



The newsletter of the Enfield Preservation Society

Focus on Chase Farm Hospital

Whilst an opinion on the proposed closure of the A & E and other services at the hospital is outside the remit of this society, we do have valid concerns about the future of the site



The former Nurses' Home, subsequently the Administration building, at Chase Farm

Now fenced off ready for the builders to take it down and put up town houses and apartments. What a pity the original, stylish building could not have been retained, converted like the pavilions at Highlands, if it is now surplus to requirements. Unfortunately, when English Heritage looked at the hospital, it concluded that, like all the older buildings on the site, it was not worth preserving.

There is also the sustainability issue. English Heritage is concerned now that when old buildings are needlessly demolished, the "embedded energy" that went into the making of the bricks etc. is lost, contributing to global warming (though of course that wasn't much help in this case).



The staff accommodation at Chase Farm

The trees along the boundary were donated by the EPS in the 1960s at the time this phase of the development was completed.

Recently permission to redevelop this southern part of the site as 284 residential units, with 120 being affordable, was refused by Enfield Council as premature, in view of the uncertainty over the future of the whole hospital site and the absence of a current strategy. We had objected because the percentage of units reserved for key workers was less than the requirements under the London Plan and also because of the lack of an overall concept for the future layout and use of the Chase Farm site. The strategy approved after much public consultation in 1999, which

incidentally retained the former nurses' home, appears to have been completely abandoned.

There were no takers when I asked for pictures of Enfield's ugliest building a year ago. Perhaps this photo, my candidate for Enfield's scruffiest building, will prompt others to send in their own suggestions. Ironically, this picture is of the office of the Domestic Services Manager at Chase Farm. It must be depressing to be responsible for keeping the wards and clinics clean and having to work from such run down accommodation.



The massive oak tree beside the main gate has gone. In poor condition, with fungus at the base, it had to be felled before it toppled over. Just as well, in view of the recent gales.

Chris Jephcott

Tottenham Hotspur Football Club

Spurs have appealed against the rejection by Enfield's Planning Committee of their application to build a football academy and training complex with a floor area of 11,806 m² on Metropolitan Green Belt land at Bulls Cross.

A Public Inquiry will be held, probably in September, at the Civic Centre. Michael Rye, the Leader of the Council, has reconfirmed that the decision of the

Committee will be robustly defended by the Council.

The Society strongly opposed Spurs' proposal from the outset and believes that it is essential to safeguard this vulnerable area of our Green Belt. We are therefore committed to assisting the Council in defending its decision and also we are prepared to take a full part in the Inquiry. Legal advice is being given to us by a major London firm of

solicitors and we are considering how best to present our case. The anticipated costs of our proposed action will be very substantial but we have more than adequate financial reserves to meet those costs. The main reason for accumulating such reserves is to be able to call upon sufficient resources when faced with a major issue such as this.

Colin Pointer

Town park entrance, Cecil Road

At a recent meeting with Cllr. Mike Rye, Leader of Enfield Council, representatives of the EPS were surprised and dismayed to learn that it has all along been the intention to put residential development back on the site of the temporary car park in Cecil Road. Part of the site is earmarked for the rebuilt Evangelical Free Church and part for a new formal entrance to the Town Park. We were surprised, because the value of the open vista through into the park has been generally recognised, but the Council cannot forgo the value as building land. We did suggest that any development could be in the form of low terraces at right angles to the road, with a greensward in between, so as to preserve at least some of the view.

The EPS years ago offered trees for planting to enhance the new entrance.

Open space lost at Oakwood

Following an appeal by the Foyle Foundation the Planning Inspectorate has now given outline approval for residential development on land at Gwalior House on the corner of Chase Road and Avenue Road, N14. Objections of residents in the flats and ourselves over the loss of amenity open space and threats to a belt of preserved trees were not upheld.

Arnold House, The Ridgeway

Having sold off the front part of their site at 66 The Ridgeway for housing, the Leonard Cheshire Foundation applied to rebuild Arnold House to the rear of the site, which is Green Belt land. Enfield Council refused planning permission. The Foundation appealed, but we were recently informed by the Planning Inspectorate that they had withdrawn that appeal. They have now submitted a new planning application for a 20-bed care home in the garden of Arnold House. The home would be built of brick and render, with an artificial slate roof.

Action Plans

Following the Enfield Town Area Action Plan other similar Action Plans are proposed. The Society has now submitted comments on the

sustainability appraisal scoping reports for North Circular Road and North East Enfield and the Central Leaside Area Action Plan scoping report is now awaiting our attention. All this is part of the new complex procedure for producing Local Development Documents outlined in the last EPS News.

Listing refused

English Heritage unfortunately did not consider the 26th Middlesex Rifle and Pistol Club premises at the bottom of Slades Hill of sufficient historical or architectural interest in a national context to merit listing.

Truro House plans “like a Victorian workhouse”

The Conservation Advisory Group objected to the latest proposals for residential development to facilitate the restoration of Truro House, 176 Green

Lanes. Members aptly likened the new proposals to a Victorian workhouse. It is depressing to note that each successive proposal for enabling development at this site has been architecturally inferior to the preceding one.

Chris Jephcott

Planning applications

Three applications which were strongly opposed by the EPS Architecture and Planning Group have been refused by the Council officers.

- 1) Former Aquatic Centre in Crews Hill: change of use to sale of landscaping and gardening materials.
- 2) Backland development at 16 Bycullah Avenue for two semi-detached houses.
- 3) Erection of 14 flats in two buildings at 8 The Ridgeway.

John Davies

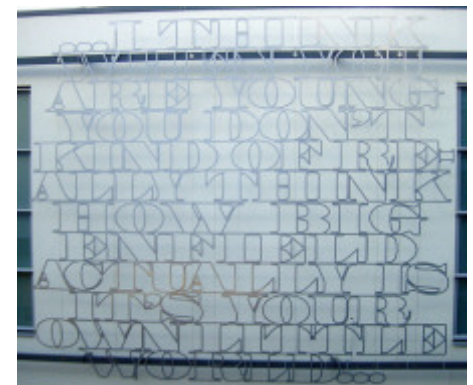
Can you tell what it is yet?

A feature of the Palace Exchange development is a metal frieze made up of large capital letters. It is very difficult to read, but presumably the intention is that it should be decorative rather than informative. The letters do make words, however, and we have managed to decipher at least some of them. The panel shown on the right reads:

“...I think when you are young you don't kind of really think how big Enfield actually is. It's your own little world...”

Another panel has names and dates associated with the history of Enfield:
“ENEFELDE DOMESDAY 1086.
SAINT ANDREWS CHURCH.
ENFIELD CHASE. ENFIELD
MARKET 1303. ELSYNGE HALL
GRAMMAR SCHOOL 1558.”

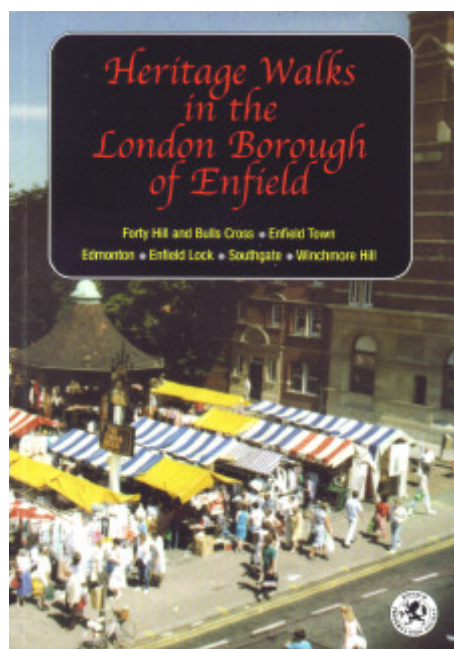
It's a pity that there is no plaque acknowledging the artist or designer of this frieze, explaining the source of the quotations (local school children,



perhaps?) and providing a transcription for those of us who strain our necks trying to read it.

Leonard Will

New Publication

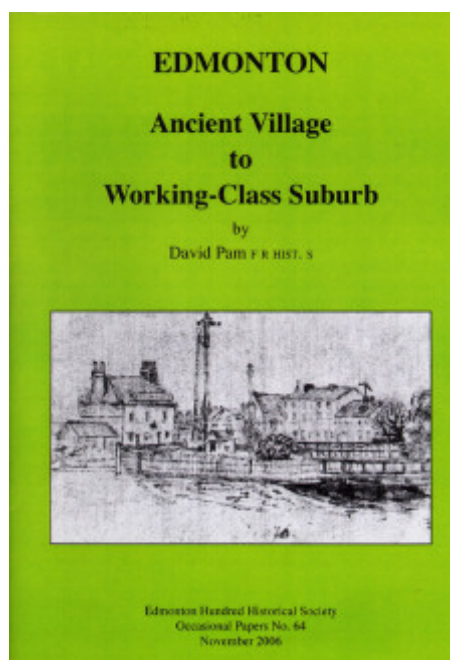


“Heritage Walks in the London Borough of Enfield” has just been published by EPS in cooperation with Southgate District Civic Trust. It describes six walks through some of the most historic and interesting parts of the borough. There are revised versions of the old Enfield Town and Forty Hall and Bulls Cross leaflets, new walks in Edmonton and Enfield Lock and Southgate and Winchmore Hill ones, contributed by SDCT. Sketch maps of each walk are included and there are thirty black and white illustrations by local artists. Copies (£6.50) are available from the Sales Table at Jubilee Hall meetings and from Waterstone’s Bookshop, Enfield Town. If you would like to order a copy from EPS by post please add £1 for postage and packing and send your name and address with cheque, made payable to EPS, to Publications, EPS, Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, EN2 0AJ.

Monica Smith

Heritage walks in the London Borough of Enfield, exploring six areas of historic and architectural interest / edited by Monica Smith and Enfield Preservation Society ; designed and produced by Mike Hazeldine. – Enfield : Enfield Preservation Society, 2007. – 64p. ; 21cm. – ISBN 0-9073181-9-3 : £6.50

Book review



The latest publication by David Pam, *Edmonton: ancient village to working-class suburb*, shows how well-deserved was his recent election to Fellowship of the Royal Historical Society. This illustrated booklet does not claim to be a history of Edmonton, but is a series of stories illustrative of that history. It originated as a Saxon settlement and remained an agricultural village until the 19th century. Dramatic changes arose with the advent of the railway in 1849 from Water Lane (Angel Road) to Enfield Town and eventually a direct line into the City enabled workers from the crowded East End to seek new homes in what was then the country. A vast influx of working-class families moved into Edmonton with a desire for housing as near as possible to stations at Silver Street and Lower Edmonton (Edmonton Green).

Before this, however, David Pam chronicles the history of a 12th century church, All Saints, which was for many years the only church in the Parish. All Saints retained its medieval appearance until 1772 when the exterior was encased in yellow brick, and the gothic fenestration of the windows was replaced by wooden struts. By chance the two churchwardens responsible for this alteration were a master bricklayer and a master carpenter! The Bishop of London tried to restrain this dubious action but managed to save only the

windows in the chancel. A school in Edmonton existed long before 1642, which is the date claimed for the foundation of the Latymer School although that name did not arise until the 19th century. In 1781 the Edmonton Vestry met to discuss two important matters; extending the workhouse and the appointment of a schoolmaster. The terrible history of how the parish poor were treated in Edmonton, as in the rest of England, is a salutary lesson for critics of our present social services – with all its faults. The chapter on the Union Workhouse and the North Middlesex hospital shows the local Board of Guardians as a most reactionary body – being elected by ratepayers – whose purpose was basically to protect ratepayers’ interests. Outdoor relief was grudgingly paid at 1/6d a week – not enough to provide food, let alone rent and clothing.

The author was brought up on a council estate in Edmonton and attended All Saints school. Many years later he visited his childhood haunts and described how terraced houses that had provided decent people with homes for generations had been needlessly pulled down and four great soulless tombstones erected, twenty-three stories high. Fortunately they have been demolished and the area is better for their loss. This well-researched publication can be obtained from Waterstone’s in Enfield Town or from the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society, 18 Huxley Place, Palmers Green N13 5SU.

Peter Perryman

Edmonton : ancient village to working-class suburb / by David Pam. – London : Edmonton Hundred Historical Society, 2006. – 40p. ; 24cm. – (Occasional papers ; no. 64). – ISBN 0-902922-64-5 : £4.50.

David Pam Honoured

Fellowship of the prestigious Royal Historical Society has been conferred on David Pam, a Vice-President of EPS, for his extensive research and writing on the history of the Enfield area. His latest work *Edmonton: ancient village to working class suburb* is on sale at Jubilee Hall or by post from EPS, price £4.50. His three volume *History of Enfield* remains in print and is available from EPS or Waterstone’s Bookshop, although there are not many copies left of Volume 1.

Monica Smith

Change of name for EPS

We have received a number of comments about the proposed change of name from Enfield Preservation Society to Enfield Civic Society – some strongly in favour and some against. A repeated suggestion for renaming has been The Enfield Society, and this would certainly have been the first choice of the Management Committee, but this is the title of Enfield's branch of Mencap, as published in the local telephone directory and elsewhere. We have been affiliated to the Civic Trust for many years, along with 850 other similar organizations, although our own objects are wider than the majority of these, especially our stated determination to protect the Green Belt. Every other conceivable title was considered but we decided that "civic" was the most appropriate adjective to use. As reported in the last Newsletter we are convinced that a change of name is necessary both to help us to maintain the influence and strength of the Society and also to meet the present and future challenges it will face within the Borough of Enfield. But members will have the final say at the time of the AGM.

The draft revision of the Memorandum of Association is with the Charity Commission for comment. Apart from updating the language of our aims and objects we have incorporated in full all the additional powers and obligations as set out in the Commission's Model Memorandum for Charitable Companies.

We hope to have approval for the revised Memorandum in time to be able to ask members' agreement to it and to the name change at an extraordinary general meeting to be held on the same evening as the AGM in June this year.

Colin Pointer



The "cut-through to the shops"

Letters to the editor

Change of name for the Enfield Preservation Society

Dear Sir,

I refer to the proposed change of name of the Enfield Preservation Society to the Enfield Civic Society.

The present name clearly states our aims. The proposed new name conveys little. Civic is not a name that has meaning to most of us. Is it something to do with the civic centre or the borough? My dictionary defines civic as "relating to a city or citizen, civic centre, the science of citizenship, the study of government and business."

From time to time I talk to people about the Enfield Preservation Society. I do not find that I need to explain its purpose as it is self explanatory.

I am not against a change of name, as long as it is meaningful. The membership, it is pointed out, is declining slowly. The inference is that this is due to the name. Really? The Conservative Party have not changed their name for fear the voters will think they are only concerned with the past.

Will the committee please reconsider and consult the members?

Brian J. Pask

New Enfield "disappointing"

Dear Sir

Although I am not an Enfield resident I have been, for many years, very interested in visiting the area from time to time. The lovely run there, the shopping area, the town park and its outskirts, give the feeling of its smallness; the little, but so interesting, market has a pleasant and friendly atmosphere. Having heard of new Enfield, I felt I must see it for myself.

What a let down I found it when, on the verge of this new Enfield, I first saw a building that was to be the new car park – this took the lovely old feeling of Cecil Road right away from me.

As I walked up almost to the end of London Road, I asked someone what the white, very tall building was, and they said "it's the cut through to the shops". I did not find enjoyment in looking at this either!

I came away with the feeling "Why change a place for change itself", and felt quite disappointed.

E. Burrell



The new car park

Dear Editor,

I can't say that I agree with the 'civic' replacement to 'preservation' as suggested in *EPS news* 164 by Colin and Chris. The word civic doesn't tend to get used much now (probably because of its association with 1900s big brother British Empire paternalism).

I agree that preservation isn't the ideal title any more, because the group doesn't only want to keep the good parts of this area, but also looks forward, and gets more residents involved in the ever evolving surroundings. In turn, these local changes impact on our quality of life and how we feel about living here.

Why not take the opportunity of a (more modern and relevant name) change to make it easier to recruit new members from across the whole of the area the group has now expanded to cover (i.e. the whole borough). I believe that changing the middle word of the group title to Borough, both covers the type of activity the society now carries out, but would also feel more inclusive to residents of Edmonton, Southgate, Palmers Green, Hadley Wood, Cockfosters and possibly Winchmore Hill and Ponders End as well.

Incidentally, if it were to be 'civic' wouldn't there be a clash with another group, Southgate Civic Trust?

Trevor Stone, Edmonton

Clutter of projecting signs in Church Street

Dear Editor,

Have you noticed the projecting signs spoiling the look of Church Street as you look eastward? If the shopkeepers all agreed to remove them, would they lose one customer?

Adrian J. Peeler

We want to hear from you

Contributions to this newsletter in the form of articles, photographs, letters to the editor and comments on current issues within the scope of the Society are most welcome, and should be sent to "newsletter@enfieldpressoc.org.uk" or by post to the editor, Leonard Will, 27 Calshot Way, Enfield EN2 7BQ.

We may not be able to publish everything, and the editor reserves the right to shorten or modify contributions. All items will be attributed to their authors – anonymous items will not be published.



Opponents of the Spurs' application for its "Academy" on Green Belt land at Bulls Cross won a battle. Now, as expected, Spurs has appealed and we have to make sure of final victory. The Society is prepared to devote significant resources to ensure that our strong case is presented in the best possible manner. THFC are employing leading professionals and we must make sure our case does not go by default. The Public Inquiry into the appeal is now expected to be held in September this year and may go on for two or three weeks.

Colin Pointer has paid tribute to the work of Beryl Dorrington for the EPS over eighteen years, but I feel I must also record our gratitude for her remarkable contribution, not only the different roles she has carried out so efficiently, but also the energy and commitment she put into them. And not only of local significance;

the successful outcome of the RAGE campaign in the early 1990s against the proposed amusement arcade in Enfield Town, in which she was the prime mover, had far reaching national effects. We wish her well in the future and a speedy recovery from the effects of her fall.

In my focus on Chase Farm Hospital I commented that rebuilding the former Nursing Sisters' Home, rather than converting it, was unsustainable. The Local Government Association has now brought out a useful report called 'Planning Policies for Sustainable Building'. Aimed at planners and developers, it provides a lot of information and guidance on the subject, which will also be of use to societies such as the EPS which scrutinise planning applications and policies. The report is a joint effort of various bodies, including the London Borough of Enfield, so we

look to see its influence locally.

The increasingly abnormal weather patterns we are experiencing underline the urgency of the threat of global warming and the relevance of this publication, which can be downloaded free on the LGA website or ordered from 020 7664 3131.

We now have two tree enthusiasts who could form the nucleus of a revised Trees Group. The response to our piece in our autumn News on the Council's intentions for roadside planting and trees showed that there is much interest in the subject. I will set up a meeting to see how a revised group could function if sufficient people who might like to take part come forward. They can phone me on 8360 5677.

Chris Jephcott

Diary dates

Until 3rd June

Come out to live, come in to play – an exhibition which tells the story of the relationship between London and its suburbs through London Underground posters from the 1920s and 30s; at the Museum of Domestic Design and Architecture, Cat Hill. Admission free. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sundays 2-5pm (closed Mondays and 6-10 April)

7th to 31st March

Jill's Botanicals – an exhibition of watercolours, at Forty Hall. Open Wednesdays to Sundays 11am to 4pm.

9th March to 29th April

Ordinary people, extraordinary lives – an Enfield Museum Service exhibition at Forty Hall celebrating the achievement of individuals from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, ages and abilities, who live or work in the London Borough of Enfield. Free admission. Open Wednesdays to Sundays, 11am to 4pm.

26th June

EPS Annual General Meeting

14th-15th September

Open House, London

Jubilee Hall meetings

Tuesday mornings 10 for 10.30 am

27th February

A day in the life of a tug on the Thames, by Mr. R. Thomas, with slides

27th March

1920, A walk in Paris, by Stuart Bale, with slides

24th April

The Donkey Sanctuary, by Maggie Taylor, with slides

29th May

Pilgrimage through The Holy Land, by Ian Cameron Black, with slides

Thursday evenings 7.30 for 8 pm

15th February

St. John's Wood to Little Venice, by Stuart Harvey, with slides.

15th March

Knebworth House and the Lytton Family, by Clare Sleck, with slides.

19th April

The Trinity Players and a drama documentary on *Florence Hardy, the second wife of Thomas Hardy and Enfield resident*. (Joint meeting with Edmonton Hundred Historical Society.)

17th May

Identifying Victorian photographs, by Tom Doig. Please bring along any old photographs that you think are interesting.

June

No meeting. (EPS AGM on 26th June)

19th July

Around Suffolk, by Frank Bayford, with slides.

New members

We warmly welcome the following new members:

Ms J.E. Atkins, Mr & Mrs T. Aujla, Mr & Mrs S. Blitz, Mr & Mrs R.A. Briggs, Mrs A. Cooper, Mr R. Ellacott, Mr & Mrs A.L. Fairclough, Mr S. Howard, Mr & Mrs J. Jessup, Mr & Mrs A. Jones, Mr A. Lancelott, Mrs E. Lewis, Mr S. Pinner, Mrs S. Pizzala, Miss K. Spicer

Future walks

Note: Train details are correct at press date but the EPS cannot accept responsibility for last minute changes. Please always check: for National Rail train enquiries and times ring 08457 48 49 50; for London area Tube, DLR 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.

Wed 21 February

Meet **11.00am** Ware Station (10.16am train from Southbury change at Cheshunt for 10.40am train) for 4 to 6 mile figure of eight walk exploring the New River, River Lea, Chadwell Springs and Amwell. Finish by about 3.30pm. Lunch stop in Ware. *Leader:* Norman Coles

Sat 24 February

Meet **11.00am** Richmond Station for a 6 mile circular stroll via heritage areas of old Richmond & Twickenham – one of London's most attractive nautical villages. Classic River Thames scenes. Shorter option of 4.25 miles. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader:* Christine Fookes

Mon 5 March

Meet **10.34am** Bayford Station (10.21am train from Enfield Chase) or **10.45am** at Brickendon Green for about 8 mile circular walk via nature reserves and Broxbourne and Bencroft Woods. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader:* Colin Adams

Wed 14 March

Meet **10.30am** Potters Bar Station (9.48am or 10.10am 313 bus from Cecil Road, Enfield Town) for about 2.5 hour linear walk via Northaw to Botany Bay for lunch break and/or return by 313. Following lunch optional afternoon walk of about 1.5 hours. *Leaders:* Carol Cope & Kinu Ohki

Sat 17 March

Meet **10.35am** in public car park at rear of The Bull, Wheathampstead Village. Public transport 366 bus from Welwyn Garden City bus station (adjacent to rail station) at 10.20am. About 9 mile circular walk through history via Brocket Hall Estate, Upper River Lea and Ayots. Shorter option. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader:* Stuart Mills

Mon 26 March

Meet **10.44am** Watton-at-Stone Station (10.21am train from Enfield Chase) for 6 to 7 mile circular walk via Aston Bury. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader:* Norman Coles

Sat 31 March

Meet **10.27am** Roydon Station (9.46am train from Southbury change for 10.18am train from Cheshunt) for figure of eight walk with lunch stop in Roydon. Bring lunch or food available. For only afternoon walk join party in Roydon by 2.00pm. *Leader:* Brian Frear

Wed 4 April

HMS Belfast. Meet **10.05am** by platform 1 Liverpool Street mainline station (9.28am train from Enfield Town) or **10.30am** Waterloo Station at exit by MacDonalds. Initially Brian explores lesser known places in the area before a coffee break at the Festival Hall. Then we go to HMS Belfast, the last big gun warship from the Second World War, to see how sailors lived, visit the gun turrets and from the bridge descend 9 decks to the massive engine rooms. Audio sets for visitors help to recreate the history and atmosphere. Café on board. Group cost for senior citizens £5.30. Details 8360 5593. *Leader:* Brian Pask

Mon 9 April

Meet **10.38am** Great Missenden Station (9.40am Metropolitan Line train from Baker Street or 9.57am Chiltern Railways train from Marylebone Station) for about 9 mile circular walk in classic Chiltern scenery. By car about 50 mins from Enfield via M25 (junction 18), A404 & A413. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader:* Stuart Mills

Sat 14 April

London visit – return visit to HMS Belfast. All details unchanged except meet **10.00am** by platform 1 Liverpool Street mainline station (9.23am train from Enfield) or **10.35am** Waterloo Station at exit by MacDonalds. *Leader:* Brian Pask

Wed 25 April

Meet **11.00am** Cutty Sark Station (DLR) for about 5 mile circular walk exploring parts of Greenwich and Blackheath you may not know. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader:* Monica Smith

Sat 28 April

Ouse Valley. Meet **11.18am** at clock tower in centre of Houghton Village (off A1123 linking St Ives to Huntingdon). By car from Enfield via A10, A1198, B1040 and A1096 to St Ives. By train meet Roy either on platform 5 Finsbury Park mainline station for 9.43am train to Huntingdon (changing at Stevenage) or at Huntingdon Station at 10.47am for bus to the start. Suggest access Finsbury Park by

tube as only hourly service from Enfield Chase (at 8.39am). About 9 mile circular walk via the pretty Hemingford villages. Shorter option. Bring lunch or food available. Details 8360 0282. *Leader:* Roy Nicholls

Mon 7 May

Meet **10.30am** Great Portland Street Station (Circle/Hammersmith & City/Met lines) for about 9 mile linear walk through the grandeur of central London's parks and waterways in Springtime. Shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader:* Colin Adams

Wed 9 May

Meet **10.15am** Totteridge & Whetstone Station for 2.5 to 3 hour circular walk in Barnet's countryside with option of lunch stop. *Leader:* Ray Moss

Sun 13 May

Date reserved for **Spring Coach Walk**. Details will be available on walks.

Wed 23 May

Meet **11.00am** Richmond Station for about 6 mile circular walk via Petersham Meadows, Richmond Park and Isabella Plantation. Shorter options. Bring lunch or food available. *Leader:* Norman Coles

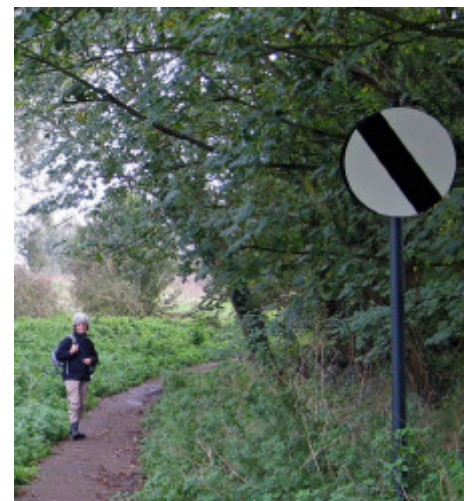
Sat 26 May

Meet **2.30pm** at The White Hart, South Mimms (1.48pm 398 bus or 2.04pm 84 bus from Potters Bar Station) for about 3 to 3.5 hour circular walk via Ridge and Shenley. *Leader:* Ken Cooper

Mon 28 May

Meet **10.36am** Hemel Hempstead (Boxmoor) Station (9.54 or 10.04am trains from Euston) for about 9 mile circular walk through contrasting scenery with fine views. By car about 45 mins from Enfield via M25 (junction 20) & A41. Bring lunch or pub food probably available. *Leader:* Stuart Mills

Stuart Mills



A clear road ahead with no speed limit on EPS walks! Carol Cope at the start of a walk at Wadesmill. (Photograph by John R Bourne.)

Visit to Royal Leamington Spa and Kenilworth Castle on Sunday, June 10, 2007



Photographs of Kenilworth Castle. Copyright Simon & Gina Robins – www.castleexplorer.info

Royal Leamington Spa is a fashionable and elegant town in the heart of South Warwickshire, with Georgian and Victorian architecture, tree-lined avenues, squares and glorious gardens. There is a magnificent Royal Pump Room which is a cultural centre, art gallery and Tourist Information Centre alongside elegant Regency-style Assembly rooms. Last but not least, a café and restaurant is housed therein. The town also boasts the Grade II listed Jephson Gardens of horticultural excellence, which have undergone a £4.3 million restoration project, including a sensory garden, temperate glasshouse and a refurbished boathouse. We shall have about four hours in which to explore the town before departing from Leamington for the visit to Kenilworth Castle.

England's finest and most extensive castle ruin, Kenilworth Castle has been described by Simon Schama as an

“historian’s dream”, set in a landscape offering great walks and interesting features. The Castle has now unveiled the results of a major £2.5M investment. At the heart of the project lies a stunning transformation of Leicester’s Gatehouse, built between 1563 and 1588 by Sir Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. The ground and first floors of the gatehouse are dedicated to how it would have been in the 1930s, the last time the building was inhabited as a home by the Hawes family. The restored interiors now offer visitors the opportunity to explore a suite of fully furnished historic rooms.

On the top floor, one of England’s most famous royal love stories – between Queen Elizabeth I and Sir Robert Dudley – is explored and brought to life through a new exhibition. Highlights include a display of Elizabeth and Dudley and an impressive tapestry. A second exhibition

is housed in the restored stables, again built originally by Robert Dudley and explores the castle’s entire history and the influential people who have guided its development.

We shall leave Genotin Road **bus stop**, Enfield at 8.30am (Winchmore Hill by the gardens at the junction of Ridge Avenue and Bush Hill Road at 8.15am). The cost of the trip is £17.50 (£13.50 for English Heritage members) and includes coach seat, driver’s gratuity and entrance to the castle. When booking, please enclose a cheque payable to Enfield Preservation Society. Also remember to indicate which pick-up point is required. Confirmation of a reservation is made **ONLY** on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. Applications to: Jim Deamer, 32, The Orchard, Winchmore Hill N21 2DH. Tel 020 8360 8974

Jim Deamer

Northaw right of way

Although use was not impeded, some members will recall that the track linking Cattlegate Farm on the northern edge of the Enfield borough boundary to the track beyond Sopers Viaduct south of Cuffley had not been included as a right of way when definitive maps were originally compiled. For many years the EPS has tried with other interested parties to have this corrected, but without success. Over the last couple of years the claim for this path was reopened under the leadership of Northaw and Cuffley Parish Council

and a local paths representative of the Ramblers Association. The EPS submitted evidence of use going back over 70 years and agreed to attend any hearing. The good news is that on 5th January 2007 Hertfordshire County Council confirmed without modification the provisional order made in September 2006. This means the claim is won and the whole length of the track from Cattlegate Road to Northaw Path 6 beyond Sopers Viaduct is now a public right of way. It will be known as Northaw Path 15.

Stuart Mills

Public rights of way

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act has brought in a deadline to have all paths properly recorded by 2026 – after this date any historic paths not registered will be extinguished forever. More information about public rights of way, how they are recorded and how to have them recognised, is given on the Web sites of Natural England and the Ramblers’ Association:

http://www.countryside.gov.uk/LAR/Access/rights_of_way/index.asp

and

<http://www.ramblers.org.uk/volunteer/bite-sized.html>

EPS Directory

President: Dr. C.J.A. Jephcott

Chairman: Colin Pointer

Hon. Secretary: Stephen Hoye

Hon. Treasurer: David James

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For information on EPS activities or to report matters you think need investigation or action, please phone the appropriate number below:

Architecture and Planning
020 8363 7707 (John Davies)

*Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings,
Green Belt*
020 8360 5677 (Chris Jephcott)

Coach Outings
020 8360 8974 (Jim Deamer)

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 8886 3829 (Pat Atkins)

Press and publicity
020 8360 0804 (Peter Mackey)
020 8363 5732 (Bob Fowler)

Records and Research
020 8372 0092 (Leonard Will)

Trees
[See President's comments on page 5]

Management Committee
Pat Atkins, John Davies, Stephen Gilbert, Stephen Hoye, David James, Tony Langston, Janet McQueen, Peter Mackey, Stuart Mills, Pam Pemberton, Peter Perryman, Colin Pointer, Monica Smith, Stanley Smith, Leonard Will.

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Notes and news



Edmonton Group

A working party with Enfield Conservation Volunteers was held on 21 January in Tatem Park. The former paddling pool was cleared and a fallen tree removed from a footpath. Other concerns dealt with recently include the planting of trees to shade the children's play area in Jubilee Park, the rubbish collection from The Crescent, and the plans for Kenninghall Open Space.

Monica Smith

Beryl Dorrington Retires from the Management Committee

One of the true stalwarts of the Society retired from the Management Committee last month. Beryl had given us notice last year that she would be retiring at the 2007 AGM but after a painful fall at home just before Christmas, from which she hasn't yet fully recovered, the decision was made to bring forward the leaving date.

For 18 years Beryl worked tirelessly for the EPS, in sequence acting as Minutes Secretary, Secretary, Anti-Litter Group Leader, Representative for Enfield in Bloom and finally Chairman of the Press and Publicity Group. Like so many present and former members of the Management Committee Beryl gave an enormous amount of time and energy helping the Society to run effectively and efficiently. We all hope that she will soon be fully fighting fit again and be able to enjoy a lot more time with family and friends and playing bridge.

Colin Pointer



Footpath Re-Opened

The path from Trent Park to Ferny Hill had been closed for many years but thanks to the cooperation of the farmer and Groundforce volunteers, it has now been restored. A new bridge has been erected over the stream and a stile at the Ferny Hill end, together with new signposts. The path was formally declared open by Cllr. Tony Dey, Mayor of Enfield on Wednesday 13 December.

Monica Smith

Derek Needham

We were saddened to learn of the sudden death of Derek Needham in November. A stalwart and long time member of the Society, his expertise in photography was of great value to the Records Group photographic survey of Enfield. Derek served on the Council of Management for a number of years. Subsequently he was for twenty years a mainstay of the Architecture and Planning Group until failing health forced him to give up in 2003. His meticulous and detailed comments on innumerable planning applications were of immense help in formulating our response. We offer our sincere sympathy to his wife, Christine.

Chris Jephcott