

Southgate District Civic Trust

Newsletter
No. 235
Jan. 2016



www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk

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COMING EVENTS

OPEN MEETING

Wednesday 9th March 2016 at 7.30pm

The Beaumont Centre, Cannon Hill, Southgate, N14 7DJ

Freddie Gick, Chair of Civic Voice

He will speak to us about the work of Civic Voice and the Civic Movement in Britain. This will be a rare chance to hear from and speak to the man who leads this important work. See **page 6** for more details.

ALL WELCOME



**Note for your
diary:**

SDCT AGM

Sat. 7th May

2016

**2.30pm, Walker
Hall**

HISTORY GROUP MEETING

Tuesday 8th March 2016 at 8.00pm

Friends Meeting House, Church Hill, N21

“Newly Discovered Local Films and Photos”

by Colin Barratt

This will be a presentation of material which has recently come to light, showing the local area as it was in the 1960s. See **page 8** for more details.

ALL WELCOME

See inside for:

Civic Voice Convention and AGM (page 2)
Report of our October Open Meeting (page 11)
Civic Week events (page 13)
Crossrail 2 and its effects (page 7)

Other Date for your Diary:

Tues. 10th May **History Group Meeting** Subject TBA

Contributions to the April newsletter should be sent by Friday 11th March 2016

to the Editor: Colin Barratt, 13 Beardow Grove, Avenue Road, Southgate, N14 4DG
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Notice to Newsletter Distributors:- We hope to deliver the next newsletter to distributors during week commencing **11th April 2016**. Emailed copies should be available for members w/c **4th April**.

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**).



CIVIC VOICE CONVENTION and AGM Bristol 23-24th October 2015

In October the sixth Civic Voice Convention and AGM were held in Bristol. Chris Horner, Jane Maggs and Elaine Tyler represented Southgate District Civic Trust at the event hosted by Bristol Civic Society and based in the spectacular St James Priory, a former Benedictine Priory and the oldest building in Bristol.

Friday's events started with the amazing story of how a few determined people managed to save St James Priory, turning it into somewhere supporting those in need. Then, it was onto the walks and tours organised by Bristol Civic Society.

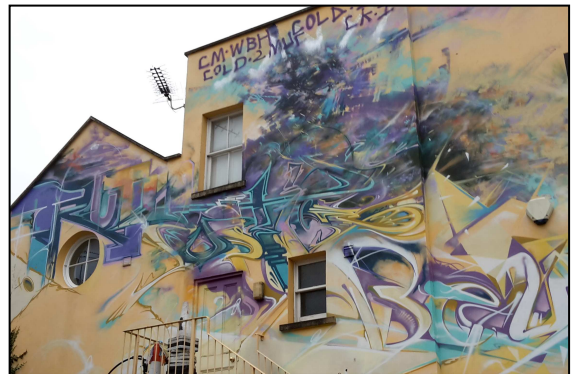
Between the three of us, we managed to see quite a bit of the city. The walks showed the historic and beautifully preserved buildings of such an old city, as well as the challenges of development to meet its changing needs. What was different this year is that, as well as the beautiful, there was a thought provoking tour of the Bearpit regeneration project and Stokes Croft cultural quarter.



The Bearpit is a sunken pedestrian zone under a roundabout, which meant walking below street level through poorly lit and scary subways. The Bearpit had become a no-man's-land, frequented by addicts and rough sleepers. The project has transformed the area into a bright lively place. More interestingly as well as improving the environment, the regeneration has made space for and

supported the homeless and addicts, rather than just moving them on.

Stokes Croft, a previously neglected conservation area is now a vibrant community, which has pioneered a liberal attitude towards street art. It has created its own space and future, allowing local independent shops to flourish, and fiercely resisting gentrification and conventional development.



Members of the team involved with both these projects led the walk, showing us what a local community could do and that conservation areas are really for everyone, not just the few.

M Shed was the venue for the convention dinner, with a speech by the Bristol Mayor George Ferguson. The evening allowed us further opportunities to talk to delegates as well as the team at Civic Voice.

Saturday was the Annual General Meeting followed by workshops and exhibitions. Frustratingly, most of the workshops were on subjects relevant to Southgate, so we had to choose. Between us we managed workshops on subjects such as War Memorials, planning changes, how to grow your society and grants.

We were able to talk to representatives of various organisations such as Historic England, Bristol planners about Local Heritage Listing, as well as compare experiences with other delegates and the Civic Voice team. As usual it was a challenging and inspiring two days, where we learnt a lot and came away with new ideas. Now we have to put them into practice!

Next year's convention will be held in Chester. We expect to send a delegation again and will provide more information in future newsletters.

Jane Maggs



Graham Beech (1937 -2015)

In October 2015, we were shocked to learn of the death of our Chairman Graham Beech, at the age of 78. He was a relatively quiet man, but one that made a positive impact and contribution to the life of this area.

Graham was born in New Southgate in 1937 and lived in the same house, near Arnos Park, most of his life. As a result he knew the area well and was deeply concerned about anything that would impact it.

He joined SDCT in 2001 and soon proved his worth as an important member of the planning group, reporting on and analysing matters around his part of the borough as they cropped up. He took over as Trust Chairman in 2010, albeit rather reluctantly at first. However, he quickly became active and involved in the many issues and projects.

For those that came in contact with Graham, it was clear that he had range of interests. His professional life started in scientific publishing, where he edited the Institute of Physics journal. However, in 1967 he completely changed direction and joined the probation service. This role appealed to the caring side of his character, as well as to his life-long concern for people and society. Not surprisingly, Graham was highly regarded for the quality of guidance that he supplied for the courts through his thorough and insightful profile reports. This careful scrutiny continued as he analysed proposals for changes to the local area and then gave his opinion.

Throughout his life Graham had a wide range of interests, particularly travelling. He often came to planning meetings with stories of his travels on the canal boat he and his brother John owned. In later years, after they had given up the boat, he switched to taking luxury cruises abroad. With his healthy disrespect for authority, when told he had to wear a tie at some formal dinners on board, he would dutifully don a nifty piece of neckwear printed on the front of a T-shirt.

During his life Graham maintained an informed interest in both the natural and built environment. He was the trust's representative on the North Circular development and New Southgate consultation, which was how he became involved and concerned about the Ritz Parade and in particular the cinema. In the last year he has been one of the SDCT representatives on the Cycle Enfield Board, where he was quite tenacious in teasing out the details from the consultants.

As well as the work he did for SDCT, he was an inaugural member of the Friends of Arnos Park. This park was somewhere he spent a great deal of time and was keen to ensure it remained a place for the whole community.

When Graham became Chairman, he and I had to work much more closely. I enjoyed working with him and our different approaches always seemed to me to be a good mix. This is a man who cared, who made an impact, and I for one miss him a great deal.

I am pleased to add that his family decided that any donations in Graham's memory would be split between Southgate District Civic Trust and the Campaign for the Preservation of Rural England. SDCT is extremely grateful to his family and friends for their donations and is now considering how best to use the donations in a way that Graham would approve.

Jane Maggs

CHAIR OF SOUTHGATE DISTRICT CIVIC TRUST

As Southgate District Civic Trust is currently without a Chair, the Executive Committee met in November to discuss the situation. At the meeting Elaine Tyler agreed to become Acting Chair until the next AGM, when a new Chair can be appointed.

We are grateful to Elaine for taking on this position at short notice for the next six months.

The position of Chair will be vacant again in May and we urge all members to consider whether they would like to stand for this or any other position on the Executive Committee. Further information on the role will be in the next newsletter.

DRAFT RITZ PARADE DEVELOPMENT BRIEF

The Council has now published the Draft Ritz Parade Development Brief for a six-week public consultation until **5.00pm Wednesday 10th February 2016**.

Enfield Council adopted the North Circular Area Action Plan in October 2014. Site 12, known as Ritz Parade, is the principal parade that sits on the northern side of North Circular Road (A406). The Draft Development Brief seeks to provide planning guidance and direction to future investors. The consultation is asking the public and interested parties to consider whether the draft guidance has captured all relevant principles for achieving the desired regeneration on this important site.

The Draft Ritz Parade Development Brief can be viewed on the Council's website at: <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/planning/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-documents>.

This site contains the building that was the Ritz Cinema and was the subject of much discussion at the October Open Meeting. SDCT is currently reviewing the document, and welcomes any input from members. Please contact me via info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk.

Jane Maggs

HISTORY GROUP MEETING NOV. 2015
THE FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN IN 1951
by David Berguer

In 1849, Prince Albert was unpopular with the public, but he improved his image by having the idea of a Great Exhibition, to be held in Hyde Park between May and October 1851. 240 designs were submitted, but all were rejected. Joseph Paxton, the gardener at Chatsworth, was asked to design the building, covering 22 acres. It took 22 weeks to build and it was opened by Queen Victoria. Punch derisively called it a "Crystal Palace". An exhibition like this was a new idea, and was advertised as a "Workshop of the World". Six million people visited it, and afterwards the building was moved to Sydenham, where it burnt down in 1936.

After WW2, in the depressing period of smogs, bad winters and rationing, a Festival was suggested to celebrate the centenary of the Great Exhibition of 1851. This was agreed in 1948 and work started the following year. The Festival Hall was to be the only permanent structure. Many of the exhibits were in the Dome of Discovery, which was 365 feet in diameter. Another famous feature was the Skylon, which was 300 feet high. The Festival was opened by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.

Visitors were guided round the exhibits in sequence, and David showed us images of many of these, plus Battersea Pleasure Gardens. The Festival's purpose was to show Britain at it's best, as a modern industrial nation, and to inspire new design. Modern designs were used throughout, and the legacy of this Festival was the introduction of new designs throughout the 1950s, new materials, such as Formica, and the expansion of DIY, as well as the creation of New Towns and the development of the Royal Festival Hall and the South Bank.

As with the Great Exhibition 100 years earlier, six million visited the Festival in London. The exhibition later also toured the country, using 100 lorries, and even a ship! David's presentation re-kindled memories for some who had attended it, and helped others to understand what the Festival was all about.

Colin Barratt

A NEW LOCAL PLAN FOR ENFIELD 2017-2032

The Council has now published the consultation on a New Local Plan for Enfield 2017-2032. This public consultation runs for eight weeks until **5.00pm Friday 12th February 2016**.

The consultation document sets out key challenges and proposes a number of growth scenarios. It also includes a 'call for sites' seeking details of sites with potential for development.

The consultation on a New Local Plan for Enfield 2017-2032 can be viewed on the Council's website at: <http://www.enfield.gov.uk/NewLocalPlan>.

The Planning Group will be considering the plan at their next meeting. However, as this will have a big impact on our area, we will be organising a meeting with members to discuss the various key aspects. If you would like to attend a meeting on this plan, please contact me via info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk and I will pass on the details once available.

Jane Maggs

FREDDIE GICK, CHAIR OF CIVIC VOICE, IS COMING TO SOUTHGATE

Southgate District Civic Trust is delighted to announce that Freddie Gick the Chair of Civic Voice will be visiting us in March.

As the highlight of his visit, Freddie will be the speaker at our next Open Meeting. This meeting will be slightly different from normal, as it will take place on a weekday evening in The Beaumont.

For those that do not know him, Freddie Gick has been Chair of Civic Voice since 2013. He is a former research scientist and international management consultant who has been involved with civic societies for about 20 years. As Chair of Civic Voice he has overseen a huge increase in the recognition of the Civic movement. The work of our key national body has expanded to reflect the range of important projects and interests of the member groups. I have been fortunate to see him speak at various meetings, so I know this will be a fascinating and inspiring meeting.



Key information for your diary:

Date: Wednesday 9th March

Time: 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Venue: Southgate Beaumont, 15 Cannon Hill, Southgate, N14 7DJ

This meeting will be open to all members and supporters of SDCT. Other local groups affiliated to Civic Voice will also be invited.

Jane Maggs

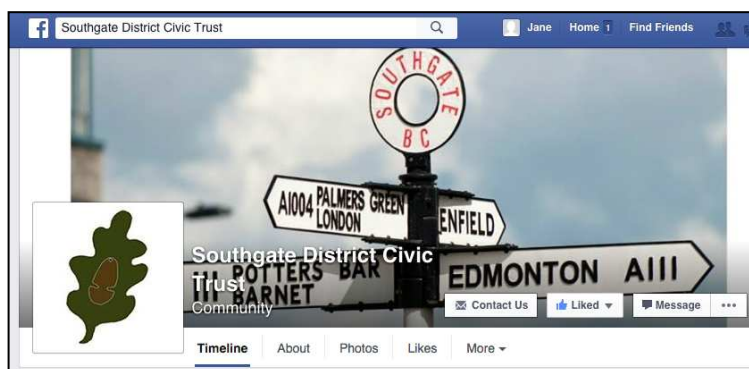
SOUTHGATE DISTRICT CIVIC TRUST IS ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER

We are delighted to see that our following on **Facebook** is steadily increasing - now over 100 followers.

Although our **Twitter** feed is relatively new, we already have a quite a few followers.

So, if you are on **Facebook** or **Twitter** why not follow us?

We will be putting up news and information that will be of interest to members and supporters alike. If something is interesting please 'like' it, share, or re-tweet and perhaps add a comment, then we know what you think.



You can find us at: Facebook: www.facebook.com/southgatedistrictcivictrust
Twitter: @southgatetrust (www.twitter.com/southgatetrust)

No Facebook or Twitter account? It's not a problem – just use the links above and see the latest updates.

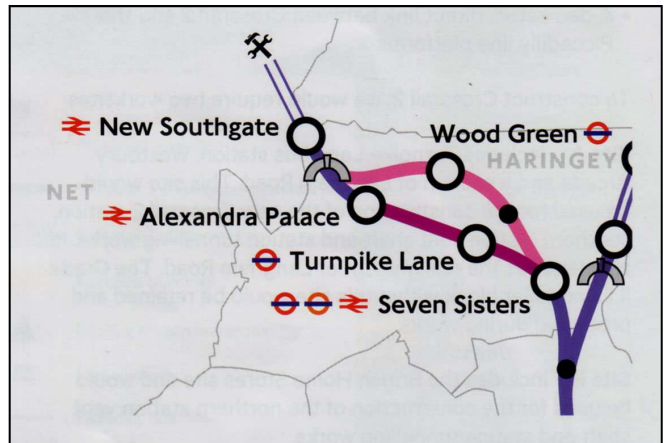
But, don't forget we still have our website, which contains even more information on our activities: www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk.

CROSSRAIL 2 – ITS EFFECT ON NEW SOUTHGATE

As Crossrail 1 is now nearing completion, plans are already well under way for another new rail line, to serve London and the South East, linking Surrey to Hertfordshire via central London destinations - CROSSRAIL 2. At the northern end there would be two branches: one following the existing route through Tottenham and eastern Enfield to Broxbourne, and the other going through Seven Sisters and Wood Green to New Southgate.

What are the arguments in favour of Crossrail 2? The Government believes that it will add capacity to existing rail services and support economic regeneration, creating the infrastructure for new homes and jobs. The advantages for New Southgate in having a Crossrail 2 station are listed as follows:

- 10-15 trains an hour into London, and fast, direct routes to south west London.
- Improved passenger facilities at the station, with a new step-free interchange between Crossrail 2 and East Coast Main Line
- Provide access to more jobs
- Encourage regeneration and redevelopment in the area



What route would it take into New Southgate? There are two route options being considered. One from Seven Sisters via tunnels to two new stations at Turnpike Lane and Alexandra Palace, and the other from Seven Sisters via tunnels to a new station at Wood Green. Both options provide an interchange with the Piccadilly Line and should reduce overcrowding during peak hours. Both options would continue underground, following close to the existing route north of Alexandra Palace and emerge near Pinkham Way to a new surface station near to the Builder Depot, south of the existing New Southgate station. Obviously, this would mean the demolition of the Builder Depot buildings (did I hear cheering?). Another large area south of Pinkham Way will also be taken over, for building the tunnels, including much of the Bounds Green Industrial Estate.

During off-peak periods and overnight, areas for parking or “stabling” trains would be needed at the southern and northern ends of the routes, plus depots for cleaning trains and maintaining the tracks and stations. A preliminary suggestion for the northern depot is north of New Southgate Station, bounded by Oakleigh Road South, Coppies Grove and the tracks of the East Coast Main Line. This is a large area, and it may also need Friern Barnet Road bridge to be re-aligned.

If this project goes ahead, it will have a huge impact on the local area, with the loss and relocation of many businesses and some homes, and massive disruption to residents and transport. It's only in the early stages, and there will be much consultation over the next few years. Enfield Councillors have already started pressing for the Turnpike Lane/Alexandra Palace option, as this would benefit Enfield and Hertfordshire residents more, with a link to the Hertford North line. The timetable is for the planning application to be agreed by 2020 and construction to take around 10 years. 2030 is probably the earliest it will be complete, so it may not be of much benefit to us. It will be our children – or more likely our grandchildren who will see the effects!

Colin Barratt

ON SAFARI IN SOUTHGATE

Readers of *Oakleaves 4* who enjoyed Christine Collins's article *On Safari in Southgate* will be interested in the video interview with Christine by Jenny Bourke on the Palmers Green Tales website, posted in November 2015. Christine talks about her life in film, working with David Garner who ran the editing suite in Southgate where Armand and Michaela Denis's TV series *On Safari* was edited, before moving on to Gateway Films, which were based in Green Lanes, Palmers Green.

Richard Purver

RESPONSE TO LB ENFIELD'S CONSULTATION ON ENFIELD LOCAL STUDIES CENTRE AND MUSEUM

The consultation process on the future of Enfield Local Studies Centre and Museum outlined in Newsletter 234 received replies from hundreds of people. The council has responded with amended proposals which recognise the impracticality of replacing the complete archive digitally and retains direct access to the collection. However professional support from the Local Studies Officer will now be available by appointment only and the days of drop-in opening have been reduced from five to three days a week. The Local Studies Centre is now closed to the public on Mondays and Fridays to enable staff to increase the amount of stock which is available digitally. The museum spaces on the ground and first floor of the Dugdale Centre will continue as at present rather than moving into the Local Studies room.

We were extremely concerned about the original proposals because of the great value of the local Archive and the unfailing assistance from the knowledgeable staff to local history researchers over a period of many years. Members responded to the consultation individually and myself also on behalf of SDCT. Ruby Galili wrote to David Burrowes MP. There was extensive coverage on various websites and in the local press including letters of protest and Jane Maggs accepted an offer from the Enfield Society to include the SDCT logo (with those of other local groups) in their large advertisement which was placed in both the *Independent* and *Advertiser* of 14 October 2015. This had text objecting strongly to the proposed changes and an image of a local WWII Spitfire pilot with the former and a mammoth with the latter, both represented in the Archive.

On an encouraging note, the *Advertiser* of 16 December featured articles about the production of a book by archivists and volunteers from Local Studies commemorating men from the borough who died in WW1 (which follows a series of WW1 and WWII walks leaflets) and the founding of the David Pam Memorial Bursary for local history essays, which has categories for primary and secondary schools and adults (closing date 31 March 2016).

Richard Purver

NEWLY DISCOVERED LOCAL FILMS AND PHOTOS

Several reels of 8mm film have recently come to light, which were taken by a local lady who was a keen film maker in the 1960s. They show scenes from New Southgate, Whetstone and Finchley, and are being transferred onto DVD for all to enjoy.

The Enfield Local History Unit has also acquired from the Planning Dept. many photos showing central New Southgate before and during its re-development in the 1960s and 70s.

A selection of these films and photos will be shown, to give a flavour of the area at that time.

WAR MEMORIALS

Southgate District Civic Trust has undertaken to get involved with the Civic Voice First World War Memorials Programme. We want to play a part in helping raise awareness of the importance of the nation's war memorials and we need help to locate and record war memorials in Southgate.

Would you be interested?

Our aim initially is to invite Anna Wilson of Civic Voice to host a War Memorial Workshop. This will provide volunteers with an insight into how they can contribute to making this project a success (in most cases this only involves completing a Condition Survey Form). Anna will need to know numbers so please email Elaine Tyler via info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk if you would like to attend, or speak to any SDCT committee member.

CIVIC VOICE

Civic Voice is committed to...

- * Recording the condition of England's war memorials.
- * Obtaining funding to repair war memorials.
- * Protecting war memorials for future generations.

More information can be found at...

www.civicvoice.org.uk/campaigns/war-memorials-/

WAR MEMORIALS ONLINE

To provide up-to-date information on the condition of war memorials, as well as uploading your own photographs, or to search online visit...

www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

The War Memorials Register is the national database recording information on war memorials in the UK. There are approximately 70,000 memorials recorded so far and more are being added constantly. The database can be searched online at...

www.iwm.org.uk/memorials/search

WAR MEMORIALS TRUST

War Memorials Trust works to protect and conserve war memorials across the UK. It provides advisory and advocacy services, as well as financial assistance for repair and conservation through grant schemes. The Trust promotes a greater understanding of the historical and cultural significance of war memorials to encourage preservation.

www.warmemorials.org

HISTORIC ENGLAND

Only a tiny fraction of our war memorials are currently listed. Historic England want more listed. If a war memorial is already listed it will appear on the National Heritage List for England...

www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/

Otherwise you may consider applying to have it listed!

(See over for a local example)

An example of why Southgate District Civic Trust should take part in the War Memorials Program:-

Southgate District Civic Trust (SDCT) have been trying to locate the War Memorial known to have been in the Old Southgate Town Hall, before it was sold off for development. Enfield Local Studies suggested it may be in the Enfield Museum storage facility. Enquiries confirmed this is indeed where it is located currently and a photograph was supplied. End of story? No! It only referred to WWI, so was there another for WWII? A SDCT member, who has already come forward to help with the War Memorials Program, on checking the Imperial War Museum's (IWM) online search facility, discovered two references for the Old Southgate Town Hall, separate plaques for WWI and WWII.

Enfield Museum was contacted again and on further inspection the other WWII plaque was also found to be residing in the Museum's storage facility. IWM show the location of both plaques as the Old Town Hall and neither appear on a "Southgate" search within War Memorials Online. An example of how easily these important items can be lost. SDCT would like to see both plaques out of storage and back in the public domain as originally intended, obviously not in the Old Town Hall but a suitable alternative location, the new Palmers Green Library has been suggested. What are your thoughts?

Elaine Tyler

BIMBY – TESTING A PILOT COMMUNITY HOUSING DESIGN TOOLKIT

Southgate District Civic Trust, part of Civic Voice, were present at the launch of The BIMBY Housing Toolkit, short for 'Beauty In My Back Yard'. A web based programme has been developed by The Prince's Foundation for The Built Environment, to counteract the NIMBY attitude towards house building in the UK.

The BIMBY Housing Toolkit has been developed to help empower communities to work with local authorities and developers to create appropriate, sustainable and beautiful housing. Speaking at the launch, Prince Charles, President of The Prince's Foundation for Building Community explained that by using the BIMBY Housing Toolkit, communities will be able to directly influence the quality and beauty of new housing and influence the planning process in a positive rather than a negative way.

This is great news for communities around the country who want to have more of a say in local planning and development. The BIMBY Housing Toolkit will help make their voice easier to hear where it matters most with local authorities and developers.

Southgate District Civic Trust will be working closely with the Prince's Foundation and other civic societies during the pilot period to help demonstrate the effectiveness of the toolkit. If you are interested in participating in the pilot study group, contact SDCT via our email info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk.

OPEN MEETING – Saturday 17th October 2015 Magic Lantern to Multiplex - by Richard Gray

Richard Gray, Chair of Casework for the Cinema Theatre Association spoke at our Open Meeting in October. This organisation was established when cinemas first began to fall out of favour, as people found other ways to be entertained. The Casework group tries to preserve remaining cinemas and where possible list them.

The meeting attracted a large audience, many of whom were not members. Richard delivered a fascinating talk, telling the story of cinema development from the magic lantern to moving images. He then explained the development of buildings for film, starting with the Lumière brothers showing their films at the Regent Street Polytechnic in 1896. We were then taken through the conversion of halls and churches into cinemas, to the start of building entertainment halls, which included the ability to project films, then on through purpose built cinemas including the arrival of the first multiplex.



Ritz, Bowes Road (SDCT archive)

Richard showed a large number of photographs to illustrate his talk, as well as including information on many of our local cinemas. The talk was followed by a lively question and answer session, as well as an opportunity to share memories.

The future of the Ritz Cinema was discussed, with the suggestion to look at listing it to ensure it remained for future generations to enjoy.

Jane Maggs

TRENT PARK - FORMER MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

In September 2015 the Former Middlesex University Campus site in Trent Park was acquired by The Berkeley Group, their website www.trent-park.com gives information on their future plans.

The first public exhibition took place in early December, a copy of the consultation boards and a site plan can be downloaded from the website. The next public consultation is expected in Spring 2016. Planning application submission is expected in Autumn 2016 with work on site beginning in Summer

Berkeley state it "is committed to consulting members of the local community" and "have established the Trent Park Community Council formed of representatives of key local community groups, council representatives and ward councillors. It is the intention that the group will meet regularly to discuss and guide the emerging proposals for the site". Southgate District Civic Trust was assured a presence on this community council during a meeting with Berkeley representatives in early December.

ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP FOR CIVIC SOCIETIES

The first meeting since the election of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Civic Societies was held in Parliament on Monday 16th November 2015. Founded in 2011 the group was previously supported by more than 70 MPs and is now aiming to increase this to 100.

At the meeting, Craig Mackinlay MP was elected as Chair of the group. He is also Chair of the APPG for Listed Buildings, creating a real opportunity to bring together the work of these two important APPGs.

Topics to be discussed at future meetings will include the loss of conservation officers and the impact that will have on the historic environment, public realm issues, planning issues, localism issues and in more general terms giving communities from around England a voice.

Ian Harvey, Executive Director of Civic Voice, said “Our APPG is key to answering our members requests for their communities nationwide to be able to take control of what happens to them and their local areas. It really is a marvellous opportunity to exchange views between parliamentarians, representatives from the civic movement and others with an interest in making places more attractive, enjoyable and distinctive.”

Craig Mackinlay MP added “It is great news that the APPG for civic societies will be relaunched for this Parliamentary session. It is through this all party group that the voice of communities can be heard in Parliament and have a platform in the policy making process.”

SDCT asked our MP, David Burrowes, to join this APPG and show his support for the civic movement and societies like ours. Unfortunately, we did not receive a reply to our invitation. *He later confirmed that he had in fact read the e-mail, but did not reply to us or attend the meeting.*

As the work of this APPG is so important to the interest of societies like ours, we will send representatives when possible and continue to press David Burrowes to join the group.

Jane Maggs

OSIDGE – THE SIR THOMAS LIPTON MEMORIAL HOME - AN UPDATE

As previously reported The Sir Thomas Lipton Memorial Home at Osidge closed last summer. The current Trustees, Friends of the Elderly (FotE), have reviewed their options for this site and wish to sell it. However, the terms of The Sir Thomas Lipton Charity do not allow this.

FotE application to the Charity Commission to amend the terms of the charity has been subject to a local consultation. Southgate District Civic Trust sent feedback to the Charity Commission for their consideration.



A decision on the changes was due on 3rd January 2016, but has now been delayed. Judging by the response we have received, it is very likely there will be a development of the Osidge site in the near future. SDCT remains committed to working with all groups to ensure an appropriate outlook for this historical site in the heart of Southgate. Further information will be sent to members as we find out more.

Jane Maggs

CIVIC WEEK 2016

Southgate District Civic Trust are looking to participate in supporting Civic Voice on National Civic Day, set for Saturday 18th June. We are looking to lift the Southgate community's awareness of their local environment and we are organising a series of Community focused events during Civic Week in Southgate from Sunday 12th June to Sunday 19th June 2016. These will include:-

Sun 12th June

Open Allotments Day, where residents will be able to visit their local allotments and ask about green fingered advice.

Teddy Bears Picnic for young children and their parents in the secret garden at the back of Christchurch.

Walker Cricket Ground Match Event.

Monday 13th June

Opening Exhibition and Award of Civic Trust Photographic Prizes in collaboration with Southgate Photographic Society at The Walker Ground.

Thursday 16th June

Opening of Local Art Exhibition and Award of Civic Trust Prize

Friday 17th June

Civic Trust Building Design Award to the Best and the Worst Building Design in Southgate

Saturday 18th June

Friends of The Parks Litter picking, Ground Force morning in Southgate Parks

Talkies Movies event at Church House, The Green 7.30pm

Sunday 19th June

Local guided walk around Old Southgate by Joe Studman, starting at the tube station and finishing at The Cherry Tree for refreshment.

Walker Cricket Match Event.

Open Air Performance in the Minchenden Oak Garden of a short play about the Oak Tree, and a historical re-enactment by Knights with swords, a musical recital and a choral performance.

Put these dates in your diary. Further details will be issued shortly.



SOUTHGATE CHRISTMAS FAIR

We had a great day at the Southgate Christmas Fair on Saturday 5th December 2015. Even though it was blowing a gale outside, it was warm and Christmassy in the Southgate Club where we were based.

There were plenty of people to talk to about what we are doing now and our plans for 2016. Some of the local Councillors came to talk to us and give us their support. Not only that, we were able to sell our

publications and new place mats – all of which made excellent Christmas presents.

Our new board asking for nominations for both the best building and the worst carbuncle in the area generated a lively debate!

Jane Maggs

PLANNING GROUP REPORT

We did not have many new town planning applications in our conservation areas since the last newsletter, only thirteen, but the group had many other things to discuss.

We objected to the use of the public open space in Hoppers Road, N21 for two detached houses. SDCT failed to make it a Community Asset, although it was tried. We had no objections to an application for a six storey hotel to be built behind the existing office block at 100 High Street, N14., providing it was not built higher than that office block, because then it would be in view of the listed station.

Hadley Wood Area Planning Forum, which has the conservation area within it, received approval and has kept in touch with me. They have made it clear that they want us to continue our work regarding the planning applications in the conservation area as they will not be involved in individual applications. However the latest one with Nos. 21, 23 and 25 Lancaster Avenue applying for a back land development in their rear gardens for five houses may have their interest as well as ours. We had already objected to 21 asking for two houses at their rear, (which was refused permission, went to Appeal and refused again) this latest one followed that, and we have objected to that too.

We have involved ourselves in the proposed Fairview development on an area of Green Belt land in Enfield Road between Oakwood and Enfield Town. The intention of including a new school in the development will make it attractive to the Council and probably many local residents too.

Trent Park, N14. There was a Public Exhibition by The Berkeley Group regarding the proposed development of the estate. Several of us went to see what was proposed and it appeared that they are waiting to see what people wanted to replace the existing modern campus buildings that will be demolished. The Mansion House that is listed cannot be demolished but we could not get any answers to whether it is to be flats or not. Some areas of the estate will have public access. These are early days but we will see that our planning group is represented at every opportunity.

We had several members as volunteers for the Local Heritage Review which has now ended and the final list is being organised. This is reducing what had apparently been many hundreds of suggestions for local listing. We are told that every single one is being filed by the Enfield Society even if it has not been put on the immediate list, for any future interest.

Since the last newsletter our group had the sad loss of Graham Beech who had been a regular member of the group for at least thirteen years, and will be greatly missed. He had lived in New Southgate all his life and his knowledge was considerable. To him our planning group was a means of having an opportunity in having a say to whatever development was proposed, both large and small, that needed the comments of the local people who had to live with the final decisions. There must be many of our members who would agree with this, and if they wish to join us (monthly) they will find themselves having a say not only on a local house extension but much more.

Tel: 0208 364 3500 or Email: irenestone@blueyonder.co.uk for dates of meetings.

*Irene Stone
Group Chairman*

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OLD BOROUGH OF SOUTHGATE COAT OF ARMS

The Walker Cricket Ground have refurbished the Bar and Lounge area in the pavilion and have placed memorabilia retrieved from storage onto the walls. This includes an original "Southgate Borough Coat of Arms, preserved by Southgate Civic Trust and presented to record the Old Borough of Southgate".

The improved facility opened to the public on Sunday 6th December with new catering providers Pinks. Pop along to have a look.



Chris Horner