

# Southgate District Civic Trust

Newsletter  
No. 239  
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Website: [www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk](http://www.southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk)

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**Chair:** Graham Davis  
12 Fords Grove,  
Winchmore Hill, N21 3DN

Tel: 020 8364 0480

**Secretary:** Jane Maggs  
108 Chelmsford Road,  
Southgate, N14 4JL

Tel: 020 8882 4253

**Treasurer:** Elaine Tyler  
24 Ashurst Road,  
Barnet, EN4 9LF

Tel: 020 8449 6528

**Membership Secretary:**  
Joe Studman  
15 Calder Close, EN1 3TS

Tel: 0787 553 7295

## COMING EVENTS

### OPEN MEETING

**Saturday 11th March 2017**  
at 2.30pm Walker Lower Hall,  
Christchurch Parish Centre,  
7 The Green, Southgate, N14

**“Southgate’s Rivers -  
previous, current and  
potentially future work to  
enhance them”**

by John Bryden



**ALL WELCOME. See page 12 for details**

### Note for your diary:

### SDCT AGM

**Sat. 6th May 2017**  
**2.30pm, Walker Hall**

### Features in this edition:-

- |         |                                           |
|---------|-------------------------------------------|
| Page 2  | SDCT win national award                   |
| Page 5  | Open Meeting with Helen Fry on Trent Park |
| Page 7  | Arsenal at Grovelands                     |
| Page 11 | Launch of National Civic Day 2017         |
| Page 15 | The Graham Beech Memorial Award           |

### Other Dates for your Diary:

10th February	<b>Members’ New Year Dinner</b>	See page 14 for details
28th October	<b>Open Meeting</b>	Walker Lower Hall, Subject TBA

### Contributions to the April newsletter should be sent by Friday 10th March 2017

to the Editor: Colin Barratt, 48 Maplin Close, Winchmore Hill, London, 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 **10th April 2017**. Emailed copies should be available for members w/c **3rd April 2017**.

**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**).

# A NATIONAL AWARD FOR SOUTHGATE DISTRICT CIVIC TRUST!

## Southgate District Civic Week 2016

At the Civic Voice Convention in October, SDCT were thrilled to be presented with the Civic Day Award for 'Outstanding Effort for Civic Day'.

This was the first time SDCT had organised a Civic Day. So, it is great news that the brilliant week of events in June, ably co-ordinated by Chris Horner, was recognised in front of civic society members from across the country.

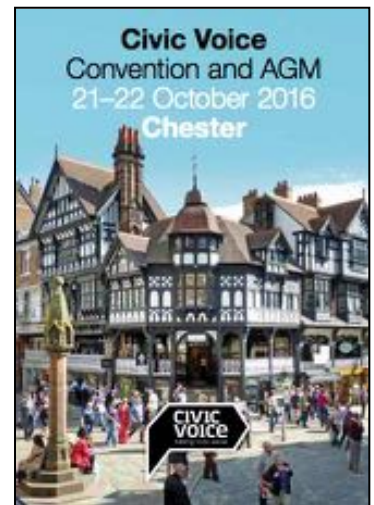
It also means the challenge for 2017 is to do even better!

Photo of Chris Horner and Jane Maggs receiving the award courtesy of Civic Voice. On far left is Joan Humble, new Chair of Civic Voice, and on right is former Chair Freddie Gick.



## Civic Voice Convention and AGM Chester 21-22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016

In October, the seventh Civic Voice Convention and AGM were held in the ancient city of Chester. [Graham Davis](#), [Chris Horner](#), [Jane Maggs](#) and [Elaine Tyler](#) represented Southgate District Civic Trust at the event hosted by Chester Civic Society and primarily based at Chester Racecourse.



Friday's events started with a welcome by Chair Freddie Gick and the Chester Civic Trust. Then, it was onto the walks and tours. Between the four of us, we managed to see quite a few of the historic and beautifully preserved buildings of such an old city, including the unique and iconic medieval rows. One walk explored Chester's canal and industrial heritage. This included the listed buildings at Taylor's Boatyard, with a history spanning back to 1795 it continues as a working yard, while a new team bring it back to its former glory.





The tour of the Storyhouse showed a group of us the Grade II listed 1935 art deco Odeon Cinema, being converted into a new cultural centre. Chester Civic Trust led the campaign to buy the Odeon from a developer who wanted to turn it into a nightclub. The £37m investment by various bodies including the council is creating a uniquely flexible auditorium, community studio, cinema and library. This is an incredible project, opening in 2017 and creating a

tremendous cultural asset, bringing revenue and jobs to the city. Just shows what can be done between civic groups and local councils.

We also attended some thought provoking workshops, including discussions on change and modernisation in the civic movement, meeting the challenges of recruitment, motivation and continuity. Other workshops focused on design and how civic societies can participate in local development and planning matters. The speakers included a range of industry experts.



As in previous years, the Civic Voice Convention was an opportunity to get together with members of other societies to share their issues, learn from each other and we all came away with new ideas. Just have to put them in to practice!

At Saturday's AGM, Joan Humble was appointed as the new Chair of Civic Voice. She takes over from Freddie Gick, who stepped down at the end of his three-year term. Over his term, Civic Voice has grown incredibly in the work it does and it's national influence. SDCT has enjoyed working with Freddie and so were pleased that he has been appointed one of the new Vice Presidents - not getting away just yet! Joan Humble is currently chair of Blackpool Civic Trust and is a former Member of Parliament. Speaking after her appointment she said: 'My plan over the next three years will be to significantly raise the voice of the civic movement. People are disillusioned with politics but still want to have a voice in their local area.'



The photo shows the four attendees with our Civic Day Award: L to R: Chris Horner, Elaine Tyler, Graham Davis & Jane Maggs.

Next year, the Civic Voice Annual Convention will be heading to the historic city of Wakefield on **Friday 21st October to Saturday 22nd October 2017**. [Why not join a delegation from SDCT?](#)

*Jane Maggs*

## A Reminder of Southgate District Civic Week Events in 2016

Our Southgate District Civic Week in 2016 ran from Sunday 12th to Sunday 19th June 2016. All sorts of events were organised by local community groups to raise awareness of our local environment and the facilities available.

### Below are just some of the events:

Open Allotments Day - where residents were able to visit their local allotments and ask for green-fingered advice.



### Woodcroft Wild Space Open Days

Over 100 people passed through the site just off Broadwalk. The site was rescued by local residents and forms a unique green wild space providing a habitat for a multitude of insects and flora.



Arnos Park Photographic Competition - First prize to Naomi Davis for her beautiful Heron in the Brook, second prize to Ann Genoe for Slide in the Playground and third prize to Anne Higgins for Arches and Brook.



### Open Air Performances in the Minchenden Oak Garden -

The death of a man was witnessed by over 40 people who were aghast at this premonition of death, which ended with an untimely death. Local author Alex Woolf was present at the performance.

This was followed by a talk by Historia Normannis on the dress code of ancient Norman Knights and a battle re enactment.



### Cricket Matches at The Walker Cricket Ground



### Southgate Photographic Society Photo Competition -

An exhibition of the winning entries was held at The Walker Ground. The Winning entry was Reflections Grovelands and the Joint Second place winning entries were Number One and Under the Wings.

### Guided walk around Old Southgate -

Local History guide Joe Studman conducted a tour party through the streets of Old Southgate ending with an enlightened insight into the stained glass windows of Christ Church Southgate



*Photos: Chris Horner*

## OPEN MEETING – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2016

### *Bugging the Nazis in WW2: A Very Secret War – Dr Helen Fry*

It was standing room only at the October Open Meeting, as a packed audience listened to Helen Fry's talk on the part Trent Park played during the Second World War.

Helen Fry gave us a fascinating insight into the way British Intelligence bugged the conversations of the captured German Generals. The Generals were housed as prisoners-of-war in luxury at Trent Park, lulled into a false sense of security, so they relaxed, became unguarded in their conversations and inadvertently began to release some of Hitler's most closely guarded secrets.



Helen told us about the key role played by Thomas Kendrick in devising and setting up the deception. Winston Churchill considered this a vital intelligence operation, so gave those involved the finance and independence they needed. The talk contained some highly amusing incidents, but also highlighted the serious work being undertaken. We all gained an insight into this secret world.

After the talk, there were many questions and a lively discussion on what we had heard. Some of the questions related to the future of Trent Park and we were given the latest news on the proposed Trent Park museum.

*Jane Maggs*

Photos: Walker Hall – courtesy David Burrowes; Helen Fry – Jane Maggs

## HISTORY GROUP MEETING - November 2016

The speaker booked for last March had to cancel his talk, due to his illness. It had been re-booked for November but, unfortunately, at the last minute, he cancelled this again, due to his wife's illness. Rather than cancel the meeting, I used a talk I had prepared for another occasion, which was about researching my family history. As it happened, only seven members turned up for the planned talk, which would have been disappointing for a visiting speaker. It still turned out to be an interesting interactive evening, as all attenders had done their own family history research, and were able to contribute their experiences.

Several History Group meetings have been poorly attended over the past year or two, and the Executive Committee are considering changing their format, or stopping them altogether. The March and May meetings this year will be booked, but we hope to discuss the future of these meetings at the AGM.

I would appreciate any feedback from our members on whether they should continue.

*Colin Barratt*

## TOWN PLANNING REPORT - December 2016

We have continued monitoring the larger schemes that have been included with our usual applications. The Thomas Lipton Memorial Home has put in a new application.

Berkeley Homes have submitted an application for their development in Trent Park and we have sent our comments to the Council. Our group had a separate meeting in order to cover the area and have sufficient time for discussion. It is a very large scheme and there will be details of it that will need consideration as it proceeds.

I attended (in October) a community capacity building Governance Workshop delivered by Historic England, The Architectural Heritage Fund and Enfield Council. The project study case was Broomfield House. Discussions are still continuing on what to do and there is no commercial partner as yet. Only 1 in 3 applications (35%) in the development stage to the Heritage Lottery Fund are successful in getting funding.

Blackhorse, Holbrook House and Churchwood House in Cockfosters Road are prominent blocks that are not in a conservation area but are adjacent to the listed Cockfosters station. A proposed additional floor on a partially demolished Blackhorse Tower, that is already visible from the conservation area, and an increase in the mass of the other proposed buildings after demolition of Holbrook House and Churchwood House may not be acceptable. Many residential units in 7 storey blocks, a 64 bed hotel and shops on the ground floor will create quite an addition to an already vibrant shopping centre.

Southgate College has submitted three applications. It is between two conservation areas and adjacent to a row of listed properties. One application is for reconfiguration of the frontage which is considered possibly detrimental to the security of the nearest listed building that is 117, High Street N14. A second that is nearest to the Blagdens lane entrance to the college and will need to remove some trees in its landscaping and proposed small buildings, and a third is Metal Cladding on the front of the main college building. This type of Cladding is not what we would like to see but need more information about it. Our main consideration has to be the effect on any of the College developments that impact on the listed buildings that are next to the College grounds.

In addition we have a continual number of small developments in our areas some are the usual rear extensions that now want high folding glass doors on to their gardens, or change of use regarding shops, boundary walls or roof extensions and roof lights. Our group takes as much time over those as is necessary to give our comments in a report to the planning case officers. If any member would like to attend a meeting they are welcome to contact me [irenestone@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:irenestone@blueyonder.co.uk) or telephone 0208 364 3500 for the date of the next meeting.

*Irene Stone  
Group Chairman*

## ARSENAL AT GROVELANDS

Slipping through the fence into the secluded parcel of land known locally as 'The Meadow' lying to the south-west of Priory Hospital North London at Grovelands House and bounded by The Bourne and Grovelands Park, you find bushes and young trees gradually taking over the lush grass and a general sense of going-back-to-nature. Difficult now to imagine perhaps that this was once a carefully tended playing field used by Arsenal FC as a training ground.



I decided to research this largely-forgotten aspect of the history of the site after hearing of the proposals announced by Enfield Council in 2013 to build a primary school on or adjacent to it, which followed previous plans in the 1990s by the present owners, Thames Water, to build an underground reservoir and Enfield Health Authority to situate 45 detached houses and a community health care centre there. It is still shown as a sports ground in the *London A-Z* and as a covered reservoir in *Collins Greater London Streetfinder*, although this has not been proceeded with to date. There is an aerial photograph showing the area affected on the Schools Proposals page on the Enfield Council website with a pdf of the feasibility study for Grovelands Park school.

Southgate was particularly associated with Arsenal footballers from the 1950s to the 1970s. Christine Collins recalls Arsenal players eating at the Tudor-style cafe in Crown Lane next to the Post Office in the late 1950s in her article *On Safari in Southgate* in *Oakleaves 4* (Southgate District Civic Trust, 2009). Peter Marinello, who joined the club in 1970, explains in his autobiography *Fallen Idle* (Headline, 2007) that the club assisted players with loans which enabled them to purchase houses in Southgate and Potters Bar. (At least one Spurs player also lived locally, ex-Chelsea England international Bobby Smith in Palmers Green.)

Team members frequented the White Hart in Chase Road (currently managed by a Spurs-supporting landlord) and Marinello regarded his house in Winchmore Hill Road as conveniently located between that hostelry and the Chaseside Tavern. The White Hart is referred to by Pat Rice in an article in *Arsenal Magazine* (2004, reproduced at [www.arsenal.com](http://www.arsenal.com)) as the favourite pub the team coach brought the players back to for celebrations after they beat Spurs at White Hart Lane in May 1971 to secure the First Division title (having picked them up at Southgate station before the game).

The White Hart is also mentioned by Alan Ball in his autobiography *Playing Extra Time* (Sidgwick and Jackson, 2004) as the Arsenal players' local, which he often visited during his time at the club (1971-6), particularly after training at London Colney, ie the University College of London Athletic Ground in Bell Lane, used by Arsenal from 1960 until the opening of their adjacent purpose-built facility in 1999 (and now by Watford FC).

### **Expert with a Wheelbarrow**

It was in the period leading up to their use of the UCL ground that Arsenal trained at Grovelands, as indicated in another article from their website which gives a first-hand account and photographs in two books about the history of the club. (In addition an uncaptioned photograph of the players exercising in a field bordered by trees in a display about training at the Arsenal Museum looks like it might have been taken at Grovelands.)

In an *Arsenal Magazine* interview (2005) republished on the website to celebrate his 71st birthday in 2015, David Court (who was with Arsenal from 1959 to 1970) recalled his time as a 15-year-old apprentice and says that although some aspects of training were similar to today, as a member of the ground staff his summers were completely different to the boys' now:

We reported to the clerk of the works, George Elliott, and worked like all the other members of the ground staff. In my first summer, I became very expert with a wheelbarrow, firstly moving earth to level the pitch at our then training ground in Grovelands, Southgate and then wheeling concrete up the terraces at Highbury to fill in the walkways. It was hard work, we started at 8.30am and finished at 4.30pm, like the rest of the staff.

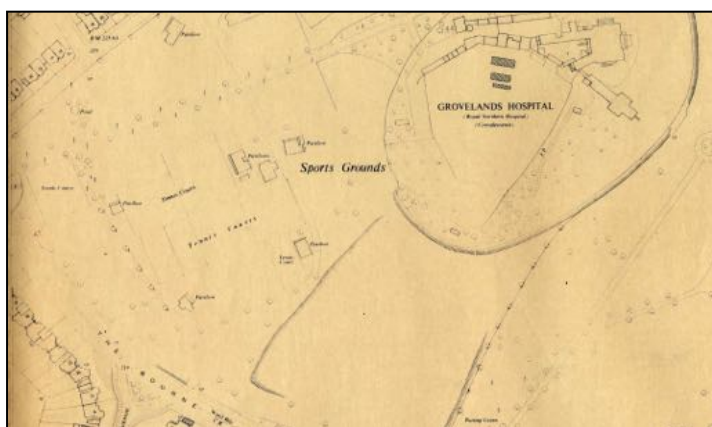
A photograph of ex-club goalkeeper and current manager George Swindin talking to his players at a pre-season training session in Southgate, North London in August 1958 is included in a volume in the *When Football was Football* series, *Arsenal: A Nostalgic Look at a Century of the Club* by Paul Joseph (Haynes, 2009). It is from the *Daily Mirror* archive and available on their Mirrorpix website, where the players named are Dennis Evans, Stan Charlton, Danny Clapton, Jimmy Bloomfield, Dave Bowen, captain Ray Goulden and Bill Dodgin.

The 1959-60 first team photograph reproduced in *The Story of Arsenal* by Anton Rippon (Moorland, 1981) was taken in front of a wooden pavilion resembling the structure at Bournside Sports and Tennis Club (to the west of the playing field) which since the 1990s has been the Old Ashmolean RFC clubhouse, suggesting this was their changing room. The pavilion and adjacent tennis court (now derelict) also appear in the background of a photograph of goalkeeper Norman Coe leaping for a ball in training in the *Daily Mirror* of 19 December 1958.

### Six Seasons in Southgate

A complementary photograph of the full squad taken that year at the same location was one of a number of invaluable items sourced for me by football historian Graham Frost, who gave his talk *Enfield Football Tales* at the SDCT History Group meeting in July 2014 (see [www.enfieldfootballtales.co.uk](http://www.enfieldfootballtales.co.uk)), following a chance meeting with him at Enfield Local Studies while researching this article. These give the full picture of Arsenal's use of the ground which I would otherwise have found very difficult to discover, particularly the dates and background to their occupation of it for the six seasons from 1954-5 to 1959-60, as set out in information from start-of-the-season programmes kindly gathered for me by Graham from Arsenal expert Andy Kelly.

On 21 August 1954 it was announced that Arsenal had decided to institute



a fourth team which will be known as Arsenal Juniors. The team will consist of lads who are on our ground staff, other young amateurs in whom we are interested, and, on occasion, young professionals of not more than 18 years of age ... Arsenal Juniors have been entered for the South Eastern Counties League, the F.A. Youth Tournament and the London Minor F.A. Challenge Cup. Our Juniors will play the South Eastern League home matches at Grovelands, a football pitch in the grounds of the Convalescence Home (at Southgate) of that name. The facilities for playing these matches at

Grovelands were offered to us by the hospital authorities and we very gratefully accepted. As it is a purely private ground there are no arrangements for admitting spectators and it is for that reason that matches in the F.A. Youth Tournament and certain Rounds of the London Minor F.A. Cup will have to be played either at Highbury or [Claremont Road] Hendon. We feel sure that when the opportunity comes along for juniors to play at Highbury our supporters will give them a real "Arsenal" welcome.



(Incidentally the preceding item in the programme gives details of a cricket match for Leslie Compton's Benefit Fund which had been arranged for the next day at the Walker Ground between Southgate CC and a team made up of players from Middlesex CCC, Tottenham Hotspur FC and Arsenal FC.)

The 26 August 1958 programme explained that the 'A' team would now be playing in the Metropolitan League rather than the London Mid-week League, with home fixtures to be played at Grovelands. This ties in with a note Graham had come across under the heading 'Arsenal at Grovelands' in the *Enfield Gazette* of 28 March 1958 stating that:

The improvement and enlargement of Arsenal's soccer pitch at Grovelands will mean that next season the 'A' side will play its Metropolitan League matches at this venue on Saturdays.

This strong League is expected, next season, to consist of 20 clubs, including champions Chelsea and many other London professional 'A' sides.

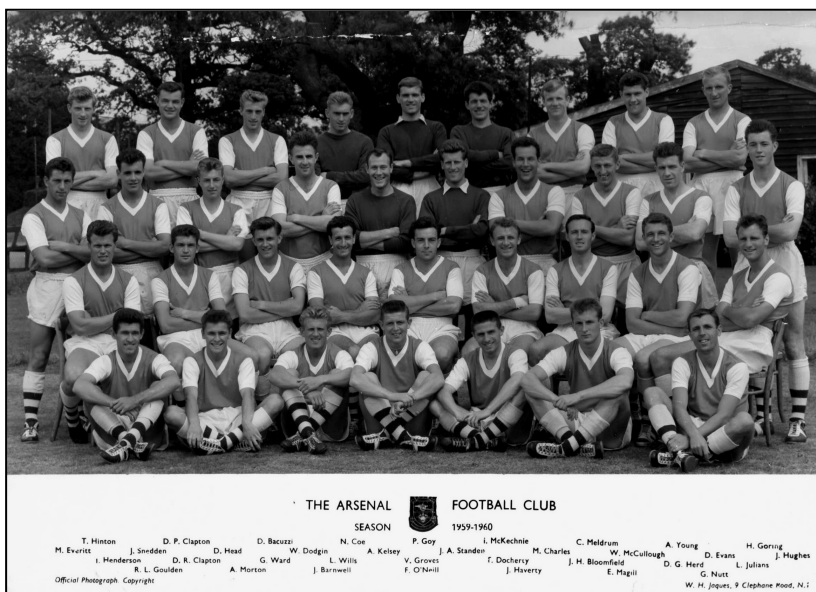
Newcomers to the League are Fulham and Portsmouth and some of the best of the young pros may be seen in action at Grovelands.

This implies that spectators were now allowed at the ground. However Arsenal's links with Grovelands came to an end with the statement in the programme for 23 August 1960 that as part of the development of what was seen as a cost-effective scheme concentrating on bringing through promising apprentices and ground staff boys within the four-team structure, rather than reducing the number of playing staff as some other clubs were doing to save money, an arrangement had been concluded with the University College Union for the use of "the spacious and well-appointed Sports Ground at London Colney, near St. Albans. All training will, in future, be carried out on this ground and all 'Home' Metropolitan League and South-Eastern Counties League games will be played there".

### Players' Memories of Grovelands

Returning to the 1959-60 squad photograph, former Arsenal player Jimmy Magill responded to a request from Andy Kelly for his comments:

What a great photo ... It was my first season with the club, and it was quite a nerve racking experience to be thrown in amongst so many famous players ... We had four teams then, the first team, the reserves (the stiff), the third team who played in the Metropolitan League and finally the youth team. I'm sure the photo was taken at the training grounds at Southgate.



Reflecting on my visits to the site I have felt that the private Grovelands ground must have been a pleasant and quiet area for the players to carry out their training exercises in and this was confirmed by Les Vernon of Enfield Town, Sudbury Town and Romford, who was on the Arsenal ground staff in 1955-8, in reply to an email enquiry from Graham Frost about the club's time at Grovelands. He thought the changing rooms in the picture looked similar to the ones they used and says "I did like training there due to the amount of trees and shrubbery around, 'tranquillity'".

The first team trained at Highbury as well although according to Brian Glanville in *The Real Arsenal* (JC Books, 2009), it was only when future West Ham and England manager Ron Greenwood arrived as Arsenal's coach in December 1957 that at his instigation the team trained on the pitch rather than the hard surface at the back of the South stand (known as 'The College') which had been used to date (discussed in an Arsenal website article, *Tom Watt on the JVC*).

Whether or not they were allowed on the grass they did however also train inside the stadium, as shown in a photograph in *When Football was Football: Arsenal* of Denis Compton and team-mates jogging round the perimeter of the pitch in April 1950 and one in *When Saturday Comes* magazine (May 2016) of him and his brother Leslie running up the terraces in 1947. The training regime also involved the players trotting through the streets around the stadium.

### **Radio Communication at London Colney**

Ron Greenwood's willingness to consider innovations is further demonstrated by the trial at London Colney on 4 August 1960 of a radio system to help the players with communication during training sessions, as seen in corresponding photographs which can be found in his autobiography *Yours Sincerely* (written with Bryon Butler, Willow 1984), *When Football was Football: Arsenal*, the *Daily Mail* picture gallery feature *Hi-fi-Highbury* of 5 August 1960 (linked to a report by Brian James of 3 August) and various websites including [www.arsenalonetwofive.wordpress.com](http://www.arsenalonetwofive.wordpress.com). Greenwood discusses the radio system in some detail in his book, as does George Swindin in the *Daily Mail*. A small 'receiver' was strapped to the player's back and instructions were conveyed via an ear-piece from Ron Greenwood on the touch-line using a microphone. The method had been tried in American football and was proposed to Arsenal by the Philips company.

Greenwood felt the trial (which took place with Arsenal director Jimmy Joyce in attendance) was a good one but ultimately the system could only be useful as a training aid if used sparingly "because players must always think for themselves during a game" and it was not adopted. An amusing cartoon by Millington in the *Mail* has a player equipped with a pack and aerial with the ball at his feet distracted from his advance on goal while calling out "Ssh! I'm getting Mrs Dale's Diary!"

### **Plans on Hold?**

As their use of the facilities at Grovelands did not apparently entail any particular changes to the ground apart from improving the pitch I assume it was uncontroversial locally, in contrast to Enfield Council's decision to allow Spurs to build their new training centre on green belt land at Hotspur Way, Bulls Cross in 2012 and the later discovery of great crested newts, grass snakes and common long-eared and pipistrelle bats in an area where the club wished to build a sleep-over lodge for the players.

Similar concerns about the possible environmental damage which would be caused by a major development at Grovelands may have been allayed by the pre-application advice from Historic England to Enfield Council in October 2015 that "the proposals for a new primary school on an area of significant, but degraded parkland have not in our view been adequately justified as required by National and Regional Planning Policy, and have the potential to cause irreversible harm to the grade II\* park and the grade I listed villa at Grovelands. Historic England is not currently persuaded that the public benefits would convincingly outweigh this harm, and is therefore unable to recommend that your Authority pursues this as an option for meeting school place requirements within Enfield".

Although there was a reference to Arsenal using the site as a training ground in the 1950s in the report prepared by consultants for Enfield Council in connection with plans for the proposed school, I suppose (speaking as a South London-raised Chelsea supporter and with due deference to our former Treasurer Alastair Palmar, a great Arsenal fan) that the club's association with Grovelands, rather than its heritage landscape value would not be enough to prevent development on the site but it forms an interesting if relatively brief episode in the long history of the house and its estate.

*Images: the disused playing field at Grovelands June 2016, R.P.; section of 1957 Ordnance Survey map provided by Enfield Local Studies Library and Archive; Arsenal 1959-60 supplied by Andy Kelly and used by agreement with Arsenal FC, copyright holder unknown.*

*Richard Purver*

**Correction:** in my *Borough of Southgate Coat of Arms* article in Newsletter 238 the date of the *Gazette* article referred to on p8 should be 18 August 1933 (not 1932). *R.P.*

## LAUNCH OF NATIONAL CIVIC DAY 2017

On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, at an event in Parliament, [National Civic Day 2017](#) was officially launched by chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Civic Societies, Craig Mackinlay MP and chair of Civic Voice, Joan Humble.

The event was attended by National Civic Day 2016 award winning communities and their local MPs [Chris Horner](#) and [Graham Davis](#) represented Southgate District Civic Trust, with David Burrowes, MP for Enfield Southgate.



Craig Mackinlay MP, chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Civic Societies said, “The great thing about civic pride is that it means something different to everyone. Whether it is clean streets, protected conservation areas, green parks, safe neighbourhoods or friendly people.

Civic pride is a good thing but starts with civic action and people getting involved. I urge civic societies and communities from across the country to get involved on 2017”.

David Burrowes, MP for Enfield Southgate said “I am delighted that Civic Day will provide local people with the opportunity to enjoy the great buildings of Southgate. They are a key part of our cultural heritage and something that we can all be immensely proud of!”

At the event Joan Humble, chair of Civic Voice said, “What do you care about?”, “What do you want to protect? What do you want to improve? If we are going to ensure that our conservation areas, towns and cities give everybody living in them a good quality of life, we need everyone to get involved. National Civic Day is the perfect opportunity to use your voice, change your community and to join your local civic society and help grow one of the country’s oldest yet most optimistic, energetic and forward looking social movements.”

Prime Minister, Theresa May MP said “I am pleased to lend my support to Civic Day, the national celebration of civic pride. It is fantastic to see communities coming together and celebrating where they live.”

See the information on Civic Week 2017 to get involved. (Photos of the event courtesy of Civic Voice).

## SOUTHGATE DISTRICT CIVIC WEEK 2017

The purpose behind Civic Day is to generate a sense of civic pride among residents, promote greater partnership within the community and demonstrate that you **care about where you live**.



Photos:  
Jane Maggs

Civic Day 2017 will be on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June. Planning starts now, so do you want to be involved, or do you have an event, or group you would like included or would you like to organise one? Then get in touch: [info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk](mailto:info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk).

### OPEN MEETING - 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017

#### *Southgate's Rivers – previous, current and potentially future work to enhance them – John Bryden*

The next open meeting will be on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2017, when our speaker will be John Bryden, Senior Programme Manager at Thames21. He will be giving us a talk about the work by Thames21 on Southgate's rivers, including an update on the current projects in this area.



Waterways are often overlooked or unloved by the communities that surround them. Thames21 are a London based charity aiming to put healthy rivers back at the heart of community life.

Thames21 have been working in partnership with Enfield Council on a number of projects in our area, including the schemes in Glen Brook (see photo), Boxers Lake, Grovelands Park, Houndsden Gutter, Salmons Brook as well as the new Firs Farm Wetlands. Working with local volunteers over the last four years, they have created nine new Rainscapes (Sustainable Drainage Systems) in the borough, treating polluted water from a massive 473 hectares of urban catchment.



This talk is an opportunity for us to catch up on the work locally and hear more about how these projects are bringing life back to Southgate's rivers.

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

Photo: Courtesy of Thames21 of Glenn Brook just upstream from Boxers Lake

## ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP (APPG) FOR CIVIC SOCIETIES

Last year, the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Civic Societies held four debates, attended by various Ministers, MPs and Peers. The APPG for Civic Societies gives a stage for Civic Voice members' voices to be heard on a national scale by influential figures.

The first of the APPG for Civic Societies debates arranged by Civic Voice will be held on **January 31<sup>st</sup> 2017**. The debate will be asking the question **'Is Neighbourhood Planning going to deliver the homes the country needs?'** It will also be looking at other approaches that could be used to help get urgently needed homes built. The Housing and Planning Minister, Gavin Barwell MP and Lord Matthew Taylor have been invited to attend the event.

This FREE event takes place at Portcullis House and is open to all SDCT members. If you would like to join those already attending, then register your place at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/appg-will-neighbourhood-planning-deliver-the-homes-the-country-needs-tickets-29886874446>. Note: although it is free, you must register in advance.

*Jane Maggs*

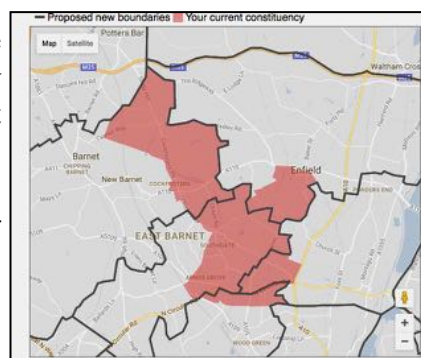
## SOUTHGATE DISTRICT CIVIC TRUST RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSED BOUNDARY REVIEW - December 2016

The Boundary Commission for England has been reviewing the Parliamentary constituencies, in order to recommend new boundaries for September 2018. This review includes a significant reduction in the number of constituencies in England (from 533 to 501), including a reduction of five for London.

### What is changing in the Southgate District Civic Trust area?

The various wards in the area covered by SDCT, are mainly in the constituency of Enfield Southgate. In the proposals this constituency will disappear and the wards will be allocated to five different constituencies.

The new constituencies in this area will include wards from other boroughs, thereby straddling borough boundaries.



### Southgate District Civic Trust Response

SDCT while not opposed to changes to the Parliamentary boundaries in principle raised a number of objections to the proposed changes to the constituency of Enfield Southgate and requested that the Boundary Commission review their decision on Enfield Southgate.

Unfortunately, there is not enough space in the newsletter to give our arguments in full. However, in summary our reasons were based on the history of the area, the community connections between the town centres, as well as the transport links within the area, rather than into the proposed constituencies. We expressed concern at the practicalities of administration across the area, as well as the expected increase in homes throughout the borough in the next few years. We concluded that we do not want to see an area that has been united for hundreds of years torn apart based on electoral numbers. This area is made up of local communities that co-exist and work together to make a place where people want to live and feel part of a community.

If you would like to see the full response, please contact me.

*Jane Maggs*

## ANNUAL LUNCH

The lunch held in November at the Queens Head proved to be a success with members enjoying plenty of good conversation alongside excellent food.



## NEW YEAR DINNER

The next social event will be a dinner held at La Nostra Italian restaurant The Broadway Winchmore Hill on Friday 10th February at 7.30pm. If you are interested in attending please email [Chrissiedavisstar@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Chrissiedavisstar@yahoo.co.uk) or phone 0208 364 0480 by February 3rd.

*Christine Davis*

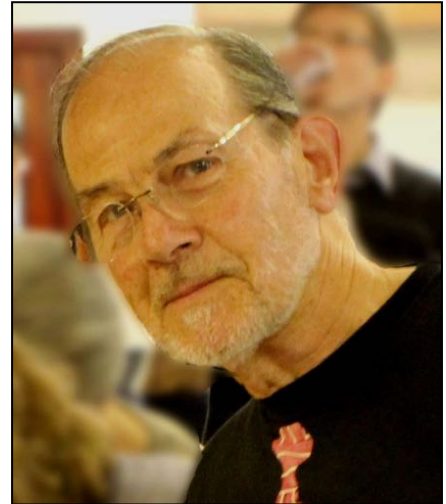
## GRAHAM BEECH MEMORIAL AWARD

In the last Newsletter, we announced the creation of an annual award in Graham Beech's name, as a way to remember him and his commitment to Southgate District Civic Trust.

The award is to be given to a member of the Trust who has made an outstanding contribution to the trust or the wider community.

Any member of the Trust can make nominations for the award, however, please note, nominees cannot be members of the Executive Committee.

Nominations to be sent to the SDCT Secretary by 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017, either by post (address on Page 1) or by e-mail ([info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk](mailto:info@southgatedistrictcivictrust.org.uk)).



The current Chair and members of the Committee will judge the nominations and the winner will be announced at the AGM in May.

If you have any questions about this please contact a member of the Executive Committee.

### Nomination Form Graham Beech Award

Your name:	
Contact details: (E-mail or tel number)	
Date:	
Name of nominee:	
Reason for nomination: (Use extra pages if needed)	

