

FEBRUARY 2007

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

www.finchleysociety.org.uk

President: Bill Tyler AADipl, ARIBA, IHBC

Founded 1971

MONTHLY MEETING: FINCHLEY COMMON PART II

Members are cordially invited to the Society's monthly meeting in the drawing Room at Avenue House on Thursday 22 February at which Hugh Petrie will speak on Finchley Common part II. After enclosure: how the land was broken up and the response to its enclosure. Finchley common is better known for its criminal past, but actually the use of the land after enclosure is just as interesting to the people of Finchley. Much of eastern side of the old parish of Finchley was common.

EDUCATION SECRETARY NEEDED

We have had to stop our service to schools because we no longer have an Education Secretary. Please can anyone help? In the past we have given talks to schools on conservation, promoted conservation projects and arranged for parties of schoolchildren to visit Avenue House and the estate. Now this has all stopped and it is something we should really be doing. If you are interested and want to know more about what is involved, ring Robert Winton on 020 8883 2633.

LONG LANE PASTURE

The Long Lane Pasture Trust hope to be signing a lease soon, so they will then be able to improve the site for wildlife and to open it for the local community to enjoy. However they need to raise £1,100 plus stamp duty, so if you can help please send a cheque payable to "Long Lane Pasture Trust" to The Treasurer, Long Lane Pasture Trust, 256 Long Lane, Finchley, N3 3SN.

Workday meetings are held every other Saturday, so if you feel like a bit of fresh air do come and join in between 10am and about noon. The next few dates are 10th & 24th February and 10th & 24th March.

Derek Warren 020 8346 5258.

TALKS AT THE LIBRARY

We have been asked by the Friends of Barnet Borough Libraries to tell you about the following events:

Monday 19 February 2007 at 8 pm for 8.15 pm – ‘History of Churchyards’ – an illustrated talk by Dr. Michael Worms

Monday 19 March 2007 at 8 pm for 8.15 pm ‘Poetry for Fun’ – a talk by Jacqueline Morris

Monday 16 April 2007 8 pm for 8.15 pm – ‘Hypnotherapy – The Myth and the Reality’

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Chairman Harry Branchdale. E-mail: harry@branchdale.co.uk

Please use the following numbers for your problems:

Barnet Customer Care:	020 8359 4600
Environment Agency:	0800 807060
Trees:	Ann Gallon: 020 8346 8533
Bird reports and wildlife:	Derek Warren: 020 8346 5258
Recycling:	Stan Spinks: 020 8346 9811
Built Environment:	Barbara Warren. 020 8346 258
Traffic and Transport:	Pat Dunnill. 020 8349 89825. Harry Branchdale: 020 8445 4281
Front garden paving:	David Hollingworth: 020 8446 9693

Be a smart shopper and follow the advice of the council in these five ways to reduce unnecessary packaging.

1. Use re-usable shopping bags
2. Buy produce with little or no packaging
3. Use refills
4. Choose loose fruit and vegetables or have them delivered package-free – see www.barnet.gov.uk/smart shopping
5. Buy energy efficient light bulbs.

For further tips visit www.barnet.gov.uk/recycling Stan Spinks

PLANNING COMMITTEE: Chairman: Stephen Cooper 32 Cardew Avenue N12 9LD. 020 8445 2685. e-mail: stephetherc@waitrose.com

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP: Secretary: Margaret Cullen, 21 Lyndhurst Gardens, N3 1TA. 020 8346 2091. email: bcullen@onetel.com.

ARCHIVES: Archive Custodian: Maggie Ferguson – 36 Oakfield Road, Finchley N3 2HT. 020 8349 4283. e-mail: emfmr@hotmail.co.uk

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

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER: Helene Davidian 020 8444 3669

Membership Secretary: Tony Roberts, 32a Sedgemere Avenue, East Finchley, London N2 0SH 020 8883 5954 e-mail: membership@finchleysociety.org.uk

THE PHOENIX CINEMA, 52 HIGH ROAD, EAST FINCHLEY, N2 9PJ – SUNDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2007 FROM 2 PM

An afternoon of silent films by local film-making pioneer and one of the founders of world cinema, R.W. Paul, whose studio was in Muswell Hill. The programme will include documentary footage of Victorian Life, including coverage of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee and Britain's first disaster film at the launch of HMS Albion; hilarious trick photography; various films shot in the Muswell Hill area including Muswell Hill Golf Course and Colney Hatch Lane. Introductory lecture by Professor Ian Christie and live musical accompaniment by Stephen Horne, celebrated pianist. Tickets £7.50 (concessions £6). Book early to avoid disappointment! 020 8444 6789.

SPIKE MILLIGAN STATUE FUND

We still have a few Spike calendars left and you can now have one for £3 - it is worth it just for the photographs.

QUIZ NIGHT

The next Quiz Night is Saturday 24th February at the scout H.Q. in Grove Road, North Finchley. It is opposite the bottom of Stanhope Road that runs down the side of Woolworths. Bring your own food and drink but tea and coffee will be available.

Tickets £5, from Barbara Warren 020 8346 5258. Tables of six, book individually or make up a whole table. T-shirts and sweat shirts will be on sale, and bring plenty of money for the raffle.

THE ENVIRONMENT

An Environmental Store that I went into the other day is guided by the following questions when choosing the products that they sell.

- Can this product reduce consumption, be reused, or recycled?
- Is this product made from natural, renewable, or recycled substances?
- Are the contents non-toxic, biodegradable, and cruelty free?
- Is this product responsibly packaged?
- Does the product help protect the environment and save money in the long run?
- Does the product enhance one's appreciation of nature, threatened environments, or mindful living?

Whenever they have a choice, having satisfied the above criteria, their preference is to support local artists and suppliers.

Let us start thinking about these questions when we have a choice.

Derek Warren.

AND FINALLY.....

A prize-winning poem by Miss Alice E. Springthorpe, which was published in the Finchley Press in 1916 – even then it seems they thought the rates were too high!

FINCHLEY

*This parish is lopsided quite, A paradox to many:
There's Finchley North and East and West but South there isn't any.*

*When sales are on at Finchley North the housewives hunting go
For bargains; but it's funny sport, they stop at Tally Ho!*

*We've trams and 'buses, shops galore on ground that once was tillage,
But still we shut our stubborn eyes and call the place a village.*

*The natives have ingenious ways when they are out for mammon
They get cod liver oil from Boots, and paraffin from Salmon.*

*No dog and no confectioner a living here is making,
For why? The very doctors do the Barking and the Baking.*

*The highways of this happy vale want christening again,
For Ballards Lane is quite a street, and Nether street's a lane.*

*The Urban Council praises our Finchley to the sky
But, oh! We wish they would forbear to rate it quite so high.*

*Well, here's health to Finchley and may it flourish long,
And all your gentle hearts forgive the folly of this song!*

REPORTS FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER BY 15 FEBRUARY 2007
TO ROSEMARY COATES 020 8368 1620 OR rosemary.coates@hotmail.co.uk
(rosemary.coates – not rosemarycoates)

**Visit our website!
www.finchleysociety.org.uk**