

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

www.finchleysociety.org.uk

President: Bill Tyler AADipl. ARIBA. IHBC

Founded 1971

November 2006

MONTHLY MEETING

Members are warmly invited to the monthly meeting on Thursday, **November 30th**, at 2.00 for 2.30pm. The speaker will be Lesley Robert and the title of her talk is "Pentland: Impacts on Communities Near and Far." Lesley has been Group Business Standards Manager for Pentland Group since 1966. She is responsible for advising and monitoring the performance of the operating companies for environmental and ethical sourcing programmes. She is also responsible for the initiation and development of programmes and partnerships which seek to address the causes of poor working conditions. She has served as advisor on a number of bodies concerned with development and human rights.

Pleas note change of time.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE – Chairman, David Smith, 17,Abbotts Gardens, N2 OJG 8883 4154 joda@fsmail.net

The Spike Milligan Statue Fund

If you want your money to go into the Spike Milligan Statue Fund please mark your cheque accordingly. If you just put The Finchley Society it will not get to the Fund. The Fund shares th Society's charity number and the Fund Treasurer will report at the Executive Committee on its financial position and activities.

The **Quiz** on September 9th at Utopia, a Scout Hall at 104 Grove Road, N12. was a great success with keen competition between FinSoc, the Stephens Collection, the Green Party Christ Church and the Scouts. The next one will be at the same venue on **November 25th** at 8.00pm.The Quizmaster will be Terry McLoughlin with a raffle and a sales table.. There will be tables of six, individual or parties. Tickets £5 each, including tea and coffee and nibbles, but bring your own wine and more nibbles, from Barbara Warren 8346 5258

We will soon have for sale good quality T-shirts (£10) and calendars with some outstanding local photographs.(£6). Watch this space.

Christmas party and meeting

Our annual get-together will take place as usual on **Thursday, December 14th**, starting at the earlier time of 7.30pm. This year we shall be honoured with the presence of the Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet, Cll. Eva Greenspan. The Mayor will be arriving at 7.45pm so please make every effort to arrive earlier. Our President, Bill Tyler, will greet the Mayor and then there will be two very short reports looking back over the Society 's work during the year. Refreshments will follow.

The format will be similar to other years; a raffle, optional quizzes, plenty to eat and drink, and plenty of conversation. The atmosphere is informal, so if you have not been to one of our

parties before, or even if you have not even been to one of our meetings, then this is a good point at which to break the ice.

There are no tickets on sale, but you will need to bring some money with you. Apart from the raffle, drinks will have to be paid for. Because of our charitable status, we have a collective duty to ensure that none of the cost of the event is paid from subscription income. This means that a realistic donation must be made for each glass of wine (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) or soft drink.

If you would like to contribute to the provision of food or help on the evening, please get in touch with **Shirley Avery** on 020 8346 8484 after December 1st.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Memories of The Blitz

We have now received four contributions from members about their memories of the Blitz. Not quite enough to form a book, but nevertheless a fascinating record for the archives and possibly for publication. We do not mind if the memories go a little further, say to 1945. There was no Blitz as such, but the V1 and V2 kept our heads down and our windows shattered. Further contributions to David Smith, Shall we say by the end of January.

David Smith 020 8883 4154

(Ed. Perhaps some of you will be meeting older relatives over Christmas, who once lived in Finchley. Now is the time to get them reminiscing about their Blitz experience!)

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE - Chairman: Harry Branchdale

[*harry@branchdale.co.uk*](mailto:harry@branchdale.co.uk)

Please use the following numbers for your problems –

Barnet Customer Care – 020 8359 4600

Environment Agency - 0800 8070 60

Trees – Ann Gallon020 8346 8533

Bird Reports and wildlife – Derek Warren....020 8346 5258....[*derwar@waitrose.com*](mailto:derwar@waitrose.com)

Many migrants have been passing through this autumn, and the redwings have arrived from Scandinavia. Mixed flocks of tits search for insects along the hedgerows and the kingfisher and grey wagtail patrol the brook. More parakeets have been seen and heard, and the owls have been vocal over the last few weeks. Butterflies were around well into October, the last one I saw was a red admiral.

Four of the `Open Spaces` in our area have `Friends`, and if you would like to find out more about them contact the secretary at the following addresses –

Friends of Brook Farm Open Space.

79, Walfield Avenue, N20 9PS

Friends of Cherry Tree Wood

88 Summerlee Avenue, N2 9QH

Friends of Friary Park

96, Ashurst Road, N12 9AB

Friends of Windsor Open Space

47, Broughton Avenue, N3 3ES

Next year I will be arranging visits to these areas so that we get to know them better

Recycling and Climate Change – Stan Spinks....8346 9811

Our MP Rudi Vis has asked us to publicise the following advice on energy saving steps –

- Turn your thermostat down by 1degree C. which could also cut your heating bills by £40 a year.
- Hot water thermostats should be set at no higher than 60 degrees C.
- Close curtains at dusk to stop heat escaping through the windows.
- Turn off lights when leaving the room.
- Do not leave appliances on standby.
- Use economy cycle on washing machines.
- Only boil as much water as you need.
- A dripping tap wastes energy and in one week wastes enough water to fill half a bath.
- Replace light bulbs with energy saving ones.
- Visit www.est.org.uk for more details.

He has included a pledge to be signed , which will be left on the table at monthly meetings.

B uilt Environment – Barbara Warren....020 8346 5258....barwar@waitrose.com

Traffic and transport –Pat Dunnill020 8349 9825, Harry Branchdale020 8445 4281

Front garden paving -David Hollingworth....020 8446 9693-

HISTORY GROUP – Secretary, Margaret Cullen, 21 Lyndhurst Gardens, N3 1TA, 020 8346 2092....margaretcullen@f2s.com.

To find out how you might participate in the group’s activities, please contact her.

M.A. Osborn of Finchley

Contrary to popular belief and some books, the camp led by Baden Powell held on Brownsea Island in 1907 was not the first Scout Camp. The boys who attended were members of the Boys Brigade and the public school sons of B. P.’s friends. However it was such a success that scout groups sprang up all over the country and the Scout Movement was founded in 1908.In that first year `The Scout` magazine ran a competition to select 30 scouts to attend a summer camp at Hexham, in Northumberland, again led by B.P.

Every part of Great Britain and Ireland was represented and the one from London came from Finchley. He was M.A.Osborn and was then probably about 15 years old. Unlike many of his fellow campers, he is listed as a casualty in the First World War, so does anyone know anything more? His surname, particularly without a final letter e, might be of a family known to you.

Tony McTeare

WHAT’S ON

- “Remembered Glories” a celebration of songs and musicals of the early 20th century performed by the Manor Light Opera at St Mary’s Church Hall, Hendon Lane, N3 on **Saturday, November 18th**. Tickets from John Lewis (020 7328 7846)£10 to include light refreshments.
- Members are invited to the Northern Heights Probus Club’s two course lunches at £12 held at 12.15 at the Sparta Restaurant 225-227 Regents Park Road (a short distance from College Farm) on the third Wednesday of each month (except the second Wednesday in December) There is a talk at each lunch – contact John Hajdu 020 8883 8114
- Dennis Evans, one of our members, has published his poems “Bubbles for Peace” and has kindly stated that he will donate £3 out of the £7.95 which members pay, to The Finchley Society. Contact him on 020 8346 9528

ARCHIVES

Maggie Ferguson – Archive Custodian, 36, Oakfield Road, Finchley, N3 2HT
8349 4283...emfmr@hotmail.co.uk.

The archive team meet on most Monday mornings between 10.00am and 1.00pm. with coffee at 11.30am.

We thank Kurt Weinburg for the gift of some fine photos of the Finchley Lido.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTOR.

Helene Davidian, 57, Elmshurst Crescent,N2 OLN....020 8444 3669

EVENTS SECRETARY

Mrs Sakina Jetha, 2, Templars Crescent, Finchley, London , N3 3QS 020 8346 2286
e-mail: jetha@uk2.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: membership@finchleysociety.org.uk.

If there are any changes to your membership or contact details please let Tony know.

We welcome new members –

Peter and Leela Floyd, N3 and ask that they make themselves known at the party and monthly meetings.

DONATIONS

Miss J Canning,N3	Christa Dimont, N3	Mr Gilbert Hill,N3
Mr and Mrs G R Lunn,N3	Mr and Mrs Peter Marsh. N3	Mrs J Winchester
Mr and Mrs D C Pegg,N3	Cll. L Sussman,N3	Mrs Sally Stuart,NW11

We are supported entirely by subscription and without our membership and their generosity the aims of the society could not be met. Some donations are quite substantial and on a regular basis.

EDITOR –Please note.....contributions to the **January newsletter** to Stephen Yeo, 2 Torrington Grove, N12 9NA....jsyeo@btinternet.com. by December 15th.

Ten years is just the right time to consider a change, with the membership in mind. The way should be open for new ways of doing things and new ideas. So, this is my last newsletter and I wish the next editor all the best. I have to thank the regular contributors, who usually sent copy in without much prompting; those who wrote very interesting articles and sent letters, which made the newsletter infinitely more interesting; Sakina, who sent in the details of the next monthly meeting, without fail; Tony Roberts, who patiently taught me a few computer tricks; Derek, who was my copy reader and ideas man; and particularly Tony Gossett, who knowing of my increasing lack of mobility, would walk down the road from Ballards Lane Methodist Church to collect the manuscript for printing.

There will be no newsletter in December.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.