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www.finchleysociety.org.uk

President: Bill Tyler AADipl.ARIBA, IHBC

**MAY 2002**

no.5/02

**MONTHLY MEETING – MAY 30th.2002**

Members are cordially invited to the May meeting in the Drawing Room of Avenue House, East End Road, N3 on Thursday, May 30th. at 7.45pm.for 8.00pm. The speaker will be Mr .Tony Rook and is entitled “My Life in Ruins”. He will talk about his very interesting life which includes writing crime fiction, appearances on television and broadcasts on radio programmes, as well as his work as an archaeologist. Tony Rook is an old friend and has proved to be an exceptionally interesting speaker

As you can imagine, Norman Burgess, a past FinSoc chairman, gave us a very interesting talk about old Finchley, last month, using photos from the archives and promoting many sighs of nostalgia for days gone by. Questions afterwards encouraged replies from experts from the floor, drawn to the meeting by the speaker and the subject..

**JUBILEE JAUNT -on Saturday evening 29<sup>th</sup>. June , 2002**

As part of the FinSoc’s celebration of the Queen’s Jubilee we are driving through the countryside to Jemima’s Restaurant in Finchingfield, Essex. This is a very pretty village featuring as the English village on the Festival of Britain calendar – with village green, thatched cottages, windmill etc. There will be time to explore after enjoying the carvery at the restaurant.

See you there – *Shirley Avery* 8346 8484

**ISLE of WIGHT TRIP.**

Unfortunately the Isle of Wight trip has had to be cancelled due to lack of support. However Shirley is very glad to report that the Finchingfield trip is filling up nicely and to remind you that the next trip will be to Cambridgeshire. Our grateful thanks to Shirley who puts a lot of cheerful effort into the organisation of these outings.

**ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** – David Smith, 8883 4154, Chairman

Next meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. 8.00pm at 224 Creighton Avenue, N2 Please ring Robert Winton 8883 2633 if you are coming to observe.

*East Finchley Station Board*

Members turned up on a typical April day with showers and sun outside East Finchley Station on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. just before 11.00am to cheer on Dr. Rudi Vis, MP Finchley and Golders Green, as he unveiled our Environmental Information Panel at the main entrance to the station. Councillor Alison Moore, Brian Coleman GLA member for Barnet and

Camden, Dennis Sanger, London Transport area manager and Rachel Huggard from London Transport press office attended, and were duly photographed with the Finchley Society officers. We then retired to The Bald Faced Stag nearby for a celebratory drink.

#### *Avenue House Safari*

This will be our first venture into afternoon meetings. Please meet in the salon at 2.30pm at Avenue House on **May 8<sup>th</sup>**. The House, Stephens Collection, Bothy and Grounds will be explored guided by our own experts.

**ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT.**- Miranda Dunn, 8371 9744, Chairman  
Next meeting on May 13th at 83, Wentworth Avenue at 8.00pm. Please ring Derek if you will be attending as an observer....8346 5258

#### *Walks*

- ◆ On Saturday **25<sup>th</sup> May** do not forget to join me if you want to hear the birds singing at 7am. Meeting at the Scout campsite in Frith Lane we will stroll for about an hour, including a stretch along the Dollis Brook, before returning to the site for refreshment. Let me know if you want to join us for breakfast.
- ◆ Owing to the problem of obtaining permission to picnic in Victoria Park, our proposed centenary celebration set for May 11<sup>th</sup>. has to be cancelled unfortunately. Hopefully the Friends of Victoria Park will soon be active again, so a celebration may be held at a later date.
- ◆ On Monday **3<sup>rd</sup> June** we will be having our Golden Jubilee Walk to survey the Dollis and Mutton Brooks. There will be 8 sections to explore with 2 groups starting from each meeting point. Meet at 10.30am at either Totteridge Lane, Fursby Avenue or Waverly Grove where the roads go over the Dollis Brook, or at Falloden Way at junction with Addison Way and Oakwood Road.  
After a 1-1½ hour stroll recording wildlife, litter and pollution you are invited to join your leader for tea and coffee at the Scout Camping Ground in Frith Lane. This is at the top of the hill between Lovers Walk and the railway bridge. We will be there between 12noon and 2.00pm. to hear what each group recorded. Bring a picnic and we will celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. *Derek Warren 020 346 5258 barwar@waitrose.com*

#### *Recycling*

Local Agenda 21 are producing a Church End, Finchley Waste Directory with information on the recycling of almost everything in the home. Compiled by FinSoc members Miranda Dunn, Barbara Warren and with a lovely cover designed by Mari I'Anson this will be a must for every home, when it is published.

#### **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

- ◆ Peter Pickering, Brigid and Robert Maxwell and Bill Tyler produced a 7-page report on the government GreenPaper on planning in the UK. The Department for Transport, London and Regions had over 13,000 responses. There are many conflicting views on what our committee thought a poor document, and, as a result it may be some time before there is any outcome.
- ◆ Peter Pickering, Carol Halls and Bill Tyler have been working on the revision to the Unitary Development Plan which sets out the councils policies on building developments. Peter Pickering has been to mediation meetings to resolve issues brought up by FinSoc and others in an attempt to resolve matters of lesser importance.
- ◆ Bill Tyler will be writing to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport about the Council's plan to sell off Friern Barnet Town Hall.

**POST BOX SURVEY.** After seeing the request in the last newsletter I got the PBB (Post Box Bug). I found 4 Victoria boxes; one in Hendon Lane opposite Gravel Hill, one in the wall of The Thomas More Centre in East End Road opposite the East Finchley Cemetery, one at the end of Woodside Park Road in the wall of the station and one in Woodside Avenue at the junction with Woodside Grange Road.

I also discovered many others with a Royal Cipher for Edward VII, George V, George VI, and Elizabeth II. Apparently an Edward VIII box has been found in Hendon. There is an unusual box in Totteridge Village (Lane) opposite Totteridge Green that is elliptical with the aperture at one end and a fixing for a stamp machine at the other. *Derek Warren*

(Ed) If you would like to still take part in this survey please contact -

Bill Firth of HADAS

49, Woodstock Avenue, NW11 9RG 020 8455 7164

## **WHAT'S ON?**

*Friern Barnet and District Local History Society*

All meetings on Tuesdays at The Old Fire Station, next to the Town Hall

May 28<sup>th</sup> "Folk remedies" by Oliver Natelson.

June 25<sup>th</sup> "Coronation memories"

May 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday Tour – of the Glebelands

A circular tour of about 1hr. Shoes may get muddy.

Meet at the junction of Summers Lane and Upway at 2.00pm. £1 per person. To be seen – isolation hospital site, gravel pit, brickworks, piggeries, allotments of 1890s and much else.

*The Whetstone Society*

There will be a 12 week trial period, starting Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, for a Farmers Market between Athenaeum Road and Chandos Avenue, at 10.00am.

*Friends of the Library.*

Church End, on Mondays.

May 20<sup>th</sup> "A Miscellany of Poems and Prose" Elizabeth Haynes.

June 17<sup>th</sup> "Palmistry" Bharti Kothari

*Finchley Horticultural Society.*

Members are invited to the annual plant sale on 19<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am – 12.00am at Gordon Road Allotments, N3. Please bring boxes to take away plants.

*The Octavia Hill Society*

There will be celebrations at Wisbech on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the society. Peter Clayton rang to invite The Finchley Society members to the various events held over the weekend of July 5 – 7. These include a lecture by Peter on Sat morning, a visit to the birthplace museum and most importantly the dinner on Sat evening 8.00pm. There will also be a Rose Fair at the same time with stalls and events and a parade of floats. Peter is always happy to see the members of FinSoc at these occasions so please ring 01945 860 478.

## **THE FINCHLEY VOLUNTEERS**

It all turned out to be a bit of a damp squib really.

At a special meeting of the parishes of Finchley and Friern Barnet held in the parish church of Finchley on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1798, it was resolved that a corps of Infantry be formed under the denomination of the Finchley and Friern Barnet Volunteers for the defence of the country. At a further meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> May £75 7s 6d was subscribed. A resolution asked that "all persons willing to be armed and exercised for the public good" should send their names to the Lord Lieutenant. Further "all persons willing to furnish, in case of emergency, carts or horses for the public service either gratuitously or for hire, be requested in like manner to signify their proposals, together with the number of vehicles they can provide."

A meeting was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May (vestry minutes page 209). These items are worth recalling:-

- iv. That no member of the association shall be liable to serve out of the limits of these parishes without his own individual consent.
- vii. That every member of the corps shall be ready to attend in case any fire should take place in either of these parishes on being summoned by the beat of a drum, or otherwise.
- xi. That the uniform shall consist of a dark blue cloth coat or jacket, with red collar and narrow edging, yellow buttons with the letters F&FBV thereon, a white kerseymere waistcoat with yellow buttons, pantaloons of Russia duck, black stock and hat to pattern.

The subscription included only one below a guinea and that was Widow Nixon who gave 2s 6d. The volunteers included "John Bacon, Rev. Ralph Worsley, Thomas Collins, Samuel Hawkins, Thomas Gildart, T H Andrew, Sir Thomas Pasley, John Pasley, John Bickley, Thomas Lermite, and Rev Mr Lake" They contributed £36 15s towards expenses. John Bacon wrote to the Lord Lieutenant offering their services and received the following reply ... "I am very sorry that consistently with instructions received from Mr Dundas...I cannot recommend any offer for the defence of particular parishes...and have to damp the spirit and loyalty of the inhabitants and decline their offer." It was then resolved to pay back the subscriptions, which appears to have been done.

*John Heathfield*

#### **MEMBERS**

Membership Secretary...Lynn Bresler, 30, Birkbeck Road, N. Finchley, London N12 8DZ...8446 6249, e-mail: [LynnBressler@aol.com](mailto:LynnBressler@aol.com)

We welcome Isla Bourke, NW11 to our Society and ask her to make herself known at the monthly meeting.

#### **DONATIONS**

Treasurer...Nigel Doe, 020 8445 1278 e-mail: [Nigel@Trakka.co.uk](mailto:Nigel@Trakka.co.uk)

We thank the following for their generous donations –

Dorothy Fox, N3	Mr A W Philby, N2	Bill Williams, Eastbourne
Margaret Pacey, N2	John Corcoran, N12	Mr L H Beltran, Haslemere
Mrs J H Hodges, N12	Miss Isla Bourke, NW11	Christina Leslie, N3
Sue Marcus, N3	Norma Harris, N3	Sarah Wald, N2
Norman Burgess, N3	Richard Buchanan, N3	

We would like to congratulate our auditor, Mike Longley, on his being made a Freeman of the City of London.

#### **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Events Secretary...Josie Robinson, 46 Burleigh Gardens, Southgate, N14 5AG  
020 8368 4387

**EDITOR** – Barbara C Warren

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e-mail [barwar@waitrose.com](mailto:barwar@waitrose.com)

.Copy for the June newsletter to reach me by **May 15th**. Please note that there is no newsletter in July or August.

*We care for Finchley and Friern Barnet*

