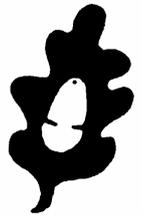


Southgate District Civic Trust

Newsletter
No. 210
Oct. 2009



Chairman: Geoffrey Bone
The Tower, Quakers Walk,
Winchmore Hill, N21 2DE
Tel: 020 8360 2289

Secretary: Jane Maggs
108 Chelmsford Road,
Southgate, N14 4JL
Tel: 020 8882 4253
jane.maggs@btinternet.com

Treasurer: Alastair Palmar
5 Tintern Gardens,
Southgate, N14 6AS
Tel: 020 8882 9387

Social Sec: Janet Lane
12 Norman Way,
Southgate N14 6NA
Tel: 020 8886 3303

COMING EVENTS



OPEN MEETING

Saturday 17th October 2009 at 2.30pm
At Walker Lower Hall, Christ Church Parish Centre,
7 The Green, Southgate, N14

“Bee Keeping in Enfield” by Peter Burling

Peter is Chairman of Enfield and District Beekeepers. He will be speaking on local beekeeping, in particular the contribution of bees to the environment and future threats to bees.

ALL WELCOME

EnfieldBeekeepers

MEMBERS’ ANNUAL LUNCHEON

**Wednesday 18th
November 2009**

**at 12.00pm.
Southgate College
Restaurant**

(See note on page 4
for details)



Percy Smith (1880-1945)

HISTORY GROUP MEETING

**Wednesday 4th November 2009 at
7.30pm**

At Friends Meeting House, Church Hill, N21

**“Secrets of Nature:
how Percy Smith invented the nature
film in interwar Southgate”**

Speaker Tim Boon (Chief Curator at the Science
Museum, and author of *Films of Fact: A History of
Science in Documentary Films & Television*, 2008)

Local man, Percy Smith, made a series of films for
British Instructional Films, called *Secrets of Nature*,
which started in 1922. These continued into the 1930s.
Smith’s films fascinated successive generations, just
as David Attenborough’s documentaries have on
television.

ALL WELCOME

Contributions to the January newsletter should be sent by Friday 11th December 2009
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 18th January 2010.

Southgate District Civic Trust ~ Established to conserve and enhance the environment in Southgate,
New Southgate, Cockfosters, Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill and Hadley Wood.

**HERITAGE QUESTION TIME:
Put Your Questions to Heritage Leaders**

6.30pm, 21 October

**The Royal Institute of British Architecture
66 Portland Place, London W1B 1AD.**

Chaired by **Martha Kearney**, Presenter of BBC Radio 4's World at One
Panellists: **Baroness Andrews**, newly appointed Chair of English Heritage,
Sir Simon Jenkins, Chairman of the National Trust,
Anthea Case, Chair of Heritage Link,
Tom Dyckhoff, journalist and broadcaster and
Dame Jenny Abramsky, Chair of the Heritage Lottery Fund.

English Heritage invites you to join the audience for this panel discussion. To apply for free tickets or to submit a question, contact: heritagecounts2009@english-heritage.org.uk by 9 October. For further information, contact: Katy Payne, Events Manager, English Heritage: Email katy.payne@english-heritage.org.uk or 020 7973 3860

For more information on the Civic Societies initiative, contact their website www.civicsocietyinitiative.org.uk or me.

Jane Maggs

NEW SOUTHGATE MASTERPLAN

Enfield Council's Place Shaping and Enterprise team have been working with New Southgate residents on a plan for the area. In time, this will become part of the North Circular Area Action Plan. As part of the consultation process, the Southgate District Civic Trust was invited to participate in one of the workshops.

The workshop started with a discussion of the current problems in the area, as well as what works. This was followed by group discussions on what we would like to see in the area. Interestingly, the ideas from the different groups were fairly similar, including the reinstatement of both a post office and bank, mixed housing, better community facilities and communal open spaces. Residents were keen to regenerate the industrial areas in order to encourage employment, particularly given the area's relatively good transport links.

All the various ideas will be fed back to the consultants who will develop the masterplan for public consultation.

The timetable of events for the masterplan development is:

August: the baseline analysis was conducted – looking at the area, community & ecology.

September: options development – i.e. various workshops and a public exhibition.

Late 2009: production of a draft masterplan and a six week public consultation.

January 2010: production of the final version of the masterplan.

As more information is available it will be passed on to members. If anyone would like more details, please contact me.

Jane Maggs

OAKLEAVES 4

The next edition of our popular occasional booklet is almost ready to go to the printers. It is hoped that it will be available for sale at the LAMAS Conference in November.

It will certainly have an eye catching cover!

More details later.

CIVIC SOCIETY INITIATIVE

Earlier this summer, I attended a workshop run by the Civic Societies Initiative to look at what the various Civic Trusts and Civic Societies wanted from this new national body. This was an interesting opportunity to meet members from other London groups and discuss the various issues we all seem to share.

Our feedback will be added to that collected at other meetings being held across the country. Some details are included in their latest bulletin – see below for more details.

Civic Society Initiative Bulletin

The bulletin, received by e-mail, has a number of sections of interest to us. There is too much to include in the newsletter, so I will give a few highlights.

Civic Society Survey – a new survey is being circulated to gather the views of the civic society movement, a further part of the civic debate.

Civic societies in the 21st century - Civic societies exist in a fast changing world and one of the main questions being asked following the closure of the Civic Trust is how they might adapt and develop to the changes going on around them. These and other issues and their implications are addressed in a discussion paper prepared for the Civic Society Initiative which identifies ten key issues:

- Positively promoting a better future which addresses the changes going on in the physical and cultural environment and responds to emerging issues;
- Connecting with different communities and in new places;
- Harnessing social networking and new media to bring the movement together and engage communities;
- Harnessing the ageing population and shifting values to provide new volunteers
- Harnessing the corporate, government and philanthropic interest in "community" whilst retaining independence;
- Adopting a flexible approach to organisation by geography;
- Changing old habits to become more attractive to new members and volunteers;
- Responding to the growth of other forms of community action and local groups;
- Demonstrating transparency and fairness in the face of heightened scrutiny;
- Building the case for long term investment in the quality of the local environment and the ability of citizens to shape its future.

Open Forum Feedback - many societies were pleased to tell us about successes, but it is clear that many also recognised that they have serious challenges, including:

- An ageing membership and ageing committee;
- Not being representative of the local community;
- Lack of volunteers;
- Limited funds;
- Lack of activities likely to attract new members who aren't keen on "committees".

It is clear that the various societies are looking for a movement:

- with a clear and shared purpose and sense of direction;
- with the profile and influence that it deserves;
- in which civic societies meet and share more with each other;
- that can shape official policy and thinking through lobbying and campaigning from the national through to the local level;
- that is independent;
- which gets support and advice on policy and planning issues and how to strengthen and develop local societies which has a positive reputation and engages the local community.

Twitter – the initiative can be followed on twitter! The link is www.twitter.com/csinitiative

Local campaign - national impact - drawing up plans for a public campaign in which all societies can get involved over the next year or more.

Calendar - In order to help neighbouring civic societies get to know what other societies are doing, a Civic Calendar has been set up.

EXHIBITION AT MoDA

A new exhibition has just opened at MoDA, in Chase Side, Southgate, which runs until 1st August next year. It's called "**Japantastic – Japanese-inspired patterns for British homes, 1880-1930**"

In the 1870s and 80s, Britain experienced a craze for all things Japanese. Japanese art and design was seen as exciting and exotic by Europeans, because it was so different to Western culture. It offered a whole new way of looking at and representing the world.

MEMBERS' ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Our annual luncheon has been booked at Southgate College, for Wednesday 18th November, starting at 12 noon. The anticipated cost will be £9. All members will be very welcome.

Anyone wishing to attend should ring Janet Lane on 020 8886 3303 to book a place.

CAUTIONARY TALE

With an interest in local history, I often look on ebay for picture postcards with local views. Recently, I saw one with the caption "Early Postcard of the White House and Cross, Southgate" The photo showed two boys sitting at the foot of a stone pillar (with no cross), with a small road, a white house and other buildings behind. I took this to be White House Farm, which stood next to the bend in Waterfall Lane, with the stone county boundary pillar in front, as described by Alan Dumayne in his book on Southgate.

I successfully bid for the postcard, (no one else bid!), and duly received it. It had been posted in 1904, but I was surprised to see it was sent between two towns in Yorkshire, (Goole and Knottingley), with no mention of our local area. The layout of White House Farm on the old Godfrey map of Southgate also didn't appear to match the photo either. I suspected that the Southgate shown on the card was actually in Yorkshire, and sure enough I found that there was a place by that name near to the location of posting.

Final confirmation came when I looked at our boundary stone pillar, and saw that the base was different from the photo. I should have checked this first, but with the combination of White House, stone cross and Southgate, I thought it must be local, and would be an interesting old view of the farm.

I will be more careful next time.

Colin Barratt

SOUTHGATE STATION - RECEIVES GRADE II* LISTING

Following a review by English Heritage, Southgate station has been upgraded on the listed buildings register from Grade II to Grade II*. This designation also includes the distinctive signs and the two reinforced concrete light columns and clearly recognises the station's importance as a building of more than special interest.



According to the Enfield Advertiser (09/09/09), the modernist classic is now in the top eight per cent of listed buildings in the country and is one of only two London Underground stations that have achieved Grade II* listing. The other is Arnos Grove, also designed by the architect Charles Holden.

Jane Maggs

TOWN PLANNING GROUP REPORT

In the last few months since the AGM, we have had 27 applications, which included only one in July, but fourteen in August. There are always other things to discuss at meetings in order to bring the group up to date so even one application was only part of an evening's work. For example, Eversley School in Winchmore Hill N21, has proposed being extended to accommodate extra pupils and because of its position is exacerbating the already difficult road problems. This application is far more complex than it sounds. We have written supporting the residents and their difficulties on this planning matter to the relevant council offices.

King Easton Site, Station Road, N21: Although there is an Appeal still pending for this development we have received an amended set of drawings. The replacement of the proposed shop in Station Road by a house is more acceptable, as was a small reduction in units. We are told that the developer has offered to return ownership of the right of way to the owners of 6-12 Compton Terrace, which we consider a big step forward, giving the residents the knowledge that they will have control of that area, and also retain the hedge for security and privacy. This is a difficult shaped site and it is important that planting and trees are retained and that the materials used are in keeping with the surroundings.

This Group and the CAG have approved this latest application and we understand that the residents living there had prior discussion with the architect to arrive at these latest drawings.

Southgate College, High Street, N14: We have now been given November as the date for a decision by the council planning committee. There are new drawings that we hope to see at our next meeting 30th September. We would like to see lower buildings set further back on the front of the site, and more consideration given to the setting of the listed buildings with the height and new position of the library and the road system.

Broomfield House: The Paul Drury Partnership was instructed by the Council to produce reports on the house. They considered that the case for demolition is weak and not supported by English Heritage, and that it was still worthy of listing and restoration and much was in storage. Enfield has made a bid to the London Mayor and the London Development Agency for restoration from the empty homes fund. There is an indication of a £5.79 million grant in 2010/11 for 18 sheltered homes. This option is considered viable so a feasibility study is underway to identify cost etc. The stable block and yard are included and the House would be restored with a new cafe and meeting rooms with the ground floor for public use. The Housing Minister has the final decision next spring, and there will be public consultation.

Continual planning applications come from Hadley Wood, Highlands Village, Southgate Circus and Cockfosters Road that is adjacent to Trent Park Conservation Area, where houses are being demolished and replaced with new ones, or a block of flats.

Any member is welcome to attend our meetings, they are held at 6, Eversley Mount, N21 at 8.00pm. The dates of the next two meetings are 28th October and 25th November. For any further information just telephone 8364 3500.

*Irene Stone
Group Leader*

LAMAS CONFERENCE

The annual Local History Conference will be held on Saturday 21st November at the City of London School for Girls, Barbican.

This year the theme title is "**Open-Air London: Pleasure, Parks and Protest**". These three aspects of London will be explored by lectures, including one augmented by a soprano singer and a harpsichord player!

As usual, our Trust hope to man a display table in the hall, and we will have a particular interest in the annual Local History Publications Award, as Ruby Galili's book, "Arnos Grove and the Walker Family" has been entered. The competition from other Local History Societies is always strong, but this is an excellently produced and well researched book, (copies still available), so we are quietly confident.

Tickets for the Conference are available at £10.

You can write for tickets to Local History Conference, 24 Orchard Close, Ruislip, Middx, HA4 7LS, enclosing a cheque, payable to LAMAS, and a stamped self-addressed envelope, or email: annhignell@waitrose.com

Colin Barratt