

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

www.finchleysociety.org.uk

President: Bill Tyler AADipl. ARIBA. IHBC

Founded 1971

June 2005

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Members are warmly invited to the Thursday, **June 30th** meeting in the Drawing Room of Avenue House, East End Road, N3 at **8.00pm** This is our **Annual General Meeting** and will be followed by a show of slides from the archives compiled by Derek Warren.

APRIL REPORT

At the April meeting members were delighted and fascinated by the talk given by Bruce Bennett on his visit to the amazing Galapagos Islands. The informative talk was illustrated with many splendid and evocative photographs.

Maggie Ferguson

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

BARNET SOCIETY

We congratulated the Barnet Society on their 60th Anniversary, which was held in the drawing room of Arkley Lodge on the evening of Saturday, May 21st. Maggie and I were invited to attend and we presented them with a large drawing of Barnet Church as a present. This was much appreciated. The meeting was followed by cheese and biscuits, bowls of strawberries and slices of birthday cake in the dining room.

Barbara C Warren

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**.

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

The Committee are objecting to the extensive building plans put forward by the Sternberg Centre. The historic site would be grossly overdeveloped and severe traffic and parking problems will pose a huge problem for the neighbourhood around the centre. The council's refusal of permission last July is subject to appeal, but meanwhile amended plans are to be submitted.

It is proposed for the Society to institute a formal commendation for gardens and other areas on public view, to recognise that the design, maintenance and appearance of these areas are such as to significantly enhance the attractiveness of our area. It is also suggested that such awards be notified to the local media. The mechanisms by which this idea are to be taken forward have yet to be decided but will probably be done by means of a specially constituted sub-committee.

If you:

- know of particularly beautiful or imaginative gardens or other areas, and think that it would be good to commend the proprietors, and/or
- feel that you have a general interest and/or expertise in such recognition, sufficient for you to judge suggestions for commendation, and/or
- feel that you would like to sit on a sub-committee whose purpose would be to formalise the scheme and maintain it, then

please contact : **Stephen Cooper**, 020 8445 2685.....fax 0870 855 5629
stephestherc@waitrose.com

OCTAVIA HILL FOUNDATION

Derek and I were invited to Lambeth Palace on May 18th to the launch of the Octavia Hill Foundation. The Finchley Society has been connected to the Octavia Hill Society for many years, kept up mainly due to the interest and enthusiasm of Norman and Betty Burgess.

Peter Clayton, the Chairman of the Octavia Hill Society and Birthplace Museum Trust, has been tireless in his efforts to raise the awareness of the great deeds of this Victorian lady(who as a child lived in Finchley)and has lectured to us on many occasions on her work as a pioneer of social care, a campaigner for open spaces, one of the three founders of the National Trust, and who was, rather surprisingly the founder of the Army Cadet movement.

The new Foundation will develop and expand the work that Octavia Housing and Care has been doing over many years. The five key themes will be – Training and Employment Initiatives; Families, Young People and Children; Finance – help with form filling and debt; Community Safety; Older and Vulnerable People.

Among the dignitaries there was HRH The Duke of Gloucester and as I had already met him at Avenue House last July, I spoke to him about The Finchley Society again. It must have been the Octavia Hill cocktail which was served!!

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 – we were so lucky with the weather that brought crowds to the gardens - all prepared to spend their money in the sunshine. Thanks to Pat Dunnill's magnificent efforts, and your response for plants to sell; to the wheel turners; and to new member Helene Davidian who read palms for us: we raised the magnificent sum of £352.00. For the first time we had John Somerville's miniature statue on view and this created a lot of interest. Thanks to all those who spent a hot afternoon selling plants and to the enthusiasm of Miranda Dunn who knew the names of them!

Pat would now very much like to have any black four – sided seed pots. Call her on 8349 9825

East Finchley Festival, Cherry Tree Woods - Sunday June 26th

Friern Barnet Summer show – August 20 – 21 in Friary Park

We would really appreciate some help at these two events, just for an hour or so.

Now that we are very busy raising money for the Statue we would like to call upon a band of willing helpers to assist us in putting the stalls together and bringing them down, or to steward displays for an hour or so. The more we have in the rota the less we will be calling upon you. Please call *Derek Warren 020 8346 5258 or David Smith 020 8883 4154.*

The second annual dinner- Thursday, July 7th

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

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environmental Act 2005

At present for a local authority to enforce against dog fouling under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 the local authority must, under the act, designate the land. To do this the local authority must first publicise their intent, giving time for the public to respond. After the consultation period council members then sign a designation order and the land is then designated.

At least 18 boroughs are currently using this legislation to enforce against dog fouling and enforcement officers are furnished with the designated powers. Officers can issue a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £50 to owners who fail to clear up after their dog on designated land.

However, The 1996 Act is shortly to be repealed and to be replaced by **The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environmental Act 2005** whereby the local authority will create local 'Dog Control Orders'. This will make an order providing for offences relating to the control of dogs -

- a) fouling of land by dogs and the removal of faeces
- b) the keeping of dogs on a lead
- c) the exclusion of dogs from land
- d) the number of dogs which a person may take on any land.

The officers may issue a fixed penalty notice of up to £75

Harry Branchdale

Long Lane Pasture

A good attendance at a public meeting agreed to the proposed plan for a nature reserve at Long Lane Pasture. The Action Group, led by Ann Brown, are now negotiating for a long lease of the site from Barnet Council.

Customer Care

Do not forget to ring Barnet's Customer Care on **020 8359 4600** if you see any graffiti, litter, problems with trees or pavements, or anything else that Barnet Council should be dealing with. For problems with pollution of the Dollis or Mutton Brook ring the Environment Agency on 0800 807060

THE FINCHLEY SOCIETY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP.

The Group will be meeting at Avenue House on the 15th June at 8.00pm John Heathfield will be talking about "Finchley Local History- my work and approach", He has recently co-authored a book with Percy Reboul on our district during World War Two.

LONDON WALL WALK

Would you like to join me for a 3 mile walk along the route of the London Wall. I will be starting from the booking hall at Tower Hill Underground Station at 10.30 on Thursday 28th July and will include passing the 'Gherkin' and looking at Temple Bar in Paternoster Square. Give me a ring for further details.

Derek Warren 020 8346 5258

WHAT'S ON

Saturday, June 4th –**Bill Tyler**, our President will be leading a joint walk around East Finchley with the Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association, meeting at 11.00am in front of

the East Finchley Underground Station and with a possible ending at one of East Finchley's lesser known hosteleries.

June 19th TheBothy at Avenue House Garden , 3.30 – 6.30pm Jazz Concert. Tickets from 020 8455 4640

June 19th Glebelands Tour 2.00pm at junction of Summers Lane and Upway. £1. A circular walk lasting about 2 hrs. with Oliver Natelson.

July 3rd Friary Park and St James' Church and cemetery tour . 2pm at Statue, Friary Park. £1 A circular walk lasting about 2 hours with Oliver Natelson and John Philpot.

July 17th Tour of North Finchley 2,00pm at United Services Club , Ballards Lane, £1 A circular walk lasting about 2 hours with Oliver Natelson.

July 18th Church End, Finchley library. 8.00pm "Further Reminiscences of a London Florist" by Audrey Baker.

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

Andrew Forsythe's wonderful collection of post cards and slides will be commemorated with a plaque on the two shelves in the archives where the collection has been placed.

We welcome Margaret Cullen as a new "girl" to the Archives team .

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

Margaret Cullen, N3 Helen Davidian, N2 Michael Dawson, N3

Donations

Helene Davidian,N2 Michael Dawson, N3 Mr and Mrs T Johnson, N12 Robert Winton, 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 notecontributions for the **September** newsletter to me at 83,Wentworth Avenue, Finchley, London, N3 1YN 020 8346 5258....barwar@waitrose.com by **August 15th**.**

**Please note there are no newsletters during July and August.
HAPPY HOLIDAYS**