which gives it some legal protection. This has proved somewhat difficult to verify as the register the Council is obliged to maintain and have available for consultation is proving elusive.

However investigation by Stuart Mills has now shown that the Green is registered as a village green, under the Commons Registration Act 1965. As there are rules about how a registered green can be used, including prohibitions on undertaking any act which causes injury to the green or which interrupts the use or enjoyment of a green as a place of exercise and recreation, there will be many events which would contravene these requirements.

Historically the Green is a remaining vestige of the Royal Hunting grounds. The 16th century saw the start of the Enclosures Acts and gradually the Chase disappeared until in 1803 the common rights on the land were finally abolished and the Chase Green charity was set up to look after the remaining land as an open space for public recreation. The Urban District Council of Enfield took over this responsibility in 1899. Several people have mentioned the plague pit reputed to have been dug on the Green in the middle ages, but unfortunately there seems to be no firm evidence of this.

It was due to the threat to build the new Town Hall on "the people's land" that the Enfield Society was first suggested. Valerie Carter's Fighting for the Future states that it

to allow almost any kind of sporting event or entertainment on the Green, whether for the odd day or for an extended period. The list of potential threats seems endless and all in a conservation area: noise; rubbish; traffic; parking; loss of access to a public space; damage to the Green; access issues for vehicles to erect and remove proposed temporary structures; health and safety; requirement for plant and heavy machinery; possible alcohol in an alcohol free area, and I'm sure you can think of more. It was with rather an ironic smile I noticed the licence request was pinned to the same lamppost as another notice stating that anyone causing a nuisance on the public space of the Green could be removed forthwith.

Over the past week I have received more letters, phone calls and emails on this topic than on any other during my time as Chairman. It shows the strength of people's feelings and the importance of the Green, something we hope the Council will take into account when deciding on this matter in December.

Janet McQueen



Chase Green, October 2012

Joining The Enfield Society

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

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

"I confirm that I am a UK Income Tax / Capital Gains Tax payer and that the sum I pay is greater than the tax the charity will reclaim on this payment. Please treat all subscriptions and donations I make to The Enfield Society until further notice as Gift Aid payments".

New houses for old

Enfield Council have announced that six former sheltered housing blocks are being demolished to make way for family housing. Demolition started in September at Jasper Close in Enfield Wash and Tudor Crescent in Enfield Chase.

The remaining sites are at Forty Hill, Lavender Hill at the junction with Blossom Lane, St George's Road and Parsonage Lane.

These blocks were built as small sheltered bedsits in the 1950s /60s. They had shared washing facilities and although acceptable at the time, they are outdated and have not been occupied for many years. The blocks are not suitable for refurbishment since their original construction was based on single person living.

All six sites should be cleared ready for redevelopment by spring 2013 with plans for 80 new private and council family homes. A redevelopment partner will start work from September 2013, with the first new properties being complete from summer 2014.

Conservation

As part of ensuring it is managed to best advantage, each conservation area has to have what is known as a Character Appraisal. These require updating every five years as things on the ground change. At the request of Enfield Council's Heritage Department draft revisions have been carried out by the local groups relating to the individual areas and in our case we have been made responsible for the Turkey Street Conservation Area, with no local group, and Highlands. Additionally, for the Enfield Town Study Group, Caroline Carter has produced a review of Enfield Town, which has of course seen major change over the past five years.

Turkey Street

Surprisingly, even Turkey Street has undergone change, with a new house replacing a former (the only) shop and a much improved heritage style footbridge at the western end leading to the Aylands Open Space. Uncollected litter and uncontrolled weed growth in ornamental flower beds in front of the Aylands Open Space make a sorry spectacle of what should be an attractive new entrance.

Highlands

In the case of Highlands, with the Conservation Area reduced to less than one third of its former area, we noticed an inaccuracy in that the previous draft had overlooked the fact that one of the original pavilions had earlier been replaced by a much larger and less attractive block, Beveridge Court. The remaining NHS presence has now been quite successfully replaced by Blackwell Close but a new block, Barnard Court, a crude and awkward design, allowed on appeal, breaches most of the guidelines which have led to the successful residential conversion of the original hospital pavilions. Carrying out the review confirmed our view that downsizing the Conservation Area to just the original Pennington Drive loop road has gone too far.

In both cases, weaknesses identified in the original appraisals have mostly not been addressed.

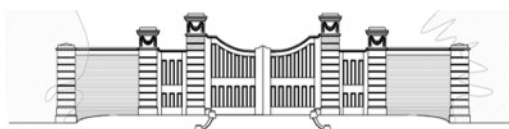
North East Enfield

The recent Conservation Advisory Group meeting also included a briefing on a public consultation on the new **North East Enfield Area Action Plan**. The Action Plan will form part of Enfield's Local Plan and covers an area stretching from the M25 southwards to Ponders End. The consultation unfortunately lasts only until

8th November but copies of the plan and related documents can be obtained from the Council's website at http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/200057/planning_policy/507/north_east_enfield_are_a_action_plan. For copies of the consultation document call 020 8379 3866. Centred on the Hertford Road, the area includes communities to the west as well as to the east of this spine road and the adjacent industrial areas. This is an important document, looking towards a comprehensive regeneration of a historically important area of Enfield, which now presents many challenges as regards housing, employment, transport links and recreation. It contains many local centres and the plans for sustainable growth will focus around these.

Forty Hall

English Heritage has finally relented in its opposition to any widening of the frequently traffic damaged entrance gates to the Forty Hall estate. The preferred design, as illustrated, which we support,



Gateway redesigned by Thomas Ford & Partners

increases the height of the inner two piers to preserve the sense of proportion; similarly, the tops of the new gates (the originals are beyond repair) curve down towards the centre. To achieve this, the northernmost section will be moved outwards and rebuilt. This should remove the need for any additional entrances from Forty Hill.

Whitewebbs Lane

Further north, along Whitewebbs Lane the news is not so good. Yet another application by Tottenham Hotspur seems set to continue the process of converting this land, which is in the Green Belt and the Conservation Area, into a sterile wasteland. The application now takes in an additional 2.1 acres of the western field, in the interests of a tarmac surfaced helipad (actual location not specified) and 2.2 metre high, open concrete bunkers to contain green waste for recycling, some of it from Capel Manor. Screening will be by raised planted bunds, height unspecified, which will hem in the isolated Keeper's Cottage in the centre of the site, as will extended 2 metre high weldmesh fences. Anywhere else in a Green Belt conservation area all this would be unacceptable and our objection is on those grounds.

Enfield Town

In Enfield Town some long anticipated developments are coming to fruition.

Barclays Bank

Whatever one thinks of the new, dazzling interior, the alterations to this fine building have not damaged the exterior. The stylish, wooden front doors have been retained, albeit in sliding form. We never could understand why this building could not be listed, if only as a signature building for the Town. Perhaps we should take this up again?

Former Rialto/Gala Club site

The completed small shopping arcade is a disappointment. The details, such as the design of the windows and stone mouldings on which so much of the effect depends, are not of the quality the application drawings led us to expect.

In Silver Street the new block next to Lloyds Bank, also by Winchmore Brickwork, is still hidden behind plastic sheeting. We await with interest to see whether they will have made a better fist of things there. Meanwhile, tall cranes opposite the end of The Town show that work on the long approved (on appeal) residential conversion and extension to New River House is finally under way. Look for an additional three storeys, widening towards the top.

Chris Jephcott

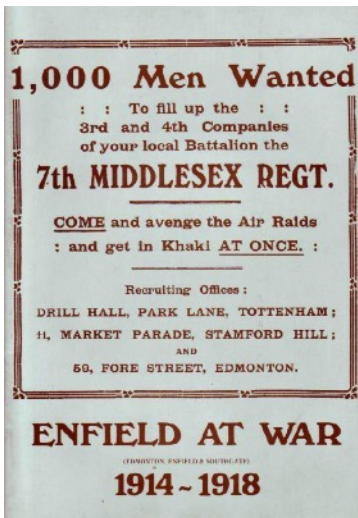
Trees group

With the trees on the Allotment Tree Nursery putting on a growth spurt in response to the wet summer, we have been looking at a final home for them. I visited the Woodcroft Wildspace in Winchmore Hill to meet with its chairman, Bob Ladell, and it was clear that our trees would be very at home in this planned nature reserve. At our meeting on 4th October the Group supported this idea and we are making plans to carry out the work over the winter planting season.

*Chris Jephcott,
Trees Group Convener*

Enfield at war, 1914-1918

As part of the local commemorations of the hundredth anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War the Enfield Archaeological Society has decided, in co-operation with the Enfield Museums Service, to revise and re-issue Geoffrey Gillam's *Enfield at War 1914-1918* originally published in 1982.



The Museum is planning a major exhibition on the period which the book will be designed to accompany. The work will include information that has come to light since then and will also have many more illustrations than the original including photographs, documents and artefacts. The emphasis will continue to be on the Enfield area and its people during the conflict but it is hoped to include information on the experiences of some of those who served in the forces. This aspect of local involvement in the conflict is a story that has yet to be told.

As editor of this publication I am keen to hear from anyone who has any information not yet in the public domain. This can take the form of letters, diaries or a whole host of official forms ranging from a temporary exemption from military service to a report to the military police concerning an assault on a soldier. Photographs, including postcards, are a sometimes vital source of information especially if they relate to events like the Cuffley Zeppelin or other events or show people involved in some aspect of war work.

Apart from war and other service medals, munitions plant badges and various commemorative items, artefacts are scarce and the Museum is interested particularly in anything to do with the Great War in this area and those who worked locally or served overseas, especially larger objects like military and civilian uniforms or equipment. Apart from war memorials and buildings at places like the Royal Small Arms site, physical traces of the conflict are equally scarce. I would particularly like any information, if it exists, on air raid shelters, and the two local airfields in the Lea Valley and at Oakwood, now both totally vanished under later development. We also have few records of the various guns set up as memorials after the end of the war and I am particularly intrigued by the field gun apparently set up outside the old Southgate School in Fox Lane.

If anyone has any information which they think would be of interest, however humble it may seem, would they please get in touch with me on 020 8363 4094?

Ian Jones



This group of men in military uniform, outside the Drill Hall of the 5th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, Old Park Avenue, includes cyclists, a motorcyclist and a military band. The National Army Museum thinks that it might be the Middlesex Volunteer Training Force, in the period 1914-1916.

Wanted: memories and historical artefacts of the New River in Enfield

- Do you have any memories of the New River in Enfield?
- Would you like to pass on your memories of the New River and help to create a lasting memorial for future generations?
- Do you have any historical objects relating to the New River or the production of clean water in Enfield?

As part of the celebrations for the 400th Anniversary of the completion of the New River in 2013, Enfield Local Studies Library & Archive is hoping to capture local memories for this historic event.

Enfield Museum Service will be holding an exhibition (from 24th April 2013) that covers the history of the New River and are interested in any objects or documents that you may be willing to lend us for the display.

If you do have any memories you would like to share or have any historical objects for loan, we would love to hear from you. For more details please contact:

Enfield Local Studies Library & Archive
Thomas Hardy House (1st Floor)
39 London Road
Enfield
EN2 6DS
E-mail: local.history@enfield.gov.uk
Telephone: 020 8379 2724

John Clark

Edmonton Group

The guided tour of All Saints Church and the visit to Lamb's Cottage were the highlights of the guided walk round the Church Street, Edmonton conservation area in August. The Group continues to monitor plans for the developments in Fore Street and the Meridian Project.

The open meeting in Edmonton will be held on Friday 22 February 2013 at the All Saints Church Hall, Church Street, Edmonton. Doors open 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. Dave Cockle will give an illustrated talk on the history of railways in the area.

Monica Smith

Diary dates

This list gives a selection of forthcoming events, not including our regular Jubilee Hall meetings listed on page 5. Contact details for the organisations responsible for these events are given in the notes at the end. Other events and updates may be found on our web site at <www.enfieldsociety.org.uk> and on the Enfield Council site at <www.enfield.gov.uk/events/>

Until 24 February 2013 *This sporting life – an exhibition showing Enfield’s sporting heritage.* Dugdale Centre, 39 London Road. 10 am to 5 pm, Monday to Saturday, 10 am to 1 pm, Sunday. Admission free.

Friday 16th November, 7.30 for 8pm, Jubilee Hall. *Vice Presidential Address*, by Jon Cotton [EAS]

Sunday 18th November, 3-5.30pm., Friends Meeting House, Church Hill. *Flute and piano concert*, on behalf of the Meeting House. Details from 07748 617398 or <www.winchmorehillquakers.org.uk/wpsite/?p=517>

Tuesday 20th November, 2.15 for 2.30 pm, Jubilee Hall. *From Crouch Hall to Gin Lane – the story of gin*, by Ruth Hazeldine [EHHS]

Sunday 25th November, 10 am - 3 pm, Whitewebbs Wood. *Enfield Conservation Volunteers task: a seasonal activity – thinning the holly in Whitewebbs Wood.* Meet in the lay-by in Whitewebbs Lane, west of the King and Tinker by North Lodge pink cottage. [ECV]

Sunday 25th November, 4 pm. *Christmas Parade of Light, in aid of local charities.* Starts from Civic Centre and ends at The George, The Town.

Sunday 25th November, 6.30 pm, Christ Church Southgate. *Mass in B minor by JS Bach.* See page 8 for details.

Saturday 8th December, 2 - 7 pm, The Green, N21. *St Nicholas Fair.*

Sunday 9th December, venue to be announced. *Enfield Conservation Volunteers. Social walk.* A leisurely walk, ending up at a pub with lunch and much merriment. [ECV]

Wednesday 19th December, 7.45 for 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall. *Seasonal meeting* [EHHS]

Tuesday 8th January 2013, 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall. *The South Sea Bubble*, by Professor Julian Hoppit (University College, London) (illustrated) [HA]

Tuesday 12th February, 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall. *The Monstrous Regiment of Women in Tudor and Stuart England*, by Professor Jackie Eales (Canterbury Christ Church University) (illustrated) [HA]

Wednesday 20th – Saturday 23rd February, 7.30pm (Sat Matinee 2.30pm), Wyllyotts Theatre, Potters Bar. *HMS Pinafore.* Southgate Opera presents Gilbert & Sullivan’s ever popular comic opera. Box Office: 01707 645005. <www.southgateopera.co.uk>

Saturday 2nd March, St Andrew’s Church. *Monumental Brass Society meeting.* See right-hand column.

Tuesday 12th March, 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall. *Christian-Jewish relations in medieval Latin Europe*, by Dr Bernard Gowers (Kings College, London) (illustrated) [HA]

Tuesday 9th April, 8.00 pm, Jubilee Hall *The Luddite disturbances of 1811-12*, by Dr Katrina Navickas (University of Hertfordshire) [HA]

Groundforce (GF) and Enfield Conservation Volunteers (ECV) do practical conservation work in Enfield’s parks and countryside, such as hedge laying, coppicing, bridge building and path construction. Groundforce meets on alternate Wednesdays and ECV on alternate Sundays. As the tasks are determined according to current needs, you need to contact them for details of their latest projects. Contacts are:
GF: Eileen Jessup (020) 8805 1974 or email <groundforce.enfield@gmail.com>.
ECV: Judy Mayo (07791473844), email <judy@ecv.org.uk> or Jenny Willmot, Outreach and Community Officer (020) 8449 2459, email <jenny.willmot@enfield.gov.uk>. They have websites at <sites.google.com/site/groundforce99/home> and <www.ecv.org.uk> but these may not be complete and should not be relied on.

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

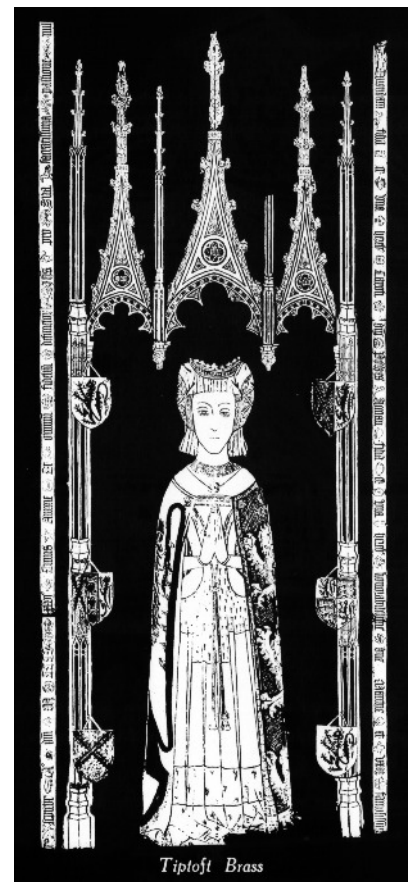
EHHS: Edmonton Hundred Historical Society <www.edmontonhundred.org.uk>. Talks are free to members – there is a charge of £1 per head for visitors.

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

Monumental Brass Society: meeting at St Andrews

The MBS are holding an open meeting at St Andrews Church on Saturday 2nd March 2013. This meeting is free and open to all. The programme will include talks on the Enfield antiquarian Richard Gough, the church itself and of course the beautiful Tiptoft brass. To register for what should be a most interesting event and receive the full programme, please contact Janet McQueen via Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield EN2 0AJ sending a SAE and including your telephone number.

Janet McQueen



The fifteenth century brass memorial in St Andrew’s Church to Jocosa (Joyce), wife of Sir John Tiptoft, who died on 22nd September 1446. (Image from Whitaker’s *History of Enfield*, 1911.)

New members

We warmly welcome the following new members:

Mr J.R Allen, Mr & Mrs K & S Aylott, Mr & Mrs C. Barker, Mr & Mrs R & W Behling, Ms M Cornish, Mrs G Crimmin, Mrs C Davis, Mr S Evangelou, Ms A Evans, Mrs P Foley, Mr & Mrs A Frangiamore, Miss M Gadd, Ms D Hampton,

Mr L L Harris, Ms Y Jeremiah, Mr & Mrs Jewell, Ms B Jones, Mrs B J Knight, Mrs S Lamonte, Ms J Lancaster, Mrs C Le Marinel, Mr N Mawson, Mr & Mrs B & C Morgan, Mr T J Nash, Mr G O’Reilly, Mrs J Payne, Mr J Robinson, Ms D Scarlett, Mr K Shiels, Mr L. Shippey, Mrs W.A. Smith, Mr P Taylor, Mr W.R Wilson.

Joyce James

Enfield Society events

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

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

27th November. *All round Spitsbergen and on towards the North Pole* by Ann Fereday.

11th December. *Test your knowledge.*

29th January 2013. *Laos along the Mekong* by Anne Johnson

26th February. *Herbal remedies*, by Monica Grande.

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

Thursday 17th January 2013. *Temples, palaces and folk villages of Korea.* An illustrated talk by Stephen Gilbert.

Friday 8th February. *The archaeology of the royal palaces of Enfield.* An illustrated talk by Ian Jones.

Thursday 18th April. *Holland Park.* An illustrated talk by Stuart Harvey. (Joint meeting with Edmonton Hundred Historical Society.)

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

Other Enfield Society events

Friday 22 February, 7.30 for 8 p.m. at the All Saints Church Hall, Church Street, Edmonton. *Enfield's railway history, part 1: The Lea Valley, Southbury and Enfield Town lines.* An illustrated talk by Dave Cockle. (Joint meeting with Edmonton Hundred Historical Society.)

Sales table

A revised version of our leaflet *Heritage walks no. 2 : Enfield Town* will be available shortly. It can be purchased, together with the Society's cards, books and maps at Jubilee Hall meetings, by post or at a *special opening of the Sales Table at Jubilee Hall on Saturday 1 December from 10 a.m to 1 p.m.* Drop in to see our range of books and buy your Christmas cards or presents.

If you would like items sent by post you can order and pay for them by credit or debit card on our website; we can accept only cash or cheques at Jubilee Hall.

Monica Smith

The President's column



'Just when we thought it was safe to go back into the water' – our sigh of relief that the final version of the Government's National Planning Policy Framework was much better than the original draft and could form a basis for a workable Town and Country Planning system was premature. Not content with a root and branch reform of planning, the Government, and Environment Secretary Eric Pickles in particular, has bombarded us since the framework was adopted with off-the-cuff announcements, seemingly designed to undermine the whole process.

In August we had a proposal, slipped in whilst attention was on the Olympics, to greatly weaken decision making on applications to alter listed buildings. If councils failed to decide within 28 days consent would be deemed to have been given. These would often be complex applications for treasured buildings, needing detailed scrutiny and consultation. Then, following the Government reshuffle, we saw a new Planning Minister state on Newsnight that his department would suggest to local councils ways they could get round Green Belt legislation. In September, despite Government emphasis on local decision making, Pickles was warning local councils that, if they made poor decisions or took too long to approve housing applications, decision taking would be removed from them in favour of a central body. This would force councils living in an 'economic la la land' to allow more house building in their area. In these straitened times it was unreasonable to expect developers to provide affordable homes, transport links or shopping. These too onerous conditions were holding back 75,000 new homes.

Then there was the sudden doubling in the size of permitted rear house extensions, in the curious belief that this will kick start the economy, rather than set neighbour against neighbour. What are we to do? Fortunately local councils, including Enfield, are refusing to be browbeaten and are finding ways to get around these new threats. We need to give them all our support and to campaign vigorously against the new planning bill when it arrives.

We are finding our new membership of Civic Voice a great help in alerting us to these threats and to understand and respond to them.

Threats do not just come from Whitehall, however. As our front page story shows, Enfield Council's Leisure Services have come up with the notion that Chase Green should be made available every day of the week from 7am to 11pm for all kinds of disruptive entertainments, astonishing when there is the Town Park nearby tailor-made for such events. Obviously those responsible are not aware of the role the public outcry over threats to the Green played in setting up the Enfield Preservation Society in 1936.

The Management Committee welcomes Moira Wilkie as a new member. She is an enthusiastic and knowledgeable member of the Architecture and Planning Group.

On behalf of the Committee we would like to send our best wishes to Graham Dalling, who is currently unwell and unable to attend our meetings.

Chris Jephcott

Proposed increase to membership fee

Having debated the issue several times the Management Committee reluctantly feels obliged to put the proposal that the yearly membership fee for the Enfield Society be increased to £5 per person to the next AGM. This is the first rise for over 15 years. We have succeeded in keeping our subscription level so low because of the many generous donations we are given by you, our members. However with the cost of stamps rising to 50p, the cost of producing and sending four newsletters a year is more than the subscription and has forced us to consider this increase. If you do not agree with the proposal then feel free to attend the AGM and have your say, but we hope that you still feel £5 is good value for money and that you all continue to support the Society. If approved the increased fee would start from January 2014.

Janet McQueen

Newsletter contributions

Contributions to the newsletter from members are most welcome, and may be in the form of letters, articles, news items, responses to previous articles, opinion pieces or photographs. Anonymous items are not published, and contributors' views may differ from those of the Management Committee of The Enfield Society. We cannot undertake to publish everything, and we reserve the right to shorten or edit items before publication. Copy in electronic form is most convenient, and can be sent as an email attachment to <newsletter@enfieldsociety.org.uk>, but items on paper can also be accepted. Contact the Newsletter Editor, Leonard Will, at the above email address or by telephone at (020) 8372 0092 if you have any questions about making a contribution. The copy date for the next issue is 18th January 2013, but items can be sent at any time and having them in advance is most helpful. The newsletter is distributed about three weeks after the copy date.

Leonard Will

Historic buildings

Trent Park



*1. Following the enclosure of the royal hunting ground of Enfield Chase in 1777, Sir Richard Jebb, a royal doctor, acquired the lease of Trent Park from the Duchy of Lancaster and commissioned Sir William Chambers to alter a small villa at Noddingswell Hill. Between 1783 and 1787 the grounds were landscaped and a lake created.

This 1815 view of the north front shows the house when it was owned by John Cummings, who added two wings, with basements and attics, to the stuccoed building.



*2. The banker David Bevan bought the lease in 1833 and passed the estate to his son, Robert Cooper Lee Bevan in 1837. This view of the north front appeared in Hodson and Ford's *History of Enfield* in 1873.



3. R. C. L. Bevan built cottages on the estate and this stable block.



*4. In 1893 Francis Bevan inherited the estate and remodelled the house and gardens. This view of the south front shows its 1890s mauve brick facade.



5. In 1908 the estate was acquired by Sir Edward Sassoon and in 1912 it was inherited by Sir Philip Sassoon who, like his father, became MP for Hythe. Between 1926 and 1931 the house was refaced by Philip Tilden in Georgian style with red bricks from William Kent's 1734 Devonshire House.

Historic buildings



6. The interior was transformed into a Palladian country house with Chinese style wall coverings in the saloon.



7. A detail of the wall coverings, showing birds in a Chinese landscape.



8. The interior was decorated by Rex Whistler. This 1931 overmantel panel in the Blue Room has various symbols of war.



9. Sir Philip Sassoon was famous for lavish house parties. Among his guests were Wallis Simpson, the Prince of Wales and Lawrence of Arabia, "seen" here with Rex Whistler, admiring his painted decorations in the library. Other guests included Charlie Chaplin, George Bernard Shaw and Winston Churchill.



10. Sir Philip Sassoon acquired a variety of lead and stone sculptures from Wrest Park and Stowe, including this early 18th century figure group representing Time, Opportunity and Penitence.



11. This early 18th century column topped with a pineapple, commemorating Emma Crewe, Duchess of Kent, was obtained from Wrest Park in 1934 for the visit of a later Duke and Duchess of Kent to Trent Park.



12. Sir Philip Sassoon died in 1939 and during the war the house was an interrogation centre for high-ranking German prisoners of war. The cellars served as air raid shelters and one now houses wartime artifacts.

In 1947 a teacher training college was established which became part of Middlesex Polytechnic in 1974 and Middlesex University in 1992. The Trent Park campus closed in 2012 and the future use of the Grade II listed house and other buildings is yet to be decided.

In 1973 the Trent Park estate was made a conservation area and a 413 acre country park was opened to the public. Attractions now include walking and bike trails, a golf course, an animal sanctuary and an outdoor activity centre – "Go Ape". Every spring a magnificent display of daffodils, originally planted by Sir Philip Sassoon, may be seen in front of the house.

Trent Park may be reached by Underground to Oakwood or Cockfosters. Buses 121, 307 and 377 pass the Oakwood entrance and bus 298 passes the Cockfosters entrance.

Images marked * were provided by Enfield Local Studies Centre and Archive.

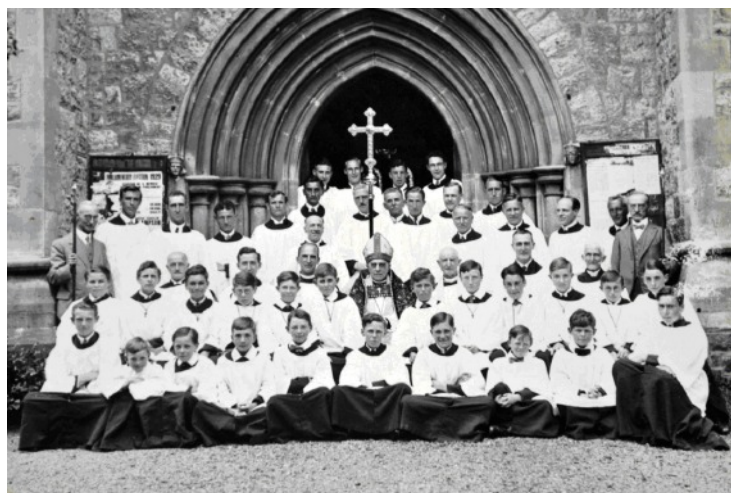
Stephen Gilbert

Historic buildings and monuments

Spot the singer! Southgate choir needs your help to mark 150th Anniversary

A Southgate choir is appealing for friends and family of former choristers to send in photographs and memorabilia for a special exhibition which will be on show during a concert marking the 150th Anniversary of Christ Church Southgate on Sunday 25th November 2012 at 6.30pm.

“The earliest photograph we have so far was found in the Local Studies Centre in Enfield and dates from May 1929. There are a few others which must be from the wartime, judging by the age of those in the choir. Our longest serving member joined in the early seventies and we are still in touch with friends who have hung up their surplices – so we’ve got a good idea about some of the photos.” explains Phillip Dawson, who sings tenor in the choir and is co-ordinating the exhibition.



“We’ve uploaded everything to our Facebook page and it would be great if friends and family could put names to faces and tell us the stories behind the photos – or send us new material that we can scan! We reckon each of us sings over

150 hours every year for services and rehearsals, not to mention the practice we do at home. Over 150 years that’s a lot of singing in Southgate! There must be dozens of untold stories!”

Rehearsals are already underway for the Mass in B Minor, considered to be one of the greatest achievements of classical music, representing the culmination of a lifetime of work by J.S.Bach. The work will be performed as a concert and in full by the choir directed by Harvey Brink and accompanied by The Bach Sinfonia, led by acclaimed violinist and Southgate resident Liz Partridge. Tickets are on sale now and can be obtained by contacting the Parish Office on 020 8886 0384 or booking via the choir Facebook page www.facebook.com/southgatechoir

The concert is the culmination of events at

Christ Church marking its 150th year. The building, consecrated in July 1862 by the Bishop of London was designed by George (later Sir George) Gilbert Scott and boasts one of the finest collections of stained glass by artists of the Pre-Raphaelite movement in London, as well as

fine examples of work by the Clayton and Bell studio. The building, and the exhibition marking its 150th Anniversary, will be open for viewing shortly before the concert and during the interval.

Philip Dawson

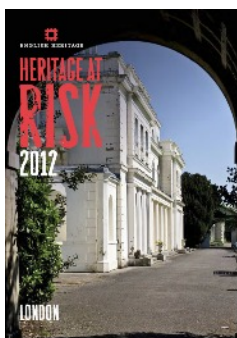
Buildings and monuments at risk

There appears to be an unprecedented number of local buildings at risk. We have had many members contact us about halls, pubs and community centres which they feel are likely to be sold or closed, such as Kettering Hall and the Fallow Buck. Besides these, several historically important structures are under increasing threat with their condition deteriorating – for example Salisbury House, featured in the last newsletter, the non-conformist chapel at Lavender Hill cemetery, Truro House and Charity Hall. The latter three were all featured in Tony Dey’s talk on buildings at risk at Jubilee Hall in October and, along with the house in Trent Park and All Saints Church, all are on English Heritage’s “at risk register”.

With the current state of public finances it is understandable that money is difficult to find to preserve these buildings but if nothing is done then we will suddenly find all our heritage has disappeared and once gone there is no bringing it back. I think most members agree that the community facilities and heritage of an area are two of the most important features in creating a strong and healthy community, so losing these buildings will matter to all of us.

With this in mind the Enfield Society is planning to set up a buildings at risk group to keep these under review, and liaise with the Council or other owners to try to prevent further deterioration as a minimum and to work towards improving their condition where possible. We are looking for any members who would like to become more active in this area to become part of this group – please contact me, Janet McQueen on 020 8367 7374 or via chairman@enfieldsociety.co.uk.

Janet McQueen



English Heritage has recently published its *Heritage at risk register 2012* which contains the following 16 entries for the London Borough of Enfield, indicating the condition of each.

- Statue of Hercules and Autaeus, Trent Park. *Very bad. E*
- Statue of Samson defeating a Philistine, Trent Park. *Very bad. E*
- Trent Park House terrace. *Very bad. C*
- Trent Park *Generally satisfactory but with significant localised problems*
- Broomfield House. *Very bad. C*
- Stable block in Broomfield Park. *Poor. C*
- Nonconformist Chapel, Lavender Hill Cemetery. *Poor. C*
- Charity School, Edmonton. *Fair. C*
- 24 Church Street, Edmonton (adjoining Charity School). *Poor. C*
- Truro House and stable block. *Poor. C*
- Enfield Electricity Works, Ladysmith Road. *Fair. C*
- Barn at Whitewebbs Farm. *Very bad. A*
- Grovelands Park. *Generally satisfactory but with significant localised problems.*
- All Saints Church, Church Street N9. *Very bad. B*
- Church Street, Edmonton conservation area. *Very bad.*
- Fore Street, Edmonton conservation area. *Very bad.*

Letters indicate priority, as follows: A: Immediate risk of further rapid deterioration or loss of fabric; no solution agreed. B: Immediate risk of further rapid deterioration or loss of fabric; solution agreed but not yet implemented. C: Slow decay; no solution agreed. E: Under repair or in fair to good repair, but no user identified. For details see www.english-heritage.org.uk/caring/heritage-at-risk/.

Streets and quality of life



An open invitation to speed?

Twice in the last decade Network Rail has caused an enormous rumpus in the west of the borough by removing the trees clothing its embankments in Bowes Park and Winchmore Hill. People mourned the loss of biodiversity and worried about carbon capture, but mostly they bitterly resented the damage to the view from their streets and windows. Consciously or subconsciously, the appearance of streets matters to quality of life.

Which begs important questions. What are the key functions of a street? Do we think enough about them and their influence on our lives? What priorities should we set for the future? Has this Society, so good at advocating the preservation of Enfield's special buildings and streetscapes, thought enough about the quality of residential streets, the most immediate framework to our lives?

Personally my street is very much part of home. How it looks, the spatial relationships, the proportions of the houses I see from my window, the warm colour of their red bricks, the sturdy London planes which line the pavements. But, like the residents along the railway line, I mourn the loss of cool green, though in my street the culprit has been the steady removal of trees and shrubs to make way for front garden parking.

But streets potentially have much more to offer than attractive ambience. They were spaces for neighbour to meet or greet neighbour, for social interaction, for children's play and independent activity like shopping or going to the park, all of which has been lost as streets became conduits for traffic rather than part of home and community.

This is a disgrace. The phrase: 'fouling your own nest' springs to mind. The loss

of greenery could often have been avoided if the council had organised echelon parking on the carriageway back in the 1970s. The loss of social space and children's independence could have been avoided by the wide adoption of 20 mph traffic speed limits – legislation placing default responsibility for pedestrian injury on drivers (common in other countries) would have helped with compliance.

But, given the application of a 20 mph speed limit to all residential areas and social spaces like shopping areas, it is not too late to start reversing the trend. In wide streets some parking could still be echelon or vertical, thereby reducing fast driving space. More shrub and tree planting would have a beneficial psychological side effect on speed, and carefully sited can shorten the long sight lines which invite it. Street furniture such as seating, even tables in some streets, would create a community ambience and convince drivers that this is not their fiefdom. Indeed, in wide, purely residential streets, these sorts of features could be placed on alternate sides of the carriageway causing traffic to weave slowly between them.

Such ideas are based on the long established Dutch concept of 'Woonerf' (called Home Zones in Britain), and Shared Space (where in its purest form pavements are removed so that people and traffic mingle). Furthermore there is active research going on at University College London which reflects these types of approach.

Change will have its difficulties and take time, but is essential for improved quality of life.

Streets are for living.

David Hughes

Peter Deering, JP, writes:

I refer to the Chairman's comment in the latest TES newsletter about the disappointing attendance at Forty Hall.

One reason could be the ridiculous installation of traffic 'bumps' in the roads approaching the Hall. It does deter motorists from driving in that area.

I have asked our Local Councillors to obtain figures of accidents involving children on these roads in the past twenty years, but to date I have received no reply.

I suggest that the Society should campaign for their removal. The lovely rural character of Forty Hill and Bulls Cross is being persistently destroyed by bumps, signs, traffic lights and yellow lines to 'protect' children. The parents' cars conveying children to school and parking along the road create a far greater danger to all road users.

Richard Stones, TES Hon. Secretary, has replied:

The Enfield Society has made clear our objections to these road bumps on various occasions, and will do so again. The Council officers take a very extensive view of the area round each school in which they should be installed. They justify the installation by reference to national experience in reducing accidents rather than to local accident statistics.

Leonard Will comments:

The position of many humps does not take account of the presence of parked cars, so that they often cannot be "straddled". My garage tells me that they are the probable cause of looseness in the suspension of my car, though I always crawl over the bumps at less than 10 miles per hour. I am happy to keep my speed down, and David Hughes has suggested some more acceptable alternatives to these damaging "speed cushions".

Future walks

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

Reduced price train travel: Groupsave Off-Peak Day Return tickets allow 3 or 4 adults to travel together for the price of 2 adults on First Capital Connect, Greater Anglia, Southeastern, Chiltern, Southern, South West Trains or London Midland. You must travel as a group. Also available on Off-Peak Day Single tickets.

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

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

Sat 24 Nov. Wanstead Park and Epping Forest. Either travel with Toby and Margaret on **9.22am** train from Enfield Town or meet them at **9.40am** at the mainline rail ticket office at Seven Sisters Station for onward travel together to the start of the walk.

Today's walk of about 6 miles includes the parkland estate and lakes of Wanstead Park, the City of London Cemetery (both are listed heritage sites) plus commons and heaths, all forming the most southerly section of Epping Forest. Shorter options. All travel within Freedom Pass area. Bring lunch or food available. Details: 07703 470 156.

Leaders: Toby Simon and Margaret McAlpine

Wed 28 Nov. Roman London. Meet Moorgate Station for *prompt start at 10.30am* (9.50am train from Enfield Chase). Today's walk links several Roman sites and remains in the City of London. Coffee break. Full route of about 2.5 to 3.0 hours will end at a station in the City but many shorter options. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Sat 8 Dec. East India Company in Hertfordshire. Meet **10.20am** St Margaret's Station (9.44am train from Southbury Station, changing at Cheshunt for 10.09am train, or direct train at 9.55am from Tottenham Hale – also stops at Ponders End, Brimsdown and Enfield Lock).

A circular walk of about 7.5 miles via Haileybury College (originally founded in 1821 as a training college by the EIC), woodland and nature reserves. Lunch stop in Hertford Heath. Bring lunch or pub food available. Shorter option from lunch stop that uses buses to either Hertford or Hoddesdon.

Leader: Brian Frear

Mon 17 Dec. Shakespeare in London. Meet **10.21am** Shoreditch High Street Station (10.10am London Overground train from Highbury and Islington but frequent service about every 7 to 8 mins). 2.5 to 3 hour linear walk with a Shakespeare theme that will cross the City, ending at a convenient station for return to Enfield. Many shorter options. Details: (020) 8360 0282. *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Sat 29 Dec. Christmas Lights, Mayfair and St James. Meet **1.30pm** outside Leicester Square Station (Piccadilly and Northern Lines) by the exit for Wyndham's Theatre. 2.5 to 3 hour linear walk in the West End with the opportunity to see some of the Christmas displays, ending at a convenient station for return. *Leader: Monica Smith*

Sat 5 Jan. Ancient woods, disused railway and historic Highgate. Meet **10.11am** Alexandra Palace Station (10.00am train from Enfield Chase) for about 7.5 mile linear walk via the Palace grounds, remains of the Forest of Middlesex, Highgate Village, parks and the Parkland Walk, ending at Finsbury Park Station. Many shorter options, including from the lunch stop in Highgate Village after about 3.75 miles. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Sat 12 Jan. Waterlink Way (part 2). Meet **10.45am** East Croydon Station (by the exit gates at the top of the ramp to Platform 5). Either travel with Dave on the 9.30am train from Enfield Chase Station or join him on the 10.09am Brighton train from King's Cross St Pancras mainline station, arriving 10.41am at East Croydon. Also, fast trains every few minutes to East Croydon from both Victoria Station (last connecting one at 10.23am) and London Bridge Station (last at 10.27am).

Today's 5.5 to 6 mile linear walk follows a varied route via a series of open spaces and five parks, including Addiscombe Railway Park and South Norwood Country Park. Lunch stop at Beckenham Place Park golf club (food

available or bring lunch). Full route ends at Ravensbourne Station but many shorter options. All travel within Freedom Pass area. Details: (020) 8366 2242 or 07948 204 025. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Wed 16 Jan. Enfield's countryside. Meet **10.15am** outside parade of shops next to Jolly Farmers P.H., Enfield Road (served by 121, 307 and 377 buses). The route of this 3 hour linear walk will depend upon weather conditions but will include the Merryhills Way and Trent Park. If suitable, the route will use field paths and end on The Ridgeway for return by 313 bus but, otherwise, it will remain within Trent Park. *Leader: Brian Frear*

Sat 26 Jan. From Roman times. Meet **10.30am** Tower Hill Station (Circle and District Lines) for a linear walk ending at Canary Wharf, highlighting some of the many changes that have occurred over the past 2000 years and, especially, since the 1700s. Shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. Details: (020) 8360 0282. *Leader: Roy Nicholls*

Wed 30 Jan. Two streams and a river stroll. Meet **10.15am** Library Green, Church Street, Enfield Town, for a very local walk with a difference. The full route of about 3 miles will connect several "hidden" and/or lesser known open spaces, paths and quiet side roads within a short distance of Enfield Town. Walk ends at Enfield Chase Station but many shorter options. *Leader: Dave Cockle*

Sat 9 Feb. Epping Forest and Roding Valley. Meet **10.30am** at 121 bus terminus in Enfield Island Village (also served by 491 bus). *Note: at TES news copy date the timetable shows 32 mins journey time for 121 from Enfield Town (departs at 9.44am and 9.53am) and about 29 mins for 491 from Edmonton Green (departs at 9.41am and 9.56am).*

An attractive linear walk of 8 to 8.25 miles that can be treated as two separate walks. The morning section of about 3.25 miles ends at the lunch stop at the Royal Forest Hotel/Butlers Retreat which are about 10 mins walk from Chingford bus/rail stations.

If joining for only the afternoon walk, be at the lunch stop no later than 1.30pm to 1.45pm. The full route for the afternoon section ends after 4.8 miles at Debden Station (Central Line) but shorter options of ending after 1.25 miles and 2.7 miles.

Return from Debden can be via the Tube or bus 397 direct to Chingford or

Future walks

(continued)

buses 250 and 255 direct to Waltham Cross bus station. All travel covered by Freedom Pass. *Leader: Martin Langer*

Wed 13 Feb. Snowdrops – Forty Hall and Myddelton House.

Meet **10.15am** outside the front door to Forty Hall mansion for a 3 hour circular walk which we hope will coincide with the snowdrop displays in Myddelton House Gardens and near Forty Hall lakes. The route will initially visit Myddelton House Gardens for coffee and the opportunity to walk through the gardens, before continuing via footpaths on the Forty Hall Estate. *Leader: Norman Coles*

Sat 23 Feb. Woodhall Park and Estate.

Meet **10.15am** Watton-at-Stone Station (9.49am train from Enfield Chase) for a contrasting figure of eight walk which we hope will coincide with the snowdrop display in the estate grounds and woodland. Both morning and afternoon sections are about 3.5 to 4 miles each. Walk can be left or joined at the lunch stop in Watton (if joining, meet group in village centre by 1.30pm). Bring lunch or food available. *Leader: Stuart Mills*

Stuart Mills

Walks and footpaths

South of the River



A happy group of TES walkers by the Thames at Greenwich

This photograph, taken by John Bourne, shows a happy group of TES members at the end of their seven and a half mile stroll from New Beckenham to Greenwich along the Waterlink Way.

A further opportunity to explore more of the Waterlink Way will be on 12th January when Dave Cockle will lead a five and a half mile walk from East Croydon to Ravensbourne via South Norwood Country Park.

Greenway in Hilly Fields Park

Although I am an avid cyclist and a frequent user of both Hilly Fields and Whitewebbs Park, I initially opposed the above scheme, which is part of the LB Enfield Local Implementation Plan (LIP). Although in the August 2012 Scheme Update I am relieved to see that LB Enfield will now use a gravel/hoggin surface instead of tarmac for the paths, I still have a number of concerns with the scheme and I would like to raise these.

The summary of the 84 responses received to the consultation shows that nearly 90% of the respondents were against the scheme. However, LB Enfield have overruled the 90% and will still implement it. As we live in a democratic country, surely where there is such a bias against a scheme then the majority vote should stand?

Furthermore, over half of the results (44 votes) were in favour of an alternative route via Flash Lane, yet this has been dismissed due to the concerns of cyclists crossing Clay Hill. As a frequent user of this junction, as are so many cyclists and pedestrians, to access Flash Lane and

Whitewebbs Park, I would argue that it would be far more beneficial to use the £230,000 allocated to this scheme to create a formal crossing point at the junction. Whilst I appreciate that a formal crossing would not be possible due to sight lines at the bottom of Flash Lane, I have no doubt that a crossing point near to St John's Church and School would not only make it safer for those accessing the two parks but would also benefit St John's School, the Church, The Fallow Buck public house and local residents on Strayfield Road, Clay Hill and Flash Lane.

Whilst I understand that no trees will be felled, and 'only' 0.19 hectares of green land will be lost, little concern has been given to how this will affect the 'natural look' of the park and how many habitats and animals may be disturbed and lost.

I would be grateful if LB Enfield could tell us the expected usage of the new greenway and the value of the expected benefits, as I doubt whether the use of the new paths will actually result in an acceptable cost-benefit ratio. I believe

that this £230,000 could be used at other locations throughout the borough to ensure the safety of cyclists on the public highway, where cycling facilities are minimal in comparison to other parts of London.

Danielle Shap

The Council's original summary of proposals, with photographs, and the plan for the Greenway in Hilly Fields, can be downloaded from their web site at <http://www.enfield.gov.uk/downloads/download/1637/enfield_greenways-hilly_fields_consultation_documents>

General information about Greenways in Enfield is at <<http://www.enfield.gov.uk/greenways>>

At its meeting on 8th March 2012 the Management Committee of The Enfield Society decided not to object to the Council's proposals, but agreed that we should encourage the Council to use a compacted gravel surface rather than tarmac. - Ed.

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Web site: <www.enfieldsociety.org.uk>

Helplines: For information on TES activities or to report matters you think need investigation or action, please phone the appropriate number below. Email addresses are given on the "Contacts" page on our web site.

Architecture and Planning
020 8363 7707 (John Davies)

Coach Outings
020 8367 7374 (Janet McQueen)

Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings,
Green Belt
020 8245 2758 (Chris Jephcott)

Edmonton Group
020 8367 5920 (Monica Smith)

Footpaths and Walks
020 8367 5168 (Shirley Cotton)

Historic Buildings Group
020 8363 0031 (Stephen Gilbert)

Jubilee Hall Bookings
020 8360 3873 (Pat Keeble)

Membership
020 8367 3171 (Joyce James)

Press and publicity
020 8363 5732 (Bob Fowler)

Records and Research
020 8372 0092 (Leonard Will)

Trees
020 8245 2758 (Chris Jephcott)

Management Committee
Dave Cockle, Graham Dalling, John Davies, Tony Dey, Robert Fowler, Stephen Gilbert, David James, Joyce James, Janet McQueen, Stuart Mills, Colin Pointer, Monica Smith, Richard Stones, Moira Wilkie, Leonard Will.

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The Enfield Society on social networking sites: Facebook and Twitter



Part of The Enfield Society's Facebook page

For some time, the Society's aging membership has been a concern and we've been looking for ways to engage with a different audience: younger people who may have great affection for this locality and an interest in local issues but due to the pressures of work or a young family, don't have the time or inclination to get actively involved.

At the beginning of October 2012, it was announced that Facebook is now being used by 1 billion people every month: that's one in every seven people in the world. Some of those reading this may already be amongst them but I realise that there will be many Society members who at best are only vaguely aware of what "social networking" is all about, and certainly not signed-up members of Facebook or the other system, Twitter.

In essence, both websites and the whole social networking concept are just a way of connecting people with common interests all around the world and sharing information between them. I've been using Facebook on a personal basis for some years now, sharing thoughts, photos and interesting articles with family and friends, so was happy to help The Enfield Society set up its own Facebook page. At the same time, Society member Barbara Gare, a keen "Tweeter" (as Twitter-users are known!) has taken responsibility for setting up

our Twitter profile. We intend to post items of interest relating to the Society and the Enfield area on a regular basis: events, photos, thoughts and concerns – and hope to use it to connect with the wider world and to provoke debate and comment on Enfield-related issues.

Whereas on regular websites information can be viewed but remains unchanged unless the webmaster amends it, anything posted on Twitter or Facebook can be easily commented upon or shared with others ("re-tweeted" in Twitter-speak). The same could be said for our email discussion list too, but unlike this, the Facebook and Twitter pages are open for all to see and updated instantly, allowing conversations to unfold as fast as people can type. In addition,

each time someone interacts with us on Facebook or Twitter, their own network of personal contacts will be able to see what they have done and so we are hoping that this will widen awareness of The Enfield Society and what we do amongst people who may not otherwise have known of our existence.

The pages can be viewed at

<www.facebook.com/EnfieldSociety>
and <www.twitter.com/EnfieldSociety>

If you're registered on either site, please do find us and "Like" our Facebook page or "follow" us on Twitter. Or if you're new to the world of social networking but this article has piqued your curiosity, come and take a look. The more interest and comment we can provoke, the better the word will spread.

Emma Halstead



A Twitter page