

President: Bill Tyler AADipl. ARIBA. IHBC

Founded 1971

## **FEBRUARY 2005**

### **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Members are warmly invited to the Thursday, **February 24th**, meeting in the Drawing Room of Avenue House, East End Road, N3 at **2. 30pm** The talk will be by **John Hadju**, the chairman of The Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association and is entitled **“Will Societies like ours Survive?”**

Please note the afternoon time, and bring money for your tea ,coffee ,biscuits and raffle tickets..

### **WANTED URGENTLY**

- A Secretary for the **Environment and Transport Committee**  
This committee deals with wildlife and open spaces, CPZs and street furniture, recycling, trees and vehicle surveys.
- Someone to deal with our **insurance**.
- **Newsletter Distribution Manager**- with 9 issues a year, to be sorted into rounds on a monthly basis, with about 30 deliverers. A car is essential. This is a vital service and keeps our costs down
- A secretary for the **Planning Committee**  
This committee deals with planning applications, the Conservation Area Advisory Committee and Barnet's Unitary Development Plan.

Please come forward and offer your services as soon as possible. *Barbara C Warren*  
020 8346 5258 or [barwar@waitrose.com](mailto:barwar@waitrose.com)

### **NEWS of the FAMILY**

We sadly record the death of John Phillips, 1926-December 2004, who regularly attended our meetings. His father was a church organist at St James church for over 30 years where John sang in the choir, which might have accounted for John's great interest in church architecture and the architect J L Pearson in particular. Pearson designed St John's in Friern Barnet Road and also Truro Cathedral and St John's Cathedral in Brisbane. John Phillips was a friend and colleague of Dr Oliver Natelson, as members of the Friern Barnet and District Local History Society, and they collaborated on the application necessary to list Friern Barnet Town Hall. He also wrote the books on St John's and St James's churches in Friern Barnet. We offer Eileen, his wife, and Mary, his sister, our deepest sympathy.

We are sad to record the death of Hedda Michaelides a disabled member, whose last event was our dinner, which she much enjoyed.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE** – Chairman, Stephen Cooper, 32, Cardrew Avenue, Finchley, London, N12 9LD 8445 2685 email [stephtherc@waitrose.com](mailto:stephtherc@waitrose.com)

- Heather Winton is retiring as secretary after 16 years.
- Objection to a 3-storey block of flats at 170 Ballards Lane was upheld.
- Hertford Lodge has been sold and although badly damaged by fire will become luxury flats.
- Shops at the corner of Long Lane and Squires Lane will be demolished to be replaced by flats and shops and an underground car park.

- Discussion on the Tesco expansion at Colney Hatch Lane in light of the Tesco policy to go into various merchandise shops eg clothing, furniture, CDs, which would pose a serious threat to town centres and other supermarkets.

**LOCAL HISTORY GROUP** – Chairman, David Marcus, 31 Courthouse Gardens, N3 IPU  
020 8346 1734 [d.marcusl@ntlworld.com](mailto:d.marcusl@ntlworld.com)

The first meeting will be at Avenue House on February 10<sup>th</sup> at 8.00pm.

- First major project “Finchley Common” with Tony Roberts as co-ordinator.
- Another project will be “Oral history” with Robert Winton recording members recollections.
- The group would like to photograph local shops. Any offers from photographers?

### **AVENUE HOUSE**

There will be a special exhibition weekend for charities at Avenue House on **26-29 March**. This will involve publicising our Society, alongside the others who are based at Avenue House and surrounding districts, and will not be for raising money. This will give us an opportunity to air our archives and set out our aims, and show the work of our committees to the general public. The Avenue House Estate Management would like this to complement the now successful Church End Festival held in the gardens in May in order to raise money. We will need a lot of helpers to cover the 3 days, so please put this date in your diary and offer your assistance for just an hour or two.

**ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE** – Chairman, David Smith, 17, Abbots Gardens, N2 OJG 8883 4154 [joda@cromwellhall@freeserve.co.uk](mailto:joda@cromwellhall@freeserve.co.uk)

### ***The Spike Milligan Statue Fund***

We have two more members on our committee –

Janett Durrant and Carol Halls. If you have any ideas for fund-raising or names and addresses of organisations to whom we can write for donations please contact David.

-and we have three more patrons –

Michael Palin, Terry Gilliam and Sarah Sellers.

Our first fundraising event at The Purple Turtle in Camden Town was a great success. It was a small venue with about 60 in the audience and £480 was raised. Several FinSoc members attended, including two of our patrons-Sarah Sellers and Sile Milligan. Wayne Howard, who organised the event, will be putting on a family event later in the year at the Artsdepot. Our application to the Milly Apthorpe Charity Fund produced a promise of £1,000.

Donations to be sent to Silé Milligan, c/o 17 Abbots Gardens. N2 OJG. Cheques to be made out to The Spike Milligan Statue Fund and will be acknowledged..

### ***Christmas party***

Thanks to many members for the success of the ***Christmas party*** at Avenue House which was beautifully decorated for Christmas.

### **ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Chairman: Harry Branchdale, 25, Ventnor Drive, N20 8BT  
020 8445 4281 [harry@branchdale.co.uk](mailto:harry@branchdale.co.uk)

### **Walks**

Is there anyone who would like to lead us around their favourite part of London?

### ***Green Spaces.***

Over a third of London's area is classed as 'green' according to English Heritage, and we certainly have our fair share in Finchley. Do keep an eye on your local patch and report

anything of interest or concern. We are arranging a number of events in our green spaces during the year, so watch out for dates in the newsletter.

### ***Dollis Brook***

The survey of the brook will continue throughout 2005, and on March 12<sup>th</sup> we will be particularly looking out for the kingfisher. This bird, that is usually only seen as a flash of iridescent blue and orange-red, was observed at least once in every section of the brook, and during every month of the year. On January 12<sup>th</sup> a firecrest was seen near the Finchley Golf Course. This is very small bird, distinguished from a goldcrest by a white stripe over the eye. I had only one report of a fox along the brook in 2004.

There is still so much to discover, and help is needed in recognising plants and insects. Can you help?

*Derek Warren 8346 5258*

### ***Avenue House Church End festival***

Avenue House on May 15<sup>th</sup>. 1.00 –4.00pm Our well-stocked plant stall is a big attraction every year, but this means that we have to get plants from you. Please start planning now. We shall need helpers on the day as well.

### **ROZ'S RAFFLE**

Thanks to your generous support last year, we raised the following –  
£36.50 for the Avenue House Estate  
£97.60 for the Dollis Brook survey  
£21 for the Stephen's Collection, in memory of Norman Burgess.

You may have seen that the raffle is now in aid of the Spike Milligan Statue Fund. Every little helps us reach our target. Tickets are £1 a strip, so please support us in building this national monument to this great man.

I am over-run with UNWANTED TOILETRIES! Does anyone know of a good home for them? .....a homeless centre, a charity or something! Please let me know and call me on 020 8346 8484

*Roz Avery*

Thank you Roz for the excellent work you are doing(Ed).

### **THE JONATHAN DIMBLEBY PROGRAMME**

I am writing to invite members of the Society to join the studio audience for ITV's Jonathan Dimbleby Programme. This is broadcast every Sunday, usually from London, and it covers topical news stories. The format includes a studio audience of around 30 members. This is a crucial component to the programme and offers an excellent opportunity for people to pose their questions to decision-makers and policy shapers. Audience members do not need an in-depth knowledge of the issues being debated, simply an interest.

I should stress that you are not being invited as a representative of your society – this is simply a method of contacting members of the general public.

*Jenny Parks – researcher, Jonathan Dimbleby Programme.*

[jd@itv.com](mailto:jd@itv.com) 020 7261 3784

**ARCHIVES** – Maggie Ferguson – Archive Custodian, 36, Oakfield Road, Finchley, N3 2HT  
8349 4283

Archive work mornings on most **Mondays 10.30am – 12.30pm.**

Drop in and see us at work on a Monday morning. Coffee and chocolate biscuits at 11.00am if you are in the vicinity.

### **WEB SITE**

Thanks to the hard work of Carol Halls and Stephen Yeo we now have digital versions of the Newsletter and Supplements for 1971-61, 1982, 1983, 1984, and 1985-93 on our website. This is a huge task and we are immensely grateful for the expertise, time and commitment to the Society ( and to the future) that this represents.

### **TSUNAMI DISASTER APPEAL**

Bill Tyler asks for good servicable hand tools to help in the rebuilding of houses, school fishing boats etc. The distribution initially will be through the Mayday Group working with the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka . Please ring Bill on 020 8883 2006 or email to [tyler@bildit.me.uk](mailto:tyler@bildit.me.uk)

Mari I'Anson , who has painted some of the vanished colourful landscapes and people in India, Indonesia and Thailand will be donating many of her paintings of SE Asia to the fund. To view the work in her studio and hopefully buy, please ring 020 8346 7011

### **EVENTS SECRETARY**

Mrs Sakina Jethra, 2, Templars Crescent, Finchley, London , N3 3QS  
e-mail: [jetha@tesco.net](mailto:jetha@tesco.net)

### **TREASURER**

Aziz Jethra, 2, Templars Crescent, N3 3QS 020 8346 2286.

### **MEMBERS**

Membership Secretary, Tony Roberts, 32a, Sedgemere Avenue, East Finchley, London, N2 OSX 020 8883 5954 e-mail:[info@tonylondon.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:info@tonylondon.fsnet.co.uk)

#### Donations

Mr and Mrs AEJ Toms	David and Christine Morris	Mr and Mrs G R Lunn
Mr and Mrs R Wilson,N3	Mr S Ross	Mr and Mrs D Warren, N3
Mr and Mrs D Smith, N2	Miss N C Fletcher,N3	Mrs Coral D'Eon,N3
B J Thornhill,N2	Mrs A Sharland,N12	Mr and Mrs W Tyler,N2
Mr A Gotlob.		

Many thanks to all the members who not only changed their standing orders but made a donation at the same time. We are supported entirely by subscription and without our membership and their generosity the aims of the society could not be met.

### **EDITOR** – Barbara C Warren

My thanks to Carol Halls and Lynn Bressler, and Stephen Yeo for editing the newsletter for November and January

**Please note** ....contributions for the **March** newsletter to me at 83,Wentworth Avenue, Finchley, London, N3 1YN 020 8346 5258....[barwar@waitrose.com](mailto:barwar@waitrose.com) by **February 15<sup>th</sup>**.