

Avenue House, 17, East End Road, Finchley, N3 3QE.

www.finchleysociety.org.uk

President: Bill Tyler AADipl. ARIBA. IHBC

Founded 1971

May 2005

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Members are warmly invited to the Thursday, **May 26th** meeting in the Drawing Room of Avenue House, East End Road, N3 at **8.00pm**. The talk will be by **Daphne Chamberlain**, and is entitled "The Archer: East Finchley's Local Paper."

ELECTION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Nomination Forms for those wishing to stand for election at the Annual General Meeting on June 30th 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 16th.
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**
I would like to make a special plea for someone to take over the task of distributing the Newsletter.

The actual job has become easier since Tony Roberts became the membership secretary, as he now keeps the computerised membership database and will provide the necessary lists and labels.

What still has to be done is collect the newsletters from the Methodist Church in Ballards Lane where they are printed, then, sort them into various rounds for Shirley and Roz who kindly take them to the postmen/women for subsequent delivery.

No-one is expected to do the job for 27 years as I have(!) but if nobody is willing to take over, the newsletters will have to be posted. At the moment we post a few but in the event that we have to post all of them (approximately 350) there would be an obvious huge increase in cost to the Society. Besides the fact that the envelopes would need to be stuffed!

The job takes no more than 3/4 hours nine times a year, so please consider whether you are able to step into the breach. Please call me if you need any other information.

Carol Halls 020 8445 6172

- 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

NEWS of the FAMILY

We sadly record the death of Arthur Philbey who served for 5 years on the Planning Committee as the East Finchley ward monitor, although living over the boundary in Hackney. Our condolences to his daughter

LETTER to the EDITOR

“Having noted Mrs Sheila Winchester of Nether Street has a family connection with the wood yard that was visited by Captain Scott – I’d like to add that some years ago I discovered another link.

My house was the home at one time of a Mr Hamilton who designed the sledges for the Antarctic Expedition to the South Pole. He was an engineer, so he had not far to go to purchase his wood.”

Mari I’Anson 5 The Grove, N3

BARNET CIVIC NETWORK

I attended the meeting of the Barnet Civic Network in March. A large and diverse cross-section of the citizens of Barnet heard presentations on Healthier People and Healthier Communities in Barnet, and then discussed the subjects and put their ideas to a panel. I am sure that if I were a smoker I should stop at once; but whether I shall take more exercise I do not know.

The next meeting of the Network is scheduled for the 9th November ; its subject will be “Civic Pride” – very much up our society’s street. Though there is not infinite space, we can have more than one representative, and if any member would like to attend , please get in touch with me (020 8445 2807) or pe.pickering@virgin.net.

Peter Pickering

PLANNING COMMITTEE – Chairman, Stephen Cooper, 32, Cardrew Avenue, Finchley, London, N12 9LD 8445 2685 email : stephetherc@waitrose.com

Information panels on listed buildings

Our listed buildings not only require protection because of their architectural or historical interest but also deserve to be recognised as such by passers-by. Many on the statutory list have played an important part in the history and development of Finchley and Friern Barnet.

It is our intention to bring the attention of the public to some of these buildings and their history by erecting, each year, a small panel of information about a specific building. The panel will be placed where it can be easily read by the public. To bring this about we will approach the owner of the building in question and will discuss the proposal with the Planning Department of the London Borough of Barnet.

To take this project further we need the membership to suggest buildings that meet the criteria mentioned above. We also need a co-ordinator or small working group. Please volunteer if you are interested – we think that some members of the newly-formed Local History Group may be at the forefront - by getting in touch with Robert Winton (883 2633), with David Smith (8883 4514) or with Stephen Cooper (8445 2685 0, and of whom will be pleased to hear from you.

AVENUE HOUSE

The local Fire Brigade gave a talk on “Safety in the Home” with advice about smoke alarms . Several members turned up and after the talk were offered free smoke alarms and a free visit by appointment to fit them in the right place and assess the dangers lurking in your house.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE – Chairman, David Smith, 17,Abbotts Gardens, N2 OJG 8883 4154 joda@cromwellhall@freeserve.co.uk

The Spike Milligan Statue Fund

Donations from members are beginning to come in. All donors will be invited to the unveiling ceremony and anyone donating £1000 or over will receive a bronze bust of Spike.

May 15th at the Church End Festival – there will be a stall run by the Spike Milligan Statue Fund selling , amongst other things, special cards designed by Mari and memorabilia from Spike's family. A reproduction of the statue, which will be based at the front of **Avenue House** will be on show. Please come along to support us and the other charities. We need help for an hour or two only.

May 21st in the hall at the rear of Christchurch, North Finchley - we have booked a table for a **table-top sale**. Any goods which you would like to donate to us after your Spring Clean please bring along to Barbara Warren at 83 Wentworth Avenue ,N3.

May 27th at Avenue House –7.30-10pm

A Quiz Night

Directed by **Terry McLoughlin** the evening will be full of fun, with plenty of prizes. Refreshments will be provided but you can bring your own snacks and drinks. Make up a table of 10 in the Drawing Room and have a good night out. £10 tickets per person, from **Barbara Warren or Janett Durrant**.

This will be your lucky night

BRING FRIENDS

FUN

The donations from members are beginning to come in. All donors will be invited to the opening ceremony, and any donor sending in £1000 or over will receive a bronze bust of Spike.

The second annual dinner- Thursday, July 7th

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

harry@branchdale.co.uk

Wildlife

After all the building work that has taken place at the Pentland Centre in Squires Lane, the lake has settled down and is occupied by coots, moorhens , pair of swans and many tadpoles. The swans have come from a sanctuary as the male has only one wing. The female will stay with him as they mate for life.

Avenue House Church End festival

Avenue House on **May 15th. 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.

WHAT'S ON

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

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

May 22nd – Woodland Day at Coppetts Wood . We will have a stall there between 2 and 4.00pm Come and explore this lovely nature reserve.

May 29th –The Comedy of Errors, William Shakespeare. 4.00 – 6.30pm Illyria Theatre Company at the Bothy. Tickets £8 from 020 8455 4640

Saturday, June 4th –David Smith, our Vice President will be leading a joint walk around Finchley with the Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association, starting at 11.00am.

Sunday, June 5th – Pride and Prejudice, adapted from Jane Austen’s novel. Illyria Theatre Company at the Bothy. Tickets £8 from 020 8455 4640

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

We are indebted to **Andrew Forsythe** for giving us his wonderful collection of post cards for our archives. There are several hundred ,all meticulously mounted and indexed, showing Finchley and surrounding districts, mostly at the beginning of the last century.

Many of them have also been photographed onto slides and these will be shown at the AGM in June. Thank you Andrew.

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

New members

Mrs Cecillia Brain, Southern Road, N2

Dave Lawrence, Long Lane, N2

Donations

Mr Tony McTeare, N3

Mr Martin Summers, N3

Mrs Cecillia Brain, N2

Ms Margaret Pacey,N2

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 **Please note**contributions for the **June** newsletter to me at 83,Wentworth Avenue, Finchley, London, N3 1YN 020 8346 5258....barwar@waitrose.com by **May 15th**.