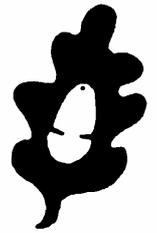


# Southgate District Civic Trust

Newsletter  
No. 241  
July 2017



[www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk](http://www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk)

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## COMING EVENTS

### **PALMERS GREEN FESTIVAL - BROOMFIELD PARK**

**Sunday 3rd September 12pm to 7pm**

We have a stall again at this festival, and we look forward to raising our profile still further, after the successful use of the shop in Southgate Station Parade during Civic Week. We will need a rota of helpers on the day, as the Festival will last for seven hours! so if you have an hour or two to spare, please let one of the Executive Committee know.

#### **HISTORY GROUP MEETING**

**Tuesday 12th September 2017**

**at 8.00pm**

Friends Meeting House, Church Hill, N21

**“Enfield Local Studies Library and  
Archives”**

by John Clark

(See page 3 for details)

**MEMBERS FREE, VISITORS £2.00**

#### **OPEN MEETING**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

**at 2.30pm**

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

**“London Recorded by Camera:  
Street Photography in the East End”**

by Stefan Dickers

(See page 5 for details)

**ALL WELCOME**

#### **Other Dates for your diary:**

Tues. 14th November History Group Meeting, Friends Meeting House - subject TBC

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you are a member, and have not yet paid your Trust subscription of £15 for this year, (which began on April 1st), this will be the last newsletter you will receive. You can renew your membership by using the form in the April newsletter, or on our website, and sending it to the Membership Secretary, Joe Studman, 15 Calder Close, Enfield, EN1 3TS.

**Contributions to the October newsletter should be sent by Friday 8th Sept. 2017**

to the Editor: Colin Barratt, 48 Maplin Close, Winchmore Hill, N21 1NB

Tel: 020 3302 4997 e-mail: [colin\\_barratt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:colin_barratt@yahoo.co.uk)

**Notice to Newsletter Distributors:-** We hope to deliver the next newsletter to distributors during week commencing **9th Oct. 2017**. Emailed copies should be available for members w/c **2nd Oct.** (See also page 8)

**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 COMES TOGETHER WITH A POP-UP SHOP AT SOUTHGATE STATION TO CELEBRATE SOUTHGATE CIVIC WEEK 2017

**Southgate Civic Week 2017: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017**



For just one week, the old shoe repairers in Station Parade, was transformed by Southgate District Civic Trust into a pop-up shop to celebrate Southgate Civic Week, with photographic exhibitions of the present and historic area. A week that showed the best of our community, bringing together an incredible range of events, including hockey training, cricket matches, bowling, walks, the Big Lunch, Jazz, Open Squares and Open Gardens. As well as a Litter Pick in Southgate, which collected an incredible 20 bags of rubbish in 1½ hours!

It all started when Joanne McCartney AM, Deputy Mayor of London, and Bambos Charalambous, the newly elected MP for Enfield Southgate, presented the prizes to the winning

entries for the Southgate Photographic Society Competition, "50 Years of Conservation".

The Civic Trust were extremely pleased that on his first day as an MP and after very little sleep, Bambos was able to join representatives of the local civic societies, clubs and associations involved with Southgate Civic Week and local councillors.

During 2017, we are commemorating 50 years of Conservation Areas, so it was amazing to be able to celebrate this landmark event, in a listed building and in the Southgate Circus Conservation Area! It became Southgate's contribution to the countrywide Big Conservation Conversation!

Volunteers from the various groups involved in Southgate Civic Week ably manned the pop up shop all week. It became a great place to meet, talk and exchange information about the area. The volunteers met some fascinating people, local residents, and visitors to the area, business owners as well as friends and neighbours.



For more information on the various events and the groups involved see our website [www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk](http://www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk), plus for more photos and reactions, take a look at our Twitter account: <https://twitter.com/southgatetrust> .



SDCT would like to thank a few people who made Civic Week possible. It was co-ordinated by a small team: *Colin Barratt, Graham Davis, Chris Horner, Jane Maggs, Elaine Tyler and Joseph Tzouvanni.*

We are incredibly grateful to our sponsors: *Transport for London for the use of the Station Parade shop, Claud W Dennis Coffee Bar who provided catering and wine for the opening, chairs and all sorts of support, RGP Architects for the Photographic Competition prizes and various prints and Orion Design & Print who supplied our snazzy new flyers.* We also would like to thank *Mervyn Maggs, Simon Gillingham, the local businesses who helped out, John for the loan of his model of Southgate Station and Fiona for the fresh baked biscuits.*

Finally, Civic Voice, the national charity for Civic Societies, who promote CIVIC DAY nationally and provided us with support.

*Jane Maggs*



Last year was the first Southgate Civic Week, but this year it had grown into something bigger and better, with 26 community groups involved. So now the challenge is: what to do next year!

## **SDCT THANK YOU LUNCH**

On 28th April a lunch was arranged at La Petite Auberge in Cockfosters to thank Janet Lane and Alastair Palmer for their work over many years for the Trust, on the Executive Committee. Unfortunately, Alastair was unwell, and unable to come, but the occasion was enjoyed by Janet and the committee.



## **HISTORY GROUP MEETING 12th SEPT. 2017**

Our speaker in September will be John Clark, Local Studies Officer from Enfield Library and Museums Service. He will tell us about the extensive archive collections at Enfield Local Studies Library in the Dugdale Centre, which are a valuable resource for local and family history study and research. He will bring examples of some of these documents, some of which date back to medieval times.

This will also provide an opportunity to ask John about research tools and documents available at Enfield Local Studies.

## THE MINCHENDEN OAK, SOUTHGATE GREEN

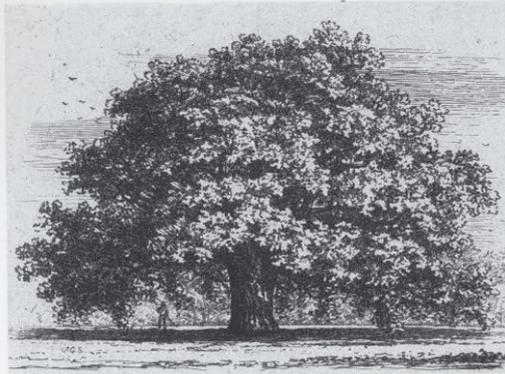
*Its great trunk rooted in history, its leaves bathed in the memory of 800 Summers are in themselves The Remembrance of Things Past*

This is essentially a story of linkages in terms of people, places, community groups, and local history.

Of all the trees in Great Britain **The Oak, (Quercus Robur)** is considered to be the **King**. Famed for its endurance and longevity it is synonymous with strength and steadfastness. The Oak was held sacred to **Zeus and Jupiter** and in the classical world it was regarded as **The Tree of Life**, its deep roots penetrating into the underworld and its branches soaring into the heavens; priests would divine the pronouncements of the Gods by interpreting the rustling of the Oak's leaves. **Pliny** wrote in the first Century that **Druids** performed all their religious rites in oak groves where they gathered mistletoe from the trees using a golden sickle. Many early Christian Churches were situated in oak groves probably because they were sites of earlier pagan worship.

Dense Oak forests once covered the South East of England, people built their homes in the oak forests, using oak as a resource for building houses, furniture, barrels, sticks for kindling and charcoal and acorns for milling into flour or for feeding to herds of pigs. Oak bark was used in the leather tannin process and as a medicine. The Minchenden Oak, formerly called The Chandos Oak, is the last vestige of the Ancient **Minchen Wood**, as noted on the 1600 pre Enclosure Act plan, which showed this area of Southgate and Palmers Green covered by extensive dense oak woodland.

14. A late eighteenth-century view of the Minchenden Oak. The tree still survives in a much battered state adjoining Christ Church in Waterfall Road.



The Minchenden Oak is an ancient pollarded English Oak, and in 1883 was reputed to be the largest in England, with a spread of over 126 feet and a reported girth of over 21 feet. It is thought to be between 600 and 800 years old. Two limbs were lost in a gale in 1899 and in 1900 it was reported to have a spread of 136 feet and a height of 60 feet. (*The oldest Oak Tree in England is The Bowthorpe Oak in Lincolnshire thought to be circa 1,000 years old*). The tree represents the last vestige of the extensive ancient oak woodland, which was characteristic of this area, some of which still remains around the perimeter of The Walker Ground and in Arnos Park.

The Minchenden Oak Garden is a remnant of the extensive Minchenden Estate owned by The Duke and Duchess of Chandos who lived at Minchenden House located nearby on The Green. The house is now demolished and the estate was subsequently absorbed into The Walker Family's Arnos Grove Estate in 1836. The remaining oak woodland was felled in 1939 after Lord Inverforth had sold the Arnos Grove Estate for residential development, which remains today.

The tree and the garden were saved from development by Southgate Borough Council for the community and it now serves as a reminder of the links that this area has with the past. The Minchenden Oak Garden was created as an evergreen Garden of Remembrance and was opened on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1934 by the vicar of Christchurch and the Mayor of Southgate. The garden is fully enclosed and was one of Southgate's secrets. Over time the garden was neglected, became overgrown and fell into disrepair until 2013, when Southgate Green Association formed the Friends of The Minchenden Oak Garden and secured a grant from the Enfield Residents Priority fund to restore the garden and to promote its use as a community asset.



The Friends group of volunteers set about: clearing the undergrowth, opening up overgrown areas, planning how the garden could be enhanced and opened up for the benefit of the wider community. The works completed so far include: removal of dead trees and the installation of a new boundary fence. The Minchenden Oak was surveyed and extensive pruning works were carried out to stabilize the tree. A new paved ramped access way was built at the entrance. The unstable boundary wall on Waterfall Road was rebuilt. The entrance gates were repainted. The Yorkstone paved footpaths were re-laid. The dilapidated benching and paving around the oak tree were removed and a more natural oak bark chip setting laid around the tree allowing its roots to breathe. New oak bench seating was installed. Bird boxes were made and installed by 6<sup>th</sup> Southgate Scout Group. Shrubs and trees were planted. Informative lecterns were installed to provide visitors with the background history of the tree and its environment.

On 24<sup>th</sup> May 2015 the gardens were rededicated by the Bishop of London, following the extensive restoration works carried out in the Garden. The garden reopened to the public on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 by hosting A Big Lunch. These have become a regular feature, being held again as part of Southgate's Civic Week in 2016 and 2017.

Since its reopening the Garden has been a feature of Open House Weekend and is well used by the local community and by visitors from further afield.

The Oak Tree is still here and it's used by The Walker School as its emblem. It serves as a reminder of things past and represents the circle of life: acorn to tree to acorn.

The Friends of The Minchenden Oak Garden are a group of volunteers working to maintain and restore the garden to an even better green space. You could help us by giving some of your time to help us replant the garden, or consider joining us. You can contact us at [www.minchendenoak.org](http://www.minchendenoak.org)

*Chris Horner*

## **OPEN MEETING – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

### ***London Recorded by Camera: Street Photography in the East End*** ***A talk by Stefan Dickers***

The next open meeting will be on 28th October 2017, when our speaker will be **Stefan Dickers, Special Collections and Archives Manager at the Bishopsgate Institute**. He will present a history of street photography in the East End of London, from the 1850s to the present day.



Photo: Courtesy of Bishopsgate Institute

The East End of London has played a central role in the development of photography where the social conditions of the area and its people have fascinated generations of photographers in their work. Using the extensive collections on London History held at Bishopsgate Institute, this talk will explore the development of street photography from the 1850s, when fledgling photographers attempted to catch the flourishing docks and shipyards of the Isle of Dogs, to

Stefan Dickers is Special Collections and Archives Manager at the Bishopsgate Institute and looks after its numerous collections on London History. He started at the Institute in 2005 and has previously worked in the archives of the London School of Economics and Senate House Library.

**Time & venue:** 2.30pm Walker Lower Hall, Christ Church Parish Centre, 7 The Green, Southgate, London N14 7EG

## HISTORY GROUP MEETING MAY 2017

### Food in the 16th and 17th Centuries - From Potage to Peacocks

by Maureen Poole

Kentwell Hall, in Long Metford, Suffolk, had been opening for three weeks a year for school groups to visit who were covering the Tudors, set up as it would have been in the 16th century. This has now stopped, as Tudor history has been dropped from the curriculum. However, Tudor events are still being run there. Maureen has studied cooking, and is a volunteer at Kentwell, acting as Head Cook in Tudor re-enactments. She stays in character with visitors, talking to them in Tudor English. She demonstrates cooking 16th century food and offers it to visitors. For our talk, she dressed in Tudor cook's costume.

Potage was food for the poor. It was a thick vegetable soup, and was eaten every day, with the boredom relieved by adding mushrooms, roots, werts and herbs but, surprisingly to us, not vegetables. The poor also kept chickens and pigs, which would be a tasty addition as meat, as well as using eggs. They often trapped rabbits, although this was illegal. When those at the Great House finished their meals, buckets of leftovers were put out for the poor.

In contrast, the rich existed almost entirely on flesh, although they also liked salads - platters of lettuce and other green leaves, cucumbers, hard boiled eggs, anchovies and edible flowers. Their meat consumption was colossal. Rabbits were kept in warrens, with ferrets being used to chase them out, so they could be caught. Wild birds were also eaten - ducks, geese and small birds. (There was a recipe for potatoes with sparrows' brains!).

In the early 16th century it was a more medieval diet, with savoury and sweet items mixed. Later it was more like today's food, which was less spiced. At Michaelmas (29th Sept.) there was little food for the animals, so they were killed and salted. Pigeons were kept in special lofts. Fish were caught from nearby rivers, or from the sea, if nearby, and where there was a moat, this was often used as a fish farm. (Carp were kept in Kentwell's moat, although these are very bony, and not easy to prepare).

The rich had three meals a day: Breakfast (at around 5am) would usually consist of bread, cold meat and ale. Everyone drank ale or wine, as the water was not safe to drink, unless you had a well. The children drank "small ale". Sweet things were popular - jellies (made from boiled animal feet or isinglass), cream with fruit, gingerbread and cakes or buns. There was food from abroad - spices imported via Holland, and sugar (which had been available in Britain since the 14th century), but was very expensive. They had their main meal in the middle of the day, as candles weren't needed to see what they were eating. The master of the house would order the best food he could afford. The centrepiece would be either a peacock or a swan (normally older cygnets). Maureen has cooked peacocks, on occasions.

Cooks were paid well, as this showed how rich you were. In these times it was important to know your place in society. There were laws on what you could wear. People needed to be able to judge status when meeting others, and behave appropriately. Maureen explained that she was wearing a late 16th century costume, consisting of a linen smock, woollen petticoat, lined wool curtil (boned and laced), and cap.

Rich landowners did look after the poor, particularly after the Black Death had killed much of the population. The surviving poor then had more power, as they were in demand as servants.

*Colin Barratt*



**Maureen in 16th century costume**

## WALKERS AND TAYLORS RETURN

The untimely death of Trust member Ruby Galili in May 2016 (reported in newsletter 237) reminded us of the splendid book she had written on the 18<sup>th</sup> century Walker family of Arnos Grove, published by the Trust in 2008. In fact this was planned as part 1 of a trilogy on the Walkers (and the related Taylors of Grovelands), parts 2 and 3 of which would have carried the story into the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Sadly, Ruby did not live to complete the project, but her notebooks contain the fruits of ongoing research which would have contributed to the later volumes.

The Walkers and Taylors (of brewery fame) were wealthy Southgate landowners, and some of their descendants were contacted by Ruby in the course of her research. The Trust was therefore very pleased to hear from them after her death, and (with the agreement of her husband Bandi) to make available to them the unused material that Ruby had collected on their families.

This culminated in a visit to Southgate on 9<sup>th</sup> May this year by Edward Walker (great great grandson of Isaac and Charles Walker of Arnos Grove), and Edward's cousin Jeremy Taylor, together with other members of their families. I was grateful for the help and support of our President Audrey Kirby and publications sub-committee Chair Richard Purver in arranging a tour of the Walker and Taylor "sights" for our visitors.



The Walker and Taylor families inside Christchurch

We assembled first at Christ Church (see left) to view the many examples of Walker family generosity (including of course the church itself), as well as the Walker and Taylor family vaults in the graveyard. After a brief visit to observe Walker cricketing memorabilia in the nearby pavilion we gathered at the Beaumont Care Centre (ex-Arnos Grove, home of the Walkers for 141 years).

The remarkable Lanscroom murals were duly admired, as were the beautiful plasterwork decorations in the principal ground-floor

Following a convivial lunch at Ye Olde Cherry Tree, some of the party continued to the Taylors' former home at Grovelands, where visits to the cellars (!) and the Birdcage Room were arranged. The tour concluded at the Friends' Meeting House; Quaker members of the Walker family are buried here.

Our guests enjoyed their visit and were glad of the opportunity to connect with their Southgate "roots". We were delighted to welcome them and hope they will visit us again. And who knows? Maybe the research notes that Ruby has left will enable more chapters of the Walker and Taylor family history to be written.

*Peter Hodge*



The group outside The Priory - Audrey Kirby & Peter Hodge on far left, Matthew Eccleston in black in middle, Jeremy Taylor far right, with his family.

*NB: Special thanks are due to the representatives and staff of the various properties visited, who opened their doors to us, showed us round, and answered our many questions.*

## CIVIC VOICE NEWS

We have remained members of the Civic Voice and continue to receive the benefits from this membership, including a reduction in the cost of our insurance policy and day passes for the National Trust.

Our membership keeps us in touch with national issues affecting us locally, particularly the continual changes to planning legislation. We also receive a weekly mail sent to all member organisations. This highlights the activities of other member societies. Where relevant to us, the reports have been passed on to you in the Newsletter. All the work we have been doing has raised our profile within the civic movement, so Southgate has appeared more frequently in this mail.

Civic Voice is continuing to work closely with the APPG (All Party Parliamentary Group) for Civic Societies, which is supported by an increasing number of MPs. We did invite our MP David Burrowes to these meetings, but without success. Due to the election, the APPG has been dissolved, but we hope it will be reinstated shortly after the new parliament sits. We will then invite our new MP, whom ever that is, to join.

Various Trust members attended APPG meetings at Portcullis House during the year. These meetings are always interesting, with a lively debate and often a robust exchange of views. I would encourage any member to come along to these meetings.

Last year, Graham Davis, Chris Horner, Elaine Tyler and I attended the Civic Voice AGM in Chester. Our productive two days were reported in the Newsletter, and we brought back plenty of ideas to put into action. The highlight of the convention was the award to Southgate District Civic Trust of a 'Civic Voice National Civic Day Award', in recognition of all our hard work put into Civic Week last year.

This year the AGM will be in Wakefield and we expect to send a contingent of members.

Finally, I have recently been invited to attend the Civic Voice Regional Forum to represent SDCT. The first regular meeting will be taking place later in May, so there will be more news about the work of this group in the next newsletter.

*Jane Maggs*

## BOATS ON THE LAKE IN GROVELANDS PARK



Photo by Hugh Humphrey

After the success of the rowing at the Grovelands Park Centenary event, there have been regular suggestions that the rowing should be brought back permanently.

After exploring the feasibility of this idea, asking a lot of questions and a great deal of persistence by Executive Committee member Joseph Tzouvanni, it looks like this is now one step closer. The London Borough of Enfield has invited expressions of interest for leisure activities in the parks, including boating in Grovelands Park.

We now await the next stage of the process and hope to have news soon.

## FUTURE DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSLETTERS

**Please note** - This edition will be the last newsletter to be routinely distributed to members in a printed format. It is intended that future editions will be sent to members electronically, unless they have no email address or they specifically request a printed copy.

# SOUTHGATE DISTRICT CIVIC TRUST

## Annual General Meeting 6th May 2017

### REPORTS

#### ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2017/2018

The following members were elected as officers and members of the Executive Committee:

President	Audrey Kirby
Vice-Presidents	Chris Howell
Chairman, Executive Committee	Graham Davis
Secretary	Jane Maggs
Treasurer	Elaine Tyler
Membership Secretary	Joe Studman
Newsletter Editor	Colin Barratt
Publicity Officer	<i>remains vacant</i>
Committee Members (up to 6 members)	Irene Stone Richard Purver Chris Horner Simon Gillingham Joseph Tzouvanni

We did not receive any nominations for the posts of Publicity officer and Minute's secretary, so regrettably these posts remain unfilled. If you are interested in either of these roles, please contact Jane Maggs.

The post of Vice Chair is elected by the Executive Committee, but has remained unfilled for a number of years. This year, as the first act of the new committee, they appointed Chris Horner to the role Vice Chair.

#### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This is my first report as chairman. This has been a year of consolidation and some success for Southgate District Civic Trust (SDCT), but a year that has also highlighted some concerns about our future.

A year ago there were a number of vacancies for officer positions on our executive committee. The main positions were filled and the committee has been able to function. However, the trust is too dependent on the enormous efforts of a few very dedicated individuals, in particular our secretary Jane Maggs. The trust punches well above its weight locally, but needs some more active members. I hope that we will recruit new members in the coming year, in particular via Civic Week. In the meantime I would ask all members to consider helping out a bit. Is there anyone who would be willing to take a little of the load from Jane's shoulders?

Our most noteworthy success was a national award by Civic Voice for outstanding effort for Civic Day. The award was presented in October at the Civic Voice National Convention in Chester to Chris Horner and Jane Maggs. Chris, in particular, was responsible not just for Civic Day. He turned that idea into a Civic Week of activities for Southgate. We are keen to build on this success and we will publicise a far larger programme of events and activities for Civic Week this June.

(continued over)

Our planning group meets regularly under the leadership of Irene Stone. The group discusses planning applications relating to conservation areas and feeds in its views direct to Enfield Council and to the Council's Conservation Advisory Group. The group also considers major planning proposals throughout Southgate. Sites under consideration recently have included the major housing scheme for Trent Park and significant proposals for commercial and residential development at the Fox public house in Palmers Green and residential redevelopment of Capitol House in Winchmore Hill. The group recently met a planning officer from Enfield Council to learn about the preparation of the new local plan. I hope that we will have more meetings with Council representatives in the future.

Our website has become a useful resource. I am grateful to Simon Gillingham for its development and maintenance. We have started to review the operation of the website after the first three years of its operation. Recently Jane Maggs has spread information about SDCT activities through the social media of Facebook and Twitter. This is important because social media are such an important method of communication amongst younger generations.

Our newsletter is a more traditional but nonetheless important way of communicating with our members. Colin Barratt not only acts as editor, but also leads the history group.

Other members of the Executive Committee also play vital roles. Elaine Tyler is rationalising our financial arrangements. Joe Studman is responsible for membership records. Richard Purver leads on publications. Joseph Tzouvanni has injected great life into our activities, particularly in Southgate town centre.

I am grateful to everyone who makes a contribution to our activities. We just need more members to do so. With this in mind the Executive Committee recently held a meeting to consider ideas for increasing our membership. I hope that we will be able to develop these ideas further in the coming year.

*Graham Davis*

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

There have been six Executive Committee meetings during this year, where the Committee have discussed our involvement in various local issues. These have been reported to you in the Newsletter.

This has been a year of change for the Trust, with committee members taking on new and different responsibilities. This alteration to the committee has been a trigger to review how we work and transform our various procedures. Importantly, we have also looked to future proof the Trust, particularly by introducing aspects of continuity planning.

Although, the newsletter remains the key method of reporting our work to members, we have been using Facebook and Twitter much more this year. These two social media outlets, along with the E-news, allow us to spread updates on our activities to a far wider audience than before.

Over the last few months, since I became more involved with social media, I have been amazed by the responses to our posts. The number of people following us is not earth shattering yet, but is gradually increasing, meaning that the reach of some of our posts has been quite surprisingly large. I am posting articles from other organisations, news media, local groups on local matters, national matters that will impact us here in Southgate and a few other random items that I just think are interesting! If you have not looked at our Facebook and Twitter pages, please do and I welcome any comments. It would be interesting to see a range of views and start a debate. This is one part of publicising the work of SDCT and we need to do more to tell the world what we do. If you could spare some time to help with publicity, please let me know.

(continued over)

I just want to mention one important issue the Trust became involved in, i.e. the proposed parliamentary constituency boundary changes. If these changes go through, the Enfield Southgate constituency will disappear and our area will be represented by five different MPs. SDCT sent a very full and thorough response to the Boundary Commission, outlining our concerns and the reasons to amend the proposals. So, we hope that all the views expressed by us and other local groups and residents will have the desired effect.

We have had considerably more approaches from various organisations, local residents and members. This is partly due to the contacts we made when organising the visit by Freddie Gick, last year. As a result, groups in this area are working together more frequently and more effectively on behalf of the whole community. With this increased co-operation, I have dealt with a wider range of correspondence and organisations on your behalf.

This has been a really busy year, with lots of projects on the go or about to take off. I would like to re-iterate what Graham has said, that this is good time for members to get involved and help keep the campaigning work of the Trust going. So do not hold back – get involved.

*Jane Maggs*

## **PUBLICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

We were distressed by the sudden death in May 2016 of Ruby Galili who contributed so much over the years to the work of the committee and the Trust generally. Sadly we also lost Geoff Bone in July. Geoff was chair of the Trust and the Publications Sub-committee until stepping down in 2012 and was very involved in all aspects of its work. His artistic side is shown by his painting of Broomfield House, which was used on the cover of Steven Brindle's *Broomfield* booklet, published by SDCT.

Elaine Tyler as Treasurer and Eileen Bostle have joined Colin Barratt, Peter Hodge, Peter Owen, Stan Rondeau and myself on the committee. We meet every three months (four times since the last AGM).

Gillian Maskens sent us the fourth volume on CD-R of *The Maskens Family in the Second World War* which covers 1943. All four volumes have been printed out for the archive. We received a donation of local history books from former Trust member the late Keith Barnes for sale or retention in the archive.

We would like to produce a sixth edition of Oakleaves in due course but members of the committee have had local history articles published in the Newsletter during this period. A further stock of placemats showing local historic houses was ordered following the successful introduction of this item in 2015-16.

Our publications are on sale at Enfield Local Studies, Trust meetings, the SDCT stall at various events and Waterstone's in Enfield. As well as advertising publications and events on the website the Trust has noticeboards at Palmers Green station and Winchmore Hill Green.

We displayed a copy of Oakleaves 5, the 2014 LAMAS local history publications award winner certificate and a sheet showing SDCT plaques alongside a panel with text and images supplied by Jane Maggs about the work of the Trust as part of the Enfield Society exhibition *80 Years of Action 1936-2016* at the Dugdale Centre, which ran from May 2016 to January 2017.

We did not have a stall at the LAMAS conference in November but Stan, Eileen and I attended and heard an interesting series of talks on the theme of *Walking Through London*. The annual LAMAS Transactions book and newsletters can be accessed via the archive. Members of the group helped at the SDCT stall at the Claud W. Dennis Southgate Summer Fest in July and with the staffing and organisation of our stall at the 2017 Christ Church May Day Fair at Southgate Green.

*Richard Purver*

## PETER HODGE PRESENTED WITH GRAHAM BEECH MEMORIAL AWARD

At the Annual General Meeting on 6 May 2017 Peter Hodge was presented with the Graham Beech Memorial Award. The award is to be made annually in memory of Graham's commitment to Southgate District Civic Trust. The award is given to a member of the Trust who has made an outstanding contribution to the Trust or the wider community. Peter is the first recipient of the award.

Peter has made an outstanding contribution to the Trust through his research, publications and talks on local history for which he is renowned throughout the Southgate area.



Peter joined the Trust in the early 1970s and participated in the local history group. He served on the Executive Committee for several years. This included a period as secretary. Peter has been a member of the Publications group since its foundation in 1976. Indeed, the stimulus for starting the group was the Trust's decision to publish Peter's booklet *The Hertford Loop: The first hundred years of a local railway*.

Peter organised the republication of Henrietta Cresswell's *Winchmore Hill: Memories of a Lost Village in 1982*. He wrote a biography of the family *The Cresswells of Winchmore Hill* which was published in 1999, winning a commendation from The London and Middlesex Archaeological Society (LAMAS). Another of Peter's books *The Steam and the Gaslight* was published in 2010.

Peter has edited and contributed to the Trust's local history publication *Oakleaves*. *Oakleaves 5* was awarded the LAMAS Local History Publications Award for Best Journal in 2014.

Graham Davis

## HISTORY GROUP REPORT

Last year we had problems with meetings of the History Group. On two occasions the speaker had to cancel at the last minute, due to illness, and at two other meetings a set of promised films didn't arrive in time to be shown. For these I had to fill in with other local films or another talk. I hope this won't happen again, but we are considering the future of these meetings.

Although it's called a History Group, it's open to all Trust members. The speakers and subjects chosen, if possible, have a local historical theme, or a more general one. The meeting dates at the Friends Meeting House have been booked for this year, but we will see how the meetings go, and will decide whether to continue. If you are interested in our history, try to come along.

The next meeting is this coming Tuesday, as announced in the newsletter, and will feature the speaker, Maureen Poole, dressed in Tudor costume, and talking about food and eating practices in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Later in the year I am hoping that John Clark, Enfield's Local History Officer, will come and talk about the borough's archives, with some fascinating ancient documents.

Colin Barratt

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

This time last year we reported in the newsletter the visit to Southgate of Freddie Gick, Chair of our national body, Civic Voice. This was a great success, and we wanted to celebrate it, and make sure our members were aware of this important event in our history. This is why the newsletter has always been a vital source of information for the membership, and remains so, although our Facebook pages now allow us to report on topical issues and events immediately.

It continues to be a mix of reports on recent events and news, information on upcoming events, news from Civic Voice, campaigns and local history. We still make sure that our MP, councillors and various others receive complimentary copies, mostly by email. 49 of our members receive it electronically, but we are printing 100 copies at present. About 70 members receive printed copies delivered by hand, and only 17 by post, which saves us a lot of money. For many years we have had a team of distributors, each delivering a bundle of newsletters to members in their locality, but we have lost a number of these in the last couple of years.

There are three areas where we particularly need someone to take a route: one centred around The Vale, Southgate (8), another around Minchenden Crescent (5), Southgate and a third around Crown Lane, Southgate (6). For the last few issues I have delivered the 19 copies to these three areas, but unless we have some volunteers to cover these routes, the newsletters will have to be posted. So if you can help by delivering in these areas, let me know after the meeting. I would also like to know when members don't get their newsletter, whether the printed one or emailed version.

I will make my plea again for contributions from members. I rely very much on our Secretary, Jane sending me material for each edition, which is great, but we want to hear from you also. There are a lot of issues locally, which I'm sure many have strong opinions about. You only have to read the local paper to see that changes to our district generate much upset and anger. Give us your views, either to the newsletter, or through Facebook or Twitter.

*Colin Barratt*

## CAG REPORT

The Council's Conservation Advisory Group (CAG) at present comprises 5 members of the Council, and 14 co-opted representatives of local heritage study groups. In addition there is the conservation officer, the Head of Development Management and the Heritage Projects Manager. CAG's remit is to consider and advise the Council (particularly the Planning Committee and Cabinet Members) in the preservation and enhancement of heritage buildings, features and areas and to promote a greater awareness of architectural design quality.

At present there is a 5 year review taking place of the Conservation Area Management Proposals (CAMP) that has seen me deal recently with Highlands CA and Hadley Wood CA. Harriet Bell the Heritage Officer organised a Heritage Strategy workshop at the Civic Centre on 24<sup>th</sup> April, which I attended.

Regarding our areas:

Further advice is being sought on how far the Broomfield House remains would have to be demolished in order to rebuild it. This report will inform Council officers, Historic England and the Broomfield Trust in considering how to take the project forward. There is consideration of a reduced size house run commercially with residential conversion of the stable block and new residential development within the stable yard.

The Trent Park development by Berkeley Homes is ongoing with discussions with Council officers and at the March meeting of CAG a very impressive looking model of the site was presented. They have submitted a planning and listed building consent application, but there does appear to still be some things to be changed before permission is granted. There is a CAG working party to which we belong and at the last CAG meeting the Chairman said that there will shortly be another meeting of this group.

I have taken the development of The Fox Public House, Palmers Green (not in a CA) to CAG and the Chairman has said that when a planning application is made and if the developer wants it then we will have a presentation. Southgate District Civic Trust had The Fox successfully made an Asset of Community Value and consider that this is an important site in the area. The developer has had public meetings and shown drawings, but has not made a planning application as yet.

(Continued over)

Over the last year there have been many proposed developments that the CAG has seen under “Planning Applications” on the Agenda over all the conservation areas in the borough. The chairman also attends the Council Planning Committee Meetings and we are given a feedback from him, as we are from the conservation officer regarding previous applications considered at CAG meetings. In our areas there have been new builds in rear gardens, extensions to all types of properties, including Victorian cottages, and we still have the back land development in Hadley Wood that was refused on Appeal but is continuing.

Unfortunately the Chairman and the conservation officer cannot include many that we would like to bring to CAG and have the opinion of other members and the backing of the group with an objection. I should mention that other members do not always agree with the Study Group of the area, as I well know.

*Irene Stone.*

## **PLANNING GROUP REPORT**

All our conservation areas have given us an assortment of Town Planning applications, from change of use to quite extensive alterations and extensions, and when refused planning permission a few have gone to Appeal. We have had 48 applications since the last AGM and I have used the Newsletter to give an indication of the developments both large and small that we have before us and hope that it gives our members as near up-to-date information as possible.

Change of use of offices to residential accommodation is now “permitted development” and does not need planning permission. We have seen this on several occasions on a small scale above businesses in Chase Side Southgate, and on a larger scale from Mallinson House, Chase Side, opposite Southgate Station and going through to Nichols Close on Chase Road, N14 that was not allowed to add to its height to accommodate extra flats. Hobart House on Bourne Hill, N14 was the same, both having been built as office blocks. The group are showing interest outside the conservation areas, like the Capitol House offices in Green Lanes, N21. The developers appear to want to demolish the building and build flats although there is no planning application at the moment. In Cockfosters Road there is development and some demolition proposed of Blackhorse Tower, Holbrook House and Churchwood House (all offices). It is felt that this change of use is removing work possibilities for local people and, as the majority of these proposed flats are 1 and 2 bedrooms, there is no consideration for families or sufficient amenity space.

We have continued to monitor the Berkeley Group development in Trent Park and the redevelopment of The Sir Thomas Lipton Memorial Home in Southgate, 7 Chase Side, previously. The Maze Public House has not commenced as yet. There has been a change of architect who has said that our request for the frontage piers to be in brickwork as existing is agreed to by them. We will see. The Fox PH in Green Lanes Palmers Green is another development that we are watching carefully because we made it the first Asset of Community Value in Enfield. The Fox PH will remain although reduced and there are flats proposed on the site. Southgate College wants alteration of its frontage on to the High Street and a change on the facade of the main building. Our concern has been the listed property on the High Street that is next to the College.

Our planning group had an extra meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April and invited Tony Pierce a Planning Projects Officer with the Enfield Planning Dept to speak to us about Enfield’s Local Plan that when implemented will be the strategy for the next 20 years. It will be part of the Local Development Framework Document and cover the borough including the Green Belt that will be important to decisions on future housing development sites in the borough.

All the above shows how diverse the work of our planning group is and how we move with whatever we find can benefit our areas by us being involved. If any member is interested in being a part of this they are welcome to attend a meeting and join a very friendly and informal group of local people who care about where they live and who I take this opportunity of thanking for the time they give voluntarily and the work they do at our monthly meetings.

All meetings are held at 6 Eversley Mount, N21 1JP. Tel: 0208 364 3500.  
Email: [irenestone@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:irenestone@blueyonder.co.uk)

*Irene Stone*

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR TO 31st MARCH 2017

### CAPITAL ACCOUNT

(LLOYDS BANK PLC)	£	£
	Debit	Credit
C/A Balance B/Fwd 31/3/2016		1,472.94
D/A Balance B/Fwd 31/3/2016		10,159.18
Net Interest		55.68
C/A Balance C/Fwd 31/3/2017	1,472.94	
D/A Balance C/Fwd 31/3/2017	10,214.86	
	<b>11,687.80</b>	<b>11,687.80</b>

### PUBLICATIONS ACC. (SANTANDER UK PLC)

	£	£
	Debit	Credit
Balance B/Fwd 31/3/2016		3,521.14
Royalties		19.00
Publications: Oakleaves		
Postcards		1.50
Other		144.43
DVDs		12.00
Placemats	51.55	31.00
Donated Books		30.50
Admin.	1.51	
Petty Cash	65.00	
Balance C/Fwd 31/3/2017	3,641.51	
	<b>3,759.57</b>	<b>3,759.57</b>

### GENERAL ACCOUNT (SANTANDER UK PLC)

	£	£
	Debit	Credit
Balance B/Fwd 31/3/2016		2,929.36
Subscriptions		1,703.00
Donations		343.00
Equipment	38.39	
Insurance (y/e 30/4/2017)	227.76	
Website	67.83	
Newsletters	377.00	
Hall Hire	334.50	
Speakers	55.00	
Teas at meetings	6.64	
Affiliations - Civic Voice *	395.50	
London Forum *	56.00	
LAMAS	25.00	
Civic Voice AGM	130.17	
Fairs	97.00	
Admin.	55.59	
Petty Cash	41.05	
Balance C/Fwd 31/3/2017	3,067.93	
	<b>4,975.36</b>	<b>4,975.36</b>

\* Subs. for 2016 & 2017

