

Avenue House, 17, East End Road, Finchley, N3 3QE.  
Telephone and fax :020 8343 2633

[www.finchleysociety.org.uk](http://www.finchleysociety.org.uk)

President: Bill Tyler AADipl. ARIBA. IHBC

Founded 1971

**April 2005**

### **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Members are warmly invited to the Thursday, **April 28th**, meeting in the Drawing Room of Avenue House, East End Road, N3 at **8.00pm**. The talk will be by **Mr Bruce Bennett**, entitled "**Galapagos Islands**" and describes the scenery and wildlife of the Galapagos Islands. It shows fascinating close views of birds, tortoises, iguanas and views of the volcanic countryside where Darwin studied the finches, which differed on each island. This ultimately led to his work on evolution.

### **REPORT ON FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING**

At our February meeting the speaker was Mr John Hadju, who is the Chairman of the Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association, a magistrate and former Chairman of the London Tourist Board.

He posed the question – "Will Societies like ours survive?" and talked us through all aspects of the day to day running and problems facing his and other similar societies. His conclusion was ,yes, we can survive , but we must look to the future, not the past. We must take advantage of modern technology, especially the web , to spread our information ,and exchange ideas with other societies. Suggestions for this included joint outings and possible twinning with a European town. There was a lively question and answer session to round off the afternoon.

*Roz Avery*

### **VISIT to KELVEDON HATCH SECRET NUCLEAR BUNKER**

A number of members were disappointed by our decision to cancel a trip to this fascinating place because of lack of support. They, and others interested, will be pleased to know that we propose a visit by car on **SATURDAY, APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup>** starting from Finchley at 10.00am.

Despite its forbidding name, the bunker visit is no more daunting than paying a visit to a comfortable Government office. Because it is built into a hillside there are no deep shafts, merely a corridor with a gradient. The visit is done at one's own pace accompanied by an audio guide, and takes about one and a half hours. At the end of the tour is a shop, refreshment area and toilets.

This is a must for anyone interested in WW2 or the Cold War. We will need car drivers, without whose help the visit cannot go ahead. The cost will be the entrance ticket of £5 plus a contribution towards petrol. Phone David Smith asap on 020 8883 4154

### **ELECTION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Nomination Forms for those wishing to stand for election at the Annual General Meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> as Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary or Executive Committee Member 2005/6 are available from me at 224, Creighton Avenue, East Finchley, N2 9BD (020 8883 2633). Those elected become Society Trustees. Completed forms must reach me not later than June 16<sup>th</sup>.

*Robert Winton, Hon Secretary.*

### **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)

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

A letter objecting strongly to the planning applications for over 90 free standing advertising signs to be placed in flowerbeds in various locations within the Borough of Barnet, has gone from the committee to Stuart Murray, the Chief Planning Officer.

**LOCAL HISTORY GROUP** – Chairman, David Marcus, 31 Courthouse Gardens, N3 IPU  
020 8346 1734 [d.marcusl@nt1world.com](mailto:d.marcusl@nt1world.com)

### **AVENUE HOUSE**

The local Fire Brigade will be giving a talk on “Safety in the Home” which will give advice about smoke alarms etc This will be at Avenue House on **Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 – 12.30**. This is free and all members are invited.

**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 are doing well with donations coming in from all over the world, and charity performances in the pipeline. Having produced a small mock-up of the whole statue, John Somerville, the sculptor is working on the full size figure. He has also been commissioned to make small figures of Spike in bronze to give to anyone donating over £1000.

#### ***The second annual dinner- Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>***

You will find an application form and the menu accompanying the newsletter. Please send in the form and your menu requests as soon as possible, as numbers are limited. We are trying out the in-house catering this year.

**ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE** - Chairman: Harry Branchdale, 25, Ventnor Drive, N20 8BT

020 8445 4281 harry@branchdale.co.uk

### **Walks**

On **Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**, if you would like to hear the dawn chorus then meet Derek Warren at Brook Farm pavilion car park at **4.00am**. The grass will be wet even if the weather is good.

**On the same day!!** members of the Environment and Transport Committee will be walking along Ballards Lane from Nether Street, N3 to Nether Street, N12 to list the good and the bad and the ugly, which will then be submitted to the Council for any necessary action. If you would like to help with this Environmental Audit then meet us at the corner of Nether Street, N3 opposite Finchley Central Station at **2.00pm**.

### **Wildlife**

A brimstone and a small tortoiseshell butterfly were seen on 19<sup>th</sup> March ,and there is much frogspawn about. Many waxwings have been seen

### **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. Pat Dunnill urgently needs seed trays and square seed pots. Please start planning now, and bring your plants in before 1.00pm. Come to buy and come to help.

### **WATER AND CONSERVING WATER**

Have you ever thought how you could use water more efficiently in the garden? Changing to metered water will probably save you money and certainly make you more aware of how much water we waste.

**How** you water could be more efficient:

\*water in the evening as less evaporation makes it more efficient.

\*do not use sprinklers.

\*consider an irrigation system with a buried porous hosepipe with a timer, particularly useful when you are away.

\*fit a water-butt to guttering or drainpipes to utilise “free rainwater”.

Consider a “water two” valve the diverts bath and shower water (if it is not too full of detergents!) to a butt where it cools prior to use on the garden.

**Reduce** the need for watering by:

\*improving the soil – slow release fertilizer with a thin layer of compost will increase a lawn’s water-retaining capacity.

\*use water-retaining gel mixed with compost in containers and hanging baskets.

\*use mulches on the soil – manure, compost, wood chips, shreadings, weed matting, pebbles – will all increase the soil’s moisture retention.

(Thanks to Bunny Guinness of The “Telegraph”, Jo Budd and C.A.T.)

Roz Avery 020 8346 8484

### **LONG LANE PASTURE ACTION GROUP**

The group will be holding a public meeting to discuss their future site plan, on **Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm** at the Sea Cadet’s Hall in Long Lane, just at the end of the shops south of Squires Lane. Unfortunately this clashes with our monthly meeting.

### **WHAT’S ON**

**April 1-30<sup>th</sup>** – at CHORAK PATISSERIE , 122 High Road, East Finchley. Mari I’ Anson will be displaying her watercolours. Mari invites any member of The Finchley Society to join her for a glass of wine at a private viewing on April 5<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm. Please let her know 020 8346 7011

**May 15<sup>th</sup>** – at the Church End Festival - Art Exhibition and sale by local artists at The Bothy.  
– Contact L. Byrne 8349 9038

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Open Day at The Bothy (in the Grounds of Avenue House) 2.00-5.00pm

*Guild Players* – Ballards Lane Methodist Church – Pygmalion - April 21-23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.45pm  
*Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>* – Bill Tyler, our President will be leading a joint walk around Finchley with the Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association, starting at 11.00am.  
*Sundays April 3, 10, 17 and 24* – Farmers market at Alexandra Park, Muswell Hill ,

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

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

Mrs Sheila Winchester, Nether Street, has lent us some immensely interesting archive material relating to her family – the Plowmans. Some of you may remember the Plowmans Wood Store where Tesco now is. This was visited by Captain Scott in search of wood for his sledges, before his expedition to the Antarctic.

### **EVENTS SECRETARY**

Mrs Sakina Jetha, 2, Templars Crescent, Finchley, London , N3 3QS 020 8346 2286  
e-mail: jetha@tesco.net

### **TREASURER**

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

### **MEMBERS**

Membership Secretary, Tony Roberts, 32a, Sedgemere Avenue, East Finchley, London, N2 0SX 020 8883 5954 e-mail:info@tonylondon.fsnet.co.uk

#### Donations

Miss Gillian Sturdy, N12	Dr and Mrs O Natelson, N12	Mr Peter Clayton PE14
Mrs D Fox, N3	Mrs O Stevens, EN5	Miss Sylvia London, N12
Mr A W Philbey, N2	Mr LH Beltran, GU27	Miss G M Costello, N12
Miss V M Costeelo, N12	Miss B Walls, N3	Mr C R Coombs, BH3
Dr and Mrs Rudi Vis, N2	Mrs J Mitchell, N2	

We are supported entirely by subscription and without our membership and their generosity the aims of the society could not be met.

### **ANSWERS TO THE JOHN HADJU QUIZ**

11 12 1211 111221	the next number is 31221
1 2 3 5 8	the next 2 numbers are 13 and 21
2 11 ? 27	the missing number is 18
18 20 24 32 ?	the missing number is 48
12 (56) 16 17 9?(21)	the missing number is 76
SHR (...) LING	the missing word is INK
GRID(RING) HANG	
STIR (...) GAFF	the missing word is TIFF
AGENT,BLISS, CHURCH, LOVE, DOLL	
	the odd one out is LOVE, not in alphabetical order.
ARMOUR(....) POST	MAIL same meaning as words outside the bracket.
BEIN?	The missing letter is T. Letters go up by 2, 3,4,5.

**EDITOR** – Barbara C Warren **Please note ....contributions for the **May** newsletter to me at 83,Wentworth Avenue, Finchley, London, N3 1YN 020 8346 5258....barwar@waitrose.com by **April 15<sup>th</sup>**.**