

# *The Newsletter*

September 2013

VOL. 30 No. 1

## COVER PICTURE



A bombed out London couple whose home was the air raid shelter that saved them. They have each other and the dog, but little else (c.12/1941) (Photo taken by professional photographer Frederick Cole of Barnet.)

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

To all our Members.

Phew! I almost feel it a relief to welcome the cooler weather, but beware of what you even think about. The fields have become cracked as in 1976 in spite of the recent showers, but I wonder how the rest of our Members managed in the heat? At home, I reprieved an air conditioner that I bought in a sale some ten years ago and set it up in the dining room. All went well for three days in temperatures kept down to 76 degrees, until I became aware of this water stain creeping across the carpet! It was then I remembered that by now a little light should have indicated that it was time to empty the condensed water tank. I found that the old rubber drain tube had perished after ten years and so all the water had let itself out. Not any more though, thank heavens for some new silicon rubber tubing, so bring on next summer.

The Committee and I welcome you all back to a new year of lectures, and it looks from our new programme that we will be having some very interesting talks. I hope to see you all then on Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of September.

*Terry Goulding*

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## PREVIOUS COVER PICTURE

Both John Gamby and Terry Goulding have pointed out additional people in the *King Charles the Martyr* procession.

The Rev'd Robinson (half-hidden)  
of St Mary's, Potters Bar.

Mr Sharp



## NEW MEMBERS

We should like to welcome Paul Margetson on joining the Society. We hope he will come to our lectures and occasional outings that are part of our yearly programme, and will take an active part in our Society.

*Richard Lee*

## AUTUMN LECTURES

**Tuesday September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Old & New Finds of the Coin Collection**, by Mr. David Thorold.

David is the Prehistory to Medieval Curator at the Verulamium Museum, St. Albans. His laptop presentation will include the '*nationally significant*' hoard of Roman gold coins revealed in October 2012.

THE MEETING WILL START **PROMPTLY** AT 8PM IN THE 60 PLUS CENTRE, WYLLYOTTS CENTRE. EVERYONE WELCOME.

### AUTUMN LECTURE PROGRAMME (PREVIEW)

Thursday	October	31st	<i>Wrotham Park Mansion &amp; Associated Titles</i> by Mr. Charles Dace  Wrotham Park Mansion has under gone many changes over the last 250 years. The changes, many planned, but some unexpected, reflect the changing needs of the house by the Byng family. During his talk, Charles will explain the circumstances that brought about such changes and link the transformations of the rise in the social standing of this historically important family.
Thursday	November	21st	<i>The King of Instruments: the Organ</i> by member Dan Ruge-Cope  Dan will look at the history of organs. He is a retired organ builder who worked on the organs in the Albert Hall and St. Pauls. Most of us just see the organ pipes. His talk, illustrated with slides, will show how the pipes are cast and what goes on inside including tuning and temperaments of organs. The most notable organs in the world and how new technology is being used – fascinating!
Tuesday	December	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Christmas Social with Light Refreshments. Followed by <i>A Victorian Evening: Christmas Readings</i> by Mr. Geoff Hales

*Colin Field*

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## RECORDER GROUP

The next meeting will be Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013, at 19.30 at 9 Hill Rise, Potters Bar.

*Sarah Bulling*

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### ***MUSEUM STEWARDS REQUIRED***

Members are needed to help look after the Museum. Perhaps you could help for just one day a month? It would be of great assistance and you would be on duty with an experienced steward.

<b>Tuesdays</b>	2.30 - 4.30pm, contact Ian Cumming on	01707 642296
<b>Wednesdays</b>	2.30 - 4.30pm, contact Arnold Davey on	01707 654179
<b>Saturdays</b>	11.00am – 1.00pm, contact Mabel Hammett on	01707 657120

## **SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2012/13**

The subscription year runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> at a cost of £3 for individual adults, and £5 for a family or group.

If you have not yet paid, please would you contact Mrs. Chris Ruge-Cope, at 21 Chace Avenue, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5LX. You can check your current membership status by phoning her on 01707 653221.

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## **CALLING ALL THOSE WITH E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

We have received a number of membership applications this year attaching e-mail addresses. Most have not requested e-mail Newsletters (in PDF format), so please contact Sarah Bulling on [pbdhs.sjb@btinternet.com](mailto:pbdhs.sjb@btinternet.com). It saves us time and money not to print them out. Thanks.

*Richard Lee*

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## **ROTARY FUN DAY**

The committee decided to take a stall at the Rotary Fun Day in Oakmere Park on July 13<sup>th</sup> again this year.

We had three main displays. Oakmere House (now the Harvester) where lots of families have eaten in the restaurant but did not know the history of the house. We were able to sell our Oakmere House booklet and Matt the manager gave us lots of balloons to put up on our stand. Then we featured the Zeppelin which came down in the garden of Oakmere House and the other main display was the Romans where our book tells all about the history and the dig in Parkfield.

We attempted to count how many visitors we had. It came to 98 but I am sure we missed a few as at times we had many people wanting to see the displays. As usual Terry Goulding's telephones drew the children who all wanted to push the buttons to hear Micky Mouse and Goofy speak their lines.

Hard work for everyone who helped and we give them our thanks and it was good publicity for the Museum.



A customer intrigued by *Goofy* on the telephone



Fun Day in Oakmere Park with our busy stall

*Mabel Hammett, PBHS committee*

## LAMAS

London and Middlesex Archaeological Society (LAMAS) is looking for new members to represent the views of local history societies in the Greater London area.

If you are interested or know of someone who may be willing to join the committee please get in touch with:

John Hinshelwood 020 8348 3375 (johnhinshelwood@btinternet.com) or,  
Eileen Bowlt 01895 638060 (c.bowl@tiscali.co.uk)

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## ARCHIVIST'S REPORT

In the last report (May 2013) I made an error when writing '*Wilton Park, Sussex*', it was in fact, near Beaconsfield. Wilton Park, Trent Park and Latimer were three camps forming the intelligence unit known as *Combined Services Detailed Interrogation Centres* (CSDIC). After the war the home was taken over by the Foreign Office and in 1968 demolished.

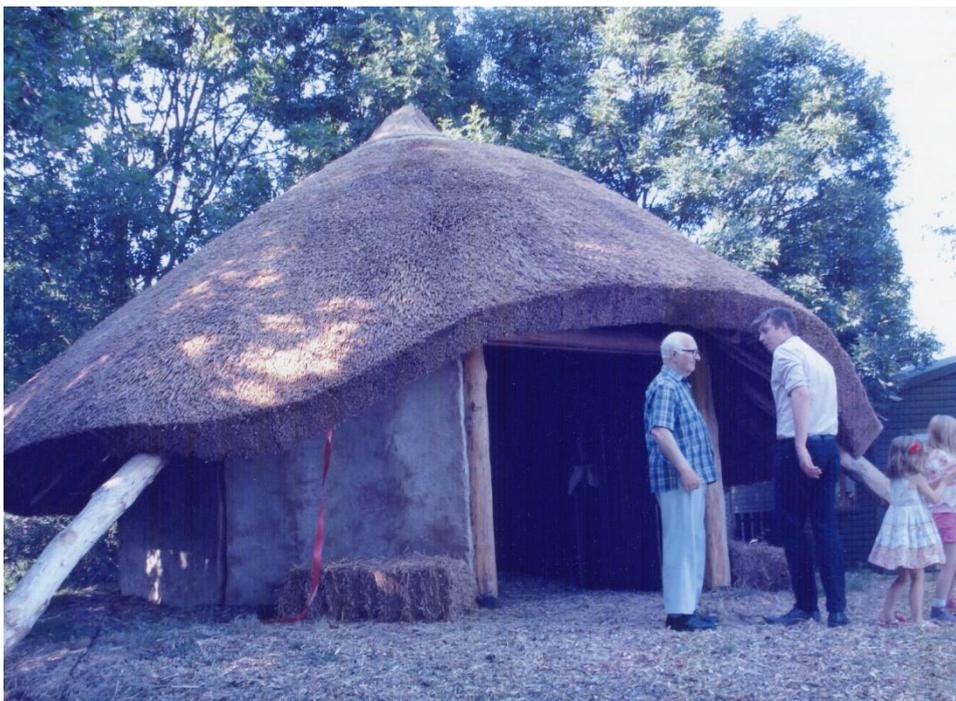
When I was required to obtain information on Norman Court school I used the microfilm reader at Barnet Library manually. The former printer has been removed and there is just a notice on the wall informing readers of its departure.

From the 26<sup>th</sup> April to 5<sup>th</sup> January 2014 there is a special free exhibition '*Water, Water, Everywhere: 400 Years of the New River*' at Enfield Museum, Dugdale Centre, Thomas Hardey House, 39 London Road, Enfield. The times are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. The Museum is on the corner of Cecil Road and London Road, Enfield.

*Brian Warren*

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## CELTIC HUT, WROXHAM



The Celtic Hut at Wroxham School with Brian Kolbert and Steve Davey the history teacher.

*Terry Goulding*

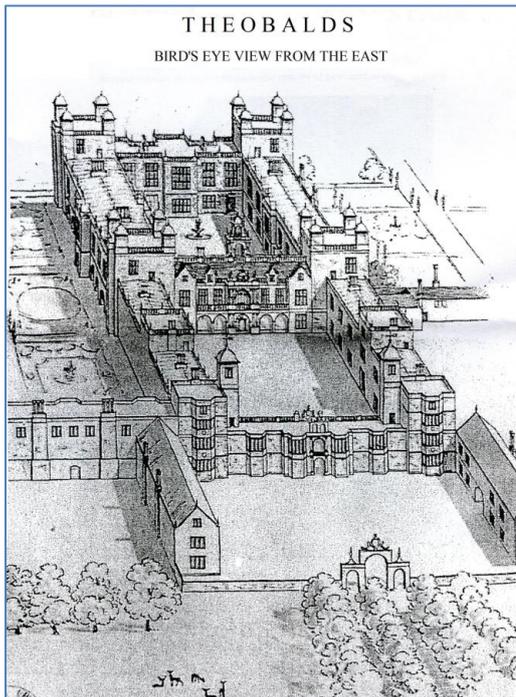
## WALK AROUND THEOBALDS PALACE

On 16<sup>th</sup> June there were Colin Field and 7 other members (and 2 from the Enfield U3A) who met Mike Dewbery, of the *Enfield Archaeology Society*, at the main entrance to Cedars Park. Mike was to show us round the park, which included the grounds for Theobalds Palace.

The original house was built by William Cecil, the Secretary of State for King Edward VI. Queen Elizabeth visited the palace on a number of occasions. James I also visited and arranged an exchange with his own palace of Hatfield. The palace was demolished in 1649 to pay for Cromwell's army.



Mike Dewbery



Mike pointed out on the site where parts of the palace were positioned. There were a few of the original bricks that could be seen (see below), and also the wall with curious niches possibly for beehives, surrounding the outer gardens. A staircase is now at Herstmonceux Castle.

Gone are the days when James I kept a private zoo at Theobalds and where an elephant and five camels sent by the king of Spain resided, the elephant drinking a gallon not of water, but of wine, every day.



Some of the original brickwork is preserved.



*Richard Lee and Colin Field*

## STOLEN!

Chris Dixon first noticed the plaque was missing in May 2013. At the Society's Recorder Group's meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, this year, it was reported that the metal plaque on the bridge in Warrengate Lane, over Mimms Hall Brook, had been removed. Fortunately, I had taken a photograph of the bridge and plaque on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 1997 (see below).



The inscription read:-

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF MIDDLESEX**

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**LOCOMOTIVE ACT 1888**

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**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE USE OF LOCOMOTIVES ON THIS BRIDGE IS PROHIBITED BY THE BYE-LAWS MADE UNDER THE ABOVE ACT BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF MIDDLESEX AND CONFIRMED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD. PENALTY FOR CONTRAVENTION TO THE BYE LAW £5.**

**BY ORDER  
RICHARD DICKENSON  
CLERK OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL**

*Brian Warren*

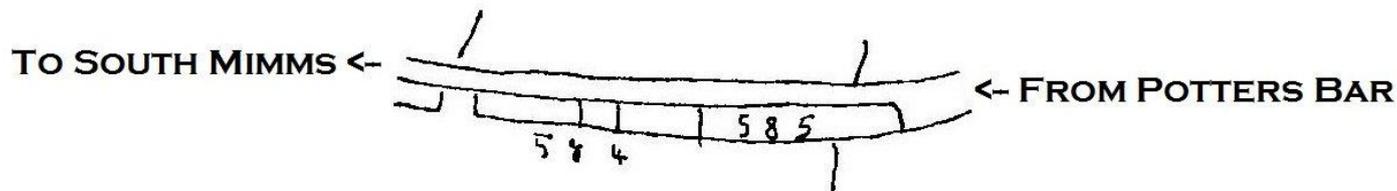
## THE BRIDGE HOUSE, MUTTON LANE

### Introduction

This is the concluding article on the history of Limerick House (*The Newsletter* Jan. 2013 and May 2013) and The Bridge House. Mr. H.J. Butcher's research has been checked with the original Willliotts Manor records at The Guildhall, London, and I am grateful to the staff for their assistance, at all times.

### The Beerhouse

The tithe map 1842



<u>Owner</u>	<u>Occupier</u>	
James Brett	Wm Shepherd, 584 cottage & garden	0a 0r 37 poles

Though a John Shepherd was recorded in the 1841 Census Returns as an ag. lab. [agricultural labourer] ten years later he was a beer shopkeeper, which almost coincides with the opening of the Great Northern Railway, on the 8<sup>th</sup> August, 1850. In 1859 John Shepherd was a beer retailer and by 1871 a 'farm bailiff of beerhouse'. On the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1873, he was buried at St. John's cemetery (now the site of the War Memorial, in Potters Bar). His wife Mary was the occupier in 1874, but two years later Thomas Read became the beer retailer. He was still at the Bridge House Inn, in 1902. In 1906 a survey was taken in the Edmonton Division to reduce the number of licensed premises (LMA-MA/C/L minute Book). The Bridge House Inn (a Beer House), 'had a Bar and Tap rooms and a cab business. The previous Licensee, John Thomas Read, had just died after 34 years at the house. It had a very old License transferred to this new house. There was a good pull up for carts and they provided dinners and teas and had two special rooms for letting. Hadley Brewers of Barnet were the Freeholders and gave evidence that 2 barrels of beer and 196 bottles of beer were sold weekly. There was also a Public Bar, Private Bar, Parlour for dinners and teas, kitchen and other offices. This License was renewed.'

The Burial Register for St. John's recorded that John Thomas Read was buried on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 1906. William Read was the beer retailer, in 1906, presumably his son.

### A View of the Bridge House c. IWW



Subsequent known publicans were Tom Ridge (1910), Herbert Dodge, Sydney Durrant, Henry Dove and Herbert Rogers until 1938. In 1939 Fremlins Ltd., Pale Ale Brewery replaced Harris Browne Ltd., The Hadley Brewery, Barnet, as freeholders. The licensee was Edward George Morris. In 1956 alterations were made to service in the Saloon Bar, but four years later there were extensive alterations. By 1988 Whitbread were the owners and Graham Jones and Michael Macken licensees. The last manager was a relative of George Case.

### The Bridge, March 1988



The present owners, Lantern Recovery, made more than one application to develop the site, before being granted planning permission for the construction of houses and flats, in July 2011. In June 2013 there was still outstanding a question of contaminated land assessment.

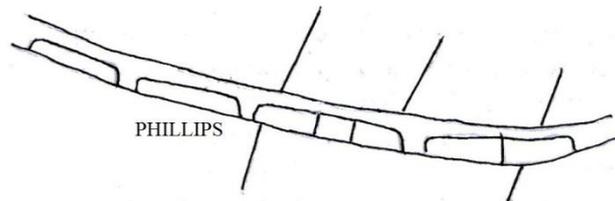
### Some of the new buildings at 26/8/13



## The Early History

The first property on the site in Mutton Lane was most likely older than the initial occupier Thomas Hewet, in 1691, who paid a rent of 4d (1.66p). Through John (1711) and Dennis (1713) the property was in the Hewet family. In a 1716 rental and the Manor Court Book Eleanor Weston was the occupier, and she was recorded until 1748 as paying the 4p rent.

1745 Vickers' Survey map



However, in the Williotts Manor Court Book for the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1748 John Phillips was admitted as son and heir of Eleanor Phillips, who then conveyed to the use of John Newberry, of North Mymms, husbandman. The 1750 rental also recorded '*Mutton Lane Eleanor Weston now Newberry*'. It has not been possible to find evidence that the two Eleanors were the same person, but it is likely they were.

## Later History

John Newberry/Newbury occupied the property until 1777, when his sister and heiress, the wife of Robert Edmunds inherited. Thirty years later it was presented at the Williotts Manor Court that Sarah Edmonds, otherwise Edmans, widow of South Mimms, surrendered to Sarah Sibley, wife of Elias Sibley, Mutton Lane, farmer. In 1810, Sarah, widow, when the property was formerly in the occupation of Crane, surrendered to Edward Pratton Gore, Holborn, tailor, who died in March 1842. Subsequently, it was held by John Logsdon, Williotts Manor Farm (1845), Edward Wood (1848) who by his Will, proved 7<sup>th</sup> October 1856, it was left by four codicils in trust to his daughter Mary Anne Fife and others. By a codicil of 8<sup>th</sup> February 1855 Joanna Heriot, her daughter, became executor and trustee with the other three. The following year his grandson James Edward Wissett, became executor and trustee with the other four. An indenture dated 17<sup>th</sup> October 1889, the four surviving trustees enfranchised it for £35 9s 4d (£35.46) when it was stated "*All that messuage or cottage formerly known by the name of the Pilot Engine Beer shop with the garden orchard and appurtenances thereto belonging situate in Mutton Lane .....*".

Following this research on the history of Limerick House and Bridge House by using the Williotts Manor Court Books M.S.5454, volumes 1-9 (1725-1926) and earlier rentals, at the Guildhall, London, it would be possible to trace properties on the 1745 Vickers' Survey Map into the seventeenth century or possibly earlier.

*Brian Warren*

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**The PB&DHS Newsletter is produced in September, January & May of every 'season'. Richard Lee and Mabel Hammett looks after photocopying and collation, and Michael Cawrey organises, with volunteers, the distribution of The Newsletter**

**If you wish to submit an item for inclusion (preferably of a 'local-history' nature), please phone the Editor, Richard Lee (01707 652975) at least one month before the publication month (i.e. August, December or April). Note: inclusion of such items is at the Editor's discretion.**

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