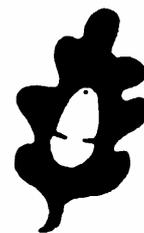


Southgate District Civic Trust

Newsletter
No. 240
April 2017



www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk

Twitter: @southgatetrust

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Contact us: info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk

COMING EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Saturday 6th May 2017 at 2.30 pm

Walker Lower Hall,
Christ Church Parish Centre,
7 The Green, Southgate, N14

Please come to the AGM, and tell us what you think about the Trust, and its work. More details are on **page 2**.



ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Please note that the annual subscription of £15 became due on **1st April**.

Please send payments with the membership renewal form on **page 11**, or using one of the other options shown on **page 10**.

HISTORY GROUP MEETING

Tuesday 9th May 2017 at 8.00pm
Friends Meeting House, Church Hill, N21

“Food in the 16th Century”
by Maureen Poole

A presentation in Tudor costume!
(See **page 3** for details)

MEMBERS FREE, VISITORS £2.00

Dates for your diary:

Mon. 1st May Christ Church May Fair (see **page 10** for details)
Sat. 8th July N21 Festival (see **page 10** for details)
Tues. 11th July History Group Meeting, Friends Meeting House - subject TBC

Contributions to the July newsletter should be sent by Friday 9th June 2017

to the Editor: Colin Barratt, 48 Maplin Close, Winchmore Hill, N21 1NB
Tel: 020 3302 4997 e-mail: colin_barratt@yahoo.co.uk

Notice to Newsletter Distributors:- We hope to deliver the next newsletter to distributors during week commencing **10th July 2017**. Emailed copies should be available for members w/c **3rd July**.

Southgate District Civic Trust ~ Established to conserve and enhance the environment in Southgate, New Southgate, Cockfosters, Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill and Hadley Wood.
(Registered as an amenity society with **Civic Voice**).

SOUTHGATE DISTRICT CIVIC TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 6th May 2017 at 2.30 pm
Walker Lower Hall, Christ Church Parish Centre
7 The Green, Southgate, N14 7EG

The AGM is essential to the successful functioning of the Trust. It is the time when our members elect the officers and committee for the coming year. It is also an opportunity to talk about our projects, help plan the coming year and the Trust's future strategy and campaigns.

Please come and support your Executive Committee working on your behalf.

After the formal business of the AGM, there will be a presentation of the *Graham Beech Memorial Award*.

The presentation will be followed by afternoon tea or coffee and cake, with an opportunity to celebrate with the award winner. The committee hope that this more social part of the afternoon will give everyone a chance to meet and chat with other members. We look forward to seeing you.

ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2017/2018

The following positions are elected at the AGM:

President	Treasurer
Vice-Presidents	Newsletter Editor
Chair	Publicity Officer
Secretary	Committee Members (6 in total)

We would particularly like to invite nominations for the positions that are currently vacant:

Publicity – this post has been unfilled for many years and only partially covered by other members of the committee. Now that we are involved in so many more campaigns and projects, we need to raise our profile and broadcast to the world what we are doing.

The [Publicity Officer](#) publicises the work and activities of the Trust, working with the web master and others to create appropriate material for social media, posters and advertising.

Vice-President – this post became vacant following Geoff Bone's sad death.

The [Vice-President](#) is one of the officers of the Trust, but although able to attend the Executive Committee meetings cannot vote.

Committee member

A [committee member](#) attends the Executive Committee meetings helping to shape and drive the various projects undertaken.

In addition to these positions, we would also like a volunteer to join the committee as [Minutes Secretary](#). This would assist the Secretary hugely and only involve a few hours work for each of the six-committee meetings spread through the year.

Can you help run your Civic Trust?

For more information or to discuss the roles with no obligation, please contact Jane Maggs on jane.maggs@btinternet.com. If you are interested in standing, please complete the nomination form on page 11 in this newsletter.

Jane Maggs

HISTORY GROUP MEETING - Tues. 9th May

This should be a fascinating experience. The speaker, Maureen Poole, will be in Tudor costume, and will talk to us about the types of food eaten in the 16th century, including how meals were prepared and the mealtime practices of this period. Not to be missed. Put this in your diary and try to get there! Open to ALL members. Visitors will be asked for a £2 donation.

Colin Barratt

COMMEMORATING LOCAL SOLDIERS AWARDED THE VICTORIA CROSS IN WW1

As part of the remembrance of the sacrifice of the First World War, The Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) announced in August 2013 a campaign to honour all Victoria Cross (VC) recipients. Engraved commemoration paving stones will be laid in or close to the birth place of Victoria Cross recipients over the four year period of the 100th anniversary to remember the act of valour which led to the award.

This is to:

- a) Honour their bravery
- b) Provide a lasting legacy of local heroes within communities
- c) Enable residents to gain a greater understanding of how their area fitted into the First World War story.

This year two local soldiers will be commemorated by Enfield Council. One was from Edmonton, and the Enfield Society are dealing with the Council over this. The other was born in New Southgate, which is part of the Trust's area, so we have been liaising with the Council about siting this stone.

Our local soldier was Allastair Malcolm Cluny McReady-Diarmid, who was born in Grove Road, New Southgate in 1888. All houses in this road were demolished during the re-development of the area in the 1970s, but a former WW2 bomb site on the other side of the road was renovated three years ago, to create the Grove Road Open Space. (I reported on the opening ceremony in the April 2014 newsletter). Some of us went to look at this area again recently, and discussed options for siting the paving slab. Jane Maggs contacted the person at Enfield Council who is dealing with the project, with our preferred location, next to the main pathway through the Open Space. We also suggested mounting the slab on a plinth, to make it more prominent, and protect it.

Our suggestions were received favourably, but the Council are still discussing the project and exploring the opportunities for siting the slab. We hope this will be done in November or December this year and we will keep you informed of progress.

Colin Barratt



There is so much that is important to all our lives and the place where we live; **SOUTHGATE CIVIC WEEK** gives our community the opportunity to celebrate positively what we have and to bring people together, to explore and enjoy our local environment, its history and the facilities available to all of us.



CIVIC WEEK is an event promoted nationally by Civic Voice. In our area it comprises a series of events to showcase the diversity of community groups and the range of activities taking place across the original Southgate Municipal Borough.

Southgate District Civic Trust (SDCT) is working closely with Civic Voice to unite the community, with the simple aim that we can all do something, however small, to make the Southgate District a better place to live.

Last year SDCT won a Civic Voice award for the Southgate Civic Week. So, this year we want to do more!

A small team of members are working with local groups to expand the events and create a programme of **CIVIC WEEK** events.

For 2017, the groups and events include (in no particular order):

Talkies Community Cinema film night, Cricket Matches at Walker Ground & Minchenden Association ground, Friends of Parks with various events, Southgate Green Association, Southgate Chamber of Trade, allotment open day, Southgate Photographic Society competition, Woodcroft Wildspace, a walk with JayWalks, bowling club open events, The Big Lunch at various locations and more.

Other events are at the planning stage, but if you are organising a community event during **CIVIC WEEK**, or would like to organise one, then let us know (info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk).

A programme of events will shortly appear on the **CIVIC WEEK** page of the SDCT web site (www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk) and then on our Facebook (www.facebook.com/southgatedistrictcivictrust) and on Twitter ([@southgatetrust](https://twitter.com/southgatetrust)) pages.



Southgate Civic Week – I care about where I live

PLANNING GROUP REPORT

All our areas have been busy since the last newsletter, and we have had 19 applications to deal with. Some have returned after having had refusals for their original applications. There are also a couple of Appeals pending.

Berkeley Homes in Trent Park have continued to make alterations to their development. The most recent was brought to the Conservation Advisory Group on 7th March, in the form of a presentation and model of the site. The main issue now appears to be the height of 3 blocks of flats that are proposed to be built on a high point of the site and are visible from a distance away in the Park.

The Fox Public House in Green Lanes, Palmers Green is not in a conservation area but the Southgate District Civic Trust was successful in getting it made into an Asset of Community Value. So it is of interest to us that the proposed refurbishment and redevelopment of the site should be acceptable. It will remain a public house although smaller and there is no planning application to the council at the time of writing. There have been public meetings by the developers for local opinions, but thus far any drawings that have been seen show that the proposed residential additions to the Fox give cause for concern. Not visible externally, but important, are the function rooms and community availability rooms that it are considered necessary for the continued use of the Fox, and are shown as being reduced. There will of course be constant monitoring by us of this development.

The Thomas Lipton Memorial House in Southgate, N14 is expected to come before the Planning Committee of Barnet Council this month. We have been following this from the beginning and have made our comments regarding the development to Barnet Council when necessary.

I am at present dealing with Conservation Area Management Proposals (CAMP) for Highlands Conservation Area and Hadley Wood Conservation Area, which means I will be going over the same ground as I did 5 years ago to see if there has been any difference or not, since then. Following that, I will then be accompanied by an Enfield Council Heritage Officer who will take back our findings to process them.

Any member who would like to come to one of our planning group meetings is welcome to contact me at 0208 364 3500 or irenestone@blueyonder.co.uk to get the date of the next meeting. This is a group that has the satisfaction of knowing that their comments and opinions on developments both large and small can make a difference to the areas that we live in and care about, and that it reaches the Case Planning Officer at Enfield Council.

*Irene Stone
Group Chairman*

OPEN MEETING - 11th March 2017
Southgate's Rivers – previous, current & Potentially future work to enhance them
by John Bryden



A fascinating talk by our speaker John Bryden, Senior Programme Manager at Thames21 about the work of the charity, particularly in the Southgate district. John started with a brief history of Thames21, from its beginnings as part of the Keep Britain Tidy campaign, through to becoming an independent charity 10 years ago.



He went on to outline the work of the charity, particularly the Love the Lea campaign, before moving on to update us on all the local projects.

We were reminded that the work of the charity is based in the community working with volunteers. Thames21 provides regular training, which can lead to recognised qualifications. They work with other organisations, including the Environment Agency, Thames Water, friends of park groups and local councils. He also mentioned the tremendous backing and support from Enfield Council, particularly the 'Water Team'

who were praised for their support and all the practical work they have done.

John presented a number of old maps, which clearly indicated the various water features around the area, such as ponds, fish ponds, drainage channels and so on. The maps also showed the various streams running through the area, which sadly often remain hidden in concrete culverts. What is fascinating is the number of places that absorbed or used the water from the streams and rivers. This created a natural flood protection, something we clearly lost by filling in the ponds and culverting the waterways.

He went on to give us an update on some of the projects in our area, including the work in Grovelands Park, along the Houndsden Gutter, the Glenn Brook Wetlands including Boxers Lake, where the new wetlands have slowed the water flow and improved the water quality.

John told us about the work on Moore Brook, an old watercourse that no one in the audience knew existed. It had been buried years ago, was not on the Environment Agency maps, but the local residents knew it was there! The work on this site has resulted in old playing fields being transformed into the Firs Farm Wetlands.



Moving on to the future, John explained community modelling and an EU funded project to use remote controlled boats to monitor water quality. Many people seemed interested in the idea that local people will be trained to drive these boats.

There was a fair bit of discussion about flood management in the area and throughout the talk the importance of the various schemes to alleviate risk was highlighted. It was emphasised that it is not just about delivering protection schemes, but working with other groups including farmers, tree planting and other sustainable schemes.

Throughout the afternoon, the audience had many questions, all of which stimulated the debate. This was a fascinating and enjoyable talk about a sometimes-unseen part of our environment and how the rivers of Southgate are being brought back to life.

If you would like to know more about Thames21 and their work, take a look at the website: www.thames21.org.uk.



Photos: Mervyn Maggs and Thames21

Jane Maggs

LONDON NATIONAL PARK CITY

At the Open Meeting, Alison Archer spoke about the initiative to make London a National Park City. She gave a brief outline of the project to make London the world's first National Park City. The idea is to make this a city where people and nature are better connected, it is rich with wildlife and every child benefits from exploring, playing and learning outdoors. The plan would make London a greener, healthier and fairer place to live. Together we can make London a National Park City.

Alison encouraged us all to vote at our local Ward Forum to support the idea to make London a National Park City. You can find out more about this impressive project at <http://www.nationalparkcity.london/>. SDCT would urge everyone to vote at their Ward Forum and to sign up on this website to show your support.

Jane Maggs

ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP (APPG) FOR CIVIC SOCIETIES

"The APPG for Civic Societies was established to represent the civic society movement in Parliament and help make the movement's voice heard"

SDCT has attended two APPGs so far this year. Both events organised by Civic Voice took place in Portcullis House, Westminster and were chaired by Craig Mackinlay MP.



The first in January: Will Neighbourhood Planning deliver the homes the country needs? The speakers were Lord Matthew Taylor, Craig Mackinlay MP, Max Farrell and Scott Mann MP (L to R in the picture below).



The debate centred on the Neighbourhood Planning development process and it was stated that 2,000 communities across the country are developing plans. Of which 280 have been seen right through to the referendum stage. In the SDCT area, Hadley Wood's plan has now been adopted; we are not aware of any others currently in discussion. The debate did clearly illustrate why urban areas are reluctant to take up this process.

Lord Matthew Taylor expressed the importance of having Neighbourhood Planning to give communities a say in what is being developed in their area. He continued that a simplification of the Neighbourhood Planning process is needed to improve meaningful community engagement. He illustrated this with his own experiences.

Max Farrell, Partner at Farrells discussed the 10 principles that Farrells have identified for growing communities.

He illustrated each point, but highlighted that they see developers proactively engaging with communities from the outset as vital. SDCT positively agrees with this principle, as well as the importance of quality architecture. Sadly something lacking in some of the recent developments in this area.

10 Principles for growing communities

1. Proactively **engage with communities** from the outset
2. **Landscape** should be the **primary infrastructure**
3. New buildings must **fit in with the character** of the place
4. There must be **continuity** following the shape, pattern and form of what's there
5. **Disaggregation** not mass housing
6. Each phase should be **complete within itself**
7. **Sustainability** should be fundamental
8. **Quality architecture** right through to **detailed design**
9. Minimise the **impact of cars**
10. **Build a balanced and socially mixed society**

FARRELLS

The debate was interesting, but reinforced SDCT concerns about the complications of the process as well as the amount of time and commitment needed to bring the neighbourhood plans to completion.

The second debate in February: Will the Housing White Paper deliver the homes the country needs? The speakers were Andrew Mitchell MP and Lord Shipley.



This debate was extremely topical with the housing white paper in discussion. Lord Shipley highlighted what we have seen locally, that delays in the planning process are not caused by the Planning Department, but a whole host of other reasons.



He highlighted developers sitting on land, builders preferring green belt land for financial reasons, and the lack of incentive for them to develop brown field sites.

The speakers covered a range of issues pertinent to all groups concerned about their built environment. Not surprisingly the debate covered a range of issues, with examples from member societies and was extremely illuminating. Probably more importantly it raised community concerns with the current and proposed legislation. There was also a lively discussion on how many houses are needed and whether the Green Belt should be preserved in its current form.

The APPGs are thought provoking debates of interest to groups like ours. SDCT tries to attend the APPGs that are relevant and regularly invites David Burrows MP to attend. If you can attend future events, I would certainly urge you take up the opportunity.

Jane Maggs

Photos: Jane Maggs and courtesy of Civic Voice

GOOD NEWS FOR TRENT PARK MUSEUM

At the end of March it was announced that the plans for a museum at Trent Park Mansion had been agreed and a legal document was signed by members of the Trent Park Museum Trust and developers Berkeley Homes.

Chairman of the Museum Trust, Councillor Jason Charalambous, and historian Dr Helen Fry, signed the agreement with representatives from Berkeley Homes. SDCT members will remember the talk to a packed Walker Hall given by Helen last October, about the work of the WW2 secret listeners at Trent Park who obtained vital information from the unsuspecting high-ranking German prisoners.

It's taken three years of negotiations to reach this point, and the Museum Trust plan to develop the basement and ground floor of the Grade 11 listed building, creating a learning centre and museum. The public will have the chance to learn how British intelligence officers used covert listening devices to gather information. The earlier history of the mansion will also be included in the museum.

The next step is to raise the money to fund the work and for the project to be passed by Enfield Council, but the Museum Trust are hopeful that this new facility will be open in the next few years.

Colin Barratt

UPCOMING FESTIVALS - HELP REQUIRED!

CHRIST CHURCH MAY FAIR - 1st May 2017 Southgate Green, Waterfall Road, N14

The Trust has booked a stall at the Fair again this year. We will be taking the opportunity to publicise the Trust, its projects (including Civic Week) and publications. We will need help from members to put up and man the gazebo throughout the event.

If you can help, even for an hour, please contact Richard Purver (020 8882 0123 or via info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk).

If you have not helped before, this is a great time to meet all sorts of people and you will be given information so you know how to answer any questions.

N21 FESTIVAL - 8th July 2017 Winchmore Hill Green

The Trust will also have a stall at the N21 Festival on Winchmore Hill Green in July. Again if you can help man our stall, please contact Graham Davis (020 8364 0480 or via: info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk).

SOUTHGATE DISTRICT CIVIC TRUST – MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Your subscription for the year 2017-2018 is now due. The subscription remains at **£15** per household for this year.

How to pay:

- Cheque made out to *Southgate District Civic Trust*, sent by post with your form (on **page 11**) to the Membership Secretary at the address below.
- BACs to *Southgate District Civic Trust*
Account: 28328603 & Sort: 09 01 55
Reference: YOUR SURNAME & INITIAL

Confirmation and contact details to be sent by e-mail to info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk.

- Set up a standing order, payable on the 1st April each year, using the account and reference details for BACs payments.

We will naturally be pleased to receive any additional donation to the Trust that you may care to give. Many thanks for your continuing support.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

To: Joe Studman, Membership Secretary
Southgate District Civic Trust,
15 Calder Close, Enfield, EN1 3TS

Name _____

Address _____

Email address: _____

Tel No: _____ Date: _____

I enclose my 2017/18 Subscription: £ 15.00

I also enclose a donation of: £ _____

TOTAL: £ _____



NOMINATION FORM – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 6th May 2017

To: The Secretary,
Southgate District Civic Trust,
108 Chelmsford Road,
Southgate, N14 4JL

From: _____

I wish to nominate _____ for election as:

A. An officer of the Trust, in the post of _____

B. A Member of the Executive Committee
(Delete as appropriate)

Signed: _____ Date: _____

I agree to be nominated for the above position. Signed: _____

Address: _____

