

# *The Newsletter*

SEPTEMBER 1995

VOL. 11 NO. 4

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Hello there! As you can see from the new programme (enclosed), there have been one or two changes on the committee namely, myself, Jean Foster being your new Chairman (as from this year's AGM in April). Also, John Donovan has joined as Secretary (see "Members' News") and Editor of the Newsletter.

At the moment the Museum is closed and is being re-located by Hertsmere Council to an upper floor within Wyllyotts. It is hoped to re-open the Museum in October at the earliest. As to the exact date, this information can be obtained, when known, from the reception at Wyllyotts (01707 654 005). The re-location of the Museum is a temporary one and at some time in the future we hope to be re-housed in a permanent building.





WINTER LECTURE PROGRAMME.

Thursday Oct. 26th. "A Glimpse into the Past of East Barnet"  
Mrs Gillian Gear

Gillian Gear is a prominent member of the Barnet Local History Society and a steward at the Barnet Museum, on Wednesdays. She last spoke to the Society eight years ago, on her favourite subject of Industrial Schools. Members are guaranteed an informative evening on East Barnet (the oldest of the Barnets), the subject of recent research by the speaker.

Friday Nov. 24th "Cables across the Atlantic"  
Dr. Arnold Lynch

The first successful telegram cables date back to 1866. The first telephone cable was laid in 1956 (a project in which Dr. Lynch himself was personally involved). This was a carefully planned system which lasted 22 years. By then, there were several more cables laid, and they are still being laid, in competition with transmission by satellite.

Tuesday Dec. 13th "Mediaeval Jewellery"  
Dr John Cherry (British Museum).

How mediaeval jewellery was worn and the ways in which it was decorated and adorned with precious stones. Such jewellery was often inscribed, and this can give us an understanding of the religious and secular feelings that lay behind its production and subsequent presentation as a gift. The talk will show some recent finds in mediaeval jewellery such as the enamelled swan jewel found at Dunstable, the Fishpool hoard and the Middleham ring and jewel.

ALL MEETINGS START AT 8PM PROMPT IN THE OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE CENTRE, WYLLYOTTS CENTRE. ALL ARE WELCOME. ADMISSION FREE.

OUTINGS REPORT

VISIT TO BANBURY MARKET AND BURFORD

On the 8th June this year, several members of the Society enjoyed a pleasant trip to Banbury Market with the Enfieldian Coach Company. The journey was marred only by a few showers but, on arrival, the weather improved and the sun shone now and again. The market was interesting, containing a variety of stalls which most of us visited. There we had lunch and, although Banbury is a most historic town, one needed more time to explore it properly. From there we travelled on to Burford, which is a very pretty place, with a quaint High Street containing numerous, unusual and delightful shops.

Our stay was short but pleasant, and some of us managed to have tea during the afternoon. After having been suitably refreshed, we started for home, arriving back in Potters Bar at about 6.30pm, well contented with our day out.

Jean Foster.



POTTERS BAR SOCIETY

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The following illustrated lectures have been arranged for the winter season. These will be held at the Tilbury Hall, starting at 8pm.

To obtain tickets for the lectures, please send a cheque, payable to THE POTTERS BAR SOCIETY, and SAE to:-

Mrs P.Hardiment, 34 Parkside, High Street, Potters Bar. EN6 5AU.

Thursday 26th October 1995

The History of the River Lee Navigation

Price £1.50 per ticket.

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Thursday 23rd November 1995

Hertfordshire Curiosity and Capel Manor AV Stereo.

Price £1.50 per ticket.

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NEW MEMBERS

Since the last Newsletter the following people have joined the Society:- the Revd. P. Bevan, Mr.D.Eason, and Mr and Mrs L.T.Williams. We wish them a grateful welcome and trust that they will find their membership to be of interest and benefit.

MEMBERS' NEWS

Committee Member John Donovan, of Little Heath, has been co-opted to the post of Hon. Secretary to the Society; we thank him for volunteering and wish him every success in his new position.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY (LAMAS)

30th LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

BANISHING LONDON'S SLUMS

Saturday 18th November 1995

10.10am to 5.00pm, Museum of London Lecture Theatre

For further information see the Society's Notice Board at the October meeting.



**NEW PUBLICATION - OUT NOW!!**

## OCCASIONAL PAPERS - No.6



THE LION c. 1903

## THE BARNET ROAD

SALE PRICE £2

G L FIELD

OAKMERE LIBRARY - TALK

Wednesday 25th October 1995, at 8pm.

Elstree: the British Hollywood.

By Paul Welsh.

The Speaker is a recognised authority on the history of the Studios. This the Library's part in a series of events commemorating 100 years of cinema. Tickets will be on sale at £2 a head, about 3 or 4 weeks before the event.



## HERTFORDSHIRE PUBLICATIONS

### HERTFORDSHIRE INNS AND PUBLIC HOUSES.

W.BRANCH JOHNSON'S "Hertfordshire Inns", published in 1962-3, aimed to include all inns and public houses which had been established before 1860 and were still open a hundred years later. The first edition has long been out of print and many changes have taken place since then.

This new edition includes some 700 licensed houses which were open by 1900 and are still open in the 1990's. For many towns and parishes it also provides a review of the situation before 1900 and for some, there is a summary of public houses first opened since that date.

Brian Warren has contributed information on the parishes of South Mimms, Potters Bar and, with the assistance of Bill Killick, on North Mymms.

164 pages, including 20 pages of photographs.  
Stiff paper covers ISBN 0-901354-79-1. price £18.

Special pre-publication price of £15.00

OFFER CLOSES 4TH NOVEMBER 1995

Send order to: HERTFORDSHIRE PUBLICATIONS, NEW BARNFIELD,  
TRAVELLER'S LANE, HATFIELD, HERTS.  
AL10 8XG. TEL: 01707 281 581.

### The Barnet Press 25th June 1898

"Residents of Vernon Terrace, East Finchley, were somewhat startled on Friday last, about 8.15pm, by loud reports which upon two occasions were heard on passenger trains passing a certain point on the line (upon which the gardens of the terrace abut). Three persons who were in their gardens at the time made investigation into the matter, with the result that four boys, apparently about the age of twelve, were discovered in the act of placing large flint stones upon the metals over which the train must necessarily travel. Chase was given, and one offender captured, but he, of course, denied having any share in the affair. After his name and address had been taken, he was released. One of the persons mentioned removed no less than thirteen stones that had been placed upon one of the down rails, which would certainly have been sufficient, if not to throw a train off the lines, to at any rate inflict a very severe shock. A communication has been addressed to the Great Northern railway Company informing them of the occurrence, and asking that some steps may be taken to prevent it happening again, and that the station-master at Church End, Finchley, has also received an intimation and full details."



HERTFORDSHIRE RECORD OFFICE 5TH ANNUAL LECTURE

Tuesday 17th October 1995. 7.30pm.  
County Hall, Hertford

PROFESSOR PAUL HARVEY  
(Formerly of Durham University)

"ARCHIVES FOR EVER, ARCHIVES FOR ALL"

Tickets £2 each from:

Kate Thompson, Record Office, County Hall, Hertford.  
SG13 8DE. TEL: 01992 555 101

Light refreshments will be served after the Lecture.

HELP WANTED

Enfield Archaeological Society are requesting information on an aeroplane, or at least part of one, that once stood on the Gough Park allotments, that had been used by the local Air Training Corps for training purposes. Furthermore, it has been reported that a bi-plane once stood in a field at Forty Hall in 1938 or 1939 (probably a Gloucester Gladiator, which too was used for training purposes by the ATC).

Was this the same aircraft seen at Gough Park, having been moved there from Forty Hall, or do we have a second aircraft on our hands?

Any information please to Geoffrey Gillam on 0181 367 0263.

EDMONTON HUNDRED HISTORICAL SOCIETY DAY CONFERENCE

"RESIDENTS OF REPUTE"

Saturday November 4th 1995 at Jubilee Hall, Parsonage Lane, Enfield (at the junction with Chase Side) 9.45 for 10.00am.

The conference will be arranged in two sessions and one may attend the morning session, the afternoon session, or both. The charge for either the morning or afternoon session will be £3 (£2.50 for EHHS members). The charge for attending both sessions will be £5 (£4.50 for EHHS members).

Morning coffee and afternoon tea will be provided and are included in the prices.

APPLICATIONS TO: Mrs B. Smith, 82 Halifax Road, Enfield,  
EN2 OPR.

Please enclose an SAE if a receipt is required.

Programme:-  
Victorian Worthies - Graham Dalling  
William Bedwell,  
Vicar of Tottenham - David Avery  
Some Masters of  
Enfield Grammar School - David Pam  
The Jasons of Enfield - Margaret Halstead  
Some of Southgate's  
Characters - Alan Dumayne



THE BARNET PRESS

27th October 1927

It was reported that a 72 year-old man stole 8 pence from St.Mary's Church, Potters Bar, offertory box, and that he had had his five-year sentence reduced to nine months' hard labour.

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9th June 1928

The Police Station at Potters Bar has new inmates 'doing bird' in the form of a pair of Starlings raising their young on the premises.

\*\*\*\*\*

3rd February 1934

"Mr Leopold Frank Partridge married Mrs Olive Sylvia Pearce (formerly Lady Inverclyde) at Caxton Hall. She is 27 years old."

Her father was Arthur Sainsbury and the reception was at the Gloucester Hotel.

She was Miss Olive Sainsbury, grand-daughter of the founder of the firm. She married Lord Inverclyde in 1926, dissolved in the Scottish Court in 1928. In December 1928 she married Mr James Townsend Pearce, which was dissolved in June 1933.

Mr Partridge lived at Salisbury House, High Street, (now St. George's House). He was in the antiques business and purchased items for the late Queen Mary.

DID YOU READ...?

Living in Potters Bar with all our modern conveniences it was interesting to note that Annie Jones celebrated her 100th birthday in the same cottage where was born at Glyncorrwg, near Port Talbot. There was an outside toilet still in use and the cottage only had cold running water. So, perhaps you are not so hard up after all!

NEW SHIRE PUBLICATIONS

"Regency Gardens", by Mavis Batey      President of the  
Garden History Society.

"Discovering Cameras. 1945-1965,  
by Robert White

"Haunted Inns and Taverns",  
by Andrew Green

"Discovering Old Handwriting"

"Discovering Preserved Railways"



**NEW EDITOR**

We hope you like the new format, which is as much for the convenience of my word-processor as any aesthetic considerations. In this first attempt I have had the invaluable help and prompting of Brian Warren who draws on eleven years' experience as the previous editor. For the information of recently-joined members, his first effort was a single-paged Newsletter, some eleven years ago. Since then he has edited a further 32 editions.

John Donovan

cut here.....



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Historical Society*

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