

Southgate District Civic Trust

Newsletter
No. 217
July 2011



www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.co.uk

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COMING EVENTS

HISTORY GROUP MEETING

Wednesday 14th Sept. 2011
at 7.30pm Friends Meeting House,
Church Hill, N21

“Local History Quiz”

(Note change from Diary of Events card)

ALL WELCOME

OPEN MEETING

Saturday 15th Oct. 2011
at 2.30pm Walker Lower Hall,
Christchurch Parish Centre,
7 The Green, Southgate, N14

Subject and Speaker to be arranged

(Details to be announced in October Newsletter)

ALL WELCOME

GUIDED TOUR OF CAPEL MANOR GARDENS

Thursday 4th August 2011

See page 2 for details

Other Dates for your Diary:

Wed. 2nd November

History Group Meeting

Friends Meeting House

Subject TBA

Wed. 16th November

Annual Luncheon

Southgate College (more details in October)

NOTE: If you have not yet paid your Trust subscription for this year,
(which began on April 1st), there will be a RED SPOT in this box:



Please fill in the form at the back of the April newsletter, or on our website, and send it with your remittance to the Treasurer.

Contributions to the October newsletter should be sent by Friday 9th September 2011

to the Editors: Mary and Colin Barratt, 13 Beardow Grove, Avenue Road, Southgate, N14 4DG
Tel: 020 8882 2246 e-mail: colin_barratt@yahoo.co.uk

Notice to Newsletter Distributors:- We hope to deliver the next newsletter to distributors during week commencing **3rd October 2011**

Southgate District Civic Trust ~ Established to conserve and enhance the environment in Southgate, New Southgate, Cockfosters, Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill and Hadley Wood.
(Registered as an amenity society with **Civic Voice**).

MOLLY STANBRIDGE – AN APPRECIATION.

I first met Molly (born Gladys) in 1947, and in 64 years she has remained the same passionate fighter for the rights of the disadvantaged I knew then. If she had been born earlier she would have joined the suffragette movement and campaigned for the rights of women! In entering the housing profession she followed the lead of Octavia Hill, the great campaigner for charitable housing to be both efficiently run and compassionate. I followed a different route into housing, being technically qualified as a surveyor.

Molly before the war took the exam and training in the Society of Women Housing Managers, founded in the tradition of Octavia Hill. As public housing expanded after the war that Society was taken over by the Institute of Housing, which I had joined, and which remains the major organisation for housing in the public and charitable sectors.



Molly moved from the provinces into London and worked for Deptford Council, which on reorganisation merged with Lewisham. I resumed my association with her when I went to Lewisham as Director of Housing. Molly meanwhile, true to her convictions, had become an enthusiastic member of the Labour Party and remained so for the rest of her life.

In addition to politics she took a great interest in the local environment, which led to her becoming a founder member of the Southgate Civic Trust (49 years ago!) and there being nothing passive about Molly, was thereafter always active in planning and local environment topics. She represented the Trust on the Council's Conservation Advisory Group, becoming the Chairman. She led the Trust's working party on reforming its constitution. Behind the scenes she was always influential in persuading people to take on tasks. Reluctantly she undertook the auditing of the accounts when Alastair became treasurer.

Molly was always very considerate, very courteous, never impatient or overbearing – not the typical manager of today's world - and a unique human being.

She will be sadly missed.

Frances Cook

N21.net FESTIVAL 2012

The N21.net festival 2012, will be celebrating the centenary of Henrietta Cresswell's book on Winchmore Hill between 16th and 23rd June 2012, culminating in a huge celebration on The Green, Winchmore Hill. The Henrietta Cresswell book is being reprinted especially for the festival. Further details are available on the website or through the newsletter.

Hugh Humphrey

VISIT TO CAPEL MANOR GARDENS

The Trust has been invited to visit Capel Manor for a guided tour of the gardens. The date set for this is **Thursday 4th August**. If you would like to take this opportunity to have a tour, we will be meeting at the main reception at **2.00pm**. No need to reserve a place, but the entry fee is still required: adults £5.50, concessions £4.50. Note that subscribers to Which Gardening magazine enter free (bring your card).

Janet Lane

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 7th May 2011

The AGM took place at Walker Hall, Waterfall Road, chaired by our Trust President, Audrey Kirby. Reports on the past year's activities were presented by the officers and Group leaders; these are shown below.

The following members were elected:

President	Audrey Kirby
Vice-Presidents	Chris Howell and Geoff Bone
Chair	Graham Beech
Secretary	Jane Maggs
Treasurer	Alastair Palmar
Auditor	<i>vacant</i>
Social Secretary	Janet Lane
Newsletter Editors	Mary and Colin Barratt
Committee Members (up to 6 members)	Irene Stone Hugh Humphrey

We still need an auditor; if you could take this over, please contact Alastair Palmar.

We still have vacancies for the Committee. If you would be interested in helping to spread the work of the Civic Trust, please contact one of the committee.

After the meeting, teas were served by Irene Stone and Janet Lane, followed by an opportunity to view several of the photo albums from the Trust's archives.

Chairman's Report *Graham Beech*

Over the year I have been in correspondence with Enfield Council over the draft Parks Strategy. I have also continued to monitor the New Southgate Master Plan.

I would like to thank the Committee for all the work they have done this year, in particular attending the Conservation Area meetings, organising the planning group, arranging history group meetings, contributing and producing the newsletter. Also thank you for managing the subscriptions, setting up the website, arranging various social activities and the secretariat.

In addition, thanks to our President for her work with Broomfield House and campaigning on the vandalism of the trees on the railways.

Secretary's Report *Jane Maggs* (jane.maggs@btinternet.com)

There have been four Executive Committee meetings during this year.

During the year we have discussed many items and become involved in a number of local issues, which have been reported to you in the Newsletter.

We have remained members of the Civic Voice and again receive a number of benefits for the coming year.

These include:

- Use of the Civic Voice logo in our communications.
- Public liability insurance via their preferred provider, Lockton, which is cheaper than the current arrangement with Bluefin.
- All members are entitled to a free one day access pass for the National Trust and English Heritage – although the latter is only for specific days. Details of how to obtain the passes are shown on **page 7**.
- Access to RUDI (Resource for Urban Design Information) – the largest web resource dedicated to urban design and place making with news, articles, policy papers and hundreds of best practice projects. Access is via their link – <http://civicvoice.rudi.net>, using the company name Civic Voice.
- Free membership of National Council for Voluntary Organisations – the largest umbrella body for the voluntary and community sector in England. Membership provides us with a range of free services and advice.

Civic Voice and NCVO are involved in a number of campaigns, which I will continue to report in the Newsletter. If anyone would like to be involved with any of their campaigns, please let me know and I will provide you with all the details, or you can contact them directly.

Civic Voice has sent me their new booklet called '101 Civic Ideas'. Additional copies can be obtained via their website - http://www.civicvoice.org.uk/uploads/files/101_civic_ideas.pdf.

I would like to mention the open meetings held twice a year. Over the last few years we have had a range of different speakers, on different topics. The meetings are an opportunity for us to become more informed on something that impacts us in some way. The attendance at these meetings is quite variable and I would be interested to know your views on the type of topics or speakers you would like to see. If you have ideas, or views, please contact me: either write, e-mail or phone.

Finally, one point on local democracy in Enfield. You are probably aware that the council runs Area Forums every quarter. These are an opportunity to meet and speak to your Ward Councillor and representatives of other local public bodies such as the police. They also provide a platform for you to air your local concerns to your Councillors. The Council is looking at ways to improve how they are run, to allow more time to speak to your own Ward Councillors. As a first step the way the wards are grouped has been changed. The details will be available in the local paper, libraries and from the Democratic Services at Enfield Council democracy@enfield.gov.uk or 020 8379 5119.

Statement of Accounts for Year to 31st March 2011

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

HALIFAX (BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC)	£ Debit	£ Credit
Balance B/Fwd 31/3/2010		13,328.60
Gross Interest		13.33
Gross Bonus		43.90
Tax on Interest	2.67	
Tax on Bonus	8.78	
Balance C/Fwd 31/3/2011	13,374.38	
	<u>13,385.83</u>	<u>13,385.83</u>

PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT

SANTANDER UK PLC	£ Debit	£ Credit
Balance B/Fwd 31/3/2010		1571.50
Sales of Oakleaves no.4		190.00
Sales of Publications (other)		170.40
Sales of Chard Videos		—
Donations/Postage		19.79
Royalties		13.00
Stall Fees - Christ Church	95.00	
Archive Acquisitions	16.00	
Stock Acquisitions	40.25	
Expenses	46.49	
Balance C/Fwd 31/3/2011	1,766.95	
	<u>1,964.69</u>	<u>1,964.69</u>

GENERAL ACCOUNT

SANTANDER UK PLC	£ Debit	£ Credit
Balance B/Fwd 31/3/2010		2,600.31
Subscriptions and Donations		1,043.00
Purchase & Sales -Chard Videos	78.00	—
Teas at Meetings	20.93	8.85
Admin.	122.28	
Newsletters	289.90	
Affiliations	40.00	
Hire of Halls	496.00	
Insurance	—	
Plaque: Flora Robson (refund)		121.27
Sundries	14.00	
Balance C/Fwd 31/3/2011	2,712.32	
	<u>3773.43</u>	<u>3773.43</u>

Please note that these accounts have not yet been audited. We hope to arrange for this to be done in the near future

Planning Group Report *Irene Stone*

Since the AGM last May and covering all our Conservation Areas, the planning group have considered 70 new town planning applications. This is less than in the past and probably reflects the times that we are experiencing from a financial point of view regarding some aspects of building.

We have also spent time on looking at the latest scheme for Broomfield House, the Licensing Act as it applied to an application by 18, The Green, N21 and The New Southgate Masterplan, all of which have been covered and explained in the Newsletter as we have received information. Enfield Greenways, is a scheme by the Council that involves changes in the roads and a bicycle pathway in a route through Grovelands Park and which includes Southgate Green Conservation Area at the junction with The High Street, Southgate. Most of the proposed changes are in the Meadway Conservation Area, who is dealing with it where it affects them. This has been discussed at the CAG, and the Meadway/High Street junction where the island focal point was proposed to be removed was voted against.

There have been many applications for reduction or removal of trees in most of our Conservation Areas, we have them at virtually each meeting. There is now a planning officer who deals with them at the Council. If anyone should need to ask him for any information he is Mr Downing at 8359 3845.

Our most recent Conservation Area Southgate Circus has given us applications mainly for change of use during the year, several in The Broadway opposite the station. There will be new lighting on the central island in front of the station and while this takes place we are promised some de-cluttering of other signs. Since Highlands has been reduced we have had the request for garages to be built on some open land adjacent to Stirling Lodge, Pennington Drive (where planning permission was granted for a small block of flats that already have parking) we objected and it has been refused on two occasions. There have been several applications regarding trees. Southgate Green has seen the most activity from our point of view covering every aspect of planning. Many changes of use, advertising applications, house extensions, the return of the flats proposed behind the shops on Cannon Hill Mews with an exit on to The Mall, that was granted permission in 2007 and a change of ownership of the Cherry Tree Public House. Hadley Wood has the usual applications for extensions to the large properties in that Area, both detached and semi detached. Winchmore Hill Green has been very busy over the past year, apart from the road lighting that had a few hiccups along the way. In the small area around The Green there have been several changes of shop fronts, not all acceptable. The empty shops appear to have new owners and the boarded up one (No.18) finally emerged after 11 years, with an all glass frontage and an initial request for opening hours until 2.30am, indicating that it could be more than just a restaurant, and had the potential for creating a nuisance. This was reduced to 12.30am, with many other conditions before a licence was granted. In Wades Hill we have had to remind a couple of properties that in a Conservation Area we cannot accept the replacement of existing wooden windows and doors with uPVC. Keble School in Wades Hill, were given permission for a new build school at the rear of its school site and for temporary buildings during its construction. Vicars Moor Lane is the smallest of them all and we had one application during the year. All the new street lighting in these areas is completed.

It remains for me to ask, as always, for any member who has an interest in the work that we do, to contact me and come along and be part of a very friendly informal group who help to maintain the good name of the Trust with the decisions that they make after looking at drawings in front of them. I thank them for their good humour and the monthly evening that they give up, in all weathers, because without the regular members of this group it could not continue. Being realistic, we need other help from the membership.

Local History Report *Colin Barratt*

These meetings have continued to be popular, with between 20 and 25 attending. The programme was quite varied, with 100 Years of the Girl Guide Movement, the history of Trent Park, Humour in the Royal Palaces and the history of the Friends Meeting House in Winchmore Hill, which is our venue. I scheduled this last one for July, so that it could include a tour of the burial grounds and garden. This year's topics will be just as varied and, I hope, interesting.

In March this year, our planned speaker was unable to come, due to having an operation. Fortunately, I had enough notice to make alternative arrangements, and showed some films made by our local pioneer film makers: Percy Smith and Robert Paul.

This speaker is coming in July instead, and we have a range of other topics lined up for this year.

Publication Group Report *Geoff Bone*

There are currently seven members of the Publications Group and they have met several times. The Treasurer reports on the state of our finances, to let us know how much is available for future projects.

- We are currently looking at new outlets for our publications. MODA was one outlet, but this has now moved to Hendon.
- Arrangements are being made to refurbish the Leigh Hunt plaque.
- The binding of Newsletters and minutes is in hand to add to the Civic Trust archive.

At the May Fair on Southgate Green, the Civic Trust again had a stall. We had a better position this year and collected £150 from publication sales. (See page 8).

Newsletter Editors' Report *Colin & Mary Barratt*

We are continuing to produce a newsletter which aims to have a mix of interesting articles, and I think we have achieved that over the past year:

- Local issues and comments - such as the New Southgate Masterplan, Broomfield House restoration and the destruction of trees at Grange Park,
- The latest news from the Civic Voice, the replacement for the Civic Trust
- Reports of our meetings and other activities – such as the History Group, Open Meetings and May Fair
- Regular updates on the Planning Group meetings
- Special events – such as the unveiling of the plaque for Dame Flora Robson, and the interview with Geoff Bone by Radio Enfield
- Reviews of new books on local subjects, available from the Trust
- Other items of local interest – such as the Enfield Lost Treasures mosaics, Stan Rondeau's visit to the village he was evacuated to in Cardiff, and the new Enfield Museum

The Newsletter is now being e-mailed to about 20 members, which has reduced the number we have to print. Those members also have the advantage of receiving it earlier, and the photos are in colour! If anyone else would like to receive it this way, let us know.

We always welcome articles from members, and in the latest edition we asked for feedback on the new Enfield Museum and exhibition, the proposed Sunday Community Market in Broomfield Park and the origin of the mallet. Could I just remind you that the deadline for receiving articles is always shown on the bottom of the front page. We need to try to keep to this date so that we can print the newsletter to schedule.

Thanks again to Diana Day, an indispensable part of our team.

We hope that you think our newsletter is keeping you informed about the work of the Trust, as well as other important and interesting topics.

Social Secretary's Report *Janet Lane*

This year there is a short list of events. The main one was the luncheon at Southgate College. This has been booked again for 16th November 2011.

A few outings have been proposed, but unless there is strong interest they will not be booked. However a suggested visit to the Refuse Recycling plant in Edmonton will be arranged if there is sufficient interest. Please let me know if you are interested.

Website Report *Hugh Humphrey*

The website is important for the Civic Trust's future, as websites and e-mail are part of modern life. Not only that, but the website is available 24 hours a day, while people are not.

There have been over 3,000 hits on the website. People may not come to the meetings but they are still interested in what is happening locally.

We have added a new section on photos from the local area. To this we are including photos from the Civic Trust archive, not only because they are interesting, but also to show what we have available.

The Newsletters are being added, but only some time after they were published, so that people don't just use the website and not join.

Conservation Advisory Group Report

The Council's Conservation Advisory Group comprise five members of the Council and 15 co-opted representatives of local heritage study groups. The Group's remit is to consider and advise the Council (particularly the Planning Committee and Cabinet Members for Place Shaping, Enterprise and the Environment and Street Scene) on the preservation and enhancement of heritage buildings, features and areas and to promote a greater awareness of architectural design quality. It continues to foster a positive and proactive approach to development proposals.

The Group meets monthly and we have the services of Christine White the Conservation Planning Officer or Mike Brown throughout the meeting. At the end of each meeting we have an Open Session for members to bring up urgent matters not covered in the Agenda.

During the past year everyone has been involved in the PFI street lighting renewal scheme in the Conservation Areas which has not been completed yet. Southgate Circus is at present under discussion.

There has been an update on Truro House, N13 that remains on the Heritage at Risk register. The main house is being lived in and considered secure. The stable block which was due for demolition now has squatters. Completion of the legal agreement and details pursuant to conditions are being pursued with the agent. There was an update on Forty Hall Park, where funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund is under review.

The Architect of Broomfield House, N13 has given a presentation on the draft Stages of the House and Stable Block. Similarly, we have been given presentations for Millfield House, Queen Elizabeth Stadium and Capel Manor.

Enforcement cases have been updated on a couple of occasions during the year by Robert Oles of the Enviro Crime Unit.

We have received a draft of Consultation regarding S106 in the Local Development Framework (UDF) which will eventually replace the Unity Development Plan (UDP) for the London Borough of Enfield. A Section 106 agreement (or planning obligation) is an enforceable legal agreement negotiated between the Local Planning Authority and a developer in the context of some planning applications. I have a copy of the document.

The proposed route of the Enfield Greenways scheme from Enfield Town to New Southgate via Grovelands Park has been discussed and I have a copy of the route map.

This is the end of the Municipal year and when we return in June we will be voting for a Chairman and Vice Chairman, as we do at the beginning of each year. Dennis Stacey has been a very good Chairman for several years now and is unstinting of the time and effort he has put into the role, apart from being Chairman of the meetings. Peter Fisk is Vice-Chairman and being a practising Architect contributes a great deal. If both of them wish to continue it is my hope that they will do so.

Civic Voice – Advantages of Membership

The free **National Trust** pass is available to download using the following link www.civicvoice.org.uk/nationaltrustcivicvoiceoffer. This pass is transferable and can be given to friends of family if you are already a member of the National Trust.

The free **English Heritage** pass can be used between 1st April and 30th June and between 1st September and 31st January 2012 and is available to download using the link <http://www.civicvoice.org.uk/englishheritagepassoffer>. This is **not** transferable.

If you do not have internet access either or both passes can be obtained by request with a stamped addressed envelope sent to Civic Voice, Unit 101, 82 Wood Street, The Tea Factory, Liverpool L1 4DQ. You need to provide contact details and the name of the group which is a member of Civic Voice.

EDGAR CHARD'S FILMS OF SOUTHGATE
- DONATED TO THE TRUST

For some time now, when we have received requests for copies of Edgar Chard's two well known films of Southgate, ("Southgate - A Glimpse of the Past" and "Southgate Celebrates the Coronation"), Janet Lane ordered them from Graham Smart, former Managing Director of Gateway Films, who held the copyright of them. Graham retired a few years ago, and moved to Devon, but kindly agreed to continue getting copies made for us.

Recently, Graham decided that the time had come for him to give this up, and he has very kindly donated the master copies of the films to Southgate District Civic Trust, for us to make our own copies in the future. We are very grateful for this, and our thanks go to Graham for his past work in not only providing copies, but in rescuing the films, which could have been lost forever. He has sent us some brief notes about how the first film was made and rescued, which is included below. Sadly, I believe that some of the original 16mm film was beyond repair, so the film that we are familiar with on VHS or DVD is incomplete. However, it is still a valuable historical document of our area from 60 years ago. If you would like to order a DVD copy of either film, contact Janet Lane or myself.

Colin Barratt

Southgate – A Glimpse of the Past

The above film was originally just called "Southgate" and was filmed over a two year period by Edgar Chard, who was the owner of the camera shop Camera Craft in Green Lanes. "EJ", as he was called by his friends, was also a director of the documentary film company Gateway Film Productions, which had premises just a few doors away from Camera Craft.

With equipment from Gateway "EJ" commenced filming in 1950, and when filming was completed Hugh Baddeley, the Managing Director of Gateway, edited the film and in Gateway's sound studio recorded the commentary, which was spoken by John Ginn, the Editor of the Palmers Green & Southgate Gazette.

Over a period of years the 16mm sound film was shown to various clubs and groups in the district and, as it was in colour, (at that time most films were shot in black & white), it was greeted with enthusiasm. Early in the 1990s the film was discovered again in Gateway's archives, but it had not aged well and damaged sprockets meant that the film could no longer be safely projected without the fear of further damage. The film was repaired in the hope of one last showing and at this screening a master video was made. Although some damage can still be seen, the video master has now produced many hundreds of VHS and now DVD copies of the archive film.

Copies of the film have also been despatched to many different parts of the world, where previous occupants of Palmers Green and Southgate have been able to reminisce over the Borough of Southgate where they once lived.

The film will hopefully live on for many more years, giving a fascinating glimpse of what was known at the time of filming as "Southgate – The Queen of Boroughs".

Graham Smart

CHRISTCHURCH MAY FAIR

As reported at the AGM, we set up our gazebo at the May Fair, and with a better, more visible position, plus generally good weather, we had a good number of visitors, and sold £150 worth of publications.

All our stock of old newsletters and membership forms were picked up, which will help to raise our profile, even if it doesn't result in many additional members.



HISTORY GROUP MEETING, MARCH 2011 **“A DIFFERENT VIEW OF ENFIELD”**

Mary Soulsby is a keen photographer and, although her mobility is restricted, she takes every opportunity to use her camera. She showed some views of well known places in Enfield: Gentlemans Row, Charles Lamb's house, the Civic Centre, Enfield Market and the Shopping Precinct.

She followed this with photos she took from three unique locations:

Firstly, some years ago the steeple of Trinity Methodist Church, Church Street, (her church), was covered in scaffolding for repairs, and she had the chance to go up to the top to view the area.

On another occasion, while at a meeting in the Civic Centre, she was offered the opportunity to view the Town from the roof of the building.

Lastly, she was given an unusual surprise birthday present from her sister of a flight in a two seater plane over Enfield. From the air, it's not so easy to identify well known landmarks and locations, but Mary showed us Theobalds Park, Myddleton House, Forty Hall, Chase Farm Hospital, Windmill Hill, St Andrews Church, Queen Elizabeth Playing Fields, Enfield Town Park and Trent Park.

This was indeed a different view of Enfield, and indicated how green our area is, when seen from above.

Colin Barratt

MOSAICS IN ENFIELD

Following the Lost Treasures of Enfield mosaics project last year, (as mentioned in the October 2010 edition of the newsletter), you may have seen some of the resulting mosaics in various locations. The one of Queen's Hall (Florida) can be seen attached to a wall, next to Genotin Road, Enfield Town, just before the junction with London Road. Another is in the bus turning area in front of Enfield Chase Station, depicting the Bycullah Atheneum.

NEW SOUTHGATE NEWS

Ladderswood Estate

Enfield Council has now announced their chosen development partner for the regeneration of this estate. They are Mullaley and One Housing Group. It was decided that their scheme best met the requirements of the local community and the Council. The development will create a mix of private and affordable homes, a new community centre and employment space, as well as improvements to the surrounding area. All of the existing flats on the estate will be demolished. Subject to planning permission, work will start in 2012, and the first homes will be completed by 2014.

A406 North Circular Road

Works at the A406/Wilmer Way junction are expected to be completed later this summer. The overall road scheme is scheduled to be finished by February 2012, and many of the properties along the route are being refurbished. Although the scheme is principally to improve safety along this section, let's hope it helps relieve some of the congestion!

The New Southgate Masterplan

Following acceptance of the Plan by Enfield Council last December, consultations have been held with residents on the detailed plans and timetable. The 1970s housing development, known locally as the "Red Brick Estate", in the centre of New Southgate, will be the first to benefit from improvements, which are expected to start later this summer. There will also be improvements to the open spaces around the High Road area, and better access between High Road and Friern Barnet Road.

Pinkham Way Waste Processing Plant

This proposed development has generated a great deal of discussion and protest. We have posted details of the issues on our website. (Website address is shown at the top of the front page).