

Founded 1971
www.finchleysociety.org.uk

President: Bill Tyler AADipl.ARIBA, IHBC

OCTOBER 2002

no.8/02

MONTHLY MEETINGS - OCTOBER 31st, 2002

Members are cordially invited to the **October** meeting in the Drawing Room of Avenue House, East End Road, N3 at 7.45 for 8.00pm. The speaker will be Leo Boland , Chief Executive of the London Borough of Barnet and is the Jean Scott memorial talk . We ask for a speaker a bit special for this evening and we would like to fill the drawing room to capacity. Mr Boland will talk on “How the New Cabinet System is Working, and how The Finchley Society can be Involved Constructively.” This is a chance to ask questions yourself on the workings of the Council and to bring a friend . We have a huge reputation in the Borough, so perhaps he will be anxious to have a look at us!

Report on September 18th

Members attended in goodly numbers on the Wednesday afternoon meeting to hear Mari I’Anson, a longtime Finchley Society member talk about “Travelling With my Paintbrush.” Mari has travelled extensively and showed us representative works from each stimulating place where she has painted – in Spain, France, Italy, Thailand and Canada. She has sometimes stayed for months in one area fascinated and delighted by the colours and shades of the environment around her, and managing to bring up her family on her work alone. She showed us how to observe and create. The members were drawn to this experimental meeting by both Mari and the subject, and the afternoon time seemed to be a success.

VICE CHAIRMAN

Maggie Ferguson , whose professional name is Maggie Roy, came to Finchley in 1973, but only got involved with The Finchley Society on becoming ‘gainfully retired’ in 1998. She was trained in Drama at the Royal Academy of Music, with the ‘cello as second study. On leaving the Academy she taught ‘speech and drama’ at Queenswood School, Brookmans Park , for two years.

After that she spent several years in repertory companies around England, ending up in the Stage Management and Production of the Royal Shakespeare Company, always working at the London end - the Aldwych Theatre and then the Barbican.

It was a wonderfully varied and interesting time – the golden days of the RSC!

NEWS of the FAMILY

Pam Wright, a distinguished calligrapher and a member of FinSoc, has added more details of items donated to Avenue House in the memorial book, placed in a display cabinet in the entrance hall to the House. She has very kindly and generously given her talents free.

LETTER to the EDITOR

“I am always immensely grateful to receive The Finchley Society newsletter and I always read it with interest.

I have just received this month’s edition and read that you have been appointed Chairman – as well as continuing as the newsletter editor. I send you my very, very best wishes.

Please pass on to Bill Tyler my kindest regards and, indeed , to all members of your committee who work so hard to make the Society so effective in the Finchley and Friern Barnet area.

This tribute comes to you all from”up the road” where I have the honour to be the President of the Barnet Society!!

With kindest regards

Sydney Chapman.” (MP)

What a gracious letter, Sir Sydney, thankyou. You have my vote! We look forward to further co-operation with the Barnet Society.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE – David Smith, 8883 4154, Chairman

Next meeting on **November 7th** at 224, Creighton Avenue, N2 . Please ring 8883 2633 if you are coming to observe, or write if you need to bring an issue to our notice.

Finchley Remembered.

This long awaited book is, we promise, nearly ready for publication, and an order form will be included with the November newsletter. So, as well as a copy for yourself, start writing up your Christmas present list now – *Finchley Remembered* will make an ideal gift for people who have links with, but who no longer live in, Finchley.

For more details, and offers of help in sales and marketing, contact -

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

e-mail: joda@cromwellhall.freeserve.co.uk

Visit to Cambridgeshire

Our first stop was at a vineyard with an interesting set of buildings and masonry collected by the father of the present owner. Heads turned in all directions as we toured the site taking in many bizarre additions to the fabric of the buildings, not least the later addition to the farmhouse which was 1960s modern in concrete, and “in danger of becoming listed”. We had a very good lunch followed by an enthusiastic talk on the quality of the wines, which were then enthusiastically bought up .

Our next stop was again at an unusual house , which looked old but had been deliberately built as Jacobean in 1926. It was surrounded by 98 acres of gardens and woodland, with a working mill.

Barbara C Warren

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT.- Miranda Dunn, 8371 9744, Chairman
Next meeting on **November 11th** 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

Open Spaces

Much tree work is being carried out at Windsor Open Space, N3 and the footpath is to be improved where flooding occurs. The Friends of Windsor Open Space collected 18 sacks of rubbish on their recent litter-pick.

Nature Walk, **Sunday 13th October**, 2pm meeting at the bottom of Windsor Road. Further information Dennis Pepper 8346 5874.

The Friends of Brook Farm Open Space ,N20 are hoping to create a shallow pond in the meadow between the South Herts Golf Club and the Totteridge Tennis Club. Their next work party will be on **Sunday 20th October**, 10.30am.Further information from D.Ford 8441 5033.

Trees

Now is the time to check up on missing street trees as we will be sending a list to Barnet's Tree Officer next month. Earlier this year they replaced a number of trees at our request, so if you know of any that need replacing contact the Environment Committee Tree Officer Ann Gallon 8346 8533 .

Transport

Environment and Transport Committee member Peter Crockford continues his survey of the 263 buses, and they do not seem to be improving in performance. Details of his research are sent to the Bus Company and the Greater London Authority.

Derek Warren

PLANNING COMMITTEE – Chairman, Stephen Cooper, 020 8445 2685

You might like to know the committee members whose job it is to monitor the planning applications for the FinSoc area.

East Finchley – Charlotte Hulme

West Finchley – Peter Pickering

Church End – Mr and Mrs Maxwell

Oakleigh – Karl Ruge

Woodhouse – Arthur Philbey

Coppetts – Karl Ruge

Stephen Cooper.... E-mail – stephetherc@waitrose.com

ARCHIVES – Norman Burgess, 8346 6337

We were happy to receive from Miss Edna Cox, sister of Eileen Cox, who was our secretary for 7 years, a magnificent set of photographs of the former Finchley Power Station. This was situated in Squires Lane, and the site is now occupied by Pentland. Edna lives in Chard, Somerset and donated this gift to us via Norman on a recent visit to Eileen.

Also now in the archives are some photos of the old Gaumont site being demolished. We are grateful, to Carol Halls for this collection. Is there anyone out there who has taken any photos of the new arts centre and flats being erected?

WHAT'S ON?

Friern Barnet and District Local History Society

All meetings on Tuesdays at The Old Fire Station, next to the Town Hall. 8.00pm

October 22nd “Local History Using Old Maps” Hugh Petrie, LBB historian.

November 26th “Caring for Friern Barnet”. Karl Ruge.

Friends of Barnet Libraries – Church End

October 21st “ The Josephine Baker Story” by Alexander Rosenzweig. 8.00pm

November 18th “John Betjeman” – an illustrated talk by Roy Mills.(Ed. John Betjemen Was The Finchley Society Patron before Spike.)

Alexander Palace

October 20th and November 17th at 2.30pm

Tours of the TV studios and the Victorian Theatre £3.00 . Contact Fiona Sawers on 8365 2121

East Finchley Methodist Church – Sunday October 13th . – 8.00pm.

Songs by The Three “Js” with free admission, but a collection in aid of the Finchley Arts Centre Trust work at the Bothy.

MEMBERS

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

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

Mr and Mrs T.A.J. Dennis,N3

Christopher and Dr Kim Bryan,N3

DONATIONS

Treasurer...Nigel Doe, 020 8445 1278 e-mail: Nigel@Trakka.co.uk

We thank the following for their generous donations –

Mrs S Avery,N3

Kurt Weinberg,N3

Mr and Mrs P. Pickering, N12

Mr and Mrs I Lyall,N3

Mr and Mrs V.L. Sainsbury, W3

C. and Dr K Bryan, N3

We urge members who have not yet completed a Gift Aid form to do so. Forms are available from Charlotte at 62, Church Crescent, Finchley, N3 IBJ. If you are a taxpayer and sign our form we can recover, from the Inland Revenue , 28p for every pound of your subscription, or nearly £2 for every £7 sub. And no – you do not have to sign a form every year. The form remains valid until you cancel it. This way, we can increase our funds and it does not cost you anything!

Robert Winton .

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.

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

CHRISTMAS PARTY

This will be on December 12th with the usual format. Joan Butcher has very kindly agreed to organise the catering and would be grateful to hear from you with offers of help. – 8364 9314.

EDITOR – Barbara C Warren

83 Wentworth Avenue Finchley London N3 1YN 020 8346 5258

e-mail barwar@waitrose.com

.Copy for the November newsletter to reach me by **October 15th. Please note that there is no newsletter in December..**

We care for Finchley and Friern Barnet