

Founded 1971  
www.finchleysociety.org.uk

President: Bill Tyler AADipl.ARIBA, IHBC

**SEPTEMBER 2002**

no.7/02

### **NEW CHAIRMAN.**

It is bit difficult introducing the new Chairman to you, as I am also the newsletter editor. Perhaps I could say that it was through Denys Pegg that I became a member 30 years ago. I came to Finchley when my parents moved here when I was 18months old, and have lived in Woodside Park, Church End and West Finchley My husband Derek and I have brought up two lovely girls. We now have five grandchildren, three of whom are Canadians. I taught at St. Mary's for nearly 25 years and am now gainfully retired. Derek and I share a great interest in The Finchley Society and Scouting.

Sharing the post with me is Maggie Ferguson who has accepted the position of Vice Chairman. More about Maggie next month.

We are indebted to Norman Bar, the retiring Chairman, not only for his masterly conducting of the monthly meetings, but his passionate concern for planning, his editing of the newsletter and his guidance regarding the law. With the tragic death of his young wife he was left with the bringing up of two children, and eventually found that he was unable to commit to The Finchley Society as the Chairman.

Norman was kind enough to send the following message: "Just a word to say congrats on being elected Chairman. I am sure it will all go well – I know you will be firm yet fair, strong yet gentle, compassionate yet principled, easygoing yet in control etc, etc...." A tall order!!!

### **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

#### **September 26th 2002**

Members are cordially invited to the September meeting in the Drawing Room of Avenue House, East End Road, N3 on Thursday, **September 26th** at 7.45pm.for 8.00pm. Mr Sean Baine whose talk to us is entitled "What sort of London? Ideas from the London Civic Forum." has been the Chairman of the London Civic Forum for just over a year. Mr Baine will be describing the work of the London Civic Forum and discussing ideas about the future for London and Londoners that are emerging from LCF debates. We need a good number in the Drawing Room for such a distinguished speaker.

#### **September 18<sup>th</sup>**

Members are invited to this Wednesday afternoon meeting at 2.30pm. also in the Drawing Room at Avenue House. Mari I'Anson, a longtime Finchley Society member, will be talking about "Travelling With my Paintbrush." Mari has travelled extensively and has recently returned from Canada where she had the opportunity to paint the reds and yellows of the Fall. She has worked as an-artist-in-residence at a Primary School in Mill Hill where she

completed murals for their new building, and has worked at a school in Bangkok. She has recently exhibited very successfully in "The Picture Factory" in North Finchley.

### **NEWS of the FAMILY**

We were saddened to hear of the death of Roy Thomas who died on 26<sup>th</sup> July, three days after his 86<sup>th</sup> birthday. In the early days of The Finchley Society he took over as Treasurer from Alan Yew, then the job of Treasurer was combined with that of Membership Secretary. Roy could always tell a member the exact status of his membership, usually from memory. In recent years he was a successful collector for Poppy Day and was interested in animal welfare.

Cremation at the Marylebone Crematorium was preceded by a service led by Major Maurice Haylett of the Salvation Army, and attended by members of The Finchley Society, and of the Finchley Branch of PROBUS, of which Roy was a past President.

Always correctly dressed, with a cheerful greeting and a good sense of humour Roy will be missed.

*Denys Pegg*

### **LETTER to the EDITOR**

"With reference to The Finchley Volunteers mentioned in the May newsletter I thought members would like to know that Sir Thomas Pasley, who was made an Admiral, was buried outside the east wall of St James Friern Barnet, and his coat of arms is shown on the hatchment over the chancel arch inside the church.

He apparently carried one of the captured French flags when a thanksgiving service was held in London, though there is some doubt about his ability in view of the fact that he was reported to have lost a leg!"

*John Phillips RIBA Architect. 020 8445 3414*

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

Next meeting on **September 5<sup>th</sup>** at 83, Wentworth Avenue. Please ring 8346 5258 or e-mail [barwar@waitrose.com](mailto:barwar@waitrose.com) if you are coming to observe.

*Finchley Remembered.*

Preparation of the book is making good progress, and publication should take place in November. We hope to include an order form with the October newsletter.

### **URGENT: SELLING the BOOK**

As outlined in the last newsletter, we are still seeking expertise to help in selling the book – to individuals, local bookshops, and other local shops and outlets. If you can help with any aspect of this work – marketing, publicity, promotion or processing, delivery and postage of orders - please let me know.

ALL MEMBERS are again requested to let the Society know the names and addresses of people who are not members of the Society, and organisations, and who would be interested to receive details of the book in the Autumn.

*David Smith 17, Abbots Gardens Finchley London N2 OJG 8883 4154*

e-mail: [joda@cromwellhall.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:joda@cromwellhall.freeserve.co.uk)

### **ISLE of WIGHT visit.**

There were some members who were disappointed at the cancellation of the Isle of Wight weekend trip. Shirley is now more confident that she will be able to put it back into the programme for May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Please let her know that you are interested.

*Shirley Avery 8346 8484*

*Harry C Beck*

The committee are arranging to erect a plaque to Harry Beck, the designer of the first London Underground map, who lived in Courthouse Road, N12. London Underground are assisting with this project.

*Derek Warren*

**ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT.**- Miranda Dunn, 8371 9744, Chairman

Next meeting on **September 9th** at 83, Wentworth Avenue at 8.00pm. Please ring Derek if you will be attending as an observer....8346 5258 or e-mail:barwar@waitrose.com

The charity "Plantlife" want to know the wild flower that would be identified with each county. The London Wildlife Trust think that the Red Campion may be the favourite flower of Londoners. What flower would you associate with Finchley or the Borough of Barnet?

One flower that is prolific in this area is Ramsons, also known as Wild Garlic. Masses of the white flower can be seen in the Spring, beneath the trees alongside Dollis Brook and elsewhere.

House Sparrows have been reported from 14 local areas with the highest number (29) recorded at Frith Manor Riding Stables, N12.

Do not forget the 3 Rs....Reduce – Re-use - Recycle

*Derek Warren*

**PLANNING COMMITTEE** – Chairman, Stephen Cooper, 020 8445 2685

The committee welcome their new Chairman who is a former Chairman of the London Branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England.

#### **VALENTINE BAMBRICK**

There has been mention in this newsletter before of Valentine Bambrick who won the Victoria Cross in 1858, but had it confiscated in 1863 due to some drunken behaviour on his last day of service. (Ed.They do not do that any more, whatever happens after the medal has been won !!)

He was buried in an unmarked paupers grave in Islington Cemetery. The Kings Royal Rifle Corps are erecting a polished black granite memorial plaque to him in the Chapel. The unveiling will take place at mid-day on Tuesday September 10<sup>th</sup> when the Mayor of Islington and the Deputy Mayor of Barnet will be present, and the Last Post will be played.

The Finchley Society's local knowledge was invaluable in the assistance that was given in the organisation of the event, including finding a manufacturer of the plaque.

#### **LA DELIVRANCE**

A Mr J W Rickard is doing a lot of work to unearth more background to the statue of La Delivrance (the naked Lady). He wants to know : Was the statue commissioned or was it the initiative of the sculptor Emile Guillaume? Is the statue the original or a replica? If you can give answers or have other significant information please let Robert Winton know- 224, Creighton Avenue, N2 98B – 020 8883 2633

#### **WHAT'S ON?**

*Friern Barnet and District Local History Society*

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

September 24<sup>th</sup> "Alexandra Palace"

October 22<sup>nd</sup> "Local History Using Old Maps" Hugh Petrie, LBB historian.

## **MEMBERS**

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

We welcome the following to our Society and ask them to make themselves known at the monthly meeting.

Phillip Witriol, Barnet  
Daniella Syme, N12  
Karim El-Akabi, N2

Robert Hogan, SW5  
Jonathon Stern, N3

## **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 –

Robert and Heather Winton,N2

Andra Whittaker,N3

Mr and Mrs Bumpus, N3

Mrs B Coffey, N20

Miss Brenda Johns, N3

Robert Hogan, SW5

E Morgan, NW2

R Hunter, N12

Margaret Evans, N12

Ruth Lea, N3

Mr F and Mrs D Kelsall, N3

Mr L Heatherington, N3

Michael C Chaveau, Willow Grove, USA

T P Frewin, N3

Mrs Grace Cowie,NW11

Mr and Mrs D Tofield, N12

Mr Noel Lynch, N2

Harry Sharpe,N20

We are indebted to Charlotte Hulme who has worked towards the recovery of over £400 from the Inland Revenue in Gift Aid repayments. We urge members who have not yet completed a Gift Aid form to do so, as even more can be recovered . Forms are available from Charlotte at 62, Church Crescent, Finchley, N3 IBJ

## **WANTED**

We are in need of a suitably qualified person to deal with our insurance. Please contact Robert Winton if you feel that you are just the man/woman we are looking for.

## **WARNING**

A member rang in some distress to ask if I would warn you of a recent scam. She took delivery of a newly repaired piece of machinery and paid up, only to find that it had not been repaired at all. It might be a good idea to test the repaired item before paying up!

**COFFEE MORNING** – at 28, Vines Avenue (Norman Burgess) on September 28<sup>th</sup> in aid of the Stephens Collection.

## **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

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

020 8368 4387

If you know of, or have heard a good speaker, please let Josie know.

**EDITOR** – Barbara C Warren

83 Wentworth Avenue Finchley London N3 1YN 020 8346 5258

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

.Copy for the October newsletter to reach me by **September 15th.** .

*We care for Finchley and Friern Barnet*

