

Patron: Spike Milligan
President: Bill Tyler ARIBA

50p

FREE TO MEMBERS

SEPT 1997

No. 6/97

MONTHLY MEETING - THURSDAY, 25th SEPTEMBER

Mr. Fred Davis is the speaker on "More Highways of Old Finchley" at our next monthly meeting at Avenue House at 7.45 p.m. on Thursday September 25. His most recent talk to us on this subject was about the development of the highways. This month he will tell us about estates which were to be found along those highways, and some of the personalities to whom the estates belonged.

VOLUNTEERS

We always need more volunteers, but at the moment there is a particular need for:

Help on Society stalls at local shows: These shows are not very frequent, and only two or three hours on one day would be a great help.

A monitor for the Woodhouse Ward: This is interesting work, looking at developments and checking the impact of planning applications. The monitor would become a member of, and report to, the Planning Committee which meets every other month.

Our stall at the College Farm Country Fair: Someone to take over from Esther Johnson, looking after the books and other items on the Society's stall at the College Farm Country Fair on the first Sunday of each month.

The monthly meetings: Assistance with putting up and putting away the projector and sound equipment at our monthly meetings at Avenue House.

Please would anybody interested in finding out more about these various jobs contact me at 224 Creighton Avenue, East Finchley, London, N2 9BD

Robert Winton

WISBECH OUTING - Saturday, 20th September

Who? Wisbech is the birthplace of Octavia Hill (1838-1912), pioneering social reformer, devoted to slum clearance and provision of good affordable housing for the poor, and to the provision of public open space, particularly in London. She was a co-founder of the National Trust.

What? We will visit the town, Octavia Hill's Birthplace Museum, and Peckover House (a National Trust property). Wisbech is noted for its streets of fine Georgian houses, one of which is now the Octavia Hill Birthplace Museum. Another is Peckover House, a 1722 town house with fine plaster and wood rococo decoration. It was the family home of the Peckovers, a local Quaker banking family, till they gave it to the National Trust in 1943. It has a two acre Victorian garden, an Orangery with fruiting trees, and a recently restored Reed Barn. Peter Clayton will welcome us on arrival in Wisbech, and indicate good places to go for a coffee before meeting for a walk around the town centre and docks (or, if you prefer, you could visit the Fenland Museum.) Following a lunch break, we will meet at 2.00 p.m. at the Octavia Hill Museum, and then split into two parties: one will be taken first on a guided tour of the Museum, and then of Peckover House; the other will have their guided tour of Peckover House first. All will have a pre-booked tea in the Reed Barn at Peckover House at 4.30. Our return journey commences at 5.30 p.m.

When? 9.10 a.m. on Saturday, 20th September (see the enclosed leaflet)

Where? At Finchley Central Station (the roadside, near the top of the ramp) The coach will set out from Blackheath Village, and call at several points in south London before the final pickup point in Finchley. You can find more information in the enclosed leaflet.

The outing will cost only £18.50, (less £2.00 for National Trust members), and only £12.00 for children under 14 years. This will cover transport, admission charges and afternoon tea. If you have any questions, see the enclosed leaflet or telephone me on 0181 8520219

Tom Sheppard

PEN FRIEND

A lady living in Somerset has recently joined the Society and is hoping another member will become a pen friend. The lady spent 1934-9 in the area, and went to Queen Elizabeth's school in Barnet. She wishes to get in touch with a pen friend who would like to reminisce and to tell her about our activities. Would anyone interested please contact me at 224 Creighton Avenue, E. Finchley, N2 9BD.

Robert Winton

LIKE-MINDED FOLK - SUNDAY, 19TH OCTOBER

We have felt for some time that an informal social evening would have great benefit for similar local societies as ours, as we all have the same aims to conserve and enhance our own area, so ...

All members are invited to a wine and cheese evening at 7.30 p.m. Sunday, 19 October, in the Drawing Room at Avenue House. We shall meet with The Barnet Society, The Whetstone Society, The Mill Hill Preservation Society and the Hendon and District Archaeological Society.

Absolutely no speeches, no Councillors, no VIPs and no press. Just come along and enjoy each other's company and talk, and talk, and talk. This is your only invitation to meet like minded folk.

JOHN LOUGHBOROUGH PEARSON R.A. (1817-1997)

The centenary of the death of Pearson, the eminent Victorian church architect, occurs on 16 December 1997. A wreath will be laid on his tomb in Westminster Abbey after Evensong at 5.00 p.m.

Pearson was the creator of a number of wonderful churches including Truro Cathedral. Locally we are fortunate in possessing one of his late churches, St. John Fierier, Barnet Road N11. A small exhibition will be mounted in the church on the weekend of 11/12 October. Architectural tours will take place at 10.30 and 1.30, conducted by John Phillips, a church architect who lives locally and has been professionally connected with Truro Cathedral for 37 years. He is also design consultant for Brisbane Cathedral, designed by Pearson but still unfinished.

Do come and see one of the lesser known masterpieces of Victorian church architecture in your district. Coffee will be available in the adjoining parish centre.

Barbara Warren

NEW MEMBERS (Membership Secretary: June Saffer, 2 Greenleaf Court, Oakleigh Park North, Finchley, N20 (445 1480))

We are happy to welcome the following new members. Please introduce yourself to someone at our monthly meetings.

Mrs Hilda Clark	Miss Brenda Johns, N3
Miss G. M. Costello, N12	William Lethorn, N3
Miss V. M. Costello, N12	David and Susan Willoughby, N12
Mrs Ruth Geiger	

DONATIONS (Treasurer: P J Kelly (445 9054))

Many thanks to the following members who have given a donation to the Society:

S. Avery	Miss M. Hodgkinson
L. C. Berry	P. J. & Teresa Kelly
James and Margaret Evans	William Lethorn
Mr & Mrs Fantoni	T. & M. Quigley
Mr T. P. Frewin	D. & R. Robinson
Russell Grant	K. Weinberg
Miss Joyce M. Hill	

FOR YOUR DIARY

6 SEPTEMBER at 10.30	PYMES BROOK WALK Meet at Arnos Grove Station at 10.30 for a gentle stroll through Arnos Park Waterfall Walk viewing the magnificent Piccadilly line viaduct. Lunch at Pub in Hampden Square walk to OAKHILL PARK. New nature trails for those to can add about one more mile to the 3 mile walk. Led by NORMAN & BETTY BURGESS Please telephone 348-6337 by 1 SEPTEMBER if you are joining and want a pub lunch.
14 SEPTEMBER 2.00 to 6.00 p.m.	CHURCH END FESTIVAL. Finchley Society Trailer Display, Stephens Collection Stall
20 SEPTEMBER 9.10 a.m.	WISBECH. Visit to Wisbech, the Octavia Hill Birthplace Museum, and Peckover House. Pickup at Finchley Central
20 and 21 SEPTEMBER 10.00 to 5.00	HERITAGE DAYS AT AVENUE HOUSE. The house is open, with tours of the Stephens Collection.
21 SEPTEMBER 11.00	TREE WALK led by Derek Warren at Avenue House
25 SEPTEMBER 7.45 p.m.	MONTHLY MEETING, Avenue House Fred Davis on "More Highways of Old Finchley"
27 SEPTEMBER 10.00 to 12.30	COFFEE MORNING at the Burgess', 28 Vines Avenue, N3 in aid of the Stephens Collection. Bric-a brac (Have you any?) All the usual stalls.
11/12 OCTOBER	JOHN LOUGHBOROUGH PEARSON EXHIBITION at St. John Frierier, Barnet Road N11. Architectural tours conducted by John Phillips at 10.30 and 1.30.
19 OCTOBER 7.30 p.m.	WINE AND CHEESE EVENING at Avenue House with members of The Barnet Society, The Whetstone Society, The Mill Hill Preservation Society and the Hendon and District Archaeological Society
16 DECEMBER 5.00 p.m.	WREATH LAYING at the tomb of John Loughborough Pearson in Westminster Abbey (after Evensong)

**REPORTS FOR THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER
TO BARBARA WARREN BY 22 SEPTEMBER.**

